



**Fifth Session — Thirty-First Legislature**  
of the  
**Legislative Assembly of Manitoba**

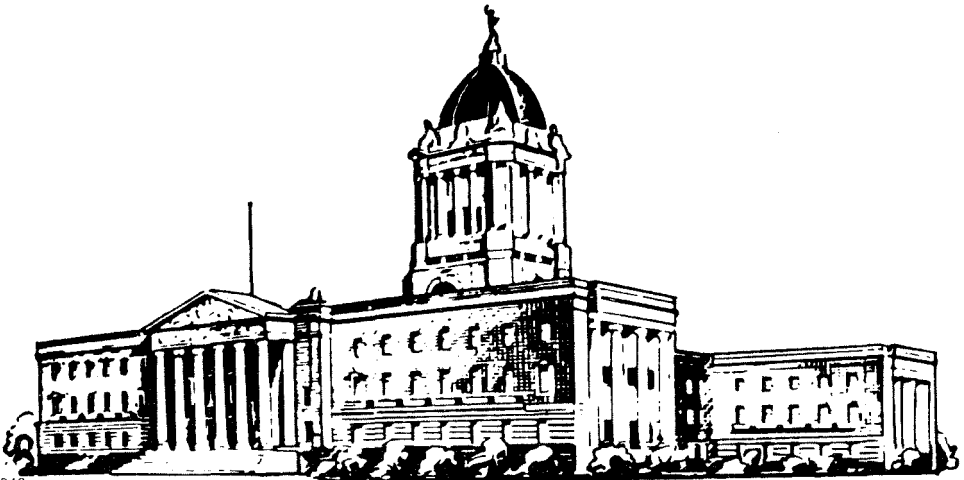
**DEBATES  
and  
PROCEEDINGS**

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**VOL. XXIX No. 27 - 2:00 p.m., THURSDAY, 26 FEBRUARY, 1981**

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA**  
**Thursday, 26 February, 1981**

**Time — 2:00 p.m.**

**OPENING PRAYER by Mr. Speaker.**

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

**READING AND RECEIVING PETITIONS**

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

**MR. CLERK:** The Petition of Manitoba Pool Elevators praying for the passing of An Act to Amend An Act to Amend and Consolidate an Act to incorporate the Manitoba Pool Elevators.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Presenting Reports By Standing and Special Committees . . .

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS  
TABLING OF REPORTS**

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

**HON. HARRY J. ENNS (Lakeside):** Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to table with the House the first report having to do with the spring run-off situation of the flood report. I am also pleased to note that the indications are positive. I'll table them with the House.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Notices of Motion . . .

**INTRODUCTION OF BILLS**

**HON. DONALD ORCHARD (Pembina)** introduced Bill No. 29, An Act to amend The Highway Traffic Act (2).

**MATTER OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE**

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

**MR. BEN HANUSCHAK:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a matter of personal privilege and namely the location of my seat in the House. I have been a committed socialist, active in the CCF and subsequently in the NDP for a quarter-century. For the last 15 years I have been a member of this House and for one of those years, as you know, I've had the honour of occupying your Chair, and for seven, a Minister of the Crown, and I look back on my years of political service with pleasant satisfaction and in particular on the years in government when I had the opportunity to play an active role in the formulation and implementation of programs designed to improve the human condition. They were challenging and exciting times.

I do look forward to a continuing, satisfying and exciting political career with the ultimate objective of reinstating a socialist government in Manitoba, and to pursue that objective I feel that I cannot continue to follow the route of the New Democratic Party.

Over the past couple of years four issues have developed the sum total of which, after considerable deliberation, have prompted me to make the decision which I am stating now. The most recent is the New Democratic Party's position on the question of entrenchment of human rights in the Constitution.

I realize, Mr. Speaker, that I would be abusing the privileges of the House if I were to venture at this time on a debate of this issue and hence I will not do so, sufficed to say that I believe that every person is entitled to all rights except those denied him or her by law. There will be more appropriate opportunities to elaborate on my position and explain why I cannot accept the notion of entrenchment. But this issue alone would not have moved me to this course of action, as I said, it was the sum total of four.

The other issue which has haunted me for some time is the party's position on the so-called anti-scab legislation. I believe in free collective bargaining. I feel that the anti-scab legislation as proposed by the New Democratic Party would erode the collective bargaining process, weaken the position of the workers, and would result in the courts becoming the ultimate draftsman of collective agreements.

The third issue I find most abhorrent. Until a year ago I believed that party convention decisions stood and could only be changed or reversed by a subsequent convention decision. Now I have discovered differently. Here we have the New Democratic Party having formed a decision on anti-scab legislation, a hard and somewhat bitterly fought out decision. Eleven months ago practically to the day, it was a priority issue with the party because when at that time I indicated my support for an honourable member of this House who was opposed on this issue, I and others who had done so, were publicly threatened with disciplinary action. Then a couple of weeks later, last April, this issue which led to the resignation of a former Metro councillor, past party president, a former Cabinet Minister, suddenly ceased to be an issue because the president of the Manitoba Federation of Labour announced that anti-scab legislation is no longer a priority issue, and to this day, in the absence of a convention decision to that effect, strictly on the statement of one individual, not even a party spokesman, but a Federation of Labour officer, a matter which was a significant issue with the party, suddenly became a non-issue, and so it remains.

That type of action, Mr. Speaker, raises grave concerns in my mind. It has become apparent to me that New Democratic Party conventions merely go through the motions of making policy decisions, but the subsequent prioritization or deprioritization thereof, is in the hands of the president of the Federation of Labour. It raises the question: Which other policy positions of the party may be in a similar precarious position of being deprioritized on the say-so of one individual?

On the other hand, if anti-scab legislation really is not now a priority issue with the party, then was it ever really a priority issue or was it merely an issue of sufficient controversy created for the sole and express purpose of precipitating the resignation of a member who was looked upon as a persona non grata by some party members.

The fourth issue arises from the last convention held a month ago. It was stated, and the statement went by unchallenged, that those party members of the House who did not endorse the position of certain members, should be changed.

Mr. Speaker, I have never known the New Democratic Party to have operated in this fashion previously. Over the years, there were many issues on which there were distinct majority and minority views, with a sound rationale for each; aid to private schools, abortion on demand, are but two examples. But at all times we respected each other's right to his opinion and at no time was anyone told if you don't agree, get out.

I agree that no member has a vested right to his seat, but the right of removal falls within the domain of the electorate and not of any member of the party and I refuse to function under a cloud of uncertainty as to whether I am being supported or sabotaged by the party.

Mr. Speaker, I have come to the conclusion that I cannot continue my fight for socialism within the New Democratic Party. I wish to make it clear to the people of Manitoba that I am not abandoning my commitment to socialism, but on the contrary I pledge to apply myself with even greater vigor toward the election of a socialist government in Manitoba. It is my feeling that there are many Manitobans who would welcome a socialist movement, beholden to no interest group, committed to the preservation of all freedoms for everyone, and presenting a pragmatic platform designed to meet the present-day needs of Manitobans.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I would kindly request you to assign me a seat in this Chamber accordingly, and henceforth I wish to be described as an Independent Socialist.

I would also ask the Minister responsible to take note of my action and provide me with those services and facilities to which I am entitled.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Under the power vested in me as Speaker, I will temporarily assign the seat immediately behind the Honourable Member for Virden to the Honourable Member for Burrows, should he so choose to move there now. Permanent arrangements will be made later on. If that is agreeable with the honourable member, I would ask the Deputy Sergeant-at-Arms to arrange for the transfer of the honourable member's papers from his desk.

### INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

**MR. SPEAKER:** At this particular time, I would like to draw the honourable members' attention to the gallery, where we have 15 visitors of Grade XI standing from the Rosenort School, under the direction of Mr. Bjarnason. This school is in the constituency of the Honourable Minister of Government Services.

We also have 25 students of Grade V, VI, and VII standing, under the direction of Mr. Brendan O'Connell, who are visiting us from St. George's School in the Province of British Columbia.

On behalf of all the honourable members, we welcome you here this afternoon.

### SPEAKER'S RULING

**MR. SPEAKER:** Before we proceed with Oral Questions, some time ago, I took under advisement a Matter of Privilege raised by the Honourable Member for Burrows speaking with statements that were made by the honourable member and also statements made by the Honourable Minister of Finance.

I have had the opportunity of reviewing the Hansards and looking very carefully at the words that were spoken by both members. Our rules state that disputes as to allegation of fact are not matters of privilege. However, the role of the Speaker in a case of Privilege is basically one of attempting to ascertain whether or not a prima facie case can be made for raising a Matter of Privilege.

I looked very carefully, and having some doubts in my own mind, I sought the advice of Legislative Counsel, who has guided me to some degree in this matter. I do believe that there could possibly be a prima facie case made for the raising of a Matter of Privilege that was raised by the Honourable Member for Burrows.

The Honourable Minister of Finance.

**HON. BRIAN RANSOM (Souris-Killarney):** Mr. Speaker, perhaps it would clear up the question if I was to acknowledge the fact that I did indeed use some inaccurate information at the time, and I do think that it is a most unfortunate thing when inaccurate information is used in this House. I did use some, due to not being certain of my research. I can assure the honourable members that I did not use the information in a misleading way at all; there was no intention to mislead the House. What I was guilty of was not doing adequate research and so I should apologize to the House and my colleagues for that.

Since the Honourable Member for Burrows, the Independent Socialist Member for Burrows had referred to a number of separate situations, to which I had referred, Mr. Speaker, constituting individual points of privilege, then I suppose it would only be proper if I was to apologize for each of those in order, and I can say that with regards to horse racing commission report, that was indeed one of the reports which probably should not have been used. What I should have used in that case, Mr. Speaker, was the annual report of the Department of Education filed in 1975 which was filed late in that section.

Also with regard to the Liquor Commission Report, Mr. Speaker, I should also apologize for using that piece of information, because what I should have used in that case was the Annual Report for the Department of Labour filed late in 1976.

Also, Mr. Speaker, the Manitoba Public Insurance Corporation report should not have been referred to in my original presentation, what I should have referred to was the Annual Report of the Department of Education which was filed late in 1977, and also, Mr. Speaker, in respect to the Workers Compensation Board Report, that report should also not have been referred to, I should there have been referring to the Annual Report of the Department of Public Works which was filed late in 1977.

Also, with respect to the Ombudsman's Report, I apologize for using that, Mr. Speaker, I should have referred to the Annual Report of the Department of Highways which was filed late in 1977.

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**MR. SPEAKER:** I would hope that has cleared up the matter to the mutual satisfaction of all members of the Assembly.

### ORAL QUESTIONS

**MR. SPEAKER:** We shall now proceed with Oral Questions. The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

**MR. HOWARD PAWLEY (Selkirk):** Mr. Speaker, to the Deputy Premier. The Deputy Premier was unable to enjoy the opportunity of responding yesterday to a question which I posed to him pertaining to the inclusion — the reference to the inclusion of the tax points as part of the Federal Government's contribution to post-secondary education, as being a gross distortion. I asked the Deputy Premier if indeed the government associated itself with the position by the Minister of Finance, and I believe we were unable to complete that because of the expiry of time yesterday.

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

**HON. DONALD W. CRAIK (Riel):** Mr. Speaker, I've had a chance prior to that to review the questions that were submitted several days ago on that topic and I think it would be more appropriate to have the Minister of Finance complete that and in so doing, the Leader of the Opposition should understand that I agree entirely with the comments that were made by the Minister of Finance and I think he can even provide an elaboration on that which will go much further than I could at this time, so I would refer the question to the Minister of Finance.

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

**HON. BRIAN RANSOM (Souris-Killarney):** Mr. Speaker, I can indeed provide the Honourable Member with some information which substantiates the charge that the information in the tabled document was indeed grossly misleading, and I think that the honourable members opposite and all people will be able to recognize why I say that information is misleading, because if we look, for example, at the year 1976-77, when tax points were also being used at that time to cover off some of the costs of post-secondary education, that indeed the public accounts covering the year 1976-77, which of course was a year when honourable members opposite were in government, the amount of money shown in Public Accounts as being revenue from the Federal Government in respect to post-secondary education was \$19.4 million, Mr. Speaker. In the material which the Honourable Leader of the Opposition tabled in the House a few days ago, the figure in that leaked document alleges that the Federal Contribution in that year was \$73.7 million.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I regard that as a misleading document and I think the Honourable Leader of the Opposition would regard it as misleading because it was his government that filed Public Accounts saying that the contribution was \$19.4. The Federal document says \$73.7.

Now, I think that requires some very careful review and explanation because it is not as it appears to be.

Mr. Speaker, I also can quote . . .

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please. I realize the answer given is becoming very lengthy. I was wondering if members would consider dealing with questions of this type during Estimates. It's up to the House, though. It does require a rather lengthy answer and I question whether this is the proper time to be doing it.

The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

**MR. PAWLEY:** Mr. Speaker, to the Minister of Education, can the Minister of Education advise whether or not he will be attending, on behalf of the Government of Manitoba, a conference dealing with post-secondary education, which is to take place next week in Toronto? If so, will he be representing a Manitoba position there pertaining to the question of future financing of post-secondary education?

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

**HON. KEITH A. COSENS (Gimli):** Mr. Speaker, I am not sure of the particular conference that the honourable member is referring to.

**MR. PAWLEY:** Mr. Speaker, I would have thought the Minister would have been conscious of the conference which is being held next week in Toronto dealing with post-secondary education, a conference to be attended by Premier Hatfield and other provincial officials. If the Minister is indicating that he is not aware of that conference, and I can only assume that he will not be in attendance. Does the Minister have any comments then pertaining to the brief which was submitted to him this morning pertaining to post-secondary education by the Manitoba Organization of Faculty Associations?

**MR. COSENS:** Once again, Mr. Speaker, I certainly can comment on the brief. I don't know if this is the suitable forum to be doing it in. It takes some time, but I am quite prepared to go into that particular subject if that's what the honourable member wishes.

Understandably the faculty associations in Manitoba are concerned about a withdrawal by the Federal Government from post-secondary funding. This is the main portent of our brief and concern as to what the Provincial Government's position would be if that was to take place, in fact. I certainly enjoyed the opportunity to discuss the matter with him, and I think that I've increased my understanding of their position and they have, at this point, perhaps a better understanding of our position as a Provincial Government.

**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 Economic Development and ask the Honourable Minister whether the company known as Sheller-Globe Limited located at Morris, Manitoba, has been having any serious difficulties as of late and whether his department or himself indeed have been involved with that company in attempting to resolve certain problems.

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

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**HON. J. FRANKLIN JOHNSTON (Sturgeon Creek):** We've been very much involved, Mr. Speaker, I personally have met with the president of the company on two occasions. Our staff has worked very close with them. They presently have an application before DREE for \$2.5 million, and we are awaiting the results of that application, Mr. Speaker. There isn't too much more can be done until that application has been approved or not approved by DREE. I'm not in a position to say it will or it won't. I just know the application is there and I, as a matter of fact yesterday had the opportunity to speak to the head of DREE here to tell him how anxious we were for a decision to be made on that particular application.

**MR. EVANS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the Minister advise, Mr. Speaker, whether there is a serious possibility that the Sheller-Globe Company may close down as of March 1st, and relocate in the United States in the state of Ohio, thereby losing possibly 140 jobs to the Province of Manitoba?

**MR. JOHNSTON:** Mr. Speaker, I would be making a statement that wouldn't be accurate if I were to say one way or the other. I can say to the House that the application for a DREE loan of \$2.5 million will be very important to that company. If it is not received, I haven't had any indication as to what the company's decision will be, if they don't get it. Certainly if they get it they'll be operating in Manitoba, but I haven't had any other indication of the other.

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

**MR. EVANS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Minister then is confirming that should a DREE grant not be forthcoming as of whatever date that — (Interjection)— Mr. Speaker, I am asking the Minister the question and if he chooses to answer in a certain fashion that is his privilege of course, but I'm simply trying to get a clarification, Mr. Speaker. Is the Minister confirming that if DREE assistance is not forthcoming in the near future, and as I understand by March 1st, then definitely that plant will be closed down and virtually moved out of the Province of Manitoba? Can he confirm that?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please. I believe the question would be hypothetical.

The Honourable Minister of Economic Development.

**MR. JOHNSTON:** Mr. Speaker, again the member obviously wasn't listening. I started to say that I wouldn't be able to make a statement one way or the other. I have had no conversation with the company as to what will happen if the DREE application is turned down, so for the member to say that I was confirming or am confirming what will happen, he's completely wrong. I did nothing of the sort, nor would I intend to presume to do that.

Mr. Speaker, while I'm on my feet I would like to answer a question that the Member for Brandon East gave me about industrial building permits in the Province of Manitoba, and I said that I would look at the figures and give him an answer.

Mr. Speaker, the construction building permits survey which is done by Statistics Canada is

sometimes used as an indicator, but it is not, and admittedly so by Statistics Canada, regarded as representing the construction activity. It does not cover all municipalities building permits, does not reflect construction, does not reflect purchase of machinery that's put into different buildings, etc. So filtration plants, hydro electric plants, as a matter of fact, Mr. Speaker, I don't think the application for construction of the \$38 million plant in CSP and Harrowby would be included in the figures of Statistics Canada.

The member is right when he says it's down 9 percent, but the indicator, Mr. Speaker, in public and private investment is the best way to take a look at what is happening; and in public and private investment when you break it down, industrial investment as public and private in the Province of Manitoba, is up 13.7 percent.

The honourable member chooses to continue to shuffle figures around, to downgrade this province and he also shuffles figures around to downgrade the city he represents, Mr. Speaker, and the sooner he stops doing it the better off we'll be.

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

**MR. SIDNEY GREEN:** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Deputy Premier. It relates to the meeting which is now taking place in Montreal as between the representatives of the various provinces, now seven I believe, who are trying to prevent the Federal Liberal Government from passing laws which can never be changed by future governments on the same basis.

I ask the Deputy First Minister whether he cannot convey to both his Premier and to the people who are now meeting, that they disregard the decision and the avenue of the courts and place their reliance on getting Britain to understand that they will not be interfering in Canadian affairs, if they repatriate the Constitution but do not pass laws for Canada which the Government of Canada cannot itself pass.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Deputy Premier.

**MR. CRAIK:** Mr. Speaker, I don't believe the Member for Inkster would have any difficulty getting a lot of support from the government side of the House on the question which he has raised. I think that the point he brings up is a very valid one and I'm quite sure that self-same point is one that is being addressed by the meeting that is now under way today in Montreal, and the Attorney-General is attending, and has been recognized all along as probably the major point that could be made in the final analysis, namely that the support or lack of it in Britain is likely to be the final matter which will decide this entire case and is fully-well recognized as perhaps being a stronger point in the entire matter than the issue before the courts.

**MR. GREEN:** Mr. Speaker, on the same question, can it also be announced by all the eight Premiers, or seven Premiers — one who is with them, but not in person — but all the Premiers who are against the Federal Government now assuming to itself powers which no future similarly-elected government would have if they get their way — would the Minister

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indicate that Manitoba will, if not withdraw, at least clarify that it is not seeking unanimity in any ultimate amending formula that is needed to amend the Constitution; that Manitoba is not seeking unanimity.

**MR. CRAIK:** Mr. Speaker, I think the First Minister has made it clear that he still feels that there is a satisfactory amending formula can be reached with the Federal Government if there is a degree of goodwill that enters the picture that hasn't been there in recent times, and it isn't necessarily geared to unanimity. Mr. Speaker, this, I am sure, is going to get more attention as this matter focuses even further over the next few weeks.

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

**MR. GREEN:** Mr. Speaker, I have one additional question, and it relates to the difficulties in Transcona. Is there anybody in the government's departments, and I put this to the First Minister, who is aware of the difficulties with regard to fish odors in Transcona and, if so, can we be advised as to what can be expected in order to ameliorate what appears to be a very aggravating situation for the residents in that area?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Deputy Premier.

**MR. CRAIK:** Mr. Speaker, it has not come to the general attention of the government. It may be in the hands of a Minister, perhaps the Minister for Environment, who is not here today, but I will take the question as notice.

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

**MR. J.R. (Bud) BOYCE:** Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Deputy Premier and it arises out of the questions which arose yesterday, and the responses thereto, and leaves me the question: Is it the position of the Government of the Province of Manitoba to support the tactics which are being used by the Province of Alberta in negotiations with the Federal Government on oil prices?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Deputy Premier.

**MR. CRAIK:** Mr. Speaker, the question, I think, is pretty much the same as one of the questions that was addressed yesterday in the exchange which took place. I want to indicate to the member that it is somewhat difficult to address only one side of the question that involves supply and pricing. We have seen the Federal Government recently introduce compensation levies on well-head prices, as well as up the general price of the well-head price and, as a result of that, gain revenues that, on a year's basis, will yield the Federal Government close to \$4 billion for their Compensation Program.

As far as we can determine, the three stages, if they were to occur, of the Alberta reductions in supply, namely 180,000 barrels per day reduction by the end of 1981, would reduce the revenues, or cause additional expenditures by the Federal Government, for replacement imports, of close to \$1 billion. I indicated yesterday that the figure was

around \$450 million, that is assuming that there were two reductions in supply from Alberta, 60 now, and 60 in June. But if we assume that it goes to the third stage, which has been indicated in September, that the total displacement cost, that is, for imports into the country, would cost roughly close to \$1 billion, \$900 and some million.

Mr. Speaker, I simply point this out because the two sides of the question are, and the two sides of the equation are, on the one hand the Federal Government has gained additional revenues from their compensation charge that was put on November of 1980, which will yield them close to \$4 billion. The additional cost, as a result of the Alberta decision, will cost them \$1 billion, or reduce from the \$4 billion by about \$1 billion.

So there are two parts to this equation, Mr. Speaker. On the one hand, the Federal, and on the other hand the Alberta. In the meantime, it doesn't have an impact directly on the price of fuels in Manitoba. What it does do, is it reduces the net revenue to the Federal Government as a result of the decision.

**MR. BOYCE:** Mr. Speaker, someone reading the Minister's answer will understand that he didn't answer my question, so I will ask a more direct question. While most Manitobans agree that the Province of Alberta, the Albertan people are making a sacrifice in the national interest, in the Canadian interest, in the interest of all Canadians, and we, as Canadians, appreciate that sacrifice, I see that one barrel of Alberta crude is worth a barrel-and-a-half of offshore crude in the difference in price, \$16.75 as to \$50.00. If a person does their arithmetic, on some other crude, it is two barrels; this is true.

My question is as to tactics. Nevertheless, I will ask a more direct question: Will the Government of the Province of Manitoba, on behalf of Manitobans as Canadians, make representation to the Alberta Government that we disagree with the tactics which are being used in these particular negotiations?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Minister of Energy.

**MR. ENNS:** Mr. Speaker, more importantly, the government has made it clear that it is not in Manitoba's interest; it is certainly not in the Canadian interest to at the present time have the impasse exist that exists between the Federal and the Alberta Governments. We have made that position clear and we will make it clear again and continue to make it very clear. But, I want to point out to the member that if we thought that there was a supply problem, we would have an obligation to be taking very strong action. As the case now exists, there is not any indication of a supply problem in Canada. It is a pricing problem, and there are two parties involved in that pricing problem. That has to be worked out, and it is not going to be worked out by laying all the fault at the feet of the Alberta Government. I want to point out that on the supply end, had the Alberta Government not reduced its supply — that the natural supply of the light crude from Alberta is now on the decline and will continue to be on the decline for some time. As a result of that, there had to be an addressing of the problem of decreased supply.

In a way, what is happening is that with the added decrease in supply that is caused by the cutback by

the Alberta Government, which in fact means that the oil doesn't disappear, it stays in the ground for use at a later date when you are still going to find that it is one of the world's prime light crude oils and, as the member has said, worth twice as much as some of the Mexican crudes and others that are going to have to displace it, we will come to realize the opportunity that is there.

So it may not be entirely to the detriment of Canada's interests to see what is happening at the present time, occur now rather than several years later.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order, please. May I point out answers to questions should be as short as possible and to the point. The Honourable Member for Winnipeg Center, with a final supplementary.

**MR. BOYCE:** Mr. Speaker, it's very difficult for anyone to find an answer to my question in the restatement of the support of the Alberta position by this government. Mr. Speaker, I'm not in this House to defend Albertans, I'm in this House as a Manitoban, as a Canadian. Because of the propensity of both Liberal and Conservative Governments to legislate back-to-work, people that work on railroads when they withdraw their services, is it the intention of this government to make representation on behalf of myself as a Canadian and a Manitoban, to make representation to the Federal Government, that they use their declaratory powers which do exist in the interests of all Canadians, as they would if there was a railway strike in this country? If they legislate railway workers back to work, why don't they regulate Crown Corporations to produce on the same basis, withdrawal of services or cutback on services as a negotiating position? I don't want to be long in my question either, Mr. Speaker, but it is a difficult task to elicit an answer to a question. Do they support the tactics? What are they going to do about it? Will they make representation to the Federal Government to protect the Canadian interests?

**MR. CRAIK:** Mr. Speaker, I'll attempt to keep my answer short as possible. I believe that if there were a supply problem facing us, that the member's question would be a very legitimate question and one that we would have to address. That is not the case, Mr. Speaker. I would think it would be a very bad move in terms of our democratic interests and the other crises that governments, provincial or federal, face from time to time, to use the powers that he has indicated the emergency measure powers and so on of the Federal Government, to bring them into force on the present issue which is a pricing issue and a difference of opinion and position by two governments.

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

**HON. L.R. (Bud) SHERMAN (Fort Garry):** Mr. Speaker, yesterday, the Honourable Member for Fort Rouge asked me whether the Provincial Government will be participating in or contributing to studies covered by three awards from the National Health Research and Development Program totalling over \$200,000 for Health Research at the University of Manitoba.

The answer, Mr. Speaker, is no, that we won't be, but it goes deeper than that. We have not been notified of Federal approval of these projects and to this point in time, we have not received any indication as to what the extent of Federal Research funding in Manitoba will be in the health field.

I might say, Mr. Speaker, that I would hope that the information from the Honourable Member for Fort Rouge is incomplete because there are some 17 applications from Manitoba in the National Research and Development. Normally, the Federal Government approves between seven and ten such projects a year with attached grants worth about \$1 million. Normally, they also notify the rejects first and then notify those who have been accepted, so if these three projects which the Honourable Member for Fort Rouge refers to constitute this year's program of \$200,000.00. That represents a severe cutback in Federal Research Funding to Manitoba.

Insofar as general health and medical research is concerned, we pursue that through the Manitoba Health Research Council and we fund that to a considerable extent each year, as the member knows, but this portends a very serious cutback in Federal Research Funding.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge.

**MS. JUNE WESTBURY:** Mr. Speaker, if the Minister wants me to make enquiries for him, I'll be glad to try to do so.

My question, Mr. Speaker, is addressed to the Deputy Premier. In light of his statements of government policy regarding oil pricing and supply, Mr. Speaker, is the government prepared to make representations to the Government of Alberta urging that the Oil Sands Project and the Esso Resources Heavy Oil Project where prices have been agreed upon, be allowed to proceed immediately?

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

**MR. CRAIK:** Mr. Speaker, if we thought it would be helpful, I'm sure we would be very glad to issue that kind of a position statement to both the Federal and the Provincial Government of Alberta.

**MS. WESTBURY:** Mr. Speaker, regarding the matter of price and in view of the fact that studies have shown that each escalation of price by a dollar a barrel has a .1 percent inflation impact which translates into 11,000 lost jobs, and the Alberta proposal of 85 percent of world price would represent a 5 to 7 percent inflation impact, would the Minister indicate how large a price increase he would support to benefit Alberta and at what cost to the rest of the country, Mr. Speaker?

**MR. CRAIK:** Well, Mr. Speaker, again we had a long go at this yesterday and part of the answer is, is whether you are looking at the impact in 1981 or whether you are looking at the reduction of an impact somewhere later in the 1980s as we achieve some self-sufficiency in this country.

Now, if the Member for Fort Rouge is concerned about the impact in inflation of percentage on inflation as a result of \$1.00 increase in the price of a barrel of oil, I would have to tell her that the

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largest impact on the price of oil that has been brought about in the history of Canada in such a short period, has been brought about by the Federal Government by their announcements last fall. We had increases in August; we had increases in November; we had increases on January 1 and we're going to get another increase on July 1 of 1981 and by the time it's finished, the impact will be in excess of \$5.00 a barrel whether it's the compensation program or the regular well head price increase. So if the member is concerned about the impact on inflation, I think if you look back in history, the largest responsibility lies with the increases caused by the Federal Government in the last six months.

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

**MS. WESTBURY:** Mr. Speaker, going back to my first question then, since the Minister has chosen to refer to the Federal Government's position and not at all to the Alberta Government's position and in view of the fact that he expressed concern about the high cost of foreign oil yesterday, and later released figures to the press representing the impact of those costs, and in view of the fact that the two major projects represent future rather than current supply and have no direct impact on the current supply war, will he not act in the interests of Manitoba consumers and suppliers and urge the Government of Alberta to allow those two projects to proceed immediately?

**MR. CRAIK:** Mr. Speaker, they're part and parcel of the dispute that exists between Alberta and the Federal Government and the tar sands projects are all wrapped up in it. My understanding is that the two have not decided, even in those cases, on what is an acceptable price for oil developed from the tar sands, the synthetic crude oils and as a result of that, that will have to be resolved by the two parties. So we can indicate the urgency to the two parties, but it isn't one more than it is the other. They're both involved in it and they're both going have to settle it.

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

**MR. ARNOLD BROWN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Finance. Can the Minister say whether any Minister of the Provincial Government or any Federal-Provincial relations staff were invited to attend the meeting in Winnipeg, yesterday, held by the Honourable Mr. Axworthy and the Honourable Mr. De Bane, the Minister in charge of DREE?

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

**MR. RANSOM:** Mr. Speaker, our government was not invited to have a representative at either of those meetings and, in fact, when we requested the opportunity to send a member of the staff to sit in on the meetings, we were denied the opportunity to do that, even though the meetings were open to the media.

I understand that one of the things that Mr. Axworthy talked about was an unwillingness of the

Provincial Governments to communicate and co-operate.

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

**MR. VIC SCHROEDER:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A question to the Minister of Mines: In view of the fact that the government hired David. S. Robertson and Associates of Toronto, as their consultants, in respect to the government's interest in potash, almost one year ago, has the government now received any studies or feasibility studies from this consultant, and if so, can he table that report or the reports which it has received?

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

**MR. CRAIK:** Mr. Speaker, the firm referred to by the Member for Rossmere, has been retained on an ongoing basis and is still working with the government on the potash investigations. There are no formal reports from the consultants that would be in the public interest at this point in time to be tabling.

**MR. SCHROEDER:** Yes a further question to the Minister. Has IMC completed its drilling program and provided appropriate core samples to the Mines Department and can the Minister confirm that it was a total of three test holes to add to more than 20 test holes which the department already has information on.

**MR. CRAIK:** Mr. Speaker, I think that is approximately correct, yes.

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

**MR. SCHROEDER:** Yes, Mr. Speaker, again to the Minister of Mines. Has IMC been issued an exploration permit in accordance with the form of permit which was approved by Order-in-Council No. 581 of 1980. Your government passed that Order-in-Council I believe last June. Has the permit in that form been issued to IMC?

**MR. CRAIK:** Mr. Speaker, numbers like that I don't take to bed with me, but if the member could indicate what No. 581 or whatever he refers to is connected with, I may be able to give him an answer. If it refers to the exploration permit that was issued to AMAX(sic), then I could perhaps take his question as notice.

**MR. SCHROEDER:** Mr. Speaker, further to the Minister of Mines, I believe that there was only one form of potash exploration permit, which was approved by the government in the last year, and it was that specific form — I'm not asking about the other potash companies — I'm just wondering whether that specific form of exploration permit was entered into between the government and IMC after June of 1980.

**MR. CRAIK:** Mr. Speaker, I would think the member might want to pursue this further when the Estimates are before the House, but I think the form he refers to is the regular mineral exploration form, which is



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the type that was entered into, was another mining company that is exploring in the same general area. But in the case of the IMC letter of intent, there was not a regular mining exploration form entered into.

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

**MR. RONALD McBRYDE:** Mr. Speaker, I'd like to address a question to the Minister of Resources, I didn't get a chance to ask yesterday.

I wonder if the Minister could tell us now the extent of the problem in terms of the fish killed near The Pas; whether he has some numbers now that would reflect accurately the number of fish that were killed.

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

**MR. ENNS:** Mr. Speaker, I believe the difficulty has been, that we have accurate in the numbers that we have used to date and both the Departments of Resources in Saskatchewan and my government are attempting to provide a full report in terms of numbers and possible corrective measures that could be taken with respect to seeing that the size and scale of that situation is not repeated.

**MR. McBRYDE:** Mr. Speaker, since this particular water system and this particular control system by Ducks Unlimited does come into Manitoba as well, and the fact the fish probably swim up to that area from Manitoba, I am wondering if the province will, in fact, have an inquiry and see if there's any action we can take on our side of the border to ensure this kind of situation doesn't develop in the future.

**MR. ENNS:** Mr. Speaker, I think we just want to be very clear in attempting to answer positively to that question, that under certain circumstances, weather circumstances, fish are lost; not just there and not just in places where there are man-made structures put in place. Many of our lakes that are of shallow draught, that have some fish life will suffer that kind of a loss under very natural conditions.

I am concerned, however, as the Honourable Member for The Pas is, that because we have a man-made structure in place there, that the regulation of that structure and/or any improvement that might be made to that structure, that would prevent the scale of that loss, that that ought to be investigated and I've asked the departmental staff to have a look at doing precisely that.

**MR. McBRYDE:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to address my supplementary to the Acting Minister of Environment and I'm not positive of who that is, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask the Acting Minister of Environment, whether there will be increased monitoring of the Saskatchewan River, because the town of The Pas does draw its water supply from that source, and that source may be affected by the large number of fish that have died at the dam in Saskatchewan. I wonder if there will be an increased monitoring of water quality in the Saskatchewan River.

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

**HON. WARNER H. JORGENSEN (Morris):** Mr. Speaker, I can't respond to that question precisely. I will have to take it as notice and direct it to the department for an answer, perhaps early next week.

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

**MR. RUSSELL DOERN:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Deputy Premier and ask him whether he has any comment or concern about the deplorable state of affairs, whereby Canadian politicians, both Federal and Provincial are running to Britain to lobby Members of Parliament.

The first reaction being that the Liberal Leader in the U.K. is backing the Prime Minister on patriation. I suppose the next step is the Conservative Party will back the Premiers on patriation. I wonder whether he thinks it's advisable —(Interjection)— Does he think it's advisable for Canadian politicians to fight their battles in Great Britain, rather than in Canada?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Deputy Premier.

**MR. CRAIK:** Mr. Speaker, I don't. Along with many others, I would assume the majority of Canadians' answer would be no. I don't think it's advisable, but under the circumstances, I'm not sure there's any alternative.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order Please. Time for question period having expired.

## BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

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

**HON. JAMES R. FERGUSON:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I have some changes on Public Accounts. Mr. Steen for Mr. Anderson; Mr. Banman for Mr. Filmon.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Are those agreeable. (Agreed)

The Honourable Acting Government House Leader.

**MR. JORGENSEN:** 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 Government Services; and the Honourable Member for Virden in the Chair for the Department of Labour and Manpower.

## CONCURRENT COMMITTEES OF SUPPLY

### SUPPLY — LABOUR AND MANPOWER

**MR. CHAIRMAN, Morris McGregor (Virden):** I call the Committee to order. We are on Page 85, 2.(b)(1). The Member for Rossmere.

**MR. VIC SCHROEDER:** Mr. Chairman, I am just wondering, through you to the Minister, I know it is

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not the right spot for it, but I missed the Workers Compensation portion and I am just wondering whether I could ask a few questions on that? It is not a detailed area; it is a matter of fire fighters and the provisions under the regulations of the Workers Compensation Board dealing with the assumption that a fire fighter's heart attack occurred as a result of his occupation.

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

**HON. KEN MacMASTER (Thompson):** Without trying to get around it or be technical and say some other place, I wonder, could the member record his question? I assure him I will have the answer under Minister's Salary, or I can give it to him written if he thinks he won't be here under Minister's Salary. If he has a specific about something that has passed in the Estimates, I am quite prepared to either deal with it during the Minister's Salary or get him a written reply, whichever.

**MR. SCHROEDER:** That's satisfactory. The fire fighters in the province, just a little bit of history on it, had been requesting for many years back into the Sixties and Seventies, a provision under The Workers Compensation Act which would recognize the fact that their occupation is one which peculiarly puts them in a position where they are more susceptible to heart disease than other individuals because of the smoke they eat. I believe it was in June of 1977, there was a regulation passed pursuant to which there was to be an assumption that if a fire fighter has a heart attack, and providing that individual has been a full-time fire fighter for more than two years at the time the heart attack occurs, that that heart attack was caused as a result of his profession as a fire fighter.

Since 1977, there have been a number of cases before the Workers Compensation Board dealing with the issue of heart attacks. The fire fighters maintain that what is happening is that only those fire fighters who actually have a heart attack while fighting a fire or doing some physical work for the fire department are being considered as eligible. That is, the doctors are saying, yes, we recognize this provision; however, it is our view that in fact probably the person's family history, smoking or other things contributed and in fact may have been the sole cause, especially where the person has the heart attack at home or off employment.

I have had personal experience with several of the cases. I used to be a member of a fire department and know a number of individuals who have heart attacks, so it is a personal thing to me. I know that many people who are fire fighters and who have heart attacks, are not being covered by compensation, and others are being compensated to a much lesser extent than they had assumed would be possible. For instance, I can think of one case where the board did decide that it was as a result of fighting fires, however, they added in — this is the medical panel — they added in that because of his family history and his father did have some heart disease, because of the fact he was a smoker, they wound up cutting it down to something like 35 percent, it doesn't matter what the percentage was, the point is that it was guesswork. I recognize that what they are doing is they're making a fair attempt

from their perspective to allocate blame to fire fighting as opposed to other problems of modern-day living.

However, when the provision was passed I believe all parties concerned, the opposition at that time, the Government at that time, believed that they had finally solved the problem; that is, that there would have to be specific evidence to prove that the disease wasn't caused by fire fighting. I don't believe that anybody expected at that time that the fact that a heart attack would occur in your lawn chair or shovelling snow at home, would negate the fact that the carbon monoxide buildup over the years would have an effect on the coronary system, on the arteries — I'm not familiar with all the medical terms — but certainly the fire fighters had over the years presented government, and I am sure you have received similar documentation, with statistics indicating that in fact being associated with fire fighting, with eating smoke, does tend to create more rather than less heart trouble.

I am just wondering then and the question is: Does the Minister intend to make some change in the regulation which will give further and clearer instructions to the medical panel, to tell them that the location of the heart attack should be irrelevant; that certainly length of service must still be considered a factor — I would agree with that — but that extraneous history should not be considered, other than the fact that the man is a fire fighter unless there is specific evidence to the contrary in the particular case? I should just add that every fire fighter before he becomes a fire fighter, has to go through a very rigorous medical examination and at that point in time the employer should be able to discover the condition of the person's heart, the vessels, arteries or whatever leading up to it, and if there is no problem then it should be considered and I would hope that we could do something to make it clear that any detrimental changes from that point in time, should be considered to be as a result of firefighting unless the contrary is merely proven beyond a reasonable doubt, practically getting into criminal law. Maybe the Minister could just comment on that.

**MR. MacMASTER:** As a general rule, I don't like to personally involve myself with the workings of the Compensation Board, I think for a good reason, that they are at arm's length in their interpretation of injury. I suppose it is a principle. I like them to make their decisions and then you can never be accused of doing favours for friends, this is always in the back of my mind when I have any dealings. But certainly in this particular case, with this particular regulation, I will review the regulation; I will talk personally with the Compensation Board officials and with some of their board to find out how in fact they're interpreting it, and the bottom line to the question is, are they taking into consideration his history of service in the firefighting industry? Or how much weight are they putting on the fact that it happens at work or off the job? I've been involved with thousands of compensation cases, I suppose, over my years with the unions and we had similar problems dealing with back ailments where a person really was doing a job that in all likelihood could deteriorate the back, but the damn thing happened to go out when he was shoveling snow, and I fought

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many many of them over the years, and this has a lot of similarities to it.

If the Member for Rossmere will allow me to talk to the board, talk to those that interpret it, talk to administration, I'll get back to him.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** We're on 2.(d)(1).  
The Member for Logan.

**MR. WILLIAM JENKINS:** Yesterday we were discussing special permits issued for under-aged children, or under-aged adults, whatever you want to call it — they're under age — minors. The issue that I really want to bring out is, and I watched 24 Hours last night, and I find that the Minister's statement that he made when he was interviewed on TV is a bit shocking. I want to know if any of these 928 we have listed here are receiving work permits. I know the Minister when he was being interviewed last night — or I don't know when the interview was but it was on 24 Hours last night — these people are acting as independent dealers under another dealer and therefore they're not covered by minimum wage; they're not covered evidently by any legislation that we have in place here in Manitoba. I think the children that were being interviewed were children at the present time, it appeared on TV, were working in the arena, running up and down some very steep steps with a fair amount of hot dogs, drinks, whatever they're selling, peanuts, popcorn, the whole deal.

What happens if one of these children is injured? Does the person that they're dealing with, which I understand is the person who has the franchise for the selling of these things in the arena, does he have any insurance in place for the coverage of these children? What is the legal position of these children if somehow or other the money that they are turning over to this person doesn't jibe? There's a very grey area here where these children around 12, 13 years old, that are operating.

I know the Minister said, well kids can make a buck here. That's a good thing. There's nothing wrong with that. Newspaper boys are in much the same predicament I imagine because they're classed as independent dealers. But surely there must be something in legislation that has some protection for these children. The same thing with kids that are out selling ice cream on these machines, these three-wheeled bikes. What happens if one of them . . . ? And we did have problems a few years ago where someone was ripping these kids off, because of the fact that they were out in the open and people were actually taking the money that these kids were earning, plus what they were selling for — what is it, Dairy Maid, or one of the ice cream companies.

I want to know exactly just where, what coverage and what protection do these children have? It's all very well and good to say that there is nothing wrong with children being able to go out and make a dollar and what not, and I don't entirely disagree with the Minister, but I think by the same token and by the same instance, the Minister should be looking into it. It may not come under his department; maybe it comes under the Attorney-General. But the fact is that we are having children anywhere from 12 to 16 who are not covered by Workers Compensation. Supposing that the fellow they are dealing with doesn't want to pay them. How do these children go

about claiming what is legally theirs? Do they have to go to court, to the law? Is that the only way? Surely the Minister can come up with a better answer than the answer that I heard him give last night on television.

I think that this is an area that either his department or the Attorney-General's Department should be making a serious study of, especially when you have minor children, who legally can't sign a contract. I think my colleague from Rossmere, who is a member of the legal profession, will agree with me, these people can't legally sign a contract, unless the parents are signing contracts on their behalf; I don't know.

I think that the Minister and his department certainly have to come up with some answers, because it's not only happening at the arena, it's probably happening at the stadium. It's probably happening with children, unable to collect, and I know this has happened — I know it has happened on more than one occasion — I have heard paper boys tell me that they have been unable to collect money owing to them by people that they deliver newspapers to and they are stuck for it unless they want to sue. They have no funds. Maybe they should go under Legal Aid, I don't know. But legally, maybe not legally, but morally, I think that this department, and perhaps the Attorney-General's Department, have some responsibility to these children. I would be very interested in hearing what the Minister has to say on the subject.

**MR. MacMASTER:** Mr. Speaker, these people are considered as independent contractors and at this particular time, I don't see anything too much wrong with that, contrary to what the Member for Logan says, and neither has any other government, to my knowledge, in the history of this province.

I said last night on, 24 Hours, and I'll say it again to you, that I think it is a damn good thing when young people are out doing something with their time. I also say to the Member for Logan, or anybody else who wants to listen, that I just know hundreds of people, and so does he, who at one time or another has peddled pop or popcorn at ball games, hockey games and football games. They enjoy the excitement of being there; they see the game for nothing; they brag about it amongst their friends. I really don't see too much wrong with it.

**MR. JENKINS:** Mr. Chairman, that is very well and good. The Minister says he doesn't see anything wrong with it and I think that is basically what I heard him say last night on television.

What I am trying to get through to the Minister, that surely there must be something under some legislation in this province whereby these children . . . Now, the Minister hasn't answered the question. What happens — is there any insurance if these children are injured? You know, it is quite easy to tumble down those stairs. Those stairs in the arena, as it is built now, are very steep. Are they covered by Workers Compensation? Are they covered by private insurance?

I don't expect the Minister to answer a legal question. If I want that advice, I'll go to a lawyer — perhaps I will — to find out if the contracts — there must be some contract, like a verbal contract. Surely your department, Mr. Chairman, through you to the

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Minister, must show some interest. I mean, it's all very well and good and I don't argue with the Minister about the fact that these kids can make themselves a buck and the fact that they have the excitement of being there. But I think it behooves this department to investigate, to see if these children are being exploited. Surely you have that authority; if you don't, then the Attorney-General's department has that authority. I think it behooves you, Mr. Chairman, through you to the Minister, I think it behooves the Minister and his department to make sure that there is accident coverage in place for these people. What happens if that child is out on the street and he gets beat up when he's selling ice cream, and that has happened before today. The claim, then, will only come, I guess, under Workers Compensation, under The Criminal Injuries Act.

I think that the people who are using these children, it should be at least — either if it's not this Minister, then it should be the Attorney-General or someone, perhaps the Minister of Health, or Community Services — I don't know which Minister — but surely someone — these are underage children — these are under 16-year olds — they are 12, 13, 14, maybe even under 12 — selling things. If there is a shortage of cash, what rights do they have? As far as I can see, if the fellow wants to rip them off, he can rip them off. The kids stated that they were afraid; they were afraid to ask for a better deal because they would be fired. The guy has a big long list. Surely the Minister, somewhere along the line, has some responsibility towards these children. If he doesn't, then, well, I'm very disappointed in this Minister.

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

**MR. SCHROEDER:** Just pursuing that line taken by the Member for Logan, and listening to the response by the Minister, I recognize that there is always a difficulty — not always, but sometimes — there is a difficulty in determining whether someone should be classified as an employee or as an independent contractor. You have some pretty clear areas where people exercise a great deal of independent skill and judgment and a homeowner, for instance, hires someone to do a basement or something. It is clear, ordinarily, that it is an independent contractor, if the homeowner simply says, I just want this thing done. It is clear, on the other hand, in many areas, for instance, if you hire a secretary or you hire a truck driver or somebody like that, and you tell them what you want them to do, that that is an employer-employee relationship because you are basically telling them, you are controlling how they do the job and you are telling them what to do and that type of thing.

Ordinarily on sales, we all know that there are a lot of salesmen who are clearly independent contractors. They take three, four or five or more lines and they go around and flog them, either in the city or the country or whatever, and that's clearly an area where an independent contractor would be the correct terminology for an individual. But, when you get to what we're dealing with here, it seems to me that I had never really reflected on it before, but just listening to the Member for Logan, it seems to me that if all you're doing is selling Coke to a specific

group of people and you have an adult telling you what to do and what price to do it, you're really not that far away from the area of employer-employee as opposed to independent contractor and individual.

It seems to me that it may well be that the law right now might cover it and maybe this is an area that we'll have to look at. I had, about a month and a half ago, given the Minister an example of another employer, at least a person I considered to be an employer who attempted to get out of minimum wage laws by entering into a long agreement with employees, as a result of which he purports to contract out of Canada Pension Plan laws, out of Workers Compensation laws, holiday pay and all of those other things that we have over the years set up, and the Minister had indicated that he will be reporting back on that one later on. But it may be that this is a good time for the Ministry to just re-assess some of those areas that we may just in the past have glibly passed on, all of us, as not really coming under employer-employee relationships.

It may well be that in some of those areas, we do have the law that presently exists, to in fact cover people such as kids selling Cokes on the stands on minimum wage Laws. It may be that they would be better off being paid at three bucks an hour or whatever the minimum wage is for people under 16 and be covered under Workers Compensation as opposed to the current situation and if someone doesn't perform then of course there is always the possibility of being fired. Right now, I suppose, the difficulty for a kid who doesn't sell enough drinks or spills too many is that it costs him directly out of his own pocket. Under the other regulations and rules it would be loss of jobs, and the Member for Logan indicates that there's always others looking for work. I'm sure that would regulate itself.

**MR. MacMASTER:** Well, Mr. Chairman, if the entire interview was carried that I had with 24 Hours last night then it spells out my story pretty clearly. And let me just spell it out for the Member for Logan again. I'm prepared to check the liability of the children that are dealing with newspapers and the children that are at the ball games at the arenas. I'm not prepared to start digging into and trying to impose any new regulations affecting those young people.

From there it goes to kids chasing golf balls, I suppose. And I'm not being silly, that's just where it ends up, chasing golf balls. Sure, where does this end? The member had eight years and I hate bringing up history, but you had eight years to really consider this if you chose. I don't intend to get involved in those young people's livelihood at this particular time. And, let me tell you, one other thing, I don't intend to be the Minister of Labour that starts bringing in regulations to regulate their type of control and have the Winnipeg Arena put in massive big machines and tell their spectators to go get your cotton-picking popcorn and your hot dogs and everything else out of machines and you've got hundreds of young kids who are having a pretty fair experience at getting out and working and whether you like it or not a little emotional but they enjoy the games. I'm not going to be part of that. Now, that might not be what you want to hear; it might go down in Hansard as a bad position; I am prepared to live with that. I am prepared to look at the liability of

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them, and I think they are doing just fine. They have been for a hundred years in our country going out and making their own little deals and not doing bad.

That's my position and I'm sorry, to the Member for Logan, he and I can understand a lot of theories, a lot of principles — we come from the same sort of background — but this is one area that I am afraid we are very much different on.

**MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN, Robert Anderson (Springfield):** The Member for Logan.

**MR. JENKINS:** Well, thank you, Mr. Chairman. At least I got one thing out of the Minister; he is prepared to look into it. When he spoke before, he wasn't prepared to do anything. At least I am going to have the Minister and his department look into the thing and see that there is proper coverage. I don't care what I did eight years ago or what, we are talking about now; we are talking about now. The problem is here and it is now and it is pertinent at the time. When I am gone from here and you are gone from here, if this problem is still here, it will still be talked about, but I say to you, Mr. Chairman, through you to the Minister, that he has a responsibility; he is the Minister. I wasn't the Minister of Labour. —(Interjection)— I may have been part of the caucus. I may not have been persuasive enough. —(Interjection)— Aha, now the Minister is privy to what happened in our caucus] Well, I must inform the Minister that he is wrong. This question did come before.

Perhaps I am not a good enough persuader — (Interjection)— I'm not saying that we considered it one way or the other. I am saying that it came up, because we had the problem with children being attacked on the street, kids who were selling ice cream. There are lots of things that we could have done when we were government; we could have done more. But I'll tell you, anything that we did in Labour legislation, the Conservative caucus fought us tooth and nail; in every piece of legislation that we brought in, we were fought tooth and nail, absolutely. You should read some of the statements that some of the members made, that you, as a trades unionist, sir, would blush when you hear what some of your fellow caucus members thought of trade union people. —(Interjection)— I didn't blush — well, maybe you're not a blusher, I don't know. What I agree with and what I disagree with, the Minister is not privy to my thoughts. He is not privy to my thoughts, Mr. Chairman, in any way, shape or form. I am not ashamed of the years that I spent in the Government; I'm not ashamed of any of the years that I have sat in this House.

I say to the Minister that you have a responsibility, an absolutely responsibility, and if you don't want to do anything about it, fine, fine and dandy, that is fine; it will be on record. But at least I got one thing out of him and, Mr. Chairman, I got out of him the commitment that he is going to look into it to see if there is some accident coverage for these children who are selling popcorn and peanuts and whatnot in these places.

I think he should go further. I am not saying that he should legislate them to receive the minimum wage. The Minister and I have our opinions on minimum wage, one way or the other. I am not going to raise that issue with him at all. But I am saying to

the Minister that if he doesn't have a legal responsibility, he has a moral responsibility, and if he is not prepared to live up to it, that is something he is going to have to live with, not me, because he is the one who is not prepared to move, fine and dandy, I will be prepared to leave it at that.

**MR. MacMASTER:** I think my moral responsibilities and my principles as far young people in this province are on record of my activities with youth groups in this province. I expect that I have demonstrated as much interest in young people in this province as any member in the Legislature and I am not ashamed of that record of the work I have done with youth in this province and my feeling for them. I have as deep as concern as the Member for Logan. The reason I mentioned golf balls is my son happens to be in that business; he thinks it's a big deal, him and his little buddies. That is not stretching your point, but that's where you think that it could possibly have gone and I am just not going to be part of that, I'm sorry.

The liability thing has been looked at by us. The "24 Hour" interviewers raised a little bit of a point before yourself — I'm giving you credit for putting it on the record, that's fine — we are looking at liability, but I am not looking at the other.

**MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:** (e)(1) — pass; (2) — pass — the Member for Kildonan, on (d)?

**MR. PETER FOX:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On (d). I just want to ask a couple of questions in respect of the minimum wage. Can the Minister inform us as to the kind of discussions that took place at the Minimum Wage Board, the Advisory Board, whether there were any suggestions for the Minister to do away with the discrepancy in respect to the number of categories he has got on minimum wage? I find that I am getting a number of calls from people looking for work, young people, and they can't prove it, but they are indicating to me that there are firms not hiring people who are over the age of majority, and even though they are hiring people, they are eliminating the ones who are over 18 because they have a lesser wage to pay for those who are under.

Has the Minister had any information in that regard and done any investigation to see whether discrimination of that kind is taking place, because I think it would violate The Human Rights Act if it is taking place?

**MR. MacMASTER:** I have to be honest, Mr. Chairman, I haven't heard of the incidents that the Member for Kildonan is mentioning, or his phone calls. I just simply haven't heard of that situation, and we won't get into a big debate about whether the differential should exist or shouldn't exist; it has been standard in our country for many many years and has worked to a degree of success; I guess a degree is a point. I just haven't heard of any discriminatory action taking place by employers. There may be, I don't know. I am not investigating it. I guess that was the precise question, and I haven't heard of any discriminatory action that is taking place.

**MR. FOX:** The first part of my question was whether there were any recommendations or any discussion

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and advice given to the Minister by the Minimum Wage Board in this regard, if there was unanimity that the area stay segregated as it is?

**MR. MacMASTER:** The report that I received and the action that I took was in concurrence with the unanimous recommendation and then, of course, as the member knows, there is a minority one, also. The minority one made a variety of recommendations, but we dealt with the majority one, the unanimous one. It was kind of an unusual sort of a recommendation. I have to concur that it is somewhat unusual when you get a unanimous report and then, in addition to that, you get a minority report. A minority report, I think, I took it as consideration for future considerations by the members that submitted the minority report. I am trying to go by memory, I don't think the minority report made reference to doing away with the adult and the youth one. It did make reference to doing away with the differential for those who are involved in dealing with liquor(?).

**MR. FOX:** I wonder if the Minister could inform the committee whether they are looking at creating a formula which would take the minimum wage out of the realm of having to make a decision every so often so that it would have a continuing upgrading increase according to the cost of living?

**MR. MacMASTER:** No, we're not, Mr. Chairman.

**MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:** (2) — pass; (d) — pass. (e) Manitoba Labour Board, (1) Salaries — pass — The Honourable Minister.

**MR. MacMASTER:** The Manitoba Labour is primarily responsible for the administration of certain sections of The Labour Relations Act, The Employment Standards Act, The Construction Industry Wages Act, The Vacations with Pay Act, The Workplace Safety and Health Act, and The Payment of Wages Act.

The functions of the Manitoba Labour Board, itself, can be broken down into two parts which are as follows: (1) As the Manitoba Labour Board which deals with applications filed pursuant to The Labour Relations Act and The Workplace Safety and Health Act; (2) As a wages board appointed under Section II, of The Payment of Wages Act, which deals with complaints referred to the board by the Employment Standards Division under The Payment of Wages Act, The Employment Standards Act, The Vacations with Pay Act, and The Construction Industry Wages Act.

The objectives of the board are: (1) To accept, process, and adjudicate matters as expeditiously as possible, enabling the parties to resume normal labour-management relations with a minimum amount of disruption; (2) To assist in the development of sound union-management relations by providing expert information to both parties in matters dealing with The Labour Relations Act.

Staffing — with respect to staffing, last year there were 7 staff man years. We are requesting 7 staff man years this year; no change.

**MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:** (1) pass — The Member for Logan.

**MR. JENKINS:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to deal with Table 2, Mr. Chairman, on page 46. I see that the carryover from 1979 was 32, and that's in total. I'm going right down the page and adding it up, and I believe it's — pardon me, 21, and 32 cases are pending for this year. Is this caused by more applications for certification or revocation or why do we seem to have a larger number of cases not disposed of this year than we had last year, and what were the figures for the year previous? I don't have last year's, or is this just a temporary thing that in some years it goes and in some years it goes down?

**MR. MacMASTER:** Mr. Chairman, I think you will have some ups and downs if we took an eight or ten year history, but the Labour Board, without question, was busy this year.

**MR. JENKINS:** What would be the rough average, would it be somewhere in between 20 and 30 say for the last 10 years? It's not anything — I mean it hasn't been increasing, say over the last four or five years.

**MR. MacMASTER:** Mr. Chairman, in 1978-79 there were 43 carryovers, so as I say it fluctuates. I knew it did but I didn't have the numbers, now I have the number.

**MR. JENKINS:** So then we're looking at an average, say maybe 25 carryover, for — if we were looking at a period of time.

The numbers of applications for certification in 1980, believe it or not, was 80. Is that figure up or down from the annual average, or is it higher or lower than usual?

**MR. MacMASTER:** We had 19 more than the previous year, it was 61 the year before.

**MR. JENKINS:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This would be also a similar figure with ups and downs with an average of say maybe 70 per annum?

**MR. MacMASTER:** The average is probably 90 over a long period of time. There was a real push in the mid-'70s. I don't have all those figures, but if the member would just take my word for it, it was substantially higher during the mid-'70s, lower in the early '70s and now it's starting to work its way back up.

**MR. JENKINS:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think it's understandable that there were changes in legislation which made it somewhat easier for certification than it was previous, and then I guess we have to also take into consideration that times are not as prosperous as they were earlier on. I am not trying to place faults. I think it's the economic situation. We can't look at Manitoba in isolation to — it would be nice if we could be an island unto ourselves, but we can't. If we were in a Utopia it would be very nice, but were not in a Utopia. We are living in everyday world and I am glad that the Minister agrees with me, because when we were government, when we used to say things are no better or no worse here than they are elsewhere. The Opposition of that day said don't discuss any place else. We're not worried

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about what happens out there. We're worried about what happens here. A change of scenery, where you sit in that House, changes someone's point of view.

But I want to assure the Minister I'm not trying to throw sticks because I realize we are in an inflationary period. We are in a period of recession, not only in this country, but I think world-wide. What's the cause of it? If I knew that I wouldn't be here. I would be out as a consultant and making far more money than I would here. But as I say, I can quite understand that the figures are — and I am glad to hear that the figures are rising.

I'm looking for the day when we will be seeing more and more people, and I think in this vein, the Minister and I can agree, because he's an old trade unionist, the same as I, and the Member for Kildonan. I'm looking for the day when we'll have a much higher percentage of our people organized, because I think that is the best method that a person can use to defend themselves and make sure that they get their share of the pie, far better so than governments. I mean a good strong economic arm of the trade union movement is — I don't have to tell the Minister. The Minister knows. You have one final ultimate weapon which we use very sparingly. I think the Minister and I agree upon that. But I'm looking for the day and I hope I live that long, that we will see the figures here in Manitoba especially — if we can get them up over the 50 percent mark, I would be tremendously elated and anything we could get them up to.

When we look at some of the western European countries who have very stable labour relations, we're looking a total organization somewhere from 80 to some places 95 percent of the total work force being organized. I think when we were discussing a resolution in the House, I think the figure came up.

I would ask the Minister now if he can give us the approximate percentage of the total work force in Manitoba at the present that is organized? Has it risen or has it fallen in the last two or three years?

**MR. MacMASTER:** Just over 30 percent.

**MR. JENKINS:** That seems to be where it hovers. I would certainly hope that the department, one of the functions that it has is to help develop trade unions when they come to the government for assistance. I hope that the department, and I am sure that they are, are giving what advice that they can, but in the final analysis, it is the people themselves who have to do the job of organizing and becoming certified themselves.

I would say that the Minister is no more successful, or no more unsuccessful than we were. When we passed legislation, I was of high hopes that we would increase the number of people that would organize in this province, but I guess I'll just have to be patient and wait because we are not finding that change. Perhaps there is some answer for it. I don't know; I'm sure I don't know the answer and I'm sure that if Minister knew the answer, he would be out as chief organizer, perhaps, in this province, rather than being here. But it is good to see that we are not losing ground. We have our ups and downs in organization and certification all across this country in that respect.

I believe that the Member for Kildonan has a few questions.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Member for Kildonan.

**MR. FOX:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the Minister could give us, in respect to the number of applications for certification and also revocations, the number of people that were involved. I know we have cases but we don't have what kind of numbers there were involved in these.

**MR. MacMASTER:** If the member would look at Page 48, the number of votes that were conducted were 8; the number of employees affected was 246. I'll get the other numbers — 1,581 individuals were certified in the province last year.

**MR. FOX:** Was that for certification?

**MR. MacMASTER:** That were certified, yes.

**MR. FOX:** The 13 cases that were revoked, there are only four revocations on Page 48, with 49 employees affected — I'm sorry, and there were three others. That was the only area I wanted to get.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** 2.(e)(1) — pass — the Member for Churchill.

**MR. COWAN:** Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. The Minister has given us a figure for applications for certification for this year and if we go back over a number of years and review the records that have come out of the annual reports of the Labour Department, we note that the number for certifications dropped off greatly last year and appears to be staying around that area this year. Last year, it was almost half of the year previous, and the year previous was similar to 1977, which was less than 1976. We're running from a total number of 224 applications for certification in 1974, to in 1979 a total of 72. So the decrease over that five-year period has been significant.

I would ask the Minister if he has some comment on why it appears that there are fewer applications for certification in the province and the number appears to be decreasing?

**MR. MacMASTER:** You would have to talk to the union organizers. I have no reason to give for the downswing and now the upswing again; it is not for me to know.

**MR. COWAN:** It is not only a matter of talking to the union organizers, as the Minister indicated, it is also a matter of the type of climate that is in place in the province for organization and for organizing of unions. I would ask the Minister if he can comment on the province's role, what he perceives to be the province's role in respect to providing that sort of climate and if he can indicate why it is he feels that — given these statistics, it does appear as if that climate is being favorably promoted?

**MR. MacMASTER:** If the member checks the numbers, as he said he has, he will see during NDP years, there were dramatic decreases and dramatic increases. There is nothing unusual about what is taking place as far as I am concerned.

**MR. COWAN:** I do have the record before me, and perhaps I can read off the last 15 years, if we want

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to go back and catch a trend such as that. The Chairperson looks at me with some disappointment, but it is not a lengthy process. I want to make sure the record shows the trend.

In 1965 there were 66 applications for certification; in 1966 there were 76 applications for certification; in 1967 there were 85; in 1968 there were 62. Then, in the first year of the NDP Government, 1969, there were 110; in 1970 there were 146; in 1971 there were 155; in 1972 there were 125; in 1973 there were 190; in 1974 there were 224; in 1975 there were 188; in 1976 there were 146; then in 1977, when we see a year that is partly under the NDP administration and partly under the Conservative administration, we see 121; in 1978 we see 126; in 1979 we see 72; and this year's figures are 80.

So there were definitely trends, and the trend was an increase during the NDP's administration and a decrease after the NDP's administration, and lower numbers before the NDP's administration, so I would like the Minister to comment on that, having provided him for all the figures for those years.

**MR. MacMASTER:** The only comment I can make is there was an upswing in the early Seventies, as I mentioned before the Member for Churchill returned, and there was a downswing as we get into the Seventies. Now, this year there seems to be, for whatever reason, an increase again. The downswing didn't continue, but the downswing started in the mid-Seventies and carried on through to now.

**MR. COWAN:** Has the Minister's department, or the research section of the department, done any work in trying to analyze the certifications and the union organizing in the province in relationship to what is happening elsewhere throughout the country on a national level or in provinces that might have situations that could be applicable to the situation here in Manitoba?

**MR. MacMASTER:** If the member could wait till the Research Department comes up, I'll find out. I don't know of any particular studies, but I would guess that the research people are somewhat familiar with what is going on in the rest of the country.

**MR. COWAN:** I don't have my calculator with me, Mr. Chairperson, and I haven't had an opportunity to review these figures. Excuse me, I have had an opportunity, I just haven't had the time to review these figures before now. I'd ask the Minister if he can indicate what percentage of applications granted or what percentage application granted represent of the total applications?

**MR. MacMASTER:** Well, if the member would look on page 46. Table II - it tells you of the disposition of the applicants, top line.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** 2.(e)(1) — pass. 2.(e) (2)  
The Member for Churchill.

**MR. COWAN:** I'm trying to do a quick figure. I was hoping that the Minister would have that figure available as to what the percentage represents and I think it would represent roughly about 65 percent or so, or maybe more, 70 percent. Would that be correct?

**MR. MacMASTER:** Well, 66 out of 80 were granted, so that's probably 75 to 80 percent. Six were dismissed, eight were withdrawn, for whatever reason, and if they're withdrawn, if you really want to, you can take the eight off the 80, brings it down to 72; and 66 out of 72 is a pretty high percentage of applications being granted.

**MR. COWAN:** Well actually, I think the more accurate way to do it, perhaps we would disagree on that, would be to take the number of certificates granted as a percentage of the total number of applications. And the total number of applications was 91. Now those which are dismissed and those withdrawn are sometimes done so with reservations by the party.

**MR. MacMASTER:** Mr. Chairman, if the Member for Churchill would look, there's 11 that were carried over, there's 11 that are still pending that's being carried over, so the true figure is 80, and he can either deal with 66 out of 80, or he can follow the line and see that eight were withdrawn, so that's 66 out of 72 or 66 out of 80. I think the percentage is pretty high either way. But there's 11, if you look at the top column on the left hand side, there was 11 that was carried over and coincidentally for no specific reason there's 11 that's still being carried over into the new year. So, we're really dealing with 80.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Member for Logan.

**MR. WILLIAM JENKINS:** Of the 11 cases pending are they all from 1980 or are some of them still pending from 1979?

**MR. MacMASTER:** I would suspect they're pending from this year because 11 coming into this year would certainly be the first ones dealt with and they've been dealt with and there's still 11 pending that are going into next year.

**MR. JENKINS:** The ones that were dismissed, Mr. Chairman, were they dismissed for lack of sufficient support or what was the reason for the dismissal?

**MR. MacMASTER:** Mr. Chairman, there would be a variety of things, some, it would be determined there was less than the appropriate application, some there might have been internal problems between the union and management either one way or the other.

**MR. JENKINS:** Dealing with the revocations here, we see 13. Seven were granted, two were dismissed, two were withdrawn and we still have two cases pending. Are these figures up or down from other years?

**MR. MacMASTER:** The number is up from last year, but down substantially from '78. In '76 there was eight; '77 there were 31; '78 there were 75; '79 there were 21. This year it's back up.

**MR. JENKINS:** Yes, I'd just like to ask the Minister a question here. What is meant by applications for amended certificates?

**MR. MacMASTER:** That would be the name change for your union, name change for the number of people involved, name change for the employer. I've



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been involved in my union days with several of those variations of things.

**MR. JENKINS:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That would be in the main what these changes were made for then, just name changes of union if they amalgamated or if the companies amalgamated, things like that?

I still see that we have under Section 57 of the Labour Relations Act, one case carrying over from last year and this case is still pending. Is this where failure to bargain collectively after notice has been given by the other party? What stage is that dispute or what-not at the present time, are they still attempting to, who is failing? Is it the employer or the employee group, which ever group is failing to

**MR. MacMASTER:** It's been mutually agreed to by both parties that it be put over.

**MR. JENKINS:** I see. Then in other words there is no collective agreement enforced at this plant at this time? Is that right? In other words are they going for a first time contract?

**MR. MacMASTER:** No signed contract. Both parties have asked that it be adjourned indefinitely and we have not heard back from them. We suspect they're trying to work out their own differences.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Member for Churchill.

**MR. COWAN:** It says in the annual report, Mr. Chairperson, that the board monitors union membership and certification trends and reviews the outcome of unfair labour relations — or labour practiced cases, excuse me. I'd ask the Minister if he can provide us with any information respecting their current reviews on union membership and certifications and their monitoring of that. They say specifically that they monitor the trends so I'd ask him specifically if he can indicate to us what he perceives to be those trends or what the department perceives to be by way of those trends.

**MR. MacMASTER:** They do confer with other Labour Boards across the Country as to their actions; their directions; their philosophies; their approaches to things.

**MR. COWAN:** But the question specifically arose out of a specific statement in the annual report, and that says that it monitors the trends. I'd like the Minister to be more specific as to what the activities of the department have been in specific and as well what trends they see shaping up, because it is important to analyze what's happening in Manitoba in respect to what's happening throughout the other jurisdictions.

**MR. MacMASTER:** The only thing I can say to the member is that they do monitor what's taking place in other Labour Boards and how new types of legislation are being applied and difficulties they're having with it; what difficulties they're having with their present legislation. I don't know whether monitor is the right word. I think you'll find any division of government that has similarities to a

Labour Board deals with other jurisdictions and they confer back and forth. What problems are you having with this? What problems are you having with that? We're considering this type of legislation; we're handing cases this way; how do you find it; that type of thing. I guess monitor is a word that you can look at and say where do you stack up? I think it's more of a conversing thing that they take place amongst themselves, same as your compensation boards do and the Minister of Labour has talked to other Ministers of Labour.

**MR. COWAN:** I am certain that is the case and I don't want to hold the Minister, even if I could and I know I can't, but I don't want to attempt to even hold the Minister to a word that's used as one of thousands of words in a particular pamphlet, or particular report that's tabled in the House.

However, what it seems to imply is that there is some, and I don't want to use the word monitoring, there is some consideration given to union membership per se and certification trends and that's information that I'm trying to allow the Minister to provide to us, is what is happening in regard to certification trends throughout the country and how does Manitoba's trends compare to what's happening elsewhere?

**MR. MacMASTER:** Well, if I can give the member an example. Let's take the example of hospitals. There are some hospitals in the country and unions associated with them that are talking about trying to amalgamate into larger bargaining units, even though they may not be all one.

Let me give the member an example that I think he'll really understand is the Flin Flon situation, where the trades at one time, and I'm guessing at the number, I think there were 11 or 13 trades if you believe it, 13 people bargained; some of them had two or three of a membership in that particular setting, because I know the Flin Flon people and the unions very well, they had two IBW locals at one time.

They had two of something else, I can't remember what it was. The people themselves said what the heck are we doing and eventually the similar locals pulled together; eventually now they got a trades council. That would be a thing that your Labour Board would look at and that was fairly significant. They probably would pass that information on to others.

I know that there's been consideration in one jurisdiction and country and I'm not at liberty to talk about it, where the unions themselves are talking about a particular hospital where they have a whole host of little bits and pieces. Whether they call it a joint council or whether they call it the Hospital Negotiating Committee, or what they call it.

So those sort of things we're certainly interested. If supposing that hospital, in another jurisdiction, decided to go that way, that might become a trend across the country and our Labour Board would want to know that and they'd say well, just how did you handle it; what problems did you have; how did the unions work out their disagreements; how did the Hospital Administration accept it; how did the government accept it? So they can sort of say well, okay, these are some of the difficulties they had, let's see if we can work out a system where we don't have those kind of difficulties.

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**MR. COWAN:** So what the Minister is saying is that it is just a general review that is ongoing and not specifically directed towards any one area, except on an ad hoc basis.

Perhaps the Minister has this information before him; perhaps he doesn't. I realize it's fairly detailed, but I ask the question in anticipation that if he doesn't have it he'll be able to provide it to us at one point or another during the estimates because I think it is important; and that is as to the number of union members in the province or the number of persons who are within bargaining units, in comparison with say, last year and the year before, even if those are available.

**MR. MacMASTER:** Well we estimate it's over 30 percent. When I get the research I'll see if I can't give him something more definitive.

**MR. COWAN:** I'd ask the Minister if that is available maybe he can talk to research now to see if they can come up with a specific number. A specific number would be better than a percentage figure, if they have it and he says he will try to get that.

The Manitoba Labour Board is responsible for adjudicating disputes over right to work under unsafe conditions, I believe, if it goes that far down the line. The question to the Minister is have there been any cases brought before the Manitoba Labour Board this year in respect to a dispute over employees exercising the right to refuse what they believe to be unsafe or hazardous work.

**MR. MacMASTER:** No there is none under the Workplace Safety Act.

**MR. COWAN:** Perhaps the Minister can be more specific as to whether there were any under sections which would not be included in the Table and Table 2, or does that fairly well, or does that completely to be more explicit, list those decisions which were made by the Manitoba Labour Board and all of them.

**MR. MacMASTER:** There was approach made to the Labour Board and it was settled by the Labour Board registrar between the union and the company.

**MR. COWAN:** On a right to refuse.

**MR. MacMASTER:** No.

**MR. COWAN:** But under the Workplace Safety Act.

**MR. MacMASTER:** Yes and that was for the formation of a committee. That had nothing to do with the Workplace Safety right to refuse. That's what the member was talking about.

**MR. COWAN:** The question is are there any other cases that should be brought to our attention and the Minister indicates not.

I have no further questions at this time, but I believe my colleague, the Member for Logan does.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Member for Logan.

**MR. JENKINS:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Still dealing with Table 2 here, I'm looking at Applications under Section 66, which is where collective

agreements cannot be entered into a period for less than one year without the consent of the board. There was one case which the board subsequently granted. Was this a first-time contract and who made the request? Was the request by management or was it a joint request by both parties; or the union or vice versa; or was it a joint request?

**MR. MacMASTER:** It was a joint application by the union and the employer.

**MR. JENKINS:** Was this for a first-time contract or was it for renewal of a contract?

**MR. MacMASTER:** They do it every year, Mr. Chairman; it's ongoing.

**MR. JENKINS:** Well this particular . . . Oh, I see, that's quite interesting. Applications under Section 69(3), where there was an application to the board to modify the arbitration provisions of a collective agreement and it was granted. I might say that I am not a great fan of arbitration one way or the other, in fact, I am very strongly opposed to arbitration.

But who requested the change? Was it a mutual request by the union involved and the management involved, or was it one part of the other, because we have had some cases, and I know this doesn't come under the Minister's jurisdiction but I just want to throw out for an example of where compulsory binding arbitration is a part and parcel of teachers and school boards — or voluntary binding arbitration. If one party or the other doesn't like what the arbitrator, or Solomon, is trying to give them, then they wind up in court trying to make a change. Usually the only people who get egg on their face are the people who try to enforce these orders. I don't want to know who they were, the actual . . .

**MR. MacMASTER:** It was an application by a union and they were successful in their application.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** 2.(e)(2) — pass; 2.(f)(1) — the Member for Churchill.

**MR. COWAN:** Again, we would ask the Minister if he can provide us at some point during the Estimates, with a typed sheet or a written-out sheet of where the Other Expenses are incurred. Also, if he can provide us with a specific list of any consultants which were used by this or any other . . .

**MR. MacMASTER:** We used one consultant during the course of the year, in a Hydro dispute. We used one consultant and that's the only consultant we used in that department in the entire year, and that was a lawyer, I'm sorry, not a consultant — well, whatever, a lawyer.

**MR. COWAN:** Perhaps, and again it is not necessary that we have the information right away, if he could just provide us with the particulars or the details of that incident.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** 2.(f)(1) — pass — the Honourable Minister.

**MR. MacMASTER:** I can clear that up now. We hired a lawyer to represent the board and it was in relationship to an application filed by the United

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Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, in relationship to the BACM construction job at Great Falls. That's the only lawyer we hired during the year.

I have a copy of the Other Expenditures for the member.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** 2.(f)(1) — pass; 2.(f)(2) — pass; 2.(g)(1) — the Member for Churchill. — (Interjection)— We had passed 2.(f)(1) and 2.(f)(2). You may be referring to 2.(g)(1).

**MR. COWAN:** I know we had passed 2.(f)(1) and 2.(f)(2) very quickly. I am just wondering if I caught you on the tail end of 2.(f)(2). It is not necessary to go through a great deal of questioning in respect to this, but there is one area which I think is important, and those are some concerns that were expressed by the Manitoba Teachers Society in respect to conciliation services and contracts between teachers and the public schools. I am not certain whether this should be addressed under the Minister's department or the Department of Education. So, firstly, I would seek direction, if the conciliation department is involved in those conciliations with the teachers in the province?

**MR. MacMASTER:** Yes, we are, Mr. Chairman. We appoint a conciliation officer upon request from the Department of Education. He does his best, usually very successfully, I might add, and that's the end of our participation in it.

**MR. COWAN:** If it goes to arbitration, it is out of the Minister's hands, in other words.

There seems to be some discontent with the process. I'm not saying that there is discontent with the conciliation officer, or I'm not saying there is discontent with any specific part of the process because I wouldn't be able to attribute it to a specific area, but we do know that there are a tremendous number of difficulties in respect to teachers and school boards coming to contractual agreements. I would ask the Minister if he would care to make a general statement on that as to what his department is doing in order to bring some of the pressure off that process, or at least to streamline it a bit so that there are not the types of incidences building up that we appear to see happening now and over the past year or so.

**MR. MacMASTER:** It is more the responsibility of the Department of Education. It is their system. We provide conciliation services to a whole host of people. It is perceived by some, and I don't necessarily agree or disagree but I have certainly had conversations with people, that in that particular system, sometimes one or the other party jumps too quick away from the table to the conciliation services. We seem to think that it is happening too fast. What may be the case, because it is an automatic sort of a system and not the same as private enterprise, is that there just might not be enough effort being made party-to-party. Sometimes when you get into this system, you find that that takes place. I have seen other examples of that where, in my opinion, I guess maybe that's because most of my union days were spent with major unions, we believed that the real guts of the thing were straightened out at that table and if you really

needed a third party, fine. I guess that's so much in my makeup that I sometimes think conciliation services are called in too quick and it's always a question as to how much real effort was made at that table.

Now, about the entire system itself, the Minister of Education, I think, would have to tell you because the schools boards and the Manitoba Association of School Trustees and the teachers, I am sure — well, I'm not sure, but if the member tells me that there is a great deal of disrest or discomfort with the system, I am sure the Minister of Education can elaborate on what he is hearing. I am not hearing that; I am hearing that, very basically, very straightforward, that they are extremely pleased with our conciliation services, which is one portion of the negotiating process.

**MR. COWAN:** As I said, I didn't want to point to one specific part of the process because I wasn't certain as to where the difficulties were. However, I think the Minister has put his finger on at least part of the problem. That is when you have a situation where arbitration is compulsory, or arbitration is at least highly expected, that you have less work and less effort and energy at the table than you would in other instances where arbitration is not anticipated, in that there seems to be a feeling on the part of individuals that why go through the long drawn-out battle back and forth across the table if it is going to go to arbitration anyway. It is my understanding that a fair number of them do, and I think the Minister would agree that probably enough of them do that it predisposes those individuals who are entrusted to do the bargaining, to look at the process in a different light than would individuals who were not expecting or anticipating a fair number of their efforts to go to arbitration.

So it appears as if there may be a problem with the entire process and not a problem with the individuals involved in it, nor with the government's involvement with it. I don't know. One would have to examine it more carefully and I think we will probably examine it under the Department of Education in greater detail if the opportunity presents itself. However the question of when conciliation services come into a dispute or to a potential dispute or an area where a dispute may arise is an important question, and I think the Minister could provide us with some insight as to how the Department approaches a request for conciliations outside of those dealing with The Public Schools Act.

**MR. MacMASTER:** I think, Mr. Chairman, the approach is the same. I should tell the member, in fact I personally told him of a situation which was of concern to myself, where sometimes there is within the process, never mind the arbitration, let's forget about the arbitration, but there is within the process that opportunity to use conciliation officers and sometimes, again getting back to the old school I come from, sometimes there's a tendency on either or other side to say why should we really slug it out at this table, we can get somebody else to come in and sort these problems out. That, to the conciliator when he goes into the area, be it the north or the south or a school division or an industrial plant or factory or whatever, that's all right, but what is sometimes disturbing, and it happens in all sectors,

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is when he gets to the scene and he finds that there are 15 or 20 or 25 items still outstanding. I have to tell you that's pretty frustrating. It tells you pretty quickly somebody started with 30 and they're down to 23 or 24. It sort of tells you the story and again for the record of Hansard, I'm not naming anybody, but I do know, and I'm sure the Member for Churchill has enough associations with the union people, that if he wanted to dig, he'd find out that there's some problems on that side, and I'm sure he'd find out that there are companies that won't bother either because they know that we in Manitoba are blessed with a group of people in conciliation services, considered across our country to be as good and in some cases better — no credit given to anybody, just the degree of personality I suppose, and people in Manitoba on both sides know that. It tends sometimes, I guess to be blunt, to make them a little lazy. I don't know what else you can call it.

**MR. COWAN:** I remember the incident the Minister was referring to, and do know of other incidences and other times in which those sorts of problems did exhibit themselves. I just wanted to put on the record that we appreciate the difficulties that are sometimes encountered in respect to a conciliation and hope that the conciliators are able to, as we know they are, continue to deal with those problems efficiently and effectively.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Member for Logan.

**MR. JENKINS:** Mr. Chairman, just a few words. I want to congratulate the Conciliation Services of the Department because I think they do an excellent job. They are people — in many cases it's a very thankless job and they don't get too many kudos, but I think when you look at the record, as we see here in Table 2, that of the use of Conciliation Services that they are at least 67 percent; that's better than two-thirds that they have been able to settle without a work stoppage, following a work stoppage, but nevertheless I think it's a very good average. I think the Minister and also my colleague have put their finger on the nub of the question, people do get lazy. People want someone to come in and be Solomon and unfortunately we don't have too many Solomons around.

I note with interest too that where arbitration is the final settlement that the — and I think it only bears out the argument — well I'm not going to say an argument — or the statement that the Minister had made that people know that if there's one more kick at the cat, well at least they can go to an arbitrator, and I notice that the figures for Conciliation Services, and I think that they are still good figures, I'm not knocking them, but they're not as high as were that final Sword of Damocles hanging that it's going to be an arbitrator.

Sometimes I think management and unions just sit down at night and say, please dear Lord, let's have that arbitrator and get us both off the hook. Then of course they can go back to their respective memberships and say if it hadn't been for arbitration we could have had this. I don't think that in many cases, as the Minister has said, when you have conciliation officers coming and there have been perhaps 35 or 40 points of dispute between these people and they still have 23 to 25, maybe 27, still

outstanding, that they have done — and I'm blaming both sides — that they've done their job properly of trying to come to a conciliatory answer.

**MR. MacMASTER:** I'm one of the old-fashioned believers that the collective bargaining process that we have in this country is the best in the world. I haven't seen a better one. I concur the conciliation officers do a good job and I guess I was trained by one of the greatest labour leaders in this country. He's passed away now, a gentleman called Larry Sufton and he used to tell us what to do at that table; that if you're not prepared to sweat and even sometimes sweat blood, you shouldn't bloody well be at the table, and try and resolve your problems there, and if you get your tail caught in the lawnmower, don't go crying and wining about it, you should be thinking about where the hell you're going. I sort of remember some of his teachings.

Thank you, very much.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** 2.(f)(2) — pass. I've already got it signed, so I would prefer to have it passed for the next chairman.

**MR. COWAN:** . . . ask for the Other Expenditures and consultants, that's all.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The hour of 4:30 having arrived, Committee rise for Private Members' Hour.

## SUPPLY — GOVERNMENT SERVICES

**MR. CHAIRMAN, Abe Kovnats (Radisson):** This committee will come to order. I would direct the honourable members attention to Page 71 of the Main Estimates, Department of Government Services. Resolution No. 73, Clause 6, Acquisition/Construction — pass — the Honourable Member for Elmwood.

**MR. DOERN:** Mr. Chairman, we were looking at a list of projects the other day and I wanted to ask the Minister if he could provide us with some information on the progress; these are the major construction projects of the department and concurrently of the provincial government and I wanted to get an update on this particular matter.

I might ask the Minister again if he could just give us a status report on the lawsuit on The Pas Court House and Correctional, I understand this is either before the courts, and/or a settlement has been reached. Can the Minister indicate the status of that lawsuit?

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

**HON. WARNER H. JORGENSEN (Morris):** Mr. Chairman, the matter has not been before the courts as yet. As to whether or not a settlement has been reached, I have received no word at this point, but it is hopeful that a settlement can be reached on that matter.

**MR. DOERN:** I am again looking at the Minister's list of major projects for the 1981-82 fiscal year and I see here the Dauphin Court House and Correctional Institution. Can the Minister give us a report on the status of that?

**MR. JORGENSEN:** Yes, Mr. Chairman. That particular project is one where construction is going

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to begin this year. I can't go any further than that, just to point out that construction will begin this year.

**MR. DOERN:** I just was partly momentarily distracted. I wanted to ask the Minister, on that particular project, the new building, there is a new office building opened in Dauphin, I guess, a little over a year ago; now we are talking about the Court House and Correctional, so have the plans, for example, been completed on that project, the design work, the conceptual work, and the tendering; where exactly is that project?

**MR. JORGENSEN:** Preliminary plans have been completed on that particular project. As my honourable friend perhaps is aware it is a renovation project, rather than new construction.

**MR. DOERN:** Could I ask the Minister what the amount of that project will be, just what will be undertaken and who the architects are?

**MR. JORGENSEN:** My information is the amount is about \$900,000, of which two-thirds is for the Correctional Institution and the remaining one-third would be for the Court House. The architects have not as yet been appointed. I think it is a matter of a few weeks and they will be selected.

**MR. DOERN:** I would then like to turn to the Manitoba Archives Building, which I think is one of the finest buildings that we have and was, of course, extensively renovated a few years ago, having I guess saved it from possible permanent vacancy or demolition. I wanted to ask the Minister what is being planned there at this time?

**MR. JORGENSEN:** Mr. Speaker, that particular project as anticipated will be between \$1 million and \$2 million and, as my honourable friend probably is aware, it is to provide additional space for the Hudson Bay Archives and research facilities.

**MR. DOERN:** So it's a \$2 million renovation or expansion or supplement of the building for the purposes of the Hudson Bay Archives exclusively, or are there other portions as well?

**MR. JORGENSEN:** Mr. Chairman, it is partly for the Hudson Bay Archives but for other purposes as well, for some research. When the honourable member mentioned the figure of \$2 million I said it was between \$1 million and \$2 million; I am not sure that we can pinpoint it down precisely at this stage.

**MR. DOERN:** I wanted to ask the Minister as well, there is the old Concert Hall, I forget what it was called; on the south end of the building, closest to the Legislature, was the old Concert Hall, which I am told is acoustically pretty good and there appears to be a need for another facility in Winnipeg to house musical concerts, stage presentations, speeches, meetings, etc. That was extensively used before, I think, it has been used little, partly because there were no chairs, the old chairs were thrown out; I think they obviously had outlived their usefulness. (Interjection)— My colleague says 1942 they had had it. (Interjection)— They'd had it in 1942, and of

course, the building was built in the '30s as a federal public works program at a time of high unemployment to provide employment and stimulate the economy, etc., etc. So we now have a Concert Hall and I know that four or five years ago it would have required several hundred thousand dollars to put it into top condition, namely, to buy the chairs, to provide perhaps a curtain, and some other minimum renovations, either dressing rooms or washrooms or whatever, but there was a price tag there and it has I think, to the best of my knowledge, stood empty the last four to five years.

I wondered whether the Minister had any plans to put that into top condition so that it could be accessed by the public?

**MR. JORGENSEN:** Well, Mr. Chairman, no final decision has been made on that particular matter at this point. The Arts Council have identified it as one of the projects that they would like to see implemented and there have been others that have shown some interest in it as well, but as I've said no final decision has been made as yet.

**MR. DOERN:** Could the Minister indicate whether that Concert Hall has been used in the last few years?

**MR. JORGENSEN:** I'm advised that it is being used and has been used for children's programs in the past while.

**MR. DOERN:** So, Mr. Chairman, again if I could just try to go over this point. The Minister said that there was what \$1 million to \$2 million now that would be spent on the Archives, largely for the Hudson Bay Archives, partly or half?

**MR. JORGENSEN:** At this point I would want, or would hesitate to want to estimate just precisely the portions, but I would think that perhaps less than half of that entire area will be used for it.

**MR. DOERN:** Could the Minister then indicate what the remaining projects will be? Just to clarify, Mr. Chairman. The other renovations to the Archives Building. What else is being planned at this particular time.

**MR. JORGENSEN:** Aside from the provision for the Hudson Bay Archives, there will be expansion for stacking areas, for research and other related matters, connected with that aspect of the Archives Building.

**MR. DOERN:** Mr. Chairman, I would then like to turn to the Headingley Correctional Institute and ask the Minister what is being planned there; apparently a main building, it looks like renovations, could he expand on that?

**MR. JORGENSEN:** Essentially the project that is contemplated consists of upgrading of the water facilities. Perhaps my honourable friend is aware of the problems that have occurred there in the past. The remainder will be the renovation of some of the facility and the provision of fire safety. Fire safety is the third point.

**MR. DOERN:** And has the architect and engineer been assigned on this particular project?

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**MR. JORGENSON:** I'm advised that the water facility is now under construction, but the architect for the renovations has not been assigned as yet.

**MR. DOERN:** Did we get the dollar amount there again, Mr. Chairman.

**MR. JORGENSON:** It would amount to something just under \$4 million; about \$2 million for the renovation project and fire safety and \$1.8 million for the water treatment.

**MR. DOERN:** Mr. Chairman, then I could look at the Robert Fletcher Building and ask the Minister what is being planned there and what is the amount?

**MR. JORGENSON:** I am advised that that again is essentially renovation and energy conservation on the outer part of the building, to improve the energy conservation part of that particular building.

**MR. DOERN:** Can the Minister indicate the amount and the architect if any.

**MR. JORGENSON:** It's one of those buildings that only the planning and design will be initiated this year so the architect has not been appointed as yet. That would be somewhat difficult to assess the cost until some of that work has been completed.

**MR. DOERN:** Mr. Chairman, I see on this list of major projects then that Headingley is listed twice; in once instance the main building and the other, it's not explained, but I assume those were the two projects the Minister was speaking of.

**MR. JORGENSON:** As I pointed out to my honourable friend one is the water plant and the other is the renovation to the building itself.

**MR. DOERN:** Mr. Chairman, I'd then like to ask the Minister about the Selkirk Mental Health Centre and Infirmary. What is the explanation there and how many dollars are involved?

**MR. JORGENSON:** I'm advised that the program there consists of renovations of Unit B and also the infirmary. The construction is to be initiated some time this year but it has not begun as yet.

**MR. DOERN:** I wonder, Mr. Chairman, if the Minister could give me a sort of capsule comment within the, let's say the past calendar year or fiscal year, there are a number of these projects that he provided earlier — well, even some of this list — about the major projects planned for 1981-82, and then the list of consultant fees paid in the 1980-81 year were projects that were started in the past and/or have been talked about for a long period of time. I am thinking there of the Law Courts addition, which we discussed yesterday and I would like to discuss again today.

I am just wondering, which projects, particularly in the last 12 to 14 months, have been started by the government which, let's say, are what you might call new projects in the sense that they were not talked about before or were not planned before. The only one that I can think of that comes readily to mind was the Court Building on Broadway. That was sort of a major renovation. Are there two or three or four

or five projects that were initiated by the Lyon administration in the last 12 to 14 months that the Minister can put his finger on?

**MR. JORGENSON:** Mr. Chairman, my honourable friend asked to identify those projects that have not been talked about in the past and a good many of them have been talked about for a good many years, so that's pretty hard to identify those, but if he's thinking in terms of those in which construction is to be initiated this year, then he has already mentioned several of them — the new Law Courts Building would be one of them; the Physical Activities Building at the Portage School is another; and, of course, I have already mentioned the Dauphin Court House and Correctional Facility. As my honourable friend may be aware, the new Court House on Broadway, that is one that has not been discussed before, but that was completed during the past year. Of course, there is a new hospital at Portage, which is also in the design stage. I have already mentioned the Selkirk Mental Health Centre, which is also included in that group.

**MR. DOERN:** Mr. Chairman, I just wondered if the Minister had any comment on the new Brandon Jail, which I guess was opened about a year ago. I was just wondering whether, first of all, the problems there were cleared up? The facility was opened and then for a five-month period couldn't be accessed because there was no furniture available. I just wondered, first of all, whether that problem was finally resolved, and in what month of 1980; and secondly, how the facility is operating, whether there have been any operational problems out at Brandon?

**MR. JORGENSON:** I have been advised that there was not a problem as such, which my honourable friend attempted to identify. What happened was simply that the client department, which was the Department of Corrections, were just not prepared to occupy the building at the particular time that it was ready for occupancy. It was not until some time later that they made arrangements to move in.

**MR. DOERN:** Mr. Chairman, I didn't like to go over the rather complicated question of the whole Law Courts and Justice planning in the downtown area, because this is really like a chess game, and this is what Government Services is all about — when you are planning for space, you make a move in one area, then this is followed by another move and another move and another move, and in some cases what seems to be a never-ending series, as a set of dominoes would fall.

I wanted to go over the various components of the Attorney-General's Department. For example, there has been a very large backlog of court cases. I realize some of this is the direct responsibility of the Attorney-General, but it still has a direct effect in terms of the provision of space and needs as are attempted to be met by the Minister of Government Services. There has been for years a backlog of court cases and I think at one time, we were talking about a six-month backlog, and then I think that expanded into a nine-month backlog and it looked at one time it might even get completely out of hand. So one of the reasons that the government purchased the former IBM Building at 373 Broadway

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was to alleviate the workload. The Attorney-General had a Knox Report and he said that by early 1981, the six-month-plus backlog would be cut to three months or so and I suppose, ideally, we would get a situation where it would be eliminated entirely, but that still remains to be seen.

I was just wondering, first of all, whether the Minister might give us some indication about the operation of the Attorney-General's Department in the sense of, has that workload been tackled and has that objective been met, because it could only be met, Mr. Chairman, by the provision of the necessary space and equipment and, of course, staff, and the Minister has a key role to play there.

**MR. JORGENSEN:** Mr. Chairman, I would hesitate to want to usurp the Attorney-General's prerogative in outlining his own program, but I think in general what I can do for the honourable member is to point out the sequence that we plan to have take place in connection with the development of that whole area of court facilities.

The first one, which has been completed and is now in operation, is the remodeling and occupancy of the Court Building at 373 Broadway, which has added 10 new court facilities and I might add, in connection with the comment made by the honourable member, reduced that backlog that he spoke of a moment ago by some considerable amount.

The second stage will be the development of the new Law Courts Building. When that is completed, then the renovation of the old Law Courts Building will be proceeded with.

I wonder if my honourable friend is following the dominoes as they are falling, but that is precisely the kind of staging — he was correct in assuming that there had to be some kind of staging and that is what I am attempting to point out.

The fourth stage will be the renovations of the former Land Titles Building.

The fifth stage then will be the reoccupancy of the facility at 373 Broadway for the Provincial Family Court. The next stage will be the construction of what I referred to yesterday as the Correctional Remand Centre next to the Law Courts Building, which may be located on the site of the existing Central Provincial Garage.

Added to that, as I pointed out to my honourable friend yesterday, is a general survey that is being undertaken to determine, when all of this is in place, what will be the nature of the parking facility that will be necessary in order to accommodate all of these changes that will be taking place as a result of the completion of construction of all of these buildings.

**MR. DOERN:** I would then like to ask the Minister about the Land Titles Building. What is its present use and what is its planned use?

**MR. JORGENSEN:** At the present time that building is vacant. I am not precisely sure whether it will be used in conjunction with the existing court facilities there or not; that is something yet to be determined.

**MR. DOERN:** Mr. Chairman, I have to ask the Minister why that facility is vacant? That building is in extremely good condition. It has been used in the past and it was used only a year or two ago. I think

there were a number of departments that were considered to be interested in that particular facility. I am thinking now in particular about the Department of Vital Statistics. They wanted to go in there and I think there was a plan a few years ago to put them in there.

I would like to know who was in there last? Can't the government find a use for that up until the point when it is required?

**MR. JORGENSEN:** Mr. Chairman, it is all tied in with the development of the entire complex. The building, notwithstanding the fact that it is structurally sound, requires some pretty extensive renovations to its interior. It would be difficult to find a suitable use for it until those renovations are completed and it would not follow in the sequence of construction that we are planning for the entire complex, to be renovating it now and then perhaps having to do that later.

**MR. DOERN:** I wonder if the Minister could indicate the possible relationship between the Vaughan Street Detention Centre, the Public Safety Building, and the proposed Remand Centre down the street. For example, if a new Remand Centre is opened, does that mean that the Public Safety Building will be closed, or largely closed, or does it mean that the Vaughan Street Detention Home may be knocked down?

**MR. JORGENSEN:** I have some hesitation in suggesting it is going to be knocked down. Somebody may come along in a very short while and say that it has to be retained as a historical site, but barring that possibility, then I think that it would be the intention of demolishing it.

**MR. RUSSELL DOERN:** We are now talking about the Vaughan Street Detention Home and I can remember looking at it I guess about twelve years ago or more, but somehow or other it keeps hanging around. It seems to be available so people use it. Could the Minister indicate who is in that building now, and if it's knocked down, where these people will go or whether this will result in new construction?

**MR. JORGENSEN:** I'm afraid that my honourable friend is going to have to ask the Attorney-General or the Department of Corrections as to its present occupancy because I have no knowledge of that, but I can tell him that it is not the intention of destroying the building or tearing it down until the new Remand Centre is built and in use, so that we'd have certainly no further use for it. The construction of the new one will have to come first, so it will be a few years yet.

**MR. DOERN:** So then the present occupants and the present needs and requirements that are now being met in the Vaughan Street Detention Home, it is planned to build a new Remand Centre to accommodate all of those people plus others as well. Is that what the Minister is saying?

**MR. JORGENSEN:** It would be perhaps, Mr. Chairman, it would be somewhat presumptuous of me to encroach again in the areas of other departments as to precisely the nature of the facility that they may

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desire. As my honourable friend knows we simply respond to client departments who request certain facilities, and I wouldn't want to suggest that the present facility is going to be completely transported into the new Remand Centre. That will require some consultation and some design; some input on the part of the client department.

**MR. DOERN:** Mr. Chairman, I'm interested in the fate and future of the Public Safety Building. The Minister, to the best of his knowledge, suggests that the Vaughan Street Detention Home will be accommodated within a new Remand Centre and, of course, that may change but that seems to be the logic that is at work. I also want to ask him then about the Public Safety Building. Would the new Remand Centre accommodate some or most or all of the inhabitants that are now lodged in the Public Safety Building?

**MR. JORGENSEN:** Again, Mr. Chairman, I would hesitate to want to encroach on the prerogative of decisions of other departments and the Attorney-General's Department as my honourable friend knows and the Department of Corrections are the two Departments that would be in the final analysis making the decisions. We simply, as I said, respond to client departments for space that they may deem to be appropriate for their needs. In light of that fact, I would hesitate to suggest on their behalf precisely the nature of their requirements, the nature of the accommodation that they may wish to have constructed.

**MR. DOERN:** I asked the Minister whether it was not true that one of the main reasons for the previous plan to build a new Court Building near City Hall was because of the adjacency of the Public Safety Building and the fact that is a lock-up and people are held there pending trial, and that if the Court Building was across the street, that by tunnel or whatever means, that the prisoners could easily be conveyed into the Court Building and you wouldn't have to build a new Remands Centre. Wasn't that the plan and therefore could the Minister comment on that particular point?

**MR. JORGENSEN:** Mr. Chairman, again a lot has happened and that points out the desirability of insuring that the client departments have some input into the design of and the location of buildings that may be used by those departments. This is precisely what happened in the case of the Law Courts Building, it was the Attorney-General's Department and the judges themselves who decided the proper location for that building is precisely where it's going to be laid out now. They wanted all of those facilities located in one general area, I suppose for reasons that were obvious to them, and that it would be much better to have all of those facilities located in the same general area.

**MR. DOERN:** Mr. Chairman, the Minister didn't answer my question. I want to try to clarify it. If the Law Courts Building was built near City Hall and that was agreed to by the Attorney-General's Department and by the Judges some five years ago, if it was built there, wouldn't it eliminate or obviate the need for a Remand Centre since the people who are being held

would have simply been brought across the street or beneath the street from the Public Safety Building?

**MR. JORGENSEN:** I'm not sure. I can't speak for what happened in the past and it could well be that at one time that might have happened, but I can tell my honourable friend that the decision that was arrived at was a result of consultations with the Attorney-General's Department and the Judges themselves, was that the best location, everything considered, would be in the area in which it is currently contemplated construction will take place.

**MR. DOERN:** Well, Mr. Chairman, I'll go back to that point in a couple of minutes. Could the Minister indicate the government's plans, if any, they may not have any particular need to react other than to stay in a holding pattern, but there is property that was expropriated in 1976 and 1977, maybe even later, for a Court Building near City Hall; I think it was a William's Restaurant Supply or some firms like that; a series of buildings were purchased and similarly the old Brunswick Hotel. Mr. Chairman, a man of your elegance and background wouldn't know about it, but that was a Main Street establishment that was notorious and was adjacent to the Concert Hall and that building was bought and knocked down. I wanted to ask the Minister about those particular properties, what is their future or are they just going to be land banked, which might not be a bad idea at the moment?

**MR. JORGENSEN:** Mr. Chairman, in regard to this particular matter, discussions have been held with the province and with the City of Winnipeg. The City has expressed the desire to have that property available for their own expansion so that the expansion of the City Complex can take place in that general area. It would seem to me to be on the part of wisdom to insure that if it is necessary for city property and administrative buildings to expand that it be in that same general area, so if my honourable friend chokes to call that a land bank, it can be called that for a specific purpose, that is the purpose that has been expressed by the City of Winnipeg itself.

**MR. DOERN:** Could the Minister also indicate what is being planned at this time, if anything, for the property that was the former Brunswick site where the old hotel was demolished, now being used for surface parking, and I know that the Museum has been most interested in that site; that was the site of a plan MPIC building. I know that MPIC was definitely interested in locating in a new building and was more than prepared to build it themselves. I know that the Museum of Man and Nature is interested in building an expansion, and there are many other groups and organizations, I guess among them the Locomotive or Railway Association, whatever they're called, who are railway buffs and they were, of course, interested in a transportation museum. Could the Minister tell us something about that particular site?

**MR. JORGENSEN:** Mr. Chairman, the particular property that my honourable friend has mentioned is one that is currently, there has been some interest shown in that area by the department headed by the



Minister of Cultural Affairs. Perhaps now that she is here, she can listen to the question, because I think she perhaps would be in a better position to provide an answer as to what their plans are for that property than I would be. As I said and I repeat again, we simply respond to client departments who express an interest in either acquiring or renovating or building, whatever project suits their particular needs. May I suggest to my honourable friend, that he may want to direct that question to the Honourable Minister of Cultural Affairs when her Estimates come up in a couple of minutes from now.

**MR. DOERN:** Mr. Chairman, I certainly hope that we will finish by 4:30, but I don't believe we'll be discussing Cultural Affairs today. We certainly will be discussing it on Monday.

Could the Minister indicate whether there's any planned use for the property in Elmwood at Talbot and Stadacona; there is a planned Senior Citizens Development and some office space on that site and it was to the stage of tendering and that project was stopped, and of course the land has been vacant. Does the department have any planned use there?

**MR. JORGENSEN:** At the present time, Mr. Chairman, that particular piece of property is just being held.

**MR. DOERN:** Also, Mr. Chairman, the old Concordia Hospital, I just wondered if the Minister was aware of any plans that the City has for that site. There was a plan at one time for the Province to do something with that building, to locate a reh-fit centre there. That was scuddled and I assume that the property is now in the hands of the City. Is that the present owner or is the Provincial Government still involved in that piece of land?

**MR. JORGENSEN:** I'm not able to answer that question as to who owns that property, Mr. Chairman. We can find out for my honourable friend and see if we can get that information to him.

**MR. DOERN:** Mr. Chairman, I'd now like to go back to some general comments on the court building and then we can shortly leave that area, pass that item and go back to the Minister's Salary.

I want to tell the Minister that I think the decision to locate the court building is an interesting one. This is a question that has been around for years. There have been debates about proceeding with this project, extending at least for the past 15 years. The judges of Manitoba, I think have made a valid argument for renovating the existing Law Courts Building and for expanding the Law Courts in the sense of a new building.

I want to also say, I want to remind the Minister that the construction of the Woodsworth Building was part of that plan; that was visualized in its earliest stages as being a justice building, not a court building, but a justice building; one that would meet some of the requirements of the Attorney-General's department and without that construction it wouldn't have been possible to follow some of these other steps through. So that, for example, by moving out — I assume the Land Titles is, well they're in the basement of the Woodsworth Building, and there's the Prothonotary's Office on a whole

series of floors that are allocated and dedicated to the Attorney-General's department.

The Crown Attorneys, for example, are in that building. So that was kind of a first step and the judges argued for years that they needed renovations to the old Law Courts, because of the fact that the acoustics were poor; because of the fact that the lighting was poor; because some of the facilities were rather archaic and other factors, for example, the judges found it necessary in many cases to run the gamut of witnesses and of people involved in trials, I suppose including prisoners, which they found rather uncomfortable. I don't know if there's any pushing and shoving or any comments or smart remarks made, but I assume that some of the judges would find it uncomfortable to walk down a hallway crowded with witnesses, especially in some cases where somebody was tried for something and the witnesses would be of an unsavory variety.

So I'm saying that we all appreciate and we all understand the need to renovate the Law Courts. It's a question of which project, which renovation will take precedence. I think there was a minimal renovation planned; there was sort of million and something renovation; there was a \$3 million or \$4 million option and there was a \$7 million-plus renovation.

So I wondered if on that particular point, if the Minister could explain what the projected total cost, again, of the Law Courts renovation; the existing Law Court as being planned. The original decision four or five years ago was that I think about a \$3 million renovation would take place. I wonder if that program is still in place and what the projected dollar value of that program is today.

**MR. JORGENSEN:** Mr. Chairman, I am unable to do that. As my honourable friend is probably aware, part of that entire complex is in the design stage and some of it hasn't even reached that point yet and until, at least all of the designs have been completed, it would be very difficult to put a cost figure on those things. Bearing in mind also that if the last stage of that entire development takes place several years hence I wouldn't even want to hazard a guess as to what the cost would be.

**MR. DOERN:** I ask the Minister whether the plan that was opted for by the previous administration, which was kind of a middle renovation, if that is the one that appears to be followed.

**MR. JORGENSEN:** No, Mr. Chairman, the fact that the new building has now been decided upon, that changes somewhat the planned renovations of the old Law Courts Building and, as I said, those designs have not yet been undertaken, so I am not in a position at this point to say just what they will consist of.

**MR. DOERN:** Who is the architect on that project?

**MR. JORGENSEN:** I am advised that the architect is Peter Langes.

**MR. DOERN:** Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the Minister, what information he can supply us on that as to what has been done to date. There were new elevators planned; there were some several hundred

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dollars worth of renovations planned; can he provide a brief list of what has been done in the past couple of years and can he also indicate what is the probably remaining program, bearing in mind that a new Law Courts will probably change the original renovation requirements?

**MR. JORGENSON:** Mr. Chairman, I'm afraid that that would be somewhat difficult to do, have that information at the present time, perhaps we could see what we can do about acquiring it for him.

**MR. DOERN:** Mr. Chairman, then I would just like to go back to this final point on the section of Acquisition and Construction of Physical Assets in terms of this whole equation, and that is that I said that if the government had decided to build in the core area there were two distinct advantages to that particular project and that is to be weighed against the present government's plans of building downtown.

Now it's nice to build downtown. There is an aesthetic dimension; there is a practical dimension whereby you have the main courts on Broadway and you have a possible expansion adjacent to that and there is a certain logic in that.

But the problem is that this will necessitate the construction of a new Remand Centre and I think that there is a price tag attached to that that we'll be watching with considerable interest because you will not only have to build what is now a \$16 million court building, which of course has gone up considerably in price, and of course is still only an estimate, but you will have to add to that a new Remand Centre.

I think we agreed the other day that there might be a \$2 million to \$3 million requirement to complete that facility. We're not certain of the exact program, but it certainly would sound as if its something over \$1 million and maybe several million. So when you add that package together, you're talking a \$20 million package in the core area.

I don't know and my old — I shouldn't say old, I should say my colleague — my old colleague, but not an old MLA, but an old colleague of mine, as a former Minister of Corrections, I think would show some understanding and appreciation of this particular matter. I don't know if it's desirable to have a Remand Centre right downtown. I don't know if that's the best use of property, let's say on Kennedy, only a block from here.

We've had the Vaughan Street Detention Home; I think a lot of people didn't feel too keen on the idea of that particular facility. But there's always a sort of a trade-off between being in a downtown for the convenience of citizens and being farther away, out-of-sight, out-of-mind — but not out-of-sight, out-of-mind of the local residents.

So I guess in one case we built the Youth Centre away from the downtown area which did not thoroughly delight the people of Tuxedo. We are now talking about a \$20 million package and, as I said, if the original plan had been proceeded with there would now be a new Court Building, adjacent to City Hall, which would enhance that particular property.

There undoubtedly should be more construction in the downtown area for future government requirements, but it's also valuable, Mr. Chairman, to have certain projects located out of the central area here and also, of course, throughout the province.

So I simply make this point that had the original project been proceeded with you would have had an urban renewal factor; you would have enhanced the area around City Hall and the Concert Hall; and you could have accessed the Public Safety Building.

Now we recently spent, a few years ago, I think some \$300,000 making that a better place and making some improvements, which according to some lawyers were long overdue, and the advantage was that the prisoners, I believe, could have been brought across the street or brought through a tunnel into that particular facility. So when you change that, I think the least you are doing, in my opinion, is adding several million dollars to the project. You may also, I don't know, you may also be suggesting that the Public Safety Building holding facility be closed and turned into office space or something. Maybe all of the Remands, etc. will be in the new Remand Centre downtown. So I just want to point out that a consequence of that decision is to add several million dollars to the cost of the project.

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

**MR. BOYCE:** Mr. Chairman, just to follow a few comments off my colleague, the Member for Elmwood's remarks. Perhaps the Minister can advise us where the arrangements with the City are relative to the Public Safety Building because as I recall it we entered into an agreement with the City of Winnipeg to take over the lockup, as it was called, and to make it indeed a combined function of lockup and partial Remand Centre.

Not to take anything away from the remarks of my colleague for Elmwood, about the cost of delay with which I would agree, but nevertheless to put on the record that I appreciate the problem of the Minister of Government Services, in having his colleagues allocate moneys for the construction of correctional institutions.

The problems facing governments is that it is not the most glamorous or sexy as I my colleague suggests. The correction facilities in Manitoba were primarily built at the turn of the century and from a strict economic review of the situation it would have made more sense, for example, that Headingly Gaol be closed down and a brand new facility built, but nevertheless to talk Cabinets into putting out the money to rebuild it, they have continually, on an ad hoc basis, added and subtracted to that institution.

The institution at The Pas was in a despicable state. In fact, as the Minister responsible — I don't know if my colleagues recall that there was an incident in the Maritimes where some people were in a lockup for minor offences and a number of them burned to death, the boiler in that particular facility had reached the state where it was actually condemned — we were faced with the necessity of doing something immediate, and the trailers were put in on a temporary basis and plans initiated to rebuild the facility. It wasn't because we wanted to mollycoddle people who were in correctional institutions, it was a necessity. But nevertheless the overall political problem of allocating enough money to protect society and, at the same time, I suppose in the bottom line, not to make people who inhabit those places any worse than they are, that is the bottom line. We had to, and this present government

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I'm glad to see has, by and large, continued on with the programs which were initiated. There have been some changes, some modifications at Brandon, but nevertheless, there is a new institution in Brandon; it exists, albeit perhaps if I were there some of the changes which were brought about would not have occurred but nevertheless I'm not going to second-guess the government. It's only to put on the record, Mr. Chairman, the support for the Minister and for the Minister responsible for Corrections, the necessity of allocating enough moneys to do something which is not that politically popular, and especially in this day and age where inflation and public spending and all the rest of it is of concern to us all.

When the Cabinet is deciding the issues perhaps the Minister and I could make arrangements, as existed with the former Member for Swan River, because he used to come to me once in a while and say give me some good questions. Because as a Minister, if I didn't get some heat from the Opposition, I had the feeling sometimes I would get precious little from my colleagues who had other priorities; roads are a priority; education is a priority; health is a priority; and when you are sitting in that Cabinet room as a junior Minister with something that is not that popular, it is difficult. I'm not suggesting that the Minister's Estimates is a junior Minister at all, in fact he out ranks me as far as time in the House is concerned.

In this area I don't think it is in the public interest to try and make a political issue out of it. I couldn't help recalling, when I had the honour — I felt it was a honour to be the Minister responsible for Corrections in the province — I don't know whether we should refer to him as the former half Member for Wolseley, when there was a regrettable incident of a suicide in the Public Safety Building after we had taken it over, and some of his questions suggested that I was responsible for giving the individual a rope. People will recall recently there was another incident comparable. I don't think it is a fault of the Minister of Corrections that such events occur, because I think that the staff which are deployed in these institutions are doing as best as is humanly possible under difficult circumstances, and under difficult circumstances to go kind of full circle in my ramblings, we come back to the Public Safety Building. That was a temporary arrangement at best, Mr. Chairman, that there is a necessity for a remand facility and the agreement with the city, as I had asked, was up for review I believe just about now, that it was a three-year agreement, the lease arrangements and other matters pertaining to the provincial administration of a component of the Public Safety Building. I wonder if the Minister can advise us of the present status of that situation?

**MR. JORGENSEN:** Mr. Chairman, my honourable friend, of course is again, not again but what has been happening is that I've been being asked questions about matters that more properly come under the administration of another department.

What the ultimate disposition of the Public Safety Building is going to be is a matter that will be the subject of discussion between the City of Winnipeg, the Attorney-General's Department and the Department of Corrections. Until that decision is reached as to what will ultimately happen it doesn't

reach this office; it is only when we have a request from a client department that then discussions will take place as to what the nature of that building will be so I am not in a position at the present time to be able to answer my honourable friend.

**MR. BOYCE:** It's within the prerogative of the government, as far as the internal operations and relationships of the various departments, it always seemed that the former Minister of Public Works had his nose in my business all the time. Is it not the case that when negotiations are finalized, or even if they are negotiating, that the department of what we used to call Public Works is involved in arriving at a lease and, as I recall it, that the lease arrangements with the City of Winnipeg were for three years which is just about up now?

**MR. JORGENSEN:** My expectation is that arrangement will continue again for a period of time, because if anything is to be changed insofar as the construction of a Remand Centre, it is not in the initial stages of planning, it is somewhere down the line after the completion of the new Law Courts Building, the renovations of the old Law Courts Building, the renovations of the Land Titles Office, and then the switch from 373 Broadway to the new Law Courts Building, and then back again, the Family Courts into 373 Broadway. That requires, as my friend from Elmwood suggested, somewhat of a domino game, and one move is dependent upon the other. We are some way, regardless of what happens, whatever decision is made, it is some way down the line yet, and I wouldn't want to hazard a guess as to what the decision will be.

**MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN, J. Wally McKenzie (Roblin):** The Honourable Member for Radisson.

**MR. KOVNATS:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll only take about two or three minutes. I had a couple of items that I just wanted to bring to the attention of the Committee. First of all, they came about when I was listening to the Honourable Member for Elmwood, and I started reminiscing a little bit, and he mentioned the Brunswick Hotel and I would just like to mention that I used to get my hair cut there — that's not the cause of me going bald — and I used to eat many of my meals there, as well as across the street at the Original Food Bar. With the Brunswick Hotel gone now I now get my hair cut at Tommy's Barbershop, at the Place Louis Riel, and it's a good place to get your hair cut.

I think the point of my getting up, Mr. Chairman, is to make a remark concerning the sound system which comes under this Department, and I have had heard some criticism of the Honourable Minister and the Government for this sound system and I would just like to speak on behalf of most members in the House concerning the sound system.

I was wondering whether the government took into consideration that there are some members who do have difficulty hearing, and as Chairman of committees I know that I have an important position to listen to everything that is said in the House, and I would compliment the Honourable Minister on the type of sound system that is in the House today because I can hear every word that is said in the House and I can regulate the intensity in which I hear

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those words, either by the control or by taking off the earpiece, and I would go on record on behalf of the House, and most of the Members of the House, of complimenting this government and this Minister for the type of sound system that is in the House. — (Interjection)— And I will repeat it for those that don't have their earpieces in.

I would also like to bring to the attention of the House one other point. When I was listening to the Honourable Member for Elmwood, he mentioned the Brunswick Hotel and there was a theatre where I used to watch vaudeville, just down from Rupert and Main, and the name eludes me, and I asked the clerk whether he knew the name and it — (Interjection)— Thank you, very much. It will go on record as the Beacon Theatre, and I did watch vaudeville there, and I know that times change and a lot of these buildings have to be removed to make way for new buildings that are coming up.

One other point and then I'll sit down. I was just wondering whether the Honourable Minister has made any arrangements, after reading the article in the paper about how glue has been put on toilet seats, and there's been two incidences in the last nine months, so it seems to be a serious problem, at least over in England, and I wouldn't want to see this problem come into the Manitoba Legislature, and has the Honourable Minister made any special arrangements concerning security for particularly new toilet facilities for some of the new members; whether there is any special security as to whether glue or any other items will be put on these toilet seats in the Legislature, so I think it does come under this Department, so that the occurrences that happened in England concerning this fast setting glue will not occur in the Provincial Legislature. If the Minister is going to respond to that, for some members I realize that glue will only go on half of the toilet seat.

**MR. JORGENSON:** Mr. Chairman, I rather wish my honourable friend had not raised that subject in the House. So often it's that kind of publicity that provokes a thought in the minds of someone who wants to play with what I consider to be a rather serious practical joke. I don't know what can be done about it. I suppose one will just have to observe very carefully when you enter the facility to insure that problem will not be experienced here.

**MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:** Resolution No. 73 — pass — the Honourable Member for Radisson.

**MR. KOVNATS:** I would just make one additional remark, Mr. Chairman. I would agree with the Honourable Minister that it is a serious position and a serious practical joke, particularly for those people that have been stuck on toilet seats.

**MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:** Resolution No. 73 — pass.

Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$20,570,400 for Government Services — pass.

**MR. CHAIRMAN, Abe Kohnats:** I would ask the honourable members to turn to page 67 of the Main Estimates, Resolution No. 69, 1. General Administration, Item (a) Minister's Salary — the Honourable Member for Elmwood.

**MR. DOERN:** Mr. Chairman, I wanted to make some general points on the Minister's Salary so that we can hopefully conclude the department at 4:30 and go home for the rest of the day and the true-blue Tories on that side can go to Ottawa and support or bring down Joe. Mr. Chairman, I don't know whether this is true or not, but I heard that one estimate is that the Conservative Party this weekend is going to vote for the retention of Joe Clark — no, I'm sorry, I had better get that line straight — that the Conservative Party is going to vote for the retention of PetroCan and the dismantling of Joe Clark. That's one commentator's observation.

I wanted to also say to the Chairman that when he speaks of the Beacon Theatre, I want to tell him of one brief experience I had when I attended there and a fellow came out — this must have been about 30 years ago — in a white suit and sang "A Room Full of Roses" — you might recall that hit song. I was quite impressed with this young man, who was billed as Tommy or Billy somebody-or-other from Minneapolis. In the white suit, and the song and the nice voice and so on, I thought he was a pretty good singer. Then I said to somebody after, "What did you think of that guy from Minneapolis?" He said, "Are you kidding? That's Eddie so-and-so from Selkirk Avenue; he's a north-end boy. It's just that they bill him from Minneapolis because people like it more; it appeals to them more." — (Interjection)— An import.

Mr. Chairman, I want to raise one question with the Minister and then make a final comment. One of the worst examples that have come to light in the last year of mismanagement in the government was the expenditure of \$1.4 million by the Department of Government Services, which was highlighted by the Auditor in his 1980 Report. I think this was a black eye for the government, which prides itself with fiscal responsibility and management and all those other emotional business terms that are sometimes used by members opposite, the argument being that they are good managers, that they know how to run the economy. I would argue, Mr. Chairman, in both cases they have failed miserably, particularly in regard to the economy.

I want to say that on a specific point, that the department incurred expenditures for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1980, in excess of the spending authority by \$1.4 million. I think when the Minister of Government Services, who was then the Honourable Harry Enns, was asked about where this money was, he was at a complete loss. It seems that the funds were lost and he didn't know where to find them. Apparently what happened was that it was the result of unsatisfactory monitoring of commitments made against the spending authority.

So I simply say to the Minister that this is, I think, a black eye for the department and for the previous Minister in particular, that there was some carelessness exercised by the government and by senior personnel in overspending. I wonder whether the Minister has any comment on that?

**MR. JORGENSON:** Mr. Chairman, I believe that it was explained as to the reasons why that particular incident occurred. Largely, it was the result of perhaps too much optimism on the part of the government that expenses would not, particularly with respect to the Central Provincial Garage, that expenses would not rise at the very rapid rates that

they were rising. The escalation of costs with respect to gasoline and repairs on automobiles made our budgeting somewhat inadequate, and it was in an attempt to recover that problem that we got into the difficulty.

But I might say, Mr. Chairman, that that difficulty does not appear to have been limited to the present administration. I have to tell my honourable friend that in the last four years of their administration, the budgeting was somewhat optimistic and far below what actually occurred. For example, in 1973, the previous administration spent something like \$83 million more than they budgeted for. In 1974, they spent \$73 million more than they budgeted for; in 1975-76, \$63 million more than they budgeted for; in 1966-67, \$39 million more than they budgeted for.

So, in times of inflation and in times of rising costs, the previous administration, as well as ourselves, have some difficulty in projecting realistic budgets that one can strictly adhere to. That's unfortunate. It is an indication of the rapidity with which inflation and rising costs are catching up to us. Although the particular situation that occurred in the Motor Vehicles Branch is one that is unfortunate, it does illustrate and should illustrate to my honourable friend that perhaps costs are rising even more and faster than even the most pessimistic of people can imagine. I just merely make that point to my honourable friend so that he does not attempt to create the impression that that problem is one that has only recently been attached to this administration; it is one that certainly plagued them as well during the last four years of their administration.

**MR. DOERN:** Mr. Chairman, I want to conclude by saying to the Minister what I said in the opening on the department, that there is a serious downturn in the provincial economy and there is a failure on the part of the Department of Economic Development and the Minister of Government Services to do something to stimulate what can only be described as a depressed provincial economy.

You know, Mr. Chairman, there are some real ironies in the situation in Manitoba. At the very time when we need construction and we need projects to stimulate the economy, these projects are not being proceeded with. (Interjection)— We need a lot more than \$1.5 million, because if you put that into construction, that means so many jobs and so much of a multiplier effect. I guess I am agreeing with the Honourable Minister of Finance. He is saying that's peanuts, is he? —(Interjection)— I see. Well, you're not going to try to better the statement made by Clarence D. Howe, C.D. Howe, who said, "What's a million?" You're not saying a million-and-a-half is peanuts, but the point is, Mr. Chairman, at the very time when we need new projects and we need new jobs, there are millions and millions of dollars worth of projects being turned down in the City of Winnipeg.

I will give you a couple of examples. The Great West Life Company, in conjunction with the CNR, was prepared to spend up to \$500 million to develop the CNR East Yards, and that project was in effect scuttled by the City Council because of the fact that we are not growing sufficiently in Winnipeg or in Manitoba.

Just a couple of days ago, there was a projected development of \$15 million near the Assiniboia

Downs Race Track, that had to be turned down for a variety of reasons and one of the reasons, Mr. Chairman, one of the key reasons before us, is that we are not growing as a province and we are not growing as a city. In fact, the reverse is taking place. We are actually declining. Because of that, we find ourselves in a situation where we are turning down the vitally-needed construction projects that would give us that very stimulation, would attract people, and would retain people, because if we proceed with those projects, it will mean a further death-blow to businessmen in the Winnipeg area in particular. We now have an over-expansion of shopping centres. People on Council, I think, were in a dilemma. If they approved all these suburban shopping centres, they would kill the downtown area. If they didn't approve them, they would kill the opportunity for expansion and employment. So they approved a whole bunch of them, which is in effect killing central Winnipeg, and also the people who are now located in those shopping centres are not going to make a go of it, Mr. Chairman, because the population of Winnipeg and Manitoba isn't growing. If you had a dynamic economy, it would only be a matter of time before more people would then shop in those places, spend their money, multiplier effects, spinoffs, etc., etc., and there would be greater prosperity.

So at the very time when we are in desperate and in dire need of more projects, we are turning them down. As I say, the two that come most readily to mind are a \$500 million planned development between Great West Life and the CNR at the East Yards of the CNR just down the street behind the station. The second one is, the other day, a \$15 million shopping complex had to be turned down for a variety of reasons. I would suggest that in addition to reasons of water and development, that businessmen would make a powerful case that that would be just another nail in the coffin of downtown Winnipeg and it would also, of course, be direct competition for the Unicity Mall.

So, Mr. Chairman, I say that when the Minister was talking about the advantages of leasing versus construction, he was adding to the problem. He is exacerbating that problem. He thinks it's a virtue for the government to rent cheap space, because there is available space, because there aren't people in industry that are building up the demand — the supply is high — but I say it is a vicious circle, that if he built certain of his requirements, he would in fact stimulate jobs in the construction industry and in the general economy and that would add — there is sort of a multiplier effect either way — the government's policy tends to be on the negative. They tend to be sitting back at the time when they should play an activist role in the economy.

I say, Mr. Chairman, that businessmen are suffering in Manitoba because they are not sharing in the booming resources of the new west. I say that it is therefore essential that the government play a key role in the economy. Our government, instead of moving forward and playing an activist role, is sitting back. If we ever needed an activist government, now is the time. If we ever had a dead, passive, inactive government, we have one now. That is exactly what the people of Manitoba don't need. The result, Mr. Chairman, is that there is a lack of employment opportunities and we are seeing a steady outflow of

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our people into the other areas of the country, which are in fact booming.

I think that the government has made a big mistake — a big mistake. They spent three years sitting in their offices watching the economy decline. Anything that they do now is only window dressing; it is too little, too late. I think that is going to be the epitaph of the Progressive Conservative Government when it comes to the economic policies that they failed to put in place.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** (a) — pass; Resolution No. 69 — pass. Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$1,770,600 for Government Services, General Administration — \$1,770,600 — pass.

The hour is 4:30, could I have some direction as to the proceedings?

The Honourable Government House Leader.

**MR. JORGENSEN:** Complete these Estimates, Mr. Chairman, so that we can — I have never heard you say that this completes the Estimates of the Department of Government Services.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** I probably assumed it, but this completes the Estimates of the Department of Government Services.

The Acting Government House Leader, for some direction as to the proceedings.

**MR. JORGENSEN:** I think perhaps it would be more appropriate if Mr. Speaker took the Chair and then I could outline . . .

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** I needed some guidance as to Committee rise or . . .

**MR. JORGENSEN:** Yes, of course, the Committee has to rise.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** No, we were in Private Members' Hour. (Interjection)— Right, now we go into Private Members' Hour.

The hour is 4:30. I am interrupting the proceedings for Private Members' Hour, and I don't know when I will return.

## IN SESSION

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

**MR. JORGENSEN:** Mr. Speaker, I believe that an arrangement has been arrived at whereby it is the desire of honourable members to at this stage adjourn the House until Monday afternoon at two o'clock. bearing in mind, however, that the Public Accounts Committee will be meeting tomorrow morning and tomorrow afternoon, at 10:00 a.m. and at 2:00 p.m. respectively.

So, if that is agreed upon, then may I move, seconded by the Minister of . . .

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please. The Honourable Member for Radisson, have you got a committee report?

**MR. KOVNATS:** I ask for some direction, Mr. Speaker. Should I make a motion for committee rise?

**MR. SPEAKER:** You have done that. Have you a report?

**MR. KOVNATS:** I do have a report, Mr. Speaker.

I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Dauphin, that report of committee be received.

**MOTION presented and carried.**

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

**MR. JORGENSEN:** Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Minister of Finance, that the House do now adjourn.

**MOTION presented and carried** and the House adjourned and stands adjourned until 2:00 p.m. Monday (March 2nd).