

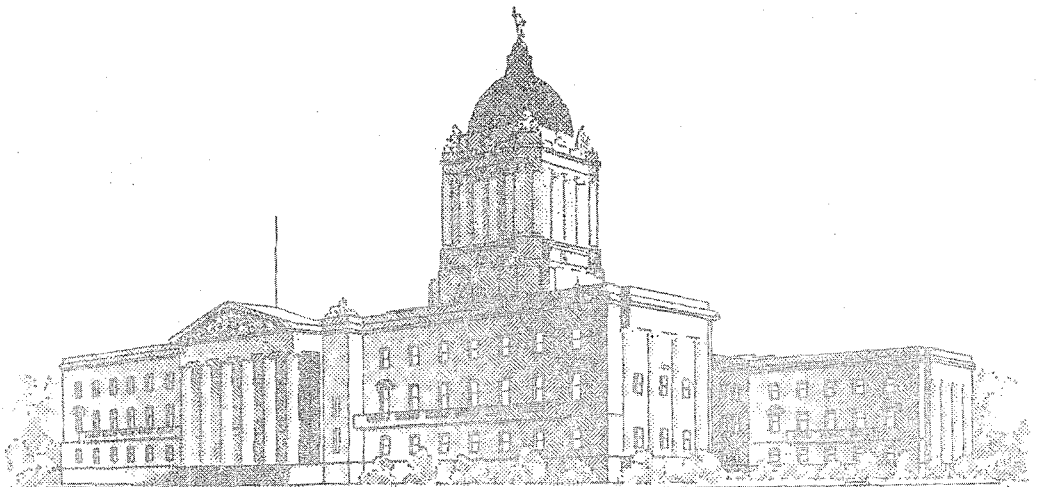


Legislative Assembly Of Manitoba

DEBATES and PROCEEDINGS

Speaker

The Honourable A. W. Harrison



Volume IV No. 33

March 3, 1960

2nd Session, 26th Legislature

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

2:30 o'clock, Thursday, March 3rd, 1960

Opening prayer by Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Presenting Petitions

Reading and Receiving Petitions

Presenting Reports by Standing and Select Committees.

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

MR. CLERK: Your Select Standing Committee on Law Amendments beg leave to present the following as their second report. Your committee has considered Bills Nos. 16, an Act to amend the Registry Act; 56, an Act to amend the Greater Winnipeg Sanitary Act; 64, an Act to amend the Health Services Act; 65, an Act to amend the Law Societies Act; 66, an Act to provide for the Education of Psychiatric Nurses; 68, an Act to amend the Taxicabs Act; and has agreed to report the same without amendment. Your committee has also considered Bills Nos. 15, an Act to amend the Judgments Act; 45, an Act to amend the Well Drilling Act; 53, an Act to amend the Highway Traffic Act No. 1; and has agreed to report the same with certain amendments. 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 The Honourable the Minister of Industry and

Commerce.

HON. GURNEY EVANS (Minister of Industry and Commerce) (Fort Rouge): Mr. Speaker, I move seconded by the Honourable the Attorney-General that leave be given to introduce a Bill No. 111, an Act to amend the Town Planning Act and that the same be now received and read a first time.

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

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Brandon.

MR. R. O. LISSAMAN (Brandon): Mr. Speaker, I beg to move seconded by the Honourable Member from Morris that leave be given to introduce a Bill No. 109, an Act to amend the Brandon Charter, and that same be now received and read a first time.

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

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Souris-Lansdowne.

MR. M. E. McKELLAR (Souris-Lansdowne): Mr. Speaker, I beg to move seconded by the Honourable Member for Minnedosa that leave be given to introduce a Bill No. 110, an Act to amend the Manitoba School Trustees Association Act and the same be now received and read a first time.

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

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Swan River.

MR. A. H. CORBETT (Swan River): Mr. Speaker, I beg to move seconded by the Honourable Member for Portage la Prairie that leave be given to introduce a Bill No. 108, an Act to validate By-law No. 1959 of the Town of Swan River, By-law No. 1628 of the Rural Municipality of Swan River, By-law No. 127 of the Village of Benito, By-law No. 1349 of the Rural Municipality of Minitonas; and that the same be now received and read a first time.

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

MR. SPEAKER: The Committee of the Whole House.

HON. STEWART E. McLEAN (Minister of Education) (Dauphin): Mr. Speaker, I move seconded by the Honourable the Minister of Health and Welfare that Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair and the House resolve itself into Committee of the Whole to consider the following proposed resolution standing on the Order Paper in my name.

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

MR. SPEAKER: The House do now resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole House and would the Honourable Member for St. Matthews please take the Chair.

MR. McLEAN: Mr. Chairman, His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor having been informed

(Mr. McLean, cont'd)...of the subject matter of the proposed resolution recommends it to the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: RESOLVED that it is expedient to bring in a measure to amend the School Districts Debenture Interest Guarantee Act by providing that the Provincial Treasurer, on behalf of Her Majesty in right of the province, may guarantee the payment of all interest payable on moneys borrowed by a school area or a school division on the security of debentures issued thereby.

MR. McLEAN: Mr. Chairman, the.....Act refers, provides authority for guaranteeing the payment of interest for school districts and the proposed amendment is simply to add school divisions and school areas to make it certain that the same authority exists with respect to them.

MR. RUSSELL PAULLEY (Leader of the CCF) (Radisson): Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Honourable the Minister a question. It may be that I have been misinformed, but one of the trustees of one of the school districts in the Greater Winnipeg area drew to my attention that it appeared as though the school district of which he is a trustee had entered generally into an agreement with a financial institution for a debenture issue and the interest rate thereon was less than the general rate applicable by the province. Just by illustration, if the province's guarantee was to a maximum of 5 3/4 %, in this case it was 5 1/2 %. And he drew to my attention that he thought that the department would not guarantee the interest payments because of the fact that the interest rate that they were able to obtain was less than that that the province would guarantee. Can the Minister have any comment on that, whether that is so, or whether it's misinformation?

MR. McLEAN: Mr. Chairman, that would be correct. The guarantee of the province is only given to insure that the district, or division as the case may be, can market its bonds at a rate of interest not exceeding the amount at which the level is set by the Province of Manitoba, and that if the district or division is able to market its debentures at an interest rate less than the maximum amount, then that is considered to be evidence that they do not require the guarantee of the province.

MR. PAULLEY: Then they in that case, providing they couldn't --- as I understand it, Mr. Chairman, this particular case, then the company that was prepared at that time to enter into an agreement at the lesser amount of interest rate, unless they had the guarantee of the government, would not pursue and continue and take up the debentures, and as I understand it in this particular case, a new issue of debentures at the rate set by the province had to be issued in order to obtain the guarantee. Now it seems to me that if that is the case, that the government should give the consideration to the guaranteeing of the interest rate at the lesser amount to the school district because then they could take the advantage of the lesser amount. And now I understand in this particular case, that because they couldn't get the provincial guarantee at the lesser amount that the debentures had to be re-issued at the then prevailing rate; consequently the school district had to pay, I believe it was a quarter of one percent extra interest, to the company who was prepared to issue the debentures simply because of the fact that the company would not accept the guarantee of the school district itself even though they were prepared to give a lesser amount. And I think it is something of vital concern that if the explanation of the Minister as I understand it is correct, that possibly our legislation should be changed so that that rate of interest becomes a maximum under which the province will guarantee the payment of interest and if a school district can obtain it at a lesser amount then the government should be prepared to guarantee that lesser amount.

MR. McLEAN: Mr. Chairman, the honourable member has a very good point and there are certain problems connected with this matter of guarantees. We are looking at this whole policy and the point which he makes is one to which we are giving very careful consideration. It would not, however, require any amendment to the Act since under the terms of the Act as I recall it, the Provincial Treasurer may set the rates at which guarantees will be given and that is a matter of operation of the Act, but I'm certainly glad to have the views of the Honourable Member with respect to it.

MR. PAULLEY: I thank the Minister, Mr. Chairman, for that, and I urge the Provincial Treasurer to take this under - shall I call it immediate advisement, in order that the same situation will not prevail.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shall the resolution be adopted? (Members: Aye). Committee rise and report. Call in the Speaker.

MR. W. G. MARTIN (St. Matthews): Mr. Speaker, the Committee of the Whole House have adopted certain resolutions and directed me to report the same and ask leave to sit again. Mr. Speaker, I beg to move seconded by the Honourable Member for St. Vital that the report of the Committee be received.

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

MR. McLEAN: Mr. Speaker, I move seconded by the Honourable the Minister of Health and Welfare that leave be given to introduce a Bill No. 100, an Act to amend the School District Debenture Interest Guarantee Act, and that the same be now received and read a first time.

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

MR. SPEAKER: Orders of the Day.

HON. DUFF ROBLIN (Premier) (Wolseley): Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day I wonder if I may be permitted to make an announcement regarding the business of the House next week. I would like to suggest Sir, that we agree that on Tuesday of next week we devote the whole day if necessary, in Committee of Law Amendments to hearing the representations that will be made in respect to the Metro bill. I have had some conversations with leading members of the House on this point and I understand that it is agreeable, generally speaking, that we should do that. Of course if the Metro hearings don't take the whole day we can come back into the House, but I rather expect they will. If there is consent, then we can regard the matter as settled, otherwise I'll give Notice of Motion now in respect of the matter. Incidentally, perhaps it would be advisable also to say that it would be the hope of the government to devote the beginning at least, of Thursday 10 o'clock, Law Amendments, for a consideration of the Hutterite Bills. That would enable people who live outside the immediate vicinity and who may wish to come and speak to these Bills to have notice that on Thursday they will be before the Law Amendments and we will be glad to hear representations then.

MR. D. L. CAMPBELL (Leader of the Opposition) (Lakeside): Mr. Speaker, as far as our group is concerned we are quite willing to agree to the plan that has been suggested by the First Minister. As a matter of fact, I think it is a good idea that we should attempt to give notice to the public especially on a Bill where so many of the municipalities, organizations and individuals may be interested as the so-called Metro Bill as to just when hearings will be held with regard to it, and consequently I was only too glad when the Honourable the First Minister checked this matter with me to say that we would agree in spite of the fact that we recognize that that is private members' day. And private members' business, as anyone can see by the Order Paper, has quite a bit remaining to be done. However, Tuesday is the traditional Law Amendments Committee day and I think there's great advantage that first the public should know when this Bill will be coming up with sufficient time allocated to it for all representations if possible be made at that time, because I think it's advantageous that the various delegations representing municipalities and others who are making representation should hear one another and think it best meets their convenience that we set aside a whole day if necessary. So we were glad to agree to that under those circumstances, and because of the other reasons that I have mentioned on other occasions I think it has been the practice of the House and one that should continue that regardless of the position of the Order Paper when prorogation takes place that all business remaining on the Order Paper shall be dealt with. And I think it is good too, that the First Minister proposed at the Committee this morning and in the House this afternoon, give some publicity to the intentions of the House in this regard, so that all people shall have due and timely notice of both of these important matters that are coming up for discussion. I understand from what he said, and it was mentioned in Committee this morning, that the Bills dealing with the incorporation of certain of the Hutterian Brethren will be considered on Thursday morning, and that will give all folks who want to be heard on those Bills as well, the opportunity of planning their presence here if they wish to do so. So, Mr. Speaker, we're quite willing to agree -- just another evidence of the co-operation that good suggestions always receive from this side of the House. At least from this group in the House.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, I'm glad the Honourable Leader of the Opposition wasn't talking for our group because we're always co-operative, and I might say apropos of that, that the First Minister was in touch with me this morning and we of our group agree with this. At

(Mr. Pauley, cont'd)...first I had some reservations, it being private members' day, but on very rapid reflection I appreciated the desire of the government to facilitate the widest possible coverage and hearings on this very important Metro Bill, and as far as our group is concerned, Mr. Speaker, we agree most heartily and most co-operatively.

MR. ARTHUR E. WRIGHT (Seven Oaks): Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day, I would like to direct the attention of the House to the gallery on your right. Seated there are twenty-six Grade VI pupils of Centennial School in West Kildonan. With them is their teacher Miss B. Larter, and I hope their visit here this afternoon will be both interesting and enjoyable.

MR. W. B. SCARTH (River Heights): Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day, I would like to direct the attention of the House to page 1115 of Hansard wherein I am reported to have said in referring to the address of the Honourable the Leader of the Opposition, that his address was entirely free of brass. Sir, being a conscientious soul, I never make any statement which I do not believe, and I would not want the House to think that I had gone that far. But what I did say was that his address was entirely free of "bias".

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day, I would like, by the leave of the House, to propose the following motion. Resolved that the name of Mr. Hawryluk be stricken from the Committee on Law Amendments and the name of Mr. Peters be substituted thereupon.

MR. SPEAKER: By leave of the House the Honourable Leader of the CCF submits the following motion. Moved by the Honourable Leader of the CCF, seconded by the Honourable Member for Seven Oaks, resolved that the name of Mr. Hawryluk be stricken from the Committee on Law Amendments and the name of Mr. Peters substituted. Does the Honourable Member have leave of the House?

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

MR. SPEAKER: Orders of the Day. Second reading of Bill No. 58. The Honourable the Attorney-General.

MR. LYON presented Bill No. 58, an Act to amend the Mechanics' Liens Act, for second reading.

Mr. Speaker presented the motion.

MR. LYON: I might just say one word in respect to this Bill, Mr. Speaker. I think the explanatory note pretty well covers the principle. The section that is proposed here will permit, as the explanatory note explains, will permit holdbacks to be paid out after the conclusion of 60 days from the completion of a contract. I might just add for the benefit of members of the House who are interested in this, that this section was copied pretty well from the Ontario Mechanics' Liens Act where this provision has been in effect, I think, since 1952, and we can go into more detail at the Committee stage, but I think that is sufficient to cover the principle of the matter.

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

MR. SPEAKER: Proposed resolution standing in the name of the Honourable Attorney-General. The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. LYON: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable the Minister of Mines and Natural Resources, resolved that this House doth concur in the report of the Special Select Committee appointed by this House on the 20th day of January, 1960, to consider Rules 9, 27 and 24 --I think that should be 34 -- and such other rules as the Committee may decide to review and which report was tabled in the Legislative Assembly on the 1st day of March 1960. I might add Sir, tabled by myself on your behalf as Mr. Chairman.

MR. SPEAKER: Moved by the Honourable the Attorney-General, seconded by the Honourable the Minister of Mines and Natural Resources, resolved that this House doth concur in the report of the Special Select Committee appointed by this House on the 20th day of January, 1960, to consider Rules 9, 27 and 34 and such other rules as the Committee may decide to review and which report was tabled in the Legislative Assembly on the 1st day of March 1960. Are you ready for the question?

MR. LYON: Mr. Speaker, I don't intend to take up the time of the House with a long dissertation in explanation of the report of the Committee. I think that the report was circulated two days ago and members of the House have had sufficient time to absorb most of its contents. I think there are specific rules that might be mentioned very briefly in passing and I will attempt

(Mr. Lyon, cont'd) to do that as shortly and as factually as I can.

With respect to Rule 9 which was mentioned in the original motion proposing this Committee, members of the House will see that the Committee has proposed that the Chairman, the Deputy Speaker of the House, shall be appointed at the beginning of each session and shall be elected annually, that is, at the beginning of each session of the House, during the currency of the sittings of the House.

With respect to Rule No. 27, that was the rule with respect to adjournment of the House to discuss matters of urgent public importance. The House will notice, Mr. Speaker, that the main change there has been to insert the words "and of urgent public importance" in the body of, I think it is subsection (3) of Rule 27 as we now have it. And in addition there has been one further addition to Rule 27, namely the addition of 5 (a) under Rule 27: "Not more than one such motion can be made at the same sitting." Now with respect to Rule 34, again it was pretty well self-explanatory. This deals with the length of time to be devoted to the Speech from the Throne. The House can see the changes that have been recommended there. Seven days will be devoted to the Speech from the Throne, at least that is the recommendation of the Committee. On the fourth day if a sub-amendment is under consideration then 30 minutes before the ordinary time of daily adjournment the vote will take place. On the sixth day if the main amendment is under consideration then the vote will take place 30 minutes before the ordinary time of daily adjournment. And on the seventh day unless the debate has been previously concluded every question necessary to dispose of the main motion will be put 30 minutes before the ordinary time of daily adjournment.

Now there are a number of other amendments which have been suggested by the Committee. I think they would be too long to go into in detail. As I have suggested before, they are made fairly clear by the report of the Committee. I might just say at this time, Mr. Speaker, that serving under your Chairmanship and with the membership of the Committee, it was most gratifying work, I think, for all members of the Committee to participate in this particular effort. There was a great deal of co-operation from all sides -- representatives of all sides of the House. I think the Committee worked at good speed and has accomplished a good workmanlike job with respect to our rules which I hope will stand us in good stead for a good number of years. And I think thanks are due to the members of the Committee for the time and the intelligent debate that was contributed to this review of the rules during the seven meetings that the Committee held.

With those few comments, Sir, I would commend the passage of this report to the House.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you ready for the question?

MR. E. PREFONTAINE (Carillon): Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Member for St. George that the debate be adjourned.

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

MR. SPEAKER: Committee of Supply.

MR. ROBLIN: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move seconded by the Honourable Minister of Health and Public Welfare that Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair and the House resolve itself into a Committee to consider of the Supply to be granted to Her Majesty.

Mr. Speaker presented the motion and following a voice vote declared the motion carried and the House resolved itself into a Committee to consider of the supply to be granted to Her Majesty.

MR. SPEAKER: Would the Honourable Member for St. Matthews please take the Chair.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Department 8 (3) (b) (1) Salaries. Passed.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Chairman, number of salaries there on that section, would the Minister give them to us? Yes, and also -- well that's the only one.

HON. GEORGE JOHNSON (Minister of Health and Public Welfare) (Gimli): Under (b) 1)?

MR. PAULLEY: Yes.

MR. JOHNSON (Gimli): 41 is the establishment this year, since the reorganization of the pensions branch. We had estimated last year, if you recall, 49 was the positions provided in last year's estimates. At the present time there are 44 on the staff at the present time. I made reference to this previously where we -- for instance in the Pension Branch now we have the chairman, the two supervisors of allowance, a supervisor of administration, and accounting. We have in our establishment 18 welfare workers of whom we have 12. We have

(Mr. Johnson (Gimli) cont'd)..... 10 clerical in our estimates and we are now carrying 28, the idea being that as we take on more of the welfare worker or pension investigator type of person we can ease up on our clerical staff. Ideally when the reorganization is complete we intend to have 41 positions eventually.

MR. M. A. GRAY (Inkster): Mr. Chairman, usually I say a few words under the item "Old Age Pensions", but hoping that my resolution on the Order Paper will carry I am not going to spend time discussing increases at the moment. But I would like to respectfully suggest that the Minister recommend to the Government at the earliest possible date of reducing the age limit of those pensioners under the means test. We know with the large unemployment, or with the serious unemployment situation now and has been for some time, that even young men cannot get a job. At the age of 60 now, very few are still working. The industries are trying to replace them by younger men. And the question is, between 60 ---what is he to do between 60 and 65? We know of people, a lot of people, being supported by children who cannot themselves support their families. And something else in it, that a man could tell his wife's father that that he cannot support -- that he married her and not her father and the same thing could be said by the wife that she married him and she didn't marry his parents. However, everything is being done in the meantime by the children that have no alternative or by friends and many of them suffer. Of course, they could go onto social welfare but that's another stigma when the public pays for it the same way. Old age pension is bad enough; social welfare is considered real charity and many people wouldn't want to do it. Now the argument which applied years ago of setting the age of 65, can be used very, very effectively now of reducing the age to 60. I believe we are not dealing with the estimated age of 65, but may I respectfully suggest that consideration be given to reduce the age to 60 and provide employment for the younger men who need the jobs more than the man of 60, and in this way, speaking from the taxpayer's point of view, he pays for the unemployment insurance where the younger men could obtain the positions and secondly that a man of 60 doesn't have to resign now but he is being fired. But assuming that those who are still at work in the railways and the other industries are still at work between 60 and 65 their jobs are not sure. They are compelled to stay, probably by the agreement with the unions. But the more security, minimum security, if old age pension be given to people of the age of 60, the more positions they could find for the younger men and also the fact there are many of the age of 60 who are being directly or indirectly dispensed from the services.

MR. JOHNSON (Gimli): Mr. Chairman, I would just like to make a comment on that, in that certainly I think that people under the age of 65 under our Social Allowances Act, who due to physical disability and so on are in need, may qualify for social allowance. But I would humbly suggest that the Honourable Member from Inkster consider this, that under the new program with the health of the nation never better in the Province of Manitoba, that the government may eventually consider raising the age limit to 70, along the same line of thinking. Let's put our efforts into keeping our older people active longer and certainly all the talk I hear in industry is that we want our people to remain active as long as possible. I think that this is very important in view of the fact that the Honourable Leader of the Opposition may soon approach the time when he may qualify for this on a means test basis, he was telling me. However, I would certainly give the Honourable Member from Inkster's thoughts every consideration in the future.

MR. N. SHOEMAKER (Gladstone : Under (b) (3) the three million odd, --(Interjection)-- Oh, I am sorry.

MR. CHAIRMAN: (a) (2) Passed. (3)?

MR. SHOEMAKER: Under (3) (b) 3,370. Is that amount all used to pay pensions to the 65 to 70 group or are there other items involved in that?

MR. JOHNSON (Gimli): That's gross including some of our pensioners that have moved to other provinces, all old age assistance, 3,290 less our 50% reimbursement and less recoveries from other provinces where we have reciprocity. I might point out that this item is under \$45,000 from last year and is simply a reduction based on the estimated case-load. It wasn't as high in '59-'60 as anticipated. There will likely be an underexpenditure of about \$65,000. It seemed wise to base the '60-'61 estimate on a somewhat lower case load rising from 5,090 in April 1960, to 5,365 by March '61. This is our projection. Our case load in December '58

(Mr. Johnson (Gimli) cont'd)....incidentally was 4,805. We expect that by April '60 it will be 5,090.

MR. CAMPBELL: These were given in the review of activities that the Honourable the Minister furnishes for his department and I have looked at them before but I don't recall the number now. Would he be so kind as to put the number of pensioners under this vote on the record?

MR. JOHNSON (Gimli): I was just saying, Mr. Chairman, in projecting these figures I haven't got my review with me. But as I say in December '58 the case load was 4,805 and they expect by April of '60 the case load will be 5,090. This is more people coming into this age group every year.

MR. CHAIRMAN: (3) Passed. (4) Passed. (b) Passed.

MR. A. J. REID (Kildonan): Mr. Chairman, (b) (4), Blind Allowance. I think under this Blind Persons Allowance, Mr. Chairman, I think we should try and do more. I see the amount this year and last year are the same. And actually the work for this and that, I am not familiar with it or what they have actually done, but I'll give you a history of a couple in my constituency. I have a blind couple in my constituency; both of them are blind and they got married and they've got three children now. And while the children were smaller they could make ends meet, but now the children have grown up. The oldest girl is 16, the boy 12, and the one of 8 I believe, and their income is still fixed. And this girl, she is trying to go through school and eventually become a nurse. But under the set-up, the financial set-up that her parents have now, I doubt she will ever make it. I'll just give you, Mr. Chairman, what the family gets. \$110 a month pension and \$22 a month family allowance, that's \$132 a month, times 12 gives a total of \$1,584 and he is allowed to earn another \$584. In other words he can't have more than an income of 2,168 - two thousand one hundred and sixty-eight dollars. He had his hospital free; he had paid his own medical. And every year the inspector comes around and wants an itemized statement of every extra dollar he earns. Now, under the basic plan which we have now, I think, last year he didn't -- now I believe he will be able to apply and get some assistance. Under the basic plan he is allowed \$94 for food, \$22 for clothing, \$40 for rent, \$7 for light and power, \$15 for household and personal expenses, and \$152 a year for fuel and \$150 special needs which bring a total of \$2,418. So in this case, Mr. Chairman, his basic -- his financial resources are less than his basic requirements. So I don't think he'll have any trouble once he fills a form of getting any assistance. But this man, he doesn't want assistance. He is a carpenter by trade. He runs power machines, he makes window frames, he makes steps, he does all kinds of work. It is fabulous just to see him work; in fact, like Ripley says, believe it or not you have to see it to realize what a wonderful craftsman he is. And this man, what he wants to do is build up a business for the boy of 12 years old and eventually leave it to his boy. But under these circumstances, Mr. Chairman, he can't do it because \$584 is all he is allowed to earn. So I think what this province should do is consider very seriously -- is supplement the blind pensioner's pension, but it is going to cost money so we can't do that. Now I have got an alternative, Mr. Chairman, that won't cost the province or Canada one cent. All we have to do is prevail on the Pension Board to abolish the means test for the blind people, and this man, he'll be able to help himself; he won't need any more help. In fact within a year, if he could build up his business, a year or two, he won't even need the pension. He will be able to conduct his own business. But the way it is now, here is a man trying to help himself and he is honest enough to admit every penny he makes, but a fellow comes down, he has a statement, and he is jeopardized for making a living for himself and his family. At the same time, his girl, instead of going into a vocation which she will be of some use to the public, she may have to quit school and go to work because the income that this man is just allowed to make, Mr. Chairman, he can't exist on it. And I had the occasion last week to give him a little assistance. In fact I think it was assistance that he appreciated very much. He purchased a stove for \$245 and he still has a balance of \$150 owing. So the finance company came in last week. They were going to repossess the stove, so I went right down and prevailed on them that they couldn't take the stove out. After all they can't cook in the furnace or they can't cook on a hot plate, so the stove has been left temporarily. So there are the circumstances of a man that is trying to help himself, yet at the same time, with the means test is jeopardizing the living of his children and his family, Mr. Chairman.

(Mr. Reid, cont'd)...So I think that the Minister should take under advisement, especially blind people, that the means test should be abolished in blind people.

MR. CHAIRMAN: (b) Passed. (c) (1) Passed.

MR. SHOEMAKER: We, I think, all agree in this House on one thing at least, and that is that restrictions under the existing total disability pensions are pretty rigid. In fact, you nearly have to have one foot in the grave and one on a banana peeling to qualify. I wonder if the Honourable the Minister could tell us whether there is any indication that there might be a slackening of some of the rigid tests that must be made today?

MR. JOHNSON (Gimli): Mr. Chairman, I think that I have expounded at quite some lengths in previous reports on the question of disability allowance and I certainly share with the honourable member the concern that he has expressed. I would just like to say to him that some time ago we did get a little broader interpretation from the federal authorities concerning the question of those people who were menatly incapacitated, and this has resulted in a larger enrollment of a number of these cases that were previously rejected. This estimate, as you see here, anticipates an increase of \$29,000 over last year, anticipating a little more as more of these people will be enrolled. I would also point out to him, as I mentioned in my previous remarks, at a meeting in Ottawa last fall all the Ministers across Canada were in attendance, and met with the Federal Minister concerning these regulations. I brought the feeling, I think, of this Committee to the Minister's attention and had some very good examples to give him of what I thought was a little too strict enforcement. I am hoping, as I say, that there will be some relaxation in these regulations. However, I would point out to the Committee that, as I have said earlier, under the Social Allowances Act, we are able to, in the present proclamation, reconsider those who on the basis of need, who have been rejected from DA and require someone else to look after them. As I say, this is in the present proclamation and we have quite a diarized -- quite a few cases in this regard. However, I would point out that since January 1st '59 to December '59, we have an increased enrollment of 102 on disability allowance.

MR. CHAIRMAN: (a) Passed. (b) Passed. () Passed. (2) Passed.

MR. REID:.....allowance. I've got a case here, Mr. Chairman. The gentleman has tried for two years to get disability allowance. He is formerly a packinghouse worker; he got paralyzed on the right side, arm and his leg, and for two years he has tried to get a pension and no success. In fact the last time the inspector came around and he asked him if he was right-handed, and he said, "yes, I was right-handed." He said, "Can you cut any bread?" -- apparently bread is the staff of life -- and he said, "Well, I can't cut it right-handed; I can cut left-handed." "Well", he said, "as long as you can cut bread with your left hand," he said, "you don't need a pension." Well, Mr. Chairman, I thought that was pretty rash. Any inspector even coming and even telling a man a thing like that! But under this new scheme, now, I am going to get these people to fill these reports out and I am going to deliver them personally to the Minister himself. Because I figure if people -- two years and more go by and they don't get any assistance, something has to be done. And this gentleman right now, he is in dire circumstances because his wife took on to earn a living for the family and she got a job in a hide cellar where it is damp, salty and cool. Thus, due to her work, she got rheumatism, arthritis, and she can't work. So when she applied for unemployment insurance, the boss said, well, I guess he must have made a statement to the Unemployment Insurance. She went down there -- "Sorry, you left the job of your own accord, no unemployment insurance." So now they are living off the good graces of the corner storekeeper. True, they own their own home so he is not taking a gamble there. But I can't understand it, Mr. Chairman, this disability pension, because I know of another case, their boy had cerebral palsy, I believe palsy is the word, and the only thing he could move was his eyelashes. And it took practically two years before the Board passed him. Well I don't know what the Board -- true, I maintain that a person should be given a thorough physical examination but when they see the condition of some of these people and then they just stall them off, well I don't know how they can do that, Mr. Chairman. Now I believe what I am going to do with these people here, is to get them to sign this new form and I am going to deliver to the Minister personally and then maybe we'll see if they can get some results.

MR. JOHNSON (Gimli): Mr. Chairman, I welcome my honourable friend at any time to

(Mr. Johnson (Gimli) cont'd).....bring his problems. If they are of this severity I feel, like he, that they definitely require a looking into and I welcome him, when the smoke clears away, to come and pay us a visit.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Chairman, I was going to say that I think it is getting pretty close to the end of the estimates on the Department of Health and Public Welfare. I was going to say that after not having taken very much part in the discussion, having been here all the time, watched and listened, I'd say that any honourable member of this House that wants to take his problems to the Minister is certainly going to find a very sympathetic listener and a mighty good advocate, because I personally have certainly been impressed, both with the intensity of his feeling in regard to this department that he heads, both the Health section and the Welfare section, and what I am afraid of is that so many of us will load our problems onto the Minister personally, that perhaps he will rather overdo his own strength in trying to take care of them all, for this is a pretty exhaustive department, and the Minister has certainly worked hard. So while it's very kind of the Minister to say that we should take our problems to him, and I am sure I also have availed myself of that invitation in the past, yet I think that we should realize that he has a staff to deal with as well, and perhaps a good many of us can send them in through the more routine channels. And all I was going to say, in addition to that, Mr. Chairman, is that I think the Minister has made a great contribution to this most difficult problem of the disability allowances. Because it was an extremely troublesome kind of an act when it was passed in the first instance. I don't think that the present government has, as yet, made much change in it. I am speaking of the Federal Government, but the Minister will be better aware of that than I. He seems to have some hope that it will be considerably relaxed. I don't know that I share his optimism in that regard, but again he will be much better informed than I. But whether it is or whether it isn't, the fact that the Minister has told us time and time again in the discussion of these estimates that one of the reasons for the policy that he has instituted and one which I am sure is going to require a tremendous amount of work and a great expenditure, is to take up the gap and he has told us that he's had his staff diarizing those applications that were unable to qualify under the stringent provisions of the federal regulations. So I really think that the Minister has gone a long way, and I think he has done a great job on these estimates, and inasmuch as it's been customary to sometimes pay compliments to some of the Ministers, once in awhile after having asked him a great many questions, I'd like to be in this case the first to compliment the Minister most sincerely on the extremely capable and helpful, and if I may say so, tolerant way in which he has dealt with his estimates.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution 47, \$11,948,785. Passed.

MR. GRAY: May I say a word on behalf of our group, on my behalf, and support all the fine words uttered by the Honourable Leader of the Opposition. And I want to tell the Doctor something else. Occasionally - of course I don't blame him; even doctors have nerves - and occasionally he gets a little of ---I wouldn't say --- a little bit excited over certain questions. I want to tell him that as a Doctor he ought to know that he, a doctor, cannot diagnose a case properly unless he has the co-operation and the help of the patient. It may be that if not for our questions or mild criticisms, perhaps he wouldn't have given us so much information about the work that his department is handling. And I can assure the Minister now that we are still not satisfied and I don't think we'll ever be. We will always try to have things improved but as for the moment we are very thankful and appreciative of the improvement of those who depend on the province's help and of those who are unfortunate and compelled to receive welfare and assistance and help. So I say that on the end of the estimates, we have no serious complaint and I hope that the Minister also has no serious complaint of the many questions, which are vital, and believe me the questions have been repaid by the informative answers by the Minister of Health. And the more he co-operates with the patients the better doctor he will be.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Department 9, Mines and Natural Resources. Appropriation 1. Administration (a) Salaries.

HON. C. H. WITNEY (Minister of Mines & Natural Resources) (Flin Flon): Mr. Chairman, I am very pleased that this moment has arrived because while I wouldn't like to say that the suspense was unbearable, I would like to say that the suspense has been hardly bearable during these past few days. I am not sure whether this will be a big event to the members of this

(Mr. Witney, cont'd)...Committee but I must confess that it's a big event to me today. I find that introducing estimates for the first time is much like getting married for the first time. There is all the anticipation and all the eagerness and there is all the wonderment as to how you got into this position, there is some trepidation, but the only difference that I see between the two operations is that there is no honeymoon to this one.

I'd like, Mr. Chairman, today just to deal briefly with the various departments which I feel the Committee will be interested in and I trust that I do not burden them too long. I have given myself three rules here: smile, don't be opinionated, and relax, and I think the second one will be the hardest one, Mr. Chairman, to live up to. I'd like to say that Mines and Natural Resources has made progress during the past year despite the fact that it has had a new Minister. And at this time I would like to pay tribute to the staff -- a large number of them are up there in the gallery -- for bearing with me; for answering again all the questions that a new Minister can ask, and for giving him all the information that they can; for being generous with their time and their experience; for helping to bed in the new Minister and make him so that he will know more about his department, for if I accomplish nothing else I think I have accomplished a genuine interest in the Department of Mines and Natural Resources.

In the branch of Mines and Oil - to deal with that one first - I think the most significant points of interest in this branch have been the development at Thompson and the development of the Stall Lake and the Chisel Lake mines, the three of them, which we hope will come into production by the end of this year. Also the announcement that the International Nickel Company will be establishing an electrolytic refinery which will permit the processing of nickel from the raw material to the finished product in one operation in one place, and I understand that it is the only place in North America that this will be done. We are particularly pleased to see the progress that is made with Stall Lake and Chisel Lake, for Stall Lake and Chisel Lake are right near Snow Lake, and as you are probably aware, just a year or two ago it appeared that the Town of Snow Lake would become a ghost town, and fortunately through active exploration of the company concerned we now have Snow Lake revived; we have two active mines which we hope will be into production this coming year, and a third one to the north which looks very promising at Osborne Lake.

Exploration activity in the Department of Mines; and while it hasn't reached the same level that it had in 1957 when we experienced in the province one of our most active exploration periods, it has maintained a very satisfactory level, and we have 20 exploration and mining companies that have been active during the past year and will be continuing to be active during 1960. Most of the exploration has been taking place in the area between Setting and Split Lakes, a distance of 100 miles or so in the Lynn Lake area, in the Cranberry Portage area, in the Sherridon area, and in south-eastern Manitoba. It's particularly interesting to note that we have had quite an increase of geophysical work in limestone areas where limestone overlies the precambrian rock and one of the notable examples is in Selkirk just -- way down to the south of the Province where they have drilled through limestone and hit greenstone at some 1,000 feet below the limestone activity. This type of work is going on to the east of Hudson's Bay; it has been done to the south of Cranberry Portage and it is an interesting development that has progressed during the past year. We hope this year as with last year to have seven geological parties in the field, and I am pleased to announce to the committee that we received notice just the other day that the Dominion Government will be holding or will be conducting the largest geological surveying in the province than it has done for some years. So along with our own seven geological groups and the groups from the Dominion Government the work of surveying the province will continue this year at a good pace.

The total value of mineral production in 1959 is estimated at \$57,951,665 as compared with \$57,066,406 in 1958, and the value of metals increased from \$26,900,293 in 1958 to \$27,942,079 in 1959. The value of industrial minerals showed a marked increase from \$11,500,000 in 1958 to \$16,782,600 in 1959. Now the increase in the value of metals reflect increases in quantities produced and the price per pound of both copper and zinc and an increase in the tonnage of nickel produced. These gains were partly offset by decreases in gold production but in the industrial minerals category increases were shown in the production of cement, in the production and price of gypsum and in the value per ton of sand and gravel. Revenue to the province from our mines was estimated for 1959 at roughly \$355,000. Some of the

(Mr. Witney, cont'd)....interesting facts about the mines branch has been one of our first gold mines in Manitoba, if not the first gold mine, at Herb Lake in the Herb Lake area. The shaft will be dewatered there this year for further exploration. We've had a dewatering of the shaft at the Montgary Mine on Bernic Lake just to the north and east of Lac du Bonnet and some interesting finds there in the lithium and some rare metals such as caesium, and San Antonio, one of the oldest gold producers here in Manitoba and one of the remarkable gold producers which we have a tendency to forget or it seems to be off to one side, has been producing successfully during all these years despite the problems of the gold industry and they have, through exploration, found more ore below the present operating levels, and I would imagine will be going down for it this coming year.

In oil exploration. Exploration drilling was limited to 16 wildcat wells at scattered points in the south-western part of the province where sedimentary rocks occur throughout approximately 45 million acres. In much of this area multiple potential oil producing strata occur although commercial production has been found only in formations of the Mississippian age. Approximately 1500 wells have been drilled to date and of these approximately 1000 wells have produced oil. In addition to this 45 million acres that we have in the Virden area, it's interesting to note that the province has a further 16 million acres of sediments occurring in a belt along the south-west shore of the Hudson's Bay, and that enquiries have been received regarding exploration of this area, but to date we have had no activity. Development drilling has been completed in known oilfields with the exception of the few wells required to completely delineate the pools and seasonal surveys were conducted during the past year by the British American Oil Co. Limited and Imperial Oil Limited.

Now Mr. Chairman, I have been in the Virden area twice and talked with industry and talked with our own officials, and we feel optimistic that the present level of oil production that we have in the province right now, although it has shown a decline, that the present level will continue for a good number of years to come. The unitization and the water flooding of the Daly Field has shown considerable progress and response so that the production has increased and we know that with the North Virden Scallion field when unitization is found to be necessary and water flooding is evolved in that area, that we can have more production from that large field. It is reliably estimated that in the North Virden Scallion field that we have an additional recovery of \$16 million and I should just like to go on record and join with the optimism of my department that the oil at the level that we have at the present time in the Province of Manitoba should remain substantially the same for a good number of years to come, and during that time of course, there will be exploration activity and if we are able to get down to the Devonian area and strike a well there, then we'll be back in business in a real live fashion.

In referring to the Surveys Branch of the Department of Mines and Natural Resources, the completion of the boundary between the North West Territories and Manitoba, we hope to have done this year. We issued an optimistic report a while ago stating that it would be done this year, but even though I come from the north country I neglected to consider the elements and the fact that they are very rough on machinery, and our crews in Churchill have encountered bad weather and have encountered machinery breakdowns, and while we will do everything we can to complete the remaining portion of the boundary this coming year, it is going to be quite a job to do so. The boundary is surveyed both by -- the Manitoba Government does the work but the costs are on a contribution basis, 50% being paid by the Federal Government and 50% by the province. The work on the boundary between Manitoba and Saskatchewan will continue this year. The work there will be done by the Manitoba Government, but the cost will be split three ways; 1/3 by the Dominion, 1/3 by the Province of Saskatchewan, and 1/3 by the Province of Manitoba. It's interesting to note, Mr. Chairman, that despite the wild areas that these men work in, that the boundaries between Saskatchewan and Manitoba, and the North West Territories and Manitoba, are surveyed to an accuracy of 1 inch in 3 miles. I think it's rather remarkable considering the tundra and terrain that they work in and the boundary is also marked by stone cairns which they place about a mile and a half apart. Another interesting little sidelight about the Surveys group is that they operate on a time which is a fast time, they term it a sidereal time which apparently is some three minutes and a few odd seconds faster than the time that we operate on here in Manitoba, in Winnipeg.

(Mr. Witney, cont'd).....

In Forestry. The peak years of production of 1956 and 57 and the downward trend that resulted following those peak years we feel has been arrested this year, and that we are on the upswing. We estimate the value of primary forest production for this year to be 19 million dollars as compared with 17 million dollars the previous year, and we estimate that the revenue to the province for '59 will be \$1,300,000 or about 10% of the total value of the primary production. I am pleased to announce that we have two new forest industries operating in the province, and we have the Roblin Boliden plant where they are treating chemically jack pine and poplar, making use of a species of which we haven't had sufficient utilization due to various technical problems. It is a process that has been used in Sweden and New Zealand, used in railway ties and in some bridges and the Department of Mines and Natural Resources this year will be using some of it for picnic tables and docks on its roadside park and picnic ground program in order to test it for its weatherability and its wearability, and we have also been fortunate in securing the assistance of the Department of Public Works to utilize as a test basis some of this material in one of their bridges. We've also had a framing mill at Atimik Lake just to the west of The Pas or east of The Pas for mine timbers which will be used at Thompson, and with the development of the Thompson Mine indications are that the framing mill up there will have to enlarge or they will have to build a second one.

The initial seven year Forest Inventory program has been completed during the past year except for compilation work which is still going on, and we now enter into an area of five years of maintenance work and the further compilation, more detailed analysis of the forest in the accessible parts of the province, and we have as a result of this Forest Inventory had printed and distributed five Forest Resources Inventory Reports during the past year; two more are in the hands of the printers and just about ready for distribution and we have two more to come up during this year of 1960 plus an overall report. We will also have lithographic maps available so that those who are interested in making use of the forest products, or the forest resources that we have, will have more information on which to base their decisions.

Re-photographing will be carried on this year followed by re-surveying and reclassification so that we may learn more about timber species, size, classes, possible utilization. The Forest Inventory has also enabled us to continue the program of sustained yield management and during 1959, 725 square miles were brought under sustained yield management by the Forestry Branch to make a total of 15,730 square miles. We hope to obtain the same progress this coming year and to speed up the process of establishing especially in the accessible area, the sustained yield principle on the Forest resorts.

1959 was a good year for Fire. We had very few fires break out during 1959 due primarily to the dampness that we experienced and also to the below normal temperatures that we have had during the past year. We have, however, kept up the work of improving our Forest Fire Protection throughout the province and we have, this coming year, three new towers scheduled; we have continued our experiments with new methods such as water bombing and water dropping and an interesting one that was carried out was with bentonite slurry from Miami -- bentonite being a form of a clay and when mixed with a mud, has a good smothering effect on a fire, and if spread in front of a fire it makes the twigs and the leaves more fire resistant.

We've also continued with the program of education of the public and at this time I would like to extend the appreciation of the Department to the newspapers, to radio and to television for the assistance that they have given the Forest Department in drawing to the attention of the public, the dangers of forest fires and the harm that can be done. When we realize that a cigarette or a match can do so much damage in just a space of hours when it takes a matter of 60 to 75 years to bring the timber back into merchantable status, and then you can understand that we must have an educated public in this regard, especially as we have more people penetrating into our forest reserves for recreational activity. We have continued on with the program of reforestation during 1959 and for this year coming.

Reforestation was started in the Spruce Wood Forest Reserve in 1904 and to date 14,700,000 trees have been planted and more than 8,500 acres of plantations have been established. The program during the past year was for one million trees to be planted and we intend to increase this by 600,000 trees each year. The areas that were reforested were the

(Mr. Witney, cont'd.) ... South-East corner, the Agassiz, the Whiteshell, and we started work on the Inter-Lake area from Hodgson to Mantag Lake. We have the Pineland Nursery which I think many of you have seen along No. 1 Highway. It has a nursery inventory of some eight million trees and its activities are being expanded so that we can apply reforestation to the areas that need it in order to continue with our sustained yield management and the information that was obtained from the Forest Inventory surveys.

We have experimented during the past year with scarification and the use of pelleted seeds and the success of that has been encouraging to the point where we will be continuing with it on an accelerated scale this coming year. One of the activities of the Pineland Nursery is to supply trees to farmers for shelter belts and to tree farmers and those who have woodlots and the nursery supplied 70,000 trees in 1959 and farmers, if the members are interested, can obtain 500 trees a year at \$1 a hundred and for tree farm and woodlot planting, the applicants can obtain planting stock at \$20 per thousand.

With the more leisure time the people have with improved roads and with the ability to buy boats and cabins on down payment system, we have more people demanding more recreational facilities and this has become one of the major problems of the Forestry Department. You will notice in the estimates that we will be asking for three more in order to catch up on the backlog of work that has developed and also to continue developing more recreational projects for the province. I don't think it is realized that during the past year that the Forestry Branch took over the roadside park and picnic ground development from the Department of Public Works and we also took over the Trans Canada Camp Grounds Agreement for three major sites and picnic sites along the Trans Canada Highway. All this work has piled up on us and we are now seeking from the committee more staff in order to help with the problem.

Just to briefly give you some of the work that was accomplished at various sections of the province. At Falcon Beach the second wing to the shopping centre was added; the beach front extended; the boat harbour and the storage dock was completed; a 110 summer home unit extension was made; increased picnic and parking facilities were built and we now have in operation our ski run which is proving to be more successful every weekend and with the ski run we hope to make more of the Falcon Beach area in the year. As a summer development, of course, it has only a four year life span but with the ski run that is operating at the present time, we hope to be able to use the facilities for a period of about nine months. In the Whiteshell, the Natural History Museum will be open this year at Nutimik Lake and work has been done on the Indian Rock Mosaics in the Nutimik Lake area; they have been fenced and preserved. Progress has been made on roads and camp grounds in the Big Whiteshell; we've built a large dock at the Brereton Lake public camp ground; we've had a 800 foot concrete retaining wall built at West Hawk Lake. Now if you wonder why we seem to be stressing Falcon and Whiteshell Lake and I'm sure that the people in the north country will be asking me why, as I'm now the Minister of Mines and Natural Resources and during the past year we have had over a million people visit that whole area and with the Trans Canada Highway traversing it now, we expect that this figure will increase, so the pressure is on the Falcon Lake and Whiteshell areas.

I had hoped to present to this House this year a Wilderness Parks Act but after we started to draft the Act and after we began to make our investigations, we found that there were some problems and some further considerations which should be taken into account. We have now set up a study group among our Directors and we are obtaining information from those provinces in the Dominion who have Wilderness Parks so that we may benefit from their experience and eliminate some of the problems that they encountered. Other work that was completed to camp grounds and improvements or extension of summer home lots were at various points in the province such as Child's Lake, Blue Lake, Wellman Lake, Atikameg, Max Lake and Moose Lake, altogether the Forestry Branch handled 20 public camp grounds; 258 summer cottage properties were granted; 378 summer homesites are presently available; 250 more will be made available during 1960 and during the year camp ground accommodation was supplied to 7,012 tents, 1,013 trailers which sheltered 31,274 people, 909 dogs and nine cats. And we have, in addition to that, the three major sites and the six picnic sites and along other highways the Forestry Branch is operating 27 roadside parks and we will be developing 16 new roadside parks in the year to come.

Now referring to the Game Branch, I feel that the Province is

(Mr. Witney, cont'd.) well stocked with game. I think since I have come into the Department there have been more problems have arisen with elk and with deer and with other forms of predators. I think that I should mention that the Game Branch in the Department of Mines and Natural Resources operate on the philosophy that it is our responsibility to keep a satisfactory level of the various species that we have in this province for the benefit of the people of the province. And we have done that. We ran into an extremely difficult year, but this year has been one of the most unusual that we have experienced for a good number of years and it will probably not occur again for another good number of years. We have endeavoured to meet the problem with everything we had; we have experimented with such items as zon bangers and with a form of bone tar which emitted an odour which the deer found to be reprehensible to them, but we found when the cold weather developed that the zon banger, the gas that operates it contracted and the efficiency of the zon banger went out the window. The same happened with the bone tar which was placed along the deer trails. It was fine during the warm weather but when the cold weather came it lost its potency. We have since sought help from the Dominion Government and the Dominion Government has referred our requests for assistance to the Wildlife Service of Canada and also to the University of British Columbia where there is a professor who has made quite a study on the various problems with respect to deer. We increased our hunting season in order to try to help meet the problem that arose but unfortunately the hunters these days seem to be interested more in hunting from the roadside and not penetrating into the various areas and the result was that despite the fact that we increased the hunting season that we did not take the harvest of the deer that was desired or the elk and the depredation of farmers' crops continued.

With respect to Riding Mountain National Park we took the problem to the Federal authorities who had the elk in the Park and whose elk were moving out into the Province of Manitoba where they became our problem. At their request we increased the hunting season and as the problem grew more severe they took a controlled kill of their numbers in order to try to ease the problem for the farmers there. We are having a meeting this coming week with the Federal Park officials to discuss the problem further. With the 10-80 program for control of predators such as coyotes 14 municipalities engaged in the 10-80 program this year and we have 82 baits in the various municipalities. We announced that we will go into this 10-80 program and then we wait for the municipalities to ask for it. We wish to have the co-operation of the municipalities, not only do they pay 50% but this 10-80 is a very dangerous material and we wish to have the municipality aid us in advising all people of the baits where they are set out, to well advertise it so that we do not have trouble with dogs or with children. I believe, and there may be some of the members here will disagree, that we have kept the wolf problem under control. We have increased the number of professional hunters; we now have three in the inter-lake area; we have two in the south-east corner; and we now have, I think it is eight or ten of our game men who are very capable as professional hunters when the need will arise. And up in the north country we have also established a program of wolf control in order to assist in the problem of barren land caribou. In the Game Branch, we have increased our biological staff to meet the pressures of having to find out more information about the various species and our biologists have conducted investigations into moose browse and population studies in northern Manitoba; they've conducted the annual moose-elk and deer aerial count in the Duck Mountains; they've conducted deer winter survival studies, browse and aerial survey counts; they have engaged actively with the Federal Government in the barren land caribou and I am pleased to tell you that the crop of young caribou has shown an increase for the past two years. About a year ago it was 20% and this coming year it is also another 20%.

During 1958 and '59 waterfowl on the Canadian Prairie suffered considerably from drought which interfered with nesting in many areas and the department was well aware of the situation and bag limits were reduced in 1959. The bag catch in Manitoba showed the ratio of young to adult birds in the hunter's bag to be far below normal, substantiating the low nesting success and these checks were confirmed in many places along the Mississippi Flyway in which we are most vitally interested. The winter inventory of waterfowl in the United States is reported as indicating a greater than 40% decrease in waterfowl, and the decline in the number of canvas-back and redhead ducks has been particularly heavy. We have felt concern and the Federal Government has felt concern for this species a year ago and it may be necessary this coming

(Mr. Witney, cont'd.) ... year to give them special protection and unless nesting success is very much above normal we can expect additional hunting restrictions in 1960. We have co-operative breeding ground and nesting success surveys to be made this coming summer and Manitoba will participate as usual and we hope there has been a decided increase in nesting success.

The Experimental Fur and Game Station on the Fort Garry Campus has been experimenting during this past year, with proper diets, for mink ranchers, especially with the utilization of rough fish and they have under some conditions found that it is possible to use rough fish without the problems of having to cook it which may decrease the cost to the mink rancher and certainly will decrease the trouble in the operation that he has.

With the development at Grand Rapids we will have a large area of moose habitat and our Summerberry March will be flooded. We are conducting constant investigations and studies and meetings with the Manitoba Hydro Electric Board and we have engaged the services of a Wildlife official from the United States to evaluate the game and what the problem and the damage will be in that area and to assist us in finding suitable areas for re-election such as the Maudsley and the Twin Island the the Saskeram area. We went to the United States because their group there have had a similar problem arise with large dams and we feel that we can benefit from their experience and from their knowledge.

In the Fisheries Branch the fresh water fishery production for 1959 is valued at \$6,253,524 as compared in 1958 to a value of production of \$5,935,245. Our fishermen's representative has developed 14 fishermen's groups comprising approximately 300 members and they recently formed a group at Grand Rapids. We have a ten member executive from the three major lakes and from the northern lakes and they will be holding a convention soon here in Winnipeg. We have also increased our biological staff and we are very pleased to have on the staff a biologist from India, Dr. Bassoo who has come to us highly recommended by biologists from several countries, including Dr. Diamond -- some of the members of this committee may know him -- who has highly recommended him. He is a man who is an expert in pollution and its effect upon fish and we will be having him, he's already started work on the problem of Lake Winnipeg. We also this year, at the request of the fishing companies and the fishermen, are increasing our rough fish removal program. We have, through the assistance of the Dominion Government, obtained the services of a trawl net on the lake this summer; we have increased from four to ten the number of trap nets that we will be operating in the middle of the lake in order to remove maria and other rough fish and at the same time accelerate our tagging program of white fish and pickerel and sauger, the commercial fish on the lake. We are pleased to advise that we have been able to obtain considerable assistance from the federal government in the research on the inland fisheries. Another meeting will be held not this next week but the week coming with a representative of the federal fisheries experimental group to talk with our department. We have conducted, and commercial fishing I think during this past month that I have been as the Minister of Mines and Natural Resources has absorbed a great deal of my time, and also it has created a great deal of anxiety and I trust that it will not have any deteriorating effects upon my health. Commercial fishing is a very grave problem in Manitoba and we in the Department of Mines and Resources are coping with it as well as we possibly can.

In other biological work we have comprehensive surveys on the Winnipeg River from Seven Sisters Falls and Slave Falls; we have coarse fish removal projects to be continued at Falcon Lake, Mystic Creek and Clearwater Lake and Whitefish Lake in the Porcupines; and at Lyons Lake and Hunt Lake in the Whiteshell we have eradicated fish in preparation for trout stocking this year so that we hope to provide good angling in 1961. We have continued our studies on the Sturgeon Management Program on the Nelson River and we have also done test surveys on a number of northern lakes to assess the quality of the white fish. Now Mr. Chairman, I didn't expect to burden the committee so long with this statement. I'm used to 20 second flashes and to one minute commercials and 15 second newscasts and I didn't expect that I would be able to speak for such a length of time. That is the end of my statement Mr. Chairman, I've been hesitating about this for some time but I'm going to go ahead with it at any rate.

MR. WITNEY: Maintenant, M. le President, mon armure est boucle, ma lance est abaisse, mon cheval de bataille ronge son frein et je suis pret a jouter avec les membres de l'Opposition les plus redoutables.

(Mr. Witney, cont'd.) . . .

Now, Mr. Chairman, my armour is buckled on, my lance is lowered, my charger is chomping at the bit and I am ready to joust with the most redoubtable members of the Opposition.

MR. ELMAN GUTTORMSON (St. George): Mr. Chairman, I would like to express my gratitude to the Minister who has just taken his seat for the very informative and interesting report he has given us on his department. He says he didn't intend to speak as long as he did, that he's used to 20 second flashes -- well I must confess that it didn't appear to me that he spoke much longer because I found his report so interesting.

He compares the experience of going into the estimates for the first time by that of a person about to be married and he claims that he doesn't think that the experience of his estimates will be quite the honeymoon. Well I will say this, that if the Minister carries on in the manner which he has since he became a member of this House, as courteous and interested at all times, I think that he'll find that the estimates of his department will seem like a honeymoon compared with the experiences of other Ministers.

Mr. Chairman, a subject that the Minister touched on was the commercial fishing industry which he said was in trouble and I'm quite in agreement with him. On Lake Manitoba, a body of water which I am most familiar with, fishing certainly hasn't been good during the past few years. Last year was an exceptionally bad year; many of the fishermen had to pull up their nets by Christmas because the fish was so poor, that is as far as the pickerel is concerned. This year for the first part of the season I'm happy to report that it was improved, although it has . . . off very badly during the last while. The one saving factor has been the excellent price that the fishermen have been getting for their pickerel. I just checked very recently and I understand that, although there's some fluctuation in price, they are getting about 40¢ which is certainly good if the 'take' was of any consequence at all.

At the last session I urged the former Minister of Mines and Natural Resources to consider the possibility of a fish processing plant. One of the big problems on Lake Manitoba is the vast amount of rough fish which is being caught, and unfortunately, as the Minister well knows, the fisherman is getting next to nothing for this. For instance mullets, they're fortunate to get a cent a pound for it. I was at Lundar during the past weekend, and was talking to a fisherman there and he tells me that they had a fish buyer out on the lake offering him only half a cent a pound which is absolutely ridiculous because there's a great deal of food value in the mullets and I feel that something should be done to encourage the fishermen to take this specie from the lake because it is rough fish and he can't possibly make a living taking rough fish out of the lake at one cent a pound. Fishermen advise me that if they can get four cents a pound for this particular specie they could make a living on it. I remember seeing a bill from a fisherman last year and he had taken out approximately 1,300 pounds during one week of mullets and his receipt from the fish company for that particular specie was \$13.00. Now as the committee well knows, the price of nets today is going up all the time and it seems strange, but it seems it's a fact that the rough fish seems to be the hardest fish on the nets. That is they seem to be more destructive, than the pickerel which brings the fishermen a handsome price. And I urged the government at that time to consider the possibility of establishing a processing plant whereby the fishermen could possibly get roughly four cents a pound for the rough fish and the government could sell the oil and the meal that could be manufactured from the rough fish and do no worse than break even on the project.

The Minister of the day, in the House on July 16th commented and told me at that time we have been working with a private enterpriser who wants to go into that particular field, and I would be very interested to know, when the Minister replies, what progress has been made in this particular field. The previous Minister said that one of the difficulties of such a plant would be the transporting of rough fish to the plant. I understand the private enterpriser who the Minister was referring to had some idea of establishing a processing plant on a barge. He said -- these are his words: "We are making progress with it and will be carrying on the investigations into the marketing and merchandising of the rough fish". And I think particularly he was referring to the northern pike when he spoke at that time. The northern pike at the present time is only bringing the fishermen roughly four and five cents a pound. This is another fish that certainly is edible and this annoys me no end when I find that the fish companies are getting

(Mr. Guttormson, cont'd.) ... a handsome price for this particular fish. I phoned one of the department stores in Winnipeg today and asked them the price of northern pike and it was approximately 50¢ a pound. The fisherman is getting four and five cents a pound, so somebody is certainly getting a rake-off -- not the fisherman. I also enquired about the price of pickerel fillets in the department stores. I tried two different stores today and there was a fluctuation of price; one store was selling it for \$1.50 a pound, another store was selling it for \$1.39 a pound. Now the fisherman is getting approximately 40¢ a pound and those familiar with fileting a fish know that there is approximately 50% or 47% waste. So even at that the fisherman is only getting 80¢ a pound for the pickerel and there still is a tremendous mark-up, and people who buy the fish have the opinion that the fisherman is getting all the money and this is just not a fact.

I also suggested last year that the government should look into the possibility of establishing or getting a canning factory established. I was prompted to suggest this because I had occasion to visit a home in my constituency and stopped at mealtime and they offered me canned mullets for dinner and I was astonished how tasty it was, and without any hesitation I can tell you that that fish resembled something very close to salmon, and it seems to me in this world today where there are so much welfare and starvation in the world, it seems a shame that this fish shouldn't be put to better use. The former Minister commenting on my suggestion said there had been some distinct possibilities particularly to the canning of northern pike and said -- assured me that he would follow the suggestion as fast as he could. Perhaps the Minister might indicate to this committee just what progress has been made in this regard because I certainly think it's a worthwhile venture.

There is a considerable amount of complaint amongst the fishermen -- no doubt the Minister has heard about it -- regarding the fish companies. Although I can't give you any proof, I daresay there isn't a fisherman on the lake who will hesitate to tell you that he thinks there is a combine operating with the fish companies. And I'll give you briefly a reason why this opinion is being held. Fishermen who frequently go to a local fish buyer and ask him what he's paying for his fish, and on numerous occasions and on various parts of the lake the fisherman will say I have to phone the company, they're holding a meeting with the other fish companies to see what we shall pay. Now if this isn't a combine I don't know what is. Because I've checked along the lake and hardly without exception the price at all locations is the same. It is true that there are occasions when fish is in short supply the fish company may have an order for some pickerel and in order to get that fish from the other companies they may suddenly break their bond and offer a slight increase over the other fish companies. It's also true that the fish price is good today but that is mainly due to the very short supply of pickerel on Lake Manitoba. I don't know whether the Minister is in any position to tell me what he thinks of this, but if he has I certainly would appreciate hearing from him.

The Minister also touched on the work of Mr. Helgi Tomasson who is organizing the fishermen throughout Manitoba. I don't think we can use words to describe the work of this man because it's certainly an excellent thing. The fishermen have never been organized to any extent, really not at all, and I don't think that until such time as they are organized and they have a common voice reporting to the government with their problems that they will achieve the goal they're trying to attain. And Mr. Tomasson, who I had the pleasure of meeting on numerous occasions has shown tremendous interest in the fishing industry and I'm sure that if he continues in this work that nothing but good can come out of it for the fishermen.

Another problem which is prevailing in my constituency -- and I'm sure it's prevailed throughout most of Manitoba -- is predators. The Minister said a few moments ago that he thought he had the wolves under control. I wouldn't agree with him entirely there because I am continually getting reports, and mind you I can't substantiate them, that there are a lot of wolf tracks, timber wolf tracks that is, being seen around the Sleeve Lake area at the present time. Mind you it's true that we haven't had any reports of cattle losses but that can easily be explained by the fact that cattle are not roaming at large at this time of year. One farmer told me just recently that he thought that the fact that the deer is very plentiful might save the cattle in the spring, but only time will tell whether he's correct in his assumption. The Minister well knows that last fall, along with the member for Fisher, we met in his office to discuss the severe losses being experienced by farmers living in the Kilkenny-Fisher area. One farmer, if my

(Mr. Guttormson, cont'd.) ... memory serves me correctly, lost nine head which represents a lot of money to a small farmer and he's certainly in no position to stand such a loss.

There's been a great deal of talk during the past years as to what should be done about the predators. When I first had the privilege of sitting in this House I advocated the bounty on timber wolves and must confess that the government of the day which I was a member of didn't support me in my stand, and until now I haven't -- I believe the members of the Game Branch still differ with this view. People who are affected believe that if there was a bounty placed on the predator the Indian would be encouraged to go and hunt them; and even sportsmen with small aircraft, bombardiers would be encouraged to go after them. At the present time, with no bounty at all on the timber wolf, there is no incentive for these people to go and chase these animals. The Minister reported today, and I was very pleased to hear about it, that he has added to the staff a number of some professional hunters. I know of one, Mr. Joe Zimmerman, who I think knows more about timber wolves than the timber wolf; but one man certainly can't look after the whole province. Now that isn't quite right when I say one man because he did say there were others. In previous years it has been, I understand, the experience of the department has been, that they have found it very difficult to find men with the ability of this Mr. Zimmerman. I hope the men that he has now employed are successful, and only time will tell. I don't know whether the Minister has ever had the experience of visiting a farm where the farmer has had his cattle ravaged by timber wolves. I have seen animals with gaping holes in their flanks that you could almost put in a football, from the timber wolf. For members of the committee who aren't familiar with the way they attack, it's very beastly. The timber wolf strikes at the animal from behind and severs the cord in his hind leg and devours the animal alive. He breaks the hamstring and on occasion if a wolf is scared off in time, an animal survives and if he is able he will walk home only to die from loss of blood. I know it is a common belief that the wolf strikes at the throat and destroys the animal in that manner. This isn't true and I think the committee would be interested to know just how savage these animals really are. I knew one farmer close to home that lost 33 head one summer mostly young stock, and with the farmer predicament as it is today that's a very, very big blow financially.

Another predator which is causing concern particularly in the summer months to the farmer is that of skunks. I know this may bring chuckles from some members of the committee but it's a very serious problem because the pelt of a skunk has no commercial value, they are just literally filling the country. If you travel down the highways in the summer months you'll see countless numbers of them on highways that have been knocked down by cars. I know -- in the municipality of Dufferin I learned that this municipality paid a bounty of \$2 per head and I know it was their intention to seek financial assistance from the provincial government with their bounty program. Perhaps the Minister could indicate later whether they ever approached the government and if so, what was their decision. The skunk -- not only do they raid the farmers chickens and turkeys, they're very harmful to upland game, destroying the partridge and the chicken and even the ducks, and with the plight of the duck as they are today we certainly can't afford to have these predators destroying them. When I raised the point at the last session about the skunks, the former Minister said that his department was studying it and I'd be most interested to see what their findings were. -- (Interjection) -- Well you may not be interested but a lot of people in the province are.

One other item I would like to touch on is that of the waterfowl. As a hunter of ducks it's most alarming to me at the rate in which the ducks are diminishing. I had an occasion to discuss this problem with an expert in the field and the facts he provided me with were really astonishing. Ten years ago in the Delta marsh the canvasback comprised more than one-quarter of the marsh's total bag, being second only to the mallard. Last year the Minister remarked the canvasback was only 3% -- represented only 3% of the bag taken at the marsh, and was ninth from the top. This is a very serious situation. Many will think that the reduced harvest is due to the special bag restrictions which were placed last year on the canvasback and the red-head reducing the daily take I think from ten to four. I think that's what it was. But this isn't really true because in 1958 before this special protection was given checks of hunters' bags in the Delta revealed that hunters were taking only about two or three birds out a day; therefore it's reasonable to assume that reducing the bag limit isn't of any value and will not give the ducks the special protection they need. Officials who know advise me that the canvasback, the

(Mr. Guttormson, cont'd.) ... majority of the canvasback are killed prior to October the 10th when they are just off the water, and they feel that the opening season on ducks in the marshes should be extended right into October and if their facts are correct -- and I have no reason to doubt them -- I think that the government should give this serious consideration to postponing the opening date particularly in the marsh area and the larger bodies. Mind you, it isn't enough for the province to postpone the dates of the opening of duck shooting unless they get co-operation from the other provinces in Canada and the United States. This is a problem which affects the whole of North America. However, I think it would be a feather in the cap of the Minister if he would instigate such a program and encourage other governments to do the same thing if, in his wisdom, he thinks it is correct.

Another thing and I think the Minister mentioned this a little while ago, was to show that the waterfowl was decreasing -- the age of the birds shot. In the good years hunters shot two young birds for every adult one. Last year more adult birds were being shot than young, indicating that we are now harvesting a capital stock in waterfowl, and this can't go on long. No doubt some members of the committee may say we saw more ducks in Manitoba last year than we have ever seen before. To a point this is correct. In some places some hunters did see more ducks than in previous years, but there is a good reason for this. There was more of a congregation of the birds in certain areas last year. I believe there was a drought in Saskatchewan, or in the west, which precipitated the ducks flying in Manitoba, and then we had some extremely bad weather in the north which drove them south. The fact remains that we are still shooting more older birds than younger birds, which indicates that the number of birds is rapidly diminishing, and something has got to be done about it.

Marsh land is generally considered to be sub-marginal lands, and in some quarters worthless. I would like to give the committee some facts to show just how productive the marshes really are, if you can put it into terms of dollars and cents. In 1958 one butcher shop in Portage la Prairie processed 8,000 birds. This represents only a fractional total of the kill in the Delta. Experts in the field estimate that 100,000 ducks are taken from the marshes -- in the Delta that is. In 1947 the Illinois Natural History Survey, in a careful study, estimated that the cost of each duck shot was \$9.77, and that was in 1947. Now I think that you will all agree that this is a conservative figure in view of the present dollar value. But using the 1947 figure, this represents a value of \$1,000,000 which has been taken from the Delta marshes, or roughly \$18 an acre. -- (Interjection) -- Yes, annually. This means that this is represented in places like Winnipeg, Portage and the surrounding villages; money spent on gas, food, clothing, guns and ammunition. It seems to me, and I'm not criticizing the present government for it because this situation existed before they came into office, but it seems to me a sad situation where a province, a government or province is reaping such a benefit and they're literally doing nothing about it.

No doubt there will be some criticism of my remark regarding the damage done to the farmers' grain by the ducks, and this certainly is a valid argument. But I would like to point out to the committee that the species that does the damage to the grain is the mallard and the pintail. The other species don't bother going into the field, and the canvasback and the redhead, which are in danger of becoming extinct, don't go into these fields. Therefore I think, even if the government considered an earlier season in the stubble than in the marshes, that we could achieve some success in helping these particular birds. There is no doubt about it that the mallard does cause undetermined damage to the farmers' grain, and I think that something has got to be done whereby the farmers and the government and the hunters get together, or the organizations interested in waterfowl, why something can be done about it. And it has been experienced, I'm told, where the farmer does meet with the authorities, and they discuss the thing on a proper plane, that something can be achieved by discussing the matter.

Another valuable produce from the marsh and that is the fur. I know each year that hundreds of thousands of dollars are taken out from the marsh land in pelts -- muskrat pelts. I know the amount of fur taken during the past years has diminished considerably because the water -- we've had some drier years. That is another reason why I think the government should do something about protecting the marsh land because there is a tremendous number of people who make their living from trapping; and if we don't protect the marsh land these people are going to suffer financially. But if you consider the amount of money spent by hunters

(Mr. Guttormson, cont'd.) ... shooting in the marsh, the amount of fur taken, and royalties the government gets from the muskrat, I certainly think that every consideration should be given to putting something back into the marsh land and protecting them for the Province of Manitoba.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Five minutes left.

MR. GUTTORMSON: Thank you. It has often been said by tourists that Manitoba is a step within the rim of adventure. Well unless we look after our marches this expression will soon be a thing of the past. In view of our time limit I will have to just touch on two or three other items I had something to speak on.

There is one item I would like to bring to the attention of the committee and that was a decision by the government last year regarding the permission granted to hunters to shooting deer in the Whiteshell. I thought this was a very, very bad decision and I hope that the government doesn't resort to that action again. It can be argued, I suppose, that the deer were being over-populated in the Whiteshell, but to me here is a beautiful spot that people have been going every year for recreation. The deer have learned to trust man and then suddenly without any warning they walk into the blazing guns of man. I thought this was a terrible decision of the government and I hope, sincerely hope, that they never employ such tactics again to reduce the number of deer in an area, particularly in a reserve. I'm told that in European countries, where such conditions arise in game reserves, the system employed is to trap the deer and transport them to areas where the deer are fewer in number. And I would certainly hope that failing this, that professional hunters might be put into the area, but not to let the public at large shoot the deer which had hoped to get some protection in the sanctuary.

With my time up I won't deal with any more subjects. There'll be other opportunities, but I would just like to in conclusion thank the Minister again for his excellent report on the department, and I just hope that his attitude and courtesy that he's always shown since becoming a member of this House will always continue.

..... continued on next page.

MR. GRAY: Mr. Chairman, I can assure you that my remarks will be very brief. I'm hoping to deal with other questions under the items on the estimates.

I have listened to the Minister with pride and confidence that he is learning and understands the very important and serious position he holds in the government, and particularly in the department. It is important because he is dealing with the greatest gift Providence has given the province for the benefit of the people. The Minister has a great responsibility to watch that this treasury is being exploited for the people and not for a few individuals. For instance the mining industry which is being exploited by people, firms, companies--true invested many millions of dollars, created it--that's perfectly all right. They have not paid a cent for the wealth that was given to them by God but they assumed that they could exploit it in every way possible. I think a share of it at least should be given to the people of the province. I have in mind for instance the mining pacts. In my opinion at least, it's not sufficient. I understand, and if I'm wrong the Minister may correct me, the procedure is that after the company, no matter who it is, or the mining company, after they pay all expense, all wages, and wages to themselves at the minimum rate that we are requesting the province now, namely, \$1.25 an hour, and perhaps \$1.25 a second, and after they pay depreciation; and after they pay their dividends; and after they save up a set amount of money, well what's left? They give eight or ten percent to the people of the province. I think that this is not right. I think it is exploiting something which does not belong to them, so I feel that a Minister has a great responsibility to see that what Providence has given to the people is being protected by the man who is responsible to the people.

I have in mind, Mr. Chairman, the Forestry Branch. We are not living now and protecting our present generation of great and great-great grandfathers. Providence himself has given us the forestry. It's our duty to see that this is protected for the future generation as well. If a tree is being planted for every tree cut--this is the responsibility I believe of the Minister, because if you don't do it I think we'll be charged by the generations to come of exploiting, stealing, making profit of something which did not belong to us or this present generation, but it also belongs to the generations to come. The Forestry Branch is a very, very important one. I read your report. I see that considerable good work is being done for this is something that is used--religious responsibility to see that it is protected.

We have your program--the fish industry, and there is something which I cannot understand. First of all, of course, the future generation will also appreciate the food of fish, which I understand is healthy for the people, but then when we see the total volume of fish in last year's report was 98 million pounds; and then we see the total--no, the total production I see is \$32,000,000; the total value is over \$9,000,000; and then when we see the figures of the distribution of the \$9,000,000 we see that the fishermen gets three and a half and it's marketed for \$6,000,000. I still don't know where the other money disappears. We don't know, but I think this should be very, very carefully watched. There is no necessity for the present time of a fisherman getting, not that I'm surprised, such a low price for his products and the householders should pay such a tremendous sum for a pound of fish. It's known to every honourable member here.

I feel that there are other departments in the estimates which has been very carefully taken care of. For instance, the question of the Crown lands. I think that, according to the report we have received last year, there is still a considerable large number of Crown land--acres of Crown land--which is still suitable for mixed farming, immigrants, new settlers. I think everything possible should be done that this land be settled, cultivated, establish individual subsidy for families who wish to settle with the help that the government can give them for this settlement. First of all, the land will be cultivated; secondly, there's certain settlers that without funds could still avail themselves of settling on a farm. If they are going to buy a ready farm at this time I think the amount of money they would have to pay is almost prohibitive. At the same time I'm sure that the newcomers would probably settle here rather than go around the streets without work for a year, or two and three; rather than stand all day long on a cold day around the employment offices; and rather they come home every night without a cent in their pockets they may decide to go on Crown land if they are assisted. They have no money--they have no finance to buy a farm on their own. I know that two or three years ago quite a few settlers--I don't know this year--have settled on Crown land. The second thing is, what is

(Mr. Gray, cont'd.) . . . being done with Crown land which is unsuitable for settlement or cultivation? What is being done? Are they just growing, so to speak, wild? Is the department trying to find out if there are any minerals in there where private companies probably would not invest any money for finding it? Can trees be planted on there? I realize there is a lot of land unsuitable at all--in the marshes and what have you. But I think something could be done to attract one man, one family, two, ten. That would be something worthwhile.

With these few remarks, Mr. Chairman, I am praying that the Minister would realize the responsibility that is put in his charge, namely, a gift of Providence, to be used for the people and not for private benefit; and also to see that this gift is being protected and perpetuated, not only for this present generation, but for generations to come.

MR. ORLIKOW: Mr. Chairman, I rise to pursue for a very short while the question raised by my honourable friend from Inkster. I must say, Mr. Chairman, that I was amazed, more than amazed I was dismayed, and I must say that I simply can't understand the statement which the Honourable Minister made that we will receive, in revenues from the mines, \$355,000. That's the figure I copied down. In the survey made by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics on the tax rate by the various provinces on mining operations they showed that in the Province of Nova Scotia the rate on net profits is from seven to nine percent; in Quebec it's from four to seven percent; in Ontario it varies from six percent for companies making from \$10,000 to \$1 million, to 11% for companies making \$1 million to \$5 million to 12% for companies making over \$5 million. In Manitoba the rate is eight percent for companies making over \$10,000 net profit; in Saskatchewan it varies from three percent to 12 1/2%, three percent for companies making from \$10,000 to \$100,000 a year, five percent for companies making \$100,000 to \$500,000 a year, 7% to companies making \$500,000 to \$1 million, and 12 1/2% to companies making over \$1 million a year net profit; and in the Province of British Columbia they charge a flat rate of ten percent on all companies making in excess of \$25,000, with the exception that new mines are exempted for the first three years of production.

Now, Mr. Speaker, they also give the revenue received by the provinces from natural resources. Beginning at the top with Alberta, because of its oil and natural gas, for the year ending March 31st, 1958, \$131 million; British Columbia, \$42 million; Quebec, \$33 million; Ontario, \$33 million; Saskatchewan, \$26 million; Manitoba, \$4,423,000. Now that was the year ending March 31st, 1958. There may be some variations in that but I presume that we're not too far out. Now I recognize the fact that one can not compare Saskatchewan with Manitoba because of the fact that a very large percentage of the money received from Saskatchewan is received in the field of oil and natural gas; and I recognize that no province can get out of line because we have in fact such tremendous competition, not only between the provinces but between Canada and the United States. And in a field like oil, with other countries, if we charge too much in Canada for Canadian oil, the companies which are largely international in scope will draw their oil from Venezuela or from the Middle East.

But I want to point out to this House what they receive in the Province of Saskatchewan. Now again we can't quite compare because the resources which they have are substantially different than ours, and their breakdown may be a little different than ours; but here are the figures for their 1958-1959 year, the last figures which I have been able to receive. From quartz and uranium, for lease rentals, royalties, and other fees, they received \$2,744,000; petroleum and natural gas, and I say right away that we can't compare what we get with what they get anymore than they can compare favourably what they get in Saskatchewan as compared to what the Province of Alberta gets, but they got over \$18 million; for alkali products they got \$93,000; for chlorine, \$9,000; for coal, \$62,000; for potash, \$110,000; for salt, \$18,000; and from the mineral tax, and I presume this is largely probably in the field of The Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting, between acreage tax and the producing tax they got \$1,251,000; for a total of 22 1/2 million dollars.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I say again that I am not one who believes in making the tax so high that the companies won't come in, but the fact is that in Saskatchewan they have had a much more rapid growth in the field of minerals and natural resources than we have. In the field of minerals, from a production of \$36 million in 1949 they grew to a production in the year 1958 of \$210 million. And if you talk in terms of the percentage of Canada's total production, they jumped from four percent in 1949 to ten percent in 1958. So in fact, Mr. Chairman,

(Mr. Orlikow, cont'd.) . . . they did not, with their policy, drive the companies out. The companies came in and the companies did well. As I say, the production grew from \$36 million to \$210 million in less than ten years.

Now, Mr. Speaker, in industrial minerals, from 1957 to 1959 their production grew from \$10,800,000 to \$14,825,000, so they didn't chase them out in that field either. They are developing, not as rapidly as we are; they haven't found a site the size of Thompson but they are developing, Mr. Speaker. The thing that bothers me is that we are--I agree with the Minister we have a very favourable development at Thompson. Hudson Bay Mining & Smelting is moving into the new developments which the Minister spoke of, but I have in front of me, Mr. Chairman, an order for a return tabled at the request of the Honourable Member from Fisher showing the monies received from royalties, from rentals, and from stumpage, from a number of companies. Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting--a very profitable company to its shareholders, and I'm not complaining about that, a very fair company to its workers. It pays amongst the highest rates to its workers that any company in Canada pays, but what do I see for the year ending--for the fiscal year 1958-'59--what did this province get from the Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Company? In royalties, \$25,000 and a few odd cents, I'm not going to list them; in rentals, license, permits and fees, \$38,000. From Sherritt Gordon Mines we received \$95,000 in royalties; \$8,000 something in rentals. From Canada Cement Company, and Canada Cement is a part of a chain, one of the most profitable industries in this country. The Honourable Member from St. George talked about the combine in fishing. I don't know much about the combine in fishing, but if there ever was a combine in this country it's the combine which has to do with cement. And what do we get from the Canada Cement Company which is taking thousands of tons of material out of Steep Rock? \$4,976 in royalties; and \$7,406 in rentals. We do a little better from Manitoba Paper Company in terms of stumpage, but not much.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I am not one who wants to drive the companies out of this province. I'm suggesting to the Minister that other provinces are doing much better than we are, and I for one would join with the member from Inkster in suggesting to the Minister that the rate ought to be such not to drive the companies out but the rates ought to be such that the raw materials and the resources which are used, and insofar as mining companies are concerned, I suggest to the members of this committee it's even worse than when you talk about the forest products. Because it is possible, through co-operation between the government and the companies, to see that through natural methods of reforestation and through tree planting that we will have an industry for possibly for all time, although we haven't done the job that they've done in some countries like Sweden and Norway. But it is possible to see that the tree resources will be maintained, but when we talk about minerals, Mr. Chairman, this is, once they're taken they're gone and they're gone permanently.

And I would like--possibly you can't do it now, but I would like the Honourable Minister to bring us a statement of what we get in the way of taxes, royalties, and rentals from the mining companies and to explain to me how it is possible for a company as profitable as the Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting to pay so little to the people of Manitoba as the Minister has suggested. And also, while I'm on my feet, Mr. Chairman, I would like to get from the Minister, if I can, an explanation of what the International Nickel Company will pay to the Province of Manitoba, as it goes into production, in terms of taxes on the resources which they will be taking from this province in Canada.

MR. PETER WAGNER (Fisher): Mr. Chairman, if I may add a few words. At the beginning I would like to congratulate the Minister because as far as I'm concerned, as far as I had any dealings with him, I received very co-operative action and we seem to be co-operating today on all sources of the House, even we are going to the co-operative movement, Private Members' Day on Tuesday, so that's co-operation. I will be very brief, but as I heard the Minister state on his forestry department I would like to bring once again to the House the attention of farmers obtaining lumber permits. Since 1930, when that Act was come into being, and it's 30 years ago and still we are functioning under the same Act, and it's surprising in this jet atomic age when everything seems to be going with speed and we are still under the same old Act 30 years ago. As the members will recollect even the Farmers' Union presented a brief that it is not satisfactory to the farmer of today to have curtailed him to 15,000. They would appreciate very much to have 30,000. I'm not going to dwell, because I dealt with

(Mr. Wagner, cont'd.) . . . it I believe two sessions already in a row, so I'm going to skip and just bring it to the Minister's attention and possibly he will look into the matter.

I also overheard him talking about lakeshores and I want to bring to his attention that what I have experienced in Lake Manitoba and Lake Winnipeg. For some reason or the other the private people will go to any lake and they want to buy the shore, the lakeshore and they buy it and naturally it's a nice place for anybody to go there to have a swim or put down his boat. I must admit that I came in with my friends to Lake Manitoba shore and I parked my car without knowledge that this was a privately-owned little lot and we were chased out. They told us, "you better move away". There've been a lot of people. I was chased out and another group came in, and another group was chased out and this carried on, and then we were a large group and we got together and we discussed and then somebody came with the solution saying that the government should look into this, that certain yardage from the water should be for the public use and then further the private people can buy.

Now turning back to this Game Branch. I'm very much concerned as you very well know, even when the Minister was speaking he looked my way when he came down to the predator control in the Game Branch. I have complaints upon complaints in my area. Sometimes in my early days I was jealous when I heard somebody say that there was a terrific amount of ducks, a terrific herd of deer destroying farmers' crops. I felt I'd like to go and see, but not anymore, because actually they are a menace. And just to bring to attention, as I said earlier in this session, the farmer lost 60 acres of flax, not due to the snowfall. The Honourable Minister of Agriculture says that he's going to compensate them under the snowfall. That's fine. I appreciate it. But what may happen next year? There won't be no snowfall; there won't be such compensation. The farmer will carry a total loss in this case of approximately \$4,000. Another farmer, 140 acres of oats, say roughly speaking; another \$2,000, on account of deer and ducks.

Just the other day I received a letter from Inwood, just 50 miles out of the city, and I feel I should read it to the committee. February 20th, 1960. "Dear Mr. Wagner: This fall I did not get my crop off before the snow so the deer have moved in and have eaten nearly 2,000 bushels of grain. I wrote to Mr. A. P. Davey, the Chief Game Warden, and he answered and said that there was nothing that he could do. A game warden called in and he, too, said there was nothing he could do, so I thought that I would write to you and enquire as to whether you could have anything done about it. The deer come in feeding every night from miles around, and nothing is done. I hope some action will be taken. Yours truly, Ralph Gilson". So these farmers are really in a dilemma. PFA does not cover them as we know. Possibly we should get after the Federal PFA Department that they should include a clause in there that these people would be compensated and naturally, again I refer myself to the Farmers' Union brief; just read one paragraph: "Wildlife game is under the protection of the Provincial Government making it illegal for the farmer to protect his crop by taking measures against the game. We therefore request that a survey be made and the Provincial Government compensate the farmers for damage done". Now this is government wild game. As a matter of fact the people of Manitoba, but why should an individual farmer carry the loss? As a matter of fact the hunters specialize in that, the licenses and so on and so forth.

Now going in a speed to predator control. At this point I must commend the Minister of the day. I was really happy and I appreciate his co-operation, since he just took his office when that incident occurred, which the Honourable Member for St. George stated in Sleeve Lake area that the wolves were destroying cattle, two or three by the day. I had some difficulties of getting a hold of him because at that particular time he was at Lac du Bonnet. I tried to get the Honourable the First Minister. He was away out of the city and I even got in touch with the Honourable Minister of Industry and Commerce, and then he was kind enough--he got hold of the Minister of the day at Lac du Bonnet, and Lac du Bonnet Minister 'phoned me to Fisher Branch and it was vice versa and we were chasing up and down, but anyhow I must say that I appreciate the co-operation of these people. While we were exchanging 'phone calls which cost me quite a bit, I did not reverse the charges until the Minister told me, so possibly I should get reimbursement from the government, but in the meantime I appreciate also the co-operation of the Game Branch. They were doing their best what they could but they were awaiting on the Minister's decision. Nevertheless, out of our delegation outcome--the Minister was very active and he did curtail the killing of the cattle for the last two weeks of the season.

(Mr. Wagner, cont'd.) . . . Possibly it was fortunate enough that the snow fell and the cattle were removed from the area. But I must express the disappointment, the hard feeling on behalf of those farmers that we were turned down on the compensation, and if I remember correctly the figures, it was 35 head of cattle destroyed, and as the Honourable Member for St. George said that one particular farmer lost eight or nine head and others three and five and so on. I did not inspect myself the area. Possibly there could have been some other causes to that but I'm not so sure. What I was told I'm expressing it to the government. Nevertheless, I overheard the Minister say that he has three professional hunters in the interlake area. I appreciate it very much, but I understand that they are to move.

I had drawn to my attention that possibly we are not going to have trouble only with wolves in 1960 because there was already some grievance made that these magpies that they call and ravens, they are equally as bad or sometimes are worse, because I was told by two farmers that they had to keep their cattle in the barns during the summer days when they couldn't watch. What these little birds do, they sit on top of a cow and just pick it through right down through the stomach. --(interjection)--picking warbles is right, and the guts too. I understand the Minister of the House says "oh". I understand that those ravens are pretty active at Riverton, so possibly we all two or three can get together on this predator control.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I attended, not every day, not every hour, to the Indian Conference which was held here in Winnipeg and somebody says that I should be a Chief. Possibly I wouldn't know the pow-wow for them. But it was very interesting to me, and if any of you members were there; if you listened to the speeches that were made; the grievance those people made, and they have facts to substantiate it, I sympathize with them all the way along. Particularly I noticed the Honourable Member for Rupertsland--sorry he's not in his seat--I believe him and me we understand a little bit but him would know more than I do about the Indian dilemma. But anyhow, I was sitting there and listening to what they have to say, so I'm not going to go into the fish details because the Honourable Member for St. George went into it pretty thoroughly. But what brought me into my thinking that a resolution be passed; and I'm not going to read the resolution, the whereases or anything like that; but I want to bring it to the House's attention. I wonder if every member has a copy of it. It is a very good resolution and I think that the government should take it under consideration and it reads like this: "Be it resolved that immediate consideration be given to establishing in Manitoba a province-wide co-operative producing, processing and marketing organization which, in the initial stages, should be financed by Provincial and Federal Government funds." You should have heard those people talking about funds, and not entirely the Indian and Metis, also some of the white people that reside amongst them. "This co-operative to be developed in conjunction with presently existing Fisherman's Federation, the Department of Indian Affairs, and the present fishing industry; that sufficient monies be allocated to acquire the present facilities of producing companies plus such additional facilities as filleting plants, stations, equipment, etc., as may be found necessary for maximum utilization of the resources for the benefit of those dependent on fishing for a livelihood; that an annual convention be held at which representatives from district fisherman's locals may be in attendance. This convention would meet with provincial and federal representatives to lay the foundation of the co-operative. That in the initial stages the Board of Directors of the co-operative should consist of members of both governments, the present fishing companies appointed by the government, and fishermen appointed by the convention of the Fishermen's Federation". Last paragraph: "That the cost be amortized over a period of years by a royalty on fish, collected by the Provincial Government, held to the credit of the fishermen from whom it was deducted as sheer capital. As the fishermen's equity increases the representation on the Board of Directors would likewise increase, with the ultimate objective of complete ownership by the fishermen on co-operative basis".

Now, Mr. Chairman, as the Member for St. George stated that his fishermen feel, or at least that Lake Manitoba fishermen feel, that there is a combine amongst the fish companies. This is the item to study and get at the grass roots and take some action. I just want to compare myself what success the province to the west had with this. They started in 1945 and I believe they have already 9 or 12 co-operatives, like their fishing co-operatives. But I have a report here that says, "in 1960 a group of co-operatives has particular significance for northern Saskatchewan. The Department together with other government agencies is

(Mr. Wagner, cont'd.)....carrying out extensive programs planned to assist residents of this area to develop local responsibility to the establishment of co-operatives. For example, over the past few years fishermen co-operatives have been organized in many parts of the north, and in 1959 these groups united to form a new marketing co-operative to be known as Co-operative Fisheries Limited. The Provincial Government has turned over the operation of its fish marketing service to this co-operative enterprise. Assets of the crown corporation will be purchased by the co-operative over a reasonable period of time. Similarly, government trading stores" -- this is a good item -- similarly, government trading stores in northern areas are being turned over to a new co-operative known as Northern Co-operative Trading Service Limited with corporation assets being purchased by the new group." This is the step that we can help these people that are striving for their livelihood. And I cannot help but overhear one gentleman at that conference when he stated that he, as far as to subsidize his living, he has no choice but go against the law as far as fish is concerned; as far as lumber is concerned, and so and so forth. So therefore, Mr. Chairman, I would call upon the new Minister -- I know he is very active and I believe he must have been a good sportsman -- and on the government to sit down and discuss with all different departments and proceed to help these people.

MR. M. N. HRYHORCZUK, Q.C. (Ethelbert Plains): Mr. Chairman, I was hoping you would call it 5:30 but seeing you are not I think I could fill in the next eight minutes. I would like to add my compliments to the Minister for the excellent grasp he has of his department, and also for the helpful attitude that he is taking towards the members and towards everything else that comes under his responsibility. I think, Mr. Chairman, that we in the Province of Manitoba are pretty well the same as all other people. We don't too often sit down and count our blessings, and we are really blessed in this province with our natural resources. I believe that the matter of natural resources is a key to all forms of our life and is probably pretty well the nerve center of all the other departments that enter into this government, or form a part of it.

I will just spend a few moments to remind ourselves of how fortunate we are in the Province of Manitoba. What has nature given us? Well in natural resources we have land, we have forests, we have mines, we have rivers, lakes, wildlife of every description, and when we look at this province we find that we have a variety of everything that nature has to offer and a variety that is bountiful. Down to the west of us we have a range of mountains, probably not mountains like you would find at the west coast, but still mountains that produce certain very desirable game, forests, and so forth. We start with the Turtle Mountains and go on to the Riding Mountains, then up to the Duck Mountains and the Porcupines, a range of fine mountains although they are small. We have thousands and thousands of fresh water lakes. I don't know how many thousands of streams and rivers. We have some of the best land in Western Canada. Our forests have come under good management, good programs on the basis of sustained yield, and we can feel assured, Mr. Chairman, that with the type of program and policies that have been laid down and are being followed very carefully, I think that we can expect that our forests will yield into perpetuity. We probably are not making sufficient use of the forests that are not near to the place of utilization, not easily accessible; probably we could put a little more effort into this direction and use up some of these over-matured stands of timber and take the pressure off what has been in use for many years. It was these forests of Manitoba that built most of our homes in the province, in the suburban as well as the rural areas; provided material for our bridges; ties for our tracks; and so forth and so on. This was a source of material without which Manitoba could not have gone ahead as fast as it did. We probably can improve our means of cropping these various natural resources that we have been blessed with, and I think from what the Minister has said this afternoon that we can expect that along all these fields that proper care has been taken.

There is one thing that I was glad to hear and that is that recreation has come, or recreational resorts and so forth have come under this department because I think it's the proper place for them, because in the development of these recreational resources you have to take into account the utilization of our forests and so forth.

At this time, Mr. Chairman, as I said, I was only going to get up in order to fill in the time. If you are not quite ready to call it 5:30 I can carry on for a few moments. I don't think that the Minister would want to answer the questions that have been put to him by previous speakers. I was going to spend a little bit of time on lands. The Honourable Member for Inkster.

(Mr. Hryhorczuk, cont'd.).....suggested that the government should put more settlers on Crown lands. Well I am definitely and directly opposed to that utilization of the remaining Crown lands, and I hope to go into it more fully when we do come to that particular item in the estimates. I also hope that I will be able to take some part in the discussion on the various other items that appear in this particular department, such as game, and our forests, and so forth and so on.

I think the Minister gave us a very full coverage. Of course he couldn't give us the details, that's out of the question, but he did an excellent job in presenting the estimates to us and placing on record the stand that his department is taking. I know that he'll be very co-operative in answering the questions that will be placed to him. He has shown that not only on the floor of the House but he has shown it in his office to the credit of himself. He has an excellent staff, men that are dedicated to their jobs. I have known most of them for a long time and I have never entered into any of the offices without obtaining every assistance that was at their disposal. I think that the Minister is fortunate in having a staff of that nature and I think that the staff are fortunate in having the kind of a Minister they have, also because one without the other doesn't work too well. And I can only say to the Minister -- he mentioned the matter of health -- I do hope that his health stands up well. I have a fairly good idea what it means to enter into a department of that nature, or any kind, to find the tremendous amount of work because you've got to learn the thing from the ground up. I think that as he goes along, and it won't be long after this session, he'll find that his health will start coming back to him and that he'll find himself in A-1 condition and willing and ready to carry on.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is 5:30 and I shall leave the Chair till 8 o'clock.