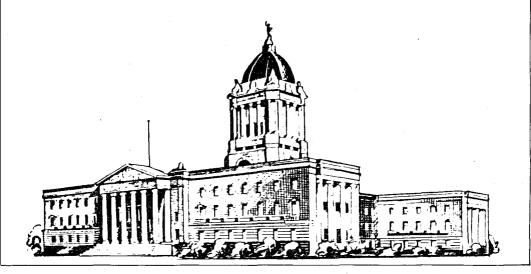


Legislative Assembly of Manitoba

and PROCEEDINGS

Speaker

The Honourable Peter Fox



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Electoral Division	Name	Political Affiliation	Address	Postal Code
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BIRTLE-RUSSELL	Harry E. Graham	P.C.	Binscarth, Man.	R0J 0G
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OSBORNE	lan Turnbuli	NDP	284 Wildwood Pk., Winnipeg	R3T 0E
PEMBINA	George Henderson	P.C.	, , , , ,	ROG 10
	Donald Malinowski	NDP	Manitou, Man. 361 Burrows Ave., Winnipeg	R2W 12
PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE	Gordon E. Johnston	Lib.	506 St. George Ave.,	11200 12
	Gordon E. Johnston	LIU.	5 .	
RADISSON	Hormy Chofrender		Portage la Prairie, Man.	R1N 0
RADISSON	Harry Shafransky	NDP	4 Maplehurst Rd., Winnipeg	R2J 1W
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THE PAS	Hon. Ron McBryde	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V
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VIRDEN	Morris McGregor	P.C.	Kenton, Man.	ROM 0Z
WELLINGTON	Philip M. Petursson	NDP	681 Banning St., Winnipeg	R3G 2G
WINNIPEG CENTRE	J.R. (Bud) Boyce	NDP	777 Winnipeg Ave., Winnipeg	R3E OR
	I.H. Asper	Lib.	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	1

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MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please. Before we proceed, I'd like to let the honourable members know that it was not a deliberate move not to ring the bell, there seems to be a mechanical breakdown or an electrical breakdown and I believe that the security guards have gone to notify the various caucus rooms that the House is now in session.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

MR. CHAIRMAN: Before we proceed, I'd like to draw the attention of the honourable members to the gallery where we have 25 students of Jameswood School, Grade 6, under the direction of Mrs. Blake. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Sturgeon Creek.

We also have 50 students of the Teulon Collegiate, Grades 11 and 12, under the direction of Mr. Masters and Mr. Reinch. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Gimli.

And also we have 20 students of Carberry Collegiate, Grade 11, under the direction of Mr. Presunka. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Gladstone.

On behalf of all the members of the Manitoba Legislative Assembly, I bid you welcome. The Honourable Member for Portage la Prairie.

SUPPLY - ATTORNEY-GENERAL

MR. G. JOHNSTON: Mr. Chairman, before the luncheon break I was attempting to persuade my honourable friend that he should re-examine The Intoxicated Persons Act with a view to helping those communities who are being financially affected, because of the fact that the law, the provincial law, it affects everyone in the province and then the province should pay. And I hope I didn't leave the impression that I'm against any move to use enlightened methods to deal with people who find themselves in the, well, in drunken condition in a town and do not know what to do, and therefore the law has to step in and look after them for the night. --(Interjection) --

The Member for Lakeside said the word is "stoned", but I'm not talking about drugs, I'm talking about alcohol. -- (Interjection) -- Now perhaps the ones who will be stoned this summer over across the street here - and I say this in a jocular manner - but perhaps the Minister of Public Works should reconsider the name Memorial Park and change it to Hippy Park and let's have it out in the open. We can turn it into a hippy campground for the summer.

Now the other matter that I wanted to mention briefly to the Attorney-General relates to the handling of prisoners after they're incarcerated, or after they're being detained. The Minister of Tourism and Recreation isn't here to take the credit that he feels he's so entitled to for making available to certain prisoners in our correctional institutions the best possible hockey tickets to the best type of hockey in Manitoba, at \$5.50 and \$6.50 a shot. It makes my blood boil, it really does, when we have taxpayers who can't afford and who deny themselves luxuries, and they're honest and they're honourable and they do not break the law, and if they do break the law they expect to pay the penalty and come out rehabilitated. But I can hardly believe, I can hardly believe government, in their sane moments I presume, would entertain such a plan. There's other methods of rehabilitation, there's other methods. I'm not saying that we should go back to the old days and punish them. Let us talk about rehabilitation, and certainly, taking the taxpayers' money and paying \$5.50 a ticket to go to the best sports entertainment, I can't fathom it, really I can't, Mr. Chairman. -- (Interjection) -- Fine, let them go out. Take them out under supervision to libraries, to plays, to workshops, to any type of entertainment or any type of self-learning operation, but when the government, when the government puts up \$100,000 and a large part of this amount goes for people who are being punished for a misdemeanour, I don't follow the reasoning, really I don't, I just cannot comprehend that sort of an approach.

I suppose the press will say, well there's that Johnston, he's a real right winger; he wants to lash back at this, that and the other thing. This is not the case at all. All I'm saying is that government has a responsibility -- (Interjection) -- government has a responsibility. Now I know the program has done a lot for old age citizens and the handicapped people, and I'm

(MR. G. JOHNSTON cont'd) certainly not knocking that approach at all, but I believe that we should return to the values -- the values. Why should somebody be put in jail for one year or six months or two years, and sit and rot? Why is he not allowed to go to a work camp in the forest, any type of work, and I give credit to the former Attorney-General, Sterling Lyon, when he instituted a program where prisoners could go out and for a modest amount of money received they could work in the forest in the provincial park system, and so on. -- (Inter-jection) -- Right.

Now, surely we can give people that we have to maintain at the taxpayers' expense, we can give them a chance to maintain their self respect and their decency, give them a chance to go to work camps, put in a fair day's work, and pay them a modest amount of money so that they have some money when they come out, rather than let the do-gooders get a hold of them and buy them tickets to hockey games and God knows what else is going on there now.

When the Member for Thompson asked the question that is it true that a former or a number of former inmates were being taken on as guards, I was rather puzzled, I was rather puzzled about this because people who have to do with the law, with the detention, with the enforcement, surely they should not be placed in the position where they can have undue pressures put upon them, they can be compromised. Other things can happen in this regard, and while I'm all for giving the person who has paid their penalty their chance in society, I hardly think that the hiring of ex-inmates as - I suppose the word is custodians now but I call them jail guards - is hardly the place, hardly the place. So I would like to hear from the Attorney-General on the few points I have raised and he could tell us his thinking and what his government is doing in this regard.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Rupertsland.

MR. ALLARD: Well, Mr. Speaker, I rise to make one or two points. I think that we have been going through a peculiar exercise over a subject of great importance to our society here for quite some time. I think that the constitution states that criminal law is the private area of the Federal Government. It follows then that a law that deals with what has been stated to be a crime, abortion, has to be changed by the Federal Government. I think that what we have -- and I'd like both the Minister of Health and Welfare and the Attorney-General, and most especially the Attorney-General, to tell me if I'm going wrong -- what we have established is permissive legislation at the federal level that says to a province, "abortion is a crime, unless you set up, you set up a board and you police it, according to the rules set up." I believe that to be a truth.

Now, we've had the government placing the blame for the flexibility to say to you the very kind words of flexibility in the application of the law placing that blame at the federal level. And, Mr. Speaker, I think this is altogether false. The reality is this: the province establishes a board, the province has the responsibility to police them, the province has not been doing its job. I'm against abortion in principle, but I agree with the principle established by the Minister of Mines and Resources when he states that when he is against something or for something, he is for or against any part or any change that leads in the direction in which he's going, he wants to go.

I think that the Attorney-General and his office that govern are lax and are not being honest with us when they state, when they state that they need specific complaints in terms of abortions before they will investigate. The fact is that there are a great many complaints, both by doctors and others, that have surfaced lately, and the Federal Government finds itself in the position of having to say, "We have left it up to the provinces to police our act, but we're going to have to investigate it because they're not doing it," and they are effectively broadening the rules of the Abortion Act, they're broadening its application the way they apply the act in each province.

And I would like to have the Minister of Health tell me if he is not responsible for the appointment of those people who sit on those boards.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister of Health and Social Services.

MR. TOUPIN: A question to the Honourable Member for Rupertsland. Is the honourable member aware that the Abortion Committees set up by the different hospital boards are responsible to the College of Physicians and Surgeons pertaining to the policing and pertaining to the procedures used for abortions?

MR. ALLARD: Well, the impression I get from all this is that the Minister is telling me that he passed on his responsibilities, that he no longer has any responsibilities in this province, he passed it on to the College of Physicians.

MR. TOUPIN: On a point of privilege, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: A point of privilege has been raised by the Honourable Minister.

MR. TOUPIN: Mr. Chairman, my point of privilege is not that I, I as a Minister, have passed on my responsibility to anyone. That responsibility is given to that body within the act.

MR. ALLARD: Well, Mr. Speaker, it seems to me anyway that when the Federal Government has to institute an examination of the situation because of the complaints of the citizens, that there's some serious laxity on the part of the Attorney-General of this province to police what is happening, to see to it that whoever is responsible follows the act as such.

MR. MACKLING: Mr. Chairman, would the honourable member answer a question? Did I hear him right to say that the Minister of Justice of Ottawa said something about the laxity of the Attorney-General of this province to enforce the laws? Is that what the honourable member said?

MR. ALLARD: I think that what I said was that the federal Minister of Justice is instituting an investigation because of the complaints that have arisen out of the laxity of the application of this law, in this province as well as others, -- as well as others -- and quite frankly, I sit in the House in this province, I don't sit in the others; I deal with the problems that arise in this province and not in the others. It may be true that the same problems have arisen in others doesn't deny the fact that they have arisen here, nor that the responsibilities here have been with the Attorney-General. I'm not dealing with the Attorney-General of Quebec, I'm not a member of the Legislature of Quebec, nor of that of Saskatchewan or Ontario, I'm dealing with the situation here.

It seems to me, Mr. Speaker, that the Attorney-General said that there's no easy answer to the social ills of our society and I agree with him. I think very often we seek partial solutions to our problems. I don't know what the ultimate answer is, I'm not sure what the ultimate answer is to our social ills. In the ultimate aspect of it -- I'm sure that there are members of this House who would disagree with me -- I believe that the ultimate reason for our disintegrating situation as a society, for the materialism of our age, is ultimately a rejection of God, and it is one, you know, it's a repetition of man's experience throughout the ages, starting with Abraham and continuing since then.

But certainly to try to solve social ails by basing it on a philosophy of relativism and of an attempt somehow to set up a paradise on earth is certainly an error in itself. -- (Interjection) -- The Member for Crescentwood, says leave things as they are, and I don't agree with that. I don't agree that they should be left **as** they are, I am questioning the philosophy upon which some changes are being -- the foundation of the premises on which the changes are developed.

In any case, Mr. Speaker, I think that the Attorney-General has a responsibility when there is as widespread a concern over particular subjects -- and I've consulted a number of members in the legal profession on this -- he has a responsibility to examine the situation, to check to see what's happening. And if the board is responsible for the application of the law on abortions, is being unduly lax in its application of the law, then he has a responsibility to look into it, even if he has no specific individual complaint about a particular case. We're dealing with thousands of cases and in this instance we find that the board seems to be acting as an agent of last resort for birth control.

These are some of the things that I wanted to say, Mr. Speaker. I think the Attorney-General should very seriously look into it and see what could be done about it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: Mr. Chairman, the other night when I did speak, I allowed a few minutes for the Honourable Member for Rupertsland to make some comments and therefore I didn't conclude my remarks and therefore I have a few more points that I wish to raise under the Minister's Salary.

I was glad to hear the Honourable Member for Portage la Prairie and the remarks that he had to make in connection with certain matters. He referred to the tickets that were being made available to inmates of prisons to attend hockey games and so on, and that these were given the best tickets there were, the most costly ones. I question that, too, Mr. Chairman,

(MR. FROESE cont'd) I question it very much, because as he said, a lot of our people are unable to take advantage of these occasions, they deny themselves these things because they feel they cannot afford it. Yet when these people are sent to prison we have all the money and provide them with the tickets so that they can enjoy all the sports that other people cannot; and those that are paying the taxes too. I feel that certainly there is something very wrong here when we embark on programs of this type. I think a sense of value certainly is distorted here in my opinion.

He also mentioned the lawbreakers, and this is where I wanted to make a comment too. In past years and when the previous administration, we got a report from the Department of the Attorney-General as to what their record was, whether our rehabilitation programs were effective or not; now we get nothing. There's no record of anything. And how effective are our rehabilitation programs? I would like to hear from the Attorney-General. Certainly the amount of money we're spending should give some results. How many of the people that are incarcerated and are in our jails are repeaters, and what is the performance in this regard of our laws? Are we on the right course or are we not and should we change the laws in various respects? I certainly would like to know what the experience is, because we no longer have those reports coming to us.

Then I ran across an article in the Globe and Mail this morning and I put a few questions to the Minister of Mines as a result, but we note that there are many court cases in connection with Churchill Forest Industries. Who pays the cost of these cases? How much does the taxpayer of this province have to put up? I think this is a thing that we should be looking at too because from the article here apparently there is 600 creditors of CFI. How many of these are lodging suits at the present time or how many are we involved in at the present time? Because there is mention in this article as well that says that the total claim figures of 10 million to 12 million includes a 5,7 million claim Commonwealth Construction has before the courts. Hearing of this claim has taken 170 court days so far and is continuing - 170 days. I mentioned before the press - I have yet to see anything in the press on this and yet I haven't, -- (Interjection) -- I haven't seen it. And here we're paying and will be contributing lots of money toward this court case, to just the one, and certainly I would like to hear from the Minister as to this situation, because sure enough there will be - I'm not sure whether the 90 percent on the dollar that is now going to be paid, whether this will suffice or whether the parties will be satisfied and how many of them are going to take further action. I too feel that from reports or discussions that we've had on past occasions that I think money isn't the main thing as far as some of the creditors are concerned. There are other involvements. So I would like to hear from the Attorney-General on this very question because we're spending so much money and with government going into business more and more I think we will find greater expenditures along this line; the various Crown corporations that we have and all the litigation that takes place in connection with those. So we are being held responsible to a much larger degree as we go along.

I would also like to enquire of the Attorney-General in connection with bankruptcies. And while bankruptcies might come under Federal law, yet it's our courts in Manitoba that have to deal with them. And what is the experience here? When it comes to corporate bankruptcies how many of these cases later on are discharged and are in business again? What is the rate of the people that are being discharged from their obligations after the process has taken place? They can apply for this discharge and yet again we have no record as to knowing what is happening in Manitoba in this connection. And the same thing for personal bankruptcies. Attending a Credit Union League convention a few years ago in Ontario, there was a report made at that convention of the large number of incidents where people applied for personal bankruptcies, and while I don't hear anything in that regard in Manitoba, I don't think it's as prevalent here, I would like to hear from the Minister in connection with the matter of personal bankruptcies, what is our record here and to what extent is this a problem in Manitoba.

Mr. Chairman, these were a few of the points that I wished to raise and didn't the other night, so with that I would hope that the Minister will respond to my questions.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Rock Lake.

MR. EINARSON: Mr. Chairman, I was responding to the Minister's Department here a couple of days ago and I had a few questions to ask of him, one question in particular that I didn't get any answers to any satisfaction. The matter that I have to discuss at the present

(MR. EINARSON cont'd) time is the form that I brought to his attention. I didn't know the particular form that concerns this matter at the time, but this is a form that has been sent out to all liquor vendors, to all agents of liquor vendors throughout the Province of Manitoba. It is sent out for the purpose to be filled out and it's a new form as opposed to what was done prior to the month of March. I can inform the Minister now and you know he had an opportunity to reply and I thought maybe he would be interested enough to find out what I was talking about, but he decided to let it go and took no concern of it.

MR. MACKLING: I rise on a point of privilege, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: . . . the Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. MACKLING: The honourable member was not in his seat when I was reviewing I think some questions that he had placed. I was not in a position to answer that question at the time in any event, and I wanted to be able to answer it when the honourable member was in the House because I would like to be able to answer the questions of honourable members face to face. I regret sometimes it's not possible to do that because of the conduct of some members, but I don't include the honourable member's having deliberately excluded himself. It was just unfortunate he wasn't here when I wanted to deal with it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Rock Lakes.

MR. EINARSON: Well, Mr. Chairman, now I think we have a debate that sounds very interesting. I was in the House, Mr. Chairman, when the Minister was answering my questions the first time I spoke. I was also here this morning when he made slight reference to myself but chose not to give me an answer. So the Minister when he stands up and says that I wasn't in the House is an error in contempt I almost might say. You know I referred to the Minister of Mines and Resources as that Gauleiter Minister, but I want to suggest, Mr. Chairman, I think that I'll put the Attorney-General in the same class as that Gauleiter Minister. You know what a Gauleiter is? Probably you better look up the dictionary. I want to say, Mr. Chairman, that this is a matter that is concerning every agent in the Province of Manitoba.

MR. CHERNIACK: On a matter of order, Mr. Chairman. I just want to hear the accusation by the honourable member. I didn't get the word, it sounded like gaul – something. Could he spell it? -- (Interjection) -- Then as a matter of order – point of order – I assume that he is then referring to the Nazi Party and its officials. Is he comparing the honourable member on this side with an official of the Nazi Party of Germany?

MR. EINARSON: The terminology, Mr. Chairman, refers to a district and a leader of that community. That's what I'm talking about. The Honourable Member for St. Johns can decipher whether it's reflecting towards what might have gone on in Germany if he wishes. He can look up the dictionary and decide what meaning he wants to get from that dictionary.

A MEMBER: How do you spell it? I want to know what you're calling me.

MR. EINARSON: I have dealt with the Minister of Mines and Resources in his Estimates -- (Interjection) -- I've dealt with the Minister of Mines and Resources' estimates and the kind of response I got is a word that is fitting and I...

MR. MACKLING: Question of privilege, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Attorney-General, point of privilege.

MR. MACKLING: Mr. Chairman, I don't mind the honourable member calling me names, he can call me what names he likes. I don't know whether it will be a question in which I will take some offence or not but I'd like to at least understand what he's calling me. Would he mind spelling out the name of whatever he's calling me, please. At least assist Hansard then, if you don't want to assist me.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Rock Lake.

MR. EINARSON: Mr. Chairman, if the Recorder requires the spelling, I shall be only too happy to reply to Mr. Sly.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please. It doesn't seem to be in our

language -- (Interjection) -- that is not considered to be a parliamentary expression. However, if I feel that the honourable member is using it in an insulting term then I would be very seriously considering asking him to withdraw that remark. If he's using it in a bantering terminology well then that's something different. But if he means it to be insulting and abusive --Order, please! If I wish to hear anything from the Honourable Member for Lakeside I will recognize him and he can get up and rise in his place, state what he thinks he might have as a point of privilege or a point of order. But I will not entertain chatter from him while he's on his seat.

MR. ENNS: Mr. Chairman, I appeal to your ruling. I am being innocently victimized. I have not been part of this debate and while I may have passed the odd comment from my chair I apologize for that but I do appeal the ruling, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Rock Lake. I'm sure he's not using it in an insulting or abusive manner. I hope he will assure me of that.

MR. EINARSON: You know, Mr. Chairman, we have words that have descriptions that we might use from time to time in the vocabulary that we express ourselves in this Chamber. You know I've been referred to as a blackbird socialist, I've been referred to with many other descriptions in the way of socialist from that side of the House, and that is to me I would say, is as offensive, because of the kind of free enterpriser I am, as I would say that probably that the members opposite would accept my description when I describe honourable members opposite; because I got as much satisfaction from the Attorney-General in reply to my comments as I did from the Minister of Mines and Resources. In other words I wasn't getting any answers. How else are we going to describe our government, Mr. Chairman, when they take that attitude?

Now, Mr. Chairman, I'll get to the matter at hand here and say that this form, RT 4, has been sent out to every agent in the Province of Manitoba. They all have to -- (Inter-jection) -- You know the honourable member he's not in his seat but I think the Member for Thompson had a great description, he used the terminology "pork chops" so I don't know whether that fits the occasion or not. But anyways I want to say, Sir, that the agents through-out the province file these forms . . . -- (Interjection) --

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please. Order, please. The Honourable Member for Radisson. I would refer you to points of order under debate. Order, please. Order. Rule 42 of our House Rules: "When a member is speaking no member shall interrupt him except to raise a point of order or a matter of privilege" and I don't think that the Honourable Member for Radisson was on either one of those.

MR. HARRY SHAFRANSKY (Radisson): Well, Mr. Chairman, on a point of order. I was just merely asking the Member for Rock Lake, the blackbird socialist, what was that word that he was saying - I'd like to know what the spelling of that word is too. I don't think he remembers.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please. Order. That is not a point of order. If the honourable member wishes to ask an honourable member a question he knows the proper procedure. In his own seat he rises and if the member who is speaking acknowledges that he wishes to answer a question he will do so. Otherwise the person will sit down and keep quiet. The Honourable Member for Rock Lake. Order!

MR. EINARSON: Mr. Chairman, I don't know what all the particulars are in this matter but I have some information that it also refers to the Department of Finance, and the Department of Finance comes under the First Minister, his jurisdiction. And I don't know whether the First Minister should have been spending a little more time attending to his Department of Finance rather than going out throughout the Province of Manitoba and telling my colleagues and I on this side of the House what our chances are like for the next provincial election – possibly if he'd been attending this business rather than doing that sort of thing – passing on the propaganda that he's extending throughout the Province of Manitoba to people who aren't on his side of the House...

Getting back to this form, Mr. Chairman, RT 4, as I was trying to say earlier, this form has been sent to every agent throughout the province. They have to fill it out and have it sent in here by the 20th of this month. I should like to read, Mr. Chairman, the questions here. No. 1 is the total non-taxable sales that they have to fill out. No. 2 is taxable sales other than liquor, and under that on No. 3, which refers to item 2, tax collectable on line 2 at five percent. That's within the form prior to this new form coming out, and no agent has any qualm of that. Going to Item No. 4, taxable sales liquor; under that Item No. 5, tax collectable on line 4 at ten percent.

Now, Mr. Chairman, the important point I want to make here is this: the Liquor Commission at Buffalo Place take off the ten percent at source before any liquor goes out to the agents throughout the province. And according to this form here, I ask the Honourable Attorney-General are the agents now going to have to collect another ten percent for the Liquor Commission or for the Treasury when people purchase that bottle of liquor or wine or what

(MR. EINARSON cont'd) have you? And according to this form, Mr. Chairman, this is what's taking place. In other words, is the Attorney-General going to collect 20 percent on a bottle of liquor, wine, what have you? This is the question I want to bring before the Minister, Mr. Chairman. I think it's a very important one. I think it's a very important one. In view of the way they're operating – they're taxing the people and then giving it back in dribbles such as your reduced Medicare premium and tax rebate insofar as their education costs are concerned, but they're not telling the people of all the other taxes they're imposing—probably collecting five and giving you back one. That's about the ratio that we're getting. Mr. Chairman, I'd like to hear from the Attorney-General insofar as this matter is concerned. I hope I get an answer this time, and assure him, say to him, that I was in my seat at all times that he referred to me.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. MACKLING: Mr. Chairman, I may have overlooked the honourable member sitting in his seat and if I did it was because my eyes were attracted to the Honourable Member from -where is he now? he's not in his seat -- from Virden -- who was concerned that while I was looking at him and referring to the Honourable Member from Gladstone that I was misdirecting my comments. I'm sorry if I missed the -- I wouldn't call the honourable member a blackbird socialist. He looks so pretty today I would just call him a socialist. He looks intelligent enough and looks attractive enough to perhaps be a democratic socialist. I appreciate his interest, I appreciate his interest in taxation and I certainly kept careful note of his comments. But about the form: When the honourable member had made his contribution he will recall, and I hope that he has the integrity to nod his head affirmatively when I say that I said that I was nonplussed; I did not know what the answer to this was: I would endeavour to find out and I would respond to that. Now I did find out from the Chairman of the Liquor Control Commission-- and I didn't see the honourable member, I didn't recall that that question was to be answered, that I'd given that undertaking. I assumed that there would be ample opportunity and when I recognized him again I would certainly answer. And I have no hesitation in saying now that apparently somewhere in the bureaucracy there was an administrative error and these forms were sent out that contained a request for information that is unnecessary. Either the form is in error or the information isn't necessary, one of the two. The Chairman of the Liquor Control Commission couldn't understand what this was about, because the hourable member has the picture correct. That when the Liquor Control Commission prices the product it's inclusive of the tax to the vendor, when the vendor sales. And that has not been changed. Now if someone down the scale somewhere either in the tax department or in the Liquor Control Commission erred it was an honest mistake and that will be rectified. And it's no great hardship that has been wrought anywhere I trust. There is a memorandum going out correcting that misconception.

Now that that matter has been dealt with I would like to deal with the concerns of the members who have spoken prior to the Member for Rock Lake and I'd like to deal with the concerns of the Honourable Member from Rhineland – and it's not surprising that he has introduced questions which could engage me in some commentary at length. However, despite the importance of the areas I will try to be brief and answer concisely the concerns of the honourable member.

First of all, he was concerned about how effective are our efforts at rehabilitation. Well I don't think that anyone, anyone in Manitoba, anyone in Canada can take pride at the high incidence of incarceration of people in our country. The experts, the sociologists, the criminologists, tell us that proportionately we put and keep more of our people in institutions than most jurisdictions in the world. -- (Interjection) -- Now the Honourable Member for Swan River is interjecting and in view of the fact that I don't want to exceed my time limit I'll ignore that interjection because he can have an opportunity to rise in his seat if he wishes to later. So it's with no satisfaction that that is the fact of life or that is a social fact in Canada.

Now what about our efforts at rehabilitation? Now this isn't my jurisdiction, but I can tell the Honourable Member from Rhineland that the Headingley institution which is a provincial incarceration facility had seen no physical changes for decades and since we have been elected to office we established new facilities at Headingley to try and emphasize the rehabilitation aspects of institutionalization, because I would like the honourable member and all honourable members to recognize these facts. People are institutionalized because of

(MR. MACKLING cont'd) irresponsible conduct in society, that's fact. We tend to put them in institutions where there is a complete absence of responsibility to them. Their lives are completely – the actions, their conduct is completely governed by an authority. In other words, they have a life style where there is no responsibility for them. Then after a period of months or years as the case may be – if it's a provincial institution it's two years less a day – they, supposedly the custodians release those people back into society and they say to society or society says now they're to be responsible people. Well you know that kind of system, just the logic of that kind of system just cries out for change.

So when the honourable member is concerned about people in institutions being brought into Winnipeg, go to a play or go to a hockey game -- I'm not one of those who selected who should go or what categories of people should go to different games or plays -- and I don't know what the Honourable Member from Portage is so concerned about. He said they could go to plays. Well you know the play might be Hamlet. It might be "Rosencrantz and Gildenstern are Dead." It may be some other play, and it may cost \$4.50 or \$6.00 a ticket I know not. I don't know what the grave distinction is. But you know I think whether or not that committee, and it's the committee that made these decisions not the Minister of Cultural Affairs, a committee, but if the committee erred then we accept responsibility for the committee's error. But I would like to focus the attention on the fact that surely in our institutional systems we should not expect there to be no gradual re-introduction of responsibility on the individual so that he can adjust in a community. And that is going to cause problems, because people are going to continue, some of them, are going to continue to err and act irresponsibly, because that's the reason they got in the institution in the first place. So when members say well you know people get out on parole, day parole, or in some other forms of parole and create other problems; well you know isn't that to be expected? Isn't some of that to be expected? We don't want it; we don't encourage it; we try to discourage it; we try to reform people but some of that is going to happen.

Now if I stray for a moment from the Member from Rhineland and focus my attention on the member sitting behind him, the Member from Portage la Prairie, I want to point out to the Member from Portage la Prairie and the Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party that from the time we took office we have been pressuring the Federal Liberal Government to exercise some further logic in the affairs of rehabilitation of people who are institutionalized. People are placed in institutions pursuant to federal laws primarily, the Criminal Code of Canada. And you know since 1868 there has been a request to the Federal Government to assume responsibility for persons who have been institutionalized for periods of six months or more, and Federal Liberal Governments have continued to procrastinate and to refuse to accept further responsibility in this area. And I say that the duality of responsibility, duality of programming corrections is wasteful of public tax dollars, is wasteful of the lives of people who are institutionalized. If we're going to do an effective program then surely one jurisdiction should carry that out and do an effective program. Why have some psychiatrists in one institution, some in another. Some courses open to some people who are institutionalized in facility A as against facility B. I ask the Honourable Member from Portage la Prairie, and particularly the Honourable Member from Wolseley who has such a great influence on his federal colleagues down east, to use some influence to get your federal counterparts to agree to assume greater responsibility in this area and you'll find how quickly this government would welcome some positive response on their part. And I've spoken to the former Honourable McIlwraith who was the former Solicitor-General, and I've talked to other solicitors-general and they seem to indicate a positive response in this way. But the Federal Liberal Cabinet apparently is not of this consensus.

The Honourable Member from Portage la Prairie says well why don't we have work camps? You know, have them go out and I guess cut brush and pick up litter and that sort of thing. I suppose that might be considered to be at least better than allowing people just to sit in institutions and I agree to that extent. But surely what we should be trying to do is unwind the personality problems that exist in those people, unwind the social malaise that exists in the hearts and minds of people who have become irresponsible. Just going out and cutting brush isn't going to do that. We have to have a completely effective program and I would like him to make speeches supporting much more public spending in that area and particularly on the part of his colleagues in the federal caucus in Ottawa. (MR. MACKLING cont'd)

Now the Honourable Member from Rhineland was concerned about the Churchill Forest Industries complex, the multitude of cases, and of course you know it's no satisfaction to this government that we are faced with so many matters that have to be taken before the courts. But you know we have to act responsibly, we can't just say to all concerned, well you know you have a claim, you have an interest, we'll pay it. We have to pay only what we ought to in accordance with ordinary contract law. We have to act as responsible and as any other government would in respect to the adjudication of claims. And you say on what basis will they settle? Will they settle? How many will settle? Well they'll settle if it's in their interest. We'll only give as much as we think it's appropriate to give and no more. We're no more tightfisted or we can be no more generous than any other responsible government would with the private entrepreneurs whose contracts and efforts were involved in the building of that complex. Now he's concerned about the scale of operations, well so are we. But you know we were bound by the law of contract, we accepted ongoing commitments as any responsible government would have. Now I don't want to go into any more detail about those sort of things because many of them are before the courts. I can only talk in bare generality and I trust that the honourable member and others would appreciate that that is the proper thing to do and not to go into any detail at all.

He was concerned about bankruptcies in society. Well one of the things that we haven't been doing, this province doesn't have or hasn't had in the past, a good statistical reference base about operations of various components of government and government agencies. And hopefully with the advent of now a statistics branch in government we'll be able to more carefully assess various government programs and their effect in society. I don't believe that there are more bankruptcies in Manitoba than elsewhere, I think they follow the general norm. When the business economy is relatively buoyant there are less commercial bankruptcies. I would expect that if one were to compare business or corporate bankruptcies in Manitoba as against other provinces you would find a relative proportional change in accordance with changes in the national economy. I would think because of the relative economic buoyance of Manitoba during the last several years you'd find a reduced number of corporate bankruptcies. But I can't assure the honourable member by reference to a statistical reference that that is so. That's an assumption that I make, I may be in error because of particular circumstances but I would suspect that is so.

The law of bankruptcy is governed by federal law. It is true that after a period of time or on certain conditions individuals who have declared personal bankruptcy can be discharged. I haven't got the particulars. The application is made to court, creditors can object and so on and these people once having received discharge are free men again. It's part of the law of the private enterprise economy where people enter into business, they can make mistakes and not only they suffer but others suffer by them but it is not a criminal thing. They can be released from this burden upon terms and in accordance with directions of court.

Now I want to go to the contributions of the Member from Rupertsland who was concerned again about matters dealing with abortion, and all I can say to him is that the Criminal Code of Canada does provide for the mechanics of provinces establishing boards of medical reference and it is these boards that decide on whether or not in a particular case abortion is deemed reasonable and proper. And where there is, where there is a complaint about a board or an individual having obtained an abortion I would assume that it is made either to the Minister of Health or to the hospital board itself or drawn to the attention of the Attorney-General. And we act on the basis of complaint. That's the way the Attorney-General's Department operates. I think I did indicate to the honourable member or the honourable member would likely have been in the House when I indicated that I had positively responded to the concerns of the Minister of Justice that if he is launching or desires to launch some sort of an investigation as to the standards that are employed or some allegations of laxity we would fully co-operate. Now I don't know whether there is some communication that the Minister of Justice has forwarded to me that I have not responded to; I don't think so. I'm prepared if there's a generality in the law where there is a problem, to deal with it. But let me reassert that the functioning of the administration of justice is to deal with matters of individual complaint, and that is the technique. Now the honourable member is stirring. Perhaps I could finish all the others and then you might want to ask me a question. Okay? Maybe I could finish my review and then . . . And that is the technique that is followed.

(MR. MACKLING cont'd)

Now I should go to the Honourable Member for Portage la Prairie who is concerned about some matters I have not dealt with yet. I dealt I hope with the ticket issue. He's concerned about The Intoxicated Persons Detentions Act and its application for certain communities. I have in the past expressed both to representatives of communities that are concerned and I think in this House, that I think the effects of this Act have to be evaluated from time to time and I certainly am prepared to continue to look at any inequities that may exist as a result of the bringing in of this Act. I think the honourable member made it clear, and I trust that it's so, that the principles and the basis of the Act are sound. He's concerned about relative effects on particular communities. In short the concern is a fiscal one. In the past some communities where there was a larger incidence of incarceration, detention, under the Criminal Code for the crime of intoxication in a public place, were able to recover some of their costs by way of a fine, and so it's a fiscal problem, and has to be looked at in that light. And I think we have demonstrated our concern to look at the fiscal problems of local government; we've increased the per capita grants, and of course increases in per capita grants cover any subject matter, whether they be law enforcement, they then conceivably could take up some of the costs in this area.

Also as the honourable member knows we have provided additional moneys for policing. Now I admit that some communities don't benefit by that, but it's a question of changes in revenue to some communities and I have looked at that and am prepared to continue to look at it and it may be, and I make no undertaking, but it may be that sometime in the future we would want to make some changes there by way of further evaluations, and it may well be that we'll want to make some changes in the provisions of that act itself, but it's a fiscal problem. I appreciate that there are a number of communities that feel this is more of a hardship on their communities than others and I do have some sympathy for them.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Rupertsland. Do you have a question? MR. ALLARD: I have a question for the Minister. Is the Minister telling us that his

technique, his method of operation, is to react to specific complaints and not to a . . . MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please.

MR. ALLARD: . . . to a specific complaint and not to a general complaint in society. For instance, that he has to rely upon the Federal Minister to direct his activities in the administration of his responsibilities? Does he feel that he needs a helping hand from the Minister in Ottawa to tell him that there is too much laxity in which the federal -- he's applying the federal law?

MR. MACKLING: The honourable member should appreciate that what I said is that the provincial Crown acts on the basis of individual complaints and the determination of breaches of the law recorded either on complaints of individuals or complaints of individual investigative officers.

Now as I indicate, if there have been complaints laid, that there have abortions granted that ought not to have been granted and that therefore there has been a breach of the Criminal Code of Canada, those complaints are investigated as a matter of course, I assume; if they haven't then I would be shocked that they had not been. If the Honourable Minister of Justice has a suspicion that there is a laxity -- (Interjection) -- Well, different members in society react to different sort of stimuli and I can't indicate to the Honourable Member from Rupertsland what causes an individual person to react. I know that he and some members of the House when they hear certain words, react, and I don't react on the basis of rumour or suspicion, there has to be something specific, because if the Crown through its weight as administrator of the law were to react on the basis of every rumour or suspicion or concern that is expressed, then I suppose we'd be chasing everyone everywhere. Surely we must act in a responsible way. If someone wants to set out in writing and stand up and be counted and say, yes on this certain day there was a breach of the law, then you know there is some substance to that. We don't act on mere rumour about breaches of the law.

MR. ALLARD: . . . the Minister consider a tripling in the amount of changes over a period of five years as some reason for some suspicion that there is some change in the way a law's administered?

MR. MACKLING: I would suspect . . . MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please.

MR. MACKLING: I would suspect, Mr. Chairman, that if there are larger number of cases, it indicates that there are a large number of people that are now making application for particular types of medical assistance. Now, I'm sure, I'm sure that if the honourable member would look at the introduction of Comprehensive Medical Care in Manitoba, you'd probably find that there was a greater, a greater application of assistance from many people for various causes which they ordinarily wouldn't have done, and I would suppose that that is a natural effect of making further facilities available to people. Now, I don't know whether that's a fair enough answer, or that kind of answer satisfies the honourable member, but I think that that is the history of the evolution of programs for people.

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

MR. ASPER: Mr. Chairman, I had intended to continue my contribution at this time. However, -- and I only make this point because of the rapt attention with which the members of government record the comings and goings of members of the House, and I make the point that I will not be making those remarks today because of the insistence of the New Democratic Party Whip that the Honourable Minister of Health and the Honourable Member from Fort Rouge and myself now leave in order to do the television show that we traditionally do at the end of the week. I put that on the record so that in my absence, there'll be no observations.

However, Mr. Chairman, I do want to leave on the record as close as possible to the Attorney-General's remarks a statistic that I would ask him to check and correct his remarks. I'm referring to the comment that the Attorney-General made to the effect that bankruptcies seem to be down and that the economic situation was such that Manitoba's bankruptcy position had in effect improved. Mr. Chairman, I put on the record that in the period since this government came to office while for example our neighbouring province of Saskatchewan improved its position, during the four year's of this government's administration bankruptcies are up in Manitoba 45 percent in number and in dollar amount over the 1969 level, they are up 1204 percent. I say that, Mr. Chairman, so that the rebuttal to the Minister's statement appears as quickly after his remarks as possible.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Attorney-General.

MR. MACKLING: Mr. Chairman, the honourable member compares statistics between Saskatchewan and Manitoba and I think that you know for the edification of all honourable members I'll seek from the Minister of Industry and Commerce, his Statistical Branch, a complete comparison of bankruptcies, not only in Manitoba and Saskatchewan during the relevant period but perhaps in Alberta and British Columbia and Ontario and the Maritimes, and I think that will give us a fairer picture because I was talking in the generality and the honourable member would appreciate that that's what I was referring to. And I wouldn't be at all surprised if the picture wasn't about parallel in other provinces.

MR. ASPER: Mr. Chairman, while my honourable friend is doing that he might not waste his time going to the Statistics Bureau of Manitoba which doesn't seem to have any reports that we've been able to see yet, and he might simply go to Statistics Canada which has just published the record for the past number of years and -- (Interjection) -- I'll be delighted to; it's in my office, and the Attorney-General says, why don't you give us the whole thing. I'd be quite delighted to in the debate on Monday when we resume. Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

MR. ENNS: Mr. Chairman, I have only one matter that I'd like to raise with the Attorney-General at this particular time because of some difficulty in finding a suitable time to raise the question. It has to do with the Ombudsman. I recognize that the Ombudsman as such reports to the House but the Minister presently presenting his Estimates has some responsibility towards that office. I also say to the Attorney-General that it would be quite understandable from my point of view that he would not necessarily be in a position to answer me at this particular time but he could take this as way of notice and perhaps be in a position to answer it on another day. It deals with a question that is not covered in the current report.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I hate to interrupt the honourable member but I think if you will look on Page 2, under Legislation, you will find the Office of Ombudsman, salaries, other expenditures, and I think if he has comments on the Office of the Ombudsman, I think this is the proper place that he should raise those matters.

MR. ENNS: Mr. Chairman, knowing my penchant for accommodation to the Chair at all times, I am certainly prepared to wait the proper time and make those remarks at the right time then. Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Ste. Rose.

MR. ADAM: Mr. Chairman, I just want to make a few remarks on the Minister's Salary. A peculiar case was brought to my attention a few months back regarding the application of provincial laws as it applies to motor vehicles on reservations. This particular case happened some 11 years ago on a reserve, and I believe at that time it was possible for a person who was old enough to obtain a driver's license could drive a vehicle on the reservation without having that vehicle licensed because a reserve is considered private property, and this was a very amazing situation that developed to a young lad, a young man of 16 years of age. And I believe it was common practice that some of these younger boys had motor vehicles and they would drive on the reserve without licenses. However, they never left the reserves to travel on provincial roads or municipal roads. This particular case that I wanted to bring to the Minister's attention happened on the reserve one night when apparently there had been a car and there had been some problems, perhaps fights or whatever it was that happened, and one of the fellows in the car was apparently hurt and was left in front of the car and subsequently the second car with a young lad came along at night and he was hailed down and he was asked -he was advised that the car, the other car, had stalled and they wanted him to get the car started by pushing it. So the young fellow not knowing that there was a man in front of the first car did in fact push the car forward and the first car ran over the body of the person that was in front of the car and the car took off - the first car took off. It left the other fellow there with the body and it was after discovered that, I am told, that the first car that night the motor was taken out of it and the car was burnt and the young lad was left with a dead body on the reserve. It was a 16 year old young man without a dollar in his pocket and subsequently the estate, or the family of the man who had been killed -- incidentally two cars ran over the man that was in front of the first car -- and the family of the deceased person sued the Unsatisfied Judgment Fund and apparently there was a court case and I believe the young fellow was probably summoned to appear. And I can just surmise a scared kid with no defence, and no finances whatsoever to obtain legal counsel in any way as he would be able today with legal aid that we have in the Province of Manitoba, did not appear - I understand did not appear. Now I could be corrected on this but I understand he did not appear in court and because he did not appear he was judged to be guilty and the family of the deceased person was then awarded a judgment of something like \$8,000 and this sum of money was paid to the estate. And this is 11 years ago that this has happened and since then interest has been mounting upon interest, compounded interest, and the judgment is now somewhere in the neighbourhood of \$12,000.00.

The young person who did have a driver's license at that time – perhaps he didn't have a license, I don't know – nevertheless he is unable to obtain a license as long as there's a judgment against him. We understand that after ten years the adjustment is wiped out if it's not settled, and this is quite a peculiar case because of the fact that the accident occurred on a private property, the same as if I would be driving on my farm. I could drive a vehicle on my farm without a license on the vehicle, and because of the fact that this accident happened on a private property which belonged to a band of Indians, I am a little bit concerned about how the provincial law applied in this case. Why did the Unsatisfied Judgment ever grant such a judgment in this particular case? It's a very peculiar case and I think that perhaps it should be reopened and re-examined. And it's a peculiar situation and a very unfortunate one because the young person, who I am referring to, and I don't want to mention any names, has been a very model citizen and it's a very sad situation indeed. Now the judgment was rendered --this happened eleven years ago -- but the judgment was rendered in 1965 and as I understand it the judgment against this fellow would be quashed in 1975. I would like to have some information on that particular point.

The remarks of the Member for Thompson, to say the least are really amazing in my estimation, and the more I listen to the honourable member I picture him as a person with a split personality. He seems to have a double sense of values in all the remarks he makes and the judgments that he comes to any conclusion on. And his remarks in many many cases are very contradictory in themselves as was the case this morning. I sat here and listened to gross contradictions in his remarks. I would like to refer to jif my memory can serve me correctly, in that he made a statement that he was protesting the criticism that had been levelled at him of his inconsistency in the way he places a very high sanctity of life in one instance and then

(MR. ADAM cont'd) on the other hand he believed in capital punishment for anyone who had, to use his words, I think he used the full processes of the law. In other words in one statement he was saying that he believed in capital punishment providing the guilty party was found guilty in a court of law before a judge, and on the other hand he opposes the legal aid to anyone who is charged for any offence whatsoever. He wants, he feels that he wants to deprive that particular person of the right to be judged either guilty or innocent. So he has in my opinion a Mr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde personality, and it's sad because I think he 's a very brilliant person and if he'd apply himself correctly to his beliefs I think he could make quite a contribution to our province.

And for instance the now famous telegram that he sent to the Prime Minister, Shoot the Bastards. There's another instance where the same thing happened, the same thing happened in that case I believe that -- now I don't think anyone here or myself condone what happened at that time, nevertheless he in his wisdom immediately wanted to shoot everybody regardless . .

MR. ENNS: In his capacity as an NDP Cabinet Minister.

MR. ADAM: . . . regardless -- well, the Honourable Member for Lakeside is again chattering from his box. I suggest, Sir, that the Honourable Member for Thompson would have made the same statement had he been sitting next to you on your side. I don't think you could have contained him anymore than we could on this side. Nevertheless, Mr. Chairman, I believe it has since been found that one of the persons that were accused in the Laporte case has been acquitted, and here you have an instance where the philosophy of the Member for Thompson is shoot first and talk after. And you know I could picture a person like him being right at home in the torture chambers of the Spanish Inquisitions. I think he'd be right at home in that particular surrounding. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

. Continued on next page.

MR. J. WALLY McKENZIE (Roblin); Mr. Chairman, can I ask the honourable member a question? Mr. Chairman, can I ask the Honourable Member from Ste. Rose a question? Do you support the concept of capital punishment?

MR. ADAM: No, I don't.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. MACKLING: I just want to say, Mr. Chairman, that I'm not acquainted, I'm not acquainted with the case that the Honourable Member from Ste. Rose refers to. It does sound like a very interesting case, both from a factual and from a legal point, and I'm not in the position to comment on it. I hope that perhaps some persons in the Gods have reflected on it, and made some notes for me, and perhaps, I'll be able to advise the member on another occasion as to what if anything my further observations are. I really don't know the rationale of the case and I would have to reflect on it and have others advise me on it.

MR, CHAIRMAN: (Resolution 17 was read and passed)

Resolution 18(a)(1) -- passed, (2)-- passed, (3)--passed, The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR, FROESE: On (2)(a) there's a recovery here of 300,000. Could the Honourable Minister tell us where we recovered this from?

MR. MACKLING: Yes, Mr. Chairman. What's involved here is that the legal advice that is provided through the Attorney-General's Department to all other departments of the Crown is then charged back against the various departments. In other words, the budget of the Attorney-General's Department provides for the salaries of legal officers who advise line departments. And as a result of decisions that were taken by our managements experts some time ago it was decided that in order to provide for a proper accounting of time that's taken up by legal officers to various departments there should be a proper charging system, and therefore we show a recovery back from other departments and other agencies.

MR. CHAIRMAN: (The remainder of Resolution 18 was read and passed)

Resolution 19(a)(1)-- passed. The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: Mr. Chairman, just before we pass this item. Does the Minister or the Crown give any instructions to this Law Reform Committee as to what they ought to consider under a given, in a given year... program set out.

MR. MACKLING: Yes, Mr. Chairman, if the honourable member, and I regret the fact that he doesn't have a copy of the report at this time. I tabled a copy. It's at the printers and when copies are therefore available for all members they'll receive them, but the Appendix which is attached to the Reform sets out the various subject matters that have been under consideration by the Law Reform Commission, and the date that the request, the subject was referred to the Commission, and the recommendations that were made.

I don't believe that there is identification as to the items that have been referred by the Attorney-General's Department and those that have been initiated of their own volition. That would have been more helpful perhaps in this index but I can assure honourable members that there is an approximately 50 percent of the work that the Commission has on-going or that has been completed, is by reference and about half of it of their own initiative.

MR. CHAIRMAN: (Resolution 19(a)(1) to Resolution (e) was read and passed) Resolution 19 (f)(1) - The Honourable Member for Birtle-Russell.

MR. HARRY E. GRAHAM (Birtle-Russell): Mr. Chairman, under the Land Value Appraisal Commission I would like to ask the Attorney-General if he could indicate to the House the general direction or the general settlement that has occurred in expropriation procedures in the, just the general field of – whether the final settlement was closer to the origin-1 offer put forward by government or the request made by the person who is being expropriated. Could he give us an indication of . . .

MR. MACKLING: I think we'd have to have something specific on that from the honourable member as to a particular land acquisition. I don't believe I could deal within generality, I would have to, I think, look at specific cases. I would only be guessing even at the generality. I think that in some instances probably the settlements are strictly, well, almost verbatim what the land acquisition branch recommends. In other instances there may be after a hearing a different value determined by the Land Value Appraisal Board or Commission. It would be very difficult to deal with it in the generality. If the honourable member wanted to deal with a specific case, then I could compare you know, the result.

MR. GRAHAM: No, Mr. Chairman, I didn't want to deal with any specific case but I felt that it was important that we should try and endeavour to find out what the trend is because I think it's important to the Attorney-General and also to the people of Manitoba, that the people of the province are informed of whether or not the offers that are being made, the original offers being made by the Province of Manitoba, in the purchase of property is in fact close or very similar to selling prices that exist as between individuals.

MR. MACKLING: Well, Mr. Chairman, all I can say is that these officers of the branch are concerned to make fair proposals. They are not trying to take any, or get land at a great discount for the people of Manitoba. They have an onus on them to be fair. Now what is a fair price of course is determined by a great number of circumstances; even though the market price, as established by the land appraisers, may be so many dollars, the individual owner may feel that the land is worth considerably more, for particular reasons that he asserts. If there is no agreement then the individual can have the Land Value Appraisal Commission hear the case and certify as to its value and then the taking authority is bound by the value that the Land Value Appraisal Commission certifies to; but again the individual isn't bound, and if the taking authority then cannot acquire the land voluntarily by the individual and the taking authority wants the land, it expropriates the land and then the individual can have his determination of value in court, and at the cost to the taking authority pursuant to the provisions of the Expropriation Act.

Now generally speaking I would think that the prices that have been determined by the Land Acquisition Branch will approximate very closely what the individual has wanted or expected for his land because relatively small number of the land acquisitions go to court. So that I assume therefore that there is a very close relationship but I really can't statistically give the honourable member that kind of information.

MR. GRAHAM: Well, again, Mr. Chairman, I repeat the importance that the province owes to the people of the province because in many cases, Mr. Chairman when government requires property the person that owns that property has really no intention of selling and really has no interest in what the value of property is until suddenly he is confronted with the province making him an offer to purchase a portion of his property. And I suspect, Mr. Chairman, that in many cases the owner of a land is, through his own ignorance, is not cognizant of what the land values are within the province or the relationship of proposals put forward in his area as compared to proposals put forward in other parts of the province, and really, Mr. Chairman, this is the only place in the Estimates that we can raise the problem and ask the Attorney-General these questions because to my knowledge there are no reports that come out, it's not widely publicized how these things are settled or anything like that, and I would suggest that the Attorney-General should give the people of Manitoba the assurance that fair land values are always being offered for the purchase of portions of property which are needed for government use.

MR. MACKLING: Well, Mr. Chairman, all I can do is indicate to the honourable member that there are a large number of individual properties that are obtained by the operations of the branch on behalf of various taking authorities including the Highways branch, the Parks branch, and others. And the value of agreements -- I dislike this word -- but finalized in 1972-73 were \$4 million. Property purchase agreements 1,350, appraisals, opinions of value 60, surplus buildings sold 50, parcels of surplus land sold 3. Since there is a relatively small number of land cases that are adjudicated by court pursuant to expropriation proceedings, the only conclusion I can draw is that the operations of the branch provide fair pricing to the individual lands owners. Now I know that in various expropriations that have been taken that they're individuals who firmly assert that they don't get enough money for their property and, you know, that's fair enough, and they have a right then to engage their own appraiser and endeavour to establish the value of their property then through the assistance of appraisers and counsel, and have the market value, or the value to the owner, determined in court. Now I'm advised that in 1972/73 there were 1,350 property purchase agreements completed. Now that's without arbitration; that's with a voluntary acquisition, and there were only 82 hearings of individual property takings by the Land Value Appraisal Commission, so that indicates that individual property owners apparently in an overwhelming number of cases were satisfied that the price that was being paid by the taking authority, based upon the land value appraisal officers, was fair. Now I've had instances, and one particular instance that the Honourable

(MR. MACKLING cont'd).... Member from Thompson was concerned about where I felt the Land Value Appraisal Commission was more than fair, and as a matter of fact I felt that the value that they had confirmed was too generous, and I won't say any more about that because I think that that may be in court. But you know I don't think I'm betraying any confidence when I say that I thought that their value at one stage was more than fair. Now more I don't think I can add.

MR. GRAHAM: Could the Attorney-General then in quoting those statistics indicate the number of cases in which the purchase was only for a portion of the property as compared to those cases which were entire property purchases.

MR. MACKLING: No, I'm sorry, I couldn't, Mr. Chairman, because I don't have a breakdown as to that because they're property taken for highways and drains where there are portions of property taken. There are others where the entire property is taken for example for the Parks Branch or I don't know whether we've had any expropriations for housing at this stage or not, but I couldn't give you that breakdown.

MR. GRAHAM: Well, Mr. Chairman, again I must repeat that it is my contention that in many cases where the province is purchasing just a portion of the property, it may be only two or three acres taken off the corner of a farmer's field, and you talk about having the property appraised, he can get an independent appraiser, he can go to court – quite frankly, Mr. Chairman, the thoughts of this will scare the owner off and he'll say, well it's not worth it and he'll just secede right there and accept rather than make an issue even though he feels personally that maybe he is not being treated justly, and I think that this is a field that the Attorney-General, or someone in his office, should maybe do an appraisal to make the Attorney aware in his own mind of whether or not the offers that are being made are just and proper for the people of Manitoba.

MR. MACKLING: Mr. Chairman, surely the honourable member would recognize the logic of what I say. If there is a large number of cases that are going to court that would reflect that there are a large number of individual property owners who say that they're not getting their value. If there's a relatively small number who are taking their cases to court obviously that indicates to me and I think the logic should be persuasive to my honourable friend as well, that a large number of people think that they're getting fair value. Now I say that, you know, we have changed the Expropriation Act, that no longer is the law weighted in favor of the taker, the law is there is to protect the person who owns the lands because costs are against the taker, and they're assured to him, he has a right to get his money, almost all of the money that the taking authority has offered, almost at the outset, get his money and demand more. Surely, you know this is a fair system and the honourable member says well people are afraid to go to court and they have some reticence. Well there are 57 members of the Legislature, they have an MLA that they can turn to. If the honourable member has a particular farmer in his constituency who feels himself aggrieved, I assume that he would contact me and I would ask my department whether or not it is being fair - that's all I can do. If there are problems like that, I respond to them, I don't think that the officers in my department act out of a concern to play favorites, they must be fair with all people, and I think the mechanisms are there to ensure fairness. Because again, as I say if the individual owners says, look I don't like your value and you want my land, I'm not going to let you have it for that. Then the Land Value Appraisal Commission says, well look you can have a hearing, this isn't court, you know you don't have to have a lawyer, you don't have to go any particular formality, and we will hear the taking authority, their appraisers, you can bring whatever evidence you want, and we'll set a value; we'll hear your evidence and your view, and we'll set a value on this property. And then if you don't like it, you don't have to take it, but the Crown or the taking authority is bound by what we say, they can't give you anything less. If you don't like it, you still don't like it, you can go to court, and the taking authority has to pay the costs of your going to court. Now what could be fairer.

MR. GRAHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again when the Attorney-General points out the steps and procedures and the safety precautions that have been taken to make sure that fairness exists, it also suggests that unfairness exists.

MR. MACKLING: Mr. Chairman, the honourable member would be the first on his feet at the opening of every session to condemn government for squandering public money if there were no cases going to court, saying, you know you're being too generous, you're squandering

(MR. MACKLING cont'd). . . . the people's money. You know we could make a lot of friends by giving over-generous settlements to everyone but that isn't what government is charged with doing. We're responsible to play no favourites, to make evaluations, and to make settlements on the basis of hard-nosed business ethics; and I want to indicate as well that, you know, even though all this process has been through, and that's not to say they're a review of the court, because the Ombudsman can't review court decisions, but I suppose if the Land Value Appraisal Branch has been considered to handle themselves in an improper way, again there's an appeal to the Ombudsman after the fact. You know we have so many mechanisms we have placed now in the law to make sure fairness - I don't know what the honourable member can expect further.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution 19(f)(1) -- The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: Mr. Chairman, just before we leave this item the Minister already answered one of my questions which was as to the percentage of number of cases that go to expropriation, and he already has answered that. The point I wanted to make is that, and this has happened on different occasions where land was bought up either for road purposes or for drainage, and so on, that the government through its agents came and purchased the land, or made offerings, and in most cases these were accepted, however later some of the neighbors would find out what the other had received, and then found out his neighbor had received considerably more, probably not as far as the land was concerned but other considerations were taken into consideration and therefore allowances might be made for damage, and so on, so that in fact he did get much more than his neighbor did, and this has on occasion created hard feelings and I've been approached on this from time to time. I don't know how this can be avoided, what can be done to eliminate this altogether, but certainly this is happening and this is in existence.

I would like to know from the Minister as far as the Land Value Appraisal Commission is concerned will they be involved in let's say the South Indian Lake affair where properties will be acquired. I'm sure it's not all Crown land because the Federal Government certainly I would think have a say in it because of the Indian Reserves. Do these people evaluate such properties and is it strictly on land or are there, as I mentioned, other considerations being given and taken into account?

MR. MACKLING: Well, Mr. Chairman, the honourable member raises a question which he frankly recognizes is difficult to answer readily. Individual property owners may have different considerations in respect to the use of their property, that is, although the land may be relatively the same, it may have higher value because of certain circumstances, whether it's fronting on a highway, or it's particularly suitably located for some reason for some purpose other than another parcel of land which may be in the same region but not as well suited. It may be that on that land there is particular facilities, there may be particular trees, there may be values there that are not exactly the same in another property, and so despite the fact that land may be in the same region there can be variations, and variations in the extent to which a portion of land being taken is a disruption to an individual landowner. That is if it interferes with the use of the rest of the land greater than it would in another area where an individual might have a larger property and the loss of a small portion wouldn't affect him as much. All of these circumstances, and many more that I probably could elucidate, would tend to have a varying effect in individual offers and evaluations.

Then I suppose there can be just circumstances creep in that someone held out a little bit longer and they felt that they got a little bit better deal. I suppose those things will happen, and you can't prevent them from happening. The person who perhaps holds out and then goes to court and the court gives him more and the others have settled and they haven't gone to court, and they get somewhat less. Well, you know, I suppose that's life. When anyone puts his property on the market today, you may or may not find a buyer who is willing to pay more than what you want, or your price, and there always is some variety or some vagaries in the market, and I suppose you couldn't expect that there wouldn't be some vagaries in the final moneys that are paid by any authority.

Now in respect to South Indian Lake I really don't know the property situation there so I really can't speak from any personal assessment. My understanding is that there won't be any land or buildings affected to any degree, although the water will rise in the lake it won't involve, as I understand, residential buildings; there won't be buildings --residences that will

(MR. MACKLING cont'd).... have to be acquired. Now there may be one or two -- maybe the Honourable Minister of Mines and Resources could indicate that to me -- but my understanding is that there's no substantial change in land holdings there as a result of the increase. Now that might mean part of the land is taken, you know, but as I understand there's no major impact of land acquisition.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution 19(f)(1) -- The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: Mr. Chairman, I omitted one matter that I want to draw to the Minister's attention, and that is the delay in payments. I don't know whether it considers his department, but I think this is where we should have some action, that we have too many cases where land has been acquired by the Crown and where payments are being withheld for years and years. I know it probably involves the Minister of Mines and Resources Department but I thought I'd bring it to the Minister's attention anyway, because these matters come to me and I've referred to them previously. I feel that we should try and make a stronger effort to clear up these outstanding accounts of this kind.

MR. MACKLING: I do know, Mr. Chairman, that there have been delays in the systems. We inherited certain systems; we've modified them; we've caught up on some backlogging. I know in the Land Titles system there was a problem in respect to the registering of certain types of plans -- (Interjection)-- Surveys, yes, and I don't know why there was such --I can't recall the intricacies of the problems at the moment, but this had gone on for over a decade, and I was appalled by the fact that there were still outstanding settlements, minor amounts but still outstanding, and we did get this resolved. I was quite annoyed that this system should go on so long and we have it resolved and I think most of this backlog has been caught up or will be caught up shortly. And it was a poor performance I think on the part of the system.

MR. CHAIRMAN: (The remainder of Resolution 19 was read and passed)

Resolution 20 (a) -- The Honourable Member for Birtle-Russell.

MR. GRAHAM: Under the Land Titles Office.I know the Minister just referred to the problem that has existed in the Land Titles Office.I know I brought the question of the operation of a particular office, namely the one in Neepawa to his attention during the past year and I wonder if he could now inform the House if there has been an improvement in the service from that office, because it affects my area?

MR. CHAIRMAN: 20(a)--passed; (b)--passed.

MR. MACKLING: Well I wanted to respond, Mr. Chairman. I'm advised that we have added additional staff there in Neepawa, there was some need for further assistance there and the Neepawa office is responsible for the northern registrations and perhaps some of that surge of activity has subsided a bit. I think the matter is now well in hand.

MR. GRAHAM: Another question I wanted to ask the Minister. I'm not too sure if this is the correct place in his Estimates or not. But it's dealing with land survey monuments throughout the province. It's been brought to my attention that survey monuments are in a state of disrepair in the province and I'm not too sure if this is the proper place to raise it or not.

MR. MACKLING: Mr. Chairman, I believe that's under the aegis of the Minister of Mines and Resources and he's close to my honourable friend -- his mind may be elsewhere but I'll certainly draw that to his attention, and he's close by you he might ... okay

MR. CHAIRMAN: (Resolution 20 was read and passed)

Resolution 21(a)-- The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: I don't know whether I should have raised it under the Minister's salary, I thought I'd raise it under this particular resolution. It's in connection where lawyers take on a job for people and then try to slough it off or taking too much time, and what is the situation here, who is responsible, where do you go to for action. I would like to have some answers on this very point.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. MACKLING: Mr. Chairman, I know the concerns of my honourable colleague. As a matter of fact we spent a few moments not long ago agonizing over a situation where it was pretty obvious that the services that had been accorded to some client had not been what I considered to be satisfactory. The complaint in respect to the services of a solicitor has to be taken to the Law Society and I get requests from time to time in connection with complaints and I refer them to the Law Society. They have diciplinary proceedings that they can take

(MR. MACKLING cont¹d)..., against members and they do have a disciplinary committee of the Law Society and where it is warranted, if they are not satisfied by exchange of correspondence that the complaint can be readily settled or the member hasn't acted responsibly, then in those circumstances the disciplinary committee has a hearing and deals with the matter Ι think there have been concerns on the part of the profession itself that consideration might be given to changes in the system but I don't think there is any other mechanism at the present time. Failing the utilization of the Law Society itself any individual in society who feels that his solicitor is not doing justice to his individual, or her individual case - must be careful about that - they can obtain the services of another lawyer and of course request transfer of documentation to the new lawyer. The only problem with that is that frequently the first lawyer insists upon payment of his account before he transfers documents, he has a lien against the documents of the client for payment of his bill, and then of course if the bill is satisfactory to that stage there's no problem. If there isn't then the rules of the court provide that a bill can be taxed, and that system can be followed. But there are instances and I know the honourable member has had concerns about this area and I share them, where there are problems of representation that are not readily understood or where one can find perhaps a suitable reason why these things happenthe way they do

MR. CHAIRMAN: (Resolution 21 was read and passed)

Resolution 22(a)--passed. (b)--

The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: On this particular item I've often wondered to what extent are the services of the Legislative Counsel available to members of the House. I've approached them from time to time but I wasn't sure of myself whether it was appropriate and to what extent I could call on his services as a member. Could he outline to us breifly this very item ?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. MACKLING: Mr. Chairman, Legislative Counsel once the Session has been called are at the disposal of the members and they do assist the members in the drafting of legislation, whether it be Private Members'Bills or I believe Resolutions as well. We have increased the number of staff of the Legislative Counsel's office; we now have three draftsmen and these people are available for the members.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would like to refer the honourable member to page 50, Rule 100(2)(b) of our House Rules. He would note that deals with Legislative Counsel.

MR. FROESE: Well, Mr. Chairman, it's a matter I think of whether it's public bills or private bills, that a member is trying to serve his constituents or so on, so this is the point I tried to make before.

MR. CHAIRMAN: (Resolution 22 read and passed)

Resolution 23 -

MR. JAMES H. BILTON (Swan River): I take it, Mr. Chairman, that the provincial jail comes under this item?

A MEMBER: The which?

MR. BILTON: Provincial jail - Headingly.

MR. MACKLING: No, No, Health and Social Development. My colleague Health and . . . MR. BILTON: Well . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hour being 4:30, the last hour of every day being Private Members' Hour, Committee rise and report? Committee Rise. Call in the Speaker.

MR. WILLIAM JENKINS (Logan): Mr. Speaker, the Committee of Supply has adopted certain resolutions and has directed me to report same and ask leave to sit again.

IN SESSION

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. The Honourable Member for Logan.

MR. JENKINS: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Ste. Rose that the report of the Committee be received.

MOTION presented and carried.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' HOUR

MR. SPEAKER: First item on Thursday, private members hour, is public bills for private members. Bill No. 21. Proposed by the Honourable Member for Rupertsland. The

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(MR $_{\circ}$ SPEAKER cont'd). . . Honourable Minister of Education.

HON. BEN HANUSCHAK (Minister of Education)(Burrows): Mr. Speaker, I beg leave of the House to have this matter stand.

MR. SPEAKER (Agreed). Bill No. 34. The Honourable Member for Morris.

MR. JORGENSON: Mr. Speaker, I realize honourable members are anxious to get away for the afternoon and I don't want to unduly delay the . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Would the honourable member introduce the motion first please?

MR. JORGENSON: Mr. Speaker, I should like to move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Rock Lake that Bill No. 34, an Act to Amend the Snowmobile Act be now read a second time.

MR, SPEAKER: (presented the motion) The Honourable Member for Morris.

MR. JORGENSON: Mr. Speaker, I take pleasure in introducing Bill 34, a bill designed to bring under the terms of the Snowmobile Act a machine that has been designed and is produced and manufactured in the Province of Manitoba.

I want to first of all extend my thanks to the Attorney-General for the courtesy that he extended to Mr. Fillion last year in allowing this particular machine to accompany the Snow-mobile Safari which went through the southern parts of the province for three days and this particular machine stood up to all the snowmobiles and went wherever they went and came through as a winter vehicle.

The machine has been developed, designed and is patented by Mr. Fillion in St. Jean and is being manufactured there. And I might add, Sir, that it is being done so without any federal or provincial money, without any grants or anything of that nature. (Applause) There is no multi-national corporation involved here and that should please my honourable friends opposite. What Mr. Fillion has done is use his ingenuity, his ability to design and provide jobs and opportunities for people in the rural areas of the province – and we know how important that particular program is to the government. And I say to them that the passage of this particular bill, the bringing under the terms of the Snowmobile Act to allow this machine to be registered under that Act will assist in the development of that program of rural development.

And, Sir, before honourable members assume that this machine is nothing more than a recreational device let me assure them that there are many uses for it. I can see where in the forestry department, in patroling the forests of this province it could be invaluable. In our parks; it can be used on ranches and on farms, for example, chasing rustlers and things like that. I'm sure the Attorney-General would welcome a device of that nature in assisting him in law enforcement. It can be used in surveying, construction, to say nothing of its use as a recreational vehicle.

Sir, the terms of the Snowmobile Act at the present time leave a great deal of the administration in by-laws up to the local municipalities and for that reason because of their knowledge of the particular circumstances in the various municipalities, the bringing of this machine under the terms of the Snowmobile Act will to a large extent give the local authorities the right to administer by-laws and to impose what restrictions they feel are necessary to meet the circumstances that exist in each of their areas.

The regulations, and I daresay that once the bill has passed, there will of necessity be regulations devised to suit that particular machine, and time is being permitted under the terms of the bill for that to happen. In brief, Sir, the intention of this bill is simply to assist a young man who has demonstrated a capacity to develop an industry and a machine that I believe will be in great demand in this province. He has had many requests from many areas asking him if it would be possible to have it registered in the same waythat snowmobiles are registered. He's asked me to do this and for that reason I am proposing that this bill be adopted and that it become law so that he can expand his operation, employ more people in the rural areas and provide the kind of a machine that I believe can be of tremendous benefit, not only in commercial uses but as recreation as well in the Province of Manitoba.

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

MR. WALLY JOHANNSON (St. Matthews): Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for St. Vital that debate be adjourned.

MOTION presented and carried.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable House Leader.

MR. GREEN: Mr Speaker, I believe that there is a general disposition to extend even

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(MR. GREEN cont'd) further the long weekend that is afforded by the holiday season. Unless I'm incorrect in that assumption, and I'll wait a moment to see whether **any** honourable member corrects me, I would like to indicate that next week we are going to be again on the Estimates. There will be a change in order which I have advised the Leaders of. The Minister of Labour will be next --(Interjection)-- well all of the departments under the Attorney-General will continue, that is Consumer Affairs. Then shall be followed by the Minister of Labour, followed by the Minister of Tourism, followed by the Minister of Health and Social Development. The reason being that the Minister of Health will be away for three days next week and I did not think it would be wise to interrupt his Estimates when he's gone.

On that note, I wish everybody a pleasant weekend, and I would move, seconded by the Honourable the Attorney-General, that the House do now adjourn.

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