THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA 2:30 o'clock, Friday, July 14, 1972

Opening Prayer by Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Presenting Petitions; Reading and Receiving Petitions; Presenting Reports by Standing and Special Committees; Ministerial Statements; Tabling of Reports; Notices of Motion; Introduction of Bills, Oral Questions. The Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

MR. I. H. (IZZY) ASPER (Leader of the Liberal Party) (Wolseley): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Labour.

In the light of the labour statistics presented in the House a day or two ago, could the Minister confirm what the percentage of unemployment on the Indian Reserves is in Manitoba.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

HON. RUSSELL PAULLEY (Minister of Labour) (Transcona): No, Mr. Speaker, not precisely. I would imagine it's relatively high; but I am sure my honourable friend the Leader of the Liberal Party is cognizant of the fact that the statistics that are forwarded to the Department of Labour in the Province of Manitoba are under the operation of the Liberal Government of Canada, and so therefore I cannot dispute or I cannot indicate anything otherwise. If my honourable friend the Leader of the Liberal Party would like to talk to his colleagues in Ottawa and say to them, in order to broaden the statistical information that is given month by month in respect of unemployment, to broaden it to include the Reserves, Mr. Speaker, I want to say to you and to all members of the House and in particular the Leader of the Liberal Party in Manitoba, I would welcome this very very much.

MR. ASPER: In view of the fact that there are reports that the unemployment on Indian Reserves exceeds 90 percent, does the Government of Manitoba through your department have any statistics development information of its own to confirm the unemployment rate on Indian Reserves?

MR. PAULLEY: No, Mr. Speaker, and I want members of the Assembly to take note of the manner in which the Honourable the Leader of the Opposition or the Liberal Party posed his question, because he said "in view of the fact that"; now if that is the case, and I'm sure that my honourable friend the Leader of the Liberal Party has information that I haven't had because he said that it is a fact.

Now I presume, without suggesting, Mr. Speaker, it is a fact, as my honourable friend the Leader of the Liberal Party has indicated here, I presume that the relative unemployment percentage on the Reserves is very, very high. But I would also suggest, Mr. Speaker, that the honourable member, the Leader of the Liberal Party, find out what is meant insofar as unemployment on the Reserve is concerned, because I am under the impression, rightly or wrongly, that the Reserves could be conceived as communities within their own ambit and their own control and that control is under the Federal administration of the Liberal Party, a Liberal administration with which the Minister of Labour of the Province of Manitoba has no association, at least insofar as this aspect is concerned.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Health and Social Development.

HON. RENE E. TOUPIN (Minister of Health and Social Development) (Springfield): Mr. Speaker, I took two questions as notice – one from the Leader of the Liberal Party and the other from the Member from Portage la Prairie and equally posed to me by the Member from Thompson.

The one directed to me by the Leader of the Liberal Party dealt with confidential material that was prepared by the Health Services Commission, I did receive a report from the Executive Director saying that there was a file and information prepared pertaining to a patient of Mount Carmel Clinic. The information was never actually related to anyone by the commission to Mount Carmel Clinic, to its director – the Executive Director or any other employee of the Clinic itself.

Pertaining to the question posed by the Member for Portage la Prairie regarding job placements in the north, I have details of the 373 job placements in the north; 99 are related directly to Thompson; 102 to Cross Lake; 74 to Gillam; 23 to Churchill and 75 for Norway House; a total of 373.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party.

MR. ASPER: A question to the Minister of Health, Mr. Speaker. Is the Minister then

(MR. ASPER cont'd) satisfied that the information that was presented at the Mount Carmel inquiry relative to the patient's medical records, did not come from ...

MR. SPEAKER: Order. Order, please. I have no reason to believe that it's necessary to the procedure of this House that a Minister be satisfied or not. Would the honourable member rephrase his question?

MR. ASPER: Has the Minister uncovered any evidence that indicates that the confidential information was taken and given from his department file?

MR. TOUPIN: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I'm satisfied that no information was passed on from the Health Services Commission to Mount Carmel Clinic without being authorized under the act or its regulations.

MR. ASPER: The second part of the question that notice was taken for, asked I believe, or intended to ask, will the Minister describe to the House what security precautions are taken within his department to guard against the leaking of information of individuals health records?

MR. TOUPIN: Well, Mr. Speaker, again I think it would take some time to make reference to sections within the act that actually, you know, forbid the releasing of information to persons that are not authorized to receive such.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge.

MRS. INEZ TRUEMAN (Fort Rouge): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Recreation and Cultural Affairs, I would address my question to the First Minister. In the Throne Speech it was indicated that there would be measures taken to develop the recreational potential of the Greater Winnipeg Floodway. Could he tell us then what has or will be done in this respect?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

HON. EDWARD SCHREYER (Premier) (Rossmere): Well, Mr. Speaker, there are I believe, since last year and carrying on this year, there are certainly one study, possibly two studies with respect to the enhancement of the recreational potential of the Red River Floodway. I believe that some work is being done by some group within the University of Manitoba in liaison with the Department of Tourism and Recreation, but I cannot say at the moment whether it is approaching something tangible for implementation.

MRS. TRUEMAN: I have a question for the Honourable Minister of Health and Social Development. There appears to be a shortage of copies of the White Paper on Health Care and I wonder if the Minister could say where copies may be secured and will copies be distributed to the various health professions for study. I'm sorry – wrong Minister.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Universities and Colleges.

HON. SAUL A. MILLER (Minister of Colleges and Universities) (Seven Oaks): Mr. Speaker, in order to meet the deadline we set to distribute and table the paper before this House rose, a very limited number were run off, or really mimeographed so that members could have it. The run is limited and the demand apparently is unlimited. We are not going to be able to meet all demands. The report will be printed, as will the appendix volume. I can't tell the member how long that will take, but it will have to be done through the normal printing procedures and it's difficult at this time to say whether it will be within a month or six weeks.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

MR. STEVE PATRICK (Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Agriculture. I know that he's not here and I know the reasons why; perhaps I can direct it to the First Minister. Does the government intend to enter into agreement with the Federal Government to protect farmers from waterfowl damage?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, I think that it would be better to take the question as notice. I'm not aware of anything new and extraordinary in comparison with the past relative to this problem. I do know that the Department of Mines and Resources has initiated some pilot projects in areas peripheral to marshes where land has been purchased and is being put into lure crops. The Member for Lakeside I think is familiar with that and this will be expanded I assume if it works out.

While I'm on my feet, I could advise the Member for Fort Rouge that I am advised that, for example, a relatively major program of tree planting on the Red River Floodway, in certain locations along the Red River Floodway was started last year and being continued this year and there is some concept, which may not finally be arrived at, but some concept of enhancing the appearance of the floodway at certain locations by planting trees, the location of cycle and hiking (MR. SCHREYER cont^d) paths, based on the model of some park on the outskirts of Amsterdam. Whether it ever approaches it in aesthetic qualities I cannot say.

MR. PATRICK: Mr. Speaker, perhaps the Minister can take it as notice. I understand the Federal Government has made some \$10 million available to the three prairie provinces for waterfowl damage. Has any negotiations – perhaps he could take it as notice – has any negotiations taken place and will the Province of Manitoba be making a grant or signing an agreement in respect to this arrangement?

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

HON. LEONARD S. EVANS (Minister of Industry and Commerce) (Brandon East): Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I could try to answer that question. I can advise the honourable member that I met with the appropriate Federal Minister, the Honourable Jack Davis a few months ago along with a provincial counterpart in Saskatchewan and other officials to discuss the matter of compensation for damages caused by migratory birds, because the Federal Government does have jurisdiction over migratory birds and damage caused thereby. I can tell you that we have established a committee of senior officials of the appropriate Prairie Governments and the Federal Government and the matter is being worked upon actively. However, no agreement has been signed thus far.

MR. DONALD W. CRAIK (Riel): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the House Leader. Can he advise when we can expect the Public Utilities Committee to be called?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

MR. PAULLEY: No, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Riel.

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, can the Minister advise whether it's the government's intention to have the committee called and receive the Hydro report before the session is prorogued?

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, I am not a member of the committee. It is my impression that the committee did consider matters related to Manitoba Hydro. As far as I am aware at this time, Mr. Speaker, there is no intention of recalling that committee.

MR. CRAIK: Well, Mr. Speaker, can I direct a question to the First Minister then and ask him if it is not the intention of the government to have the Hydro report received at this session of the Legislature?

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, I believe the important requirement has been fulfilled in that a number of meetings of the committee were held in which there was questioning on the annual report and matters flowing therefrom. I think the Honourable Member for Riel will have to admit that there were indeed a number of meetings. I am advised that at the last meeting of this committee that all honourable members had had an opportunity to question the officials. I may be wrong, maybe there were one or two with names still remaining on the list, but I'm rather of the impression that there were no names left on the list.

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, on a matter of House privilege. On what precedent or basis can the government justify not receiving formally the report of the Hydro Committee inasmuch as it has been received as far as I know, since the inception of the Committee on Public Utilities and Natural Resources.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

MR. PAULLEY: If I may as House Leader. The matter of the reception of reports is contained within the rules of the House. I respectfully suggest to my friend that he takes a look at the rules of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Minnedosa.

MR. DAVID R. BLAKE (Minnedosa): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question will be to the Minister of Mines and Natural Resources and Environmental Management. Could he advise the House that in his discussions with the federal authorities in connection with compensation for damage by migratory birds, would he also give consideration to damage by elk herds and deer herds which in some areas are as equally important as damage by migratory birds.

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

MR. EVANS: Well, Mr. Speaker, we can give consideration to that problem, but I can advise consideration has been given and there is some provision already, as the honourable member may know, to assist in the form of compensation – not compensation directly but to assist in a way through the Wildlife Certificate. But this particular problem and the particular committee has as its terms of reference intermigratory birds solely.

MR. SPEAKER: The Leader of the Liberal Party.

MR. ASPER: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Attorney-General. In view of the fact that the private medical records of an individual were made available to people for the purpose of the inquiry into Mount Carmel, and in view of the Minister of Health's answer to the source of the leak, is the Attorney-General's Department investigating the manner in which the information got into the hands of the people at the inquiry and does he contemplate any charges being laid?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Attorney-General.

HON. A. H. MACKLING, Q.C. (Attorney-General) (St. James): Mr. Speaker, the Attorney-General's Department acts upon responsible complaints and we have not received a formal complaint that I am aware of from anyone.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

MR. PATRICK: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Honourable Minister of Urban Affairs. I have a question to the Minister of Urban Affairs – the Minister of Finance. Has the Minister received a report from the Provincial Advisory Council on Transportation?

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

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Acting Minister of Mines and Resources. Can he advise whether Volume I of the Manitoba Water Commission report contains an assessment of the power economics involved in power generation from Lake Winnipeg?

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

MR. EVANS: No, I cannot advise the honourable member, because I'm waiting for the report as he is.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party.

MR. ASPER: A question to the Minister of Labour, Mr. Speaker. Does the Minister have in his possession or in his department, estimates on the amount of outmigration from rural areas of Manitoba?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

MR. PAULLEY: No.

MR. ASPER: ... the intention or plan of the Department of Labour to gather that information indicating the outflow of population and the work force from rural Manitoba.

MR. PAULLEY: Well, Mr. Speaker, in answer to my honourable friend, the first question addressed to me as Minister of Labour in respect to this, quite properly, I answered in accordance with the knowledge that I possess, and the answer was no. But I do want to say, Mr. Speaker, in respect of the second question, that that is a matter that's under consideration of the government and its respective departments to try and assess what is really transpiring in the Province of Manitoba. Now I can imagine the impatience of my honourable friend, who's only been around here a few hours, at having this information at hand, but I also want to assure my honourable friend that we the government is in the process of assessing this information, and I'm sure that there would be no reticence at all to give this information to my honourable friend the Leader of the Liberal Party.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rock Lake.

MR. HENRY J. EINARSON (Rock Lake): Mr. Speaker, I direct this question to the Minister of Mines and Resources. In view of the questions that have been asked with regard to the damages, possible damages that may be done by ducks and other animals to crops, I would like to ask the Minister because we passed legislation in this House whereby anyone who wishes to hunt when he purchases his license ...

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. Question please - no debate.

MR. EINARSON: No, I want to just preface a few of my remarks, Mr. Speaker, in order to \ldots

MR. SPEAKER: Preface is already there.

MR. EINARSON: Mr. Speaker, then, I ask the Minister, if the possibility should arise that a farmer has damage by ducks this fall from his crops, will it be to the advantage of him...

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. The question is hypothetical. --(Interjection)-- The question is out of order. The Honourable Member for Riel.

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, I have a question to direct to the Attorney-General. It relates to the report of the Manitoba Law Reform Committee received today. In the Order for Return, which was information which has been received and tabled by the government, indicates that the Law Reform Commission members at \$6,000 per year average out at \$400 per meeting per (MR. CRAIK cont'd) member. Does this not seem a little high remuneration for a government board to be receiving at a rate of \$400 per meeting, or are there other circumstances which can be attributed to their contribution?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. MACKLING: Mr. Speaker, I'm sure that the honourable member was present when the bill was introduced and commentary was then very general, and I think pretty thorough in respect to the duties of the Law Reform Commissioners. They attend meetings, but they do a lot of research on their own time, in their own homes. They are compelled to spend a good deal of time reviewing research material. When they're not working together they're working on their own. They come together regularly as a group to review and discuss research papers that have been provided by some analysts, some of their own research and so on, and this is the technique of operation of Law Reform Commissions, not only in this Law Reform Commission but the Law Reform Commission in Ontario, in Alberta, and other places. It is extremely difficult to evaluate the time, their own personal time that is taken in their own research, in their own reading of the voluminous amounts of paper that have to be digested and examined before coming to decisions in respect to recommendations. These recommendations are formulated as a result of the dialogues that take place and the exchange of paper. Meetings are just a short, or a small part of the time that is put in by the Law Reform Commissioners themselves.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Riel.

MR. CRAIK: Yes. Mr. Speaker, the question of course can only be satisfied on a relative basis. Can he say that on a relative basis that these people are putting in that much more time than those typically who act on the University Grants Commission for no pay at all?

MR. MACKLING: Mr. Speaker, I have no hesitancy in saying I am absolutely certain of that, and in addition to that I would like to advise the honourable member that the level of remuneration for the Manitoba Law Reform Commission is considerably lower than the remuneration of their confreres in Ontario.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party.

MR. ASPER: Mr. Speaker, my question is really intended for the Minister of Tourism and Cultural Affairs but in his absence perhaps the First Minister might comment on it. In view of the announcement that the Winnipeg Jets will be holding their training camp in Kenora, Ontario, has any member of government made any representation to the Winnipeg Jets to remove the training camp and hold it in Manitoba somewhere?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, it may be that the problem, if it is a problem, is being looked at or considered by the Minister of Tourism. However, it's not my impression that the matter is one that properly comes before government. We do not have, as far as I know, any financial involvement on the part of the Crown with the operations of the Winnipeg Jets. I don't believe that's the case. And therefore whether they are training in Manitoba or Ontario seems to me is not something that we should take cognizance of as a government, and in any case it would seem to me as well that Kenora, Ontario, it almost is part of Manitoba, so let's wish them well.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party.

MR. ASPER: A supplementary question. Is it not a matter of policy for the government of Manitoba to take whatever steps it can to encourage economic activity to take place within the province rather than outside?

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, that of course is a consideration in the minds of government at all times, and I'm sure that was the case with the previous government as well. However, when it comes to a matter of sports teams training, it's of course true that it is a form of economic activity. I don't know whether it looms large in the order of things, but it seems to me that considerations of attracting industrial activity does come to a point where it is perhaps equalled by considerations in respect to harmony between provinces and the recognition of the fact that there are other communities in this country that we should not want to strive greatly in order to lure opportunity away from them.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rock Lake.

MR. EINARSON: Mr. Speaker, I direct this question to the Minister of Mines and Resources. Will the Minister give assurance to the farmers of this province that compensation will be forthcoming in regards to damages done by all form of wildlife to crops? MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Industry and Commerce.

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, I can give assurance that the laws for which I am responsible for the administration thereof shall be carried out.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Finance.

HON. SAUL CHERNIACK, Q.C. (Minister of Finance) (St. Johns): Mr. Speaker, the Honourable Member for Assiniboia asked me a question quite some time ago and I'm so slow in responding that other members got in ahead of me. One of the reasons I was slow in responding was that I don't know that I actually received a report from the committee – I did receive a letter from the chairman in company with some letters from other members, which are to me letters of just -- no, recognizing the termination of their work. I don't think I would call it a report. But, given time, I'll look at what was received to decide whether I believe it's a matter for report and then I'll decide how best to deal with it.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

MR. PATRICK: A supplementary. I wish to thank the Minister for taking it as notice. Perhaps he could also advise the House if the committee has completed its report and is dissolved, or is still in operation.

MR. CHERNIACK: Mr. Speaker, the committee is dissolved, it is no longer carrying on its function, and as I say I don't accept the fact that there is a completed report. I think there was a preliminary report on the Watt Study, which was distributed, and the committee has now wound up its work. I said that I didn't take it as notice; I said that given time I will look at the letters received or the correspondence, to decide whether or not it can be termed a report and is a matter for public filing.

MR. SPEAKER: Orders of the Day. The Honourable House Leader.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, I believe I indicated this morning the procedures from now on out until Monday morning, namely, that there would not be the calling of a meeting of the House tomorrow, or indeed this evening; that when we leave this afternoon the Committee on Industrial Relations will meet, as indeed will the Committee on Municipal Affairs. Originally I had suggested that possibly the Committee on Law Amendments would meet this evening at 8:00 o'clock. In view of the number of persons interested in the Bill 81 in Industrial Relations, I think it advisable, and I have agreement I understand, to cancel Law Amendments for this evening in order to allow Industrial Relations to continue its deliberations this afternoon and possibly this evening and possibly into the wee small hours of Saturday.

A question has been asked of me, Mr. Speaker, as to whether or not the Committee on Municipal Affairs has completed its deliberations as to whether it should continue – and I'm sure, Sir, that you would agree with me, that that is within the discretion of the Committee of Municipal Affairs. If they desire to meet tonight and to carry on tomorrow morning, that decision will be the decision of Municipal Affairs Committee and they have every licence so to do. So I would suggest, Mr. Speaker, that if this is clearly understood, if there are no questions as to procedure between now and then, I do propose to move the adjournment. I notice my honourable friend for Emerson wants to possibly ask a question. I think, Sir, that we should permit him.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Emerson.

MR. GABRIEL GIRARD (Emerson): Yes, Mr. Speaker. The Minister has indicated that the Committee on Industrial Relations will meet this afternoon, again tonight, and he indicated tomorrow. Would he indicate whether tomorrow means tomorrow morning or does it mean tomorrow morning, afternoon and evening.

One more question, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to ask the Minister if he intends that the committee will go directly into clause by clause consideration immediately after the presentations are made, or would he consider sitting to hear the presentations and then calling the committee on Monday to consider clause by clause?

MR. PAULLEY: Well, being a true Democrat, Mr. Speaker, this of course, the question posed by the Member for Emerson, is within the jurisdiction of the committee but I want to say to him, Mr. Speaker, if I may, it would be my recommendation as the Minister of Labour and the pilot of Bill 81, that we would complete hearing representations and then adjourn for consideration before we went into clause by clause consideration of Bill 81. I think this is a reasonable approach, and that due notice will be given as to when the Industrial Relations Committee will meet for clause by clause consideration. I trust this is satisfactory to members opposite.

Then, Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable the Attorney-General,

(MR. PAULLEY cont'd) that the House do now adjourn and stand adjourned until 10:00 o'clock on Monday morning.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion and after a voice vote declared the motion carried, and the House adjourned until 10:00 o'clock on Monday morning.