

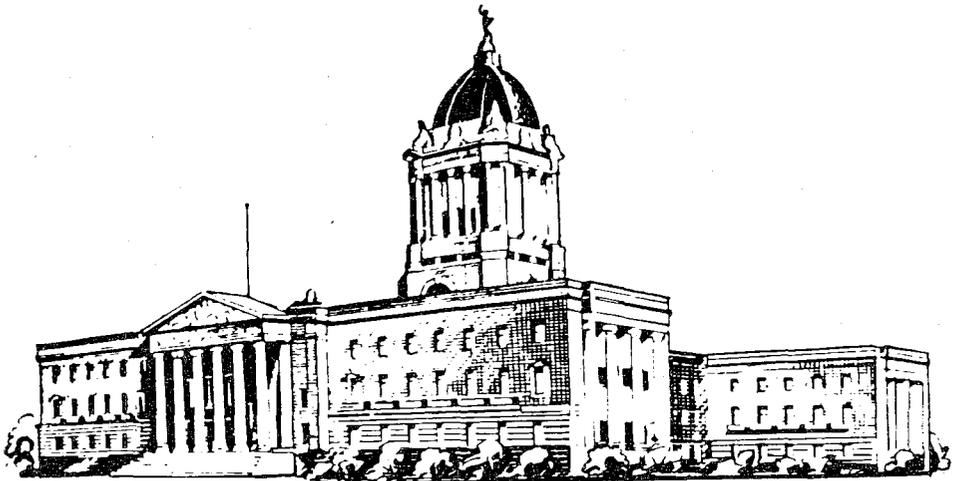


Legislative Assembly of Manitoba

DEBATES
and
PROCEEDINGS

Speaker

The Honourable James H. Bilton



Vol. XV No. 24 2:30 p.m., Thursday, March 20th, 1969. Third Session, 28th Legislature.

ELECTORAL DIVISION	NAME	ADDRESS
ARTHUR	Hon. J. Douglas Watt	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg 1
ASSINIBOIA	Steve Patrick	10 Red Robin Place, Winnipeg 12
BIRTLE-RUSSELL	Harry E. Graham	Binscarth, Manitoba
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INKSTER	Sidney Green	121 Cathedral Ave., Winnipeg 4
KILDONAN	Peter Fox	627 Prince Rupert Ave., Winnipeg 15
LAC DU BONNET	Oscar F. Bjornson	Lac du Bonnet, Manitoba
LAKESIDE	Douglas L. Campbell	326 Kelvin Blvd., Winnipeg 29
LA VERENDRYE	Albert Vielfaure	La Broquerie, Manitoba
LOGAN	Lemuel Harris	1109 Alexander Ave. Winnipeg 3
MINNEDOSA	Hon. Walter Weir	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg 1
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PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE	Gordon E. Johnston	7 Massey Dr., Portage la Prairie, Man.
RADISSON	Russell Paulley	435 Yale Ave. W., Transcona 25, Man.
RHINELAND	J. M. Froese	Winkler, Manitoba
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ST. BONIFACE	Laurent Desjardins	357 Des Meurons St., St. Boniface 6
ST. GEORGE	Elman Guttormson	Lundar, Manitoba
ST. JAMES	D. M. Stanes	381 Guildford St., St. James 12
ST. JOHN'S	Saul Cherniack, Q.C.	333 St. John's Ave., Winnipeg 4
ST. MATTHEWS	Robert Steen	2C-616 Strathcona St., Winnipeg 10
ST. VITAL	Hon. Donald W. Craik	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg 1
STE. ROSE	Gildas Molgat	Room 250, Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg 1
SELKIRK	T. P. Hillhouse, Q.C.	Dominion Bank Bldg., Selkirk, Man.
SEVEN OAKS	Saul Miller	324 Enniskillen Ave., Winnipeg 17
SOURIS-LANSDOWNE	M. E. McKellar	Nesbitt, Manitoba
SPRINGFIELD	Fred T. Klym	Beausejour, Manitoba
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WELLINGTON	Philip Petursson	681 Banning St., Winnipeg 10
WINNIPEG CENTRE	James Cowan, Q.C.	300 - 286 Smith St., Winnipeg 1
WOLSELEY	Leonard H. Claydon	1 - 116½ Sherbrook St., Winnipeg 1

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

2:30 o'clock, Thursday, March 20, 1969

Opening Prayer by Mr. Speaker

MR. SPEAKER: Presenting Petitions -
 Reading and Receiving Petitions
 Presenting Reports by Standing and Special Committees
 Notices of Motion
 Introduction of Bills

Before the Orders of the Day I'd like to introduce our young guests here today. We have 60 students of Grade 8 standing of the Robert Smith School. These students are under the direction of Mr. Hollinger, Mr. Bedak and Mrs. Darewianchuk. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Selkirk.

We also have 27 students of Grade 5 standing of the Agazzis Drive School. These students are under the direction of Mrs. Marlene Maykut. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable the Attorney-General.

We also have with us today 32 students of Grade 8 standing of the Niverville School. These students are under the direction of Mr. Jacob Bergén. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for La Verendrye. On behalf of all the honourable members of the Legislative Assembly, I welcome you all here today.

Orders of the Day.

MR. GILDAS MOLGAT (Leader of the Opposition)(Ste. Rose): Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day, I'd like to address a question to the House Leader. The House is now entering its fourth week in session. I think 15 bills so far have been introduced for first reading but the House has only received one printed bill. Can the Minister indicate when the government proposes to get to work on bills?

HON. STERLING R. LYON, Q.C. (Attorney-General) (Fort Garry): Well, Mr. Speaker, the government has been at work on bills for some time. The House will see the product of that work soon.

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to ask a subsequent question of the Minister of Health. Is he definitely going to proceed with the medicare bill tomorrow?

HON. GEORGE JOHNSON (Minister of Health and Social Services) (Gimli): Yes, it'll have first reading tomorrow, I believe. That's my intention.

MR. MOLGAT: Could the Minister indicate if the bill is printed and whether the members will have it soon, because the deadline date is barely a week away.

MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, I hope to have the bill distributed. It's at the printer's at the moment, I believe.

MR. RUSSELL PAULLEY (Leader of the New Democratic Party) (Radisson): Mr. Speaker, if I may, and on the same general subject of the medicare services, have the regulations pertaining to the present bill on the operation of the plan been finalized and approved by Order-in-Council, and if so, are copies available to members of the House now?

MR. JOHNSON: Well, Mr. Speaker, the regulations concerning the billing and premium collection have been passed by Order-in-Council. The regulations concerning the insured services portion, that is the regulations governing the schedule of benefits, is something which has taken longer than expected, and the general provision of these regulations had been indicated to the physicians by circular letter from the corporation. As soon as these regulations are in printed form I'll certainly make them available.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, may I address a question to the Honourable the Minister of Transportation. The other day I raised the question of a number of employees at 10 Midland Avenue having their cars inspected for some reason or other. The Honourable Minister indicated, in reply to me raising the matter, that he was aware of it, the matter was under investigation. I wonder if the Minister can indicate to the House the reasons for the investigation and what were the results thereof.

HON. STEWART E. McLEAN, Q.C. (Minister of Transportation) (Dauphin): Mr. Speaker, I am unable to make a report on it at this time.

MR. PAULLEY: May I ask my honourable friend, Mr. Speaker, when we might receive a report, because of the apprehension of many of the employees of the government as to whether or not they may be subject to the same tactics, even members of this House?

MR. McLEAN: I take some exception, Mr. Speaker, to the use of the word "tactics". We're conducting the administration of the department in what I believe is a proper and correct manner and I'm not at all certain that this would be a matter on which a report would be made to the House. It's an internal matter of management within the department. If there is any information that comes within the sphere of proper report to the Legislature, naturally that report will be made.

MR. PAULLEY: A subsequent question then. Do I take it from my honourable friend the Minister of Transport that such treatment of employees as not being aware of the reasons for investigation into their personal property is a proper function of government?

MR. McLEAN: Mr. Speaker, I'm quite certain that the employees concerned are well aware of what investigation was made and why.

Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I might take this opportunity of advising the members that the Dauphin King's Hockey Club, by defeating the St. Boniface Saints last evening, have won the championship of the Manitoba Junior Hockey League and will represent Manitoba in the Western Canada playdowns.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Mines and Natural Resources.

HON. HARRY J. ENNS (Minister of Mines and Natural Resources)(Rockwood-Iberville): Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I may table with the House a Return to an Order of the House No. 15, also a Return to an Order of the House No. 17, and a Return to an Order of the House No. 16. Thank you.

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to address a question to the Minister, -- it would either be Agriculture or the previous Minister of Agriculture, regarding the flooding question. If I remember correctly, the Minister indicated earlier that on the 20th of March there would be a meeting and that he would have further information. Does he have that information now?

MR. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased to inform the House that the Flood Forecasting Committee is meeting at this moment and I have not had a report delivered to me. I expect it some time today.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Winnipeg Centre.

MR. JAMES COWAN, Q. C. (Winnipeg Centre): Mr. Speaker, on this first day of spring, I would like to draw the attention of the members to the fact that today is the 107th birthday of Manitoba's oldest citizen, one of my constituents, Mrs. Jennie Gray of 123 Mayfair Avenue. She was born on March 20, 1862, came to Manitoba by boat to Duluth in 1880 when she was a young lady, and on to St. Boniface on the old Grand Trunk Railway. There were no bridges around Winnipeg at that time. Mrs. Gray's daughter, Mr. R. C. Allan, who is 85 years of age, is also still living, and her grandson Hugh Allan is a photographer with the Winnipeg Tribune, and who is known to many of us in this House. I'm sure all honourable members would like to join with me in wishing Mrs. Gray the very best today and for many happy returns of the day. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. MOLGAT: I'd like to address a question to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs regarding the Public Utilities Branch. Do the military establishments in Manitoba, such as Shilo, Rivers, Gimli, purchase their power in bulk and then look after the distribution within the camps?

HON. J. B. CARROLL (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs) (The Pas): I'll take that question as notice, Mr. Speaker.

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Speaker, I might ask a subsequent question. Would the Minister also find out if there has been a recent increase in the rates charged to the military establishments?

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MR. SPEAKER: Orders of the Day. The adjourned debate of the Honourable the Minister of Finance. The Honourable the Leader of the Opposition.

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Speaker, the other day you ruled that the proposed amendment by the Honourable Member for St. John's was out of order, and on reading your ruling I believe I understand the basis for it. It seems to me, however, that the intention of the honourable member is one that was very creditable and that the House should proceed with, because what he was wanting to make sure was that the committee did in fact get to work.

MR. SPEAKER: I'd like to remind the Honourable the Leader of the Opposition that it is

(MR. SPEAKER cont'd) . . . improper to discuss a ruling that has taken place in this regard. He seems to be discussing my ruling at this particular time.

MR. MOLGAT: No, I'm sorry, Mr. Speaker, if I gave that impression. I was not challenging your ruling or discussing it. What I was trying to say is that I want to see the committee get to work.

MR. SPEAKER: I would remind the Honourable Leader of the Opposition that he suggested that the motion of the Honourable Member for St. John's seemed to be somewhat favourable, the intent was favourable, and that I should have thought otherwise. Well, that's my thinking and I would ask the Honourable Leader of the Opposition to abide by that thought.

MR. MOLGAT: I'll start over again. Mr. Speaker, I want to see this committee get to work. It's now been in existence for a long time. Last year it was not called into action until just before the session, in spite of the fact that early in the fall I urged the First Minister to get all the committees going. No action was taken at that time; it was only once the session date was announced that the government decided to proceed and call committees. Referring specifically to the Auto Insurance Committee, Mr. Speaker, before you got me back to that particular point, that committee did not do any work. This is a serious matter because, in the interval, rates have increased; there have been a number of statements made in this House which I think need to be cleared up; members to my left were saying that the auto insurance companies were taking advantage of the public; the Honourable Member for Souris-Lansdowne took the reverse position, that this was not so; and I don't think that this is a desirable climate in which to operate. So it's, in my opinion, extremely urgent that the committee get to work.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I recognize that the members on this side of the House cannot commit the government to expenditures by a direct request. We have to follow the formula of suggesting considering the advisability of, and it seemed to me, on reading your ruling, that if this had been included indicating that it was a recommendation to the government, that this is something that could be considered. By leaving it strictly on a matter of 30 days it's obvious that the House might have completed its work then - it's not too likely, I suggest, but it's always a possibility - and that this would in fact be creating further expenditures.

But I think it's important, Mr. Speaker, that the committee get to work, and I see no reason why the committees could not be working during the course of the session itself. As it is now - and my question to the Minister a little while ago didn't bring out any definite information either as to when we might get to work on bills, so our committees of the Legislature have not been called - we've been in session for three weeks and, apart from the one committee on the one bill, there've been no other morning sessions of committees, and there's no reason why these special committees dealing with particular matters should not be working at this time. The members are here. It's in fact a saving to the government by proceeding at this time and getting to work because there's no expense involved in bringing the members together as there is between sessions; there's no need for additional expenditure as there is between sessions; and I am sure that the majority of the members would be more than willing to be spending their time at work in the mornings in the early part of the session.

So, Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, and I trust that the motion will be acceptable because I think it is couched in the proper terms and does not involve directly expenditure for the government. I move, seconded by my colleague the Honourable Member for Lakeside, that the resolution be amended by adding the following paragraph thereto: "And that the first named give consideration to the advisability of convening the first meeting of the said committee during the course of this session of the Legislature."

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion.

HON. GURNEY EVANS (Minister of Finance) (Fort Rouge): Mr. Speaker, I think I'd like to say a word on this occasion; that we have been waiting for the Opposition to stop their obstruction of this measure for some time, when this item was put on the Order Paper on the first possible occasion for this session, which the Leader of the Opposition has just said is some three weeks ago; when what I described before is the posturing and the attitudinizing of the Opposition began to make itself evident, and my honourable friend from Selkirk standing up and trying to pinch the ball from the NDP over here - it was quite amusing to see that - and when, in the course of this, there have been speech after speech after speech; when my honourable friend from St. John's undertook to make a 40-minute address in which he had to be sat down by the time limit, if I recall, all in the interest of speeding up the work of this committee; and in those circumstances, if you examine the record, you'll find that those who have delayed the

(MR. EVANS cont'd) . . . establishment of this committee have indeed been those across the floor and not here. We have been anxious from the first moment to proceed with this work, to get it under way.

I refer back again to the way in which the work of the committee has been conducted. Every single move that was made by that committee, to wait for information from British Columbia, or for any other reason, was made with the unanimous consent of all of the members of the committee as revealed by the minutes of the committee, because I've taken the trouble to read them. There was no motion by any member of that committee that any other procedure be followed and if they had felt, the members of that committee had felt that the work was being unduly delayed, where were they at that time when the work could have been speeded up? I remember my honourable friend from Inkster is the only one who raised his voice on this subject, and I acknowledge that he did. He said something at the committee and I remember that, and I must acknowledge he did address a few remarks to the committee - strong remarks. I acknowledge that. Granted he didn't feel strongly enough about it to move a motion. There was no motion.

MR. SIDNEY GREEN (Inkster): I didn't think you'd vote for it.

MR. EVANS: Yes, and this brings up another subject, that some question was thought to be raised, I think by the Leader of the Opposition - or no, someone else - who said, "The government dominates this committee."

A MEMBER: That was the Honourable Member for St. John's.

MR. EVANS: Was it the Honourable Member for St. John's? He makes his points so forcefully and so beguilingly that I'm so sorry that I forgot who it was. But he draws attention to the domination or the control that the government side has in this particular committee. Well, how, under what possible circumstances, can control be exercised? Only on the occasion of a vote, which my honourable friend nor any of his associates thought fit to propose to the committee. And now, standing up and grandstanding for the public, in some attempt to try to establish the fact that the government side has delayed the proceeding with this business here, I thought it right to call public attention to this grandstanding for what it is, and to say that as soon as the House sees fit to proceed with it, we will proceed with our part of the duty and get ahead with the work of the committee.

MR. MOLGAT: Would the Minister permit a question, Mr. Speaker? Could the Minister indicate when the committee was first instituted? And when it was first called last year?

MR. EVANS: Oh, yes. I have the complete record here of all the meetings of the committee. I have a complete set of the minutes. I'll read them . . .

MR. MOLGAT: Could you tell us when it was instituted last year and when it was first called?

MR. EVANS: It was -- (Interjections) --

MR. MOLGAT: Quit posturing.

MR. EVANS: Well, if my honourable friend will stop obstructing my speech, I'll answer the question. It was called at a time agreed upon by the committee itself.

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Speaker, I think, on a point of order, a correction has to be made here. The Minister's not telling the truth to the House, because that committee . . .

MR. EVANS: I think I will ask my honourable friend to withdraw that remark.

MR. MOLGAT: Well, let me finish my comment.

MR. EVANS: Well, then, don't say it.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. I'm sure the Leader of the Opposition realizes he made an accusation there and he didn't intend it. He did not intend it . . .

MR. MOLGAT: I'll be happy to substantiate it, Mr. Speaker. I can substantiate what I said. Because the Minister said that the committee was called, it was called when the committee decided to have it called. That is not so. The committee was not called until the government called it in February. The committee never met before that, so it's incorrect for the Minister to say it was called by the decision of the committee. The government did not call it.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for St. John's.

MR. SAUL M. CHERNIACK, Q. C. (St. John's): Just one question, Mr. Speaker, then I think I'd like to make a comment. But the question, if the Honourable Minister will permit, I would appreciate his indicating to me the whereabouts in Hansard of the 40-minute speech I made and which was terminated because the Speaker called me to order in some fashion. I refer to pages 257, 258 and 259 which are the only ones I see in which I spoke on this matter.

(MR. CHERNIACK cont'd) . . . Could the Minister please justify the statement he made?

MR. EVANS: If my honourable friend corrects me, then I accept the correction and I apologize to him.

MR. CHERNIACK: . . . appreciate the fact that the Honourable Minister, in all integrity, is prepared to apologize for the mistakes he makes, and I would like to point out that the mistakes he makes are not only such as the one for which he apologized. I've had occasion to be told by the Honourable the Attorney-General that I was condescending in my approach to a speech made by another honourable member, and I suggested if I learned anything about condescension I did from him, but I was wrong. Not only from him. We've now had the pleasure of the Minister of -- well, he's the Provincial Treasurer I believe, who has now stated on a pontifical basis that it is the obstruction on this side that prevents work being done in this particular committee. Complete and utter nonsense, Mr. Speaker. Complete and utter nonsense because, in every respect, not only this committee but every other, we almost get down on our knees to this government to call meetings and to see to it that work is done, and for him to stand up there and talk about the fact that I stated that the meeting was controlled by the government is a fact, Mr. Speaker, but the fact is that I never disagreed with the right of the government to pack the meeting with the majority of its members on the committee. I've never disagreed with that. And I assure him that this is something to which, had he listened to what I said rather than measuring the length of what he thought was the time spent, then he would have known the position I took.

The fact is that that committee is under the control, not of the committee itself, but of the government which fails to call meetings. And for him, then, to say in such a straight face that it was the committee that had the conduct of its proceedings, then he ought to attend some of the meetings that I attend, where the committee is called at such short notice and for such short a period of time that it cannot continue its work, and we could again go days, meetings, committee after committee, to point out that, because of the government - the government, not the members, not the government members on the committee - but because of the government there's not time given to do the work which the committee wants to do. And then the phoney approach to say that "they didn't move a resolution which the committee could have been dealt with." Mr. Speaker, there are no records kept of the debate in committee, and for a member of the opposition to make a resolution that we do something or other in committee when it is clear that the government members will not support it, is going through a procedure which he himself, in all his austerity, would consider to be ridiculous, especially when it is usually the case that the members of the government's side who sit on the committee, turn their faces towards the head table where a Minister in charge of the problem sits, and do exactly the way his head is inclined to indicate them to do. Whether it be a nod or a shake, it is that which controls us.

MR. LYON: Would my honourable friend permit a question? Would he mind telling me the Minister who is the chairman of this committee?

MR. CHERNIACK: I didn't say chairman, I said under whose responsibility it is. I wish, Mr. Speaker, that people who want to interrupt or who want to comment on speeches that are made, should take the trouble to listen to what is said or, if they can't hear, to read what is said before they are prepared to misinterpret what was said in order to gain some sort of tactical advantage.

Mr. Speaker, the business of this committee should go ahead. The obstruction has been the delay on the part of that side of the House at all times, and because on one occasion, I think it was, the Leader of the Official Opposition was absent, and the House Leader graciously - and I don't thank him particularly for it because I think he should have been gracious about it - suggested that this matter stand over a day, maybe now gives the Honourable the Provincial Treasurer the right to say, "They are delaying it." It's only because - and I say that - it's only because my leader yesterday pointed out that the government was by-passing this on the agenda from time to time, that it is before us today. And that's the only reason it is before us today, and now . . .

MR. EVANS: . . . Mr. Speaker, that is not correct.

MR. CHERNIACK: Mr. Speaker, does the Honourable the Provincial Treasurer want to ask me a question? Does he want to say that I called, that I said that something was not true, or is he saying that what I'm saying is not true? Let's get it clear.

MR. EVANS: . . . simply say that the reason . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. I wonder if this debate isn't developing into an argument, and might we not come back to the amendment that we have to deal with? Can we deal with this amendment now, or is . . . ?

MR. CHERNIACK: Mr. Speaker, I'm sorry. I thought the Honourable the Provincial Treasurer interrupted me to say that something I said was not true. And if that's what he said, then isn't that the same statement to which he took great umbrage when the Honourable the Leader of the Opposition made the statement. Is he saying that my statement is not true? I want to know. He said that, did he?

MR. EVANS: Yes, the answer is yes.

MR. SPEAKER: . . . if the Minister can answer.

MR. EVANS: I said the answer is yes.

MR. CHERNICAK: So you're now accusing me of stating an untruth?

MR. EVANS: That is right.

MR. CHERNIACK: "That is right," and I presume that that's ok with you, Mr. Speaker. I had the impression that he's not supposed to do that, but that's all right. I would just answer that. The fact is, Mr. Speaker, that this was delayed from day to day by the government, and yesterday my leader stressed: "When are you bringing it forward? We want action." And the Honourable the House Leader said, "We'll bring it forth tomorrow, by all means, if the Leader of the Official Opposition is ready," and he said, "I am ready." So it's here today because we got it here today. And if the Honourable the Provincial Treasurer thinks, in his own mind, that it might have come here anyway, then that's his privilege to think that. We have a right to think otherwise, because we've been wanting it to go ahead. So that, Mr. Speaker, it's all very well for the Provincial Treasurer to stand up and to make the kind of speech he did. He did it out of self-defense and out of self-embarrassment, by the fact that what we are accusing them of doing is correct.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you ready for the question?

MR. GREEN: It's only as weak as . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. I believe the Honourable Member for Inkster has a brief word on the subject.

MR. GREEN: That's correct, Mr. Speaker. It will be brief and I harken to your warning in this connection - or to your advice in this connection, to be more accurate.

Mr. Speaker, I repeat what I said in my earlier remarks. It's of no value to the citizens of Manitoba that we prove the Honourable the Minister of Finance correct as to what objections were made at this meeting, or if we prove that what we are saying is correct. I wish to reiterate for the record that I don't care what the minutes said; we objected at the outset when the government members of this committee wanted to hold up any hearings until the Wootton Commission Report was delivered. As a result of the protestations, not only of myself but of my colleague my Honourable Leader, we decided that we would hear the insurance representatives while waiting for this report. We then agreed to wait for the report. We then asked for meetings to be held, and on the last day that the committee met we indicated that we were not satisfied to report progress but we would not put a motion, we would make our remarks in the House. So that protestations were made, not only at the last meeting, but at every stage along the line. It's true, my recollection is that no motions were made, but for the Minister to indicate that we were quite content to go along with the proceedings is quite erroneous. But Mr. Speaker, that's not the real issue. The Leader of the Opposition has moved the motion that this committee meet immediately, or at least he's moved the motion which will expedite early meeting of the commission to deal with the problem. And, Mr. Speaker . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. May I correct the honourable member. The motion reads that the said committee, convening the first meeting of the said committee during the course of the session.

MR. GREEN: Yes, Mr. Speaker, and I believe that that motion will expedite early meetings of this committee, because I believe if the motion is not passed that we are not likely to have meetings during the session, we may have to wait until after the session. But, Mr. Speaker, I think that the importance of the question is far, far more weighty than I originally put it in my remarks. If you will recall my remarks, I indicated that the Wootton Commission had found that the prices being paid by the public for insurance premiums were excessive due to the lack of competition and due to the manner in which the companies were servicing the industry. Now, Mr. Speaker, I regarded that as certainly being a serious charge, but it's not

(MR. GREEN cont'd) nearly as serious as what the Honourable Member for Roblin and the Honourable Member for Souris-Lansdowne said, because the Honourable Member for Souris-Lansdowne said that excessive rates is cheating and stealing.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. I believe this is developing into a debate when we are really dealing with this motion, and I wonder if the honourable gentleman, if he has any comments to make, that he would keep it within the confines of this motion. I believe what he is saying now has to a large degree been said, and will no doubt be said again when the committee meets, and I wonder if he should continue in this vein at this particular time.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I'm just winding up my remarks, and when I say that, I don't mean to acknowledge that anything that I have said up until now is not directly related to the motion, but nevertheless I don't wish to inconvenience the Speaker nor do I wish to inconvenience the House. I'm going to conclude my remarks on the basis that the Honourable Member for Roblin and the Honourable Member for Souris-Lansdowne insist - I don't insist - they insist that to charge excessive rates is to cheat the public and to steal from the public. So they say, not I, they say that the Wootton Commission Report indicates that the insurance companies are cheating and stealing from the public. I make no such charge, but if they charge that, members on that side of the House, then I say we better start meeting and we better start meeting quickly.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for St. George.

MR. ELMAN GUTTORMSON (St. George): Mr. Speaker, I take exception to the remarks made by the Minister of Finance because they're just not consistent with the facts. He has just said that the delay was in agreement with all members of the committee. Mr. Speaker, this committee was reconstituted at the last session of the Legislature and at that time I was appointed to the committee and I attended the first meeting of the automobile committee on February 5th. I agreed to no delay at any time, and for the Minister to suggest that we all members did, is just not correct. The first meeting . . .

MR. EVANS: May I ask the honourable member a question?

MR. GUTTORMSON: You certainly can.

MR. EVANS: Did he propose any other course of action?

MR. MOLGAT: . . . what happened in the intervening eight months.

MR. GUTTORMSON: Mr. Speaker, when the committee wasn't called, I discussed the matter with the Leader of the Liberal Party and he wrote the First Minister and complained that the committee had not been called together and, if memory serves me correctly, the Leader of the NDP also complained about the delay. The first time that I had an opportunity to speak in the committee was on February 5th, I believe it was, when the meeting was first called since I was appointed to the committee, and for him to suggest that I agreed to a delay is not correct. For him to say that I agreed to wait until the Wootton Report was delivered is not true, because we never met until February 5th, long after the report was tabled.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Gladstone has a brief word.

MR. NELSON SHOEMAKER (Gladstone): As usual, Mr. Speaker, I will be very brief, but I just want to take some exception, too, to the comment that was made by the Honourable Minister of Finance. Now, the whole purpose of the motion that is before us is to make certain that this committee does get to work. And when? During this session. That's all it says, and in light of the statements that were made by my honourable friend the Minister of Finance, he simply cannot vote against the motion. He can't vote against it if he's sincere in what he has said. He just simply can't vote against it. Because what did he say? In the first sentence when he rose to the floor, he said, or he inferred, that the reason that we hadn't met was because we had delayed voting for the original motion that's on the Order Paper today. That's the reason we haven't got to work. That's what he said. -- (Interjection) -- No, this year. It had remained on the Order Paper for days and days in the name of the Honourable Leader of the Official Opposition, and if it hadn't been for that, then we would have got down to business and we would have had the whole thing solved.

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, on a point of privilege. I did not say it was because it remained in the name of the Leader of the Opposition.

MR. SHOEMAKER: Well, you inferred that it was the tactics of the . . .

MR. EVANS: I did not.

MR. SHOEMAKER: . . . Opposition.

MR. EVANS: Ah, that's better.

MR. SHOEMAKER: . . . the tactics of the Opposition that prevented the government from calling this committee and we would have been working.

MR. EVANS: Which are continuing at the present moment.

MR. SHOEMAKER: Now all I say is, let's get to work during this session, so how can they vote against the motion that is before us at the moment? — (Interjections) — Pardon me? They're going to support it. Well I'm glad to hear that. Another inference that was made, and everyone heard it here and certainly the people — the school children in the gallery could observe the point that my honourable friend the Minister of Finance was attempting to make, that the only reason that this committee that was reconstituted, I think, on the 24th of May last year or the 25th, the only reason that we did not meet until February 5th of this year — that is, nearly a whole year went by — was not his fault; it was some member of this committee that had failed to call a meeting.

MR. EVANS: Oh no.

MR. SHOEMAKER: Well, my honourable friend made the statement that nobody objected to him not calling a meeting.

MR. LYON: You're all mixed up again.

MR. SHOEMAKER: Well whose fault is it? Just whose fault is it that we did not have a meeting, then, from May 24 till February 5? The inference was that because nobody on the committee objected to it — this delay — that we consented to the delay. Well, I want to ask my honourable friend whose responsibility is it on any select committee of the House to call the first meeting? Who calls it? Because if I'm supposed to be calling it and I'm on the committee, if they will please advise me that they are going to wait for me to set a date on which to call the first meeting, then I'll gladly take that responsibility. But I understood that, since the government appointed the committee, that they would be calling the first meeting. Now maybe I've gone wrong somewhere but, surely to goodness, and if I'm correct in my assumption that we members of the committee have the responsibility of making certain that a committee meeting is going to be called, this is exactly what we're doing by this amendment today. We're not naming the day but we say that the first meeting must be during the present session. So what's wrong with that?

And so, Mr. Speaker, if my honourable friends vote against this amendment, then I, as a member of the committee, want some specific instructions as to my responsibility in respect to calling meetings in the future.

MR. SPEAKER put the question and after a voice vote declared the motion lost.

MR. MOLGAT: Yeas and nays, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Call in the members.

A STANDING VOTE was taken, the result being as follows:

YEAS: Messrs. Barkman, Borowski, Campbell, Cherniack, Dawson, Desjardins, Dow, Fox, Froese, Green, Guttormson, Hanuschak, Harris, Hillhouse, Johnston, Kawchuk, Molgat, Patrick, Paulley, Shoemaker, Uskiw and Vielfaure.

NAYS: Messrs. Baizley, Bjornson, Carroll, Claydon, Cowan, Craik, Einarson, Enns, Evans, Graham, Hamilton, Johnson, Jorgenson, Klym, Lissaman, Lyon, McGregor, McKellar, McKenzie, McLean, Masniuk, Stanes, Steen, Watt, Weir, Witney and Mesdames Forbes and Morrison.

MR. CLERK: Yeas 22; Nays 28.

MR. SPEAKER: I declare the amendment lost. Are you ready for the question on the main motion? The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. JACOB M. FROESE (Rhineland): Mr. Speaker, I didn't take part in the debate on the amendment that was just voted on; however, I want to direct a few words on the main motion that is before us: to re-establish the committee to look into the matter of auto insurance.

We have been told and we know that the work of the committee was delayed to a large extent because of the waiting period for the Wootton Commission Report from B. C., which also investigated the same matters and which had done a lot of work in this matter and the report has been made. We find in today's paper, The Globe and Mail dated March 20, that a legislative committee in B. C. has now made a report to the legislature there and they are recommending a no-fault insurance in B. C. The report of this committee is not quite the same as what is recommended in the Wootton Report, according to the report here. However, a legislative committee has recommended that the British Columbia Government produce compulsory basic no-fault automobile insurance coverage by private carriers.

(MR. FROESE cont'd)

Then the report also goes on to say here: "It has been followed by a minority report issued by the three New Democratic Party members who sat on the committee which proposed a government-run compulsory scheme offering basic no-fault coverage with no policies and without direct premiums." They later go on to explain just how they propose to finance the automobile insurance scheme as a minority report, and the report states that the NDP minority report proposed an extra two percent gallon tax on gasoline and additional licence fees to raise the estimated 15 million annual cost of providing its proposed basic no-fault coverage under a government plan. It would be administered by an auto traffic victims' compensation board. This is the NDP recommendation.

Then a little further on, it says, "Additional licence fees ranging from \$5.00 a year for good drivers to \$25.00 for those in high risk categories, would boost its revenue to an estimated \$17,200,000." These were the recommendations of the NDP minority report in B. C.

The article also goes on to say that the British Columbia Government, if at all possible, intends to go ahead at this session and bring forth legislation to bring about a program of insurance for their citizens. The article here says that last November the commission headed by Mr. Justice A. R. B. Wootton recommended that the province abandon the existing tort system in favour of establishing a compulsory no-fault system of auto insurance issued by private carriers under control of a government board with a uniform 20,000 death benefit. In its report tabled in the House, the committee suggested the province adopt the same basic plan but with benefits of 7,000 on death of the head of the family or spouse, and 1,000 on the death of dependent children. The committee also proposed that a basic weekly indemnity of \$50.00 be paid for injuries incurred in motor vehicle accidents by all persons over sixteen. This coverage would apply to housewives, unemployed and retired people, as well as those with jobs who had a medical certificate to say that they could not work as a result of injury. So here we have an outline of some of the points that no doubt will be embodied in legislation that will come forward in the B. C. Legislature when they bring forth the legislation in their province.

Mr. Speaker, on an earlier occasion when the report of this committee was brought in, I asked the government whether a copy of the Wootton Report, together with any presentations that had been made to the committee, would be made available to me. To date I've yet not received a reply. If I am not supposed to get the information, then I would ask to be put on the committee as well because I will need the information to make proper decisions when the report does come in as to what will be recommended in Manitoba, and in order to make an intelligent decision I need the information. Therefore, I would repeat whether a copy of the Wootton Commission Report, together with any presentations material, will be made available. If not, I would ask the government to add my name to the committee that is to be established on auto insurance. I think a lot of the basic recommendations that will be brought into the legislation in Manitoba will stem from the Wootton Commission Report because they have done a thorough job and I think they have made some very fair analyses and reached some sound conclusions from which we will be drawing, and therefore I feel that the information should be made available to all members of the House. I am sure that the committee that will be appointed will take a further look and do further studies in connection with the B. C. report and likewise will then make recommendations. Therefore, I appeal to the government once more to either give me the information or add my name to the committee.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable the Minister of Finance.

MR. EVANS: May I assure the honourable member that I was not aware of any request for information from him that I was responsible for. If it's fallen between stools I regret it. I'll see that he gets copies of those, even if they're my own copies, for his use.

MR. SPEAKER put the question and after a voice vote declared the motion carried.

MR. LYON: Committee of Supply, Mr. Speaker, please.

MR. SPEAKER: That the House resolve itself into a Committee to consider of the Supply to be granted to Her Majesty.

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable the Attorney-General, 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 after a voice vote declared the motion carried, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of Supply with the Honourable Member for Souris-Lansdowne in the Chair.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

MR. EVANS: Mr. Chairman, with this department I wonder if I could respond to the request of the Honourable Member for Lakeside and place on the table of the Committee nine copies of a Return showing the permanent staff provided for in the 1969-1970 estimates. There are copies here for each party. And if I may, I would like to make a comment on them so that the figures can be properly understood.

The figures include only permanently established positions or positions which the departments have indicated should be established and for which funds are provided in the 1969-70 estimates. This, as I understand it, is the same basis as previous years. The total figure for 1969-70 is 7,850 as compared to 7,832 which were listed for 1968-69 in the information provided to the House last year. On this basis there is an increase of only 18 positions between 1968-69 and 1970. The comparison is not quite accurate because of some minor discrepancies in last year's listings. For example, it - that is, last year's listings - included 28 term positions under the 100 percent sharehold Canada Land Inventory Program in the Department of Mines and Natural Resources. I think it is correct to say that those 28 positions are not included in this year's return. With this and other minor adjustments, the actual increase in positions would appear to amount to 70, so I wanted my honourable friend to know that some adjustments in last year would increase the figure this year to a difference of 70 instead of 18.

This increase is attributable in large part to new and expanded programs authorized by the government. For example, expansion of the MIAA MIT, new programs in the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, expanded role of the Management Committee, etc. At the same time, several departments show reductions in their complements, particularly of clerical staff, as improved or automated procedures enable staff savings to be made. In other cases, positions which were provided for in the 1968-69 estimates were never filled. This applies particularly to the former Department of Welfare, now a part of the Department of Health and Social Services. The Department of Health and Social Services is requesting fewer positions for social service in 1969-70 but is requesting an additional 30 for mental hospital staff. Overall, almost 3,000 institutional staff are included in the total of 7,850 staff count for 1969-70, and here when the paper arrives, my honourable friend will see that I have added an additional column indicating the people who, in my view, should be classed as institutional. Although the same total is arrived at, it shows a subdivision of the figures because -- to my way of thinking, it's clear to me that there is a distinction between a classification known as civil servant and such other institutional workers as nurses and teachers and others who work in the institutions and directly in charge or care of the public. It's with that object in mind of showing how the force is deployed that the column has been added. This includes institutional maintenance staff employed by the Department of Government Services, institutional nursing and other staffs employed by the Department of Health and Social Services, and teachers and other staff for learning institutions employed by the Department of Youth and Education.

I thought it was right for me to make those comments in providing the return to the committee, in fairness to my honourable friend that I show there were some slight errors in last year's return, and this, I hope, corrects the comparison.

MR. DOUGLAS CAMPBELL (Lakeside): Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Minister: is it not a fact, though, that when we're trying to keep comparative figures, that what he mentioned first of all, and that is the established positions which the various departments provide for in these estimates, are really the ones that we would consider as civil servants, grouped any way you wish, but whether they be institutional staff or teachers, so long as they're an established position and so long as it is intended to fill them, those positions in this year's estimates, that really would be considered as civil service in total, would it not?

MR. EVANS: Yes. I have no quarrel with that interpretation that anyone whose salary is provided from the Consolidated Revenue might well be considered a civil servant. I might add a further remark to the extent that there are of course term positions, and as my honourable friend must be well aware, many of these so-called term positions have been occupied by the same persons sometimes for years, and we're at present under the responsibility of the Management Committee, endeavouring to establish even permanently the term positions that must be filled for a certain period of each year, sometimes, say, only in the summer or only in the winter, but to come up with a classification which will be regarded as permanent term positions, if that's not a contradiction, and we are trying to transfer to the permanent established positions of the government all of the positions that should be classified that way. It may

(MR. EVANS cont'd) . . . have the effect of increasing the totals of the permanent established positions, I don't know, but so many of them have been in continuous employment for so long at an established kind of work, which there is every intention to continue, and it's our feeling that they should be classified as permanent established positions. Some of that has been done. We will endeavour to do more of it and this will then be, I think, a proper statement of the distribution of our staff.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Chairman, I'm quite aware of the groups that the Honourable the Minister mentions. There are of course, in addition, real casual positions and at some periods of the year their numbers are quite substantial. Perhaps one of the best examples of those would be folks who take positions during summer holidays, perhaps university students or other students to work on survey gangs with the Highway Department, or an even more casual employment and of shorter duration, the ones who are called in to help with fire fighting and things of that kind. These are not the ones that we're trying to cover in this list, and I agree with the Minister that it would be well to get the permanent term ones included in the list but, as far as I am concerned, not the casual ones.

Mr. Chairman, I would just like to ask the Minister -- a quick glance through here, I do not see the list of the Deputy Ministers and comparable heads of boards and commissions. Will that list be coming down soon?

MR. EVANS: Mr. Chairman, I had hoped to have it today to table with this one. If I get it later today I'll table it today, otherwise I expect it tomorrow. I thought I should put forward the one that I already had.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is that all, Mr. Minister? Tourism and Recreation. (a) 1--passed...

MR. CARROLL: Mr. Chairman, possibly I should run over some of the questions that remain unanswered from the opening statements made by various members. The Member for Inkster was discussing the possibility of zoning for various historic sites or buildings. The only comment I would like to make on that is that zoning does come under the municipal jurisdiction or metropolitan jurisdiction. We think it's a good idea that some accommodation should be made within the zoning regulations for places of special historic significance. We think, of course, there are many local factors that will have to be taken into account, and we would think that maybe the Historic Sites Advisory Boards, their recommendations with respect to certain places of interest might be of value in making a presentation to a zoning board for consideration of that kind.

The Member for Hamiota was asking questions about Salt Lake and the beach and what the government might do to help the people of his constituency with respect to this development. I understand that our park planners have worked with the local organizations in the area, and have supplied a considerable amount of technical advice to them. It is, however, a local park and one which will ultimately be developed by the local people, there being other provincial and federal recreational areas in the general vicinity.

The Member for Ethelbert Plains was asking some specific questions relating to a letter that was sent to one of his constituents on October 29th. I am happy to report as follows, that there was some difficulty initially in locating a suitable water supply. This matter has now been overcome and there will be an adequate water supply, we hope, for this area this year. The fireplaces have been completed and are now ready to install, and this spring the dock facilities will be rebuilt. There is also a possibility of a new washroom facility in the area. There was some suggestion that we would look at the possibility of a kitchenette facility and we understand that we have decided against that, for this year at least. We will, however, be looking at park usage in that area and will be trying to develop facilities to keep pace with demand. I looked into the enquiry about a shortage of wood. We understand that there's always been an adequate supply of wood there this year. There were, however, three fireplaces that were served by one store or one woodpile, which was maybe some little distance from the fireplaces and possibly they might not have been aware of the location. We would hope that that wouldn't happen again.

The Member for Burrows was asking about the financial assistance to parks. I presume he's referring to the construction of new parks by the province, and if so, the figures are laid out in the estimates there. If he's referring to a capital contribution towards local parks the province does not make a contribution to them. He was asking about the revenue from park entrance fees. Last year the annual report indicated an intake of \$133,000 from that source of revenue. We think that the park users should pay at least part of the costs of maintenance and

(MR. CARROLL cont'd) operation of these parks. There is certainly some cost in collecting . . .

MR. BEN HANUSCHAK (Burrows): Is that net?

MR. CARROLL: No, that would be the gross income. There would be some cost involved in collecting that, of course, but in addition to the collection of the fees, the people who collect them have responsibilities in the maintenance of a park and supervision of its operation; they provide information to people who are using that park and also provide information with respect to other provincial parks as well, so that they do considerably more than just collect fees, and of course the fees do go some way towards providing the cost of the operation of our various parks.

He commented on the fact that public transportation is not available to Birds Hill Park. We recognize this as being a problem, Metro buses being unable to serve that area because it's beyond their jurisdiction, and we understand that private bus companies have not seen fit, up to this stage at least, to interest themselves in this service.

He was also concerned about the Arts Council. I am happy to say that the Arts Council has now been appointed and it will be convening fairly quickly to commence the work of that committee.

The Member for Rhineland was asking about membership on the committee and whether or not there was ethnic representation. I would like to say that there is not ethnic representation, but people are selected for the contribution that they can make to the work of the Manitoba Arts Council. They are people who are interested in the arts and in various cultural pursuits within the province. The Manitoba Arts Council can receive funds from the Province of Manitoba, can also receive grants from the Canada Council that he mentioned, and we think it might be a more effective way of funnelling Canada Council grants into the Province of Manitoba and may be more effective in getting greater support from Canada for the various activities within the province.

He was also asking about the Pembilier Dam and whether or not studies were going on with respect to the recreation potential of that area when it's developed, and I'm happy to say that our department has been involved from the very beginning with studies and we are interested in the effects of water conservation in this area for its recreational purposes, and we will continue to interest ourselves in this development until such time as the work is completed. I would like to point out that there are, of course, other provincial recreation areas close by, including Rock Lake, with a variety of provincial facilities, and of course the Stephenfield recreation area, when it's developed, will also serve some of the people from his area.

He was asking questions about medallions and I am sure that the Minister of Municipal Affairs will take note of that question and will likely speak on it at the time of his estimates.

The Member for Roblin was enquiring about the development of Duck Mountain. I am very happy to say that we're now working on development plans, a master plan for that particular provincial park. We will be looking at the feasibility of private enterprise developing in there if there is some interest in that area; and with respect to provincial parks in general, normally we do provide the major park facilities and lease them out to operators. The Duck Mountain, of course, may be treated somewhat differently from this if private enterprise is interested in going into that area.

He was also asking about various trails, and we have a number of historic trails marked out at the present time on our various regional maps and there are a great many others that are under study by the department and will, we hope, prove to be very valuable, encouraging particularly local people in taking historic trails as part of their summer recreation pursuits.

The other comment that I would like to make is with respect to the Leader of the New Democratic Party's observation on the question of lakes within the province. I think maybe it's important that we clarify that point. I've checked definitions in Webster dictionary and find that a lake is an inland body of standing water, and the encyclopedia says, "a mass of still water." This is how lakes are described in these two authoritative sources. The Surveys Branch of the government have been consulted and they state that there are 38,550 lakes in Manitoba over 80 acres in size, and they estimate that for every lake of that size there are two to three lakes down to an acreage of five acres, so we'll use the lower figure of two and we find that there are 77,100 lakes between five and 80 acres, 38,550 lakes over 80 acres, making a total of 115,650 lakes within the province, and I would like to just point out, there's been some talk about the lakes that have been developed in our Birds Hill Park, and if you took those three

(MR. CARROLL cont'd) . . . lakes together that are in the park and you tripled them in size, they would still not make the five acres that we discount when we're counting lakes in the Province of Manitoba. We find that it's impossible to plot lakes smaller than five acres on our provincial maps. I'm sorry the Leader of the New Democratic Party is not here to see some maps of some of the northern parts of our province to indicate the volume, the tremendous number of lakes - and remember that none of the real small lakes are shown on this map. Only those lakes that would make up some of the 115,000 lakes that we estimate to be within the province.

This is the Munro Lake sheet which is northwest of Churchill. I also have Shethanei Lake which is west of Churchill. I don't know the exact area myself. We undertook to take one of these little squares and count the number of lakes in it, and it didn't seem to be the most densely populated but there were 39 lakes in that very small grid there. We have another one here that's Tadoule Lake in the Steele River area - that's near Churchill as well - but showing the very large number of lakes within our province, I think there can be no disputing that we have at least 100,000 lakes and if we want to look at the smaller lakes -- incidentally, I took time to compute the size of five acres, and five acres, the park across the way here bounded by Broadway and York, Memorial Boulevard to Osborne, that park out there is less than five acres. So a lake of that size would not be counted in the 115,000 I report on here today, and to put it in language that might be more understandable by the Leader of the New Democratic Party, I computed that five acres is about 50 lots of the size on which his house stands, so that may give him some perspective of the kind of lakes that we haven't even bothered to count in the estimate of lakes that we discuss when we say that there are over 100,000 lakes within our province.

I think those were the majority of the comments that were made and I'll be very happy to answer other questions, possibly on the item as it appears, if that meets with the agreement of the committee.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Gladstone.

MR. SHOEMAKER: Mr. Chairman, in consideration of the fact that we now have learned that Manitoba has over 100,000 lakes, I wonder if consideration would not be given to the advisability of putting this on our licence plates - the fact that we do have 100,000 lakes. Because Minnesota has been using the slogan "10,000 lakes" for years and years and years, and if America got to know that we had ten times as many lakes as Minnesota, no doubt that it would attract a lot of them here. This is, they would bypass Minnesota and come up to where we really have some lakes, ten times as many as they have in Minnesota, and I don't know - a thousand times as many, I guess, as they have in the Dakotas. And I think that this should be featured in your ads and that consideration should be given to using that fact on our licence plates.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I'm not certain whether there is an item set out in the estimates covering historic sites as such, but it does disturb me a little bit to learn that even at this late date nothing has been done to actually mark the two Indian mounds or Indian burial grounds that were designated as such by Order-in-Council in 1962 in the vicinity of Arden. Now my honourable friend knows that at the session of 1967, just two years ago, we in this House passed Bill No. 95, an Act respecting the Protection and Preservation of Historic Sites and Objects, and it was a very good bill. The objects of the bill are set out quite plain, and what the government can do - such as erecting signs. The Minister may cause a sign to be erected and maintained at each historic site indicating that the site, parcel of land; building or structure is, in fact, an historic site. And the sign may contain information as to the historic site. All clearly laid out in this bill that we passed.

My question then is: since we passed that bill, how many signs have been set up in the Province of Manitoba as provided for in the bill? On February 19, 1962, that's seven years ago, the Manitoba Gazette made mention, - under Manitoba Regulation 9/62 - it was an order under Section 4 of the Historic Sites Preservation Act filed February 8, 1962 - lists several historic sites, the Wiebe Mound, Arden Campsite, Stockmound Campsite, Flee Island Indian Entrenchment, Ste. Ambroise Indian Entrenchment, Arrow River Standing Stone Burial Ground, York Factory and so on. But if they haven't done any more about informing the public as to their whereabouts than they've done at Arden, they've done absolutely nothing other than to outline them in the Manitoba Gazette. Well, Mr. Chairman, do you read the Manitoba Gazette from cover to cover? How many people are there in fact that receive the Manitoba Gazette to start

(MR. SHOEMAKER cont'd) . . . with? Very few people. And yet it was considered important enough by an Order-in-Council to name the sites. Nobody else but the Lieutenant-Governor's Council knows they're there. Nobody else. Why not tell the people that we have these historic places? The two at Arden are -- well the one at Arden, I believe, is immediately adjacent to No. 4 Highway. It would be quite proper and advisable to erect a monument near the Arden Ridge Service Station pointing out where both of them are. I think the other one is only about three mile north of the Arden Ridge Filling Station, and I believe too that the one site at Arden - because the Arden Ridge, as you know, is a, I was going to say a gold mine -- it is a gold mine for those people who own great tracts of gravel - but the one site I think has now been completely dug up by contractors or people who are selling gravel. So there's probably no point in marking that one.

So what I want to know, Mr. Chairman, is what are we doing in this regard? On May 20, 1966, the then Minister of this Department, Mr. Steinkopf, made a great release here, a news release, stating that "government money seen for historical sites" and he goes on to point out, as I have attempted to do, the importance of this project, and he said we're just about 100 years behind. This is what Mr. Steinkopf said three years ago.

MR. LAURENT DESJARDINS (St. Boniface): 100 years. Manitoba's not a hundred years yet.

MR. SHOEMAKER: "It's about time," he said - Mr. Steinkopf - "that we did something about it. I don't know." I'm still quoting Mr. Steinkopf, "I don't know of any place as barren as we are in Western Canada. Surely," he says, "we've got just as much as others to offer." But nobody knows till the government does some publicity in this regard. Mr. Steinkopf goes on to say, "There are many places in Manitoba I haven't seen but I've had letters from them. Like Norway House. There are old cannonballs there that are gradually disappearing. This is something that is about 100 years past due." Now I know my honourable friends maintained they had an awful lot of catching up to do but I don't think they've even started on this project that Mr. Steinkopf and myself are so concerned about. And do you know what Mr. Steinkopf says here? "The immediate concern is to provide funds for the Historical Society and help preserve things which might be wasted."

So surely, if you will not consider my recommendations, Mr. Chairman, you will consider those words of wisdom and sound advice of Mr. Steinkopf, and I'm sure that he would endorse everything that I have said today in respect to this subject matter.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Burrows.

MR. HANUSCHAK: Mr. Speaker, I was indeed pleased to hear the Honourable Minister announce that an Arts Council has finally been appointed, and I say "finally" advisedly because I would just like to take a couple of moments to refresh the minds of this House of the fact that The Arts Council Act was passed in 1965, in May of 1965, and it was finally proclaimed in December of 1967, and since that time no further action had been taken. Now, on reading Hansard, reading the speech made by the then First Minister in introducing this bill, he did mention the fact that there had been an Arts Council in existence then, but only it did not have the blessings of the Government. It was an independent group which functioned in a similar capacity. So it is indeed most gratifying to hear that an Arts Council has been established and it will proceed to do the job, hopefully, which it is charged with doing.

Now, having said that, Mr. Speaker, I'm wondering whether the Arts Council will in fact be able to do an effective job because, looking at the estimates for the Honourable Minister's Department, I see no reference made to the Arts Council. Now it may be that the Arts Council will be able to find funds or that there are funds available in other departments which it would administer. If that is so, I would appreciate an explanation from the Minister, because if that isn't so, then in effect the Arts Council would be able to do very little in some of the areas for which it is responsible.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Carillon.

MR. LEONARD A. BARKMAN (Carillon): Mr. Chairman, I think I must take this opportunity in saying a few words. I notice my colleague from La Verendrye is not in his seat right now and possibly he'd like me to talk of some of eastern Manitoba's beautiful Falcon Lake and some of the other places in that area, but I believe he's quite capable of doing that himself so maybe I should turn to a few spots in the constituency of Carillon.

I was rather amazed in the pamphlet, the Annual Report I should say, that for example we have a small French-Canadian village by the name of St. Malo is now getting visitations to

(MR. BARKMAN cont'd) . . . the tune of nearly 100,000 people a year which originally, as the Minister knows, started with I think a PFRA dam and later on the government chose to build a park. But it's just amazing the things that can happen, the different atmosphere and the number of jobs that are created. Sure there are a few problems such as policing and other things, but I believe this is something that can help our communities live and stay together, and I believe that this is possibly a very good reason why this Department must be taken a lot more serious than we have up to now.

I would also like to take this opportunity and remind you people that the by now quite well-known Mennonite Village Museum is growing and coming very well under the chairmanship of Mr. J. J. Reimer. I have sometimes called it the Steinbach Museum and I have -- I think I should apologize to the tune that certainly this is not only Steinbach's museum, we've had donations from the Winkler area, from the Altona area and the Winnipeg area, and it certainly wouldn't have been able to grow like it has if it had only been coming from the monies of the people of Steinbach. However, I think that these people are making progress. We just had a monument added, sent in directly from Russia, a monument of Mr. Johann Bartsch who led the Mennonites from the Prussia area to the Russia, then under the gracious Queen Catherine. Of course things have changed in Russia since and possibly this is not the most popular subject to talk about. However, we're making progress in establishing more of the original type buildings that have now - I believe we have approximately ten buildings there. We've spent about \$150,000. We hope to spend much more with the help of the 1970 Centennial grants and the Mennonites celebrating their hundredth year in 1974. We could very easily possibly hit the million dollar mark. -- (Interjection) -- I think, in this respect, that perhaps the honourable member just gave me today's score: Canada 5, U.S.A. 0. I imagine this is part of tourism, as far as he is concerned, and recreation. Certainly it is.

I think that this museum is doing a lot for a community like ours and not only for the community, for the people, and while I just said a moment ago that the museum was certainly backed by other people than just Steinbach, I do wish to remind all the members in this House that the location is still the same and you're certainly welcome to come and visit it.

I would like to touch, just spend a few minutes on trying to encourage the Minister to tie the Tourism and Recreation Committee, or the program that they have, or wish to call it vice versa, the Centennial Tourism and Recreation could pretty well be called one department, I think, because I believe all of us in this House just have to reminisce or call back to 1967 when so many of our new halls, so many of our new arenas, curling rinks, museums of course, parks, tree planting, and heaven knows how many other things, and I think this is the department specially for Manitoba's centennial coming up. I was surprised that not more was done, although maybe there's still time for next year. I'm sure the Minister is serious in wishing to help this project along because the wonderful things that happen to Manitoba, and of course Canada in 1967, can certainly happen next year, but certainly we aren't going to get this if we aren't going to do something about it.

I think that, as my colleague said the other day, that people will linger longer and visit Manitoba if we tell them what we have to offer, if we show them what there is that has been established and built, and so many things have been built - I realize that many of these projects will have to be completed - but I think this is the shot in the arm that rural Manitoba, and all of Manitoba for that matter, certainly need, and I believe it is the job of this government to fulfill or to carry out a program of this type. I think much can be done and I'm sure the Minister is aware of this, and maybe we can get some of these programs still going for 1970.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Churchill.

MR. JOE BOROWSKI (Churchill): Mr. Chairman, I'd like to direct a couple of questions to the Honourable Minister in charge of this department. Could he give us in round figures the approximate budget for the further development of Paint Lake; and secondly, has he budgeted any money for the keeping of the road open to Paint Lake during the winter months? There's a lot of people who go ice fishing and the last two years the road has not been opened and we have difficulty getting in. So I'd like the Minister to answer those two questions. The last one is, is there any consideration given to prohibiting commercial fishing on Paint Lake? We're reaching the point now, after 10 years of sport fishing, where it's very difficult to find any fish.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Roblin.

MR. WALLY McKENZIE: Mr. Speaker, if I could take a moment from the House, I would like to talk about our floral emblem, the crocus, which we're all well aware of, and thanks to

(MR. McKENZIE cont'd.) our good friend from Burrows last year he provided us with one. I would like to urge the Minister to make more use of the floral emblem which I think, as everybody knows, an Act for adoption of this floral emblem of Manitoba was given Royal Assent I think on March 16th, 1906, and the crocus at that time was selected by school students as our floral emblem. I have with me today, thanks to one of my constituents, a sample of what can be done promoting Manitoba and the crocus, and so that everybody will recognize that there are some people that are promoting the national flower today, I would like the boys to distribute to each of you a piece of stationery here featuring the crocus. It is a painting that's done by a lady by the name of Bell Bush, who lives in my constituency, a very talented artist, and one who is promoting this as the emblem of Manitoba 365 days in the year. And by the way, they are available in some of the stores in the province.

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Chairman, I don't want to delay the committee at all - there's been plenty of discussion - I just want to cover one point. The map of Manitoba and a lot of our publicity mentions a great deal about the Duck Mountain Park, and I agree completely that it is a very fine park. I must say though, Mr. Chairman, that I'm disappointed in certain aspects of it. When you get into the park, one area in particular, Mount Baldy, which we find listed on all our road maps, and any time there's any publicity on it it's brought out. Here's a Government News Service report that refers to Mount Baldy - this is - "featured all over as the highest point in Manitoba" and so on, but when you get up to Mount Baldy it's impossible to see anything because there's been no attempt made at all to have a facility there, either a lookout tower or any kind of real amenities. There's a very small location with some tables, not a great deal of space, but there's no view to be had. When we advertise it so heavily as the highest point in Manitoba, I think our tourists would expect that when they get up there that there would be some view point of some kind and it doesn't exist. I'd urge the Minister that we ought to do something to improve it, and I think it could be done at very little expense. There is a forestry tower there, and of course the Mount Baldy television station point, but there's no facilities really for tourists, and I think it turns out, after the advertising we give to it, as a disappointment to people who do go up.

MR. CHAIRMAN: (The balance of Resolution 92 was passed.) Resolution No. 93. Parks Branch (a)(1)-- The Honourable Member for Inkster.

MR. GREEN: Well, Mr. Chairman, the Honourable Member for Rhineland was on his feet. I wonder if he -- (Interjection) -- Apparently he wants to speak on a later item.

Mr. Chairman, the Parks Branch is a branch which interests me, and I'd like to know just before I carry on at any length whether there is a provincial park within the boundaries of the City of Winnipeg. I wonder if the Minister could tell me whether there is or is not? The Minister is indicating that the park that surrounds the Legislative Building and the Memorial Park are maintained by the Provincial Government.

Well, Mr. Chairman, I think that the subject was first introduced by the Member for Burrows in a general way, but I would like to introduce this subject in a very specific way with regard to parks in Greater Winnipeg. We know, Mr. Chairman, that for many years the citizens of Winnipeg city proper - that is the City of Winnipeg, not Metropolitan Winnipeg - were responsible for the full costs of

MR. CARROLL: Rather than to, you know, encourage a debate here, we are not responsible for any parks within the metropolitan area under this vote. I think probably the Minister of Government Services could maybe speak with respect to any of our responsibilities within this area.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the fact that there is one park, but I would like to talk to the Minister about his department and what it should be doing in Greater Winnipeg. I've indicated, Mr. Speaker, that for some years the major parks in Greater Winnipeg, that is parks that were situated even beyond the boundaries of the City of Winnipeg - and the two that I'm referring to specifically are Assiniboine Park and Kildonan Park - were the sole financial responsibility of the residents of the City of Winnipeg. For years the suburbs got the benefits of these parks, and I think from time to time made contributions to these parks, but they were not responsible for them in a legal sense and for years this situation continued until, when the Metropolitan Corporation of Greater Winnipeg was created, one of the immediate responsibilities which the Corporation assumed, and on which I think it justifiably assumed, was the operation of the major parks. Since that time the Corporation has gone into quite a few parks, but in particular it has made significant progress from the point of view of Winnipeggers and

(MR. GREEN cont'd.) Manitobans generally in the Assiniboine Park and the Kildonan Park; and that, Mr. Speaker, in addition to progress from a material point of view, also was progressed from the point of view of equitable taxation, because it then became the responsibility of all the citizens of Greater Winnipeg to pay for these two parks and other parks that the Metropolitan Corporation has dealt with.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I know that there are a considerable number of provincial parks situated throughout the Province of Manitoba, and I see no reason why there should not be a provincial park situated within the boundaries of Greater Winnipeg. I assume that the Minister agrees with me that Greater Winnipeg is a part of the Province of Manitoba, and I assume that the Minister would agree with me that Greater Winnipeg should not be discriminated against insofar as a park is concerned. We have roughly 50 percent or more of the population of the province living in Greater Winnipeg; I believe that from time to time the figure is 65 percent of the tax revenues come from the City of Winnipeg - that is Greater Winnipeg rather than the city proper - and I'm not asking for any privileges on that account, I merely think that from the point of view of the Parks Department, it should not be looked upon as solely providing for parks outside of Greater Winnipeg. And I think that as a step, Mr. Chairman, and perhaps only as a first step and maybe perhaps as a final step, depending on the department's discretion, there should be established within Greater Winnipeg a provincial park.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I'm obviously thinking not merely in terms of the responsibility for the park, or whether it is a provincial or Greater Winnipeg is not the crux of the matter; the crux of the matter is who pays for it, and right now all of the major parks in Greater Winnipeg, including Assiniboine Park and Kildonan Park, are paid for by the citizens of Winnipeg generally. I believe that, in particular, Assiniboine Park which has, Mr. Chairman, what I believe one of the finest zoological gardens in Canada, is a park which properly should be within the jurisdiction of the province. I'm not concerned with the administration because I think that the Metropolitan Corporation is doing an excellent job of administering that park. I think that, in particular, the person who is in charge of the zoological gardens, his work is there for anybody to see, that the steps that have been taken in the zoo have made the zoo a truly great tourist attraction for the people of the Province of Manitoba, and indeed for the people who come to visit the City of Winnipeg, and I think that Assiniboine Park, in particular, is a place which the entire province makes use of. I would warrant that when country people come to visit the urban area that one of the places that they are taken is to Assiniboine Park. When any of us have visitors from out of city, whether they be from the country or whether they be from different provinces or from different countries and the United States, one of our show places is the Assiniboine Park and the zoo at Assiniboine Park, and what will now be the case, Mr. Speaker, the new botanical gardens which are going to be built at Assiniboine Park, and I think that it's about time that the province recognized that the financial responsibility for all of the progressive steps that are taking place within Assiniboine Park are for the benefit of the entire province rather than for the benefit of the people of Winnipeg or Greater Winnipeg proper.

So I say, Mr. Chairman, that I'm asking the Minister to embark upon a new adventure, to broaden his fields, to consider that the City of Winnipeg is part of the Province of Manitoba. If we are allocating provincial parks throughout the province, Winnipeg representing in population area at least half the province, that the Minister should consider the establishment of a provincial park in the City of Winnipeg. I'm suggesting that that park be the Assiniboine Park, and I want to, in making this suggestion, underline the fact that I have no criticism whatsoever of the present administration. If the Minister can assume financial jurisdiction over the park and still maintain the existing administration, I think that that could be a reasonable way of handling the problem, because I think that the present administration is doing a good job. I think that budgetary considerations can be worked out with the Minister, so that the final financial responsibility is assumed by the people of the province generally rather than the people of Greater Winnipeg in particular.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister of Tourism and Recreation.

MR. CARROLL: I was just going to comment on the remarks of the last speaker and possibly one other who had raised a question on parks. There is no other community in the Province of Manitoba for which we build a provincial park or provincial recreation area. Local parks have always been considered the responsibility of the local community. I think this is part of the argument that was raised by the Member for Ethelbert Plains with respect to Winnipegosis. He was talking about a recreation there, which in effect is a local community park,

(MR. CARROLL cont'd.) or a local community recreation area. Now, we will lend assistance with respect to planning when our staff is free to do so, and consulting advice, but we do not build local parks for the benefit of local people. Our responsibility is towards the people of the province at large, and toward those people who come in as tourists to spend their time in provincial parks and recreation areas. So that is the only comment that I would have to make with respect to a provincial park as such for the City of Winnipeg.

With respect to the question of the Leader of the Opposition with respect to Duck Mountain and a lookout, we would agree with him, and I understand that we have plans in the estimates to proceed with something along this line during the coming year.

Now the Member for Churchill was asking about Paint Lake. I recited, I think the other day, the kinds of facility improvements that were going to be made in Paint Lake. They involved the development of a group use area, the extension of camping facilities and the extension of a subdivision road within that community. We have some broad estimate figures on that, I believe under the construction item, and my understanding is that it's in the order of \$12,000.

Now - yes, I believe those are the only ones that come under the heading of Parks.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Inkster.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Chairman, the Minister has obviously missed my point. I agree that his department should not concern itself with local parks, I am merely asking him to broaden his vision so that he can see that the Assiniboine Park in particular is not a local park; it's a Manitoban park, and as such should be made a provincial park insofar as the financial responsibility is concerned, because the Minister can't avoid the fact that every provincial park is located in a local area. Falcon Lake is located in the district of Falcon Lake, and the fact that the local people are there doesn't make it a local park. I say that when he looks at his map and sees areas where provincial parks can be placed, he should not ignore the City of Winnipeg. I agree that it's not a local park - I mean I agree that he's not to look upon this as an investment in a local park; I'm asking him to look at the Assiniboine Park and to examine whether or not this really is not a park which is a Manitoban park. Just because it happens to be situated in Greater Winnipeg doesn't make it a local park.

MR. CARROLL: Well, Mr. Chairman, Birds Hill Park is a Manitoba park and it's a City of Winnipeg park, as is the Whiteshell area or Grand Beach or Winnipeg Beach or any of these other areas that are close by. We don't build parks within municipal boundaries as a rule, and this has been the policy of the department for some time. You're asking us to change that policy and I must say that we're not prepared to do so, at least at the present time.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Chairman, I'm not asking the Minister to change his policy, I'm just asking him to change his perspective, because I asked him when I got up, are there any provincial parks located within Greater Winnipeg, and his answer was, "there are not." And Bird's Hill Park is not located within Greater Winnipeg, it's located outside the boundaries of Greater Winnipeg. So I'm suggesting to him that merely because we have an urban area, which is comprised of 450,000 people, doesn't exclude us from being considered an area where we can have a provincial park, and if the criteria is not the boundaries, the criteria must be of who is the true user of this park, and the true user of this park is the citizen of the Province of Manitoba.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think the Minister answered that, and if there's any change in policy he'll announce it at a later date. (a)(1)--passed, (2)--

..... continued on next page

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Chairman, on this matter I would like to ask a question of the Minister. In the Throne Speech there's a comment referring to parks and developments, and the phrase "for these purposes and to maintain a high level of park programs in all parts of the province, you'll be asked to make provision so that the public demand for park and recreational facilities may be met." Does this indicate that the Minister has the intention of raising park fees and that this is an indication that this is the way in which we will make provision for the supply of parks?

MR. CARROLL: No, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Burrows.

MR. HANUSCHAK: Mr. Chairman, are the three lakes of which the Honourable Minister has spoken in Birds Hill Park, are they named?

MR. CARROLL: No, and I'm glad you mentioned that. Not as far as I know; I'll get an answer to that later. I did make a mistake, however, with respect to those lakes. I had asked for some comparative figures and I mentioned the three lakes in Birds Hill Park; someone else took it to mean the lakes in the St. Vital Park, for whatever reason I don't know, but there was a misunderstanding. That lake is in excess of five acres and I apologize for that error in reporting to the House earlier.

MR. HANUSCHAK: Mr. Chairman, in view of the fact that the lakes in Birds Hill Park aren't named, and in view of the fact that the day before yesterday the Honourable Minister did state that some day he may name a lake after my leader, if you're seeking names or suggestions of names, may I suggest that one of the lakes nearest his constituency be named after him.

MR. CARROLL: Paulley's Puddles.

MR. CHAIRMAN: (a) -- passed; (b) passed; \$2,164,368 Resolution No. 93 -- passed.

MR. FROESE: Mr. Chairman, under (c), I would like the Honourable Minister to give us the various amounts allocated to the different parks that is going to be spent, and when he gets up to reply could he also indicate what ARDA agreement is being abolished here, or are we no longer getting a contribution for it.

MR. CARROLL: Mr. Chairman, I have it broken down here by region: eastern region, \$570,000; central region, \$408,000; western region, \$105,000; northern region, \$120,000; head office, \$147,000. I believe that's about the best we can do with respect to that breakdown, Mr. Chairman.

The ARDA item, I'm afraid I'll have to get further advice on. I suspect that the ARDA item now comes under Item 5. I'll get information on that though in a few minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: (Resolutions Nos. 94 and 95 were read and passed.) No. 5 - Acquisition of Land for Parks Projects and Park Development.

MR. CARROLL: Mr. Chairman, I have the figures broken down again with respect to regions: the eastern region, \$120,200; central region, \$405,100; western region, \$155,000; northern region, \$92,500; head office, \$241,000.

A MEMBER: But what is it for? What projects?

MR. CARROLL: Well, in the opening statement I gave a very brief summary of the items. I can rehearse that if there are any specific items I could maybe -- Development plans for 1969. Whiteshell Provincial Park - continuation of improvements to hiking and power toboggan trails, camp grounds, docking and beach facilities, picnic sites, access roads and the Falcon ski slope, and continuation of erosion control work on the Winnipeg River. Do you want me to rehearse the whole thing because it was in the opening statement and would be available to members of the House. St. Malo - building 100 additional completely serviced camp sites, renovation to the parking lot. Grand Beach - construction of new beach, change-houses, construction of boat launching facilities. Birds Hill Provincial Park - paving of roads and parking area to be completed, extension of sewer and water services, completion of camp ground areas with landscaping and irrigation system, construction of a visitor reception centre with an extensive landscaping and tree planting program. Spruce Woods Provincial Park - development of the initial phase of overnight camping and day use areas, construction of pavilion shelter and washroom facilities, improvements in the lake area. Assiniboia Provincial Park - continued construction of park facilities. Turtle Mountain Provincial Park - completion of new camp ground day use areas at Adam Lake. Oak Lake - completion of beach facilities and day use areas. Clearwater Lake - electrification of additional 25 camp sites, construction of boat launching and docking facilities. Duck Mountain Provincial Park -

(MR. CARROLL Cont'd.)... installation of new water supply, construction of washroom, boat docking and parking facilities, landscaping and minor road improvements, cleanup of the 1966 storm damage. Baker's Narrows - electrification and an additional 30 trailer sites, installation of additional washroom facilities and water supply. Paint Lake I mentioned a moment ago. Manipogo Beach - electrification in 25 trailer sites, construction of docking facilities. Overflowing River - completion of camp ground area facilities. Programs - continuing improvement on wayside parks throughout the province.

Special projects of the Parks Branch will complete the wildlife studies now under way at the Spruce Woods and Turtle Mountain provincial parks; master plans for the Whiteshell Provincial Park will be completed; studies will be initiated for the preparation of master plans for both Grass River and Clearwater Provincial Parks; continuing program of acquisition of recreational lands will be carried out in accordance with the Branch's long-range plan.

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Chairman, I was particularly concerned about the acquisition of land. Could the Minister indicate how much land the plan is to acquire this year and in what area? This is really what my question was.

MR. CARROLL: Mr. Speaker, I could get that information. There is some land acquisition listed here - George Lake beach property, Spruce Woods Provincial Park, and I know there are other funds available involving the interlake. The ARDA item that the Member for Rhineland spoke about was for a special federal-provincial demand -- a park demand trend study shared under the ARDA program was completed last year and that's why it doesn't reappear under that particular item. I'm afraid I'll have to get an answer to that question and report back to the committee later. I don't have a breakdown here that I can get to quickly.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Inkster.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Chairman, I have somewhat of a related point under Acquisition of Land for Parks Projects and Park Development. Again I would probably predict accurately that none of the projects that are anticipated by the Minister would take place within the land area of Greater Winnipeg and I suggest that it's not merely because of a policy, I suggest that it's because of a myopia insofar as looking at Winnipeg from the point of view of his department that it's just not regarded as a place where provincial work is done, and I'm urging the Minister to reconsider his perspective in this regard, and I would again wish to refer to a specific.

When I was a councillor in Metro, one of the things that we councillors set as our objective was the acquisition of river bank property so that some day the citizens of Winnipeg would be able to reclaim the river banks which for the last hundred years have for the most part been taken as private property. Mr. Chairman, this is perhaps not unique to Winnipeg, but certainly there are many communities which have kept the river banks as public property and which have developed beautiful riverside drives. I know that that situation holds true in Ottawa for a large part and I know that the situation holds true in Saskatoon for a great part, so one of the projects that Metro Council wished to embark upon was to get back for Winnipeg the use of its river banks so that people would be able to enjoy the two rivers that flow through the City of Winnipeg. And at that time, Mr. Speaker, and I am sure most people are aware of the fact, one of the historic places, the place upon which Winnipeg was founded, that is the junction of the Red and the Assiniboine, is a place which is very very hard to get to; very few people have an opportunity of seeing it. One of the good places to see it is from St. Boniface Hospital, but there are very few places from which the junction can be seen. Most people know that Winnipeg lies at the junction of the Red and the Assiniboine because they've read it in their geography books, but that's all; they don't know it, despite the fact they live in the City of Winnipeg, from personal experience.

Now, Mr. Speaker, this was an ambitious program, and at the time it was expressed on Metro Council that it didn't matter whether it took a hundred years, that the start had to be made some place. At that time they decided that they would set aside \$250,000 of their budget every year for the purpose of the acquisition of river bank property, so that little by little this property could be purchased. One project would be to, let us say, clear the river bank from the Redwood Bridge to the Kildonan Park to make a river bank drive, and the next year do it on the other side of the river, one year in St. Vital or wherever the case may be. But, Mr. Chairman, because of the overburden on real property owners, that project fell by the wayside and I think last year was the year which the Metropolitan Corporation stopped

(MR. GREEN Cont'd.)... this ambitious program, which I say is a very important one, not only to the citizens of Greater Winnipeg but to the citizens of Manitoba as a whole. I wonder whether the Minister in this department can't start looking at Greater Winnipeg as a place where the provincial government has some responsibility for the parks and for the acquisition of land for parks projects and parks development, because if he did, Mr. Speaker, then it could be that the overburdened real property tax, which is what caused this program to fail in the first place, wouldn't be a reason for stopping it from continuing in later years. It's something which we in the province should look forward to and I don't see how we're going to do it unless there is some funds from senior governments to give some incentive to the Metropolitan Corporation of Greater Winnipeg to embarking on the program.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Burrows.

MR. HANUSCHAK: Mr. Chairman, dealing with the matter of acquisition of land for parks projects and parks development, I believe the Honourable Minister has listed some of the areas that the government is interested in or has acquired. I would also like to suggest to the Honourable Minister that he take a very close look at our Floodway and the property lying along it from a point of view of making it available for a suitable park area or a suitable recreation area. May I remind the Honourable Minister that on October 6, 1962, at the Floodway opening ceremonies, I believe the guest speaker was the Hon. Walter Dinsdale, and in his speech he said that "while the first object of this program" - I take it he was referring to the Floodway - "is that of flood prevention, the secondary effect can not be overlooked. While it would be premature to predict, it is not inconceivable that flood prevention may prove to be a secondary benefit derived from the project." And then later in his speech he spoke as follows: "The recreational potential of the Floodway is certainly worth mentioning in a city the size of Winnipeg, and even more so when we consider the galloping rate of growth of Manitoba at this time." In other words, Mr. Chairman, at that time, five years ago or seven years ago, tremendous tourist park and recreation potential was seen for that strip of land from St. Norbert to Lockport, and I would therefore urge the Minister not to dismiss the Floodway lightly as merely being an area for a few winter sports here and there but to take a look at the entire stretch of the Floodway and locate appropriate places along it for park areas, and within them develop suitable and appropriate recreational facilities for the benefit of the people of Manitoba.

The second question that I wish to ask the Honourable Minister, Mr. Chairman, deals with Riding Mountain National Park. I'd be interested to know, Mr. Chairman, whether there are negotiations under way for the acquisition of the Riding Mountain National Park property. In other words, are there negotiations under way for the takeover of the national park by our provincial government?

MR. CARROLL: Mr. Chairman, I don't know where the Member for Burrows was the other night when I did report on what our plans are for the Floodway, which I would venture to say is not unreasonable to assume that it's by and large being developed for the people of Metropolitan Winnipeg but for other people in the province as well. I don't think I can state our policy any more clearly. I think we've accepted the fact that recreation and local parks are the responsibility of municipalities and that's where we propose to leave them at the present time.

With respect to the land acquisition, I can report now on two other areas. There was the George Lake property, Spruce Woods, Grand Beach, and acquisition of a large number of areas for wayside parks. In addition to that there are some other funds available for some development in the Interlake area and I can't be more specific on that at the present time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No. 5 - \$1,011,800. Resolution 96 -- passed. No. 6. Grants and Miscellaneous - \$304,200. Resolution 97 --

MR. HANUSCHAK: Mr. Chairman, are funds for the use of the Arts Council available under this item?

MR. CARROLL: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

MR. HANUSCHAK: Could the Honourable Minister indicate the amount?

MR. CARROLL: \$205,450, Mr. Chairman.

MR. HANUSCHAK: And the balance is to whom, or for what purposes?

MR. CARROLL: The balance will be for an assortment of grants that have largely been traditional: Canadian Highway Safety Council, Royal Canadian Humane Society, Boy Scouts, Girl Guides, Canadian Council for the Blind, Last Post Fund, Canadian Olympic Association--

(MR. CARROLL Cont'd.)... no, I'm sorry that item is not there -- Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, Frontier College, Manitoba Historical Society, St. Boniface Historical Society, International Peace Garden, and in this year's vote a grant to the Winnipeg Enterprises Corporation regarding the World Hockey Tournament.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution 97 -- passed. Page 20. Department XI - Mines and Natural Resources.

HON. HARRY J. ENNS (Minister of Mines and Natural Resources)(Rockwood-Iberville): Mr. Chairman, perhaps in view of the interest expressed, I might be permitted to read the latest report of the Flood Forecasting Committee prior to going into my estimates. This committee met today and have just handed me this report. "The Flood Forecasting Committee held its second meeting of the year on March 20, 1969. The Committee met to review the situation concerning flood prospects on the Red River and Assiniboine River. The committee reports that since its last meeting precipitation over the Red River basin has been about normal, therefore the run-off potential in the Red River basin is approximately the same as reported at its earlier meeting. On the basis of average conditions prevailing between now and the end of break-up, the committee estimates the flows in the Red River between Emerson and St. Norbert will be similar to those that occurred during the 1966 flood. Based on average conditions, the flow in the Red River at St. Norbert is estimated to be about 81,000 cubic feet per second, of which 32,000 cubic feet per second will flow down the Floodway. The residue flow, together with the anticipated Assiniboine River contribution, will produce an estimated peak stage of about 19 1/2 feet city datum at the James Avenue Pumping Station." I might just point out that with the Floodway not in operation this would read 26 feet, which was roughly what we had in 1966.

"The committee emphasizes the fact that weather conditions for the next few weeks are highly significant and appreciable variation from average would give rise to substantially lower or higher peak flows. The committee notes that close liaison is being maintained with United States agencies so that current information regarding river flows in stages in the United States will be constantly available." I might also point out in this respect that our information coincides very closely with that that is being given in the United States at this time.

"On the Assiniboine River the committee reports that above average precipitation has occurred over portions of the basin since the last meeting. Snowfall has been particularly heavy in the Brandon area and over the Qu'Appelle and Souris basins. As a result of the above normal precipitation, spring peaks on the lower portions of the Assiniboine River are expected to be well above average. However, if average conditions prevail from now and throughout the break-up, serious flooding is not expected. At Brandon the river stage should be about three feet below the top of the dike. East of Portage la Prairie the stages will probably be about two feet below the top of the dikes. Ice jams could cause some flooding in this reach of the river."

It then goes on to give the information as to the sources of information that the Flood Committee based their reports on, but I won't take the time of the House to read those portions of it. So, Mr. Chairman, I thought it would be of interest to the members of the House at this time when we are concerned about flooding in the province that they be apprised of the very latest information that we have on that subject.

Mr. Chairman, in introducing and speaking to my estimates I'll be brief. I know that there are members of the Legislature who probably have a few things to say to me in the course of these discussions.

I think one of the highlights of the departmental work has been the extent and the expansion of exploration that has taken place in the province. This certainly has been a dominant feature in the mineral activity throughout 1968. Exploration expenditures have increased steadily from around five million in 1965 to the present rate of about eight million in 1968. While a major portion of these expenditures have been incurred along the Thompson nickel belt and the Flin Flon-Snow Lake copper zinc areas, large scale programs are under way in districts which had previously received very little attention, and I think we are particularly encouraged by the new exploration in the northwest corner of the province where some two million acres are currently reserved by a number of companies. In the northeast, exploration reservations have again been taken out for the first time since 1964. These total some 400,000 acres. Exploration is also proceeding to the east of Lake Winnipeg between the Bird River and Winnipeg River and at the mouth of the Wanipigow River. The first mineral

(MR. ENNS Cont'd.).... exploration reservations in the southwest has been issued near Brandon. Thus in all corners of the province, Mr. Chairman, as well as in the Thompson, Flin Flon and Lynn Lake area, mining potential in Manitoba is being investigated.

You will note in the printed estimates a substantial program of mineral investigation in the Southern Indian Lake area. The proposed diversion of the Churchill River has led to the development of a three year geological survey program in that area of Southern Indian Lake which would normally have been carried out by my department over a period of 12 to 15 years. This program, now condensed to cover a three year period, will cost somewhere in the neighbourhood of a million dollars, which figures you will be noting in my estimates. The 1968-69 portion of the survey program involved primarily airborne geographical survey, and this is well in hand.

Turning to actual production, preliminary figures for 1968 show a total value of some \$208.3 million. Again, Mr. Chairman, an all-time record for mineral production in this province.

Petroleum activity in Hudson's Bay continues. Additional permits totalling some 873,000 acres were filed during the past year, bringing the total acreage under provincial permit to some 3.8 million acres in our far north. In the southwest the petroleum production is estimated at a record 6.2 million barrels in 1968, and I think that while we realize we don't have one of the larger oil fields in the southwest, I know that the honourable member behind me, the Member from McGregor, as do all of us in the House, we are gratified at the life that this field is indicating that it has. Many skeptics at the time suggested a far shorter life for that oil producing part of our province.

In the forestry field, Mr. Chairman, Churchill Forest Industries are proceeding with establishment and expansion plans. The company has already established a sawmill facility adequate for the production of some 15 million board feet of lumber annually. Additional sawmill facilities, with equal capacity, are to be established by October of this year. The company will commence its construction of the pulp mill by the end of this month with completion date set for March 31, 1971. The minimum rated capacity for this mill will be some 300 tons a day. Of significance, Mr. Chairman, particularly for those who saw so much skepticism in this program, it should be pointed out that our total harvest in northern Manitoba up to now has averaged in the neighbourhood of 55,000 cords annually. Churchill Forest Industries Pulp Mill-Sawmill complex will have a minimum consumptive capacity of approximately 260,000 cords per year. I think that's something that bears underlining. Up to now our total is 55,000; virtually overnight it will jump to 260,000 cords per year.

I draw to the members of the Legislature particular attention to the training program that we have established at Moose Lake to train wood-cutters so that they might take full advantage of the opportunities offered by the northern forestry development. This is a six month course designed to train groups of 25 to 30 Moose Lake residents, in this particular case, in the skills required to be proficient wood-cutters. The program involves training in power saws, mechanical skidders. We expect that the men will develop reasonable proficiency by the end of the six month period. The program is cost-shared by Canada Manpower, Indian Affairs and the Department of Health and Social Services. It started on January 6 and ends on June 30, and while I'd rather take credit for a good program when the program has in fact been completed and its final results are well known, I'm happy to report that we are more than gratified with the results of the program to date. There seems to be a very keen desire on the part of the residents at Moose Lake to avail themselves of this program. The wood that is being cut during this training program is being sold to Churchill Forest Industries.

Turning to wildlife, our wildlife resources is one which it is of course more difficult to attach economic values. We do have some hard data such as tourist dollars, and my colleague the Honourable Member from The Pas, who just preceded me in his estimates, gave ample evidence of the value of our wildlife resources in the tourist area. But it is of course an area where the intangible benefits of the resource are very real justification for the management efforts, the management dollars we expend in this area.

Wildlife management programs are designed to promote maximum use of our resource consistent with concepts of wise land and resource use. Implicit in all programs are reasonable guarantees of human safety and property rights, and I'm referring specifically here to our hunter safety program and other programs that we are developing to improve the property rights, the owners of property and so forth. Action programs to maintain and improve

(MR. ENNS Cont'd.)... wildlife habitat are being developed for private lands, unoccupied Crown lands and areas under Wildlife Branch control. Expanded programs of animal introduction and movement are being undertaken to provide a greater wildlife resource space. I must confess I haven't checked lately as to just where that herd of buffalo is that we brought in to the province, but I am sure that I'll be informed very shortly. More acceptable programs of crop depredation and livestock loss prevention and alleviation will be developed to augment those already available and will be introduced as measures to this House.

Turning to fishing, I think perhaps it's appropriate that I give a brief rundown of the present status with respect to the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation. As you are well aware, Mr. Chairman, Manitoba has been a driving force behind the establishment of the corporation since the McIvor Commission report. Legislation has been drafted and will be presented for your consideration very shortly. The Federal Government has passed legislation necessary to establish the board and a target date of May 1, 1969, has been set up for the implementation of the board. Throughout the whole period of negotiation, emphasis has been placed on the importance of a smooth transition to a new marketing system. The Corporation is not intended to duplicate existing facilities of the industry but would reduce unnecessary duplication and improve efficiency by streamlining the flow of product to market. Orderly marketing would be planned in consultation with the trade acting as agents of the corporation. It should be kept uppermost in our minds that unless this is done in an orderly fashion it is the producer, that is the fisherman on the lake, that would find himself in the unfortunate position of falling in between two stools of responsibility while this transition period takes place.

As proposed by the McIvor Commission, it is intended to establish initial prices for each species by grade at the opening of each season, to make payment for the catch on the basis of this initial price through the season, and at the conclusion of each season to distribute to fishermen in a final payment any additional earnings obtained through marketing of the catch. The corporation would be empowered to extend short-term credit to fishermen to finance the purchase of food and fishing supplies - in other words to supply that traditional grub-stake that our fishermen rely on - following established practice in the existing industry. Manitoba, along with Indian Affairs, is looking into the need for longer term financing covering items like boats, motors and snowmobiles, and when our legislation is introduced into this House I will be requesting your consideration of a proposal to cover these credit items.

As you know, Mr. Chairman, that during the time of the transfer of different ministers into different portfolios, there of course was some shifting in the nature of the portfolios, and Mines and Resources was considerably enlarged by the marrying of the Water Control Branch to Mines and Natural Resources. Just briefly, let me comment that while there may have been times in the immediate past or perhaps even in the very short foreseeable future that I might express a sentiment that would remove me from some distance from that particular branch at this time, let me assure you that I wholeheartedly concur with the philosophy of the move. I think it's become very evident that we have to regard our water resources as one of our major natural resources in this province and to have the Department of Mines and Natural Resources include the water resources of this province philosophically is the correct one, and while it may place a specific minister in what appears to be a conflict of interest from time to time, I don't view it at all in that light. I think the close association of these two important departments and branches of government can only augur well for the future. I think we have to very definitely look forward to conservation programs, particularly in the western and southwestern parts of our province, that we are steadily moving forward with our major drainage programs, and as we see these nearing completion we can well foresee the day that our Water Control Branch activity will be much more in the area of conservation and the full and proper use of water as a natural resource. To date, it has -- quite understandably very often the emphasis has been on drainage from our prime arable agricultural land base. Just briefly then, on the Water Control Branch, a very fast run-down on our major projects:

The Red River Floodway, as most members are already aware of, was opened officially in October of this year by the Honourable Mr. Joe Green from Ottawa and our own Premier. It's ready for the anticipated flows for this spring.

The Portage Diversion. The major contracts have been awarded, all contracts let for excavation and related structures of the Diversion. The contractors are essentially on

(MR. ENNS Cont'd.)... schedule. Completion anticipated by the end of 1969.

The Shellmouth. The closure has been made at Shellmouth. Water is collecting and that project is well in hand.

The Red River Valley diking program - and it's a very topical program at this point. Despite wet weather in the Red River Valley, the diking program continued in the communities and earth dikes have been essentially completed at Rosenort, Morris, St. Jean, Letellier and Emerson.

At St. Adolphe approximately 40 percent of the earth work has been completed. In anticipation of high water this spring, construction has been resumed already in this month of March and it's under way at this time.

The general program. While earth work throughout the province, not only in this department but certainly also I think I can speak for my colleague the Minister of Transportation, earth work delayed a great deal of work but we changed our emphasis to construction of bridges and doing work outside the immediate Red River Valley wherever this was possible. We report reasonable progress on our over-all program.

The Water Supply Board branch completed construction of water plants at communities of Dominion City, Sandy Lake and Angusville. This adds to the already very long and growing list of communities that is served by the Manitoba Water Supply Board.

In addition, works of a temporary nature have been supplied and installed at Elie; a permanent water supply will be provided this summer. During '69-70, work will be continued in the FRED program of drainage works in the Interlake, including works on the Fisher and Icelandic Rivers and the Sturgeon Creek Systems. The ARDA program for major reconstruction works will continue in the Red River Valley. The branch program of maintenance of provincial waterways will be maintained at a level of approximately that of 1968, and in 1969 we look forward to completing our diking systems within the Red River Valley.

One final comment, Mr. Chairman. I should draw the members' attention to the very significant study or agreement that we entered into with our sister provinces and the Federal Government, and I'm referring to the Saskatchewan-Nelson basin study. The Saskatchewan-Nelson basin study agreement was signed in October of 1967, and the basin board made immediate arrangements for the appointment of a study director. Due to good co-operation between the federal and provincial agencies involved, a meaningful first year study program was organized and carried out. This program included field investigations of the project and preparations of a computer program to be used. The study is a four-year program with a total estimated cost of \$5 million. Manitoba's share will be approximately \$600,000. The program is designed to provide the means for increasing the water supply within the basin, and will be the basis for more intensive studies on the total water resource to the basin. I draw notice to that particular item, Mr. Chairman, because I'm very sensitive to the need for time in planning and time in studies if we are to manage our water resources wisely. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I commend the estimates of my department to the members of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Portage la Prairie.

MR. GORDON E. JOHNSTON (Portage la Prairie): Mr. Chairman, I was rather surprised but perhaps I missed something, I don't know, but it seems to me the Minister didn't give any explanation about the government's upcoming legislation on Southern Indian Lake, and I thought the Minister would have given us some information on this.

MR. ENNS: Mr. Chairman, if I may, I assure you that I will not make this a practice during the course of my estimates to be jumping up this quickly, but I should have perhaps said at the outset that I'm quite prepared to discuss any particular items relating to Southern Indian Lake during the course of my estimates. I would appeal to the members, Mr. Chairman, and to your supervision of the House, that we are dealing with my estimates and certainly I'm quite aware there are specific areas where the two are compatible. I can only remind the members that they have full and ample opportunity to discuss matters relative to Southern Indian Lake at the time that I introduce the Bill. But this is a matter entirely at the will and leisure of the House, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would like some guidance on that. I'm just not aware. Maybe Mr. Prud'homme would come here and help me. I am not aware how far you go on repetition when you have estimates and have the Bill both. Mr. Prud'homme, could you come...

MR. JOHNSTON: Mr. Chairman, I was going to suggest to you that we're discussing

(MR. JOHNSTON Cont'd.)... the Minister's salary and this naturally must cover the conduct of the Minister during the past year. So I'm going to confine myself solely to the Southern Indian Lake question at this time, and the Minister's handling of it, and his predecessor's handling of it.

I would like to refer the members to the debate that took place last year on this matter, page 1813 of last year's Hansard. I had brought this matter up under emergency debate and the Minister of Highways made the reply at that time, and I'd like to recall to members some of the things that the Minister of Highways said at that time - now Minister of Transportation, pardon me.

"Mr. McLean: Mr. Speaker, I was puzzled that the Honourable Member for Portage la Prairie would trespass upon the time of the House to bring up this matter, which of course has been considered previously, and it wasn't until he began reading his document that of course I realized he was reading . . . a memorandum."

Later on in his speech he has this to say about how the matter was proceeding at that time and how the people of the area of Southern Indian Lake were taking the whole proceedings, and I quote - he's talking now about departmental people who are working on the problem, and he says this "They have been working closely with them." This is referring to the people at Southern Indian Lake. "They have been seeking their advice and their views as to suitable alternative locations and are discussing with them what would be in their best interests. The reports are that most amicable meetings have been held and the people, that is, the Indian people, have expressed themselves to independent parties as being completely satisfied with the manner in which they are being dealt with; not necessarily happy, as indeed none of us are happy to have to move from our home, but satisfied that they are being dealt with fairly and honestly, forthrightly, and with compassion and understanding of their needs and their personal wishes."

He's talking now about the Director of Water Conservation Branch and he says: "He has visited the community. He has talked with the people concerned; and they have had a full opportunity already of presenting their views to him, but have indicated that they understand the necessity that gives rise to the flooding of the Lake and that they appreciate the concern that is being expressed and the possibilities that are being open to them."

Now, Mr. Chairman, if we've been following the newspapers in the last three or four months, nothing could be further from the truth of that statement that was made by the Minister last year. Headlines that say they'd rather be flooded than move. "Hydro and Government officials Tuesday received a rude awakening when they went north to tell the people why their homes would be destroyed, the people's decision to reject as inadequate, under the circumstances, government proposals to relocate them in areas of their own choosing. 'There is total opposition to everything you, Hydro and government, have proposed,' said Harold Buchwald, lawyer for the South Indian Lake and Granville Lake people at a public hearing." That's from the Tribune of January 8th.

I would refer again to Hansard of last year where the Honourable Member for St. John's was trying to get some information and he had written to Mr. Scott Bateman for a copy of the transition in the north, the problem of relocation, and he was told at that time that he couldn't have them; this was private information for government use and he couldn't have them; and never received them. I refer again to last year's Hansard, page 2345, when a humble address was moved for papers by the Honourable Member for Lakeside, who was moving them for our leader, and that address was voted down by the government. The government did not want to give any information at that time. During that debate, before the vote was taken, a number of government ministers spoke and I would like to quote what the Minister of Transport said at that time, and this is Saturday, May 25, 1968, Hansard, and the Minister is defending the government's action and this is what he says: "In other words, it's the duty and function of the Executive Council to make its decisions on the basis of what information is available and, as I say, it comes from many sources and it must surely be recognized, and I make the distinction, of course, with those inquiries that may be undertaken as a public undertaking, the clearest distinction of course being that of a Royal Commission." And he's referring now to the matter referred to in the Address for Papers.

Further along he says: "All of the information asked for, in my opinion, comes within the purview or within the group of documents which are in a sense confidential. They are part and parcel of the documentation upon which policy decisions are made and, of course,

(MR. JOHNSTON Cont'd.)... for which we must accept the responsibility." It was a pretty good argument then, Mr. Chairman, but in view of what the government have done in the past year and what they are about to do with bringing the Bill into the House, this is hardly a valid argument any longer.

Another minister, the Attorney-General, and here's part of what he had to say at that time: -- (Interjection) -- Well, I don't think I'm taking it out of context. If you wish to follow me, it's on page 2453, and I quote: "And from all of this mass of information" - now he's talking about the information that the government are turning down the request for, "and from all of this mass of information, the Executive Council in its executive responsibility, which is a clear-cut and distinct and separate, and I underline that 'separate' - entirely, responsibility from the legislative responsibility which we all join in here. The executive, the responsibility to govern, is much different from the legislative responsibility." Well, I put this question then to my friend the Attorney-General. You're bringing legislation in this House expecting members to vote on it, without giving them the information on which to make their judgment. How do you square that?

MR. LYON: ... we're sharing our responsibility with my honourable friend so that he'll have the opportunity to tell his constituents and the people of Manitoba whether he is going to vote yes or no in favour of the Nelson River project. We want him to share that.

MR. JOHNSTON: Mr. Chairman...

MR. LYON: We'll give him all the information he needs.

MR. JOHNSTON: My honourable friend is very brave about sharing his responsibility, but he won't share the information on how to vote. -- (Interjection) --

MR. LYON: You'll get all that you can handle.

MR. JOHNSTON: I quote now from a press release of December 20th, issued by the Minister of Mines and Natural Resources, and in the last paragraph this is what he has to say: "Mr. Enns said a number of alternate proposals have been presented for diverting and storing water for power production, but the project chosen would produce the best results. He said he was confident that the provincial and Manitoba Hydro engineers had recommended the best plan." Well, Mr. Chairman, I don't have the same confidence in the Minister's judgment. If we are going to be expected to vote on this Bill, then we would like to have the same information that he made his judgment on.

There was some mention made during the hearings in an editorial comment, I believe, in some of the newspapers, that this had all been talked over before so what was new? Well, Mr. Chairman, I have a copy of the transcript of the Public Utilities committee meeting of March 21, 1966, and on page 30 to about page 35 there are some questions asked about the proposal. Now, I will read one of these questions and read the answer and then put it to the members here, if this is all that's required and we should just drop the matter and go on to something else. This was a question put by Mr. Molgat, and he's talking to the late Mr. Stephens.

"Mr. Molgat: Well then, are the social costs considered as well insofar as Lake Winnipeg, because even though it is regulated within the ranges, which have been at certain times, the lake was extremely high even in its normal range, and its normal ranges and wind effect, as you know, is a major factor on the lake because of its location. It's the way it sits. Have these factors been fully considered and has there been a study made of this?"

Now, this is talking about Lake Winnipeg. This is the answer that Mr. Stephens gave: "I don't know what you mean by social costs. We have included in our costs the cost of putting works in place at the north end of the lake and at the outlet."

So I only make the point, Mr. Chairman, that the Hydro, their concern is with electric power at the best possible price and this is what they're charged with. But the government have the other responsibility of studying and recommending, or taking the best recommendation that will take into account the multi-purpose use of all the land involved, of the people involved, and the social problems involved as well, and in my opinion the government have done a pretty poor job in this. They've done a pretty poor job in this. In fact they're so desperate that they have to get some of their Conservative writer friends to try and justify some of their actions. I have a column here out of the Winnipeg Tribune of February 3, 1969, by Mr. Bud Sherman, and all this adds up to him is "a bungled public relations job." That's all, it's just a bungled public relations job. He says, and I quote: "This crucial all important effort on behalf of the Manitoba taxpayers is undermined and threatened by a bungled public

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(MR. JOHNSTON Cont'd.).... relations job in Southern Indian Lake, and his political opponents are quick to seize and exploit a heaven sent opportunity than in his wildest dreams no election campaign chairman ever could have conjured up." Well, Mr. Chairman, this is how some people look at this problem, a bungled public relations job.

Mr. Chairman, I feel that with the meagre amount of information that is available to the members of this House that we are not entitled to vote on this Bill that's coming up. If this approach was used in the Hydro development of Lake of the Woods in 1914 there would be no recreational area there today because the Hydro interests would have put it into a political field, it would have been rammed through, and from that time on the Lake of the Woods only purpose would have been for hydro-electric storage instead of the beautiful recreational area that we have there today. The only information that has been let out is information that will buttress the case of the Manitoba Hydro. Any other kind of information has been stifled; has been kept back; on occasion it's been dribbled out when the thought was by someone that they might be able to benefit a little bit.

I refer now to a column by John Robertson of January 28, and in a previous column he had taken to task the Minister of Mines and Natural Resources. So what happened? He had a phone call and I quote from the column. "As a result, I received a call from a government information officer assuring me that a press release issued by Mr. Enns had fairly covered all the positive and negative aspects of the project. I was told that I could view the reports personally but I could not obtain copies or quote excerpts from them, because information taken out of context could have a distorted picture." Why can't the public and the members of this House judge for themselves in that regard? This is like Russia where you only receive the managed news or the managed reports that are suitable for consumption.

So I would like the Minister to give us this information so that we can base a judgment on it. Some of the reports that we hear about but we certainly cannot see: a report by the University of Manitoba team early in 1967 signed by Dr. Duckworth; reports prepared by Professor E. Kuiper, the Gibb, Underwood, McLennan Report - and there's several of them apparently; "The Transition in the North" by Van Ginkel and Hedlin-Menzies; the Crippen Report, the Mines and Natural Resources Task Force Report of November 1968. I suppose there are other reports that we don't know about. I think that the government have a responsibility here and if they're asking the members of this House to share the responsibility, well then they had better share the information that led them to make the judgment that they did.

When the high level Churchill diversion was first discussed in committee, although my friend the Attorney-General tells me that we're all free to ask any questions we wish of the utilities people, the hydro people, certainly we're free to ask questions, but if we don't have the information how can we ask all of the questions that should be asked? Did it ever come out that some of the towns up north were going to be adversely affected? How can you ask questions when you don't have the information? -- (Interjection) -- Read the transcript. Does it say in the transcript that the Town of Churchill was going to have their water supply cut at certain times of the year to 80 percent.

MR. LYON: I leave my honourable friend to do his own homework. He obviously hasn't done much yet.

MR. JOHNSTON: Well I see it's bothering you a little bit.

MR. LYON: Not a bit.

MR. JOHNSTON: Well then what are you squawking about?

MR. LYON: Ignorance is always amusing.

MR. JOHNSTON: Are you suggesting that the people from the Town of Churchill have no cause for concern?

MR. LYON: My honourable friend can read the transcript.

MR. JOHNSTON: There was nothing mentioned about that in the hearings that I attended or the transcripts that I have read.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, and I don't want to stop my honourable friend, but the Attorney-General said "read the transcript." I asked the Minister whether the transcripts would be available to us. He indicated that they would but I haven't had an opportunity of reading it yet.

MR. ENNS: On a point of order, the transcripts are being made available. I am aware that just about a third of the present members of the House, as myself, weren't at those hearings and as such didn't receive these transcripts. These will be made available within

(MR. ENNS Cont'd.) . . . a few days to the members of the House.

MR. GREEN: So when the Attorney-General says "read them" I don't have to feel self-conscious that I don't have them yet.

MR. LYON: . . . contact your Leader or whoever was on the committee because they do have them. All members of the committee of three years ago have copies of the transcripts.

MR. GREEN: Oh, I'm talking about the transcripts of the South Indian Lake hearings.

MR. LYON: No, no, I'm talking about the transcripts of the original hearings three years ago, wherein the whole subject was dealt with quite clearly.

MR. JOHNSTON: I'm quoting from the transcript of the Public Utilities Committee Meeting, Tuesday, March 8, 1966, and there's no mention in there about the Town of Churchill or the Churchill River being cut to 80 percent flow at certain times of the year. Maybe I have a censored copy, I don't know. My friends across the way seem very touchy about an Address for Papers that's on the Order Paper, saying that information or documents going between government and Hydro are privileged. Well who's funning the province, the Hydro or the government? Is not Hydro the servant of the people? I have in my hand a copy of an Address for Papers from the House of Commons, 1963, put forward by the Member of Parliament for Brandon and the government of the day had no hesitation in releasing information. This is a copy of all letters, communications, documents, and reports exchanged since 1961 between the Government of Canada and the Government of Manitoba with respect to a study of the power potential on the Nelson River. I don't see what's so privileged or confidential about documents between a utility and a provincial government. We're not dealing with missile sites or some . . .

MR. LYON: If you're going to make that distinction you might as well sit down.

MR. JOHNSTON: Well, I can see that my honourable friend doesn't like what I'm saying.

MR. LYON: Don't flatter yourself.

MR. JOHNSTON: Well thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is now 5:30; I leave the Chair until 8:00 o'clock.