

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA
8:00 o'clock, Thursday, March 27, 1969

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would like to direct the attention of the honourable members to the gallery. We have six students of Grades 6, 7 and 8 standing of the Springstein School. These students are under the direction of Mr. Henry Funk. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Morris.

Also, we have six members of the 18th Boy Scouts under the direction of Scout Master Blaine Silverthorne. These scouts are from the constituency of St. Vital.

On behalf of all the honourable Members of the Legislative Assembly, I welcome you all here tonight.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

MR. CHAIRMAN: No. 6. Water Control and Conservation - (a)(1)-- The honourable Leader of the Official Opposition.

MR. MOLGAT: I have specific questions in this area that I want to ask of the Minister. One of the questions refers to Caribou Lake, where I understand that the department has some two control dams that have been damaged and there have been a series of requests to the department to put these back into operation. Apparently there has been an agreement to do so but no action. Now this is one of the tourist areas where, because the town of Bissett is in difficulties with the mining operation, I think it's very important that we do everything we can to make sure that the tourist industry flourishes. I understand that this is one of the drawbacks at the moment, and I wonder if the Minister is personally aware of this, if he has had direct complaints, if action will be taken in the next year to correct this situation so that the lake level can be maintained.

MR. ENNS: Mr. Chairman, I regret to inform the Honourable Leader of the Opposition that I am not personally aware of the matter that he raises. It may be perhaps that this is being funnelled through the Department of Tourism and Recreation. However, I will undertake to make enquiries and perhaps see that he gets an answer either personally or through the House on some other occasion.

MR. CHAIRMAN: (a)(1) --

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Chairman, in the same department but in another area of the province, I've also had complaints in the Pembina River valley. Now this one I think the Minister is aware of because it has been brought up I understand through a number of different channels including the member for the area, and this is to do with the control of the Pembina River and the Rock Lake dam in particular. I understand that during the course of the last summer the water was allowed to flow out without any warning to the people downstream. Now, I think all of us recognize that there was a particular water problem in certain parts of the province during parts of last summer and that in proper management control you may have had to release more water than normally, but the question is, why was there no warning given to people who live downstream from this particular dam? I understand that there was substantial damage to crops and to pasture lands and the people who were depending on this for their farming operations, without any warning whatever, suddenly found the areas inundated. Now is there no means by which the department can foretell some of the actions that they will take insofar as opening up some of the channels, and is there no means by which they can warn downstream people?

MR. ENNS: Mr. Chairman, this particular matter I am a bit more acquainted with. I would advise the Honourable Leader of the Opposition Party that we have some definitive plans in this area. We have had some difficulty over the years with the structure that he refers to. There has been in fact some illegal removal of logs from this dam from time to time that have perhaps, at least have . . . the situation that he refers to. I'm satisfied that by and large, and I would certainly undertake to double check this, that any control or any change or release of waters that the department is responsible for is usually done in conjunction with notice to municipal officials of the area and of the residents. However, I think we have a greater problem in that area and that we would hope in the course of this year's estimates to correct the situation there. I'm referring to a more substantial structure that would help to improve and regulate the waters of Rock Lake.

MR. MOLGAT: I understand that a petition was sent to the Minister in this regard from some 28 farmers in the area from the various municipalities. I think that they feel that part of the water was at least pushed on them at a certain stage by a decision of the department. Is the Minister considering any compensation for those who suffered losses?

MR. ENNS: Well, Mr. Chairman, in a case like this of course you always have two sides, there are those who are concerned about the recreational potential of the lake, who would like to see the lake regulated at a higher level, and of course the more immediate concern of those landowners whose lands may be affected by this. The reference that I made to attempting to improve both the quality and quantity of water in a better regulated way which I would think, and I have reason to believe, supported by the honourable member from that area, find considerable support by the residents not only in that immediate area but those who regard lakes such as Rock Lake as lakes that we should be paying attention to and developing because of the scarcity of water in that general area and any body of water like this should be used. There's always two sides to a question. Certainly any permanent arrangement that would create flooding situations for any adjacent landowners, easements, purchases, compensations, would have to be undertaken. I might say that I might well call on the Honourable Member for Rock Lake who is much more acquainted with this situation to advise the Honourable Leader of the Opposition to add whatever he might have on this particular subject. I know it's one that is close to his heart.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Rock Lake.

MR. HENRY J. EINARSON (Rock Lake): Mr. Chairman, yes, I intended to add to the comments that my honourable colleague the Minister of Mines and Natural Resources had to make. I'm familiar with the comments that the honourable the leader of the official opposition made and I would like to inform him that a group of farmers last August called me to attend a meeting in regards to this problem that was confronting them. Unfortunately, in Rock Lake at the west end there are three areas by which the water flows in to Rock Lake and only one where it goes out at the east end of it. Because we have a five-inch rainfall at the southwest part of the province which came in pretty well a deluge in a very short period of time, was one of the reasons why this problem was created. And I might say that the water coming into the lake so fast the department had to remove the logs so that the water could get through. Now this did create problems I grant you to the farmers east of Rock Lake and in the Pembina valley. It wasn't a situation where the water stayed, it just had to go through, and some of the farmers felt that we should not have removed those logs. But the situation that I'd like to inform the honourable member is this, that it didn't make any difference whether we moved the logs or not. Had we not removed the logs, the water would still have gone up and flowed over just the same, there was no way in which we could control the situation. So I couldn't see why the farmers in that area had a just case to complain because there's nothing we can do about Mother Nature when a deluge of rain like that comes upon us. This is really why the problem originated and the situation as we found it.

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Chairman, I thank the two members for their comments. I come back to my question to the Minister then. Is he considering compensation for those who suffered damage from this flooding?

MR. ENNS: No, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

MR. DOUGLAS CAMPBELL (Lakeside): That's right, Mr. Chairman, unlike some of the other members of the Committee, I have waited until the proper item to discuss the matter of water control and conservation, a practise that I would commend to some honourable members, and as usual the little bit of rather delicate thunder that I was going to project upon the Minister has been stolen by my honourable friend the Member for Gladstone, because he has exhorted the Minister at length and with great logic about the Whitemud situation. I thought that my honourable friend the Minister gave actually less attention that his department has in the last several years to that situation than it deserves, because what my honourable friend told the committee is correct. This area was taken over by the department some years ago, it became a provincial responsibility according to the statement of our friend - former friend in the House, George Hutton. And it is a serious situation. I'm sure my honourable friend is aware, I don't know how many of the members of the committee are aware, no matter how well they know that area, that there is a greater fall in the course of the few miles - and there are only a comparatively few miles that we're talking about here - there's a greater fall to the land there than there

(MR. CAMPBELL cont'd) . . . is at Niagara Falls from the Neepawa area down to the trouble spot that begins, well around Gladstone and continues right down into the constituency of Lakeside. There is more of a fall than there is in the whole of Niagara Falls, and when you get a situation like that, like Niagara Falls, the water just has to come down that's all; and it does come down with disastrous effects at times, and this situation has gone on unaided for a lot of years. Now, I can see that there has been some work done there but it has not been complete, and when I heard my honourable friend the Member for Morris say just yesterday or the day before, that he thought that in all these drainage programs that we should be careful to work from the outlet end, rather than the higher part of the watershed, and thereby if done from the higher end, aggravate the trouble further on, I said a mental "hear, hear", because that's the type of thing that I have been advocating in this House and at meetings for years. If the engineers, who are extremely capable people in the most of ways, would just practise that one fundamental rule of starting at the lower end of the watershed to make their drainage improvements, we'd have a lot less trouble. And, of course, having said that, you will notice what I'm coming to, Mr. Chairman, because my constituency is at the lower end, whereas my honourable friend the Member for Gladstone has the higher end. But the problem is serious.

The letter that my honourable friend quoted yesterday from a distinguished and capable citizen of that area mentioning that they too have their problem with grain that is altogether likely to be flooded points up the seriousness of the situation. So, if appeals would do any good, I would join with the Honourable Member for Gladstone in appealing to the Minister and the government to once again take a look at this situation. I don't want at this stage of the estimates to delay their work any longer.

Then I would like to ask my honourable friend the Minister, has he during the course of these estimates made any report upon the present situation with regard to the Portage la Prairie Diversion? I have missed some of the Committee, as my honourable friend knows. It may have been that the present situation with regard to the Portage Diversion has been placed on the record, and I don't ask him to repeat it if it has. If it hasn't, then I ask him now what is the present stage of construction there? The one stage I am very familiar with and I saw it reported in a Return that was brought down a few days ago; a very usual story that where the estimate had been something like, first 11 or 12, later on raised to 13 million, is now up to 18 million. In my opinion, one of the worst white elephants that we have ever had hoisted upon us in the province of Manitoba. Worse than a white elephant, a white elephant can be a matter of interest at least, a curiosity; this is a monstrosity running through the very finest part of the Province of Manitoba - agriculturally speaking, and wasting tremendous amount of land, and so far as I am concerned I'm hoping that I'll be proven wrong when the times comes, because if I'm proven right a lot of us will suffer in that area, but if proven wrong and this local "big ditch" does work, then that will be something for the expenditure.

I don't need to reiterate my old arguments, Mr. Chairman, and I don't feel as interested now that my friend George Hutton is no longer sitting over there to check up on me, but if he were I would certainly be inclined to preach the gospel once again, that what we need here is water conservation; even in these times when we're threatened with a flood, I still say that the best control that we can get is to conserve the water through a series of dams. So, to make what could easily be a very long story short, what's the situation with regard to the Shellmouth Dam? It at least is operating. Can it be used this year, and is it being used. Does the program call for it being used to lessen the likelihood of a flood on the Assiniboine River? And then, I think I know the answer to the other one, the diversion is not ready to be of any assistance. When will it be ready and does my honourable friend have any further facts and figures regarding it? And if it is not ready, if the prospects still are for some measure of flooding there, which we can never be sure of, because no matter how good the present situation may look, no matter what forecasts are, the jamming of the ice on those sharp bends can create a flood at any time, even though the forecasters feel quite optimistic about the situation.

Mr. Chairman, if the Honourable Minister has already put some of these facts and figures on the record, I won't ask him to repeat them; if not, I would appreciate the information.

MR. ENNS: . . . repeat very briefly to the Honourable Member for Lakeside, and I do appreciate his earlier comments that he was attempting to play it by the rules. There's no doubt we would have come through the estimates in a little more efficient way had we all done so. I find myself in general agreement with the remarks made by both the Honourable Member for Morris the other evening and repeated by yourself with respect to the staging or progression

(MR. ENNS cont'd) of how you enter into drainage works. I find myself in disagreement, though, with the particular situation that he refers to because it is a different situation, and in this particular situation the cure or the corrective measures that are perhaps most meaningful in the drainage situation that his constituency is partly victim of, and the soil erosion along this drop that he describes, stems from the misuse of land in the upper reaches of this watershed; in other words, that a great portion of the problems would be reduced if we had better land use in those areas. Now the honourable member shakes his head but I make that point. Again, I don't want to repeat, I did mention in my opening remarks general progress reports on the three major flood protection measures and as such I will not take the time of the committee, Mr. Chairman, to repeat other than to say just briefly that the Portage Diversion will be operational for the coming year. The major contracts have all been let; as he knows, the channel is dug; it involves the actual completion of the structures in the placing in the gates that will actually divert the water.

Again, he questions of course the whole project, which I understand has been of considerable concern to him over the years. I find just a little degree of inconsistency in his remarks and I offer them to him. Just a few moments ago he did accede to a general respect for the engineering capacity of professional engineers that tend to these matters, and I can only reiterate that certainly these projects, all three of them, the Floodway, the Portage and the Shellmouth projects, were projects that underwent the most vigorous kind of engineering study and scrutiny, and were recommended to us in that manner.

A brief word on the Shellmouth. The Shellmouth closure has been made so to that effect there would be some effect from the upper reaches of the Assiniboine. Generally at a time when we're faced with a possible endangerment of several hundreds of thousands of bushels of grain in that reach from Portage to Winnipeg, I just raise this one matter as part of the potential benefits of the flood protective measures of the Portage Diversion. We have every reason to believe that by bringing the Assiniboine into a more manageable stream or manageable control that we need not worry quite as much as we are worrying now - I would say of course, the honourable member would say at least \$18 million not as much as we are now - about the potential hazard that we have right now, that's facing us right now in that area, and many of the farmers are very concerned. They have this half assurance that the crest will not go above the dikes, that it will be contained within the dikes, but as he knows much better than I do, the situation with ice jamming and so forth can explode or can create a flash flood at any time. Now anything that can be done to -- if in succeeding years the river can be contained to five feet below the top of the dikes, certainly he'll concede to me that to that extent we lessen, the probability of even this kind of flash flooding as caused by ice jamming is lessened.

I should, while I'm on my feet, reply to the Honourable Member for Morris in some suggestions that he made, that instructions have gone out to have ample supplies of dynamite on hand, to have helicopter services available to do all we can to ensure that ice jamming does not occur. We also have experimented, several years ago, and I would have to dig back some reports just as how successful the experiments of using coal dust and so forth; we've used these on both the Red River and the Assiniboine.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Chairman, I will not take long to make my brief reply to the Honourable the Minister but I would point out to him that in my opinion equally good insurance as the Portage Diversion will ever give to the farmers in the lower reaches of the Assiniboine, could have been given by the Holland Dam, and I still say time will prove that that would have been a better deal than the other one and in time it will be built, in my opinion too, and it will serve a use that the Diversion will never, never serve because some time we'll want that water and we have areas there that will be glad to have it. With regard to my honourable friend's argument that he uses from the experts of one kind and another, where they always try to blame the farmers for cultural practices to cover up their own mistakes, I would pay a lot more attention to that argument if it wasn't for the fact that the biggest flood that we ever had in Manitoba was in 1826 when there were no cultural practices, when the land was in a complete state of nature, and we had the biggest one then that the province has ever had. And how do my friends the experts answer that one? -- (Interjection) -- They don't. No.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Gladstone.

MR. SHOEMAKER: Mr. Chairman, the Honourable Member and my colleague from Lakeside, suggested that I had in fact read this letter into the records from our distinguished friend at Gladstone in respect to the grain situation. You will recall that it was today that I

(MR. SHOEMAKER cont'd) . . . received the letter and I attempted to read it on questions before the Orders of the Day and I didn't get to read it. And so I do want to read it now because this fellow is a distinguished farmer in the area, and my honourable friend the Minister is probably acquainted with him. He's either a director or a former director of the United Grain Growers, and I refer to Robert D. Wilson from Gladstone and he's no fly-by-night farmer and . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: . . . inform the honourable member he's still a director.

MR. SHOEMAKER: He's still a director, the Chairman admits. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: And a good one.

MR. SHOEMAKER: You bet your life. Well, this letter is from him and it's dated March 25, and if my honourable friend doesn't believe him the Chairman will. It's addressed to myself and it says: "Dear Sir: The local Board of the U. G. G. wish to bring to your attention a disastrous situation in the Gladstone-Woodside area. Due to the excessive snow and high moisture content of the soil, many farmers along the Whitemud River are afraid their grain bins may be flooded this spring. If more grain cars were allotted to the Gladstone elevators, quotas could be increased and some bins could be emptied. We would appreciate any help you could give us in this matter." Signed: "Yours truly, Robert D. Wilson."

Now this is a fact, and no doubt he has heard through the press, radio and T. V. that the Minister of Agriculture did offer some assistance to the farmers in the Red River Valley area to help them empty their bins that were in danger of being flooded, and he is saying, "Well, we are entitled to the same consideration." That's all he's asking. And I want some assurance from my honourable friend then, the Minister of Agriculture, that they will pay some attention soon to this matter because it's going to be soon that the bins are in danger. Now -- (Interjection) -- No. Mr. Chairman, earlier today on the Orders of the Day, I understood the Minister of Agriculture to say, well this was a problem that the Canadian Wheat Board would have to deal with, and I then asked him to assert any influence that he might have on the Canadian Wheat Board and he said that well, they were aware of the situation, or words to that effect.

Now my honourable colleague the Member for Lakeside has pointed up that sometimes the engineers are wrong and the farmers are right. Sometimes. My honourable friend probably has not been in the House long enough to recall the situation and then again maybe he has been, but when this government put the new Highway No. 4 through from Gladstone to Neepawa, about 1961 wasn't it? 1960 or 1961, the engineers decided to put in a whole new series of bridges at every mile crossing for ten miles from Gladstone to the Arden ridge, and all during the course of putting these bridges in, the farmers said, "They're not big enough, you're going to have trouble." Because they put in these steel culverts. And they said, "oh no, we're engineers and we know the flow per second and the number of gallons per second that goes down there, and you farmers that have lived here for forty years you don't know what you're talking about." Well who was right? -- (interjection) -- The engineers? Like fun they were. The farmers were right, and if my honourable friend happened -- my honourable friend the First Minister knows all about this because anybody that travelled that road that summer couldn't help but notice that they had to rip every one of those. They had to rip them out? The water ripped them all out, and they piled them up, stacks of them there, about two miles west of Gladstone, and according to the estimates there was about a quarter of a million dollars there that was -- I was going to use the word "wasted" -- simply because an error was made. Now that's water that went over the land and under the bridges and the bridges couldn't take it, **and** there's no point much of talking about that now, but I just wanted to cite a situation where for once the farmers were right. -- (Interjection) -- As usual, my friend says. And so I think that farmers that have lived in an area all of their lifetime, they know a little bit about the flooding situations or what a flood might do, and Robert Wilson's one of them, Mr. Chairman. He knows, having lived there for 50 years, likely what's going to happen.

Now my honourable friend the Minister has said that in the Whitemud River Watershed area that it's slightly different there in that, probably controlled -- they should start at the headwaters rather than the back lots, so to speak. Well maybe so. But if the Town of Gladstone has to depend on this government building dams at the headwaters to prevent flooding in the Gladstone area, most of the farmers that are there now will never live to see the day that they are protected by dams at the headwaters, unless the government gets busy and intends to do a lot more work this year and next year than they've done in the last ten. And I would be

(MR. SHOEMAKER cont'd) . . . interested in learning what kind of a program can we look forward to in 1969, '70 and '71. I want to ask my honourable friend, too, and then I'm going to sit down, Mr. Chairman - and you will be happy to note that, as everyone else will be - but has his department made an assessment recently of the possibility of a flood in the Gladstone area? Because surely he knows what has transpired there in the last several spring floods. And we've got more snow this year than we've had for a long time and it all depends on providence and not what he has been doing as to whether or not we will have a flood in that area. Now, Mr. Chairman, having got that on the record I will eagerly await what my honourable friend has to say.

MR. CHAIRMAN: . . . the honourable member, showing my co-operation as chairman of the committee. You mentioned Mr. Wilson, a Director of United Grain Growers. I just thought -- I haven't been in the habit before of extending my duties beyond my boundaries in my constituency but being a shareholder in United Grain Growers and also having as my guest tonight the Assistant General Manager of United Grain Growers, Mr. Winslow, maybe you could stand up Mr. Winslow. Mr. Winslow was born in Souris, Manitoba, one of the better parts of Manitoba. Now maybe the Honourable Member for Gladstone and I could get together on that problem and maybe we could convince the Minister over here to do what's necessary to look after that problem.

MR. ENNS: Mr. Chairman, I'm beginning to question the Partisanship of . . .

MR. MOLGAT: I'd like to commend you on a very proper attitude, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Chairman, I don't object a bit to the publicity that you are giving to Mr. Winslow. I think he deserves it. But I don't think you should take advantage of the other members of the House in order to advertise yourself in this matter.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Selkirk.

MR. HILLHOUSE: Mr. Chairman, it's unfortunate that the Honourable Member for Gimli isn't here tonight because I know he would join with me in expressing to all the honourable members of this House our appreciation for their liquid generosity, because all that water they're wishing to get rid of has got to come down into our constituencies. And what is the government going to do about that? They won't let us build a brewery down there but they insist upon all the water coming down. Now is that water going down there to make chasers for the distillery that they have at Gimli? That would be one good purpose. But what I would like to find out, Mr. Chairman, is this: I understand that Hydro is going to raise the level of Lake Winnipeg and I understand that the mean level of Lake Winnipeg and I understand that the mean level of Lake Winnipeg over a 40-year period is 712 feet. Now if Hydro does decide to raise the level of Lake Winnipeg to give them a winter reservoir of water above 712 feet you're going to have serious flooding problems along the shores of that lake, and I want to get an assurance from the Minister that the level of that lake, that is the lower part of that lake, will not be raised by Hydro.

MR. EVANS: Mr. Chairman, there is no intention on the part of Hydro to raise the level of Lake Winnipeg or interfere with it in Phase I of the development of the Nelson River.

MR. HILLHOUSE: What about the other phases, Mr. Chairman?

MR. EVANS: That's a hypothetical question.

MR. ENNS: Let me just leave one final remark - of course it may not be the final remark to my honourable friend the Member for Lakeside - and simply ask him if he would not agree with me that the incidence of flooding has increased somewhat since 1826 and perhaps that that increase has some, or that there is some responsibility on those, and I'd like to count myself among them, that have tended to the land, not always in the best means from a conservation point of view. I leave this subject at that.

MR. CAMPBELL: . . . answer the question, Mr. Chairman. The records were not well kept before 1826 and even my memory doesn't go back to . . .

MR. ENNS: The Honourable Member for Gladstone returned again to a subject that is becoming just about as well noted, and will be noted in the pages of Hansard, as perhaps the Horned Tax Fund was of a few short years ago, but I do feel that since he took the time of the Committee to raise it once again, that I should be permitted to explain a little bit more fully just what has, in fact, taken place. And I would like to read from a sequence of events that took place with respect to that general area.

The Water Conservation District Act was passed in 1959, and as a result of extension work by the Department of Agriculture in the years immediately preceding '59, interest was

(MR. ENNS cont'd) . . . high in the area for the formation of a district. During the next two years, frequent meetings were held with the ad hoc municipal watershed group, and staffs of the Water Control and Soils Crop branches, as well as members of the Watershed Conservation Commission provided in the statute. Several amendments were made in the Act on the request of the local committee, to make the provisions of the Act more appealing to the municipal councils. Finally, in March, 1961, a proposal for the formation of a district was submitted to 18 municipalities having land within the proposed district. Even with a generous grant formula for physical works available only to organized districts, the majority of the municipalities voted against the district, and the Minister therefore did not recommend to the Cabinet that a district be formed.

I read that into the record, Mr. Chairman, to give some indication that the onus of inactivity -- and I don't accept the fact that there has been no activity in that area since 1965. Work has been done in that area; we are plagued with the situation that unless we come to grips with the land use in that area we will not solve the problem in the manner and way in which we would like to.

The Honourable Member for Selkirk raises the question that I know has troubled many of the residents in that area, as they are indeed the recipients of a great deal of drainage works carried out throughout the province of Manitoba, being situated as he is at the outlet of the Red River and Lake Winnipeg. I remind the Honourable Member for Selkirk, of course, of the very active program of land acquisition that has taken place, not within his confines, but in some of the flood-prone areas around Lake Winnipeg. We are aware, and would hope to resolve some of the specific flooding problems that the Town or the City of Selkirk is involved periodically with. I would like to add just the further comment to those already made by my colleague the Honourable Minister of Finance, with respect to the possible future plans of Hydro on Lake Winnipeg. To the best of my understanding, and the Water Commission will very shortly, I understand, be bringing in a report as a result of public hearings that were held concerning themselves with this same matter, that to the best of my understanding it is a question of Hydro, for future use for reservoir purposes, require a regulated lake. They are not placing any specific demands or requests that the lake be raised or lowered or anything, they, for Hydro purposes, only require a consistency. This could be in the long term beneficial to the area. I might also mention that one of the alternatives to South Indian Lake which has very often been mentioned, that is the Sturgeon Weir, has far greater implications for Lake Winnipeg and the towns and villages and land located around Lake Winnipeg, because it would have the diversion, a considerable amount of the diversion of waters coming through the Grand Rapids into Lake Winnipeg and through the Nelson in that manner, and for this reason this particular plan was rejected.

MR. HILLHOUSE: Do you mean to say then that, in view of the fact that you're going to raise the level of South Indian Lake, that it's no longer necessary for Hydro, in order to obtain a winter reservoir water, to raise the level of Lake Winnipeg?

MR. ENNS: No, Mr. Chairman, that is not quite correct. At this particular point they have no requirements for Lake Winnipeg at all. However, should future requirements of Lake Winnipeg be brought into the picture, the point that I was trying to make is that it is more important for Hydro purposes to have a consistent level, which could be in fact and indeed I must assume would have to be a level compatible to the areas around Lake Winnipeg. If I make my point clear. It's a matter of consistency that . . .

MR. HILLHOUSE: It's my understanding that Hydro originally decided that the lower levels of Lake Winnipeg would have to be kept at a consistent height in order to give you a winter reservoir, and that the levels they suggested were between 710 feet and 714 feet. Now, is that still the plan of Hydro or have they abandoned that plan? Because you're no doubt aware, and I know the Honourable Member for Gimli, if he were here, he would confirm what I have to say, that when Lake Winnipeg is at a level above 712 feet and you get a wind from a certain direction, you can raise the level of that lake almost two feet vertically inside of about 12 hours, and when the level is raised by that means - by winds and a high water - great damage can be done to all of the towns and hamlets on the west shore of Lake Winnipeg. And there's actually no means you have at the present time of protecting them. So, what I want to know and I want to get an assurance from you, that it is not the intention of Hydro to raise the level of Lake Winnipeg.

Now, the Honourable Minister of Finance says that Phase I, it's not their intention in

(MR. HILLHOUSE cont'd) respect of Phase I. Is it their intention in respect of any following phases of the Hydro development to raise the level of Lake Winnipeg? Because I think the people down there are entitled to an answer and the people down there are entitled to know what is going to be done to protect their towns and villages and farmlands. Now you have mentioned the fact that you have a wonderful land acquisition scheme, but I wish to assure the Minister that swapping lands for a person who has lost these lands due to flooding and who has been displaced from a farm which he has occupied perhaps all his life, is pretty poor compensation.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Leader of the Official Opposition.

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Chairman, do I understand correctly then from the Minister that the government has now abandoned the idea of using the control of Lake Winnipeg as part of Phase I of the Nelson project? That it is no longer part of the Phase I project on the Nelson. Is that correct?

MR. ENNS: To the best of my understanding, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I think I have mentioned several times and undertake to assure the House that this information will be forthcoming. I'm referring to the fact that I am expecting an interim report from the Manitoba Water Commission that has heard representations on these matters and I give the House the undertaking that this will be made available to them. The point that I come back again to my honourable friend from Selkirk is that he will also agree with me that abnormal low waters in Lake Winnipeg present their share of hardship and difficulties to the people surrounding Lake Winnipeg. I think that one can arrive at a consistent level that is compatible to the best public interest in and about the lake, and my understanding of the matter is that this can be arrived at and would be quite satisfactory to future Hydro requirements at such time as they may be required.

MR. HILLHOUSE: I'd just like to point out to the Honourable Minister, Mr. Chairman, that low waters on Lake Winnipeg are not caused by man; they're caused by nature. And what I'm complaining about is what is going to be caused by man, which is an entirely different thing.

MR. ENNS: Mr. Chairman, if the Honourable Member for Gimli were here, I'm sure that he could give us some pretty descriptive accounts of the high waters caused by nature over the years of the residents around Lake Winnipeg.

MR. HILLHOUSE: That's perfectly true, but if you're going to keep at a consistent level, which level is consistent with the damage that is done due to high waters, you are contributing to that damage.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Churchill.

MR. BOROWSKI: Mr. Chairman, I think we should thank the Honourable Member for Gladstone for eliciting information from the Minister which this House has been unable to get for two weeks, and that is, the reason they're going to flood South Indian Lake is that they don't want to flood Lake Winnipeg. This is wonderful!

MR. CHAIRMAN: (a)(1) . . . The Honourable Member for St. John's.

MR. CHERNIACK: Mr. Chairman, I have missed some of the discussions on this item in the Minister's department and therefore this matter may have been raised earlier, and if so I'm not aware of it, so that the Minister will be able to interrupt me and give me my answer.

Last night I met with a person from whom I have now received a copy of the letter and certain other members of the House have also been favoured with a copy, dealing with residents on Turnbull Drive and Red River Drive. My understanding is that there are some 20 residences on the west side of the Red River, which are immediately adjacent to the floodway inlet control structure. These people, I am informed, have been told by representatives of the Water Control Department that they will be flooded this spring; in the spring of 1969 they will be flooded. And this letter is a rather desperate letter appealing again for some assistance in dealing with the problem that they know will arise. She states -- and it's Mrs. Lord, an architect, who has one of the homes -- informs us that of the 20 residents their value runs from \$30,000 to 50,000, and she states that their information is that this flooding, this situation is a direct result of the construction of the floodway and the inlet controls to make the floodway work. She states that in the 1966 flood, all of the homes were repaired with very generous assistance of the Red River Valley Board and the Disaster Fund, and now she states that she is certain that the situation being what it is today, and based on information given to her, that these 20 homes will be flooded, and that means that there will be damage. The letter

(MR. CHERNIACK cont'd) contains the information that this was drawn to the attention of the Honourable Minister and, as of last night when I spoke to her, she informed me that she did not have any response from the Minister to either allay her fears or support her fears, and sitting as she is in a home, knowing that it will be flooded, she is of course in a very desperate mind. Now, what can the Minister inform us that will settle in some way the problem that these people have and will continue to have, unless something is done?

MR. ENNS: Well, Mr. Chairman, on a small point, I received also this letter that the Honourable Member for St. John's refers to. It was delivered to me at roughly 3:30 this afternoon so that I make no apology for not being able to get word back to her. I disagree with the contention that is made in the letter and repeated by the Honourable Member for St. John's that this flooding is being caused as a direct result of the structure of the floodway, the floodway works. The flooding of these homes is the direct result of their building their homes on these flood-prone flats of the river and I would have to make that correction. I would also further inform the honourable member

MR. CHERNIACK: On what -- wouldn't they have had to receive some permission to build where they did?

MR. ENNS: I cannot answer for the municipal authorities responsible. Unfortunately, I would have to agree with the Honourable Member for St. John's, that perhaps our zoning by-laws or zoning regulations have not advanced to the point that we would like to see them, from a flood protection point of view. It's also my understanding that five or six or seven of these homes were just built there in recent years with the flood history well and fully known to those builders. Now, having said that, my people are in contact, not as a result of this letter but because of another contact in the same general area. I'm not prepared or I have not got the information as to what precisely the department or the government can do for them in this instance. I think in any event probably they would have to be prepared to evacuate their homes. I may be in a position in a day or two to inform the Honourable Member for St. John's, as I will the residents as to what particular plans the department has.

MR. CHERNIACK: May I ask then: the letter that was just received today is the first letter that the Honourable Minister is aware of, or the first information? Because that's not the way I was informed.

MR. ENNS: I had one phone call from one other person from this general area and I have acted upon that phone call in sending the Director of our Operations Branch in the Water Control Branch to have discussions with them. My understanding further is that this has already been done. I have not had a chance to contact him since to see just what the precise action we can take in this matter.

MR. CHERNIACK: Well then, Mr. Chairman, can we assume that the Minister will be informing us what he learns? I presume you're looking into the question of diking possibilities in that area.

MR. CHAIRMAN: (a)(1)--passed; (2)--passed. (3)--passed. (a)--passed. . . .

MR. GUTTORMSON: Mr. Chairman, in reply to a question by the Member for Lakeside, the Minister said that the Portage Diversion would be in operation in the spring of 1970. Is that correct? What provision is the government going to make to take the water down stream from Lake Manitoba? If you're just going to store the water from the Assiniboine in Lake Manitoba, you've got to get rid of the water somewhere, and the logical place of course is through the Fairford Channel. And, as the Minister knows, no provision has been made to take the water away at that end, and the people up there are quite concerned about it, particularly in view of the fact that you're going to be diverting additional waters on to Lake Manitoba from the Assiniboine River.

MR. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, the amount of water diverted into Lake Manitoba is negligible in the context of that large body of water. In fact, engineering information has it such that we lose as much as that in a good day in evaporation. I can well appreciate, however, his concern because of the sensitivity in that particular area because we have an unsolved problem there. We will attempt to resolve that problem in due course.

MR. PHILIP PETURSSON (Wellington): Mr. Chairman, with reference to the area to which my colleague from St. John's -- on which he spoke just a moment ago: would the government be doing anything to discourage the municipality that is involved from issuing further building permits for houses in that particular spot, being as vulnerable as it is?

MR. ENNS: Mr. Chairman, I know that we have made different attempts to have either

(MR. ENNS cont'd) . . . clearly indicated on land titles that they be stamped with an identifiable warning as to the fact that they are prone to flooding. It's an area though where we are dealing with multi jurisdictions, different municipalities. We have considerable consultation to do to encourage the adoption of uniform zoning by-laws. These are some of the difficulties that face us in this area. Certainly every spring or when we face a situation like this we feel that -- you know in hindsight we could have done more. To the best of my knowledge we are moving forward and progressing in this general area, not only in this particular area, but throughout the Red River Valley and other flood prone areas to prevent the kind of development from taking place that we are later called upon for one reason or other, compassion, to expend public funds to protect or to restore, rehabilitate.

MR. CHAIRMAN: (b)(1)--passed; (2)--passed; (b)--passed. (c)(1)--passed; (1)(a)--passed; (b)--passed; (2)--passed; (3)--passed. (c)--passed.

MR. CAMPBELL: Under 3, Mr. Chairman, the Minister will give us some information as to what items are covered under this large vote, will he?

MR. ENNS: Well, Mr. Chairman, this is the bulk of the major waterworks, provincial water drains that are currently under construction in the province, the Grassmere, the Sturgeon, the Long Lake Drain, the Hespeler, the Tobacco and the Norquay.

MR. CHAIRMAN: (3)--passed. (c)--passed. Water Control and Conservation - \$4,812,073.00. Resolution 77--passed.

No. 7 - Canada - Manitoba FRED Agreement.
The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

MR. CAMPBELL: What is the program under 7, Mr. Chairman?

MR. ENNS: Mr. Chairman, this is the program or that portion of the program that is specifically designated under the FRED Agreement. The works here relate to the Interlake solely. They involve primarily work being contemplated on the Icelandic River, the Fisher River and in, I believe, also portions of the southern drainage systems. The Grassmere is to the best of my knowledge completed, part of the upper reaches of the Sturgeon and the Long Lake come into this portion of the proportionment.

MR. CAMPBELL: What part of it might I ask, Mr. Chairman, is recoverable from Canada?

MR. ENNS: Fifty percent.

MR. MOLGAT: Of this figure? Mr. Chairman, the actual expenditure from a Manitoba standpoint then is anticipated to be some \$650,000.00. Is that correct?

MR. ENNS: Under this vote I believe that is correct.

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Chairman, is there any consideration being given by the Minister or by the government to the extension of the boundaries of FRED. When this was set up originally the area under investigation as I recall it was somewhat wider but the final agreement was really signed only for the Interlake, and yet we know that there are many other areas of Manitoba that are, from an economy standpoint and from a standpoint of communications, the whole geography of the area is very similar to the Interlake, and I refer to portions of West Lake as well as portions of Eastern Manitoba where the problems are identical. Now is the government giving any consideration to applying to Canada for an extension of the FRED Agreements to cover these other regions which are in the same need?

MR. ENNS: Mr. Chairman, there has been some extension already in specific areas as I am sure the Honourable the Leader of the Opposition is aware of. I refer specifically to the assistant grants being paid to brush clearing that initially was part and parcel of the FRED program. This was extended because of the reasons he mentions, to cover the West Lake area as well. There have been no specific considerations or no specific programming underway to extend the FRED type program, although we are very aware of this kind of a program or the need for this kind of a program that perhaps we should be looking at. I say this primarily because we cannot fail to pay attention to what is happening in the Federal scene and one would feel that under the reorganization within the Federal Government the pulling together of some of the departments involved under the Honourable Mr. Marchand in the whole area of redevelopment programs, there are discussions taking place at our official level to see what application, or how we should be attempting to tune in on what is taking place in Ottawa. One area that is presently being considered is, for instance, in the far north under the Department of Youth and Education perhaps who refer to the Newstart Program which is a deviation, but still in the same vein of the general approach to rural development.

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Chairman, isn't it a fact that at the moment the Federal Government does not contribute to programs, for example the brushing program to which the Minister refers, is there a federal contribution when it is outside of the FRED boundaries? No? This is what I thought. Now my concern here is that there are federal funds available. I recognize that this has to be matched in most cases by provincial funds but nevertheless it does mean the infusion into Manitoba of some very substantial federal moneys, and if we would contemplate the expansion of the areas to cover those low and slow growth areas of Manitoba which are identical to the Interlake for whatever investment we made - usually it's 50 percent - there is a 50 percent investment by Canada, which should in the final analysis return a much greater benefit to the Province of Manitoba itself. And when the Minister says that there are some new programs, that's true and we welcome all the efforts of the Federal Government insofar as regional development. But here is a specific program, the FRED one, to my knowledge it's based on some geographical boundaries that are outlined and money must be spent within that area. Now, because of other problems I would urge the Minister to look at an extension of the boundaries to make this cover the areas where the need exists and that by getting this federal money in we'll be benefitting our province.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No. 7 - Canada-Manitoba FRED Agreement - \$1,300,000.00. Resolution 78--passed.

MR. EVANS: Mr. Chairman, before we conclude discussion of the estimates of my honourable friend the Minister of Mines and Resources, I'd like to refer to questions asked by the Member for Rhineland in which he said, I think directly, "Now we know the cost of interests have risen very considerably and I would like to hear from the Minister just what does this do in relation to the cost of power that will be developed at this station." A little later the Honourable Member for Rhineland said, "Also how much of the financing of this whole development has already been arranged. How much of the borrowing has been done and how much will be needed. How much more will the total development cost as a result of increased prices on the commodities that have been bought that go into the venture." I've been provided with some information from Hydro which I hope will answer my honourable friend's questions.

An increase in the rates from 5 1/2 percent as used in 1966 to 7 percent as is now being used by Manitoba Hydro in our estimates, results in a rise in cost from 2.84 mills per kilowatt hour to 3.52 mills per kilowatt hour, or an increase of .68 mills per kilowatt hour, in anticipated cost of power that can be developed from Kettle Generating Station with ten units in service and operating at 80 percent of capacity effective.

The capital monies that had been spent by Manitoba Hydro on the whole development, the Kettle Generating Station and the Churchill River Diversion as of January 31, 1969, amounted to \$110,934,729 and it can be assumed that a sum equivalent to that amount had to be borrowed. It's not possible in the way that the money is borrowed to segregate exactly how much is borrowed for one purpose or another, but since the requirements for borrowed capital did increase by reason of this development at Kettle Rapids and the Kettle Rapids amounted to some \$110 million, I think we can make the reasonable assumption that as much as \$110 million had to be borrowed for that purpose.

The present estimate of the completed cost of Kettle Generating Station with ten units in service and of the high level Churchill River Diversion Project totalled \$334,688,000, so that the balance to be provided after January 31, 1969, would then become \$233,753,271.00. It's not possible to state with any degree of accuracy exactly how much the total development has increased in cost due to increased prices on labour, material, etc. involved in the venture, since the design of the plant as originally contemplated called for a total installed capacity of 855 megawatts, but in its final design the plant is now being built for a total capacity of 1,224 megawatts in 12 units, with ten units to be a capacity of 1,020 megawatts to be installed prior to the Lake Winnipeg being regulated. My honourable friend will find that in Hansard of course. It's a little bit complex. It's all the information I could obtain for him in answer to his question.

MR. FROESE: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to thank the Honourable Minister for giving me those figures.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Department XV - Youth and Education No. 1 - General Administration. The Minister of Youth and Education.

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Chairman, first of all may I congratulate yourself on your handling of your new responsibility and I wish you well and further success at it. In preface to going into the details of the estimates of the Department of Youth and Education I would like to make a few brief remarks of introduction. I can assure you first of all as the new Minister in this portfolio I can inform you that it has to be one of the greatest challenges that exists in public life. I must also admit it's a traumatic experience for someone to be cast into this lot even when they have some background in it. I must admit that survival to this date has been made easy and relatively pleasant by the very competent staff which I have on the team in Education and a particular thanks to my Deputy Minister, Dr. Lorimer, for heading up this very large operating department of government. I must also say that I inherited a fairly trim ship from my predecessor in this portfolio and this only adds to the challenge in keeping up the mark which he has set.

You will be aware that the department has been renamed the Department of Youth and Education. The reason for this has been primarily twofold. One of the reasons is that the Youth and Manpower section of the Manitoba Development Authority was merged with the Department of Education, and secondly the increased involvement of government with the youth segment of our society has brought about much more focus on this particular segment of society than what we traditionally associated with our educational institutions. We have in the department been working for several months on reorganization of the department and we have now about reached the completion stage, and at this point I would like to hand out to members of the House copies of the new reorganization chart with some very brief explanation of some of the major changes. I'll hand these out for redistribution.

First of all the new Youth and Manpower section will combine parts of the vocational branch and the youth and manpower group that was recently incorporated into the department. The youth section is being developed and its research arm will provide the necessary research to assess and to support youth programs. A special projects section will be responsible for a number of new projects outside of the Institutes, several of which I will hope to advise the members of at a later date. One of these includes the Newstart Program which was alluded to by the Honourable Minister of Mines and Natural Resources here a few moments ago. The Instruction Branch has been focused on curriculum and related areas including the inspectors and supervisors, vocational high school section, research and planning, teacher in-service programs and university affairs. The Special Services Branch will include major functions in instructional media such as radio and television, libraries and visual aids, special education, teacher certification, the Registrar, guidance services and student aid. The Public Schools Finance Board will continue its functions related to school finances and school building, school transportation and operation of the Foundation Program. The School Building Projects Committee is being restructured and falls under the responsibility of the Public School Finance Board. The Legislative and Public Library and the Archives will continue to operate as a unit within the Department of Youth and Education. The Institutes, MIT and MIAA in Winnipeg, the vocational centres at Brandon and at The Pas and their associated programs have become a very large portion of the responsibility of the Department of Education. This section has been restructured in keeping with the rapid changes which have been taking place in this area and the largest portion of the staff of the total department falls within this section.

During the calendar year 1968, as we have discussed briefly already at this session of the Legislature, 40 unitary divisions operated along with 12 school districts designated as remote school districts, all falling under the aegis of the Foundation Program. All of these were eligible for the grants of the program. And under their jurisdiction came 210,414 pupils out of a total student population of 231,650. Eight non-unitary divisions, in which there are located 108 school districts, operated outside the unitary system. Four of these divisions comprising 41 school districts have petitioned for a referendum to be included under the unitary system and, as the honourable members know, a referendum on this matter will be held on April 14th. Perhaps if I can brighten the evening for the Honourable Member for Rhineland, I could tell him that we have a reduction of one unitary division in 1968. However, it was not due to a withdrawal; it was due to an amalgamation when Assiniboia and St. James amalgamated. We trust that we will have four more joining us within, hopefully, or by April 14.

In keeping with our policy announced last year, a program of construction of composite

(MR. CRAIK cont'd.) high schools has been undertaken during the year. Sites have been chosen for two schools, at Dauphin and at Selkirk, and plans are well under way in these two locations. The site for a third school in the Metropolitan Winnipeg area, east of the river, is now under consideration.

Frontier School Division, No. 48, continued to operate very successfully in northern communities. The enrollment in the Frontier Collegiate rose this year to 421, an increase of 90 over last year. Indications are that the high school enrollment in the division, not necessarily at Frontier Collegiate but in the division, will rise by about 100 per year for the next few years. Now this has to be a king-sized success story in terms of education, performance of secondary education in the Frontier Division. We are now at roughly 400 and rising at the rate of about 100 per year. In the fall of 1968, Frontier assumed responsibility for the education of Indian children at Norway House, Berens River and Wanipigow. New school buildings have been constructed jointly by the federal government and the province at Berens River and Wanipigow, and these schools are now in use. At Norway House plans are well under way for new joint schools at that location. Our plan is to provide even further facilities for more educational services there. Frontier Collegiate will also undergo further expansion this year. We have this year coming out of the Frontier Division a remarkable 38 persons who have indicated a desire to continue on to post-secondary institutions, and we will be doing everything we possibly can to assist them in their desires. In this group is included a large number of treaty Indians.

The appropriations for grants to school districts and school divisions has increased by \$9,697,000 over the previous year estimates. By increasing the province's share under the Foundation Program from 65 to 70 percent, the province assumed an additional 5.8 million dollars of the cost of the Foundation Program. This is a direct saving to the taxpayer under the Foundation levy as we've already discussed at some length. The remainder of the increase, \$3,897,000, constitutes additional amounts payable under the Foundation Program itself as compared with last year. This is due to the increase in the number of teachers, provision of additional services, buildings and equipment.

During the past year, curriculum development in the province has progressed to a point where the proposals of the Manitoba Royal Commission on Education and the several seminars that have been convened in the intervening period to try and further develop these recommendations, has nearly been completed. Specific new developments range from the preparation and distribution of a kindergarten program through to the establishment of pilot classes in Grade 11 of the occupational entrance course.

The past year has seen some major steps forward in the flexibility of our school programs. We now find the somewhat artificial barrier that existed between the general course and the university entrance course disappearing, and we have also achieved a greater degree of flexibility in the university entrance course, or I should say that the universities have done this and we've tried to assist them along the way in becoming more flexible, so that we find now that people wishing to go on from high school into universities can do so with a greater degree of flexibility with a combination of both university entrance courses and general course. As a result, although the scope and diversity of the curriculum has increased, the necessity for administration of centralized examinations has decreased. For the first time, in June, 1969, this year, students in all grades in all programs may be evaluated by their own teachers and given grades at the school level. The one exception to this program is the Grade 12 university entrance program. Students in this program must obtain passing grades in no less than three courses on examinations which are developed, administered and marked under the supervision of the Provincial High School Examination Board. These changes have also enabled a considerable savings in the administrative costs of the government Examination Branch.

One of the lesser known but very important aspects of our curriculum revisions has been a steady increase in freedom and control given to school divisions and schools in curricular and instructional decisions, and this trend will continue and include administrative areas as well. It is our intention this summer to convene a seminar for the purpose of examining the entire existing organizational structure of our high school system, its aims and philosophies, to make for change in line with current thinking and developments in providing maximum opportunity for student growth and development. The seminar will include representations from school boards, universities, the institutes, administrators, teachers and students. It is our aim that the result of their deliberations will be a program patterned for secondary grades that

(MR. CRAIK Cont'd.)... can be satisfying, challenging and relevant to the aspirations of the modern age and the student, and above all to allow flexibility and initiative at the local level. This committee, along with the Minister's Education Advisory Committee, will have a considerable influence on future educational planning for Manitoba.

The number of teachers enrolled in the Faculty (1) Program at the University and at Brandon University, increased from 345 in the fall of 1967 to 507 in the fall of 1968, an increase of 47 percent. In the same year, the enrollment in the one-year elementary teacher education course program increased from 705 to 750, and in the two-year program from 62 to 201. As a result of the increase in enrollment in the Faculty (1) Program this year and an anticipated further increase in this area for next year, the twelve-week summer program for the training of secondary school teachers has been restricted to 150 entrants. It is planned to eliminate this course in 1970. As you will recall, this was put on as a crash incentive course to get an added supply of secondary teachers several years ago. There is a reduction this past year of 99 permit teachers from the preceding year. It should be noted that many of the permit teachers presently remaining employed have some professional teacher education and a large majority of the permit teachers are university graduates.

Tuition fees for the Department of Youth and Education summer school courses were restored in the summer of 1968. Tuition fees for all other education courses except the summer courses in PSSC physics will be reinstated in 1969. The teacher supply situation for elementary grades has been very good and for the secondary grades has been steadily improving to a point where the supply appears to be about equal to the demand.

A great deal of work continues in the field of special education. Enrollment at the School for the Deaf stands at 143 and remains fairly constant. We're fairly confident that the needs are being met in this area and in the residential requirements for the School for the Deaf. We continue to provide educational services for the school aged in a number of hospitals, government institutions and agency facilities that care for the sick, the delinquent, physically and mentally handicapped. Provision of these educational services and for the blind is a direct provincial responsibility. Within the public school system a greater extension of services has been made in the area of mental retardation. Special classes have risen from 177 in 1967 to 336 in 1969.

As you are increasingly aware, technical and vocational training have become important and dynamic fields in educational activity. The urgency of assuring an adequate supply of . . . trained manpower to meet the expanding varied and rapidly changing needs, has made it imperative that training programs be progressive and responsive to changing circumstances. The role of technical and vocational education and training in Manitoba has to be one of the proudest accomplishments that we have had in our educational system in recent years. It offers education and opportunity to thousands every year who only a few short years ago had no such opportunity available to them. At the MIT - MIAA complex in Brooklands, full-time enrollment in September of 1968 was 2,407 compared with 1,885 in September 1967, an increase of 28 percent. During the 1968 year, the total number of students enrolled numbered a total of 10,870. A total enrollment of full-time students at Brandon Vocational Centre reached 539 in January of this year, an increase of 8 percent over last year. And the most recent dramatic increase has occurred at the northern Manitoba Vocational Centre at The Pas, where a comparison between full-time enrollments for December 1967 of 203 and for December 1968, of 299 showed a 48 percent increase. A further increase occurred in the year with the figure reaching 356 in January of 1969. With this peak enrollment at The Pas, typical of the very seasonal fluctuations which take place there, we've recently had difficulty in providing residential facilities for the total numbers wishing to enroll. We've had to go to the community and with their support we've been able to mount a program that has been able to find living space for all of those wishing to attend the school in The Pas.

Training activity conducted by the Special Programs Division, now to be known as the Manpower Extension Services, continued to expand during the year in areas of vocational preparation, management development, industrial training, special courses and private trade schools. Enrollment in these courses, not including private trade schools, totalled 1,551, and to give you an idea of the sorts of courses I'm talking about here, they are such things as Occupational English for new Canadians, farm operators courses, heavy equipment operators courses, carpentry, diamond drilling, key punch operators and welding.

The matter of how best to develop facilities and programs for vocational training at the

(MR. CRAIK Cont'd.) ... high school level in Manitoba has been given a great deal of thought and re-examination. Out of this has emerged the conclusion that the composite high school is the most appropriate type of facility to meet the province's main needs. Such a school envisages programs of academic courses, high school vocational courses combined with academic studies, and pure vocational courses. This type of institution is becoming widely recognized in many places around the world as the most feasible approach for high school education, and it is expected that gradually over a period of time these composite schools will replace the traditional high school.

If I might digress for a moment, I would like to discuss the topic of Youth, which many of us talk about in this day and age. Youth represents a large sub-group in our society today. Their presence through numbers, their tendencies to restlessness, adventure and even rebellion, their more rapid rates of maturity, articulation and involvement, their advancing levels of education, the increasingly rapid advances of technology and the growing pressures for change in most aspects of society, all give new dimensions to the importance, to the position and to the problems of youth in society. Many groups are becoming increasingly conscious and concerned about the need to focus on the youth. Much of this concern still appears to spring from a great deal of misunderstanding and a reluctance to accept youth matters as they really are. It is against this background that the youth-related policies and programs of the Provincial Government are now under critical examination by our Youth and Manpower section, and consultations with community agencies have been initiated. Paralleling these developments, intensified discussions are now taking place, inter-provincially and with the Federal Government, to review the present Canada Manpower Adult Training Program, to consider what modifications may be necessary to make this program as equitable and effective as possible. There is at present what we consider is an unfortunate provision in the program which requires a period of three years in the labour force beyond the school leaving age before young people are eligible to receive occupational training allowances to assist them in undertaking programs of study under the Occupational Training Act. Because of this situation, many young people we find do not get started in the labour force in a positive way and tend to become candidates for retraining at an early point in their working life. We are presently studying this matter in depth, as I mentioned, locally along with the Federal Government, who of course do mount the occupational training programs.

The amounts of money required by our universities and colleges have grown at an amazing rate and most of the new funds have had to come from government sources. Until April 1, 1963, the University of Manitoba and Brandon College were the only university level institutions in Manitoba receiving provincial government support. But at that time, through the Affiliated Colleges Grants Act, a sum bearing from 250 to 420,000 per year was made available for operating support for Brandon, St. Boniface, St. John's, St. Paul's and United Colleges. On July 1, 1967, Brandon and United Colleges became respectively Brandon University and the University of Winnipeg, and shortly thereafter St. John's College and St. Paul's College entered into a community of colleges arrangement with the University of Manitoba. Since that time the new universities and other institutions which had been affiliates of the University of Manitoba, have all received provincial support on the same footing as the University of Manitoba itself. This extension of provincial support by itself has added greatly to the province's bill for higher education; but the new income of these new universities and colleges should assure them the chance to offer a higher level of service.

The province's grants for university level education have risen as follows over the past 20 years. And if I might just quote two or three of the statistics to give you an idea in the growth for university level education: In 1949 to '50 the grants were \$1,850,000; in 1965-66, just four years ago, the grants were \$12,368,000; and in 1969, this coming year, the grants are \$43,750,000, which gives you some indication of the tremendous rate of growth and of cost of financing universities. Now the major factors that contribute to this, if I can just refer to them. First of all, as indicated above, we have more colleges and universities following under the support of the University Grants Commission. Secondly, we've had increases of enrolment, which over that period of time have averaged out in increases at about 10 percent per year. And, of course, we've had inflationary trends of about 3 to 4 percent per year average over that period. Also, we've had an increasing capital cost rapidly of late, as the universities have passed the point where increasing numbers of students can be accommodated in previously existing buildings.

(MR. CRAIK Cont'd.)

University level education is, though, available at a costly increasing rate to a larger and larger percentage of the young people in Manitoba. Enrolment figures for recent years show this trend, and the best predictions indicate that enrolments - growth rates - will continue on the way up. To give you an idea of enrolments: in 1951-52 we had in the universities and colleges 3,985 students, and in 1969-70 the number is 16,600 - over four times the enrolment.

As you will see from your estimates, provision has been made for a very considerable increase in the amount of money to be turned over to the Universities Grants Commission for distribution to the universities and colleges. The total increase in the appropriation is \$7,150,000.

Our universities have only three sources of revenue which are really significant in amount. First of all, provincial grants, which are voted by this House and distributed by the UGC; research grants, which come chiefly from the federal agencies and, by the way, usually mean that it costs us more in grants to provide them with the support of an administrative services; and thirdly, tuition fees. I have already indicated how rapidly provincial grants have increased. There has also been a great growth in research grants. The very large sums which you have voted in recent years have made it possible for the universities to operate at a level which makes them competitive with other universities across Canada, and without any increase in tuition fees. However, with costs per student growing rapidly and tuition fees remaining constant, the proportion of the universities' income derived from fees has been dropping steadily. In the current year, tuition fees averaged out across all the universities accounted for only 16 to 17 percent of the income for operating purposes, and it now appears possible that despite a very great increase in provincial grants for next year, the universities will wish to seek additional revenues by an increase in tuition fees. If they do, their actions should surprise no one.

In Agriculture, Arts, Science, Medicine, Dentistry and Commerce, Manitoba's tuition fees are the lowest in Canada. In Applied Science, only five of 36 institutions offering such courses have lower fees than ours, and in Graduate Studies, only two of 29 institutions have lower fees. I think both the public in general and the universities in particular must soon consider very carefully how high a proportion of their income they can accept from government and still retain the autonomy about which they and we are both concerned.

It might also be noted in passing that in the current year Manitoba's three universities rank respectively 42nd, 43rd and 44th out of 45 universities reporting on charges for board and room. We are most anxious to provide a university education for every suitable candidate at a cost within his means, but we must also consider carefully what is within our means.

In a study just completed under the direction of Professor John F. Cameron of Dalhousie University, it is specifically noted that, and I quote: "Manitoba appears to be one of the few provinces whose own contributions to the support of higher education increased even when increased federal resources were being made available to the provinces." The degree to which the government is committed to support of our universities is indicated by the fact that 11 1/2 percent of the total monies of the Provincial Government budget now placed before you are dedicated to university purposes. This compares with, 10 years ago, an amount of 2 1/2 percent. In terms of dollars voted for the purposes of the universities, our support has increased 14 1/2 times in that period.

Now on the question of student aid, I am sure that all members are aware of the dramatic increases in enrolment that have taken place in all the education institutions in the past decade. The problems of providing adequate facilities to house these growing numbers of students, particularly at the post-secondary level, have concerned us all. Your estimates that you will be asked to vote will include \$1,216,300 for 1969-70 as compared with \$1,037,000 for the current year. These are very considerable amounts to be provided to students, but they represent only a fraction of the total to which students have access.

Student aid is generally of three kinds. First of all, awards such as scholarships and bursaries, which are non-repayable. Secondly, loans which are repayable, generally without interest. And thirdly, the provision of paid employment by and within the institution the student attends. Only the first kind is readily identifiable in your estimates, and the portion of it allocated for bursaries and scholarships is \$1,172,000. Private sources such as endowment funds, trust funds, normally administered by the university, will provide another \$660,000 in

(MR. CRAIK Cont'd.)... scholarships and bursaries. The Federal Government can be expected to award about \$100,000 and the department administers a system of federal-guaranteed interest-free loans which total \$3,600,000, or will total \$3,600,000 in 1969 and '70. The University of Manitoba has at its command another \$200,000. And finally, our three universities themselves provide employment directly to some of their senior students and this amounts to about \$700,000. I'm sure that the honourable members and the public, and the students in fact, will be surprised that the total amount of this support for the coming year will amount to \$6,600,000.

Mr. Chairman, if I might just comment now briefly on the legislative library. The legislative library and the administration of the Public Libraries Act and the Public Records and Archives Branch, are now part of the department. During the past year, the legislative library has had an important function to maintain and complete, and will continue to maintain its files on the history of Manitoba and, in general, Manitobiana. A number of local histories prepared in 1967 were added to the library and it is anticipated that more of these will become available through to 1970.

A major undertaking has been to microfilm all the Manitoba weekly newspapers from their beginnings through to 1967. Last October two library votes were passed to establish libraries at Portage la Prairie and a regional library at the Town of Carman in the Rural Municipality of Dufferin. During 1970 the Archives Branch hopes to be able to publish a brief picture history of the province. This publication will fill a major need in the schools as well as being of interest to the general public. One of the unique acquisitions that we've been able to make in the last year has been a motion picture film on the construction of the Port of Churchill during the years 1931 to 1933.

With those remarks, Mr. Chairman, which, when I started to draft together were intended to be brief but may be open to some question now, I have covered some of the significant areas of importance for the last year and for the coming year. I know there are many other areas which the honourable members will wish to question, and we'll attempt to cast as much light as possible, if we can, on those areas.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Emerson.

MR. JOHN P. TANCHAK (Emerson): Mr. Chairman, I wish to congratulate you in your position as Deputy Speaker. At the same time I also wish to congratulate the Minister in his new post, the Minister of Youth and Education, but it's a common phrase or a common saying in here that it's a new Minister, and if there's anything that's not too complimentary to that particular department, it is often said, "Well, we don't blame you too much because you inherited this mess," - if it's a mess - or "You inherited these compliments that we are giving," - whatever it is. Well, probably you did inherit some; the new Minister did inherit some; but I don't think that this is any excuse, because we well know that any Minister taking a new position or a new post is still a part of the same old worn-out government. So, if the new Minister inherited something, he inherited something that's partially of his own doing. Maybe we could blame the former ministers, and, there are two former ministers sitting side by side here, in the front row - amiable gentlemen. So you might have inherited some of their contributions or some of their ills, whatever it is. But still you are responsible for it, and when I do speak tonight - and I don't know how critical I'll be - I hope that the Minister doesn't think that I am criticizing him. I hope he'll take it as criticizing the whole party - his party and the government - over the performance of the last 10 years we had.

I also wish to express my appreciation to the civil service of this department - Department of Youth and Education - and I've always found them very courteous and very civil. They were most willing to give us their information, whichever they were permitted to give. They tried to explain to us and I, our Party, the Liberal Party, appreciates this very, very much.

If there is any criticism offered as to the department, I hope that the civil service does not feel that this is specially directed against them, because after all, they are trying to adhere to the policy of the government, and then when they formulate their progression, as we can say, it is only to fit the policy, if there is any policy. They do not make the policy, and I am sure I've heard some grumbings in the past that some of the civil service, last year, this year and the year before did not totally agree with the policies of the Minister and the government as a whole, but they're bound to follow; they're bound to protect the policy and do the best they could. And one thing I'd like to say, that most of, all of them I should say, of the civil service, are very loyal to their superiors. I'm not casting any reflection on them.

(MR. TANCHAK Cont'd.) . . . I've never heard any of them even if they did not agree with, or disliked some of the policies; they're still loyal and they try to work. So there's no reflection whatsoever on the civil service. I hope they do not take it this way.

Almost close to the end of the Minister's remarks . . .

MR. EVANS: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if my honourable friend would forgive me if I intruded at this moment. I take it he has completed his compliments to the Minister and the civil service and the government, and I wonder if it would suit the convenience of the Committee now if I move that we rise for the purpose of inviting His Honour to attend to give assent to the Bills that were passed this afternoon.

MR. TANCHAK: I don't mind at all, provided I'll be permitted to continue as soon as we start.

MR. EVANS: Well, of course. Mr. Chairman, I move the Committee rise.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Committee rise and report. Call in the Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Committee of Supply have adopted certain resolutions and asks leave to sit again.

IN SESSION

MR. McKELLAR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Member from Pembina, that the report of the Committee be received.

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

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, having entered the House and being seated on the Throne, Mr. Speaker addressed His Honour in the following words:

MR. SPEAKER: May it please Your Honour: We, Her Majesty's most dutiful and faithful subjects, the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba in session assembled, approach Your Honour with sentiments of unfeigned devotion and loyalty to Her Majesty's person and government, and beg for Your Honour the acceptance of these Bills:

No. 7 - An Act for granting to Her Majesty certain further sums of money for the public service of the Province for the fiscal year ending the 31st day of March, 1969.

No. 23 - An Act for granting to Her Majesty certain sums of money for the public service of the province for the fiscal year ending the 31st day of March, 1970.

MR. CLERK: His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor doth thank Her Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, accepts their benevolence and assents to these Bills in Her Majesty's name.

MR. WEIR: Mr. Speaker, I believe, following the discussion we had yesterday, that we have general agreement that we wouldn't meet in the morning in the House, that we would meet in Law Amendments Committee at 9:30. If that's generally understood, I would move, Mr. Speaker, that the House do now adjourn to meet again at 2:30 tomorrow afternoon - seconded by the Honourable the Minister of Finance.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion and after a voice vote declared the motion carried and the House was adjourned until 2:30 Friday afternoon.