

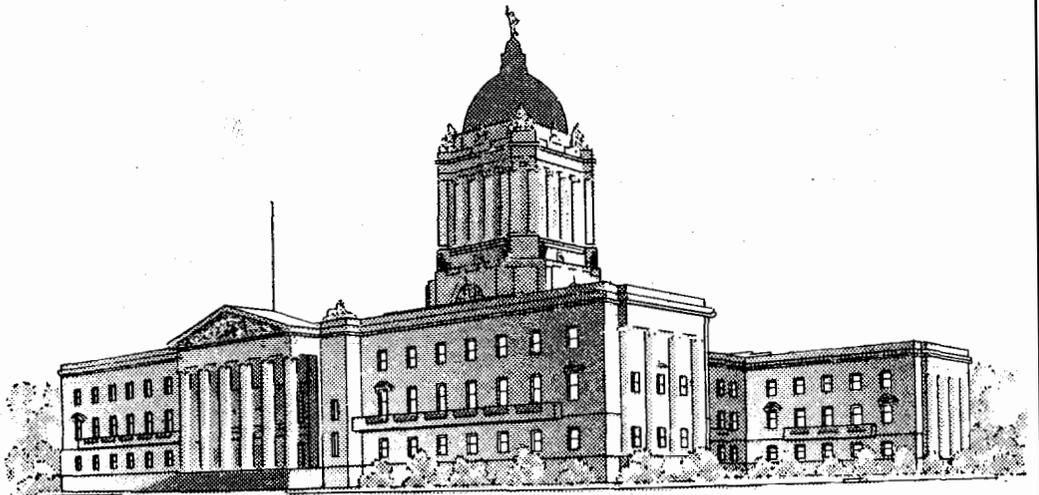


Legislative Assembly Of Manitoba

DEBATES and PROCEEDINGS

Speaker

The Honourable A. W. Harrison



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Friday afternoon, July 31, 1959

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THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

2:30 o'clock, Friday, July 31st, 1959

Opening Prayer by Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Presenting Petitions
Reading and Receiving Petitions
Presenting Reports of Standing and Select Committees

HON. S. R. LYON (Attorney-General) (Fort Garry): Mr. Speaker, I beg to present the sixth report of the Select Standing Committee on Law Amendments.

MR. CLERK: The Select Standing Committee on Law Amendments, beg leave to present the following as their sixth report. Your Committee has considered Bills No. 12, an Act to amend the Workmen's Compensation Act (1); No. 13, an Act to amend the Workmen's Compensation Act (2); No. 53, an Act to amend Certain Provisions of the Statute Law; No. 80, an Act to amend the Winnipeg and Central Gas Company Act; No. 86, an Act to amend The St. Boniface Charter, 1953; and has agreed to report the same without amendments. Your Committee has also considered Bill No. 74, an Act to Facilitate the Distribution of Gas in Greater Winnipeg; and has agreed to report the same with amendment, all of which is respectfully submitted.

MR. LYON: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable the Minister of Mines and Natural Resources that the report of the committee be received.

Mr. Speaker presented the motion and after a voice vote declared the motion carried.

MR. SPEAKER: Notice of Motion
Introduction of Bills
Orders of the Day

HON. J. B. CARROLL (Minister of Public Utilities) (The Pas): Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day, I'd like to lay on the table of the House a return to a question dated July 17th, by the Honourable the Leader of the CCF Party.

MR. SPEAKER: Orders of the Day. Adjourned debate on the proposed resolution of the Honourable Member for Rhineland and the proposed motion of the Honourable Member for Brokenhead in amendment thereto. The Honourable Member for Ste. Rose.

MR. G. MOLGAT (Ste. Rose): Mr. Speaker, I regret that the Minister of Education whose department this resolution concerns isn't in his seat at this time, but I will make my comments on this in any case. Although a good deal of what I have to say refers directly back to the speech that he made on this resolution earlier during this debate. One of the things that he pointed out is that this had very considerable discussion when the bill was first introduced last Fall, and as he indicated then it was very keenly discussed in fact he reminded the members of our party, that it was one of our own members who had moved that this particular schedule be accepted, and I accept that statement as it stands. I would like to point out, however, that the circumstances at that time are somewhat different from the circumstances as they turned out to be later. And that is that at that time the Boundaries Commission, which was not yet established, had obviously not made their report, and it was impossible to tell at that time by the members on any side of the House what these divisions would be, what their shape would be and what distances might be involved in transportation and all the other difficulties which could arise. And I submit that in view of the size of certain areas, in view of the distribution of population in certain of the divisions that the circumstances today are different than those which obtained at that time. And I submit that the original resolution and the amendment that has been proposed to it go a long way to correct some of the difficulties that do exist because of the size of the divisions. The Minister then went on to say that as far as he knew and his words are that "then too, there has been no indication of the need to change the grant schedule." And I quote now from Hansard, page 904, July 14th, and he says, "to my personal knowledge as far as I know, the question has only been raised in this House -- no trustee, no board of trustees, has suggested the necessity for any radical change in the schedule up to the present time." Well, I suggest to the Minister, that that is not quite correct, because the school trustees who met in Clear Lake and these are the trustees of the division boards, who met in Clear Lake on Saturday, June 27th, passed a number of resolutions and the very first resolution that they passed at that meeting was and I read it, "Whereas many divisional boards will be building schools of

(Mr. Molgat, cont'd.) . . . less than 12 rooms and whereas they will endeavour to stretch this to the number of rooms to secure the 75% grant and thus increase the costs, be it resolved that the scale of grants be increased to provide 75% for all schools over four classrooms." Now this is on the 27th of June, when the meeting was held and surely the Minister must have got a copy of this resolution forwarded to him, and this is not a resolution passed by a single school district, it doesn't come from any particular area, it is a general resolution passed by the school divisions meeting together at Clear Lake in a convention, and I submit that this has a very strong basis. Here we have the whole of the school divisions in the province at a meeting passing resolution such as this, this is of much more value and much more importance than if it was only one division passing it, because quite legitimately the Minister could say if it was only one or two divisions. Well, this is a peculiar local problem and as such we cannot change the law just to suit a particular local circumstance. But here is a case where there is a resolution passed by a joint meeting of all the divisions . . . (Interjection) . . . not exactly the same wording, but very close to it. The wording certainly is that they want 75% for all schools over four classrooms, which the Minister indicated in his speech . . .

MR. STEWART E. MCLEAN (Minister of Education) (Dauphin): That isn't what's on the Order Paper.

MR. MOLGAT: Well, but the Minister indicated in his speech, that he was not prepared to make any change whatever. Now no change whatever means certainly that this resolution is not being followed. Now I suggest to the Minister that this is a general feeling on the part of the divisions and this is a real problem in many parts of the province. And it seems to me that from the standpoint of the province itself, financially, that it would be well to look at the resolution particularly as it's amended by the Honourable Member for Brokenhead. Because the amendment there does provide for a certain amount of flexibility, and it could mean in the long run that the province will save money by following this procedure, because as it stands now I know of nothing in the act that prevents a school division from building a 12 room school, even though they don't have the need for that school. Maybe there is a provision there, if so I have missed it. Possibly it's there, but as I understand it, if a school division want to build a 12 room school they proceed to build a 12 room school and with the incentive to get 75% I think it's possible that a number of them will do that. They many end up by having a larger plant than what they really need. They could conceivably end up by having one or two or three classrooms unused, but would build them in order to get the large grant. Now looking ahead in the long run possibly that's good, but I suggest that in the interests of the taxpayer, and of the Provincial Treasury, that a little more flexibility in this case, as suggested by the resolution as amended, would work out quite well -- in other words in those areas where it was not feasible to build a 12 room school and where the school division board felt that this was so, that they would be entitled to build a plant suited to the size of the district and if it was an 8 room school that was required and I admit completely there, a statement made on these two occasions by the Honourable Member for Arthur, that you can include the auditorium - you can include the science room, the library. I'll admit all that, that's fine, but supposing you do include the library, and the chemistry room and the auditorium and then four classrooms, you still only get to eight, then I would think that it would be pointless to proceed to build another four rooms in order to get to 12 and yet under the grant schedule the incentive is there. Now it seems to me that it's not too late to make this change to make it a little more flexible. After all we have put a great deal of responsibility in the hands of the division boards, they are the people who are going to operate this system of larger school divisions. I think by and large they have been doing a very good job to date. The government has certainly indicated their confidence in them by giving them the authority that they have.

Now could we not as well depend on their intelligence and their knowledge of the local districts, the knowledge of local needs and leave them as this amendment suggests, the final decision as to exactly the size of plant that they require and would build. And it seems to me in the long run that this would be more economical, more practical and would suit the needs of the various divisions better than the more rigid system which is at present in effect and I submit to the Minister that he should give this serious consideration as it appears to me to be a very practical proposition.

MR. E. PREFONTAINE (Carillon): Mr. Speaker, I would just like to say one word in

(Mr. Prefontaine, cont'd.) . . . support of what the honourable member has just said and in reply to what the Minister of Education stated some time ago on this same debate. He seemed, the Honourable Minister seemed, to lay a lot of stress on the fact that we on this side of the House had approved of the present grant schedule and he went on to say that the ex-member for Rockwood had made the motion in Law Amendments Committee suggesting this scale of grant. But I would like to remind the Honourable Minister that it was the same member - the ex-member Mr. Bend, who at the Fall session of last year under changed circumstances made a motion in this House asking for a flat 75% grant -- the same member and he explained his reasons why he had changed his mind. His reasons were now explained by the Honourable Member for Ste. Rose when we were faced with this problem a year ago last fall or last fall the members will realize that boundaries commission had not been appointed. We did not know exactly that the size that these divisions would consist of and we were faced with the proposition from the Minister to the effect that the grant would vary from 40% to 80% in the City and we didn't like that situation and as lesser of two evils some of us, but not including myself, approved the present scale of grant, which went only up to 75 instead of 80%. But since then there's been a lot of changes. The divisions have been made much larger than was anticipated at least by many, many in this House and members who wasn't in the House at that time. And I believe that the trustees of these school divisions by moving this resolution at their Clear Lake convention, a convention where I understand the Minister himself was present, at least for part of the convention, and I am surprised that he seems to be unaware that such a body has filed such a resolution. But at any rate I believe that this is a reasonable request, that will be accepted by the government sooner or later, because the Minister seems to have intimated the other day that it was too soon, but that maybe some day he will agree with the idea involved in this resolution. I think he should agree with it right now. I think the trustees of the school divisions should know now when they are making their plans for construction -- should know that they would get the same grant if they found it impossible or inadvisable or impractical to build an 8 or a 12 room school in some parts of their division.

The Honourable the Minister stated that the amendment moved by the Honourable Member for Brokenhead didn't make sense or that it didn't mean anything. I don't know I'm not an expert the use of the English language, I don't know if it means exactly what I have in mind, but I think that the Minister can read into it the idea, which was expressed by the honourable member moving this amendment, to the effect that if the trustees were unanimous in a division that it was impossible to build a secondary school room of more than four classrooms and if they were all agreeable unanimous and that it was impractical to consider carrying the children for a much longer distance than otherwise would be the case, if they were unanimous that they should get the extra grant from the government. The Honourable Member for Arthur maintained that there was no discrimination in the fact that in his country they could arrange it so as to get 66%. But did they have to go to certain sacrifices and haul the children from far away, but if he were in his chair I would ask him if he did not feel that it would be discrimination when in their case they would get only 66% and in the cities without any effort whatsoever because the population was there, they could get 75% and only 66% in Arthur. It seems to me that this is discrimination in itself, so I would urge the Minister to accept this resolution rather than take the stubborn attitude that it is a definite 'no.'

Mr. Speaker presented the motion and after a voice vote declared the motion lost.

MR. R. PAULLEY (Leader of the CCF Party) (Radisson): Ayes and Nays, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Call in the Members. The question before the House is the amendment to the amendment which reads as follows: "provided that all members of the board in charge of secondary schools are unanimous in agreement that it is not practical or desirable to construct any school or schools in their jurisdiction of the size required in order to qualify for the minimum grant."

A standing vote was recorded the results of which were as follows:

YEAS: Messrs. Campbell, Desjardins, Gray, Guttormson, Harris, Hawryluk, Miller, Molgat, Orlikow, Paulley, Peters, Prefontaine, Reid, Roberts, Schreyer, Shoemaker, Tanchak, Wagner, Wright.

NAYS: Messrs. Baizley, Bjornson, Boulic, Carroll, Christianson, Corbett, Cowan, Evans, Hamilton, Hutton, Ingebrigtsen, Jeannotte, Johnson (Assiniboia), Johnson (Gimli),

(Division, cont'd.) . . . Klym, Lyon, McKellar, McLean, Marttn, Roblin, Scarth, Seaborn, Shewman, Smellie, Stanes, Strickland, Thompson, Weir, Witney.

MR. CLERK: Yeas -- 19: Nays -- 29.

MR. SPEAKER: I declare the motion lost. The question before the House is the main motion proposed by the Honourable Member for Rhineland. Are you ready for the question?

MR. M. E. MCKELLAR (Souris-Lansdowne): Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Hamiota that the debate be adjourned.

Mr. Speaker presented the motion and after a voice vote declared the motion carried.

MR. W. C. MILLER (Rhineland): Mr. Speaker, my words will be very, very brief and I think whatever I say will be noted as being conciliatory to both the main motion and the amendment. I can see that the principles outlined in paragraphs 1 and 2 of the main motion, are not entirely incompatible with the amendment proposed by the Honourable Member for Brandon. I think all members are in agreement that the idea expressed is a good one and should be proceeded with.

In order to make it more palatable to all though, I would like to add a few words to the amendment which should make it possible to have the motion as amended passed unanimously, and so I wish to move, Mr. Speaker, seconded by the Honourable Member for Carillon that the amendment be further amended by adding at the end thereof the following words "when Mr. Speaker has been selected according to the principles outlined in the first and second paragraphs of the main motion."

Mr. Speaker put the question.

MR. HARRY P. SHEWMAN (Morris): Mr. Speaker, I wish to move, seconded by the Honourable Member for River Heights that the debate be adjourned.

Mr. Speaker presented the motion and after a voice vote declared the motion carried.

MR. SPEAKER: Adjourned Debate on the proposed resolution of the Honourable Member for Inkster. The Honourable Member for Inkster closing the debate.

MR. MORRIS A. GRAY (Inkster): Mr. Speaker, I again reiterate that we do not claim that we are the only ones who have the interest of those unfortunates in this province. This was charged everytime that anyone disagreed with our suggestions that we are not the only ones. I admit, every member of this House has the full and honest interest in everything which is good for the province and particularly for the children which is under discussion.

I have and had great admiration for the Honourable Member for St. Matthews. As a matter of fact may I confess now and I hope I will not be thrown out of my own synagogue, that I have listened to some of his sermons when he discussed during his term in his church on matters -- on world matters. They were all interesting and I have learned quite a bit from his sermons and those sermons were not mixed entirely with religion, and I do not challenge his sincerity at all, because I know the gentleman well and I know he means well, but sometimes a well-meaning member of this House like myself, do perhaps make an error in judgment. When you visit a hospital and you pass by a wing of children and you hear their cries, their appeal for help you have a lot of sympathy with them, you are sorry for them and you pass by, but when you hear you own child cry and ask for help there is an entirely different feeling. Quite often, it's not in all cases, you cry with them. So to discuss a problem in a generality is one thing; being close to the scene is something else. The question is what is best for one or 100 children. It isn't a matter of how many are affected. It is a question of what is the best for them and who could give the answer? The child psychologist, the doctor, the politician, the philosopher or the mother or father. It's entirely different between one and the other.

It's true that conditions have improved. No doubt about it. They are improving every day. About 10 years ago our expenditures for education were about \$5 million. Today it's close to \$26 million, because we have realized that the improvement is necessary. It takes time. We realize that we need more schools. We realize that we have got to pay the teachers more money in order to get proper teachers for the children. We realize that we are moulding the minds of the children. We are realizing that we are responsible for them when they grow up and we are responsible whether they become a liability to the state or an asset.

The fact that schools for those who cannot hear or speak was originally established in Manitoba years ago indicates that the government of that day found necessary to have a home, a dormitory, a boarding school for the children who are unfortunately deaf and cannot speak at

(Mr. Gray, cont'd.) that time. And they built a beautiful building in a nice location, close to the home and close to the parents. The very fact that they realized the necessity at that time, why should it change now? The school was not taken away from them because they were not in need, it was because another situation was created where we needed a building at that time, perhaps for a more useful purpose in order to protect our way of living. And whether there is a record or not, it was the definite understanding - a definite understanding that the school would be given back to them after the use for war purposes.

So I feel that there was a moral, unwritten promise that the children who are unfortunately deaf and cannot speak, I can't use any other word because mute is an insulting word, dumb in an insulting word, I class them as one who unfortunately cannot speak. Now whom else can realize their situation, their tragedy more than the parents do, and the parents want them close to them. I realize there are other obstacles like people living in the different rural districts. They're still close to home, closer to home than anywhere else. The same argument I have heard from my very, very good friend for whom I have the very highest respect. That it is unwise to have a school for here because there are so many children in Winnipeg and so many in the rural districts but the fact is that we have a number of children spread throughout Canada and some also in the United States. Why not have one school for them in the centre of the province where the most of the rural districts and the Greater Winnipeg, where the most of the population is, also giving the same service to the other children. I am not criticizing the school in Saskatchewan -- in Saskatoon, it's a very fine institution. I was told it is one of the best institutions in Canada, but why cannot we have it here? It doesn't cost us any more, we are paying for the children in Ontario, we are paying for the children in the United States, we are paying for the children at Saskatoon, and we are paying for the children here. Couldn't we concentrate it and have one place for them where, in the opinion of the parents, and that's what I'm going to emphasize all the time, in the opinion of the parents may be directly or indirectly a benefit to them. In other words, without extra expense it would serve the children not only in a scientific way but also in a sociological way. Having the parents help the department to try, if possible, to rehabilitate them not only by scientific methods but also giving them a chance, to parents, who are mostly interested, to help us.

I have a case on my own street, a young man who has been handicapped for many years. He goes down the street, he wants to play with the children, he is anxious to play with them -- all they do is make fun of him, kick him around -- what does he do? -- first thing he does, his mother comes out and he runs back - mother embraces him and he feels a lot better. He cannot tell children to tolerate one who is unfortunate. He can't tell them, so what is scientific? There is no science to it. The question is he knows who his mother is, and the mother knows the habits of the child and tries as much as possible to comfort him and make him feel a little better. And these children are not mentally defective. They know their tragedy, they know their hardships, they know their shortcomings and they feel quite conscious about it and they feel that they are in this world not wanted.

My last word is that in the last 19 years since I had the opportunity of serving the House, we have suggested many improvements in the interests of the welfare of the people of this province. There are many statutes in the books now that have been suggested after -- it has been put on the statute books after we have suggested it. It may take many years; it does take many years, like the Dental College - it has taken 15 years advocating it before it was established. I don't expect it will be "do it now" but I sincerely hope and pray that this government will consider it from all points of view and they will find that a school for the deaf in this province for all the children of this province, not to spread them around all over, will be established and I can assure you that the province in time, or the state in time will benefit more financially and above all, they will rehabilitate many children and given them an opportunity to live a life of their own.

Mr. Speaker put the question and after a voice vote declared the motion lost.

A MEMBER: Ayes and Nays, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Call in the Members. The question before the House is the Proposed Resolution of the Honourable Member for Inkster which reads as follows: Whereas the deaf and handicapped children of this Province must, at present, attend special schools outside this province and, Whereas this is very undesirable in that these children living in a silent world,

(Mr. Speaker, cont'd.) . . . who need their parents most, are taken away beyond visiting distance for months at a time, and Whereas the government of the province (prior to 1945) did, in effect, promise parents of these children that such schools would be provided once more with the return of peace. Therefore be it resolved that in the opinion of the House the government should give consideration to the advisability of re-opening a school for the purpose of providing specialized education for these handicapped children.

A standing vote was recorded and the results were as follows:-

YEAS: Messrs. Gray, Harris, Hawryluk, Orlikow, Paulley, Peters, Reid, Schreyer, Wagner, Wright.

NAYS: Messrs. Baizley, Bjornson, Boulic, Campbell, Carroll, Christianson, Corbett, Cowan, Desjardins, Evans, Guttormson, Hamilton, Hutton, Ingebrigtsen, Jeannotte, Johnson (Assiniboia), Johnson (Gimli), Klym, Lyon, McKellar, McLean, Martin, Miller, Molgat, Prefontaine, Roberts, Roblin, Seaborn, Shewman, Shoemaker, Smellie, Stanes, Strickland, Tanchak, Thompson, Weir, Willis, Witney.

MR. CLERK: Yeas -- 10; Nays -- 38.

MR. SPEAKER: I declare the motion lost. Second Reading of Bill #91, an Act to amend The Winnipeg Charter, 1956 (2).

MR. JAMES COWAN (Winnipeg Centre): Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this bill is to make uniform the assessment of the gas utility in respect of its property in the public streets. At present the Winnipeg Charter provides for six fixed assessments based on the population of the city and this proposal will make the assessment on the same basis as in the suburban municipalities as provided for in the Municipal Act. The gas company when it applied to have its rates fixed applied on the basis of the gas pipe lines being all assessed on the same basis in the suburbs and in the city; that basis being the basis outlined in The Municipal Act.

MR. GRAY: Mr. Speaker, may I ask a question of the mover? Who is paying for the agreed assessment?

MR. COWAN: Well, the gas company will, of course, pay taxes on the personal property in accordance with its assessment.

MR. GRAY: Yes, but the assessment may go against the homes on the same street.

MR. COWAN: Oh no, no the assessment is against the gas company. The gas company will pay taxes on the value of its property in the streets. The gas company will pay the taxes to the city. It won't be charged against - the home owners aren't going to pay this assessment. The gas company.

Mr. Speaker presented the motion and after a voice vote declared the motion carried.

MR. SPEAKER: Adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Honourable, the First Minister, and the proposed motion and the amendment thereto by the Leader of the Opposition, and the proposed motion of the Leader of the CCF party in a further amendment thereto. The Honourable Member for Brokenhead.

MR. E. R. SCHREYER (Brokenhead): Mr. Speaker, it is not my intention to speak at any great length on the Budget Speech made by the Honourable, the First Minister. It is not my intention because the criticisms thereof have been so ably put forward by the Honourable the Leader of the Opposition and my Leader. However, there were, perhaps, one or two comments that I would like to make in way of closing. Before I get on that topic, however, Mr. Speaker, I would like in a few brief words to deal with the statements made last evening by the Honourable the Member for Wellington. Here again, it is not my intention to be very prolific in my words because, personally speaking Mr. Chairman, I believe that a good bit of the sentiments expressed by the honourable member last night were expressed by him on a previous occasion this same session. However, it not being my intention to take these statements too seriously and deal with them at too great a length, I feel that there must be at least two or three things said in rebuttal to him.

There were, as I have it here, some twenty-six points made by the honourable gentleman, some of which seem to have some merit at first glance and some of which were, quite frankly, incomprehensible. For one thing he said that -- he again made the charge that there is no fundamental difference between Socialism and Communism. To that I can only once again say that he should refer to some books in the field of political science on this topic, some books on political philosophy, and come back to this chamber and then try and justify his assertion. The statement

(Mr. Schreyer, cont'd.) . . . made that Socialists would become Communists if the Communists were winning, is about as sensible as saying that Conservatives would become Fascists if Fascists were winning. It is simply something that cannot be argued upon, because the premise itself is not a valid one. He goes on to say that Socialism is not new, it has been found in primitive societies. He goes on to cite the case of the Inca civilization. Well, in answer to that I can only say, consider Egypt - a primitive society; was it socialistic or was it not? Having made the statement that socialism was found in primitive societies, and he cites the highly civilized Incas - he goes on in the next sentence to say that private property type of society lent itself to roads to civilization and not socialism. Rather a contradiction there, somewhat of an antinomy, Mr. Speaker. He speaks about Sir Winston Churchill, a man for whom, I dare say, most members in this chamber have a great respect. However, he attributes to Sir Winston Churchill something which I am sure that great man would not want to be attributed to him. He said that Sir Winston Churchill has never been shown to be wrong. Perfection is not of this world; Mr. Churchill being a mortal does err - he has erred in the past; the military series of events in 1917, in the honourable member cares to pursue it, will find that this was the case.

MR. RICHARD SEABORN (Wellington): Mr. Speaker, just a correction. I said that Mr. Churchill's statement of that time had not been proven wrong.

MR. SCHREYER: Well, if that was the statement made, I retract then, the last sentence or two. I had understood you to say that Sir Winston Churchill had never been proven to be wrong.

Well then, what other points here. The honourable member speaks of relatives behind the Iron Curtain. That is -- I am sure he is not in a unique position. I happen to be in the same position. On rare occasion we have received letters from these relatives. Certainly the people there, at one time or another, have been living under conditions of terror. But that, Mr. Speaker, has nothing to do with the fundamental question which the member raised last night, namely, is there any fundamental difference between Socialism and Communism? Without being emotional - as was the honourable member last night on at least one occasion - I would like to go on to analyze some other points that he made.

I would like to say, Mr. Speaker, I think I shall limit myself -- I think that it can be said that Socialism is nothing more than a process in world movements, and we in Western Christian civilization, at the present time, are well along the way to the kind of society which moderate socialism envisages, whether we wish to admit it or not. Socialism is a modifying force on Capitalism, and that's all that democratic socialists ever hope to be - a modifying force on Capitalism.

I might say further that Socialism is a philosophy of pragmatism - if the honourable member knows the meaning of that term - simply, and this sums it up quite well, I think: we believe that the truth or validity of a theory can only be proven by being put to a test of practical consequences. We have been accused by people more radical than we of being conservative; we have been accused by recalcitrants as being radical, which can only lead us to believe that we must be somewhere along the path of the happy via median.

Well having said that, Mr. Speaker, I would like - I suppose this is a digression - I would like to deal very cursorily with the Budget itself. Unlike the Honourable Member for Wellington, what I have to say about the budget - not being an expert or even half an expert in matter of high finance or economics - I would only say that the budget itself is one, as my Leader said, which tends to be misleading in that it glows with optimism, and it speaks of services which, I suppose one should admit, are being raised or improved upon. But it glows with optimism insofar as the financial picture is concerned. I think the First Minister is aware that it took this province 18 years of financially scrupulous administration to reduce the net debt the same amount that it's being raised this one year, because the net debt - as this administration chooses to call it, the net general debt, deadweight debt - is going to rise within the next fiscal year some \$65,000,000. approximately. And if you analyse the picture of the net debt from 1940 on, you will see that it took approximately 18 years to reduce the net debt by just that same amount.

Well, what happens next year? What happens the year after? If one might be allowed to use an expression of alliteration, this budget is a budget by borrowing. And that is perhaps the overriding feature of this budget, Mr. Speaker, the fact that it is very essentially bound up with the practice or the matter of borrowing.

(Mr. Schreyer, cont'd.) . . . Before I take my seat, Mr. Speaker, I would like to say that I shall perhaps be followed by one of my colleagues, who will deal with the matter of interest rates and so on, but I would like to ask just what is the sense of providing for a surplus and then going and borrowing that money - borrowing money at a high rate of interest, which in twenty years will cost some \$10,000,000. In other words, interest charges on borrowing the amount of money that's actually in the surplus, namely \$5,000,000., will cost the taxpayers of this province somewhere in the vicinity - my colleague has the figures more accurate - somewhere in the vicinity of \$10,000,000. - considerably higher. If this paying of such interest, if it is merely for the purpose of providing a good front, then this is indeed ill advised action on the part of the Government and the Provincial Treasurer.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you ready for the question?

MR. D. ORLKOW (St. John's): Mr. Speaker, I move seconded by the Honourable Member for Seven Oaks that debate be adjourned.

Mr. Speaker presented the motion and after a voice vote declared the motion carried. Bill No. 41 was presented for second reading.

MR. LYON: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move seconded by the Honourable the Minister of Labour, that Bill No. 41, an Act to amend the Real Property Act, be now read a second time.

Mr. Speaker put the question.

MR. LYON: Mr. Speaker, there are a number of amendments to The Real Property Act which are contained in Bill No. 41;-will attempt to give a brief summary of each of the major amendments. There is provision in the Bill for the District Registrar to destroy certain documents after they have been in the possession of the Land Titles Office for approximately 20 years. I may say that the Registrar-General in compiling these sections for the Bill took great care to make sure that nothing would be destroyed which - or of which there was not some form of alternative record in the way of a memorial on Titles, or some other document evidencing the existence of the document which is to be destroyed. The practical necessity for it arises by virtue of the fact that in the basement, for instance, of our central Land Titles office in Winnipeg, we have files and documents going back many decades, and they have just, in effect, reached the bursting point and there is no more room to contain actually needed documents in the Land Titles Office.

There is another provision in the Bill which provides for titles becoming 'Subject by Implication' to any zoning regulation, as that expression is defined in the Aeronautics Act of Canada. I think honourable members will realize, Mr. Speaker, that all Real Property Act Titles in Manitoba are subject by implication to a number of conditions under Section 62 of The Real Property Act, such things as zoning by-laws, leases under three years, so on and so forth. And the purpose of the amendment which is sought in the Bill is to add to those matters to which all titles are subject by implication, zoning regulations under the Aeronautics Act. What has happened is this, the Department of Transport at Ottawa, Aeronautics Board, I understand, has passed certain zoning regulations with respect to the International Airport in Winnipeg, and these regulations have the effect of prohibiting buildings being built of a certain height as you proceed out in a radius from the airport. Now these regulations ordinarily might be filed in the Winnipeg Land Titles Office, and when filed, a memorial thereof would have to be endorsed on each title that was affected; that would involve streets, lanes, leasehold titles and so on and so forth. Several thousands of titles would require to have memorials placed on them. This would be practically an impossible administrative job to do - it would require the work of several clerks over several months or perhaps even years, to bring these titles up to date. Therefore, the amendment is being sought whereby all titles will be made subject by implication to these Aeronautics regulations, which will be kept on file in the Land Titles Office, and anyone dealing with property will know that the title is subject to these regulations, if regulations do exist with respect to the area or the land which is the subject of transfer, or other dealings. I may say that the only regulations passed so far are those with respect to the International Airport in Winnipeg, so this amendment will have immediately no effect in any other Land Titles district in Manitoba, other than the Land Titles district for Winnipeg.

MR. GRAY: Mr. Speaker, this Bill does not interfere in any way of anyone who has land, and leaves a will that the land be sold just to certain groups of nationalities and religion, and so on?

MR. LYON: No, it has nothing to do with any restrictive covenants, or anything like that at all.

MR. GRAY: . . . always afraid of this Bill -- Property Bill.

Mr. Speaker put the question and after a voice vote declared the motion carried. Bill No. 87, an Act to amend the Civil Service Superannuation Act, was presented for second reading.

HON. MARCEL BOULIC (Provincial Secretary) (Cypress): Bill No. 87 corrects some typographical errors and also clarifies certain ambiguous sections of the Act, and due to the re-organization of the Municipal and Public Utilities Board, the Act has to be amended to permit members of both boards to be eligible to contribute to the fund. It excludes seasonal employees of boards and commissions. The amendment will provide for the employees of the proposed Water Supply Board coming under the Superannuation Act. It will permit the Government to employ an independent actuary if it should wish to do so, and it will take care of the employees who were in the service prior to July 1st, 1939, and had period of service on which no pension was allowed. The amendment will restrict the opportunity of reclassification to partial disability, pensioners who are under 65 1/2 years of age. It will permit deductions of hospital services, insurance premiums and health service premiums to be made from monthly pension payments at the request of the pensioner. The amendment will provide for changes in the present legislation regarding employees over 50 years of age becoming members of the fund; and the amendment will provide that the Minister reporting to the Legislature on superannuation matters will be the Provincial Treasurer or any Cabinet Minister designated by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council, rather than the Provincial Treasurer only, as provided by the present legislation. The present legislation provides that an employee who reached retirement age before April 1st, 1958, and who, because he was not eligible to become a member of the fund, was not entitled to receive a pension, may apply for a monthly gratuity to be paid from April 1st, 1958.

MR. D. L. CAMPBELL (Leader of the Opposition) (Lakeside): Mr. Speaker, might I ask the Honourable the Minister to repeat the explanation dealing with the '50 years of age' people?

MR. BOULIC: Sir, maybe the Honourable the Leader of the Opposition would sooner see it clarified at Law Amendments?

MR. CAMPBELL: Just what the Honourable the Minister gave there is sufficient.

MR. BOULIC: Well, it will bring employees of the Superannuation Board and Teachers' Retirement Allowances Fund Board and the Employees' Association under this legislation, and will correct an error by providing that membership in the Fund will be subject to the approval of the Lieutenant-Governor only where an employee over 50 years of age enters the Fund and not where a member of the Fund reaches 50 years of age. That was an error.

MR. CAMPBELL: Oh, I see. Yes.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you ready for the question?

MR. J. M. HAWRYLUK (Burrows): Mr. Speaker, just one question. I don't know whether I can get the answer from you, Sir. Does it mean that, for example, a teacher who has been teaching for any length of time in the province who is on the teachers' pension scheme, then is made an inspector - has he become a civil servant of the government, in which his services are transferred into the Civil Service Superannuation Department, as it has happened and will happen? How does it affect them?

MR. BOULIC: Well it will -- if they are past 50 years, it will provide for them to be able to get on with one - if they are past 50 years of age. If they're under 50 years of age, they will come on

MR. HAWRYLUK: Well, do they get credit for any of their years of service previous to that, working as they do . . .

MR. BOULIC: I don't know.

MR. HAWRYLUK: I just wondered whether they would or not if they worked as a teacher; they automatically start from scratch, is that it, Sir?

MR. BOULIC: I would think so, yes.

Mr. Speaker put the question and after a voice vote declared the motion carried. Bill No. 89, an Act to amend the Business Development Fund Act, was presented for second reading. Mr. Speaker read the motion.

HON. GURNEY EVANS (Minister of Mines and Natural Resources) (Fort Rouge): Mr. Speaker, I think I dealt with the very simple principle of this Bill at the time of introducing it.

(Mr. Evans, cont'd.) at the resolution stage. It's simply this, that this gives the Board of the Development Fund the right to vary the rates of interest charged on any loan -- any new loan, given from that time forward, but there will be a minimum interest rate of one-half of 1%, above the provincial borrowing rate. That will be the minimum rate. Other rates may be higher than that in the Board's discretion.

MR. HAWRYLUK: Mr. Speaker, what would be the reason for that, that you say it will vary? Does it depend on the industry setup or . . . ?

MR. EVANS: I will be very glad to hear any other questions.

MR. GRAY: . . . ask the same question another way, Mr. Speaker. It seems to me that there's a little bit of discrimination, to charge one rate for one, another rate for the other. After all, we are trying to help out the industry. We are telling them that this is the rate. If they have to change the rate, change them for all. The fact whether one security is better than the other, does not --- with the principle of this Bill. If you are going -- if you figure there is a loan which is probably not as safeguarded as another loan, your interest of another half or one or two percent will not help you at all. But this shows a little bit of discrimination, and I am one of the touchy members of this House, when it comes to discrimination, I am always opposed to it.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Speaker, if the honourable member who has just spoken is one of the members who is touchy when it comes to discrimination, I am probably one who is touchy when it comes to interest rates. I think, being always on the wrong side of the fence in that regard, I am interested at least in them. And I raise the same question that I had raised with regard to the Farm Loans Bill - as I continue to call it - because it seems to me that this is a place where we should have the interest rate in control of the Government or of this House, or both - it's pretty much the same thing - but that we should not leave it to an appointed Board. Now it is perfectly true as the Minister says, that they can vary it under this legislation, but like my honourable friend, I do not think that's a good provision. If it's going to be very downward, it will be in the interests of the borrower, of course. But on the other hand, I think - as I expressed myself in regard to the Farm Loans - I think it would be better to await the convening of the House rather than hand over this responsibility, that is a key responsibility, to an appointed board instead of the elected representatives.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister is closing the debate.

MR. EVANS: If there are no further questions. Yes, there will be different rates, keyed very largely - in answer to the question of the Honourable Member for Burrows - that the rates will vary according to the risk in the first place, and in the second place somewhat according to the opportunity that the person who is borrowing the money has to make substantial profits. This is the usual practice in loaning money, that you do vary rates according to the risk or according to the security that is offered by the person borrowing. In that sense it is discrimination. You do discriminate in favour of the less risky investments, and perhaps slightly against the more risky ones. And it's a way of controlling the loans that can be made.

With regard to control by the Government, it would seem to me that two things come into this. We have said publicly on many occasions that we are going to let this organization have as much independence as is proper or as is possible, having regard to the public interest. We also believe that they must have a certain amount of flexibility, that if they have a new kind of a loan, or a loan that does not come quite within the categories that might be spelled out in the Bill, we can hardly wait for the Legislature to meet to consider it, to vary the interest rates in the Bill and allow that new category to come in. And so we feel that since this operation has begun and is under careful control, we believe it should be allowed to operate according to the ordinary business principles of loaning.

Mr. Speaker put the question and after a voice vote declared the motion carried. Bill No. 90, an Act to amend The Municipal Act (2), was presented for second reading.

HON. JOHN THOMPSON (Minister of Labour and Municipal Affairs): This amendment to the Municipal Act provides for certain new sections in the Act. The main features of it are that it grants the right to expropriate to one municipality outside its own territory. It grants the right to a municipality to expropriate property for public works purposes outside its own territory and in another municipality, subject to the approval of the Municipal Board. It also gives a municipality the right to pass by-laws to establish a public recreation commission, and

(Mr. Thompson, cont'd.) to levy to the extent of one mill on the ratepayers, if authorized by a three-fifths majority vote of the ratepayers.

Mr. Speaker put the question, and after a voice vote declared the motion carried. Bill No. 92, an Act to amend the Department of Labour Act was presented for second reading.

MR. THOMPSON: Mr. Speaker, this Act provides - among certain other routine matters of legislation - for the provision of an Examiner under the Labour Board to visit throughout the province and to hear cases which otherwise would necessitate complainants before the Board coming in to Winnipeg to be heard. This entitles an Examiner to take evidence, to record it, to bring it before the Labour Board, so that he may travel throughout the province to any centre and hear complaints, and have them heard with much less expense to individuals who have a case to present.

Mr. Speaker put the question and after a voice vote declared the motion carried.

MR. SPEAKER: This brings us to the end of the Order Paper.

HON. DUFF. ROBLIN (Premier) (Wolseley): Mr. Speaker, before moving the adjournment, I would just like to remind members of the House that the Law Amendments Committee will be called as soon as the House rises, and we can proceed with our business there. That, I believe, was understood for the last little while, and it was announced in the Committee this morning.

Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable the Minister of Industry and Commerce that the House do now adjourn.

Mr. Speaker presented the question and after a voice vote declared the motion carried, and the House was adjourned until 8:00 o'clock this evening.

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