

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

2:30 o'clock, Tuesday, April 20, 1971

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.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

MR. SPEAKER: I should like to direct the attention of the honourable members to the gallery, where we have 100 students of Grade 11 standing, of the West Kildonan Collegiate. These students are under the direction of Mr. Penner and Mr. Klassen. This school is in the constituency of the Honourable Minister of Youth and Education. On behalf of all the honourable members of the Legislative Assembly, I welcome you here today.

Orders of the Day.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Pembina.

MR. GEORGE HENDERSON (Pembina): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Health and Social Development. Could the Minister inform the House if there are any other sons or daughters of senior government officials who have applied for, or are in receipt of, welfare assistance?

MR. SPEAKER: Orders of the Day. The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge.

MRS. INEZ TRUEMAN (Fort Rouge): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Honourable Minister of Health and Social Development. Could he tell us today, just in round figures, approximately by what amount the Department is over-spent?

HON. RENE E. TOUPIN (Minister of Health and Social Development (Springfield)): Mr. Speaker, I took this question as notice the other day and the answer is forthcoming.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. BUD SHERMAN (Fort Garry): Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct a question to the Minister of Urban Affairs and ask him when the report, if any report is forthcoming, when will the report be forthcoming from the special committee that was set up to hear representations into the ward boundaries proposed under the government's one-city plan?

HON. SAUL CHERNIACK, Q. C. (Minister of Finance) (St. Johns): Mr. Speaker, the government appointed a commission consisting of three people, namely, Judge Peter Taraska, who is President of the Court of Canadian Citizenship, as chairman; Dr. Hugh Saunderson, who was the President of the University of Manitoba and a member of the Electoral Division Boundaries Commission 1957-1968, member of the federal Electoral Boundaries Commission, 1967, member of the Metro Boundaries Commission; and Charland Prud'homme, who was Chief Electoral Officer for Manitoba 1949 to 1969, and was a member, along with Dr. Saunderson, of all the boundaries commissions I have referred to, as well as the School Division Boundaries Commission of approximately 1960, as the Greater Winnipeg Electoral Boundaries Review Commission 1971, and I have pleasure to file with Mr. Speaker, to file the report of the Commission along with the maps that accompany it. I trust that's the answer to the question.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Emerson.

MR. GABRIEL GIRARD (Emerson): Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct a question to the Honourable Minister of Tourism and Recreation. I wonder if the Minister is aware of the report prepared by Mr. Alcock with regards to development of snowmobile trails in Manitoba. If he is aware, I wonder if he intends that his department will take action on this kind of report.

HON. PETER BURTNIAK (Minister of Tourism, Recreation and Cultural Affairs) (Dauphin): Mr. Speaker, I have heard something about the Alcock Report. I haven't read it; I haven't seen it. However, when I get around to it I'll let the honourable member know.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. SIDNEY SPIVAK, Q. C. (Leader of the Opposition) (River Heights): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the acting Minister of Mines and Natural Resources. I understand there was a meeting with the Manitoba Federation of Fishermen on Friday and I wonder whether the Minister could indicate whether the government will be offering cash contribution to the fishermen for this summer who are unable to fish because of mercury pollution.

HON. LEONARD S. EVANS (Minister of Industry and Commerce) (Brandon East): Mr. Speaker, I'll take the question as notice for the Honourable Minister of Mines and Natural Resources.

MR. CHERNIACK: Mr. Speaker, I'm sorry; I omitted to mention that copies of the report which I have just filed will be distributed to all the members today.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the acting House Leader. I wonder whether he can indicate when the Standing Committee on Economic Development will be meeting.

HON. RUSSELL PAULLEY (Minister of Labour) (Transcona): I'm sorry, Mr. Speaker. After the House has agreed to the composition of the members of the committee and the full report from the special committee is received by the House.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for La Verendrye.

MR. LEONARD A. BARKMAN (La Verendrye): Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day are proceeded with I'd like to ask a question from the Minister of Municipal Affairs. Did the Minister, or Mr. Peter Adam, announce at a meeting of the Manitoba Stock Growers Association on March 16th at Ste. Rose that the government was prepared to abolish estate taxes on the first \$150,000 of one estate?

HON. HOWARD R. PAWLEY (Minister of Municipal Affairs) (Selkirk): I'm glad the Honourable Member for La Verendrye asked this question because the House Leader of the Liberal Party attempted to raise that very issue at that meeting. The chairman corrected him. Mr. Peter Adam and myself had indicated that the government was considering this.

MR. SPEAKER: Point of privilege by the Honourable Member for Portage la Prairie. What is your point?

MR. GORDON JOHNSTON (Portage la Prairie): My point of privilege, Mr. Speaker, is that the Minister is giving incorrect information to the House. I did not attempt to raise this issue.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Brandon West.

MR. EDWARD MCGILL (Brandon West): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Honourable the Minister of Municipal Affairs and it relates to the report of the Brandon Boundaries Commission. Has he now received the report from the Brandon Boundaries Commission?

MR. PAWLEY: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I received it just a few moments before the opening of the House and I trust I'll be in a position to file it very shortly.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. SPIVAK: Well, Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Finance and is really a supplementary. I wonder whether he could indicate whether it's the government's intention to either widen the terms of deductions with respect to estate tax, or abolish it, or rebate it.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. That's a policy question and I will not allow it. Orders of the Day. The Honourable Member for Riel.

MR. DONALD W. CRAIK (Riel): Mr. Speaker, a question I'd like to direct to the Minister of Industry and Commerce. Can he indicate, in light of the Federal Government's announcement about the projected reduction in Manitoba capital expenditure, what sectors of the community are going to be affected - that is private or public - and can this be translated into changes in job opportunities for 1971?

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, I think the honourable member is asking a question that would take some time to reply and I'm sure the members of the House don't want to listen to a two-hour lecture; and I also suggest that a large part of the question is hypothetical.

MR. CRAIK: A subsequent question, Mr. Speaker. Has the Minister had a chance to review the figures proposed by the Federal Government and comment as to their accuracy?

MR. EVANS: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I've had a chance to examine the figures. I would point out to all members of the House that these are preliminary figures indicative - based on a survey conducted by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics - indicative presumably of intentions. These figures are subject to considerable review and revision. For example, in last year at this time the same survey indicated that there would be a decline of about 6.7 percent, in total investment spending in the province over 1969. However, the mid-year review showed that there would be an increase of 3.1 percent over the previous year. My point, Mr. Speaker, is that these are very preliminary figures; they're based on a survey of intentions and they're

(MR. EVANS cont'd.) always subject to drastic review, so therefore they are a very very rough guide at best.

MR. CRAIK: A further subsequent question, Mr. Speaker. In light of the fact that they were out by, I would gather by about 12 percent last year, is the Minister suggesting that this is the error figure we can add on to this, and could he indicate that if they are out by 12 percent for Manitoba last year were they out for Saskatchewan, Alberta and B.C. as well?

MR. EVANS: Well, Mr. Speaker, as is the nature of all such surveys, they're subject to considerable revision, and remember, I did indicate that they were a preliminary type of figure. DBS attempts to make this clear in their document, in their press release on it, and all provinces and the country as a whole, the figures are subject each year to substantial revision. So therefore at best they are a very rough guide. If one or two industries come along on the horizon in the next few months, the figures will be thrown out entirely.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Industry and Commerce. Does he not suggest that the figures that have just been referred to are in fact an indication of a downward trend in the economy in Manitoba?

MR. EVANS: Well, Mr. Speaker, I would disagree with that because I just finished trying to explain to the honourable member and other members of the House that the previous year they showed an indication of approximately a 7 percent decline, which was substantially revised six months later showing an indication of an upward trend. So I would say the answer is no, they don't indicate that.

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

MR. G. JOHNSTON: Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Industry and Commerce. In view of statements made by the Minister last night on television concerning a monopoly the government has created in the wine industry in Manitoba, can the Minister tell the House if it is government policy to create such monopolies in any other industries in the province by way of similar agreements?

MR. EVANS: Well, Mr. Speaker, in the first place I would deny that any monopoly has been created. As the former Minister of Industry can tell you, efforts have been made by the Department of Industry and Commerce for many a year to get one winery in this province. Since I became Minister of Industry and Commerce we've been successful in acquiring two wineries in the Province of Manitoba, both located in rural Manitoba, incidentally, as well. And furthermore, I would again say that this is not a monopoly; it's a matter of conditions that were laid down to create 25 jobs that wouldn't exist otherwise in the Town of Gimli, and thank God we've got them.

MR. SPEAKER: Has the Honourable Member for Portage a supplementary?

MR. G. JOHNSTON: Yes, Mr. Speaker. Will the Minister inform the House as to whether or not there is an agreement, and will he table the agreement with Jordan Wine Company? And does the agreement contain the fact that there has been a restriction placed on other wineries coming to the province?

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, if the honourable member would be kind enough to file an Order for Return, I think we can accommodate him, but I would make this clear at this time that this information was made public at the time of about a year ago when we made the arrangement with Jordan Wines. And again I say, in spite of what the Federal Government is doing to us in Gimli, thank God we've got a winery there at last.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Morris.

MR. WARNER H. JORGENSEN (Morris): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of Industry and Commerce if he could tell the House what initiative he took and what steps he took to bring Valley Rouge Wines to Morris.

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, we took many steps and -- (Interjection) -- Mr. Speaker, I really don't know what the honourable member is talking about. Well . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. I wish the Assembly would allow the Minister to make his reply if he so wishes.

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, I, personally, took a hand in assuring that we got a second winery in the province, namely the winery that is to be located, that is being located in the honourable member's constituency, and any other remark that he makes is highly speculative - in fact, is inaccurate entirely.

MR. JORGENSEN: Is it not a fact, Mr. Speaker, that the winery that located in Morris

(MR. JORGENSON cont'd.) was the first one to be located and not the second one, and that it was developed by private initiative? The only thing the Minister had to do with it is that he granted the licence.

MR. EVANS: Well, Mr. Speaker, I don't really know whether I should get up and engage in a fruitless debate based on inaccuracies, misinformation, an attempt on the part of the Minister to mislead the public of this province.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Order. I am not having a debate during the question period. The Honourable -- on a point of order; the Attorney-General.

HON. A.H. MACKLING, Q.C. (Attorney-General) (St. James): I think, Mr. Speaker, if an argumentative question is allowed by the Speaker to be put, then . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. I will not have reflections on the Chair. The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Industry and Commerce. I wonder whether he would now indicate to the House that, as a result of the agreement with Jordan Wines, there is a restriction on any other winery being built in Manitoba for a period of time.

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, that question was asked previously by the Honourable Member from Portage and I indicated the answer that we would be giving at that time.

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Minister could either answer "yes" or "no".

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

MR. JACOB M. FROESE (Rhineland): Mr. Speaker, I would like to address a question to the acting Minister of Mines and Natural Resources since the Mines Minister is not present. Has the government assessed or evaluated the redundant fish processing plants under legislation passed two years ago, and if so, have any claims been paid?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Industry and Commerce.

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, I think the answer is in the negative but I would prefer to take the question as notice.

MR. SPIVAK: A supplementary question to the Minister. I wonder whether he can take as notice and indicate to the House whether any interest will be paid for the three-year period when compensation will in fact be paid to the fish processors.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MR. SPEAKER: Orders for Return. The Honourable Minister of Labour.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, I believe agreement has been reached between the members of the Legislature that for today, the last day of the Throne Speech debate, that the order will be to go straight to the adjourned debate on the Address to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor.

THRONE SPEECH DEBATE

MR. SPEAKER: The adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Honourable Member for Logan. The Honourable Member for Swan River.

MR. JAMES H. BILTON (Swan River): Mr. Speaker, my first word, Sir, must of course be to you, and I want to say with all sincerity that I join with all members of the House in congratulating you on the elevation to the high office of Speaker. Having sat with you, Sir, in this House and also on many committees for some years, it leads me to believe that the challenge that you have presently taken up is well placed and I am confident that the members of the House will accept your guidance through the waves of discussion that will ensue. Yours, Sir, is a heavy responsibility, a position through the centuries that has gained respect and is revered, and I trust, Sir, that those of us before you at all times will appreciate the fact that you sit there as the first citizen of this province and the defenders of everyone's right to speak in the name of the people they represent in this Assembly. Sir, once more I congratulate you and wish you well as the 23rd Speaker of this Assembly in a hundred years.

I extend my congratulations to the mover and the seconder of the Speech from the Throne. I, Sir, have some idea of how they felt in carrying out this important assignment on behalf of their colleagues. I listened to their remarks with a great deal of interest and in my opinion they expressed themselves with sincerity and intent. I worked along with the other members of the House and wish them well in their future activities in this Assembly.

Mr. Speaker, when one takes part in this debate, which has so long been before us, and

(MR. BILTON cont'd.) the cross-fire that has been severe and been witnessed in these last several days in an exchange on the problems of the day, I find myself somewhat at a loss as to where to begin. It is my intention not to be repetitious but rather to speak to those items in the Throne Speech which have occurred to me and occurred to me sincerely. It is our purpose, as the Opposition, to delve and probe in the unsaid things in the Speech from the Throne, and challenge them if challenged they should be. May I say, Sir, that the constituency of Swan River, which I have the honour to represent is, as you know, dependent on an agricultural economy and it's feeling the effects of the present depressed conditions in western Canada. I am, however, happy to report that cattle, hogs and grain are continuing to be exported from that area on a reasonably high level and that feed conditions are good, which unfortunately cannot be said for many areas around the Province of Manitoba. Timber and wood pulp, Sir, is being shipped from that area and meeting the demands, and I understand that the woodcutters north of Mafeking have been approached by The Pas complex with a view to supplying wood in volume, and I want to assure you, Sir, that there is a reservoir of wood there for many, many years to come.

I hear from time to time, Mr. Speaker, of the wanton depletion of our game on the hoof. I have brought it to the attention of the House on many other occasions. They are fast being depleted by unwarranted slaughter. I have brought before this House and asked for the abolition of the trophy season. I would ask the Minister to review his files and re-examine the petitions which he holds of the people on the spot who complain bitterly of the unnecessary kill and subsequent waste. My people protest the special elk season that is becoming an annual event. I know the department's argument - it is a thinning-out process that is necessary, they say. That being the case, Mr. Speaker, why cannot it be scheduled for a later date in the season when the snow is on the ground in order that the wounded animals can be tracked and dispatched in the proper manner?

I am also receiving complaints of destruction of farm property by these animals. If a farmer took the law in his own hands and disposed of these animals he would be prosecuted. The Minister is well aware of this situation and I would ask the members to consider that when something comes forward toward providing compensation by those people, something will be done. I would ask the Minister of Tourism and Recreation to assist us, in the Swan River Valley, in future government publicity in relaying to the travelling public the beauty of the Duck Mountains and the Porcupine Mountains, and also to emphasize our position - or our portion, should I say - of the hundred thousand lakes in Manitoba, many of which we can justly claim.

Mr. Speaker, my Leader in his contribution laid down our party's approach in many directions. He promised support in legislation and the well-being of the province, and reserved the right to criticize when necessary, and this is as it should be. It is not my purpose at this time, Mr. Speaker, to deal with the many subjects as outlined in the Throne Speech, but rather to concentrate on those parts in which I feel that I am entitled to speak and also that I feel that I am familiar. We all regret, every member of this House, that our economy is in the throes of recession, requiring as it will, Mr. Speaker, many readjustments in our economic outlook. I suggest to the government, Mr. Speaker, that the honeymoon is long since over and that belt-tightening must be the order of the day if we are to come out of this situation with a feeling of stability and security.

I noticed too in the Throne Speech that legislation is promised with regard to farm machinery. I look forward to this, Mr. Speaker, particularly the legislation relating to the sale of farm machinery, thus providing protection from the farmer and the dealer alike. I have been witness to many sorry situations in this regard and in passing I might say, in coming to the aid of one of my constituents, I almost broke the law in the eyes of the bailiff. My seven farmer colleagues have and will, I know, bring to the House the many facts that must be grappled with to ease the burdens of our underprivileged farming population.

I was pleased indeed, Mr. Speaker, that mention was made of the late Maitland Steinkopf. Several members have spoken to his memory. I feel it was most appropriate for, as surely, Mr. Speaker, as day follows night, that man died in the service of the people of Manitoba. To me, Mr. Speaker, in my short acquaintance with him, I have come to the conclusion that Manitoba was his Israel. I well recall his services in this Chamber. Nothing was too great and nothing was too small to take his interest. In many ways, Mr. Speaker, he was a perfectionist. He made mistakes; we all do. His contribution to our province, however, during

(MR. BILTON cont'd.) the Centennial year, Mr. Speaker, is a beacon to us all in our efforts in the well-being of our people. It should not be overlooked, Mr. Speaker, of that man's great contribution to our less fortunate citizens, the retarded children and adults of this province. He worked tirelessly in their interests, and I say to you, Sir, that it was his efforts in no small degree that finally placed that part of our society under the umbrella of the Department of Education in an endeavour to better their lives. I believe, Mr. Speaker, that the government could do no better than to erect a memorial plaque, in this building if you like, to his memory and his special accomplishments in the name of the people of Manitoba.

Mr. Speaker, what I have to say now is my own personal opinion and it has to do with the promised legislation to do with the Police Commission. I know it is proposed and that with its adoption people might appeal for a ruling of this local Police Commission. I've always had a feeling, Mr. Speaker, that our courts were quite capable of taking care of any given situation insofar as police activities were concerned. It is true from time to time that situations will develop that cause problems, human beings being what they are. I am anxious, however, Mr. Speaker, when the work of a police force is brought into the political arena. With a population of ambitious, freedom-loving citizens of many nationalities and a dedicated police force which has kept the law and order across our country for so long, I wonder if this is necessary. Is it not ironic, Mr. Speaker, that some in this country are determined to tear down and destroy our way of life? The RCMP, Sir, have become a target for those who would like to change Canada, for they know the first step in undermining our country is to destroy law enforcement. If the men and women who make up our police forces have the respect and support of the citizens, they in turn will serve Canada well and do an efficient job.

What we need, Mr. Speaker, is a "Support Your Police" campaign carried out in our schools and elsewhere across the land. Those, Sir, with criminal instincts know where to strike, and do we as a people have the common sense to strike back? I say yes, we have, and we must do it and do it soon. Nothing, Sir, should be said or done which would create the slightest degree of suspicion on the work or person of a police officer. These people under oath must protect the life, limb and property of each and every member of our society. Mr. Speaker, it's not a pleasant feeling to look down the barrel of a rifle or a revolver in the hands of one who has everything to gain and nothing to lose in the pulling of a trigger. These men we ask to do this. Far too many - far too many, Mr. Speaker, are there widows and orphans and crippled people across this land brought on by the hands of those who have long since lost the respect of society or the tried and true laws of our land.

Again I say, I become anxious when I see the centralization of power in the hands of the proposed commission, taking away as it will the local direction and initiative. It is bound to become restrictive and will to a large degree strike at the very heart of dealing with a given situation in a manner that local authority is capable of doing.

With your permission, Mr. Speaker, I would like to quote from an item here which says: "A Young policeman may expect to have his head beaten in by a gang of hoodlums while the crowd climbs on the top of the nearby automobile to get a better look." And to quote further: "I am speaking of the frustration which is being felt by police officers at all levels over their seeming inability to provide the protection to the public that they are supposed to provide and which the public has a right to expect." Mr. Speaker, I need hardly say to you that conditions haven't changed; what I am quoting to you now is excerpts from a report by an ex-commissioner of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in August, 1966.

Sir, I am saying to you that our situation is deteriorating and as never before do the police forces of this country need the support and assistance of the ordinary citizen. I get a little tired, Mr. Speaker, of some of these do-gooders in our society that oft times look at the problems of life through rose-coloured glasses. They fail to understand that there are those in our society bent on seeing to it that, come what may, they will act contrary to the accepted principles of citizenship even if they have to rob, plunder, steal, maim and even murder to gain their ends. Unfortunately, that army is growing, Mr. Speaker. Our jails and penitentiaries were never as full as they are today, and at the expense of \$10,000 per inmate per year to our society. The situation, I suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, is becoming disastrous. All this, all this, Mr. Speaker, in spite of the rehabilitation programs that have been instituted in recent years.

I am all for doing what can be done and what is necessary to help those that have attained their place of respectability, having paid their debt to society. By all means. They

(MR. BILTON cont'd.) are not the people that attempt to put our policemen in the position of doubt in the eyes of the public, but rather those that are bent on wrongdoing and encourage others to enter the field of crime in the interest of an easy living on the backs of society. These are the people, Mr. Speaker, who will be on the doorstep of this so-called commission daily along with the rabble rousers, and we've got far too many of them now.

Going on with my remarks, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to tell you that during the past few months there is evidence of considerable activity in the betterment of conditions in Northern Manitoba, a large part of which is in my constituency. I congratulate those that have been responsible for the efforts made. The telephone situation in the remote areas of my community; health supervision has improved; housing has been improved; and many other benefits all of which have stemmed, I am happy to say, from the efforts of the Northern Task Force. I would hope that that Task Force will continue in the days that lie ahead for the good of our less fortunate people in Northern Manitoba. There is, however, Mr. Speaker, much to be done and the chief of this is jobs. Freight rates continue to be high keeping the cost of living out of all proportion. As indicated by the Member for Churchill, I would ask that all member support any effort that is to be made in order to create some relief for the people of Northern Manitoba in this direction.

I come now to the television coverage of our area and I must, in spite of what has been said, bring to the attention of this House the unrealistic situation where we still, in the Dauphin and Swan River areas, do not have Manitoba coverage as such. Some 65,000 people are Bakanized and must be dependent on their television coverage from outside the province. I appreciate what the Minister of Industry and Commerce had to say and I know his sincerity in this direction, and I would ask him to take and grapple with this problem and come to a conclusion so that all will be treated equally in this good old province of ours. Mr. Speaker, I've looked into this situation and I know that the people are looking for some action; hopefully we can look forward to it and I feel, or I would like to say in closing, Mr. Speaker, that I trust that I've made some contribution to the debate and I would hope from what I have had to say, if it's taken in the sincerity in which it is given, that we can look for improvements in this direction. Thank you very much.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rupertsland.

MR. JEAN ALLARD (Rupertsland): Mr. Speaker, I wish to start by congratulating you on your election to the office of Speaker of this House. It shows the confidence that we have in you, and I want to congratulate you as well on the manner in which you have been discharging your duties since the beginning of this session. I perceive, I believe, a tendency to hold out on second reading to the principle of the bill and it may do a great deal toward shortening up sessions, this one and others.

Mr. Speaker, I wish first of all to take this opportunity to congratulate the Indians of Manitoba on this their 100th celebration or anniversary of the signing of their Treaty with the Government of Canada. I congratulate them and I look forward to participating in the many celebrations which they will hold and the activities which will happen during the year.

MR. ALLARD spoke a sentence here in French. -- (Interjection) --

MR. ALLARD: Oh yes, but he does, you see. -- (Interjection) -- I think I'll talk to him.

MR. ALLARD spoke briefly here in French.

MR. ALLARD: On the subject of schools, I would like to say that I look forward with hope and anxiety to the developments in the next twelve months on the subject of separate schools. It is my opinion that all those who participate in the funding of schools should have a right to participate in the benefits from that fund.

Mr. Speaker, the Speech from the Throne mentions measures on environment and pollution control, good measures, measures on Co-ops, programs for farmers, programs for the elderly in terms of residences, etc. It mentions shifts in school taxes and school innovations, legal aid, consumer protection, recreation. It mentions a development fund for disadvantaged areas. These are all good things. But I wish to say that with my natural modesty I find it difficult to really bow more than three times in the direction of the front bench. At this point I would like to repeat a few words that I said some year and a half ago in the first session that I attended in which I was a member of this Legislature.

A government backbencher is in many ways in a most difficult position. He cannot be privy to the decisions of Cabinet and does not find out in advance if his arguments have

(MR. ALLARD cont'd.) modified or influenced government policy. However, having approved of the general approach prior to the general election and having been in sympathy with the programs placed before the election at that time, I am pleased to continue as a thoughtful supporter of the government, and I wish to repeat this at this time. I wish to say that I am here to represent people, not Socialism, not bureaucracy and not Capitalism. I do not feel that our job is to fight a battle between Capitalism and Socialism - the struggle is already irrelevant. Our task is to determine if a humane and free community is possible. The conflict today most readily observable in universities than in the forms of dramatic confrontation, is between the welfare of the people as seen by government and authority and their will as they see it themselves. As our standard of living rises, we appreciate that the acquisitive life is not satisfying and the choice is not between Capitalism and Socialism but between a more or less democratic society. We must recognize that the state must be used, not as a leveller, but as an instrument to enhance freedom. Government naturally tends to become big and monolithic. It has to be decentralized, not so much for its own good but for our good, for the privacy, for the dignity and the freedom of the human whom it governs. And the principle of subsidiarity here could be applied. People must be allowed to make and have as many real choices in their conduct and living as will be consistent with practicality. Human dignity demands that man be not only the artisan but the architect of their own destiny.

At this point, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to say a word on one big city. We will be faced in this session with a bill on one big city and I am concerned. I think there are concerns that arise for two groups of people in this province. One of them is those who live in Metropolitan Winnipeg, the other one is for those who live outside Metropolitan Winnipeg. First, for those who live outside Metropolitan Winnipeg, they see the development of a large, seemingly monolithic structure - seemingly; will have a lot of power. It has been argued that the mayors and councillors of the City of Winnipeg have a vested interest. I don't know whether the mayors and councillors of municipalities of the rest of the province have a vested interest in the subject as well, but they are concerned for the development. I, as a representative of a rural constituency, am concerned. I'm already aware of the weight and the strength within government of city representatives. The other concern is that of the people of Metropolitan Winnipeg, and the fact that you as a unit are strong doesn't really make you as an individual free.

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to say that I agree with many of the ideas that are presented in a change in city government. Certainly the idea of equalizing assessment in taxes is one which I agree. But the principle of subsidiarity, if I read the project right, will be violated. Today social psychologists and town planners are starting to recognize the existence of what they call a human cell, which ranges in numbers between 50 and 75 thousand people, and which is that group of people who co-operate in activity as a government. Mr. Speaker, I agree, depending on the interpretation of it, with the idea of one tier of government, but I would suggest that a two jurisdiction system within it would be one that would both achieve the co-ordination on the large scale of those things which have to be co-ordinated there, and the participation in real decisions on the local level.

At this point I'd like to pass to the North and the northern development, a subject which, because of the constituency I represent, is a subject which is certainly very close to me and to my work. I was very happy on Wednesday to be in Norway House for the opening of an airport. A considerable amount of activity has been going on in the North in terms of development. I have one concern, Mr. Speaker, and it concerns the involvement of people, their presence in the planning and the delivery of services, people especially of the isolated communities of the North who have not in the past been involved and who have little faith that government really mean to involve them, who see in the paper the announcements of a development in Ruttan Lake, for the first time, one in which they have not been involved in terms of establishing the conditions. You know, rightly so, this government has stated that the resources of the North belong first to the people of the North, and I accept the proposition that the people, the original inhabitants, those who have gone there many years ago, do not have either technology, the managerial skills, nor the money to develop the mineral resources. Nevertheless, they should have first access to the employment that is created and they most certainly should be involved in the development of work patterns, of development techniques, of transportation - development of these plans so that they can be involved, so that these plans make sense to them, are relevant to them.

(MR. ALLARD cont'd.)

Mr. Speaker, the elitists of the right and of the left, in my opinion, are autocrats, radicals who somehow see themselves of having the solution to the problems of others whether they have shared their experiences or not -- (Interjections) -- Mr. Speaker, may I continue? Thank you. Well, I'll pass them the subject, Mr. Speaker, to say -- (Interjection) -- you want me to keep on? Shall I say more about it? Well I think I'll say more on another occasion.

I'm happy to have been a member of the Northern Task Force. I am concerned, Mr. Speaker, in the Northern Task Force about the smart start that we had and about the rather slow back stretch, and I look forward to a strong finish.

Mr. Speaker, elitists of the right seems to believe that the marketplace can take care of everything when it comes to jobs. Elitists of the left seem to believe that every man has a right to an income and to a living whether he wants to work or not. Now, in my opinion, a widow or an infirm has a right to a pension from the rest of us; it is our common responsibility. But I do not owe an employable man a living. I owe him a job. It seems to me it's rather ridiculous, if you know anything about human nature, to believe that every man wants to work. There are those who believe this though. I think it's ridiculous.

A MEMBER: Speaking personally.

MR. ALLARD: Speaking personally . . . and from observation in this House.

There's another problem that is developing in our society, Mr. Speaker, that somehow we seem to be losing our way. You know, related to the subject of work and responsibility, we are well nigh accepting when we accept the idea that if a man has a right to a job, to a living without working, somehow that eventually no one will work; everybody will make a living. I fail to see how the devil we're going to accomplish this and at the moment those who propose this for application to themselves and who are getting away with it, seem somehow to have divined or developed a new religion based on sex and drugs. Mr. Speaker, these have been the goal of degenerates for the ages. I see them as little more than the evidence of degeneracy in our society, not of anything new. We can go to the Romans and find exactly the same situation.

Mr. Speaker, I am concerned for the welfare of my constituency. I would like to mention two subjects; one of them is roads. Mine is a northern constituency but I don't seem to have shared in the bounty for northern constituencies in terms of transportation. -- (Interjection) -- That's right. The second one, Mr. Speaker, relates to fishermen and really -- (Interjection) -- No, there are a considerable number of fishermen who are not related to the Fishermen's Federation. And my concern for their welfare and their employment, and at the moment the handing out of money in a lot of these communities rather than the development of jobs, is creating some rather terrible social problems.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I would like to -- well, a few days ago my brother came back from British Columbia and I haven't seen him in some three or four years, and the first thing he had to say, "Well you've got a new job; how do you like it? What do you think is going to happen? Is your government going to stay in power? Are the Liberals going to survive?" Mr. Speaker, since I was speaking privately to my brother I used some more candor than I normally would in this House. I started by telling him that after the by-elections, which we had won, some few weeks ago that the Premier held a press conference at which he stated, to a question from the press whether the Liberal Party would die and whether then its adherents would become New Democratic Government supporters or Opposition supporters, he stated that there was within the New Democratic Party, within the government side, Democratic Socialists, Social Democrats, small "l" liberals, and they were all represented. Well, Mr. Speaker, I told my brother that evidently the Socialists were well represented, there was no question about that, and that the Social Democrats seemed to be in evidence - the Premier seemed to speak of himself in those terms, small "l" liberals seemed to be there as well but in about the proportion of the sound of my voice in terms of their influence, etc. He asked me what the future of this government was liable to be and I said well, of course we're in power for two years. That's definite, I think, at this moment. Two years from now we'll either remain the government of this province or be kicked out of office depending on whether we have governed reasonably, moderately, wisely, small "l" liberally, or whether we have decided to change the world, to let loose the elitists.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Point Douglas.

MR. DONALD MALINOWSKI (Point Douglas): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To begin with, I would like to join my colleagues in congratulating you for the attainment of the high office in the Manitoba Legislature. I know that this is not an easy office but, having known you for a number of years, I am certain you will carry out your duties in accordance with the high standards of your position. I am also certain that you will sum up the collective voice of this legislative body with dignity befitting your high office.

I would like at this point also to congratulate my colleagues the Honourable Member for Logan and the Honourable Member for Gimli for their contribution in moving and seconding the Throne Speech. Also, I would like to congratulate the members of the Legislature who have been elected from the ridings of Ste. Rose and St. Vital. It is a great achievement, not only, Mr. Speaker, for the New Democratic Party but also for the government of the Province of Manitoba. I am not only convinced or confident, but I am quite certain that they will represent their ridings with pride and ability. Far be it from me to omit in my remarks the Leader of the Opposition. I'm awfully sorry that he is not in his seat. -- (Interjection) -- No, he is not here, I'm sorry. He, too, should be congratulated for attaining the important, and politically always safe position. I am really quite sorry that the newly elected Leader of the Liberal Party has to take part in the proceedings from a somewhat different part of the House. His seat in the public gallery elevates him.

A MEMBER: Is he there?

A MEMBER: No.

MR. MALINOWSKI: Oh, I'm sorry. Although only in a physical sense. In some respects he, too, should be congratulated.

To mention those who are not able to take part in these proceedings, I would like to express my condolences to those who have lost the memorable April 5th by-election. I am saying this, motivated not by the political considerations, but by purely human ones.

Mr. Speaker, listening to the contributions the members of the Opposition bring to the debate of the Throne Speech, I am in this and at times amazed and puzzled, and find myself wondering about what is really going on. Having listened to the speeches of the past few days, I find in them a great deal of sarcasm. Talk is cheap, of course, so they say, and nothing constructive can come of it. The calm, balanced debate seems to be turned into the chatter of the crowds in Nero's amphitheatre or the idle conversation in the citizens of Athens on the . . . in the dying days of the Greek Republic. There is only one difference here, Mr. Speaker. Today we don't know who is going to be the victim and who will be the vanquished of this political play. I am deeply convinced that with a little goodwill we could bring into this debate just a little bit more humanitarianism. This is, after all, what we are concerned about, the good of the people and not that of those of a certain political stripe. Man comes first, then politics. History has shown that politics, carried out without regard of humanity, have ended in catastrophe. We are here to improve the lot of the population of Manitoba, to create a better life for them. I am confident that the Throne Speech means just that.

The Honourable Member for Pembina, I am glad he is here, spoke realistically and emotionally at the same time. I would like to congratulate him for this. This of course doesn't mean that I agree with him completely. His philosophy of life is different from mine. He doesn't believe that the hungry should be fed. Perhaps he has never gone hungry. I have. There's a big difference. He does not believe the needy should be helped. I don't agree with this point of view either.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to applaud the intention to help private schools. This, as we all know, is a very important question, not only for the schools themselves. Here in Manitoba, in the uniquely polyglot, the multi-religious society, this question is doubly important. The Manitoba Centennial was obviously the prime example of what I mean. The contribution of Manitoba's ethnic and religious groups represents a valuable factor in the total make-up of this province. It is my firm belief that they should be supported in the field of education. I am aware of the fact, Mr. Speaker, that this could be embarrassing to some, but in my opinion the support should be given to schools already in existence and not those in the planning stage.

The Throne Speech mentioned increased aid to our senior citizens. I don't think that there is anyone who would disagree that this is imperative. The present government has already made positive moves in this direction. It is hardly necessary to mention the easement of Medicare rates, the lowering of transit rates within Greater Winnipeg, and more recently the lowering of transportation rates for senior citizens who wish to travel out of the city. For

(MR. MALINOWSKI cont'd.) the latter, I would like to thank the Minister responsible. But I will go further than that, Mr. Speaker. I would like to express my belief that they, the people who have laid the foundations of our present society, should be exempt from having to pay from their small resources for medication. It is they who need it most today - not tomorrow but today - and I believe that those who are still young and healthy should realize . . . they too, the young and healthy, will benefit from free medication when the time comes for them to need it.

Mr. Speaker, at this point I would like to mention my own riding of Point Douglas. The area I represent is one of the very first settled in western Canada. It was the place from which emigration began into other parts and distance of Manitoba. Point Douglas was the window toward western Canada. Times change and people change too, Mr. Speaker, yet the voice of history remains strong. It demands recognition for being part of that past. The riding I represent is not just another part of Greater Winnipeg, it is the city's birthplace and it should be viewed as such. Point Douglas is beset by its problems just as any riding in this province, yet our problems are of a special kind and certainly worthy of a special kind of consideration. The majority of the population in the riding I represent consists of old-age pensioners, people who are retired and receive support from the government. The Lord Selkirk Development is part of the Point Douglas provincial riding I speak for in this House. I also speak for the people of four major congregations gathering in four cathedrals in Point Douglas, the very people I have mentioned before, the pioneers of this province and of Greater Winnipeg. It is not only important, it is imperative that the problems of this riding be properly recognized: the sorely needed and long neglected improvement of the banks of the Red River; improvement of transit in that area especially along the Sutherland-Main-Higgins lines; the liquidation of the unsightly scrap yard ; in short, the making of Point Douglas into an area of historical importance. Simple greed and neglect has made Point Douglas into what it is now. The lack of sense of history has . . . its position as one of this province's forgotten areas.

Mr. Speaker, the solution of the problem of the unification of Greater Winnipeg is probably the one step that may help the riding of Point Douglas. The gentlemen of the Opposition claim that the unification of this City of Winnipeg is not in accordance with the will of the people. I invite them to hear the will of the people of the riding I represent. They will hear quite a different story from the ones they themselves cook up. The unification of this city was one of the New Democratic Party's election planks in 1969. The New Democratic Party's success in St. Vital, to name just one metropolitan riding, should prove to the gentlemen of the Opposition that their cries of outrage have a hollow ring to them. The people of Point Douglas riding are for unification of this city. Personally, I desire and I pray for the goodwill of this House, Mr. Speaker, so that we all may work for the good of our fellow citizens rather than for the personal aggrandizement of the individual here. I do not intend to try to convince any honourable member from the Opposition that the sky is blue and water is wet. I know they will disagree on principle. That's all right with me, but I know, Mr. Speaker, that Manitobans will agree with me and not with them. Thank you very much.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Emerson.

MR. GABRIEL GIRARD (Emerson): Mr. Speaker, I wish at the outset to join all those who previously have congratulated you on the ascension to your high position in this Chamber. As a teacher, taking an overly loud and disruptive classroom, I can only suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, that you can only make things better, and we think that you've already started. We congratulate you on the efforts thus far.

I don't expect, Mr. Chairman, that a member of a political party can suddenly become an impartial Speaker. I think we're being unrealistic when we expect this kind of thing. I don't think it's necessary; it might not even be desirable. What we expect of a Speaker, Mr. Speaker, is a man who is fair and firm. The members of this House will appreciate an iron fist in a velvet glove.

I have been listening to the debate, in the past two days especially, and I must say, Mr. Speaker, that I didn't intend to bring such matters as these up until yesterday, but I was a little bit annoyed during yesterday's debate to think of the great waste of time in this Chamber, and I'd like to indicate, if I can, some reason or some responsibility that rests with certain individuals in this House. If I could, Mr. Chairman, I'd like to point out that yesterday's debate was for at least two hours a complete loss of time, thanks to the contribution made by my friend the Attorney-General. Mr. Speaker, the Attorney-General yesterday rose to accuse

(MR. GIRARD cont'd.) the Opposition of delaying tactics on the debates of Bills 13 and 14, and I could think back, Mr. Speaker, of the comments that were made by the present government just a few months back, about how we could not begin the session early this year because, you know, "the Conservatives are having their leadership convention and therefore we must delay the opening of the session." As it turned out, Mr. Speaker, this was an outright lie. We were not ready to open the session.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. I would suggest that the Chamber is deteriorating to where we should, with caution, try to discover whether we are heading the the right direction, and I think this should also apply to the member who has the floor. I would not like to ask any member to retract some of the things that he may have the intention of saying. I am a little worried that we may slip into an area where we would have difficulty getting ourselves out of.

MR. GIRARD: Mr. Speaker, I wish to withdraw the word "lie" and substitute the word "untruth". Just a few months ago, Mr. Speaker, we had hoped that maybe we would begin the session some time in early March because, as tradition has it, late February, early March is when sessions begin, but because of disunity in the ranks of the government we needed some kind of catalyst to jell these people together, and the Premier reasoned very justifiably that the best weld he could find was a by-election. And so the by-election was called, Mr. Speaker, to bring together the troops and to fight the common enemy, and, I must say, quite successfully.

However, Mr. Speaker, I suggest that this was a further delay and it brought the opening of the session down to April 7th, probably a record as far as lateness is concerned. We have the session opening with all its pomp and colour. We have its dilly-dallying of the Throne Speech debates, and one week later we have the charging Attorney-General who gets up accusing the Opposition of delaying tactics. He is accusing the Opposition of delaying tactics, Mr. Speaker, in order to camouflage the two-day recess that's required to attend the NDP leadership convention at Ottawa. I suggest, Mr. Speaker, that his contribution yesterday was a backward step in this Legislature in that it was not a contribution but rather the opposite, if an opposite can be found. I would suggest again, Mr. Speaker, that it's a little bit typical of our Attorney-General because we saw him charging wooden windmills not very much before this. We saw him charging down to Ottawa to the Supreme Court only to find that he had chosen the wrong court. We find him a few months later, again much like Don Quixote, charging the Opposition when he should be charging his own front benches. The only difference, Mr. Speaker, is that I believe Don Quixote learnt from one experience. -- (Interjections) -- Well, I find this very difficult, Mr. Speaker, because it is not in my nature to be degrading one of my friends.

However, I think that in dealing with the Attorney-General, I think we should also consider some matters pertaining to his department. Since he is an active member of this House and since he does make frequent contributions, if we call them that, at least frequent participation, maybe we could look a little bit at his department and see how things are going in there. I am a little concerned and I think that I'm not the only one. I gather, from the Ombudsman Report on Page 44, that he is also a little bit concerned with the autocratic kind of administration provided this society of ours by the Government Liquor Commission who is responsible to, I understand, the Attorney-General. I get the impression, Mr. Speaker, that the Liquor Commission as constituted today formulates its own policies and its own regulations and provides its own enforcement of those same regulations.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. MACKLING: My point of privilege, Mr. Speaker, is the Honourable Member from Emerson is suggesting that the Liquor Control Commission has usurped the function of this Legislature and is inventing policy. Now, either he retracts that charge against the Commission . . . -- (Interjection) -- Well, that is what is suggested in his remarks.

MR. GIRARD: That's no point of privilege, Mr. Speaker.

MR. MACKLING: No. That's what he said.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Morris. Are you on a point of privilege too?

MR. JORGENSEN: It's not a point of privilege, Sir. My understanding of a point of privilege in this House is when the privileges of the honourable member or the privileges of the members of this House are being violated, and the remarks made by my colleague the Member for Emerson in no way violated the privileges of the Attorney-General or any other

(MR. JORGENSEN cont'd.) member of this House.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Attorney-General, on the same point of privilege.

MR. MACKLING: On the same point of privilege. The Honourable Member for Morris has risen -- has risen in his seat . . . -- (Interjection) -- Yes, he's risen other things, but he's risen in his seat on numerous occasions . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order.

MR. MACKLING: . . . on points of privilege.

MR. SPEAKER: Order.

MR. MACKLING: I'm speaking on the point of privilege, Mr. Speaker, and I'm arguing . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. I don't think there was a point of privilege. The Honourable Member for Emerson.

MR. GIRARD: Mr. Speaker, I hope you will forgive the Attorney-General.

MR. SPEAKER: I should like to suggest to the member if he's going to incite, then I will not be able to control this Assembly. I should like him to stick to the subject.

MR. GIRARD: Mr. Speaker, I am concerned about the way the Government Liquor Commission has been carrying on and I wish to describe a few instances in which my constituents have had dealings with this kind of Commission. One example that comes to my mind, and a very recent one, was that of a father who was obtaining from the Liquor Commission a banquet permit to celebrate a wedding at Dominion City. He obtained his permit and on his permit he was permitted to buy the alcoholic beverages, the Scotch and whisky, I suppose, from Tolstoi, and he requested to buy the beer from Emerson. As it turned out, the Liquor Commission accepted one request but turned down the other, compelling him to buy the beer at Dominion City. Now Dominion City also has a liquor vendor. He objected to this kind of thing because he, in his own judgment, says if I'm paying for it I should have the liberty of buying it wherever I choose to do so, provided I transport it in a way that is proper and acceptable to the Commission. Now, Mr. Speaker, I'm suggesting to you that if the Commission has this kind of responsibility and privilege and authority, they can therefore dictate that all the banquet permits in Winnipeg must obtain their beer at a given hotel, and I'm suggesting that that's a little irregular in terms of powers or discretion given to a Commission, and I'm suggesting that in some cases there is abuse.

I would like to cite another case, Mr. Speaker, and by the way, in talking to the executive-secretary - I think that's what they call him - of the Commission, I asked him if this is the policy of the Commission. Well he didn't know whether it was an established policy exactly, but he thought that maybe this was the established policy but they could deviate and finally they said it would be all right, he could buy it in Emerson, but it was an irregularity. Well, that's not quite good enough, Mr. Speaker. I think that maybe that's one of the wooden windmills that the Attorney-General should charge.

I'd like to cite another case, Mr. Speaker, which again has to do with the Attorney-General's department through the Liquor Commission, and one case which I brought to his office in between sessions. It was a case where the owner and operator of a licensed restaurant in my constituency was convicted of selling a case of beer to an undercover RCMP. -- (Interjection) -- As soon as I'm through - this is very important - I wish you wouldn't interrupt me at this time. Now, the owner of this licensed restaurant was convicted of selling to an undercover agent of the RCMP one case of beer. On his conviction, Mr. Speaker, he was immediately given 15 days in Headingley Jail and fined \$500.00. I will point out that this was the only conviction that this man had received - he had received no previous conviction, in Manitoba at least, or elsewhere as far as I know. Then he decided to appeal the decision and the appeal was lost. The total cost of his fines and his appeal costs, his lawyer fees and so on, was \$1,700.00. Now after this, Mr. Speaker, the Liquor Commission removed the license for his beverage room, but they permitted him to sell his premises to his son who was living with him, but the condition was, Mr. Speaker, that his wife and his son could live at that premise but he had to move out; in other words, on condition that they split the family up they would provide that he could sell the premises and that his son would obtain a licence. Now to consider, Mr. Speaker, that this -- (Interjection) -- would you please not disturb me at this time, Sir, this is terribly important -- (Interjection) -- I confess, Mr. Speaker, I'm afraid of lawyers too. In any case, I would suggest, Mr. Speaker, that \$1,700 in costs and fines, that loss of a premise as valuable as this was in order to earn a

(MR. GIRARD cont'd.) living, that conditions of splitting up the family imposed by the Liquor Commission are far in excess of a price to pay when you consider the offence. If this is the kind of justice we have in Manitoba, Mr. Speaker, I suggest that the Attorney-General should fill his pockets and charge to Ottawa. -- (Interjection) -- Do you want to ask me that question?

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Would the member continue.

MR. GIRARD: He wants to ask me a question.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs.

MR. PAWLEY: . . . member would submit to a question.

MR. GIRARD: Sure I'll submit to a question.

MR. PAWLEY: Did he say Yes? Would the honourable member be prepared to indicate to the House which political party was in government when the legislation which he is referring to was in fact passed in this House?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Emerson.

MR. GIRARD: Mr. Speaker, I was once told by a lawyer friend of mine that it's not much of a lawyer who can't fool his witness by a question; however, I would suggest to you that the Conservatives passed the legislation when they were in power, if that satisfies my honourable friend, and they have had three sessions in order to remedy it since then and have done nothing about it. -- (Interjection) -- No not quite, I think you misunderstand me. -- (Interjection) -- Mr. Speaker, I would like to suggest that the Attorney-General's Department has given capable leadership to the Liquor Commission in terms of changes that have occurred in any case. I don't think it's all black because I think we've progressed a long way in the last few years in terms of relaxation, and I would like at this time to congratulate the Minister for permitting the laws to be changed in such a way that we could sell in hotels, hard liquors that we have now. I think that was a step in the right direction.

I'd just like to address a few words in the direction of the Minister of Health and Social Services. I realize that he's not here at the time -- (Interjection) -- sure I'll yield to a question.

MR. SPEAKER: On a question? The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. MACKLING: No point. Would the honourable member clarify for the House that the Liquor Control Commission is not a department of the Attorney-General but that the Attorney-General merely reports for the Liquor Control Commission to this House.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Emerson continue.

MR. GIRARD: Mr. Speaker, if that is correct, that poor orphan the Liquor Commission is on its own and I think we better tie it up somewhere. Any more questions?

MR. SPEAKER: I should like to remind the honourable member that all this time that he's wasting is his own.

MR. GIRARD: In a more serious vein, Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a few questions of the Minister of Health and Social Services. I noticed yesterday in his comments that he suggested that in order to have a healthy society, both economically and socially, we must have first of all socially well adjusted people and he was suggesting this I think in defence of his activities in his own department, and he might be justified in saying so, Mr. Speaker, but I would like to suggest to him that the people of Manitoba are awaiting very eagerly a very clear-cut statement as to the directions in which we are going with our new social development policies. What kind of society is this government trying to establish? If it is a Socialist state that we are trying to establish, then what kind of Socialist state are we trying to establish?

I can hear the Premier on frequent occasions, Mr. Speaker, referring to Sweden as somewhat of an example and I understand that the Minister of Health and Social Services spent some time studying the situation, the social situation especially, in Sweden. I would like to know if this is the direction we are going in, Mr. Speaker, I think the people of Manitoba are interested in knowing if this is it, well then we realize the direction we are taking.

I find it very difficult in my constituency to answer the frequent questions that are brought to me by the people of that area with regard to welfare assistance as it is now. I've had several occasions to meet people who are making demands from the Workmen's Compensation Board, for example, people who have been injured in their work and are fighting with that particular Board to obtain a just return, such as the insurance has promised, but they find that their efforts are so often fruitless, that their reward is nominal and that they would all along have been far better off having claimed welfare assistance much as their counterparts

(MR. GIRARD cont'd.) have done. Now if this is the direction we are going in, Mr. Speaker, I'm suggesting that the Workmen's Compensation Board, for example, is redundant.

HON. SAMUEL USKIW (Minister of Agriculture) (Lac du Bonnet): Would the honourable member submit to a question?

MR. GIRARD: Sure I will for you . . .

MR. USKIW: Does my honourable friend not know that all provinces in Canada are locked into the Canada Assistance Plan and that welfare programs are a regulation that are devised in Ottawa.

MR. GIRARD: I didn't understand the question.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order please. I wonder if we could have order in the House. I couldn't hear the Minister's question either. It is within the prerogative of the speaker to answer the question if he so chooses. The Minister of Agriculture, please.

MR. USKIW: Yes, I wanted to know whether the honourable member knew that all regulations pursuant to our welfare programs are designed in Ottawa under the Canada Assistance Plan.

MR. GIRARD: I thank the Minister for his contribution. If that is the case, I'm suggesting that it still doesn't make it right. I'm suggesting to you, Mr. Speaker, that if our present system is accelerated or continues in the same direction that organizations such as the Workmen's Compensation Board are absolutely redundant. Now whether you want to blame the Federal Government or anybody else matters little, I'm suggesting to you that that is the fact.

There is one other item, Mr. Speaker, which I'd like to bring to the attention of this government, and this I would like to bring to the attention of the eager Minister of Municipal Affairs. I would like to know, Mr. Speaker, what kind of direction the Honourable Minister has given to the people of the Assessment Branch who go throughout the Province of Manitoba and give what they call a balance assessment to a given property, or an equalized assessment to a given property? I'm suggesting, Mr. Speaker, that to play around with the mill rate like the Minister of Education and the Premier has done is absolutely meaningless when you have another fellow in the crowd who is playing around with the assessment. I find it very ironical that in some of my area -- (Interjection) --

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Minister has a point of order?

MR. PAWLEY: On a point of privilege, I think that the honourable member should confirm whether or not he's suggesting that I am playing around with assessment? Was that the understanding I receive from his words?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order please. I would suggest that the Minister's point is more a point of debate rather than a point of order. Order please. Will the Minister continue please.

MR. PAWLEY: If the honourable member is suggesting that I'm playing around with assessment it imputes a certain motive and a certain design which I think the honourable member would want to withdraw any such suggestion. If he was not so suggesting then I would withdraw any point of privilege.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Honourable Member.

MR. GIRARD: Mr. Speaker, I certainly was not imputing on the Minister that he by his own manipulation - I'm just suggesting, Mr. Speaker, that if he's not controlling them, he should be, and if he is let's get the direction from him by which he's controlling it. -- (Interjection) -- I'm going to explain a little further, Mr. Speaker, so that the Minister understands what I'm talking about.

I have certain constituents whom this year had a re-assessment in their properties. It so happens that this is farm land, Mr. Speaker, farm land whose productivity has decreased over the past four years - farm land whose sale value, Mr. Speaker, has decreased over the past four years, and farm land, Mr. Speaker, whose assessment has more than doubled in that same four years. Now how can the Minister, Mr. Speaker, justify this kind of increase in assessment? And how can you say it's important what the mill rate happens to be to that particular individual? -- (Interjection) -- Speak loudly so I can hear you. -- (Interjection) --

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs.

MR. PAWLEY: Would the honourable member indicate to the House whether or not the parties in question that he's referring to with lands so assessed made the necessary appeal precision through the Court of Revision and on to the Municipal Board as specified in the Act

(MR. PAWLEY cont'd.) which was passed by the honourable members opposite?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Emerson.

MR. GIRARD: Mr. Speaker, the answer to the question is, yes; and as a matter of fact on the 4th of May they have an appeal coming up on the same issue. Oh I can't debate it because -- (Interjection) -- Mr. Speaker, if that's the case, I'm talking about the next parcel of land. -- (Interjection) --

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. I did suggest earlier in the session that I would recognize and introduce all members. I wish they would adhere to the rule. The Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs.

MR. PAWLEY: I would hope that the honourable member would not be discussing matters that are presently before the Municipal Board, in this House.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Emerson.

MR. GIRARD: It's rather strange, Mr. Speaker, that the Honourable Minister feels that all the land in Manitoba is before the courts right now. -- (Interjection) -- I did not refer to it by name, I've used it as an example. I still would like to hear from the Minister, Mr. Speaker, as to a reason why this kind of thing occurs. In my view it is totally unjustifiable and it makes a sham of the Minister of Education who goes parading around saying we have a general mill rate decrease of 1-1/2 mills, you know, and to those people it means a tax dollar increase of almost double.

There's a brighter side of life, Mr. Speaker. I think that Manitoba can progress in the future. I hope that this government will see fit to change a few things and make a few positive moves that will be of benefit to the province. And I have a couple that I would like to suggest, Mr. Speaker. I would like to reiterate a suggestion that was made by the Honourable Member from Fort Rouge last session when she indicated to this House that we have promising areas in our province that are crying for development that could become attractive tourist localities, could be used for recreation by our people. I think she mentioned one of them as a development of the floodway. I think that that ought to be looked into very carefully, Mr. Speaker. I don't see why we have not seen any indications this far of potential development or serious contemplation of development in that area. I suggest, Mr. Speaker, that the Honourable Minister of Tourism treated very lightly a submission made by Mr. Alcock who prepared a brief on the development of trails for snowmobiles throughout the Province of Manitoba. I know that the Minister

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member has five minutes.

MR. GIRARD: I know that the Minister of Highways might not relish the idea of encouraging this kind of vehicle to travel over our land but I think it's a coming thing that no matter how much we like or dislike it will be here and it will be developed and it has its good points. I'm suggesting, Mr. Speaker, that this could be developed. It's a funny thing in our society when we note that we have on one hand unemployment, we have people who are being subsidized to vegetate in their homes, and on the other hand we have areas that are crying for development. I hope, Mr. Speaker, that this government will realize that there is a lot to be gained by not paying people to vegetate but paying people to develop our province.

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MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Crescentwood.

MR. CY GONICK (Crescentwood): Mr. Speaker, I'd like to join the throng in congratulating you in your new appointment and to your Deputy Speaker as well who has been all too neglected in this debate. I must say in judging the character of the debate so far that your job will probably be much easier than that of your predecessors because I notice a degree of absenteeism on the other side and a kind of lack lustre quality to the debate so far. However, I must recognize that the previous speaker, the Member from Emerson, still has some scrap left in him and the Member for Morris was able to lecture us on 19th century economics and 18th century political science, and we had the bellowing remarks of the Member from Sturgeon Creek the other day and he was in fine fettle. But it seemed to me, Mr. Speaker, that there's a certain demoralization that's set in on the other side and I was trying to think in my own mind why this should have occurred. The obvious first explanation would be the results of the April 5th by-election, which obviously upset the members opposite. But, Mr. Speaker, I, in my own mind have another explanation which seems to me to be much more profound and much more important in explaining the obvious demoralization that seems to have spread to opposite members.

About five years ago the Conservative Government at the time made a deal to create a giant forest complex in northern Manitoba. Everybody knows by now just how bad a deal it was, but the Royal Commission that will be reporting, hopefully in due course, I think will provide the details which will shock the people of Manitoba. The evidence that's available so far provided by members of the press and other analysts indicates that perhaps as much as 30 to 40 millions of dollars have been squandered by the companies in northern Manitoba in the form of excessive fees - not for buildings, not for equipment - but for fees for design work and for purchasing and, Mr. Speaker, I think when the details are known, as they will be when the Royal Commission reports, that this arrangement will go down in the history of Canada as one of the giant swindles of our time. Perhaps the greatest swindle since the construction of the C. P. R. Let me hasten to add, however, that like the C. P. R. the swindle was apparently a legal one, and of course we all know who made that swindle legal. It was the Conservative Government that occupied the reins of power some years ago in this province. And therefore since this theft of 30 to 40 millions of dollars, which the people of Manitoba will never see again, since this theft has been legalized by the Conservative Party of Manitoba through the contracts that they signed with the companies involved, I think it's -- at least it's apparent to me that they will be recognized as an accomplice in this swindle. Now all these worries of course must worry the people that stand behind the Conservative Party of Manitoba, that finance it and that determine its policies. I'm speaking of the Great West Life Company, Monarch Life, Investors Syndicate, Greater Winnipeg Gas Company and all the others that have always been the backbone of the Conservative Party and before that the Liberal Party. This episode undoubtedly has taught them two lessons. The first lesson is that their political tool, the Conservative Party of Manitoba, is no longer to be trusted with the reins of office. They see as well as the people of Manitoba see that no political group that is capable of making such an outrageous deal with the pack of swindlers that we've brought to Northern Manitoba should be given the reins of power in this province. And the second lesson they learned, Mr. Speaker, is that they know very well that when the details come out in the hearings the Conservative Party of Manitoba will be destroyed for a generation at least. So these business leaders, these men who are the political power brokers in the province for many years, the men behind the Conservative Party, have lost their enthusiasm for the Conservative Party, they may be even thinking of abandoning them, and of course this must worry the Leader of the Official Opposition because he knows that without their financial backing, without their support, the demise of the Conservative Party will be hastened all the more. Nor can these business leaders have very much confidence in the other political party in Manitoba which they have supported in the past, the Liberal Party which has been made a non-party by the electorate on April 5th. They also realize, Mr. Speaker, what other people perhaps realize, that is that Mr. Asper, the Leader of that non-party, was counting on a meteoric rise to power in Manitoba, but as a result of the by-elections his dreams have been shattered and people who know Mr. Asper know that he is not one to wait around for an opportunity to rule. It's obvious to him that there's no room at the top for him and he will bow out of the picture. And so, Mr. Speaker, the business leaders of this province are in somewhat of a quandary. The Conservative Party is down and soon it will be shattered, the Liberal non-party will apparently never start, it will continue its long sleep. As the Member for Lakeside intimated, these men are still not

(MR. GONICK, cont'd.) . . . comfortable with the New Democratic Party. So in turning to the alternatives, Mr. Speaker, I cast my eye on the one alternative that's available to them and I wonder if Mr. Jake Froese's turn has finally come.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I come to the Throne Speech and I want to say before I comment on it specifically, something about the conditions under which the country finds itself at the time of the presentation of the Speech from the Throne. I refer first to the serious unemployment problem which has been already mentioned in this debate. Never before in the history of Canada has there been so many unemployed people in this country. Never before have the welfare rolls been as great as they are, a concern not only to the Member from Pembina but also to most other members in this House as well as to the people on welfare I'm sure. I have to add that the appearance of massive unemployment comes as no accident, and I must say also, that Mr. Trudeau, in my opinion, was not the cause of it though he undoubtedly hastened it.

Massive unemployment, Mr. Speaker, appears periodically whenever businessmen find that profits are not sufficiently great to warrant continuing production at current levels. They cut production, they lay off their labour force because it is no longer profitable to employ their labour force. And I wonder, Mr. Speaker, I wonder, Mr. Speaker, about this economy of ours, I wonder if it isn't a criminal act where people who have grave needs for housing, food, basic living conditions are not being met and yet at the same time factories are closed, production is curtailed, men are laid off, it is impossible for these men to make a contribution to our economy because it is unprofitable for their employers to employ them. It seems to me, Mr. Speaker, that there can be no greater indictment of our economic system than the fact that the amount of employment that is available depends not on the basic needs of our people but on the profits of a few. And all the changes that have occurred in the past century in our economic system has not changed that fact, that employment depends not on needs of people but on the profits of employers. At the same time that we have a million Canadians unemployed or training or given up looking for work, we have foreign investment, Mr. Speaker, flooding this country, and that to me proves only one thing, that foreign investment is no panacea for job creation. Because if it were then the Maritime provinces which has more foreign investment per capita would have the lowest rate of unemployment; and as all of us know, it has the highest rate of unemployment in Canada and always has had. We find that our resources are being ripped off, our oil, minerals, sports, increasingly our land, our farm land, our recreational land, soon our water, our heritage is being sold from under us. It is profitable to sell our resources and private profit is still the number one objective of the people that run our economy.

MR. GORDON W. BEARD (Churchill): Would the honourable member permit a question?

MR. GONICK: Certainly.

MR. BEARD: Could the member indicate where Canada would be today if it had not had one cent of foreign investment dollars? Would the member indicate where Canada would be today if it had never had one cent of foreign investment?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Crescentwood.

MR. GONICK: Yes. I welcome the question, Mr. Speaker. I have not been one to argue against the historical role that foreign investment has played in Canada. I say that at this time, however, foreign investment plays no positive role in this country, that we have sufficient savings to finance our economic development, that in fact the only conditions under which foreign investment will come to a province like Manitoba is when we give them the money. They provide no capital to Manitoba, they don't provide entrepreneurship because we have to find the entrepreneurs for them and we have to find the technology for them. And CFI is our best example of that. But it's not the only one. So I say that, yes foreign investment has played a role in our development but I would argue with the proposition that it plays an important role today or need play an important role today, that in fact these foreign owners are buying our resources and our industry with our own money. And that has been true for some years now.

At the same time that our economy suffers from unemployment and suffers from foreign investment I might add, let me add just another point to that with regard to foreign investment. Most of the foreign investment in this country settles in resource development, much of it in our northern territories. And I'm sure that the Member for Churchill probably knows as other members do just how little employment opportunities are available through resource development. Let me tell the member that in order to provide one job in the forest industries he acquires an investment of \$100 thousand, and in mining the average investment requirement is \$250 thousand, whereas for manufacturing and other kinds of industries the investment dollars

(MR. GONICK, cont'd.) per job are far far less. And what happens, Mr. Speaker, when we use our people and our resources and our efforts to develop our economy through resource development rather than through manufacturing is that not only do we import this capital but we are also through resource development exporting jobs. Because for every job that is created through the resource industries we export tens of jobs in manufacturing and processing of these resources in the United States and in Japan and Western Europe. And so to those people who argue and who have argued in this House and some of them on this side of the House that northern development, you know, is the answer to Manitoba's needs I would say, I would caution them that it is probably the most expensive means of providing livelihood for the people of Manitoba, not only in terms of private investment but also in terms of public investment.

Well, Mr. Speaker, I've been sidetracked. I wanted to say that in addition to unemployment that is rampant, in addition to foreign investment which is rampant, there is also an important situation that is developing in our country and has been developing for years and that is a disenchantment with increasing numbers of our youth with regard to the future that awaits them. The competitive race for profits may excite the Member for Fort Garry and the Member for Roblin and other members opposite perhaps, but, Mr. Speaker, I think it turns off most youth today. I think they find it uninteresting and boring and they want something more worthwhile for their lives. I know that the Minister of Transportation calls them bums but, Mr. Speaker, I think they would say the same and worse of many of the people who are running this country and are creating ruin and destruction and misery on ordinary people in the way that they run this country.

Last session the Member for Fort Garry talked about the sound of muffled jackboots stalking the streets of Manitoba. But, Mr. Speaker, no New Democratic Party Government has ever ordered the police to shoot people in the streets and no New Democratic Party Government has ever arrested people for what they think. But in 1919 the Conservative Government then ordered the police to shoot people in the streets, and in 1970 the Liberal Government in Ottawa ordered the jackboots unmuffled on the streets of Quebec. I would say, Mr. Speaker, that that government brought about a situation of legalized terror much greater and much more dangerous than the terror of a few frantic creeps in Montreal. As my Leader, Tommy Douglas, said at the time, "To employ terror in defence of democracy is to destroy democracy."

So, Mr. Speaker, as we consider the Speech from the Throne, our national economy is in shambles, our resources and our industries are being removed from our control, our nation is more divided than at any other time in our history since the conscription crisis. On top of this there is a continued disintegration of our rural lands, more and more of our people are leaving the rural hinterlands, forced off the land into our crowded cities and all parts of the country, not only in Manitoba, not only in the prairies, but in all parts of the country, rural areas are being depopulated and abandoned. I would say that Manitoba has not escaped these problems. Over 20,000 Manitobans are now seeking work. Thousands more are under-employed and still thousands more have given up looking for work. The Minister of Health and Social Development tells me that 27,000 people are on their welfare rolls at the present time. Our youth is increasingly disenchanting with what awaits them. Our housing problem is severe. Our economy is slipping into foreign hands. So that all the problems which face the nation also face Manitobans. And it is against this background that the performance of this government must be judged.

I want to discuss very quickly two of the problems that I've mentioned and dismiss them very quickly, because I've seen very little evidence that this government is serious about dealing with them. One of them is the problem of depopulation of our rural hinterlands. I haven't seen one program emanating from this government which will seriously stop, halt the disintegration of our rural communities. The only program of any substance, in terms of dollars that has been put forward is the one discussed yesterday with regard to the acreage payments. Mr. Speaker, I have no quarrel with the way in which this program has been introduced, but rather with its contents, because it seems to me to be a half-assed attempt to deal with a problem in an expensive way - \$4 million, which is almost as much money as we're saving the people of Manitoba on our automobile insurance program. We debated for months in order to make a savings for the people of Manitoba and now we're providing it for the farmers and it's senseless it seems to me because it won't solve their problems. It won't solve the structural problems of agriculture and it's costly. So I think it's inefficient, it's expensive and it's ineffective. And that is the only program that I think this government has put forward of a serious nature to deal

(MR. GONICK, cont'd.) with agriculture and I don't think it's - it's just not enough, it's not sufficient.

Secondly, I question the government's seriousness about foreign investment, because in the life of this government, just last year in fact, two major industries fell under foreign control; the dairy industry which is critical to our province, and the funeral industry under the auspices these days of the Member for Minnedosa who himself is eagerly buying up funeral homes for his two American directors and has done a fair job of it in Manitoba because only this year there have been a few takeovers, silently. And I don't blame the Member for Minnedosa, that's his livelihood, that's how he makes his living and this is the loyalty that he has, and I don't blame him. But I do blame, however, this government which has allowed this to happen without hardly a whisper. These industries silently sank into foreign hands without any effort on the part of the government to stop it. And there was no creation of new industry. The industry was here, it's been here for years, run by Manitoba families. These companies brought nothing with them that we didn't have, and senselessly these crucial industries have fallen into foreign control and I really don't see much of an effort on the part of this government to deal with this problem. I don't think it's serious about a problem which its party regards as being very serious.

I mention these only in passing, Mr. Speaker. I'd rather concentrate on those areas which the government has done something about, which I think it is serious about, and that is whole question of equalizing incomes, something which members opposite are not too happy with, something which I can identify with: Equalizing incomes, equalizing opportunities, equalizing the human conditions. I have listed in my own mind, counted in my own mind, seven programs which this government initiated in this area. First of all, it reduced the Medicare premiums and shifted these on to income tax and corporation tax. Secondly, it raised the royalty taxes on mining. Thirdly, it will be shifting some of the property tax on to other forms of taxation this session. Fourth, it constructed some 3,800, or is constructing some 3,800 public housing units. Fifth, it raised minimum wage from \$1.25 to \$1.50 an hour. Sixth, it increased welfare rates and extended welfare programs. Seven, it re-wrote the Landlord Tenant Act to equalize power with the landlords and tenants. And listing these programs one can obviously see the government is concerned with this problem and has taken some measures to deal with it.

I'd like to raise three quick points, Mr. Speaker, and then deal at greater length with some alternatives to the ways in which the government is trying to implement their program for equality of income.

The first quick point I wish to talk about is the minimum wage. This year the Federal Government has announced that it's going to be raising the minimum wage with regard to industries under its jurisdiction, and very soon therefore, Manitoba will lag behind the minimum wage created at the federal level. According to most studies the minimum income required for a minimum living for a family of four is \$4,000.00. A family in which the wage earner receives \$1.50 an hour working full time, a full year, would earn something in the order of \$3,000, below the minimum requirements for an average family of four. To raise it to \$4,000 would require an hourly wage of \$2.00 an hour, and it seems to me that this should be the goal of this government, not five years from now but in short order. What I would like to see this government do with regard to the minimum wage is to meet the federal standards by July, which is the date that the federal standards will go into effect, and within twelve months push the minimum wage to \$2.00 an hour which would give a family of four the minimum required income level.

Secondly, -- (Interjection) -- Well, what the member says is quite right, that the alternative to raising the minimum wage is to force people to go on welfare. The provincial government raised royalty taxes last year and the Premier has hinted that it may raise them again this year. What I would like to see the government do here is to abandon the flat rate royalty system and instead create an adjustable royalty system, progressively adjustable royalty system whereby royalties are based on the profitability of the mines, so that very wealthy mines such as exist around Thompson operated by INCO may have a royalty tax of perhaps 25 to 30 percent and other less efficient, less well endowed mines could have rates as low as five or six percent. I see no reason why there should be a flat royalty system. Most governments in the world have an adjustable system and it is a means by which royalty taxes can be increased and make their maximum contribution to the public purse.

The third quick area I'd like to discuss is public housing. A few months ago the government announced its plan to build 3,600 public housing units this year -- which I might add is well

(MR. GONICK, cont'd.) in excess of what the former government has done in the ten years in office. I think it's one of the better achievements, the most notable achievements of this government that it has produced as many public housing units as it has, and I congratulate the Minister responsible for that. But the government asked \$51 million from the Federal Government and she received only \$31 million, and as a result its plans, its housing plans were crippled and had to be reduced substantially. Still it will build over 2,000 units this year, which still is far in excess of what the former government had been able to achieve, or wished to achieve because it had access to the same money that we have. It simply didn't regard it as being very important to build public housing.

Well, Mr. Speaker, I think it's just possible that we could achieve the planned target of 3,600 units even if the Federal Government refuses to provide the moneys that we had asked for them, and I would wonder why the provincial government at this time with much unemployment, many unemployed construction workers, with interest rates being fairly low, why the provincial government wouldn't want to build the extra thousand or two thousand units that are required to meet its planned target, and sell these units, or rent them on an unsubsidized basis. Simply enter the housing market and on an unsubsidized basis it would cost the people of Manitoba nothing because these units would pay for themselves. And while there is as much unemployment and as many construction workers that are available at this time I think the government is amiss in not getting into this field in the manner that I suggest. But as I mentioned, I still think there's that opportunity and I'd hope that the government would take advantage of this opportunity.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I wish to speak at greater length on the kind of program which the government has developed to bring about income equality. The major thrust of the government has been to redistribute incomes through adjusting our tax system, and what it has done is to reduce taxes which are based on a premium system or on a property system, property taxes, and shift them on to a broader tax base such as income taxes or corporation taxes. Initially I am sure that this effort will have saved the low income families and families on ordinary income millions of dollars. I think initially this would be true. But the actual amount of purchasing power that is available to families after taxes depends not only on the money that's available to them but the level of prices that they have to pay for the things that they buy. And I would say that within a very short time - perhaps that time has already passed - that all the money, virtually all the money, that was won by these people through tax adjustments has by now already been lost by increases of prices. So that for low income families and ordinary families the adjustments which you made in Medicare, the adjustments which we'll be making on property taxes will be in very short order lost, and the effect will be, in other words, a short one.

I look, for example, to the situation of the bread manufacturers. They have raised the price of bread this year. A penny a loaf doesn't seem too much, but it costs the taxpayers or the households of Manitobasome \$2 million. I look to the Winnipeg Central Gas Company which increased its prices this year. That cost the people of Manitoba a million dollars. I look to rents which have been increasing, increasing every few months - every three months in some cases in the City of Winnipeg and in Thompson even more. I look to gasoline prices which have been increased; the dentists' fees which I understand are going to be increased this year; perhaps the doctors' fees, the doctors have said that they intend to raise their fees. And if you take all these price increases into account, Mr. Speaker, all that it really just says is that the rich really never pay taxes. -- (Interjection) -- Well, I'll talk to my friend after about university professors.

I must congratulate the government on its budget squeezing of the university. I think it was the best thing that ever happened to the University of Manitoba because now for the first time it has to rationalize its expenditures, and it's sitting down seriously thinking about priorities, thinking about professors' salaries and having to deal with it in a way which they never had to before because they had apparently been given almost unlimited funds.

So I say that the people who pay taxes, Mr. Speaker, are those people who can't shift their taxes on to others by raising the prices of the things that they sell; and those people are the pensioners, poor people, the people of ordinary incomes and ordinary salaries who don't have the power, they can't raise their prices the way bread manufacturers can and the way doctors can. The rich are able to protect their income and that's why they're rich; and the poor can't protect their increased income and that's why they're poor. As long as some people are free to set their own prices at whatever level they wish and some people are not free to do so,

(MR. GONICK, cont'd.) there will never be an effective redistribution of income in our economy. And that is, it seems to me, Mr. Speaker, the great merit of the automobile insurance plan introduced last session, because the \$5 million saved to ordinary families in the Province of Manitoba, those are permanent savings, they can't be taken away from them. -- (Interjection) -- When the member sees the rates which will be introduced . . .

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member has five minutes.

MR. GONICK: Thank you. When the member sees the rates which will be introduced, I hope fairly soon, perhaps he'll have a different story to tell. I always believed that public ownership, like the automobile insurance system, is the way to redistribute income, is the way to ensure that fair prices will be established, is the way to ensure some degree of equality of income between rich and poor. However, it seems to me judging from the performance of this government, that it is not going to get into public ownership beyond automobile insurance, and beyond taking over some bankrupt companies. This I regret. I know that would make the members opposite very happy. But because the government is unwilling to confront the business community directly and the professions, I would propose an intermediate solution, a solution which will not work as well in my opinion but which will have some effect in redistributing income. What I propose the government do is to define the key products and key essential services which are essential for people's livelihood, for people's income, and define these as public utilities and then enlarge the function and the purpose of the Public Utilities Board and require the owners of these services, the owners of these products before they can increase the prices of their products, the prices of their services, to go before the Public Utility Commission and be forced to justify those price increases. I'm talking about drugs, I'm talking about doctors' fees, I'm talking about dental fees, I'm talking about gasoline, I'm talking about bread, about essential products and services which we can all agree are important. I would say that the producers of these good and services must be required to go before a Utility Board and justify those increases and the Utility Board should then have the power to veto those increases if they feel it is not justified. Now that to me, Sir, is not a satisfactory solution; it's a second best solution; but perhaps it's a solution which this government could accept, and I think it would do something to improve its ability to bring about greater equality of incomes, it would allow the government to do something more effective about monopoly pricing which is rampant in our province.

Mr. Speaker, I had other things to say about - in fact, I wanted to say something about welfare. I see that my time is almost up and I dare not start. -- (Interjections) --

Mr. Speaker, I trust that I will have a few moments to discuss welfare and if I extend my time by a few minutes, I will be glad to leave. Like the Member for Pembina, and I think everyone else in this House, there is a great concern over the growing costs of welfare throughout Canada, and I think it's true to say for myself, and I think for those people on welfare, that they don't regard it as the best solution for their problems. I think as the Member for Emerson said - what most people want are jobs. And I am informed that perhaps as many as 25 percent of the people now on welfare in Manitoba are capable of work and another 15 percent are capable of work providing adequate daycare centres were available to them. So if there were jobs available in this province, we could reduce the welfare rolls at the present time, I am told, by something of the order of 40 percent, which I think every member of this House would want to see happen. And therefore, rather than talking about guaranteed annual income, which to my mind is an ineffective solution to the question of poverty, to the question of income security, by itself and I would say in itself, and I would just talk about that for a moment. I would caution the government on the guaranteed annual income, on introducing it in this province. I believe that it is ineffective because when you give poor people money rich people take it away from them. Landlords raise their rent, grocery stores raise their prices and what happens? What is wrong with the guaranteed annual income is what is wrong with welfare. And that is that welfare subsidizes primarily the rich because they are able to transfer the welfare to themselves because they have control of their prices and they will have control of those incomes. Therefore the welfare system of which the guaranteed annual income is a logical extension, is really a very ineffective system to bring about the kind of solutions which it's supposed to. The other problem with guaranteed annual income is in my opinion it will end up subsidizing low wage industries because the employers will say that if I don't increase their wages, the government will pick up the slack, they'll provide adequate incomes for these people, why should I have to increase their wages, and even the workers involved may think the same thing

(MR. GONICK, cont'd.) and it may be very harmful . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order. The honourable member's time is up. The Honourable Member for Morris.

MR. JORGENSON: Mr. Speaker, may we suggest that the honourable member be given all the time he requires to put these gems on the record.

MR. SPEAKER: By leave? (Agreed). The Honourable Member for Crescentwood.

MR. GONICK: Thankyou. I'm afraid that what will happen under a guaranteed annual income system is what happened in England in the 18th century when what was established was something called the . . . System which is essentially the same as a guaranteed annual income. What happened then is that the government subsidized the incomes of people who received an income which was unlivable, even if they were employed, and there was a great demoralization of the workers involved. The employers kept wages to rock bottom level, there was no stimulus to raise them because the workers didn't demand raises because the government provided it, and therefore it encouraged the continuous provision of low wages, it subsidized low wage industries. And I think that the guaranteed annual income will have this tendency. -- (Interjection) -- The Minister says unless you have the high minimum wage. A high minimum wage is still only, what? \$2 -- It's still a low wage.

So, Mr. Speaker, I think that rather than speaking of a guaranteed annual income the government should perhaps be thinking of guaranteed employment. But in order to provide jobs for many of the people that are now on welfare what may be required is a redefinition of the whole concept of work. There are many jobs that people on welfare can do but there are some jobs that they probably can't do. I would suggest that if we had a greatly enlarged public service system which will involve services to our senior citizens, far beyond what they receive now -- I know that members who visited Sweden were very impressed with the treatment of senior citizens in that country, the likes of which don't exist in North America. But in order to provide those kind of services requires a far greater labour input. I think that's one area where the government could go and much of the work could be done, that kind of work could be done perhaps by people now receiving welfare. The recreation field is greatly undermanned. Day care centres are at the moment virtually non-existent. There are many kinds of jobs among youth which people now receiving welfare could do, with the incomes which they receive, through the efforts of the government, if these kinds of jobs were made available through the public service. I would realize the great adjustment that this would require among trade unions, among our professions, but it seems to me that the goal -- I think everybody in this House, I happen to believe that everybody in this House would prefer to have these people working at those kind of jobs than receiving welfare for which the public gets no return at all. Because this is worthwhile work, this is meaningful work, it's meaningful to them, it's meaningful to us, and rather than provide them with welfare and more welfare every year because our standards are rising, it seems to me that we should be employing these people and paying them a wage to do this kind of work. I would implore the government to examine the possibilities of this kind of a system as against a guaranteed annual income system which I think is unimaginative and ineffective and will not do the job which the government itself wants to do and I think people on welfare would like to have as well.

Well, Mr. Speaker, I just want to complete my remarks by -- (Interjection) -- Yes, I'm going to tell you more, I'm going to tell the member more, Mr. Speaker. I welcome the news that we are to have more day care centres in this province. I welcome the news that we are to have public health clinics throughout the province and if the Member for Fort Rouge is uncomfortable with that and the Member for River Heights, let me assure the Minister that when it is time to place a public health clinic in Winnipeg South that the people of Crescentwood would be very eager to have one in their constituency. -- (Interjection) -- Health and social development centre. Very good. I welcome the news that we are to have a public exploration company. I wish the Minister well in that adventure.

Mr. Speaker, having listed these programs which the government now proposes and will be putting forward in the next few weeks -- I'm optimistic, I see such demoralization opposite that I happen to believe that the session may be over in a matter of five to six weeks -- but I have some major problems with the government performance, some of which I've mentioned and which I want to elaborate on just for a few minutes for the enjoyment of the members opposite.

As far as I can tell, Mr. Speaker, the Department of Education remains stagnant in terms of development of new programs. I think that the state of our education is no different

(MR. GONICK, cont'd.) than it was when we took office. I think our schools are as much jails now as they were two years ago when we took office and I don't know whether the problem is with the Minister or his ancient staff but there's a problem there somewhere and I would hope that the government will be doing something about this in the not too distant future. I am particularly interested in this because I have children in school and I know what the system is doing to them and it's in my own self-interest, as well as in the self-interest of my family that this problem be solved in the near future.

I mention the Department of Agriculture. Nothing seems to me in the way of structural changes which will do anything to alter the plight of the farmers in the long run. I think the continuous short-cuts that are taken by ad hoc solution such as acreage payments are a way of dodging the real problems.

I mention the lack of a program on the part of this government to deal with the growing Americanization of this province. The government has said that it is open-minded, you know, about the kind of enterprise that it wants to see operate in Manitoba, it will consider private enterprise, public enterprise, co-operative enterprise. But in order to make that system work it seems to me that there has to be some evidence that the government is serious about forms of enterprise other than private enterprise. I know the members may find this funny but if they examine the performance of the government in this regard they'll find that automobile insurance has been taken into the public sector, but it is the only example other than companies which are on the verge of bankruptcy where the government has taken over companies and placed them under public ownership. There's not one instance - there is not one instance of a new Crown Corporation of any size set up by this government, there is not one instance of a new co-operative of any substantial size set up by this government. And I wonder if the expression of this government that it is open to private enterprise, to public enterprise, to co-operative enterprise is nothing more than a lip service paid to the members of its party who I think are expecting something more.

I mention a fourth, Mr. Speaker, a particular instance where while in opposition members of this caucus year after year have said that there is one industry in particular, a monopoly, which must be taken under public ownership. That is the natural gas industry, the Winnipeg Central Gas Company in particular. Year after year this proposal was put. The First Minister himself proposed a resolution in this regard and I note that we are now in our third session, Mr. Speaker, this item has vanished from the vocabulary of the members of this caucus, it has not been raised. The industry hasn't vanished, the company hasn't vanished, the monopoly hasn't vanished, the profits haven't vanished, the problem hasn't vanished, but the concept of taking this industry under public ownership seems to have vanished from the lips of the front bench.

Well, Mr. Speaker, I could go on. I could go on listing other items that have bothered me this session, that bothered me in past sessions about the efforts of this government. I note, however, in concluding, that if we judge the performance of this government by the standards set by the previous government, that this government scores very well. It's only judged by its own standards, by the standards set by its own members in convention that the shortfall seems to be overwhelming. So, Mr. Speaker, with that I close and I thank the members for giving me leave.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

MR. HARRY J. ENNS (Lakeside): Mr. Speaker, my words of congratulations to you, Sir. You will have noticed in these first few days of this session that I certainly am prepared to provide no provocation to you, Sir, since that sometimes has been my style in past sessions, that indeed a new leaf has been turned over by myself. There is, of course, a reason for that. You see, Sir, I offered that kind of abrasive and aggressive leadership to my party and it was rejected so that I must of course take heed to that position taken by the party that I am proud to serve and intend to behave and to act with decorum in this House, as difficult as it may be from time to time. To the new Ministers I offer my congratulations as well as to the two new members who will be taking their seats shortly.

Mr. Speaker, I did have a few comments brought together here that I had hoped to bring to the dying moments of this Throne Speech debate. I would have to preface anything that I am about to say by the remarks just made by the Honourable Member from Crescentwood. He used the word "demoralized" and I would want to correct him. I can't recall ever having been so thoroughly frightened in my public life by the first remarks made by the Honourable Member

(MR. ENNS, cont'd.) . . . from Crescentwood. He has identified grand theft to the tune of \$30 or \$40 million. He has identified the culprits and has named them and all this at the time that his government - all this at the time the government is going through the process of holding a judicial enquiry or an official enquiry to determine these facts. That should not really surprise us too much, Mr. Speaker, because we have of course already had other indications as to the respect this government and their Ministers have for our law and for our judges and magistrates. But I want to indicate to you and to the members of the House that far from being just shook up, I was in fact thoroughly frightened.

The first man in the USSR has just announced to his colleagues that he is about to start another cleansing operation, which they used to call a purging operation. It's always been so singularly remarkable how in a totalitarian state, you know the government can announce an action, can indicate who's going to be guilty and when the trials are going to be held and what the charge is going to be and what the penalty is going to be. This is not new to anybody that takes a little bit of time in reading the totalitarian mind - bit of that totalitarian mind was exposed to all of us in this Chamber at the outset of the remarks made by the Member for Crescentwood - and I want to indicate to you Sir, that it frightened me, it frightened me thoroughly. Not demoralized. However, I will do my job as a Member of the Opposition and not in any way in a demoralized fashion and carry on.

And I'm not going to spend too much time with the immediate comments made by the Member for Crescentwood. I'd like to take the time to peruse them at my will and leisure when the Hansard is before us. Suffice to say that he again exhibited, which is exhibited so often by the entire group or by all my socialist friends, that they dedicate all their energy to slicing the pie and so little to baking it. And that's what seems to have slipped completely from their minds, and quite frankly -- you see, I'm not even prepared to enter into that debate with them as to how that pie should be sliced because in many instances unquestionably they're on pretty sound ground, and that there has to be and there will always be continuing reform, evolution and better ways and means of serving those citizens of our country who are in any way impoverished either mentally or emotionally, physically, or by actual dollar counts. That's an argument that we can carry on with, we can carry on with as to who is moving faster and how fast we should move, or whether it should be done overnight, and we can argue with individual programs of social reform in this way and really not get too far. So what we're trying to engage in an argument from time to time is, while they're so busy in re-distributing wealth, show us some inclination, show us some evidence of your ability to create wealth. And unless you create wealth, in services, goods in kind, unless you have some plans or some programs to lay before us -- I think the Honourable Member for Crescentwood just indicated the dismal lack of any of these programs by his own government in the past three years. Absolutely nothing new. They're rather a pathetic performance by the Minister of Industry and Commerce.

In this Chamber, just a few days ago, in trying to list the accomplishments of this government -- so a hotel or a motel burns down in Brandon, they build a new one and that's progress! And I'm glad that we need sweepers in this building or in other buildings, and that's progress, and I'm not for one moment denigrating any of these tasks. But I'm talking about creation of new wealth, new goods, new products, new services, and then we can sit down and argue about how we are to distribute them. And that's what my socialist friends forget, from which we get so little when we hear a speech that we just heard a little while ago.

Well, Mr. Speaker, before I get carried away let me talk a little bit to my friend because I think he's in need of some support right now, my honourable friend the Minister of Agriculture, because there was a time, Sir, in the fall of the year, September to be exact, when I thought the Minister was very near approaching genius, and he, Sir, had he but taken that final step, I can assure him the \$4 million that he is spending on the acreage payments probably would not have been necessary. And I'm referring to an announcement of a new program, new agriculture program of considerable significance no doubt, and that is this program to license tree pruners in the Province of Manitoba. And when that came across my home - and I get voluminous mail from the Government Services - I was with eager anticipation awaiting next week's mail because while this was important, can you imagine, Sir, what it would have done had the next step been to license lawn trimmers or lawn cutters? Why, we could have had the husbands all across this land, even the wives in some indication, relax in their hammocks with a cool summer drink, and when somebody was pushing them around to cut the lawn, "I'm sorry, I'm not licensed." It would have won the undying gratitude, the undying gratitude of many, many Manitobans, I want

(MR. ENNS, cont'd.) . . . to assure you, Sam, but you failed to take that step, Sam so I have to chastise you for that.

However, I shouldn't mock this program because, you know, every government sets its own pattern and we've become accustomed to being able to identify when in fact we're treading on very serious, you know, politically sensitive areas. This tree-pruning business may not strike us as such at first flush but we should know -- for instance, when they needed a top civil service job provided for with political implications in hydro, where did they go to? Saskatchewan, that's right. Where did they . . . to find in that sensitive post, a new officer of the auto insurance, where did they go to? Saskatchewan. Now ladies and gentlemen, where do you think they found the Director of the Tree Pruners from? Saskatchewan, and that surely has to be a record, that treeless wonder to the west of us known throughout the world for never having grown a tree, to find a tree-pruner specialist in that province, I take my hat off any time. Any time. So anybody that attempts to belittle my friend, as some have done in this Chamber, that he hasn't got ingenuity and that he hasn't got imagination, that simply is not true, Mr. Speaker, and I'll come to his defence on any occasion. To find a tree-pruning specialist in Saskatchewan, that took some doing and I'm prepared to acknowledge credit when I see it.

More seriously, Mr. Speaker, while this has been engaging the Minister of Agriculture, and I don't want to dwell on that, what he has been doing, what is going to have tremendous and serious effects for the farmers of Manitoba is his and his government's support, outright support for Bill C-176. Mr. Speaker, let's not talk about nonsense, let's talk about serious long term effects to the welfare and economy of our province. What he is in a sense doing is allowing our future agricultural production, a future that entails not only agricultural production in its primary state but surely one of the most promising industrial expansions that we have a right to look forward to in the west generally, he's prepared to put that into the hands of eastern politicians and I'm surprised. And I don't care if those politicians are Conservatives or Liberals - and they've been Conservatives and Liberals for the last hundred years and I suggest that despite what's going to take place this weekend in Ottawa they'll probably be there for another goodly number of years.

And I want to tell the Minister of Agriculture something; we have reason enough to worry about putting that kind of a fundamental policy, or that kind of a significant aspect of our future development into the hands of politicians is a disastrous policy for us and one that will have disastrous results for us. Mr. Chairman, -- (Interjection) -- Mr. Speaker, certainly.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Agriculture.

MR. USKIW: Does my honourable friend know that his Member for Morris was congratulating me on the submission that I made to the House of Commons Committee on the question of Bill C-176?

MR. ENNS: I'll deal with that. I'm well aware of that and I'll deal with it in a moment. I'll deal with that in a moment. I'm well aware of the Minister's submission but, Mr. Speaker, how naive can you be. What the Minister's submission essentially says is while we want Bill C-176 and while we want the all-embracing all-umbrella marketing legislation, but will you please, sirs, guarantee us that you will always recognize certain regional priorities in the west and recognize certain regional advantages that we have in the west, and he's saying "If you do that, if you give me a handshake and promise on that, then here you've got control of our production in the future, you can tell us what to produce in the future." And even if he gets a trusting handshake from the present politicians there is absolutely no guarantee that that will happen five, eight, ten, fifteen or twenty years from now.

Let me talk to you about two specific examples, that we don't have to deal in fantasy, we can deal in fact. We have two instances before us that come fairly close to what we would call some kind of a national marketing scheme that would give us an example of how this bill could in the future work. I'm not suggesting immediately, but could. Let's talk about the National Dairy Commission for a moment. The National Dairy Commission while not a marketing scheme but through the input of the Federal Government through subsidy payments in effect controls the quota and the production of manufactured milk in Canada. Since its inception, Sir, our quotas, our productions throughout western Canada has steadily decreased, Ontario and Quebec's has steadily increased. And is it any wonder? Is it any wonder? That's where the political muscle is. With the 200-odd members from Ontario and Quebec against our thirteen or fourteen members out here, should we wonder about that? Surely these people aren't that

(MR. ENNS, cont'd.) naive that we can't understand just plain, simple political muscle. And that's going to happen. That's going to happen and you're prepared to let it happen and you're prepared to sell out western agriculture on that basis.

Let's talk about another specific example, the Eastern Feed Freight Assistance program. That particular program was brought into being in the 1940's as a wartime measure. It made a lot of sense at that time. We had a severe shortage of manpower here, our boys were off to war whereas the population centres to the east were more capable of producing the livestock needs, the hogs, the cattle that the war effort required, so we instituted a program whereby western feed grains were subsidized and moved down to the eastern population centres and the hogs and cattle and so forth were fed and raised to a large extent in eastern Canada because they had more people there to do it. Now the day the war ended in 1945 or '46, that policy should have been rescinded, Sir, because now with our packing plants working at half capacity, with grain coming out of our ears, there is no earthly justification for continuation of that kind of a policy, the misuse of our public resources in that way, of spending \$15.00 of our tax money to send my grain to an Ontario buyer or a Quebec buyer after he's come up and bought my calves and then competes with me on the open market.

But we're still doing it and I'll tell you why, because nobody - and again I say whether they are Conservatives or Liberals or anybody else - have had the political guts, the political courage to change or go against their constituents in this respect. And ladies and gentlemen, or Mr. Speaker, as long as we are still structured politically as we now are - I cannot grant you it may change if the NDP waffle group has their way, of course the significant portion of this country will shortly be leaving us - but if we continue . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order. It is now 5:30. The member can continue. I am leaving the Chair to return at 8:00 o'clock.

FRENCH PORTION OF MR. TOUPIN'S SPEECH GIVEN TUESDAY AFTERNOON,
APRIL 19, 1971

M. RENÉ TOUPIN: Précédant les débuts de la présente session, il fut suggéré suite au programme de législation présenté l'an dernier, celle-ci en serait plus ou moins une de maintien. Je crois que le discours du trône démontre qu'il y aura nouvelle législation majeure et je crois aussi que cette législation rehaussera le niveau de la vie du manitobain et le développement de la province.

Il va de soi que mon ministère est un exemple de ces nouvelles mesures. Cependant, regardons aux autres d'abord.

Agriculture. Les agriculteurs et l'économie agricole de la province du Manitoba jouira d'une injection d'environ quatre millions de dollars en versements ou autre assistance. De plus, de par l'entente ARDA, le Manitoba prévoit l'amélioration des domiciles de fermes en introduisant l'eau courante et les systèmes d'égouts; étape très importante dans l'amélioration des conditions de vie du Manitoba. Un ministère de développement coopératif sera établi afin d'encourager et renforcer le mouvement coopératif par l'entremise de ces coopératives pour améliorer le sort social et économique des personnes qu'elles desservent.

Dans le domaine des ressources, nous verrons une compagnie d'exploration minière établie par laquelle, la province, de concert avec d'autres compagnies d'exploration pourra entreprendre au Manitoba ce que Pan Arctic Oil a entrepris dans la région du nord par l'établissement d'une compagnie conjointe-état et entreprise privé. Nous espérons aussi voir s'établir un conseil de citoyens en matières de pollution et de gérance de l'environnement.

Il y aura changement dans le financement et la direction en éducation. Comme vous le savez, le projet de loi 113 fut présenté et approuvé à la session de l'an dernier. Ce Bill accordait aux français, statut égal pour l'enseignement dans nos écoles manitobaines. Pour faire suite à ce projet, nous avons établi une administration principale pour le développement de curriculum de langue française. Dès septembre prochain, il y aura un prolongement majeur dans l'enseignement de la langue française et de l'enseignement en français.

Nous comptons changer davantage les coûts d'éducation des contribuables au niveau municipal à une base plus élaborée du revenu provincial. Il y aura une diminution d'environ un point et demi dans le "Foundation Levy" imposé sur les fermes et les propriétés résidentielles.

Le partage actuel est de 70% provincial et 30% local. Le partage prévu maintenant sera de 75-25. Un système de crédit sera établi de façon à ce que les fonds provinciaux seront versés aux municipalités et crédités aux demandes d'impôt foncier des individus, et ceci sera légiféré.

Et la liste continue:

- il y aura projet de loi concernant la réorganisation du gouvernement régional du Grand Winnipeg - avec stipulation.
- des changements sont prévus pour la Manitoba Development Corporation prévoyant son accroissement et l'assistance accentuée pour les petites entreprises.
- Nous établirons une loterie provinciale semblable à celle du centenaire afin de pourvoir des fonds destinés au développement culturel et de la récréation.
- Nous considérons faire des changements au salaire minimal.
- Et légiférer davantage dans le domaine de la protection aux consommateurs. Ces quelques exemples ne servent qu'à démontrer l'ampleur et l'importance de certains projets de loi qui seront présentes.

Evidemment, de ceux que je tiens davantage à cœur sont la nouvelle orientation dans le domaine de la santé et du développement social. Cette orientation reflète de plus près notre politique et notre philosophie quant à l'amélioration sociale et la participation du citoyen en matière qui lui est d'intérêt. Nous voulons répondre aux besoins du citoyen. Il existe présentement dans nos programmes de bien-être social une approche qui nous pouvons qualifier d'émietter. Celle-ci doit être transformée en un système de sécurité salariale intégrée. Au niveau provincial, une coordination intensifiée, une liaison entre le système de sécurité salariale et le service de santé et de services sociaux est requise. Cette nouvelle orientation demandera des négociations du partage des frais avec le gouvernement fédéral dans les programmes de santé et de services sociaux.

Le discours du trône élabore aussi certains autres sujets concernant mon ministère. Il y aura un programme de développement accentué pour nos citoyens de descendance indienne

(M. RENE TOUPIN cont'd)....par l'entremise de "nouvelles carrières."

Nous espérons accroître de façon significative les services de garderie considérant le travail de base qui fut accompli l'an dernier.

Nous espérons établir un centre psycho-gérontologique dans le région métropolitaine pour pourvoir des services beaucoup plus appropriés pour personnes âgées. Nous présenterons un projet de loi destiné à réduire le coût des ordonnances médicales au Manitoba. Nous attendons à ce sujet les recommandations du comité aviseur au gouvernement sur l'achat et la distribution centralisés de médicaments.

La plupart des gens sont conscients des mesures que nous avons prises pour accroître de façon marquée dans le domaine du logement et de soins pour nos personnes âgées et infirmes. Non seulement il y a-t-il de nouvelles constructions planifiées mais aussi, nous portons notre attention au développement d'un plus grand nombre d'unité.

Nous voulons aussi augmenter un grand nombre de services orientés vers la famille pour améliorer la qualité de vie familiale au Manitoba. Nous considérons adopter de nouvelles mesures dans le domaine de la réhabilitation des délinquants. Très bientôt nous aurons à notre disposition un Livre Blanc sur les corrections faisant état de ces propos.

Au domaine de la santé, nous vous avenons sur un programme d'expansion et de changements aux hôpitaux et autres services de santé. Je fais ici le point à savoir que les services de santé bien orientés et flexibles pourraient être rendus pour la plupart dans des unités que nous pouvons appeler "Centres de Santé et de Développement Communautaires." Et nous prévoyons un tel centre dans le village de Ste. Anne des Chênes qui sera un des trois premier centres établis dans la province.

Le fait que le discours du trône traite d'accroissement économique, de propos fiscaux, services sociaux, d'éducation, ou tout autre champ d'action majeur dans lequel le gouvernement légifère, son orientation est distinctement centré vers l'individu et ses besoins. Et si l'on veut qualifier cette session de soi disons maintien, elle suscitera un grand nombre d'intérêt et marquera les débuts de programme tout à fait nouveau pour aider notre citoyen manitobain.

TRANSLATION

HON. RENE E. TOUPIN: Before the present session got underway, it had been suggested that it would be more or less a housekeeping session, following the very extensive legislation introduced last year.

I think the Speech from the Throne shows that new, and major, legislation is forthcoming which I feel will enhance the quality of life and of development in the province.

Understandably I look to my own department as examples of these new steps. But let's look at others first.

In agriculture, for example, some \$4 million will be injected directly into the farm economy by the province in acreage payments and other assistance. As well, under ARDA agreement, Manitoba will introduce running water and sewage systems into farm homes -- a most notable stride in enhancing living conditions. A department of Co-operative Development will be established to strengthen the co-operative movement and, through the co-operatives, help people improve their social and economic conditions.

In the resource field, we will see a mineral exploration company established where the province on its own, or in concert with exploration companies, can undertake in Manitoba what Pan Arctic Oil, as a joint public-private company, is undertaking in the north. We hope, too, to see a citizen's Environmental Council established to advise us on pollution and allied matters.

In education, there are changes in both financing and direction. The throne speech notes that at the last session of the Legislature, Bill 113 was passed to provide for an extension of instruction in French in Manitoba schools. To give administrative support to this legislation, a special administrative and curriculum development unit has been established. We anticipate that this coming September there will be major extensions -- I emphasize, major extensions, -- in the teaching of the French language as well as extensions in teaching in the French language.

We will be shifting more of the education costs from the local taxpayer to the broader provincial revenue base. There will be a drop of 1 1/2 mills in the foundation levy imposed on farm and residential property. The foundation program now is shared 70 per cent

(MR. TOUPIN cont'd) provincially and 30 per cent locally. This will be changed to 75-25. A system of tax credits, by which provincial funds will be turned over to municipalities and applied to individual tax bills to reduce them, also will be legislated.

The list can go on major legislation concerning re-organization local government in Greater Winnipeg. . . . changes in the Manitoba Development Corporation to enhance growth and to strengthen the small business loans operation. . . . the establishment of a sweepstake lottery, similar to our centennial lottery to provide funds for cultural and recreation purposes. . . . consideration of further changes in minimum wages. . . . further consumer protection legislation.

But these few examples do serve to indicate both the scope and the importance of some of the legislation that will be presented.

Of most direct interest to myself, of course, are the new trends in health and social development. These trends do much to reflect our policy and our philosophy toward social betterment and the involvement by people in matters of concern to them. We must be responsive to the needs of citizens.

One of our basic steps is this: there are piecemeal social welfare programs existing at the present time. These must be transformed into an integrated income security system. At the provincial level this will require special co-ordination and liaison between the integrated income security system and other health and social services. This new orientation will require us to re-negotiate cost-sharing arrangements with the federal government in health and social service programs.

The Throne Speech dealt with other matters concerning my Department. There will be the further development of new careers opportunities for our native people. We hope to make a significant start this year on day care services, based on the groundwork of the past year.

We hope to establish a psycho-geriatric centre in the metropolitan area to provide more appropriate in-patient care for our elderly. We will introduce legislation to reduce the cost of prescription drugs for Manitoba citizens, based on the recommendation of our Advisory Committee on Central Purchasing and Distribution of Drugs.

Most people are aware of the major steps we have taken to increase in a dramatic way the personal care and nursing home programs for our elderly and infirm. Not only are new facilities under construction or in the planning stages, but there will be increased attention to the development of more facilities.

As well we will be seeking to expand a great variety of family-oriented services to improve the quality of family life. And for those of our population who are public offenders, new approaches for their rehabilitation will be accelerated. A forthcoming White Paper on Corrections will outline these proposals.

In the health service field, Mr. President, we will be announcing a program of expansion and replacement of hospitals and other health facilities. I do want to state that we hope to innovate in the construction of health facilities. The special point of reference will be community health centres, with well-developed out-patient facilities and a flexible system of health care services. We foresee immediately one such centre in the town of Ste. Anne des Chênes one of the three first centres to be established in the province.

The whole approach of the Throne Speech -- whether it deals with economic growth, or fiscal matters, or social services, or education, or any of the major fields of government endeavor -- is related directly to the individual and his needs. And for a so-called house-keeping session, I think the one just started will have a wide variety of interest, of innovation and of fresh new programs to help our people.