

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA
Thursday, February 28, 1980

Time: 8:00 p.m.

THR ONE SPEECH DEBATE

MR. SPEAKER, Hon. Harry E. Graham (Birtle-Russell): The Honourable Minister of Agriculture has ten minutes.

MR. DOWNEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the final ten minutes that I have left this evening to speak to the Throne Speech, I think it would be only fitting that I speak what I feel is ahead of the agricultural community as it is for the people of Manitoba.

I am very positive about the future of the prospects for the farming community. I believe that the opportunities that are facing the people in the farm community, the opportunities that are in the area of agriculture production, the areas that are available to the market development will have to be looked upon as something that we have to work jointly to accomplish and has been said many times by my colleagues, by our Premier, that as the agricultural industry goes in the province, so goes the province. Mr. Speaker, I would say I am as positive about the future of agriculture as I am about the future of Manitoba. It has a tremendous opportunity to play its part in this overall Confederation of Canada.

Energy, Mr. Speaker, is one of the major issues that are facing the people of Manitoba. I feel, Mr. Speaker, that farmers are some of the largest producers of energy, that is what their job is, Mr. Speaker, is to produce energy for the people of this country, and not only this country but for a truly international market.

Mr. Speaker, Manitoba farmers today are some of the largest users of Hydro and how we have helped those people in the farm community as we have helped those people in the consumers of the province, the people in manufacturing, by the freezing of hydro rates will be long remembered and appreciated by that community. I believe, Mr. Speaker, when we have a surplus of power that has been generated, not only because of the fact that it has been generated and additional money spent that was unnecessary, Mr. Speaker, I believe that our Minister of Energy, Minister of Finance, is very capable in planning the future needs, the future needs of the hydro, the continued development of that project as been stated many times, will again help the development of the manufacturing industry and the service industry that goes into it.

Another area, Mr. Speaker, which I would like to touch on briefly and was commented on in the Throne Speech and that is in the area of gasohol production. I believe, Mr. Speaker, that the development of gasohol, particularly in Manitoba, has a tremendous opportunity. The Minister of Finance, the Minister of Energy, the Minister of Economic Development and I have had several discussions. The Member for River Heights who spoke briefly in his moving of the Throne Speech is doing a lot of work in the area of helping to put out information that relates to the area of gasohol.

How does gasohol, Mr. Speaker, relate to the farm community? First of all, Mr. Speaker, it broadens the market opportunities for the products that are produced. Secondly, Mr. Speaker, it creates job opportunities for all Manitobans; and thirdly, Mr. Speaker, it helps the total consuming community in times when we are in short energy supplies.

Mr. Speaker, the Member for Interlake, St. George says, "potato power." Well, Mr. Speaker, I would think it is probably better than turkey power that comes out of his particular speeches that he has over there.

Mr. Speaker, the basis of our agriculture community, a strong agriculture community, is a diversified agriculture community. Mr. Speaker, the people of our province, the farmers of our province, we have encouraged diversification, we will encourage diversification. And how have we done that, Mr. Speaker? Through the introduction of an \$18.5 million, five year program, through a federal/provincial agreement. That program, Mr. Speaker, is to help broaden the types and varieties of crops that can be produced in Manitoba, to be further processed in Manitoba, or to be fed to the livestock industry, job creating self-sufficiency as far as the farm communities are concerned.

Another area, Mr. Speaker, which we have endeavoured to support the farm community, and that's in the area of not only land development but water development. I feel very strongly that we have a resource base in water that can be used for a tremendous development of irrigation. We have areas of land that are susceptible to, or capable of being

irrigated. We have farmers now who are desirous of getting into that kind of farming activity. We support it and support it wholly.

Another area, Mr. Speaker, which I feel is our responsibility to work with the farm community in the agribusiness, and that's in the area of market development, particularly for livestock, but also other products that are produced in Manitoba. We have to look at and review the best alternatives to support that particular industry. And not, Mr. Speaker, not through a beef marketing board as was the desire of the Member for St. George.

Mr. Speaker, I believe there is a lot of work to be done, we are committed to doing that kind of work.

Mr. Speaker, as I said earlier we have committed some \$2 million to lease hopper cars to help the grain farming community. We have committed ourselves, Mr. Speaker, to supporting and continuing expanding the use of Churchill for a valuable export facility. Mr. Speaker, we have used and will continue to use the Manitoba Agriculture Credit Corporation as a valuable tool to the expansion of the farm input.

Mr. Speaker, the Manitoba Crop Insurance Corporation has been working to keep up-to-date with the development of a lot of the diversified crops. Mr. Speaker, I feel very positive that the agriculture community will play a major role in the future development of Manitoba. We support that and support it fully.

Mr. Speaker, there are some areas of legislation which I believe will have to be looked at as far as the department is concerned, and that is in the area of The Milk Control Act. Another one is The Farmlands Protection Act, to discourage offshore capital which can, in fact, and has over the past few years, given some unfair competition to the family farm here in Manitoba and we, Mr. Speaker, are prepared to protect the farm community when it comes to the family farm unit.

Mr. Speaker, I am committed to the people of Manitoba, and to the people of Canada, to have agriculture play its role, to help our Premier, the Premier of this province, in a team approach, to commonsense good government, to provide people with the opportunities to use and to work towards their goals, self-motivated people, not government-pressured people to doing it.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that Canada, that Manitoba and Canada can play an ever-important role in the international world of food processing and producing, and supplying an ever-hungry world. And it is with that commitment that I want to say that I will enjoy the coming weeks and days of the debate in this House and look forward for the objective input of the members opposite, if they find it possible to do so.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Burrows.

MR. BEN HANUSCHAK: Mr. Speaker, firstly I wish to extend to you the best for the session. Some honourable member speaking prior to me had congratulated you on your reappointment as Speaker but to set the record straight, Mr. Speaker, and I am sure that you would agree with me that there was no reappointment of you as Speaker. You were elected as Speaker by this House and you continue as Speaker until such time as either you resign or the House chooses to remove you or you die, neither of which has happened, so therefore you are continuing as Speaker. But anyway, for this forthcoming session I do want to wish you well and I want to assure you, Mr. Speaker, that you will have my co-operation to assist you in conducting the business of the House to do that which we have been charged with doing as elected representatives of the people of the Province of Manitoba.

I also wish to congratulate the new members joining our House during this session. I wish to congratulate the Honourable Member for River Heights who is not in his seat at the present time and wish him well, and also in the same breath extend to him my regrets from his side of the House because it was doubted that he was slated for a Cabinet post but for some reason or another he did not receive one and I suppose the Honourable Member for River Heights feels somewhat slighted by that but that's his problem and not mine.

I wish to congratulate the Honourable Member for Fort Rouge and welcome her to the House but at the same time I also wish to indicate to her that in the last by-election the New Democratic vote percentage-wise had increased considerably, and I also wish to congratulate my colleague, the Honourable Member for Rossmere. And speaking about my colleague the Member for Rossmere, Mr. Speaker, it was said earlier today that the New Democratic Party was a Schreyer Party, once Schreyer goes, there goes the New Democratic Party. Well, Mr. Speaker, the Honourable Member for Rossmere was elected to this House when His Excellency, the present Governor-General of Canada, was no longer a member of this House and the man

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who is occupying his seat now, ran, and was elected; he ran on the strength of our party platform and was elected on that basis.

Mr. Speaker, I also wish to congratulate some of the Ministers who had their portfolios changed and wish them well. I wish to extend my best wishes to the Minister, to the half-day a week Minister, the Minister of Government Services. You will recall, Mr. Speaker, that a year, a year-and-a-half ago, that same Minister said that he devotes four-and-a-half days a week to Highways and half-a-day a week to the business of Government Services. Now that is his only portfolio, but I am sure, Mr. Speaker, that while my colleague, the Honourable Member for St. George ran Autopac and this Minister does not have Autopac to run, that he will be able to devote those four-and-a-half days a week to give his personal attention to assist his successor, the Minister of Highways, to give his personal attention to the upgrading of Provincial Road 518 for the Town of Woodlands. You'll recall, Mr. Speaker, in the Highways Estimates, there was what? . . . 9.6, 10.4 miles, something like that from the Town of Woodlands up to the farm gate of the home of the Honourable Minister. And he will see to it that there is really a first-rate job done on the upgrading of that road.

I am told, Mr. Speaker, that that stretch of road will no longer be known as Highway 518, or Provincial Road 518, but it will be named in honour of two, in the opinion of the Conservative Party, in the honor of two outstanding members of their party. It will become known as Enns Lane.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, order please. The Honourable Minister of Government Services on a point of personal privilege.

HON. HARRY J. ENNS (Lakeside): Yes sir, I just want to indicate to the Honourable Member for Burrows that I will never spend another lonely night with him in a hotel room.

MR. SPEAKER: Sorry, that is not a point of personal privilege.
The Honourable Member for Burrows.

MR. HANUSCHAK: That provincial road will be known as Enns Lane in recognition of the contribution, whatever contribution he made to the Conservative Party with the Honourable Minister of Government Services and in recognition of the contribution made by one gentleman by the name of Lane who was defeated in Winnipeg-St. James just a little better than a week ago, a week ago last Monday as a matter of fact.

I am also told, Mr. Speaker, that going along Enns Lane, as you approach Shoal Lake and you come to that wide sweeping curve to the west, that that curve is going to be named as Enns Bend, Enns Bend, and the reason why he's calling it Enns Bend, Mr. Speaker, to enshrine his own name in the future of Manitoba and then with the hope of attracting to his fold, the Bend Liberals who live in his riding. The Honourable Minister will recall the name of Bend very well, I am sure, and not only to recall the Bend Liberals but also their friends and their relatives, excepting cousins.

And, Mr. Speaker, I would also wish to extend my best wishes to the Minister responsible for Corporate Welfare, the Minister of Economic Development. And, Mr. Speaker, it was rather strange that in reading the Throne Speech there was no reference therein to a couple of his favourite programs, and there was no reference whatsoever to them.

Now you will recall, Mr. Speaker, his bird program, his bird care program you remember the survey that he did? He asked the pet owners to indicate the ailments that their pets suffered from; being over-sexed, under-sexed, diarrhea, constipation, etc., etc. He wanted to know all of that.

MR. DOERN: Right wing or left wing?

MR. HANUSCHAK: You remember that survey. Well, obviously that bird care program that the honourable Minister dreamed up, it just didn't hatch, it just didn't hatch because there was no mention of it whatsoever. And, Mr. Speaker, I don't know what the Minister is going to do because I don't know if he's aware of it or not but my goodness there's all kinds of people around the province with budgies that have been suffering from constipation for the last year. And you know, Mr. Speaker, what happens to budgies that suffer from constipation . . . --(Interjection)-- Mr. Speaker, some of those budgies are now over 50 pounds, filled with the same stuff that the Minister is filled with. Well, Mr. Speaker, I am told that the Minister "flew the coop".

Well, Mr. Speaker, on a serious vein, the real intent of the Minister of Corporate Welfare, the Minister of Economic Development, it wasn't to institute a bird care program or whatever other flighty program he may have had in mind but rather it was to indicate to the people of the Province of Manitoba what the philosophy of the Conservative Party really is; and that is that the Conservative Party has really no concern for people-oriented programs whatsoever. In fact, in announcing that program what they really said, we have no more concern for people-oriented programs than we care for a dodo bird.

And you will recall, Mr. Speaker, the other program that the same Minister had announced just a little better than a year ago, about 16 months ago. He spent a little bit of money on a radio advertising program, a radio advertising campaign calling for applications for employment, offering 1,000, 2,000, 3,000 jobs - whatever number of jobs it was doesn't really matter, Mr. Speaker, - in a great big industrial development that was to open up in southern Manitoba. They asked for applications for machinists, for electricians, for millwrights, practically the entire range of trades and crafts and then we discovered that there was no industry opening up there but that someone apparently had indicated some faint interest in opening up an industry in southern Manitoba and that the Minister was merely doing a survey to determine whether we do have the manpower to fill the needs of that particular employer.

Well, Mr. Speaker, I would suggest to you that the truth of the matter is this, that the Minister hoped to accumulate 2,000 or 3,000 job applications and stuff his briefcase with those job applications and go down to Toronto or Montreal, to the head offices of various manufacturing and industrial concerns, and open up his briefcase and say to the President of the company, "Here we have 3,000 job applicants and we have all kinds. We have millwrights, we have machinists, we have carpenters, we have electricians and so forth, and if you locate in our province we've got the manpower to meet your needs."

Well obviously, Mr. Speaker, that didn't happen and that, too, fizzled out because there hasn't been that huge industry opening up in Altona or Winkler or Morden, or wherever it was supposed to have opened up, not to that extent. The one that opened up, Mr. Speaker, the planning for it commenced during the days of the government of the New Democratic Party and not during the days of this outfit sitting across the House at the present time; and not to the extent --(Interjection)-- Now the Honourable Minister of Highways wishes to ask me a question. If he wishes to ask me a question, he may. --(Interjection)-- Now obviously, Mr. Speaker, the Honourable Minister does not wish to ask a question. He prefers to speak from the seat of his pants as he's accustomed to rather than get up and ask a question which I have given him the opportunity to do.

In the meantime, Mr. Speaker, while the Minister of Economic Development is going through this phony act which you have been going through, of calling for applications for non-existent jobs, what was happening? Swifts folded up and moved out. --(Interjection)-- Oh yes, Greb shoes moved out. And the company which is a shadow government really, the fellows across the street, they moved to Denver, Colorado. Willson Stationery, another one, yes.

And, Mr. Speaker, isn't it interesting. You will recall when they became the government one of the first pieces of legislation they brought before the House, the abolition of succession duties, because that's what was driving this business out, and they passed their legislation.

And it's interesting. Were these Ministers not able to go to Swifts, Greb shoes, Great-West Life and all the other companies which moved their operations out of our city and say to them, "Now, look fellows, we abolished succession duties because this is what was driving you out, but there are no more succession duties," and persuade them to stay. But they failed.

Now the Honourable Minister of Highways wants to talk about Versatile . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Order please. I realize that there are many members in the Chamber that would like to get involved in the Throne Speech Debate but could we just please have one at a time. At the present time I recognize the Honourable Member for Burrows.

MR. HANUSCHAK: I thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. As a matter of fact you will recall that just a moment ago I did offer an opportunity to the Honourable Minister of Highways to ask his question in order to make some useful contribution to the debate of the Speech from the Throne and he refused to rise; so anyway, I thank you.

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Then, Mr. Speaker, we come to a more recent incident, one of ten days ago in which the Honourable Minister of Highways and the Honourable Member for Fort Rouge and I participated in. No, it goes back practically thirteen days because our first meeting. . . Oh, I'm sorry, I'm sorry, the half-day Minister, the Minister for Government Services. --(Interjection)-- Oh, he's earned his keep. Well, Mr. Speaker, it's unfortunate, the Minister who had announced the Bird Care Program is not here with us today because. . . --(Interjection)-- he was I know, but he left. . . because I think that that Minister ought to know that amongst his colleagues he has an ostrich. He has an ostrich who had buried his head in the sand and until the last minute he was predicting a Tory win and he was predicting quite a substantial Tory win and he couldn't see the handwriting on the wall, Mr. Speaker. Now it may be that the reason why he couldn't see the handwriting on the wall is, he might be suffering from some other deficiency in addition to having his head in the sand. Perhaps the Minister of Education ought to come to his defence and teach him how to read the handwriting on the wall which I would suspect that. . . yes, the Honourable Minister of Highways from his seat asked me whether I had taught people. Yes, I had taught people how to learn, and I'm happy to say that many of them did exactly that.

And the Honourable Minister, until the last minute, did not realize. . . aah, in Fisher Branch, yes, Fisher Branch, within a riding which we won and which we won very handily, and now we have a state of affairs where the New Democratic Party members are the spokesmen for the Province of Manitoba and the Tories, if they can't see the handwriting on the wall, then they should be able to see it, that they are on the way out.

And what's even more important, Mr. Speaker, is that the Tories are not aware of what had happened in many of the other provinces of Canada and particularly in the Province of Quebec. In the Province of Quebec wherein the New Democratic Party ran second in 37 seats. The Tories ran second in 30, and out of the 30 there were 6 within which you were kicked out leaving you just hanging onto one seat, Mr. Speaker.

Now the Honourable Minister for Government Services asks whether that is important or not. Now, if the Tory Party is concerned about Canadian unity then they ought to know whether that's important or not. Mr. Speaker, the Honourable Minister for Highways says that it's we who drive the Quebecers away. There were half a million Quebecers who voted NDP in the last election, a majority of the ridings of the City of Montreal; within the majority of the ridings in the City of Montreal, we ran second.

So, Mr. Speaker, what their leader at the federal level had attempted to conceive nine months ago was aborted during the last election. So, Mr. Speaker, the honourable members on that side know full well how the scenario will develop from here on in. We will gain strength in the Province of Saskatchewan. We will regain the government role in the Provinces of Manitoba, British Columbia, Ontario, Quebec, and then comes. . . yes, and Ontario, and then comes Canada.

Mr. Speaker, this afternoon the Minister of Agriculture said that the Conservative Party is committed to help those truly in need. Mr. Speaker, the Minister was right, yes, they are committed to help those on the verge of death, on the verge of starvation, on the verge of their life falling apart. Those are the ones whom they will help and for them they provide poor houses and the debtors prisons, and so forth, which the Conservative Party has had a history of providing for. Those are the ones, those truly in need, you're down the gutter, here's a penny, here are a few crumbs, a piece of cake, says my colleague the Honourable Member for Winnipeg Centre. But, Mr. Speaker, to establish a program to enable that disadvantaged individual, to make a man, a woman, of himself, no, that is not part of their philosophy. It never was and it never is.

And looking through the Throne Speech, Mr. Speaker, you may note that I've flipped several pages before I've come to anything worthwhile, even worth commenting on. And I come on Page 6, a program that the Tory party takes great pride in, the SAFER Program. SAFER stands for Shelter Allowance for Elderly Renters. But you know, Mr. Speaker, it's interesting, that in announcing this program nothing has been said about the Critical Home Repair Program.

You will recall, Mr. Speaker, last August or September, when the Minister made the first announcement about this program, and he said that in establishing this program he wants to give our senior citizens an option, either to remain in their homes or to sell their home and seek accommodation in rented facilities. Well, it's not much of an option, Mr. Speaker, because what about the senior citizen who may wish to continue to remain in his home and the one whose home may be somewhat deteriorated and may be in need of repair, may be in need of a new roof, new windows, doors, insulation, wiring, plumbing, whatever. But for the

past while nothing has been done, absolutely nothing has been done to assist those people who wish to choose the option to continue to remain in their own home rather than seek rented facilities.

Mr. Speaker, I suggest to you that the SAFER program is nothing more than an attempt to line the pockets of the landlord friends of the honourable Minister, to put tenants in his vacant apartments. That's the purpose of the program because, Mr. Speaker, what an individual can do, what the Minister hopes will happen, is that senior citizens will sell their homes and rent apartments within the apartment blocks of his apartment block owner friends, Mr. Speaker.

I'm not sure, Mr. Speaker, I believe there were a couple of honourable members who have questions they wanted to ask of me. Now obviously they don't, Mr. Speaker, so therefore I will continue.

Secondly, Mr. Speaker, what the SAFER program will do is -- well, there are two loopholes in it -- One, that to take advantage of the Honourable Minister's program one has to do one of two things. The senior citizen, all he need to do is transfer the ownership of his home to his family, or to anyone that he may choose to transfer it to and then rent it back from that individual. Transfer his house to his sons and daughters, rent it back, thus he becomes a tenant and becomes eligible for assistance under the SAFER program, depending of course, and I realize that, on his level of income.

Or the individual could incorporate a company and transfer the house to the company and rent it back. I would suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, that that's going to happen. But do you know where that's going to happen? It's not going to happen in the Burrows constituency because . . . --(Interjection)-- The Honourable Minister of Welfare, or whatever his department is called, is saying that the old people are crooked. Mr. Speaker, I am not saying that the old people are crooked. Mr. Speaker, what I am saying is that the government set up a program which opens the door to those who are conversant with and are familiar with the operations of company law, estate law and all the legal technicalities, that take advantage of all the legal technicalities to reap the maximum benefit from it. --(Interjections)-- The Honourable Minister of Welfare will have his turn for his forty minutes just as well as I have mine and he'll be able to rebut me and so will the Minister of Highways have the opportunity to rebut me. I am suggesting, Mr. Speaker, to both of the Ministers who don't have the guts to stand up on their feet and say what they want to say, but rather they speak from the seat of their pants, that the individual who is not conversant in company law and to whom property ownership in his personal right is very dear and close to him, he will not take advantage of that loophole because he wants to hang on to the title to his property; and therefore he will not be able to take advantage of whatever goodies the bird Minister is handing out.

Because we know it, Mr. Speaker, because there is nothing more added to the Critical Home Repair Program to give the people the option to either live in their home or seek rented facilities. And this junior Minister, who was appointed not all that long ago, chirping away - I suppose he got that from his colleague sitting in the front bench.

And then, Mr. Speaker, we come to -- and this is supposed to be a priority item with this government -- education. The Throne Speech is, what? Eleven pages and we go through seven pages and not a word mentioned about education. We get to Page 8, there's a sort of a postscript, there is reference to education; that there will be substantial increases in the amounts provided for the operation of post-secondary institutions in the public school system.

And, Mr. Speaker, you will recall a week or two ago when the Minister announced the grants for the post-secondary institutions, namely, the universities and he was very proud to say that this year's increase was "X" percent more than last year. But, Mr. Speaker, it's all relative. If last year there was very little, if any, increase, that any type of increase whatever it is, is going to be more than was last year, but it's still inadequate, it's still insufficient.

This notion that you starve the people first for a year or two and then you throw them a few crumbs and say, "Now look, aren't you fortunate that you're no longer starving. You have a few crumbs, you can now survive, and we are so beneficent to you, we've given you a few crumbs." It's really nothing to brag about, Mr. Speaker.

But what really concerns me about the reference to education and then going farther down the page where His Honour said that, "My Ministers inform me that the hearings" -- that's the hearings with respect to the two education bills -- "having been completed by the Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections, they will re-introduce a revision of the Public Schools Act and the Education Administration Act."

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Well, Mr. Speaker, reading the report from that committee to the House — and I was not a member of the committee on the last day that it sat — I note in the second last paragraph that it reads as follows:

"It became obvious to your committee that the general format and arrangement of the proposed legislation was acceptable. However, in addition to the matters raised in the foregoing there were a number of requests for clarification with regard to the intent of the several sections."

Mr. Speaker, I sat during the hearings of the delegations and I participated in the debate following the presentation of each delegation and my recollection of what transpired was that what the delegations wanted was far more than merely clarification of some of the sections. They took exception to many of the sections contained within the proposed legislation, Mr. Speaker. They took exception to it. They took exception to the fact that — and I will be very quick to point out — that I recall what the Minister of Education said, that he had announced that he was going to change this particular section but until such time as I see it in a form, expressed in a manner as a 1969 candidate for the Conservative Party would have said it, until I see it in black and writing the way Slav Rebchuk said it, then until that time I must go by what appears in the bills.

So what I'm concerned about is the fact that the Education Administration Act, No. 1, provides . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, order please, the honourable member has five minutes.

MR. HANUSCHAK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That the Education Administration Act puts the conduct of our education program in the hands of political hacks because it defines an education administrative consultant, who will be the one out in the field, reporting to the Minister on the conduct of our education program and the education administrative consultant is not going to be someone appointed via the normal mechanism and machinery of the Civil Service Commission, but rather he is going to be appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council.

And, Mr. Speaker, that raises the question, who will nominate the appointees to this position? And once that question is raised, then it raises the question, who will become the real Minister of Education? Will it continue to be the Minister of Education or will it be the Minister responsible for the pork barrel, because he's got a line up at his office door also, who want appointments to various government posts?

So, Mr. Speaker, these are going to be people appointed by Cabinet.

MR. ENNS: Shame.

MR. HANUSCHAK: Yes, and it really is shame to this government, Mr. Speaker, that education is going to be politicized to this extent. Because, Mr. Speaker, you will recall that we were accused of politicizing the education system by introducing programs which would challenge and motivate children to think and make their own decisions. The Co-op Education Program and others, that was called politicization of the education program. Now, they're going to appoint their defeated candidates and that, they claim, is not politicization of the education program? Then, Mr. Speaker, serving notice to the people of the Province of Manitoba, where this government stands on the matter of people's services.

MR. ENNS: Where do we stand?

MR. HANUSCHAK: Where does the Tory Party stand? Charge a deterrent fee, charge a deterrent fee. You want health services, you pay for it. You want an education, you pay for the damned education, as the Minister said in his bill. As the Minister says in his bill, "The Education Administration Act," and I'm reading from a bill that I would hope that this Minister was party to approving in Cabinet prior to submitting to the Legislative Assembly, where the Minister says, —(Interjection)— and now the Minister is attempting to get some help from the backbench and I'm sure that the member from the backbench, the Member for Minnedosa, isn't aware of the fact that this bill says that the Minister may make regulations governing the operation of public schools and designating the groups, kinds, classes or types of person to be admitted as pupils therein. He is going to determine who is going to be admitted to a public school and, Mr. Speaker, the deterrent fee comes here and the fees and charges, if any, to be paid by the pupils.

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Mr. Speaker, during the hearings of the committee, there was one group that very clearly understood what this section meant, and that was the League of the Physically Handicapped. They knew what this meant, they knew it very well. They knew that if they need a ramp to get to the classroom that they pay for it, that the Minister would say, "Very well, I'll build you a damned ramp, but you pay me five bucks a month to use it." They understood what that meant and other underprivileged and disadvantaged will understand that, Mr. Speaker. That's the philosophy, that's the aim and objective of this government and that, the people of the Province of Manitoba, ought to know.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Wolseley.

MR. ROBERT G. WILSON: . . . congratulations on your reappointment. I regret that I have to follow such a boisterous presentation and I'm sure someone on our side will get up and probably rebut many of the things he said, but I had intended to use this opportunity to offer some of my suggestions.

However, I wanted to first congratulate the mover from River Heights on a fine presentation and congratulate my colleague from Emerson, who seconded the Throne Speech, and who will probably be taking my place as the new hit man against the opposition over here with as many firm questions and maybe do a job that I once used to enjoy.

I wanted to congratulate my colleague from Virden, making me one of the few without an appointment. I understand he's been Deputy Chairman of the Whole House and I congratulate him.

I congratulate the new Ministers and I'm especially proud and privileged to be standing before you this session. I welcome the new members to the House and especially the Member for Fort Rouge, who reminded me the other day, that it's been eight years in public life for myself since Unicity and it is really sort of heartwarming that an ordinary man can get elected four times to public office.

In Wolseley, our sharing and caring together for a better Manitoba has certainly had some productive results and I'd like to talk about them later. I shall always be grateful and again, as a stand-up and straight-up person, that I can win sometimes where the establishment fails because when one group seeks to dominate politics, a power greater than us seems to decide otherwise. And I think it's been a long road for me from St. Vital and the old paper shack to this honoured position in government.

I studied and perceived my role to be that of a working candidate and a man for all the people, working, low income and the poor. That's the type of riding I represent and when something was wrong, the people of Wolseley demanded it be questioned and, of course, I kept my sources secret and sort of became the fall guy.

Bob Wilson has made many many enemies who imagined, probably rightfully so, that they would never be exposed or found out or questioned, and I caution the new Member for Rossmere to be careful in taking on the world. He sounded like myself when I first came into the House.

Mr. Speaker, they have struck what they believe to be a final blow. The system, the media have taken away the respect I once enjoyed, while the masses believe it. They say it must be true, I read it in the newspaper.

I, however, am lucky because many decent people are still singing my praises. So I'm probably lucky in that regard.

I wanted to talk about and start my presentation tonight about Wolseley, which is an urban riding, and start with some urban problems. Winnipeg needs a better share of the growth taxes because services are slipping and special grants should be earmarked for police protection. I understand this year we're going to cut our boulevards for the first time and we have been denied many civic improvements because of Winnipeg's restraint program for the core area, because you see the suburban councillors control the budget in what services Wolseley gets.

The SAFER Program is an excellent program and will be an alternative to public housing and I hope it will prove a stimulus to the private sector, to build senior citizen apartments in Wolseley. I remember promising one. I understand I'm going to have three before too long.

In Health, our team is moving with a positive direction. I welcome the \$138 million redevelopment of the Health Sciences Centre and of course, the Seven Oaks. However, after the loss of Grace Hospital, where I was born, on Arlington Street, and the old Victoria Hospital from the central area on River Avenue, I was hoping for a major redevelopment announcement for Misericordia, the lifeblood of Wolseley.

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My friends, Dr. L. Kocsis, and of course, the late Dr. Ed Shaw, spent many hours with this member to lobby for support for this much needed facility and emergency wing.

I want to remind the Minister of Health, the announcement during the by-election that our hospital would stay and I understand from my colleague that he did mention something today that possibly we might have something in the capital program next year.

I think history will prove me right that the population will increase downtown as commuter travel becomes more expensive and as our homes become more attractive, and I hope the hospital should be modernized.

The Misericordia sisters, of course, and the staff, have been very loyal to Manitoba. The hospital has the best emergency service and the Wolseley small businessmen, such as the grocery store and that, rely on this establishment as sort of the heart of the economic community.

And of course, the day care announcements from my colleague, the Minister of Community Services and Corrections, would have won me an election, of course, against my Liberal opponent given different circumstances. The working mothers, single parents, and families with special needs, and of course the new Canadians, are truly grateful for the 25 percent increase.

The funds for social and training centres for retarded and post-psychiatric is a positive and welcome accomplishment. I remember begging the former Member for St. Boniface, or now the Member for St. Boniface to keep 189 Evanson open for social activities for these post-psychiatric people, because Wolseley leads the way in the number of institutional homes and their prayers have been answered. But I guess very quickly, it's sort of like we must be up and doing for in the grave lies rest.

I want to tell a Manitoba story, what I think means good government. Two things come to mind when you take away your childhood friends; one is a war and the other is a lousy economy with no clear prospects for the future, and it is hoped that Manitoba will become a 'have' province in the Eighties. Of course, our renewable resources, our bountiful agricultural future, our tourism potential, and hope for secondary industry expansion.

And some of my ideas I think were a natural for the expansion of the aerospace industry. I think we should be an air cargo clearing terminal for European air cargo over the Polar route. We are 800 miles shorter than Montreal, saving jet fuel, which is sort of something in the way of saving money in this very serious time and I hope Mr. Taxworthy will use his influence to get this terminal away from Montreal.

Positive politics should slow down. Our friends across the street, Great-West Life, from continuing their silent exodus each year to Denver, USA. Why not support their development for the east yard development, and how about thinking to the future and maybe in the year 1990 build us a dome stadium on that site like Seattle, and a park at the historical forks of the Red and Assiniboine, which has been promised for so many years. And good government would stop the brain drain by hiring qualified high salaried loyal civil servants to tell our Manitoba story, and I think it's time we turfed out the drones and the losers.

And with a little loyalty from the establishment families, I refer to things like the Macauley painting collection in Calgary and the Heimbecker house that was moved there in its entirety, and we would once again probably become the financial clearing house and capital of Canada, and I don't mean losing the likes of Sigonic who, I understand, is also in Calgary.

But why is the Bank of Montreal building a twin tower in Calgary? I am very suspicious.

We need a hard working opposition, as a good opposition means good government and we need a caucus where suggestions are not put down sometimes by one or two apple polishers and we need a valid opposition, we need good valid opposition that should be encouraged.

And Autopac must stay so that we can recycle the dollars in Manitoba and create jobs and protect the consumer, and I would hope the efficiencies that that \$200,000 report came up with, will be implemented so that we can well justify the report which has been criticized by the opposition.

And our petroleum industry is suspect at best and it's hurting our balance of payments. You see, for every barrel of crude oil marketed here, it helps the Manitoba economy and we don't have to buy it from Alberta. And I would encourage our government to look at this area because I want to examine the least auction system. Compare the number of producing wells south of the U.S. border to Waskada in Southern Manitoba. Is there some magic about the 49th parallel, and how many wells it should be producing more are here in Manitoba, like shutting down after half a day and holding back production, thinking it's like money in the bank. But we need that crude oil now in the Eighties and we don't need it from imports.

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We should examine the role of Chevron and Standard Oil to see if they are really producing, and if their virtual monopoly is good for the petroleum industry, because crude oil means fresh new dollars.

In the area of small business, I think the Manitoba attitude is becoming better but it leaves a lot to be desired. I think we need a little more venture capital and we certainly need tax concessions of the norm in North America and we in Manitoba are miles behind. We have lost too many young businessmen to British Columbia who give almost 100 percent financing and North Dakota are two areas that I've shared personal experiences in.

And government should have a subsidy after certain fixed rate of interest because the banks are the only business that I know that will sell you a product for a certain price and even before the delivery, they will up the price. The result is that the small business is slow in paying their trade creditors and they suffer because of the banks. We could attract small business if we could counter the floating rate of interest the banks enjoy.

I'll give an example of a grocery store that in November, 1978, borrowed for ten years at 9-3/4, or \$640 a month, and since 1978, and now it's paying \$961 a month, and it's going up. It's unfair because this grocery store can't increase its product at the rate of inflation and the rate that interest is going up. He can't pass it on to the consumer.

This is rather a novel one, but I'd like to see Autopac collections moved to March or April because the people in Wolseley claim that it's too close to Christmas, that it's too close to income tax time and they'd like to see Autopac come due in March or April because the people in Wolseley claim that it's too close to Christmas, that it's too close to income tax time and they would like to see Autopac come due in March or April, just a small thing.

And the court system. Well, we have over half-a-million dollars in fines uncollected. And again, I've said this many times, we need a night court both as a consumer convenience and to practice the Premier's prudent management.

And on municipal taxes on farmers, we are taxing farmers out of business and they are the last bastion of free enterprise. In the green belt here in Winnipeg, taxes are \$16 to \$18 an acre and I think in our block funding we may have to look at helping these fellows out.

The lottery moneys, of course, according to public accounts, were hoarding something like \$4.7 million or somewhere thereabouts and I'd like to see us encourage sports development and cultural development and rather than baling out the arts, get it at the development stage, pour the money in there and we'll see the results. And grants should be on a dollar for dollar matching formula.

In education, I'd certainly like the Education Minister to listen to this one, but something is wrong when all the parents want to send their kids to private schools and schools out of the district. It breaks up the fibre of the community. In our area they go to River Heights and Kelvin, and I'd like to know what's wrong with Gordon Bell because I intend to send my daughter there and I hope the Education Minister should investigate this sort of strange parental behaviour.

And possibly tourism, the government should work with Frontier Airlines to get a two-way flow of tourism coming back and forth because these local gambling junkets are hurting Frontier and I'm afraid Frontier might close down their Winnipeg operation.

And Hecla Island for some reason or other has been neglected, I guess since the Member for Burrows isn't going there anymore and it needs landscaping and it needs beach construction. It needs marine development; that's a natural for there. And I'd like to see more additional launching areas for the Red River and I'd like to see yachting and sailing development to Lake Winnipeg points of interest, site development in places like Berens River and to encourage the special hydro grants for camp operators.

I'd like to open up the Whiteshell. There are some private lakes there such as George Lake -- we don't need to take away from our own stock -- and access to other lakes to the general public. I remember during the hearings so many of them said, we don't want the people in our lake. I'd like to remind them that the Whiteshell lakes belong to all Manitobans.

I'd like to open up the border entrance to Shoal Lake and Lake of the Woods from the Manitoba side. What an absolutely great opportunity and new tourist development; terrific idea. I've been to Indian Bay with my colleague from Fort Rouge and others many times.

And I would like to talk about the Liquor Review Commission. You know, I would have done the job myself. Am I not correct? --(Interjection)-- Is Indian Bay not where the city Fathers go? Am I wrong in the destination? --(Interjection)-- Oh, well, on a lighter vein I would like to say, in dealing with some of the savings later on I will be referring to public accounts. But under the Liquor Review Commission I would have done the job myself for nothing and taken the credits and the blame from the temperance lobby as I have been asking for changes since I was first elected. I even have a pamphlet out called 'Fun In The Eighties' and I used to call my suggestions and I used to talk about some of my suggestions.

I would like to see imported and domestic wine sales in cheese stores. I would like to see six-pack beer in grocery stores. I would like us to get back our several million dollar industry, our liquor advertising industry which creates jobs in Manitoba, because I think if any of you watch cable television you see the liquor ads coming in from Channel 4 and 8 and others. I think that that was something we shut down under Mr. Sims, the Liquor Commission czar, and I think it was a big mistake.

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I would like the regulations to be changed, which I think they are in several places now, to allow people to move around with alcoholic beverages.

I would like to see beer sold in plastic and paper containers in certain establishments, hotels in Thompson and Gillam and certainly those such as the Occidental and others. I think this would save an awful lot of emergency ambulance trips if we sold the beer in plastic and paper containers.

I would like to see peanut bars and stand-up English pubs with live sing-along music and amateur hours and stand-up comedy.

But on the serious side, I would like to see a percentage of the revenue from liquor sales go to help build and establish a rural institution like the Hazeldale institution because alcoholism is a social disease. And I think it might even be cheaper for us to give the alcoholic the \$750 fee to go down to Hazeldale in the States rather than ignoring the problem.

I remember, in other years, I always used to have a grey envelope for everybody and my thickest one always used to be Legal Aid, but I think that Legal Aid should be for the needy and not the greedy, and I would like to see any budget of \$3.5 million, that I think we deserve some better policy and clear regulations as to who qualifies.

And I think the Attorney-General . . . I think the examination of the acts of government should be encouraged and I really think a lot of the good U.S laws should be adopted. I can't think of that movie, in 'Justice For All' and I would hope that a lot of the members here would go to see it. I think with the RCMP and the police having a policy of taking people in that come in with their lawyers that have been charged is a good policy but I think our government's policy of handcuffing individuals that are not convicted of violent crimes is not only from the dark ages, I think it is slightly barbaric and is completely unnecessary.

I think in this day and age where at least 35 percent of the people who are brought in for questioning are released or innocent.

I think that bail money should carry some form of interest because many cases today are taking from three to five years and I think that 15 percent, even if the government paid 8 percent, it would go a long way to pay some of these hungry lawyers out there.

I think that the FBI rules the police work. I have copies here. I'd be glad to furnish anybody, but you should strive to clear the innocent as well as convict the guilty and there is a commandment: Thou shalt not bear false witness. And it seems to me that some day our laws will encourage investigative honesty.

And, Mr. Speaker, I want to take a moment if I could, to not talk about my own problems but just because I'm going to have to work here for a couple of years, I would like to assure all the MLAs in this House that I am — I wanted to say it to you personally — that I am totally innocent and I have done no wrong and will be cleared by the courts. And I wanted you to hear this from me because the case could take from two to three years. To date it has been a prosecution for political and career purposes and the high profile media, and my enemies have struck and I think it is disgraceful that a pocketful of federal lawyers operating in a provincial jurisdiction are making a mockery of justice. I am alone, I agree, against this faceless establishment, and guess what? They haven't silenced me yet and I am going to be here for another couple of years.

But let me explain some of the reasons I created some of these enemies. Because just right in this House — and all of it is in Hansard; you just have to read — members of the P.C. Cabinet, during restraint, they were the ones that stopped the \$11 million law courts building with its plush perks and its wall to wall carpeting. But guess what? I foolishly took part of the credit.

In other examples how I created enemies, I challenged the annual grants of the law society, the richest members of society. Last year, \$257,478., but guess what? A civil servant fed me that information. I criticized the negligence and sloppy work of lawyers in not taking \$1.5 million from the lawyers suitors trust account. Now this money belongs to the small grocery stores and the taxpayers of Manitoba, and it should not be a windfall for the government and the consolidated fund. This was given to me by the late Charlie Gilraine and our late mayor and my friend, Bob Steen, publicly said lawyers are shifty regarding Legal Aid and I was a willing pupil and listener. I even put together many pearls of wisdom because even the Leader of the Opposition gave me a couple to add to my list. I have a very good collection, such as a law suit is a fruit tree planted in a lawyer's garden and laws should be made to fit people they are meant to serve. In other words, most laws are self-serving. They allow most lawyers to retire.

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I just wanted to give those few examples because I perceived my role was to mention these things in the House and in the Estimates, and in Public Accounts, and I thought it was with the full approval of caucus. Since I'm not a materialist, they could never buy my silence, so when the establishment wants to get even with fall guy, Bob, then I say I no longer want the credit. Find another MLA listener.

I noticed from his fighting start that maybe the Member for Emerson or maybe the good Member for Rossmere will be the type that they can use as a fall guy, because I have an 11-year-old daughter to look after and raise, and I've an aging mother to run chores for.

In my opinion, the battle ahead is more important - it's life itself - and my honour and my reputation, my friends, and my home town are dearer to me than fighting lawyers and apple-polishing civil servants and these brown-nosing, hughie milktoasts, who believe that if allowed to continue in this House, I would ruin and threaten their careers. Because in politics you are guilty until proven innocent; you are all alone because most people want to bag a politician and, of course, other politicians want your seat. And, you know, it's sad, it's sad but enemies know our weakness, and that's self preservation.

In any other business and in any army a comrade usually will help a fallen comrade. But, oh well, that's politics, so I'll get on to some more serious stuff but I wanted to put that on the record.

On their energy, the most important asset is lying north like a sleeping giant, waiting to be awakened by our government if an energy portfolio is created now. We need to have the best salesman that money can buy to inform the American public and the corporations of our most renewable resource, hydro power. We need a full time aggressive energy Minister with a productive team of civil servants. We should be announcing a seven-year freeze on hydro rates to attract new industry. While the Member for River Heights talks about cost analysis, I'm talking about lack of sales. During a recent conference, the Alberta MLAs I talked to said they have all kinds of money to proceed with hydro resource development and power stations in the '80s in Manitoba. The productive taxpayer wants a productive government and this stimulus to industry will mark one of the key accomplishments of our Tory government.

On page 417 in the report, they refer to weakness and overall management, a failure to recognize the magnitude of the engineering challenge and a failure to recognize the operation and commercial challenge of the export potential. I probably won't have time to read all of those into the record but there is at least 10 examples that I have there which indicate that we can and should do much better.

I did want to get on to dealing with the motion that's before us and the leader of the new party called the Social Democratic Party, and I wondered what happened to the old saying, the NDP, because you have got to remember a socialist is an outspoken person, who wants to share all he has with somebody who has more. A socialist is an envious citizen. He's sort of envious of any citizen to work to get ahead; he's always dreaming of a free lunch from someone else's labour. However, the Leader of the Social Democratic Party is not a text book socialist for he is demanding prudent management, a phrase the Premier has used and practised.

The opposition talked about many things close to my Wolseley heart, many I suggest are being funded and now are being improved, and I welcome the news of financial assistance for hearing aid for children under 18 and I pray for the day when hearing aids will come under Pharmacare, as hearing is a right of all Manitobans. And I love these new subsidies we have that it will help the single parent, some of them back to the work force and off social assistance.

And the Opposition Leader, of course, is stealing a lot of my material because when I was first elected I demanded good government and I wanted the needs of --(Interjection)-- Well, that's right, I wanted the needs of urban people in shelter and warmth, shelter and warmth before --(Interjection)-- no, I had a new one, I called it good government and I said I want shelter and warmth for everyone in Wolseley. I didn't want Saunders Aircraft; I didn't want King Choy; I didn't want William Clare; I didn't want St. Jean's Sportswear and all these other ripoffs of waste. I didn't want the Member for The Pas' composite toilet program; I didn't want any of those things. I wanted the money to go towards some of these social services. I wanted to protect the quality of life in Manitoba; those are my words. So instead of quoting Robert Frost, the Leader of the Opposition should be singing Wilson's praises.

I would like to suggest that we settled . . . I remember suggesting that we settle for \$8 million in a CFI civil action; I did this for a reason and we received, I believe, \$9 million. --(Interjection)-- Well, you see, but like the Tory-backed Tritschler Commission, the CFI court action was becoming a draw for lawyers, and these were not lawyers of Tory faith and I . . .

MR. GREEN: It would have been okay.

MR. WILSON: Well, there was \$2 million plus in fees at last count, so we had to settle the thing because it would have been eaten up in lawyers' fees.

MR. GREEN: That's okay; that's a good sign.

MR. WILSON: So, well, I wanted to talk about, if I could for just a moment, a certain page in Public Accounts. It talks about one of the things dear to my heart and that is the Auditor's Report and he talks about, "I suggest that we halt the \$15 million travel-related expense under Public Accounts", and I'm pleased to see it is now \$13 million, a good saving, when you take inflation into effect and the fact that born again, Ben, the Member for Burrows no longer can travel. So, you know, that's a start. He had a month at the Olympics; that was a good kick at the taxpayers' trough but I would say that if my suggestions are adopted, and I'm on Public Accounts again, that it will be \$11 million or less.

MR. ENNS: If they should be in power when the Moscow Olympics are on, we'll have a backup.

MR. WILSON: I'll reject any chance to go to . . . I can't criticize the Member for Burrows and then go to Moscow, so I'll have to decline. I demanded changes to Public Accounts' Committee to help the Auditor in his work. We are one of the last provinces to adopt open government and a resolution to this effect was defeated by the NDP. I remember the late Member for River Heights, when talking about co-operative development, had tried to bring Ministers and heads of department to the Public Accounts Committee. But, the members opposite didn't want open government, they didn't want an examination, and I remember trying to pry the lid off and then lo and behold we went and got elected, so there was no longer any need to investigate you fellows.

But to the Leader of the Opposition, I wanted to say, under Women, that the member has no monopoly on Women's Rights because my election speech was sharing and caring in a land of production and I didn't mean the Tory breeders, I meant equal opportunities in the workplace. And I fully supported and moved a grant when I was on City Council for the tri-service monument which is near the cenotaph, and it was one of the few times I shared and agreed with the Member for Elmwood.

I've caused a lot of problems with my suggestions and as I say I did create a lot of enemies, but you know, not one woman has taken me to task or to any lock-up and so I'm proud of that fact, because Wolseley needs many improvements.

I talked about after-school care for working mothers, luncheon after-school programs, environmental improvements to the core area decay. I liked the way we've earmarked some grants for recreation.

I hope we can get on with social interaction for slow learners and senior citizens, because these social services begin to have meaning since our government took over. Because the fellows opposite, they struck out in eight years at bat, and I think that the Member for Inkster, the Member for Wellington, the Member for Winnipeg Centre and the Member for Churchill, all live in that urban decay zone called Wolseley.

So I would like to see more improvements for Wolseley because it would be doing me a favour and all the other members on the opposite who live in that particular community.

And I would like to turn and again, I'd like you to turn and it depends on if you want to, but I'd like you to turn Thrifty Bob loose on government and I'll find the money to save Misericordia Hospital and I'll further fund these social needs, because money flows from prudent management of the public purse and money flows from economic growth.

And I would think in closing that I would like to tell you one of the reasons that I think that I am a member of the Conservative Party, because I believe in the freedom of worship, speech in Assembly, loyalty to the Queen of Canada, and the rule of law. Believing in these things, I hold with history that vigilance over our parliamentary institutions is the best guarantee of such traditional freedom.

I believe the State should be the servant of the people and that our national progress depends on a competitive economy, which accepting its social responsibilities, allows for every individual freedom of opportunity and initiative and the peaceful enjoyment of the fruits of his labour.

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And I believe in a Canada founded on these principles, a nation of many creeds and many cultures, united in its aims in accepting its obligations amongst the nations of the world.

So if we can get on with the thrust that the Conservative Party has for the Eighties of Manitoba and if we can get that Energy Minister and get our hydro development in place; if we can get our petroleum industry moving; if we can get our mining industry moving; if we can cut out government waste and mismanagement and one of the key things is production in government, production by the civil servants, then I think we'll be a lot better than the record of waste and mismanagement that faced us under the former regime.

And I can't help but think that during the Estimates I will continue to be the vigilant observer of the spending of government moneys and I would hope that the Auditor would get support in his thrust to be able to bring Ministers and heads of departments before the Committee so that a lot of the time wasted in having unproductive civil servants sitting around during the Estimates, that we could possibly have some of the questions answered in Public Accounts and they could get on with the job of running a smooth machine and getting on with the job of building a better Manitoba.

So I would like to close with saying that most people in life look for cheerful enjoyment and I think that if we can turn the economy around and create some hope for our young people coming out of university, that Manitoba will be a better place to live. I hope myself, at some point in time, someone somewhere will ask some questions and I may be back here again to serve the people of Wolseley once more.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Point Douglas.

MR. DONALD MALINOWSKI: Thank you. Mr. Speaker, I'm always glad to confirm to our traditions in congratulating the mover, the Honourable Member for River Heights and the seconder, the Honourable Member for Emerson, to the Speech from the Throne.

It is always more pleasant to congratulate people than to say nasty things about them. I hope during the weeks ahead I may also have reasons to congratulate the government but right now I don't have any grounds, no facts, nothing to congratulate the government. I didn't find anything worthwhile in the Throne Speech, especially that will be effective to my people of Point Douglas whom I have the pleasure to represent.

I am also glad to see you, Mr. Speaker, fit and well and ready for your difficult job of keeping us in order, especially the other side of this House.

Mr. Speaker, we do have in this House three new members of the Legislature, whom I would like to welcome to this Chamber: the Honourable Member, a very charming lady, for Fort Rouge; the Honourable Member for River Heights and my colleague and also my neighbour, the Honourable Member for Rossmere. I hope that your contributions will add improvements to the provincial community, so welcome to our team.

And also, Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate two new Ministers . . . three, maybe three, well, I will just take two. Thank you, the Honourable Member for Logan is helping me. The Honourable Member for Pembina who is carrying the Portfolio as the Minister of Transportation, and the Honourable Member for St. James who became the Minister of Community Services and Corrections, and I wish them well and success in their new field.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to also take this opportunity to express appreciation and to congratulate my two other colleagues who are elected to the House of Commons in the last federal election where they took two seats from the Conservatives: the Honourable Member for St. James, Mr. Keeper and the Honourable Member for Dauphin, Mr. Lewycky.

Mr. Speaker, there a number of things in the Throne Speech that I might comment on but, however, I intend to devote most of my time to a very important issue not directly mentioned in the Throne Speech. What I have to say may be more appreciated in the Council Chamber of the City Hall but if you hear me out to the end you will likely agree that it is also an important issue for this Legislature and even for the Federal Parliament.

Mr. Speaker, I am going to deal with one of the most important issues facing the City of Winnipeg. Our city is the capital of the province and half the population of this province, so the problem I am going to deal with concerns all of us in this Chamber.

There has been much talk, Mr. Speaker, about the neglect of the inner core of the city. Lately, there has also been much talk about the city area north of Portage Avenue going to ruin. I regret that we don't have with us a very good expert, the former Member for Fort Rouge, Mr. Axworthy, but he is right now in Ottawa so maybe he will be able to help us more in this matter.

MR. ENNS: No chance, forget it. We'll have to find some senators first that will help us.

MR. MALINOWSKI: I am afraid, Mr. Speaker, that the Honourable Minister from Lakeside, that maybe he would like to be a senator. You'll have to wait, now it's too late, you missed the boat.

MR. ENNS: That's the only way you can get into the Cabinet is to become a senator. Jack Horner will be in the Cabinet.

MR. MALINOWSKI: But all this talk about the problem is not going to stop it from getting worse. What we need is action and I confess, Mr. Speaker, it is not easy to suggest a proper course of action this government or this Legislature could undertake but I have one or two ideas concerning this problem.

To get at the root of the problem we must face the fact that the businessmen of this community have too free a hand in the city development. Much of the development has taken place in a haphazard way. For the last few years there has been a steady drift to the south by the business community, not to the far south where you can get a suntan in the middle of January or even in February, but just a few blocks south of Portage Avenue. So there we have a lot of new banks and insurance offices along Broadway while a few blocks north we have empty buildings.

And, Mr. Speaker, in 1908 the Bank of Nova Scotia erected its new headquarters at the corner of Portage Avenue and Fort Garry Street, I'm sorry, not Fort Garry but Gary Street. And I have a clip here, Mr. Speaker, but maybe I will come a little later to this, which I would like to put on the record, but still I would like to deal with the fact that we have plenty of empty bank buildings, empty insurance offices, empty business offices, and all kinds in that area.

Mr. Speaker, in my constituency, I particularly feel this emptiness. Sometimes, when I walk along Main Street, I pass the 10-storey Confederation Life Building which has been empty for some years already. The Hamilton Building is another 10-storey office building which is now empty.

Next to it is the huge magnificent Bank of Commerce building which has been standing there empty for about ten years. Imagine, ten years, such a huge building is empty. Another Bank of Commerce premises is now empty at Donald and Portage.

Now the Bank of Nova Scotia, the building which I mentioned is on Portage Avenue, has also been added to the list of empty buildings. But, this is on the south side of Portage.

And coming to this clipping which I have from the Winnipeg Tribune, which is saying, "The buildings on the usual style and domination of the intercession contributes to its uniqueness in Winnipeg. Gray granite quarried in B.C. forms the base of the structure, while the rest of the building is clad in terra cotta, manufactured in England. The Bank of Nova Scotia stands as the only doomed bank of the prairies and is a unique and important Winnipeg landmark."

Mr. Speaker, in December, 1979, the Bank of Nova Scotia applied for a demolition permit for its former headquarters after moving to new premises on the corner of Portage and Main. On February 11, 1980, Committee on Environment recommended to City Council that the Bank of Nova Scotia building be placed on the buildings' conservation list as a grade two structure. This action would assure the preservation of the facet and certain interior components but the final decision is to be made by the City Council. The fate of the Bank of Nova Scotia building will be decided on Council's meeting on March 5, 1980.

Mr. Speaker, the Manitoba Historical Society is committed to the preservation of the Bank of Nova Scotia and is hopeful that you will show your support by writing or calling our councillor or mayor, Bill Norrie; attending City Council at its meeting to consider the banks. The meeting will be taking place on March the 5th. Mr. Speaker, the statement which was made in the Winnipeg Tribune doesn't need any comments but on behalf of the Manitoba Historical Society, I would like to appeal to all our members for support to preserve this unique building.

So, you see, the south side of Portage is beginning to be affected by the same disease that has afflicted the centre core of the city north of Portage. With its by-laws regarding historical buildings, the city has prevented so far the demolition of some bank buildings because of their architectural and historical interest. This is a good law as far as it goes. I support 100 percent the people who are trying to preserve some of our heritage.

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I know that in my former homeland, Poland, and other cities of Europe, many of the architecturally, interesting, historic buildings were rebuilt after the war.

Mr. Speaker, I remember Warsaw, the capital city of Poland. During the uprising on the first of August, 1944, where 85 percent of the city was destroyed, 85 percent. At that time we lost over 200,000 people during the Warsaw uprising. In Poland, almost every city and every town was severely damaged by the German Nazis.

When I came to Warsaw after the war in February, 1945, and saw heaps of rubble, I cried like a child. I was deeply moved that the buildings which were built 100, 200 or maybe even 500 years ago were destroyed. The toils and culture our forefathers had was destroyed completely and when I visited Poland 27 years after the war, I was greatly amazed when I saw Warsaw completely rebuilt, a completely new and wonderful city. But above all, Mr. Speaker, a certain section which is well known as "Stare Miasto", which means the old city was rebuilt exactly as it was centuries ago.

Mr. Speaker, the same course of action was taken by many other nations in Europe. For instance, I saw many of those cities like Budapest, Bucharest, Kiev, Leningrad, Barcelona, Bologna, Berlin, Dresnov, Hamburg, Amsterdam, Brussels, Paris, London, Liverpool and many many other cities, which were rebuilt and restored to their former character, not only from an architectural point of view but above all, for their historical value thus preserving the heritage of their forefathers.

Mr. Speaker, at a great cost, they were rebuilt brick by brick, stone by stone as they hadn't been before, so that those cities would retain some of their former character. Therefore, I commend the Manitoba Historical Society for its efforts in preserving some of our historical buildings.

But, Mr. Speaker, I also consider myself a practical man. I realize there comes a time when old buildings must be replaced with new ones. In the case of some small privately owned buildings, like homes, the city need not be concerned if the owner decides to tear it down, but, surely, it is a different matter where huge bank buildings and 10-storey office buildings are concerned, although the bank buildings and office buildings in our cities are owned by private companies. They are built and paid for with the money these firms got from the citizens of this city and this province. So I think it is not unreasonable that the citizens, through their elected governments, should have some say as to when and where such buildings are erected and under what circumstances they can be demolished.

I think, Mr. Speaker, bankers have been the worst offenders when it comes to the irresponsible and extravagant and wasteful development. They have, in recent years, spent many millions of dollars in new bank buildings and left behind a whole string of empty, old bank buildings which could have served their banking needs for many many years.

These old buildings are not only of value because of their historical interest but because they are solid buildings in excellent shape.

Mr. Peter Unger is a real estate general manager of the Scotia Bank. In a recent statement to the press, he said the city is unfair to banks because it won't allow them to tear down the old bank buildings. Mr. Unger said it is unfair to expect the banks to keep on paying taxes on these bank buildings for which, he says, there is no commercial use. Mr. Speaker, I think the bankers are unfair to the people of Winnipeg by squandering so many millions of dollars on new bank buildings just because they don't like the style of the old buildings.

The Eaton's Company and many other businesses as important as banking are still carrying on business in buildings much older than the ones the banking community wants to demolish.

Mr. Unger, of the Scotia Bank, says they can't find any commercial use for the empty bank buildings but all these empty buildings could have remained useful commercial bank buildings for many years to come but they don't want it, simply they don't want it. On what basis did the banking community decide that all of a sudden new bank buildings were in need all across Canada and as the new banks went up, our dollar went down.

Honourable members can get some understanding of why the city is deteriorating north of Portage when they see what is going on the corner of Portage and Main. Here on this one corner, fantastic sums of money have been spent. The new Scotia Bank, I understand, cost \$7 million, then there is the cost of the underground tunnel for which the taxpayer paid another \$7 million. Then there is the cost of the huge underground parking lot, then there is the multimillion Trizec Building. All this money invested in one corner of the city, while so much of the rest of the city suffers from neglect.

I am not talking about this problem because a great portion is in my constituency, but it is also in the constituency, I believe, of Winnipeg Centre and if I'm not mistaken, even takes in a portion of Fort Rouge. Mr. Speaker, and what did we get out of all that money spent on the one corner? We got a bunch of banks. I think the word "bunch" is correct in this case. On the corner of Portage and Main, banks come in bunches. One on each corner and a few extra ones right nearby.

Mr. Speaker, we have all noticed the many new office buildings, that have been erected recently on the south side of Portage, not far from here. We know that many of these buildings remain almost half empty. It is common knowledge that there has been over-building; there is empty office space all over the city, but new office buildings are still going up and many of them, Mr. Speaker, they are also empty.

MR. WILSON: They're waiting for the boom.

MR. MALINOWSKI: Boom from where?

MR. WILSON: It's coming.

MR. MALINOWSKI: It's coming from where? From Wolseley, like the honourable member says. If the new Trizec Building and all the other new buildings are going to have business then a lot of the other buildings will become empty. This is like two and two makes four, and we can be sure if the buildings on the south of Portage are to be filled, there will be a lot more empty office buildings on the north side of Portage and the north side of Main Street.

Some years ago, the provincial government and the city invested a lot of money north of Portage and Main. We built our new Centennial Concert Hall, the Planetarium and the Museum of Man and Nature. The city erected a new city hall and a new safety building. This made a tremendous improvement in that area, but the business community did not follow suit with a similar investment to improve that area. Instead the business community continued to move south.

This raises the question, Mr. Speaker, whether sensible community development in any area is possible without the proper response and voluntary co-operation from the business community. I think we need more effective provincial and municipal legislation to make the business community convert to certain community plans and standards of development. At this point I want to commend the efforts of some of the business people who have been trying to improve some of the areas in my constituency. This is encouraging but it is not enough to cope with the problem of the inner core section. It is unfair to criticize the business community too much. In the absence of proper city planning and proper laws and regulations covering community development, there is little the average businessman can do except follow his own interests.

I know there are laws and regulations now in effect that would prevent anyone from building a glue factory or some other business next to our Legislative Building, but it seems the businessmen of this city have quite a free hand to carry on development according to their interests without regard to any overall plan or without consideration as to what is best for the population as a whole. There are many examples of irresponsible development which is bad for the city, for the province, and bad for the country.

Anyone who does a bit of travelling about our city must be aware that we are overloaded with supermarkets. This is the other area, Mr. Speaker. In the last few years they have been building new shopping centres like mad all over the place. Even twenty years ago a Royal Commission Report told us that having excessive shopping space is one of the reasons for the high food costs. Since then so many more supermarkets and shopping centres have been opened up.

Mr. Speaker, we are short of proper housing homes, we are short of day care centres, we are short of senior citizens homes, we are short of many other things, but we are overloaded with shopping centres, banks and plenty of empty office spaces and empty bank buildings.

It should be obvious to all honourable members on both sides of the House that if there is to be sensible development such a development must follow certain principles and plans. We must accept the fact that direction of all bank buildings, office buildings, and supermarkets are paid for by the people of the community just the same as the people of Manitoba are paying for the upkeep of this Legislative Building. This being the case, the people in the community through their elected governments should surely be able to exercise some control over the kind of building development that takes place.

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Mr. Speaker, no Conservative government, no New Democratic government could stay in power very long if it was as widely extravagant in this building program as private enterprise. Before another supermarket is established there should be some responsible public body with authority to determine whether still another supermarket is needed. This overbuilding of shopping facilities is bad for all concerned. Surely there should be some responsible public body with authority to say, enough is enough. We probably have enough shopping facilities to serve the needs of the population twice or three times the present size we have here.

In our kind of society both private business and government at all levels make large investments of money in the community. Up till now investments have been made in a haphazard way. This has resulted in a badly neglected inner core of the city and too much office space, empty bank buildings, and many shopping facilities in other areas. What we need is some public body compelled to make long-range plans for community development and to be able to direct investments to areas where they will be in the best interests of the community as a whole.

Mr. Speaker, I will, at this stage, not make any specific recommendation. I will leave that to the people who may have more expert knowledge, but I think I have indicated in a general way what is needed if proper community planning and development is to be effective.

The time is running but still I have some . . . five minutes.

Mr. Speaker, before. . .

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member has ten minutes left.

MR. MALINOWSKI: Mr. Speaker, before another new bank building or office building is erected there should be some public body including representatives of business, to determine whether there will be a need for still more offices or buildings. The huge new shopping centre at Eaton Place downtown was opened up for business about the same time as the big new shopping place was opened up in St. Vital. The shopping centre was opened up only about five blocks away from where there already exists a shopping centre including a big Safeway supermarket. It was opened up directly across from the existing smaller shopping centre on St. Mary's Road and Greendell Avenue.

Mr. Speaker, before sitting down, I would like to deal very briefly on the other matter now. As you know, Justice Hall, in the Hall Report, proposed a 20 percent pay increase for all members. Isn't that lovely? Also generous increases for the Honourable First Minister, members of his Cabinet, and the Leader of the Opposition. This is all very nice and dandy. But even if it is true that we in this province are among the lowest paid representatives we should oppose any pay increase at this time. We, as public representatives are supposed to give a lead and set an example. We will never cope with inflation as long as everybody keeps crying for more and more and still more. If Mr. Speaker we accepted a 20 percent pay increase we would be setting a poor example for others. We may not be overpaid but there are many workers doing important work for less pay than we get. Our minimum wage is considerably lower than that of Saskatchewan where it is \$3.65 per hour. Mr. Speaker, it would be disagreeable and a scandal if we accepted pay increases for ourselves without first raising the minimum wage to bring it up to the Saskatchewan level.

Talking about Saskatchewan, I read a wonderful article, Mr. Speaker, in the weekly paper which was printed by Winnipeg Press, Saturday, February 23rd. I doubt very much if I will have much time to go through it, still, in this paper, Mr. Speaker, I found a very nice statement which says: "For seven of the last nine years Saskatchewan has had Canada's lowest unemployment rate. In the other two years it was second to Alberta. The province has the third lowest per capita debt, after Alberta and Prince Edward Island. It offers the highest minimum wage at \$3.65 an hour. Alberta is fourth with \$3.00. Mr. Speaker, I don't know with what kind of administration Alberta is, so wealthy and rich and oil in natural resources and they can't afford to pay more; just \$3.00 minimum wage. What a shame. —(Interjection)— Under Social Credit administration?"

And also in the same article, Mr. Speaker, I found that not one of the problems seem enough to subdue the excitement that Saskatchewan experienced during its diamond anniversary.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The hour being 10 o'clock, the House is adjourned and stands adjourned until 10 o'clock tomorrow morning. (Friday)