

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA  
2:30 p.m., Thursday, May 13, 1976

Opening Prayer by Mr. Speaker.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

MR. SPEAKER: Before we proceed I should like to direct the attention of the honourable members to the gallery where we have 20 students, Grades 4, 5 and 6 standing of the Sir Sam Steele School. These students are under the direction of Mr. Noble. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Radisson.

We also have 80 students from Tanners Crossing from Minnedosa as our guests. These students are under the direction of Mr. Sangster, and they come from Minnedosa.

We also have 30 students, Grade 5 standing of the Balmoral School under the direction of Mrs. Klymkiw. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Winnipeg Centre, the Minister of Corrections.

On behalf of all the honourable members I welcome you here this afternoon.

MR. SPEAKER: Presenting Petitions. The Honourable Member for Gimli.

PRESENTING PETITIONS

MR. JOHN C. GOTTFRIED (Gimli): Mr. Speaker, I beg to present the Petition of Ernest Robert Anderson praying for the passing of An Act for the Relief of Ernest Robert Anderson.

MR. SPEAKER: Reading and Receiving Petitions; Presenting Reports by Standing and Special Committees. The Honourable Member for Pembina.

MR. GEORGE HENDERSON (Pembina): Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member from Rhineland, that a petition be presented to the Legislature of the Province of Manitoba, the Petition of the undersigned, Lawrence Aubin, Joseph Catcher, Hal Garnett, Kay Maddison, Alfred Prose, William North, Lawrence Stout, Reid Cochrane and Ian Murdoch, all the Town of Carman, in the Province of Manitoba, humbly assure that the Petitioners are requesting an Act of the Legislature to incorporate the Carman Golf Club, the object of which is the acquisition of the assets of the Carman Golf Club Limited for the purpose of promoting the game of golf. The provisions of the Act requested will assist in promoting the game of golf in the Carman, Manitoba area. Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that the Legislature of the Province of Manitoba may be pleased to pass an Act to incorporate Carman Golf Club and is duty-bound your Petitioners will ever pray. And it's signed by the names that I read off and it's dated April 6th, 1976.

MR. SPEAKER: Presenting Reports by Standing and Special Committees. The Honourable Member for Gimli.

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

MR. GOTTFRIED: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Honourable Member for Ste. Rose I beg to present the first report of the Committee on Agriculture.

MR. CLERK: Your Committee met for organization on Thursday, May 13, 1976, and appointed Mr. Adam as Chairman. By resolution of the Committee, the quorum was set at seven members for all subsequent meetings.

Representation was heard on Bill No. 23 - The Pesticides and Fertilizers Control Act, from Mr. J. O. Peever, Manitoba Council of the Canadian Agricultural Chemicals Association.

Your Committee has considered Bill No. 8 - An Act to amend The Women's Institutes Act, and has agreed to report the same without amendment.

Your Committee has also considered bills:

No. 7 - An Act to amend The Farm Machinery and Equipment Act,

No. 10- An Act to amend The Animal Husbandry Act,

No. 23- The Pesticides and Fertilizers Control Act,

And has agreed to report the same with certain amendments.

## PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Gimli.

MR. GOTTFRIED: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Emerson, that the Report of the Committee be received.

MOTION presented and carried.

MR. SPEAKER: Ministerial Statements and Tabling of Reports. The Honourable Minister of Health.

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS AND TABLING OF REPORTS

HON. LAURENT L. DESJARDINS (Minister of Health and Social Development) (St. Boniface): Mr. Speaker, I'd like to Table an Order for Return No. 29 on the motion of the Honourable Member from Point Douglas.

MR. SPEAKER: Any other Ministerial Statements and Tabling of Reports? Notices of Motion; Introduction of Bills. The Honourable Member for River Heights. Bill No. 66.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

MR. SIDNEY SPIVAK Q.C. (River Heights) introduced Bill 66, an Act to Amend the Manitoba Hydro Act.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

MR. PAULLEY introduced Bill 69, An Act to amend the Legislative Assembly Act. (Recommended by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor)

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable House Leader wish to introduce Bill 72, for the Attorney-General?

HON. SIDNEY GREEN Q.C. (Minister of Mines, Resources and Environmental Management)(Inkster) on behalf of the Honourable Attorney-General introduced Bill 72 An Act to amend the Change of Name Act.

MR. SPEAKER: Questions. The Honourable Member for Brandon West.

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MR. EDWARD MCGILL (Brandon West): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Honourable the Minister of Highways. With respect to the repairs to Trans-Canada No. 1 East from Brandon junction to Douglas, will the Minister confirm that the work being done this spring is merely the competition of the contract for the construction of the highway of last year?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Highways.

HON. PETER BURTNIAK (Minister of Highways)(Dauphin): Mr. Speaker, I think I gave the honourable member the answer a couple of days ago that it is work that was not completed last year by the contractor and will be completed this year as soon as he gets his plant in operation and in that particular location.

MR. MCGILL: Mr. Speaker, then could the Minister confirm that tenders were invited from four contractors to supply the material for this work and that the successful bidder was not the contractor of last fall but was a different construction company?

MR. BURTNIAK: Mr. Speaker, I'll have to take that question as notice and double check on it.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for River Heights.

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Health and Social Development. I wonder if he is in a position to indicate whether the target set for vaccination for the swine flu, the targets to be reached, have in fact been rediscussed with the Federal Government and changes may be occurring with respect to the number of people that are going to be capable of being vaccinated.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Health.

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Speaker, rediscussed - I'd have to know from when because I think they're meeting practically every week on that and there is no change as per the final decision as who will receive the vaccine until we know what will be available.

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(MR. DESJARDINS cont'd) . . . .It'll have to be decided by what is made available to Canada.

And while I'm on my feet, Mr. Speaker, yesterday in my absence the Honourable Minister of Tourism, Recreation and Cultural Affairs took as notice a question from the Leader of the Opposition re Steve Badger. He wanted to know what we had done. On April 1st, I sent the following telegram to the Honourable Robert Andras: "This is to express support for Steven Badger in his efforts to become a Canadian citizen. I understand him to be a fine promising young man worthy of citizenship, as well as a dedicated and inspiring athlete."

On the 13th I received the following reply from Mr. Andras: "I refer to your telex of April 1/76 concerning Mr. Steven Badger. Information on file indicates that Mr. Badger originally arrived in Canada on November 9th, 1974 and was granted permission to attend school, which has been extended to November 5/76. On February 19, 1976 he was examined by our officials concerning his wish to remain in Canada permanently. As you are aware there is no provision in law which allows our officials to process applications by individuals in Canada for permanent admission. However, special consideration is given to cases of exceptional merit involving refugees or cases where there are strong humanitarian or compassionate grounds, such as the admission of a wife, husband, minor children or elderly parents of a Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada. Regrettably, Mr. Badger's case does not fall within any of the above categories and consequently this case cannot be given special consideration. I might add that since Mr. Badger wishes to continue his education in Canada as a student and the demand in Canada for people with his present qualifications is non-existent, he would not be able to meet the immigration selection criteria even if he submitted to an application from outside the country. I would suggest that if he still wishes to obtain landed immigrant status after he has completed his studies, he submit an application from outside Canada, provided he could meet the immigration selection criteria and medical requirements, as well as the additional background enquiries necessary. He would be issued an immigrant visa.

"You may wish to note that even if it were possible to grant landed immigrant status to Mr. Badger, it is extremely unlikely he would be granted Canadian citizenship in time to enable him to compete in the Olympic Games. In view of interest in this particular case, I regret that I cannot forward a more favourable reply."

And I have sent a copy of my endorsement and my telegram to the Honourable Minister of Health, Mr. Lalonde who just acknowledged my telegram.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for River Heights.

MR. SPIVAK: Further to the question that I asked the Minister. I wonder if he could indicate whether the Federal Government has confirmed that they are going to be unable to supply the full 12½ million vaccine shots that were originally projected for Canada.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Health.

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Speaker, I certainly have never indicated that at all, and I have no indication that they will not be able to supply it. I have nothing new on that.

MR. SPIVAK: By way of another question. I wonder if the Minister can indicate whether any case of swine flu has occurred in Manitoba.

MR. DESJARDINS: No. That is, answer is no.

MR. SPIVAK: Is he in a position to indicate whether any suspected cases of swine flu have occurred?

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Speaker, not to my knowledge. Now if my honourable friend has such indication I wish he would let me know as soon as possible.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. DONALD W. CRAIK (Leader of the Official Opposition) (Riel): Mr. Speaker, I wanted to ask a further question to the Minister then. The last communication from them was April 15th, I gather. Has the government concluded, or has the Minister concluded from that there is no foreseeable hope of Steve Badger then representing Canada in the Olympics?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Health.

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MR. DESJARDINS: Well Mr. Speaker, the letter seems to be pretty clear. Since then I haven't done anything official but I've had occasion to meet Mr. Lalonde, and so on, and on every occasion we've repeated that we certainly would like to see something done, but I didn't feel after this letter - you know, they know where we stand on that, they know our feelings, and I think the letter is very clear. I don't know what else I can do at this time.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

MR. STEVE PATRICK (Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct my question to the Minister of Education and Universities. Has the Minister had any discussions or communication with any school divisions or trustees in respect to establishing value schools.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Education.

HON. BEN HANUSCHAK (Minister of Education)(Burrows): Not directly, Mr. Speaker, but the matter of education programming is one of continual discussion with school boards and their staffs.

MR. PATRICK: A supplementary. The Minister indicates that there may have been discussion within the department. Can the Minister indicate what is the reason or criteria for establishing value schools? Is it because of standard of teaching, or is it because of discipline in public school? What are the reasons to even consider the value schools?

MR. HANUSCHAK: Mr. Chairman, the type of education program that any school division wishes to offer as long as it meets the curricular requirements of the Department of Education, or whatever other provisions there may be within those parameters, a school division is at liberty to establish whatever type of school it wishes.

MR. PATRICK: Mr. Speaker, is the Minister in favour of value schools himself?

MR. SPEAKER: That's asking for an opinion. The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, I direct a question to the First Minister, I wonder if he can indicate whether the new Hydro rate structure brought in April 1, to be effective April 1, was in fact approved by the Anti-Inflation Board?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister..

HON. EDWARD SCHREYER (Premier)(Rossmere): Mr. Speaker, the information relating to that was supplied as a matter of deliberate intent by Manitoba Hydro to the Anti-Inflation Board, and that further there was discussion at the technical level in regard to that, and so the Anti-Inflation Board presumably is apprised of the nature of the change in all its detail, and whether or not they wish to pronounce, to use the work, of the Anti-Inflation Guideline, whether or not they wish to pronounce on it, is something that we are of course awaiting.

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the First Minister, could indicate in the event that the Anti-Inflation Board does not approve the Hydro Structure.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please, hypothetical.

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, I want to ask the First Minister, what contingency plans have been prepared in the event of a negative decision?

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, the same as would be faced by the utility in any other province. We are certainly not alone in this, Ontario Hydro, Quebec Hydro, I would think two utilities in Alberta, are in the same position. The net effect of course would be simply a forcing onto the world's money markets, to that greater extent.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

MR. HARRY J. ENNS (Lakeside): Mr. Speaker, I direct a question to the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture. I ask him whether members of his staff are involved in the organizing work currently under way with the Farm Workers Association in the Portage area, and if so, how many of his staff are involved.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Agriculture.

HON. SAMUEL USKIW (Minister of Agriculture)(Lac du Bonnet): Mr. Speaker, the Member for Lakeside may not be aware but the Department of Agriculture has been attempting to assist the employers' and the employees' groups in the Portage area towards

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(MR. USKIW cont'd) . . . .development of a collective agreement.

MR. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, I don't know whether the Minister doesn't want to answer but I'll ask him again, are there people on your staff, paid by your department that are involved in this work.

MR. USKIW: Mr. Speaker, the gentleman in charge of that part of the program is indeed a chap by the name of Mr. Enns, who the former Minister knows fully, and really doesn't have to ask the question. He's been with the department a long time and he's involved in Manpower development programs. Now from time to time he has hired consultants to assist him, and I believe the question is really with respect to the consultants who are not civil servants but are on contract.

MR. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, a further supplementary question on the same matter, the government is though paying, is contracting out a certain amount of works for these consultants and this is being picked up by the Department of Agriculture, is that correct?

MR. USKIW: Yes, Mr. Speaker, obviously consultants have to be paid and those funds come from the Department of Agriculture.

MR. ENNS: I have one other question to ask the Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Speaker. It is the Minister's intention, it's the government's intention to pursue this development and organize farm labour generally in the province?

MR. USKIW: Mr. Speaker, I think the Member for Lakeside is being somewhat suggestive here. The department is interested in a good relationship as between employees and employers within the agricultural industry, and to the extent that we can accommodate that developing in this province we would be very willing participants, yes.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

MR. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, I direct a question to the Honourable Minister of Industry and Commerce and ask him what help his department is providing the employers in this instance, the Portage area, in developing an organization to meet with and work with the organization that his colleague the Minister of Agriculture is developing on the farm-labour side. Specifically, how many employees has the Department of Industry and Commerce engaged in this activity and how much money is the Department of Industry and Commerce providing in assisting employers to organize in appropriate ways?

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

HON. LEONARD S. EVANS (Minister of Industry and Commerce)(Brandon East): Mr. Speaker, while the Department of Industry and Commerce indeed have many very good programs to help small businessmen in particular in this province, and many management programs, productivity programs, we are not directly involved, as the honourable member should know, in the field of agriculture. That is the purview of the Minister of Agriculture.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Agriculture.

MR. USKIW: Mr. Speaker, I think I should advise the Member for Lakeside that the Department of Agriculture has also assisted the employers of the same group, the same area.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Birtle-Russell.

MR. HARRY E. GRAHAM (Birtle-Russell): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Education and possibly also can be directed to the Minister of Health. I would like to ask the Minister if the present provincial competency tests are not sufficient, what plans does his department and/or the Department of Health have to upgrade their testing programs to meet the standards which will be required by the Federal Government?

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Order please. The question is hypothetical. The Honourable Member for Birtle-Russell wish to rephrase?

MR. GRAHAM: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister if he has any plans to improve the competency tests that will be required in the whole of Canada that will come under his jurisdiction, and to what extent is he prepared to improve the testing programs in the schools in Manitoba?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Education.

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MR. HANUSCHAK: Mr. Speaker, we regret to say that we at this point in time we're not yet the Government of Canada.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rock Lake.

MR. HENRY J. EINARSON (Rock Lake): Mr. Speaker, I direct this question to the Minister of Agriculture. I'd like to ask him if he agrees with the new Farm Workers Organization, the Farm Workers Group, does he agree with that organization that they should be the spokesman for all farm labour in the Province of Manitoba?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Agriculture.

MR. USKIW: Well the question is put in such a way that I would have thought it was out of order, but notwithstanding that it's not for me to agree or disagree. But to the extent that a group wants to organize itself into a collective bargaining position that is a privilege open to all of us, I hope.

MR. EINARSON: Mr. Speaker, in view of the question submitted to the Minister by my colleague from Lakeside, I would like to ask the Minister then with the assistance that he is giving is he also lending assistance to farmers to be able to acquire workers from Mexico?

MR. USKIW: Mr. Speaker, I did indicate a moment ago in answer to a question put by the Member for Lakeside that we have offered assistance to the employers and the prospective employees of the Portage area.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member of Consumer, Corporate and Internal Services.

HON. IAN TURNBULL (Minister of Consumer, Corporate and Internal Services) (Osborne): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A few days ago the Member for Fort Rouge asked me a question about the use of converters in translating cable frequencies and the availability of these converters and the possibility of the requirement for licencing of such converters, if in fact they are available to the general public.

Mr. Speaker, this question really related to a tap that was made onto the cable system that exists between the Health Sciences Centre and St. Boniface Hospital. This tap was put on, I believe by people connected with the Greater Winnipeg Cablevision Company. It was a hard-wired connection, Mr. Speaker, between the cable, the converter and the TV set. It is possibly only where the converter is installed near the cable.

Mr. Speaker, I can tell the honourable member that the privacy of the communication will be improved because such taps are being made by cable companies and the improvement will take the form of the MTS scrambling the signal that goes along the cable.

The availability of these converters in Winnipeg is minimal. There's no commercial use for them here, and indeed there is also no cable company licenced to carry frequencies that these converters would be used for. So that in that sense the converter is not generally available to the public and therefore licence is not required.

In addition to that, Mr. Speaker, the signal is not generally available. It is at a frequency that most people could not possibly pick up without some expertise, and certainly not without the particular kind of technical knowledge and equipment that would be necessary.

The signal is limited to a point to point connection between the two hospitals. This, Mr. Speaker, is not broadcasting as defined by the Broadcasting Act, therefore I can say in answer to the question of the Member for Fort Rouge that the use of these converters because of their lack of availability here and because of the definition of broadcasting, there is no need for a licence to be required.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

MR. PATRICK: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Tourism and Recreation. It was announced by the Folklorama Director that admission will have to be paid by senior citizens and pensioners to attend pavilions at Folklorama. Is this because the government has reduced the grant or will be cutting out the grant, or is still the grant available to the Folklorama Festival in August?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Tourism.

MR. TOUPIN: Mr. Speaker, the question has to be answered in two parts. The Folk Art Council itself has received a grant over the years and this grant is being

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(MR. TOUPIN cont'd) . . . . renewed this year. Over and above that we've had a request by Folklorama itself, the Board of Directors of Folklorama, and by individual pavilions to assist them in putting on their performances and exhibitions, and for the first time in history we are assisting different pavilions with small seat funds to get their exposition under way and made more readily available to the public. So instead of reducing we've augmented the financial participation of the Crown.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Mines.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I would like to now proceed if we can with the Orders of the Day, but before doing so I would like the leave of honourable members to table the report that is for the Manitoba Forestry Resources Limited.

MR. SPEAKER: Does the Honourable Minister have leave?

MR. GREEN: It was just printed the other day and I'm tabling it today.

I'd also like to schedule a Law Amendments Committee for Tuesday morning at 10:00 o'clock. We've now completed briefs on the bills which are before the committee and we will be wanting to consider the bills clause by clause.

ORDERS OF THE DAY  
GOVERNMENT BILLS - SECOND READINGS

MR. SPEAKER: Bill No. 37. The Honourable Member for Arthur. (Stand)

BILL 44 - AN ACT TO AMEND THE CIVIL SERVICE SUPERANNUATION ACT

MR. SPEAKER: Bill No. 44. The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. L. R. (Bud) SHERMAN (Fort Garry): Mr. Speaker, when the Minister of Labour brought Bill 44 in, introduced it for Second Reading, he described it as basically a tidying up or housekeeping bill, and it is precisely that, Sir, and certainly it's not the intention of anyone on our side to delay its passage to committee and hopefully it's relatively speedy adoption.

The bill I think has one major quality to recommend it, above and beyond the pure housekeeping aspects, that is, the step incorporated in the bill that provided the moneys from the fund shall be invested as directed by the Board's Investment Committee, by either the Minister of Finance or the Board. That, Sir, I think is a progressive and a constructive step, viewed in the context of the members of the fund, the contributing members of the fund themselves. What it does, I suggest, is ensure better protection for members of the fund where their own investment is concerned; it gives them clearer control over that investment.

I think we have in associated legislation, and in similar debates on this side, in this Chamber in the past, suggested that where too much control of that sort is vested in the Minister of Finance, or in any Minister of the Crown, that it is not in the best interest of those persons who are contributors to that fund or that particular contract, or that particular program, as the case may be, so that to spell out with a clearer definition the fact that the Board itself, and the Board's Investment Committee have a responsibility and a right paramount to that of the Minister of Finance in making these investment decisions is, Sir, I think a progressive step and one that should be welcomed by Members of the fund themselves.

There's some additional complementary and worthwhile provisions of the bill, provisions dealing with the reinstatement of service, with refunds, with credit for unfunded contributions, all of which strengthen the position and the investment of those persons contributing to the fund, and so I assure the Minister that I recognize the attempts that he is making in this legislation to improve the administration of the fund for those persons belonging to it, and that he will find a relatively untroubled position from this side of the House as the bill passes this stage of the proceedings.

The changes in wording of a minimal nature, to which the Minister referred in his introduction on second reading, simply tidy up some of the meanings and some of the applications and make it more clear to everyone just precisely what the intent and

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(MR. SHERMAN cont'd) . . . . ,intrepretation should be, and in that respect it is a bill that does a service to the Civil Service Superannuation Act itself.

So with those words, Mr. Speaker, I want to assure the Minister of our acceptance of the measure at this stage. We would like to see it pass through this step and into consideration by committee so that it can be disposed of relatively quickly.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

MR. PATRICK: Mr. Speaker, I rise to support Bill 44. I see it in some respects as a housekeeping bill, and in some respects extending powers to the Board, and I think it's good legislation. I believe in one area of the principle of the bill the Board Members will be able now to get out-of-pocket expenses for their meetings, which before they were not able to - there was no legislation or it didn't allow them to do that. The power would also allow the board to extend time limits, which were necessary and they did not have that provision in the bill before in the Legislation, so if they were not able to extend the time limits, some of the people were not able to receive the benefits that they were entitled to, so there could have been delays in administration through no fault, and still somebody was not able to receive the benefits, so I see this is a good provision.

Now one of the principles in the bill, I believe the Board will also administer pension plans, which again I think it's a good provision, the Board or the trustees of the fund now will administer it and before it was the Minister of Finance that administered it, and I think that it only right and natural that the trustees should be responsible to administer the pension plans and funds and be aware of what's happening. Again there is other information that will be available to the members which was not available before. So I think the provisions in the bill are certainly good provisions and I do support them, Mr. Speaker.

QUESTION put MOTION carried.

MR. SPEAKER: Bill 46. The Honourable Member for Fort Garry. (Stand)

BILL 58 - AN ACT TO AMEND THE CIVIL SERVICE SUPERANNUATION ACT (2)

MR. SPEAKER: Bill 58. The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Speaker, Bill 58 is as described by the Minister a companion bill of Bill 44. Also it is a companion bill of a bill that we are anxiously awaiting to see further evidence of, Bill 54, relating to the Teachers' Pensions Act, and I think it has two highly noteworthy and laudable aspects to it. One of them is the acknowledgement of the fact that the cost of living has been out of control for nearly all of us, and certainly for all those on fixed incomes, for some considerable time. I think the bill is humane and certainly highly necessary in the provisions within it that make it possible for retired civil servants to be covered by measures that take the cost of living increases into account in the Civil Service pensions, and that provide those pensioners, those retired civil servants, with a cost of living bonus as it were, as it was described by the Minister, and which will enable those Manitobans to perhaps fight a little more successfully against the encroachments of inflation and high living costs. That is one very desirable aspect of the bill and I salute the Minister for having moved in that direction.

I would hope without straying from the subject, Mr. Speaker, that the Minister would continue to keep under consideration the possible development and application of that same principle with respect to workers' compensation benefits. I know that we have discussed this in the past. I know the Minister is interested in moving in that direction as realistically and as quickly as he can and I just want to place on the record that I hope he finds it possible to provide that kind of additional compensation in that field of legislation too.

The other very noteworthy and commendable aspect of this Bill 58 is that having to do with war service and the recognition of war service, and the legitimate right of employees, former employees or retired employees of the Civil Service to have that war service recognized in the computing of the service of those employees for the purposes of the Civil Service Superannuation Act. This is a principle that has also been the subject

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(MR. SHERMAN cont'd) . . . .of some wide-ranging concern on the parts of Manitobans of all political stripes and I know that many Manitobans await with hope and anticipation the companion legislation I referred to a few minutes ago having to do with teachers' pensions, because as the Minister pointed out in his own introductory remarks, the same principle is involved there as is involved in this particular provision that we're looking at at the moment in this particular Act.

Mr. Chairman, one could hardly do otherwise than, I think in conscience and goodwill, say to the Minister that this is a proper and correct step. It recognizes a contribution that Manitobans have made and that has gone unrecognized in the strict confinements of some of our legislation up to this point in time, and so there is an inadequacy there and a misfortune there that is being corrected. For that reason alone I think the bill commends itself to speedy passage through this House.

There is the other reason, as I've suggested of providing a better living income for retired civil servants which is equally commendable, and the fact that it's related to Bill 44 and that the dates involved are of some significance, is a further reason, Sir, for assuring you and the Minister through you that members of our benches are happy to see the legislation and hope that we can process it fairly speedily.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

MR. PATRICK: Mr. Chairman, I have no reservation of supporting the bill and letting it go to committee. There's two main principles involved in the bill, one is extending for one further year - I understand just one further year - of cost of living increases to existing pensioners. I'm sure I'm correct on that, that's one of the principles, and certainly, Mr. Speaker, with the increase in the cost of living and inflation, I can't see why anyone would not agree with that principle.

The other one is the war service and this is somewhat different. I know that we will have the same bill in respect to the teachers and I know the teachers have been before this Legislature for the last 14 or 15 years that I can recall fighting for this clause, and I know even amongst the teachers themselves, which is a companion bill to this, it's a different one, there has been some disagreement, some were for and some against for war service where there is no prior employment. But again the onus is put on the employee to pay I believe the share of the employer and the share of the employee into the pension plan. So I cannot see again - that it's not costing the Treasury and I can't see why anyone would oppose it.

So I believe that both principles involved in the bill are good ones and I will support the Minister, Mr. Speaker.

QUESTION put.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour will be closing debate.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, I wish to move, seconded by the Honourable the Minister of Urban Affairs, if no other member wishes to speak, I move the adjournment of the debate.

MOTION presented and carried.

BILL 60 - AN ACT TO AMEND THE SECURITIES ACT

MR. SPEAKER: Bill 60. The Honourable Member for Roblin.

MR. J. WALLY MCKENZIE (Roblin): Mr. Speaker, I adjourned this for the Honourable Member for La Verendrye.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for La Verendrye.

MR. BOB BANMAN (La Verendrye): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to also lend support to this particular piece of legislation. We've had an opportunity to read the Act. It's basically administrative and housekeeping changes that are involved in the Act. I believe that there's a certain amount of uniformity as far as other jurisdictions are concerned, and also possibly brings it in line with the new Corporations Act which is before the House at this time.

I would like to congratulate the officials of the Securities Commission for updating this particular Act and we won't delay it into passage into committee.

QUESTION put MOTION carried.

MR. SPEAKER: Bill 62. The Honourable Member for Birtle-Russell.

MR. GRAHAM: Can I have this stand please, Mr. Speaker.

BILL 63 - AN ACT TO AMEND THE TRUSTEE ACT

MR. SPEAKER: 63. Same member.

MR. GRAHAM: Mr. Speaker, I realize the Attorney-General is not in the Chamber at the present time, and I suspect he may want to speak on this before debate is closed.

I rise, Sir, to support the idea of it. Probably Section 95 of the Trustee Act should be amended. Sir, that is the extent of my support.

The amendment that is proposed, Sir, I do not in any way agree with. When the Minister introduced this amendment to the Trustee Act, he stated at that time that it had been brought to his attention by the Chief of the County Court, or I suppose he's also the Chief of the Surrogate Court, that there has been I believe a trust company that has been writing into wills, etc., an agreement which would stipulate the amount of compensation that would accrue to those that were the executors of the estate. And I suggest to you, Sir, that if that agreement is agreeable to the parties involved, I see no reason why it should not be a binding agreement. But we find here, Sir, that the reverse is being applied that any agreement that has been mutually agreed upon between individuals will not be valid unless it has been approved by a judge of the Surrogate Court. Sir, I would suggest that while other agreements, until this amendment comes into effect, are automatically valid and binding, I think there should be a means for revision if there is any unhappiness on the part of any of the individuals involved. I think that should be probably brought into this legislation, that there is some avenue of appeal which could be to a judge of the Surrogate Court; but to take the whole thing and say that none of them are valid unless they are approved by a judge of the Surrogate Court, I think will add an added workload to the Surrogate Court at a time when rather ironically we have just reduced the judges' salary in the Surrogate Court.

I also suggest to you, Sir, that there are some other things happening in the handling of estates. I think there has been a substantial change occurring where in the past many members of the legal profession, in fact a high degree of management of estates was handled by the legal profession. There seems to be a somewhat unwillingness on the part of the legal profession to handle estates now because for various reasons, and many of those reasons I am sure are quite varied, but one that does seem to keep cropping up repeatedly is that well they can't make any money on it - that depends on the type of will, I imagine, and the size of the will. But, Sir, we find now that there is an increasing number of estates being handled by trust companies and we are now going to make sure that all agreements that are written into a will, whether both parties are agreeable or not, are going to be reviewed by the judge of the Surrogate Court, and before they are binding they must have his approval.

I would think it would be much better, Sir, if we are attempting to eliminate some, what some consider to be inequities anyway or injustices, that in those cases where they feel, or parties involved feel there is an injustice that they have the right to appeal to a judge. Rather than to take the whole thing and just turn it all over to the courts, I think it would be better that they handle only those cases where there's a difference of opinion.

And with those remarks, Sir, I would suggest that maybe there are others in the Chamber that want to make some comment, but I'm quite willing to see the thing go to committee to hear the views of others at that time.

MR. SPEAKER: Is it the pleasure of the House? The Honourable Member for Radisson.

MR. HARRY SHAFRANSKY (Radisson): Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for St. Johns, that debate be adjourned.

MOTION presented and carried.

MR. SPEAKER: Bill 64. The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. SHERMAN: Stand please, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: 65. The Honourable Member for Portage la Prairie. (Stand)  
Does the Minister of Education wish to introduce Bill 54?

MR. HANUSCHAK: Stand, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: 56. The Attorney-General is absent. The Honourable Minister  
of Labour.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable the  
Minister of Education, that Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair and the House resolve  
itself into Committee of Supply.

MOTION presented and carried and the House resolved itself into a Committee  
of Supply with the Honourable Member for Logan in the Chair. .

. . . . .continued on next page

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY - DEPARTMENT OF COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES AFFAIRS

MR. CHAIRMAN: We're on Page 15. Resolution 34(c) Special Projects in the amount of \$3,374,000. The Honourable Member for Brandon West.

MR. MCGILL: Mr. Chairman, when we left off the Minister had taken some questions in respect to special projects. I'd mentioned specifically the FOCUS Program, and I asked him what the enrolment was for last year and the appropriation as compared with the enrolment projected this year and the appropriation. I wonder if he has that information now.

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

MR. HANUSCHAK: Last year's enrolment was 1,200 and we're estimating 1,500 for the 1976-77 fiscal year.

MR. MCGILL: And the percentage of the appropriation that's allocated for to the FOCUS Program last year and this year?

MR. HANUSCHAK: This year it's \$300,000. I will try to obtain last year's figures as quickly as I can, Mr. Chairman. \$360,000, last year.

MR. CHAIRMAN: (c) The Honourable Member for Brandon West.

MR. MCGILL: Yes, I notice under Red River Community College that various enrolment figures are quoted and there is a figure for Special Courses for the year ending December 31st, 1974 - that's on Page 43 - shows 794, and the year ending December 31st, 1975, shows 422. Do these figures include the enrolment on the FOCUS Program?

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

MR. HANUSCHAK: If the honourable member is quoting enrolment figures at the Community Colleges, these are programs offered by the Community Colleges and not under this appropriation.

MR. MCGILL: Does this program for an open campus university system still operate from Red River Community College, and if so, what is the arrangement here? It's obviously a university oriented special project and yet there's been a connection with the Red River Community College. Can the Minister explain just how that works.

MR. HANUSCHAK: In terms of the nature of the program, Mr. Chairman, I suppose it could be described as one having a university orientation to it. The connection with Red River Community College is twofold. One, the physical location where the office of the FOCUS Program, which consists of a couple of trailers, is located on the property occupied by Red River Community College; and the other connection with Red River Community College is, and the Community Colleges in general, I should say, not merely with Red River, is the fact that graduates of some of the FOCUS Courses could obtain credit upon enrolling as full-time students at Red River Community College, and this of course would be in related courses, I would think. There's a variety of courses offered in five general fields: The Worker in Industry; the Institutions of Society; Women; the Family in Society; Native Studies, are just some examples of the types of courses that are offered, so, if there is a relationship credit can be obtained at Red River Community College.

MR. MCGILL: Mr. Chairman, according to the enrolment figures for last year, in the appropriation the cost per pupil looks like about \$3,000, and this year with the enrolment you're projecting of \$1,500, and on an appropriation of \$300,000, it's dropped rather noticeably. How does this cost per pupil compare with other special courses that are offered by his department?

MR. HANUSCHAK: Mr. Chairman, it must be borne in mind that the courses, No. 1, the courses are offered in remote communities, such as Berens River, Bloodvein, Brandon, Brochet, --(Interjection)-- Well, Brandon's not a remote community. --(Interjection)-- If one is in Churchill, one may look upon Brandon as remote to it, so it depends upon from what vantage point one speaks. Churchill, Cross Lake, Leaf Rapids, Lynn Lake, . . . , Moose Lake, Norway House, The Pas, Poplar River, Snow Lake, Thompson, Wabowden, Jenpeg, and so there you have a transportation cost which is high to reach these people over there, and that does contribute toward a fair portion of the costs. Also, by reason of the uniqueness, the newness of the programs that we're offering, there's the cost of the preparation of the material in itself, the course material, and so that accounts for a good portion of the appropriation; and that is the reason why this year the appropriation is somewhat less than last year because as time progresses,

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(MR. HANUSCHAK cont'd) . . . . and if there is no very substantial increase in enrolment, or no substantial increase in the number of communities from which we offer the course, hence the availability of courses previously prepared does have a reducing effect on the cost of the program. So therefore one can not make a per pupil cost comparison between this program and a Community College based one.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution 34(c) Special Projects, \$3,374,000--pass. 34(d) Canada Manitoba Northlands Agreement, \$3,300,000--pass. The Honourable Member for Brandon West.

MR. MCGILL: Could we have the usual dispensation here, the breakdown of the amount provided by this agreement for the various projects?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister of Colleges and Universities Affairs.

MR. HANUSCHAK: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Yes, this essentially is: under (d) the Canada Manitoba Northlands Agreement, \$1.452 million, it's for New Careers; \$1.748 million, it's Special Projects, and I believe, Mr. Chairman that you will note that - yes, that leaves us \$100,000 short, and the explanation for that is that \$100,000 of these funds are not spent by Special Projects but rather by our Youth Secretariat for youth travel from northern Manitoba.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 34(d) The Honourable Member for Brandon West.

MR. MCGILL: Mr. Chairman, it might be an appropriate time here to ask about the recoverable figures shown in each of these items. Presumably about 50 percent of the cost of post-secondary education is recoverable from the Federal Government under the Fiscal Arrangements Act, and yet to total the amounts shown in the Estimates under the various items comes to, oh, something like \$25 or \$26 million out of a total of \$125 million. Now, I wonder, where are the other amounts which would apply in here? There is certainly probably more than \$26 million in total recoverable from Canada in the post-secondary education's Estimates. What are we missing here in this distribution?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister of Colleges and Universities Affairs.

MR. HANUSCHAK: I believe, Mr. Chairman, I just want to make certain that I understand the honourable member. The honourable member is, I take it, referring to Federal Cost Recoveries for the entire field of post-secondary education, and he wishes to know where the balance is shown over and above - yes, because the recovery is . . . The honourable member is absolutely correct, it's much in the excess of \$25 million in total, and with reference to the Northlands Program it's about 60 percent, and the balance is shown . . . This is a residue, Mr. Chairman, what the Estimates Book shows, and the rest will be shown I guess it will be the Department of Finance that will show the figures, because that's part of the General Revenue, from the Income Tax points and so forth.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 34(d)--pass. 34(e) Interprovincial Training Agreements, \$387,100. The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, I've had some complaints about the New Careers Program which I take . . .

MR. HANUSCHAK: Mr. Chairman, that was under Special Projects (c) and I believe we've passed that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We've passed Special Projects, we've passed Canada Northlands Agreement. Now we are on Interprovincial Training Agreement.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, with your indulgence, Sir, I could have gone on Special Projects but I was guided by the description of the vote on Opportunities for Human Development and the breakdown says, includes Student Aid, Youth Secretariat, Special Projects, New Careers and Interprovincial Training Agreements, and it looked to me as though that was one title, and as a consequence I've waited until . . .

MR. HANUSCHAK: Mr. Chairman, I think I must rise on a Point of Order . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister on a Point of Order.

MR. HANUSCHAK: . . . and in seeking your guidance, I have no objections to answering honourable members' questions, but I am concerned about the precedence that this would set for our subsequent debates in Committee if we're to approve one item and then at some point later some member chooses to return back to it, because if one member be allowed to return, then some other member, for whatever other reason of his

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(MR. HANUSCHAK cont'd) . . . . own, may wish to do the same thing and the debate could go on endlessly, and I'm not sure whether the honourable members of the Committee would wish to allow that sort of practice.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. SHERMAN: Well, Mr. Chairman, I don't wish to return to anything; I'm perfectly prepared to leave it until the Minister's Salary. I was simply guided by the punctuation in the Estimates Book, and I suggest that the way it is punctuated indicates that it comes now, but I can wait until your salary.

MR. HANUSCHAK: Mr. Chairman, I will take a closer look at that, and I must indicate to you, Mr. Chairman, that those who prepared this, it was unlikely that they were the products of our educational system but of a previous one. If there's a problem in the three Rs, well, we'll attempt to resolve that.

MR. SHERMAN: Will the Minister consider expanding the curriculum to the three Rs and the one 'P', including punctuation?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Interprovincial Training Agreements in the amount of \$387,100. The Honourable Member for Brandon West.

MR. MCGILL: Mr. Chairman, this Committee seems to be pursuing a more active role, at least from the point of view of the size of the appropriation. The Minister has given us some detail as to the Co-operative programs which the Committee is now reviewing and possibly expanding. With respect to the Veterinary Program at Saskatchewan, I believe now that the Province of Manitoba's contributing in a regular way to the maintenance of this school, does the Province of Manitoba have any input as to the scale of fees that are chargeable to students going through the Veterinary College at the University of Saskatchewan?

MR. HANUSCHAK: I'm sorry, Mr. Chairman, I was detracted for a moment. Would the honourable member please repeat his question?

MR. MCGILL: Well, the operative part of the question was, does the Province of Manitoba, the Department of Education through its Interprovincial Training Committee have some input in respect to the establishment of fees at the University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, in the Veterinary College? You are now contributing in a regular way to the cost of that facility, what input do you have on fees?

MR. HANUSCHAK: No, Mr. Chairman, we have no control over the university fees, or the enrolment fees that any of the institutions charge which participate in this program. There is the - and perhaps I just could explain to the honourable member because I'm certain that he would want to know. Last year it's true, there's a significant increase, more than double, because last year all that came under this item was the Western College of Veterinary Medicine, which was \$158,000 shown there. This year the Veterinary Medicine is \$254,600 and, as the honourable member will recall when I introduced my Estimates, I made reference to Dental Nursing Training in Waterloo School of Optometry, and Dental Nursing Training is \$120,500, and the School of Optometry at Waterloo is \$12,000.

MR. MCGILL: Mr. Chairman, how many seats do we now have at Saskatoon Veterinary College on a regular basis as pre-empted for Manitoba students? How many positions do we hold for Manitoba at the Veterinary College of Saskatoon, on an annual basis?

MR. HANUSCHAK: 42. Yes, 39 last year, that is 1975-76, so that's the academic year ending now, and 1976-77, 42.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Brandon West.

MR. MCGILL: Mr. Chairman, that 42 seems a little out. I understood the total input that the school could handle there is around 60 to 65. Are you counting three years there, or what?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

MR. HANUSCHAK: Mr. Chairman, that's the total enrolment for the four-year program, so it's about 10 to 13 per year.

MR. MCGILL: Thank you. Can you tell me now when the projected expansion of the Saskatoon Veterinary School will come onstream. I understand they're intending to go from roughly 65 maximum to around 90.

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MR. HANUSCHAK: We do not know, Mr. Chairman, we haven't been advised of this matter having been settled by the university yet.

MR. MCGILL: What is the program arrangement at Wascana Institute, the training of Dental Nurses, is this a permanent arrangement, or at least in the foreseeable future, that Manitoba will continue to train all of those Dental Assistants that will be required on the new Denticare Plan in Regina, and if so, at what cost per student?

MR. HANUSCHAK: Mr. Chairman, this is a new program that we've entered into, and it's quite conceivable that two or three years from now we may decide to enter into a permanent arrangement of this kind with the Wascana Institute, but the matter is under review and I cannot indicate at this point in time what course of action we may take two or three years hence.

MR. MCGILL: How many seats do we have reserved for Manitoba at Wascana for the coming year?

MR. HANUSCHAK: 40 seats.

MR. MCGILL: And the cost to Manitoba for that enrolment?

MR. HANUSCHAK: I believe I mentioned that, Mr. Chairman, \$120,500.00.

MR. MCGILL: Mr. Chairman, what assistance is obtained from other provinces in respect to the new courses at Red River Community, which are I imagine shared programs, where we are the hosts rather than other provinces? There's the School for the Deaf, I believe, or an education program for deaf, and also a nuclear technology course I believe that is being offered now. What contribution is being made by other provinces to the cost of those courses?

MR. HANUSCHAK: Most provinces pick up the residual cost, Mr. Chairman.

MR. MCGILL: Residual after what? How do you determine a residual cost-sharing? I presume that this includes Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta. Is British Columbia involved in this nuclear medicine course?

MR. HANUSCHAK: Just Saskatchewan, Mr. Chairman.

MR. MCGILL: What is the arrangement at Waterloo University with respect to the training of optometrists? How many seats does Manitoba have there and what is our contribution to the cost?

MR. HANUSCHAK: Again as I had indicated in giving a breakdown, there's provision for three seats at \$12,000 in total.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution 34(e)--pass: Resolution 34, resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$16,533,300 for Colleges and Universities Affairs--pass. I refer honourable members back to page 14, Resolution 31(a) Salaries. The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. SHERMAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I've had some criticisms forwarded to me having to do with the New Careers Program and I'd appreciate the Minister's description of just what is being achieved in the New Careers Program and to what extent it is really meeting the guidelines laid down for it, to what extent it perhaps may be classified as a considerable amount of window dressing. If it's doing the job, then all well and good; but, as I say, some criticisms have come my way - just to describe one of the complaints, Mr. Chairman - to the effect that there are certain profit and non-profit organizations that are provided per diem assistance by the province who have applied for additional grants or additional funding or increases in their per diems, have been turned down on that request, but at the same time have been sent New Careerists with the result that there are personnel being imposed upon or seconded to their operations. So there's no saving to the taxpayer involved in this situation, and the organizations who applied for additional support or additional funding have been turned down on the per diem. Beyond that, I'd like to know whether the province does guarantee these New Careerists employment at the end of their two-year training period in the same capacity as they were trained; and if so, how does the province intend to provide that employment? If they're not going to increase the per diems of the agencies that would use them, how would employment be provided for those personnel. I wonder if the Minister could give me some description of the New Careers Program and what it's supposed to achieve and just what it is achieving.

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MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister for Colleges and Universities.

MR. HANUSCHAK: Mr. Chairman, firstly I wish to indicate that the New Careers Program is now window dressing in any sense of the term. I'm not aware of any agency being sent a New Careerist. New Careerists are, if one is in any employ other than the direct employ of government, well, and even with government, this is after close consultation and liaison with the departments and the various agencies of government wherein New Careerists may be trained, so there is no one who could claim that he has had a New Careerist imposed on him.

This is now the sixth year, which originated in 1970, of the New Careers Program, and the honourable member asked for a description of it. It's designed to help disadvantaged people to enter the job market of high need in the human service. So that in itself, Mr. Chairman, indicates that the jobs for which the New Careerists are training are those that have been identified as the high needs ones. The second objective of the program is to improve services by paraprofessionals, helping the professionals in their duties. In many areas where for lack of a paraprofessional, a professional has to devote a fair portion of his time, which is quite expensive, to the performance of functions which perhaps could be just as or in many cases even more adequately performed by a paraprofessional: To create socially useful and meaningful jobs at the entry level, and training for advancement within and between agencies to reorient employment practices within government by demonstrating to the employer that waiving traditional recruiting patterns and qualifications is not equivalent to lowering standards - and I will come back to that in a minute. By disadvantaged, the New Careers Programs means persons who do not have the credentials to compete for jobs, to compete for jobs to gain admission to training institutions and/or have been discriminated against by virtue of their ancestry, geographic location or socio-economic background. At the present time, of the 200 trainees, about 80 percent are of native ancestry; 80 percent have less than Grade IX education, 85 percent have work histories that are described as intermittent, unstable or never employed, and approximately 65 percent of the present trainee population are women, many of whom are single parents. So this is the type of individual, Mr. Chairman, that this program assists and successfully assists in enabling him or her to find his way and to gain full and useful employment. This program, Mr. Chairman, has shown that the disadvantaged desire opportunities to learn job competencies, and they're willing to overlook the immediate hardships that they may have and that they may face in working towards the goal of permanent employment in a meaningful job. In fact the success and the popularity of the program is such that we do not have to advertise, to run a publicity campaign to attract New Careerists, but the advertising is being done by word of mouth and by the success of the program. At this point in time, Mr. Chairman, there's a backlog of some 200 applicants who meet the criteria of disadvantaged for the program, but the limitations of the program just does not make it possible for us to provide a training program for them. And by and large this is on-the-job training program relating specifically to skills and knowledge required for a particular job. Approximately 70 percent of the training period, and the training period usually lasts about two years, is spent on the job, and 30 percent is spent in the classroom. Particular courses are developed and delivered in two-week modules to provide a mix of both types of experiences, the classroom and on-the-job training.

Mr. Chairman, the comment of the Honourable Member for Fort Garry coming to mind again that there's window dressing, as I've said before and I think that it bears emphasizing, they must be real, meaningful, provide lateral and upward career ladders and transfer ability as opposed to dead-end jobs which many people of this kind find their way in, if they find their way into the employment field at all.

So with that in mind, Mr. Chairman, New Career negotiates with the departments for entry - level positions in the context of the departments long-range plans. Some of the positions are, conservation officers, human rights officers, correctional officers, or they may be new areas of service or non-traditional, such as chemical abuse counsellors, legal assistance, community health workers. Quite recently, Mr. Chairman, we negotiated an arrangement with the Manitoba Telephone System and with the

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(MR. HANUSCHAK cont'd) . . . . International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers to provide employment for local people from remote communities where the telephone system is expanding its services, because the telephone system has been unable to find qualified people from the north and decided to follow the New Careers' route via its on-the-job training program in order to give an opportunity to local people to become skilled craft personnel. So once again, Mr. Chairman, through a process of work and study on this program, a total of seven, six men and one woman will receive the academic upgrading in order for them to meet the technical training requirements of the Manitoba Telephone System, and during this period of time, they will be supervised on the job by the Telephone System craft employees and receive a type of training that another apprentice training for a similar type of job would receive.

The last question that the honourable member asked, is there a guarantee of employment? No, if one examines a contract that the New Careerist enters into, there is no guarantee of employment, but I must emphasize the point, Mr. Chairman, which I have made earlier in the event that it may have escaped the honourable member, that job areas are identified wherein there is a high need so therefore the chances of employment are very good.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, it's my understanding that the government signs a contract with the New Careerist guaranteeing him or her employment at the end of the two-year training program in the same or similar capacity for which they are being trained. Now the Minister is saying, I want to understand him clearly, the Minister is saying I take it, that that is incorrect, that there is not a contract signed specifically that guarantees them employment in the same capacity for which they were trained at the end of their two-year course.

MR. HANUSCHAK: No, Mr. Chairman, the contract is merely for the period of training. There is a definite expiry date written into it.

MR. SHERMAN: Just one or two related points, Mr. Chairman. This is a difficult area to examine and certainly a difficult area to criticize, because no one could fault the goals of the program, no one could quarrel with the objectives of the program, the question is the results and the degree to which the objectives are being achieved. The Minister said in his first answer to me that he is not aware of any agencies being sent New Careerists, or not aware of anybody having them imposed on them. Well it's my understanding that there are a number of private agencies, some as I say profit-making, some non-profit, who look to the government for assistance and who received government direction in terms of the control of their budgets who have had New Careerists sent to them, and for lack of a better term I suggest imposed upon them, and I'd appreciate the Minister's fuller comment on this point because they have been identified to me, some of them have been identified to me as the Knowles School, for example, the Manitoba Community Treatment Association, Nechewan Limited, Native Clan Organization, all of them admirable agencies, but that flies somewhat in conflict with what the Minister has said. I would like to know whether my information is that far off the mark because my information is that agencies of that kind have sought a higher per diem from the Provincial Government, have been turned down on the per diem application, but have then had New Careerists sent to them and the New Careerists have gone to them with the understanding that they would be guaranteed employment at the end of their training period. The two parts of the equation seem to be in conflict, because if the per diem isn't going to be increased how can anybody guarantee - the Minister says they're not guaranteed - but how can anybody assure them in even reasonable measure that there will be employment at the end?

MR. HANUSCHAK: Mr. Chairman, of the New Careerists who are training with voluntary agencies, the government is certainly in no position to guarantee anyone, be it the New Careerists or anyone else, employment with any voluntary agency. --(Interjection)-- The voluntary agencies, they have their own boards, their own administrative staff, and they're the ones who do the hiring of staff.

Now, I think I can appreciate the point that the Honourable Member from Fort Garry is making, that I could see a voluntary agency in its campaign, in its rationale seeking additional public support, financial assistance, probably may say that if instead of

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(MR. HANUSCHAK cont'd) . . . . a New Careerist whom we have on staff for that body if they would have given us extra dollars to hire a professional person or whomever else to do whatever job is required, that they would be financially better off. That I would think is probably the argument that an agency may make. It has not been made to me, but I'm merely saying that if the Honourable Member from Fort Garry heard comment to that effect, it may be the agency saying, that, well here we have one or two New Careerists and we're receiving X number of dollars but really we need trained people to do that job, and if we were to go out and hire trained people that the per diem rate may leave them short a few dollars or whatever that the per diem rate wouldn't quite cover that.

But I want to also assure the honourable member that no New Careerist is placed in a voluntary agency unless the agency says that it will give us some assurance as best it could that there is prospect of employment for that New Careerist with it upon the completion of the training program. So it's not written into the contract, but I suppose one could say that it's just proceeding on the honour system, a gentleman's agreement, where an agency says that here in our type of operation we need people who have a certain type of skill or expertise developed within them and then we would work out an arrangement with them for the training of a New Careerist. Now we wouldn't want to, Mr. Chairman, we wouldn't want to send or impose a New Careerist on an unwilling voluntary agency, one unwilling to accept one, because after all the New Careerist Program is a training program, so hence we would expect that wherever it may be that the New Careerist will spend his two years of training, that it will be in a place of employment that would offer him the type of training program that he requires to become expert in that particular field.

So I must say in summing up that there are not any New Careerists that are simply parachuted into the operations of a voluntary agency.

MR. SHERMAN: Does the Minister or the department undertake any monitoring of the results of the program to determine what the percentage of permanent employment is as a consequence of the training programs?

MR. HANUSCHAK: I can't give the honourable member an exact percentage, but I can tell him this, that our success with New Careerists is a very good one, the percentage is very high, extremely high.

MR. SHERMAN: If there aren't opportunities in the sectors to which the Minister has made reference, does the government undertake to absorb graduate New Careerists in departments of its own?

MR. HANUSCHAK: Oh, yes, Mr. Chairman. There are New Careerists in this very department training as adult educators; in co-op development training as accounting clerks; in the Civil Service Commission as human resource workers; in Health and Social Development as administrative assistants, and also the largest number as community health workers; and in Corrections as correctional officers, group counsellors also in Corrections, as probation aides; and again Health and Social Development as liaison workers; and in Agriculture as home advisers; and even in the Department of Finance one is training as a research assistant.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for St. James.

MR. GEORGE MINAKER (St. James): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I first would like to apologize to the Minister that I wasn't present when he dealt with the subject I wished to raise questions on at this time. I understand the Honourable Member from Brandon West did raise some questions, but there are still some answers forthcoming, I believe, and it related to Red River College and the special courses or programs that are offered, in particular the Heavy Equipment Operators Course. I wonder if the Honourable Minister could advise me on who operates and offers these special programs, in particular the Heavy Equipment Operator Course? Is it the division or is it Canada Manpower?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

MR. HANUSCHAK: Canada Manpower funds that, Mr. Chairman.

MR. MINAKER: Then, Mr. Chairman, could I ask the explanation of the Honourable Minister, in the Annual Report of the Department of Colleges and Universities,

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(MR. MINAKER cont'd) . . . . I think on Page 40, this is the 1975-76, it indicates Special Programs offered by the division, and it indicates a "Learn to Operate Heavy Equipment." I wonder if the Minister could clarify that.

MR. HANUSCHAK: Now, is the honourable member referring specifically to the Heavy Equipment Operators Course or to Special Programs in general?

MR. MINAKER: Mr. Chairman, if you read the report it says: "During the year over 400 persons took advantage of Special Programs offered by the divisions." It goes on to expand what courses are offered and then further on in there it mentions Heavy Equipment I think, on the 5th line. So would the Minister advise, does the division offer this special program and run it?

MR. HANUSCHAK: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

MR. MINAKER: Then, Mr. Chairman, could I ask the Honourable Minister, who sets the standards for the course and who also sets the entrance requirements?

MR. HANUSCHAK: If it's a designated trade, Mr. Chairman, then the Apprenticeship Board under the Department of Labour. If it's not a designated trade in the operation and in the delivery of many courses, we have advisory committees consisting of both management and employees in that particular field who work in close liaison in offering the Community Colleges advice on admission requirements, course content and --(Interjection)-- That's right, yes.

MR. MINAKER: Mr. Chairman, I wonder, too, I think one of the questions raised by the Honourable Member from Brandon West was whether there was any subsidy that came from Canada Manpower for each student that took the Heavy Machinery Operator Course that they referred to the college, and how much the subsidy is?

MR. HANUSCHAK: If a student finds his way into the course via a Canada Manpower Centre then they pay the full cost. They're the purchasers of the course.

MR. MINAKER: Mr. Chairman, through you to the Minister. Can the Minister advise - and I don't know whether he would have this answer - whether or not students are accepted other than those referred to the college from Canada Manpower for the Heavy Equipment Course?

MR. HANUSCHAK: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

MR. MINAKER: I wonder, Mr. Chairman, if the Honourable Minister could advise, is this a recent policy change, recent in the last few months?

MR. HANUSCHAK: No, Mr. Chairman, there has been no policy change.

MR. MINAKER: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the Honourable Minister could explain a letter that I received from a student who has graduated from St. James Collegiate, and it's dated January 20th of this year. It related to - well, I will read it: "Dear Mr. Minaker: I'm interested in the Heavy Equipment Operator Course that is offered at Red River Community College. I saw my school counsellor about this course and he decided to go to a counsellor at Red River Community College to see about my chances of getting into this course.

"A counsellor at Red River Community College told me that this was not a regular course and that I should go to Canada Manpower. He told me also that Canada Manpower could only refer people that had been out of school for a year. I am worried because this doesn't seem fair that a person has to be out of school for a year and perhaps unemployed to get into certain courses at Red River Community College.

"I also said that I was willing to pay my own way, as well as because of waiting lists and other students may end up having to look to other provinces to get the courses we want or are qualified to enter."

I wonder, Mr. Chairman, if the Minister could advise that if the student was willing to pay for his own way, would he be able to get into this course and how much it would cost him?

MR. HANUSCHAK: Mr. Chairman, at the risk of being repetitious, because the Honourable Member for Brandon West did raise this matter but did not make reference to the particular individual, and I assured him at that time, I'm quite certain that I did, that if there is a particular case where there's a problem, I'd be pleased to look into it. Whether he'd be able to enroll upon the payment of a fee or not will depend upon availability of space, and this works both ways. From time to time Canada Manpower

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(MR. HANUSCHAK cont'd) . . . . . cannot buy the number of seats that it may wish to buy at any given point in time and it may have to wait until seats are freed up as students complete the course of training.

Now, it may have been that in this particular instance at this time that Canada Manpower may have bought up 100 percent of the places available in the course, and hence there was no room. So, therefore, if that were the case, and I don't know, Mr. Chairman, that would have to be checked out, and it will have to be checked out if that is the case at this point in time if the honourable member is concerned about his present status as of today. If that were the case that all the seats were filled, then even if he did offer cash or a cheque for his tuition fee, the Community College will have to say no to him; but if space is available then certainly he would be able to enroll if he meets whatever requirements there are.

Now, the comment in the letter about being one year in the labour force out of school, that is quite correct. Those are the Canada Manpower requirements. I cannot say, Mr. Chairman, that we are all that excited or happy with those requirements, that that is the only route that Canada Manpower allows to assist students in finding their way into training courses of this kind, but that's their requirement and not ours, to get in via Canada Manpower.

What the fee is, it's \$7.00 a month.

MR. MINAKER: Mr. Chairman, through you to the Honourable Minister. There's one other concern I have, and I just have the photostat of the brochure, the centre page of the brochure that covers this particular course, and it says very clearly that "Starting dates: This is a continuous intake course with a new group of trainees every three weeks throughout the year." Again it says: "Check with your local Canada Manpower Centre for commencement dates." I have to be honest with the Minister, I'm not too sure whether that's a Canada Manpower brochure or the one that the Red River College hands out.

But what I am also concerned about is with regards to the entrance requirements, and the No. 1 one is (a) Age 18 to 45, then in brackets (21 to 45 preferred). Now I can't quite understand why they would indicate in such a manner because my understanding is once you acquire the age of 18 that you are in the age of majority, or you've reached the age of majority, and I can see if for licence purposes and legal purposes that you should be an adult. But I might just draw it to the attention of the Minister that if this has been put out by his department, that I caution him that he may be contravening the Human Rights Act because under Section 3, Discrimination Prohibited in Public Places, it very clearly says that "No person directly or indirectly alone or with another, by himself or by the interposition of another shall deny to any person the accommodation, services, or facilities available in any place to which the public is customarily admitted," and I would presume that the public is allowed, if they have the requirements of the academic and so forth, to take part in this and physical; and it says: "Because of the race, nationality, religion, colour, sex" and I underline "age, or ethnic or national origin of such persons." So I would caution the Minister that I hope that the people will not be barred from this course if they aren't 21, because I can see the restriction on the age of majority, but I always understood that once one has reached the age of 18 that is now considered an adult.

MR. HANUSCHAK: Mr. Chairman, I do not believe that that is a publication of ours. It would sound by the tone of it, the reference to Canada Manpower, that it's a Federal Government publication. But we will certainly take a look at it and if it should be found that it is in contravention of our Human Rights legislation or any other legislation, we'll certainly bring it to the attention of Canada Manpower.

MR. MINAKER: I thank the Honourable Minister for his answers. Am I now correct in assuming that if someone who is of the age 18 applies for this course, if it's still in operation, and has not had a year out of school or a year working experience in the construction, that he will be given a fair opportunity the same as anybody else in that course.

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MR. HANUSCHAK: Mr. Chairman, there are no age requirements, neither minimum nor maximum, for any course that any of our community colleges offer.

MR. MINAKER: Well I'm happy to hear that, because in this particular field I know from personal experience last summer when I was managing a project where we required heavy equipment it was a problem of getting the machinery from the people who rented out the equipment, and it wasn't because of shortage of equipment, it was a shortage of operators. And I hope that the Minister will make sure that if there has been some misunderstanding somewhere along in his department that it will be straightened out.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution 31(a). The Honourable Member for Brandon West.

MR. MCGILL: Mr. Chairman, I had intended at an earlier point in the review of the Estimates to discuss the Parkland Continuing Education Project, which is the regional delivery of some post-secondary programs which I understand is enjoying a measure of success and acceptability. Mr. Chairman, the point I am making is that this is being delivered by a separate organization, I am told, separate from the regional community colleges, and I'm wondering when this project was conceived if there was consideration given to the delivery of the program through those already established community colleges. Is there anything about this program that really required that there be a separate organization? I know that some of the community colleges are already involved in certain outreach programs. Why was this program specifically separated and organized with its own administrative personnel? Was there some difficulty that was perceived by his department in the delivery through established regional community college channels?

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

MR. HANUSCHAK: No, Mr. Chairman, there was no difficulty experienced in the delivery of any programs, either on campus or off, via the established community college channels. But I would like to take a moment or two to acquaint members of this committee, Mr. Chairman, with the history, with the genesis of the Parklands Continuing Education Project.

It grows out of a recommendation contained within the Oliver Commission on post-secondary education. The Commission in holding its hearings across the Province of Manitoba found an express desire by the community at large in wanting to provide itself with an education program specifically designed to meet its own particular needs; and not only that, wanted to be very much involved in the planning and the preparation, design, and the delivery of the program. So hence the Parklands Continuing Education Project was established as a pilot project last year, it got under way in about February or March of '75 and this is really the first full year of operation that it has enjoyed. Many of the programs that they offer in response to an expressed local need are such that the community colleges do not offer; or if they are offered, not of the same type, calibre, breadth or narrowness, it may be a more elaborate course that a community college offered in a certain field but something on a smaller scale that a local community would want.

I'm sorry, Mr. Chairman, I should have also mentioned this point - and this too flows from the Oliver Commission - the recommendation pointing out that there are unused human resources available in many communities and that this would be a way of meeting two needs; providing those who have a certain skill, expertise, to share with others, providing them an opportunity to do so and at the same time providing the participants in this program the opportunity to receive the benefits of the sharing of such skills and expertise. So it's not in any sense of the word a reflection on the ability or the inability of the community colleges to conduct their programs. We recognize and accept the fact that there is need for the type of programs the community colleges offer, but it was also felt that it would be desirable to experiment in one community, and Parklands was chosen because - well, with the exception of northern Manitoba, it's probably the most remote from the community colleges at Winnipeg, Brandon and The Pas, and hence the experiment was launched there.

MR. MCGILL: I accept the Minister's explanations, Mr. Chairman, but nothing in what he has said really comes to grips with the main issue here, and that was with the demonstrated administrative competence of the established community colleges, why would it not be possible to, under that umbrella, deliver these programs in the

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(MR. MCGILL cont'd) . . . . Parkland area rather than setting up sort of a parallel new system.

MR. HANUSCHAK: I thought I had answered the honourable member. The Parklands Continuing Education Project with its modest budget of \$128,000 has its own advisory committee - I think that's the term that is used, management or advisory committee - a regional co-ordinating committee. And then there are district committees, and this gives them an opportunity to participate in the delivery of the program which involves the utilization of the funds, rather than have someone in a community college who may not be identified closely with the community determine how and when the money should be spent. And the administrative structure certainly is not a large one. There is a director, so administration staff consists of one. I am advised that he borrows from education to do whatever secretarial and clerical work there is to be done.

I also wish to point out to the honourable member that from time to time Parklands does call upon and makes arrangements with the community colleges for the delivery of certain courses. Because there may be from time to time an expressed need in a particular community for a certain course and there is a teacher available at the community college, so arrangements are made to enable him to go out to that community from time to time and give that course. So there is that type of co-operation, but it's not setting up a parallel administrative structure.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution 31(a). The Honourable Member for Radisson.

MR. SHAFRANSKY: Mr. Chairman, I realize there is only a couple of minutes left before we go into the Private Members' Hour, but I'd just like to reiterate my concern which I had raised on Tuesday evening. It's something that - I'm quite disturbed that the opposition has not saw fit to zero in on these problems which are being created by the other provinces. I see in today's Free Press there is a headline: "U of W may reluctantly set quota for its intake of foreign students". And it repeats some of the comments that I made with regards to what has happened in British Columbia, the possible establishment of quotas eliminating students from universities in Alberta, the possible increase of fees on foreign students, and now Manitoba has moved in the same field.

I have some figures dealing with a situation at the University of Manitoba, the percentages of foreign students in the Engineering Faculty for example: The total percentage is some 17.4 percent out of a total student faculty body of 1,029. And the total University of Manitoba enrolment of some 20,618, 4-1/2 percent are presently visa students. Mr. Chairman, I see it is 4:30, there seems to be a desire on the part of the House to complete the Estimates of the Colleges and Universities, I will therefore yield to the desire to complete this department.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution 31(a)--pass; Resolution 31. Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty . . .

MR. LLOYD AXWORTHY: Mr. Chairman, I understand their interest in getting it through, but I do want to make some remarks on the Minister's Salary.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The honourable member have leave? Order please. The hour for Private Members' Hour having arrived, I am leaving the Chair to return at the call of the Committee.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' HOUR

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. First item, Public Bills on Thursdays.  
Bill 41. The Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

BILL 41 - THE MANITOBA FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

MR. PATRICK: Mr. Speaker, I adjourn the debate for my colleague the Member for Fort Rouge.

POINT OF ORDER - PROCEDURE ON ADJOURNMENT

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Morris.

MR. WARNER H. JORGENSEN (Morris): Mr. Speaker, I am afraid that I must rise on a point of order. I'm not going to allow that to happen, because if the precedent is set that somebody can adjourn a debate for the mover of the bill and then have him close it is a very effective way of closing off debate. When the honourable member adjourned the debate the last time this bill was before the House he did not adjourn it in the name of the Member for Fort Rouge, and he must have known that taking the adjournment in his name was tantamount to closing the debate.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The point is well taken, although I would have mentioned it myself. The honourable member did take the adjournment, and I think that we have always agreed that you may take an adjournment for someone else but not in order to close debate. Now if the Honourable Member for Assiniboia wishes to speak on this bill, he's welcome otherwise I'll go to someone else.

MR. PATRICK: That's fine, Mr. Speaker, if anybody wishes to speak it's open. I did not say that nobody could speak. I've seen in this House - Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, many members have adjourned a debate and got up as recently as just today or yesterday and said, I adjourn the debate. But I know this is closing the debate and that makes it a little different. So I would not want to preclude anyone from speaking. I'd say it's wide open and if anyone wishes to speak, certainly.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Radisson.

MR. SHAFRANSKY: Mr. Chairman, I'd just like to let the members realize when I adjourned the debate on Bill, was it No. 63, possibly I should have adjourned the debate on behalf of the Attorney-General.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Let us get one matter of procedure straight. Anyone may adjourn a bill for whatever reason he wishes, but let us understand that no one can adjourn a debate for the sake of closing debate unless he himself is the person who has made the motion and has that right in his own right. We will not tolerate a subterfuge as an adjournment in order to close debate by anyone, at least this Chair won't. I don't know what the members wish. Thank you very much. We are now on Bill 41 and the debate is open. The Honourable Member for Morris.

MR. JORGENSEN: Mr. Speaker, if I may on the point of order, I don't know if there is anyone else that wishes to speak on this particular debate, but one way in which the Member for Assiniboia can get out of the difficulty without establishing precedence - we do not want that - is to speak, no matter how briefly. Then if no one else wishes to speak, the Member for Fort Rouge can take the adjournment or speak on it right now and close the debate.

BILL 41 (Cont'd)

MR. SPEAKER: Correct. The Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

MR. PATRICK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I did not believe I would get in this dilemma by just adjourning the debate, but certainly I can speak on the Freedom of Information Act. I see that it has great validity, I see that some of the other provinces have moved in this area and have introduced such legislation. Mr. Speaker, just as recently as last week it came to the attention of this House there were private reports within the government, and the report that I will mention was the Kierans' Report with respect to Hydro. This type of Information Act would probably allow that kind of report to get into the hands of all the members, and I believe it should be the property of all

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(MR. PATRICK cont'd) . . . .the members. It was paid by the public so surely the suggestion has some validity.

The Member for St. Matthews said the information has always been open to all the members of this House and there was no difficulty getting information, but that's not true, Mr. Speaker. I'm sure that's not true. And not any discredit to the members of the Conservative Party on my right at the present time, but I'm sure that many of them will remember when some years ago we were not able to get the mileage count on highways, that was not allowed by the government. So what happened? We used to put in an Order for Return on almost every highway and request to have that kind of information, and it was voted down. --(Interjection)--

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please.

MR. PATRICK: Well, I'm sure the Member for St. Boniface would remember because he was a member of the opposition. The Member of Gladstone of the day, I believe, used to put in Orders for Return all the time, and there were many occasions that information was not available. So I'm saying in respect to Hydro at the present time, surely there is much information that could have been given to the members has not been, as recently as last week information of a report surfaced which was not available to the members before. There is much information that I believe the members should be able to receive. And to say that it has no validity and all this information has always been open by all governments, I don't believe that's very true. I believe that the present government has been more open in many respects and probably more available to the members of the Legislature. At least I believe the Ministers are more available, if you need some information you at least can get them on the phone, which has not been always the practice. But to say that the bill has no suggestion, has no validity, I can't understand why they would have such legislations in some of the other countries - and I'm talking about the Commonwealth countries, not necessarily the United States. So surely the bill must have some validity and I would support it.

MR. SPEAKER: I shall be presenting the motion. Does anyone else wish to speak? The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge shall be closing debate.

MR. AXWORTHY: Mr. Speaker, that's right, I find myself without words, seeing as my colleague has almost taken care of the matter for me. I wouldn't want to disappoint the Member for Fort Garry, however, so I will try as much as I may to think of some odd remark that I might be able to pass along, just in order that the Member for Fort Garry won't go home too early tonight, and catch his early evening cocktail or something. Therefore I'll have to, Mr. Chairman, give it a moment's pause and reflection. I'll certainly say at the beginning that when the bill was presented, I confessed to not expecting it to have easy passage the first time round. But Mr. Speaker, I'm a firm believer in the notion of an idea that its time will come, and I expect that sometime in the not too distant future that this Legislature will be passing a bill of similar kind and of similar content, just as in the past we looked at other so-called radical, foreign, alien ideas as the Ombudsman, and those are the words that I quote from a Hansard about ten years ago that was being debated, this alien instrument that was imported from foreign lands which we all now think is a necessary and important part of our governmental structure.

So Mr. Speaker, I think that obviously the major purpose in presenting a bill of this kind is to draw the attention of the members of this House to what I consider to be an important problem, to open it up to some discussion, and if I'd had my way I would have liked to have seen it gone to Committee where further public representation could have been made. But whether it does or not, I think the important point of it all, Mr. Speaker, is to identify the essential fact of government in this day and age, and that is the ever-growing, ever-expanding monopoly of power exercised by the executive part of the Cabinet primarily, supported and enhanced by the bureaucracy. And I think the basic features that we have made presenting this bill, Mr. Speaker, is, that as venerated and as hallowed as are the traditions of parliamentary government, they are at the present moment not sufficient to deal adequately with the immense power that has grown up in the hands of the bureaucracy and the Cabinet. And that is simply a fact, that our parliamentary institutions must always re-examine themselves in order to keep

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(MR. AXWORTHY cont'd) . . . .pace with changing conditions.

Mr. Speaker, before I deal with that major thesis, let me deal with some of the more specious arguments that I've heard during this debate. By the way, I welcomed all points of view because I was as interested in hearing the different perspectives, in particular I thought the Attorney-General had some prudent remarks to make. But let me deal with what I thought was the most specious argument that this is really an American gimmick. I've heard this come from members in the House many times before, and I think it expresses a certain attitude of mind, that somehow I guess anything American is tainted and we shouldn't touch it. Which is not good history by the way, Mr. Speaker, because if one looks at the creation of the British North American Act, one would know historically that we at that time borrowed several items from American congressional systems and incorporated them into our own parliamentary system. Our system of parliament is not a pure system derived from the British, we borrowed, we adapted and transplanted ideas from a number of countries in the creation of our own initial constitutional framework. So, to immediately count out of hand at this point anything that is American, Mr. Speaker, simply means that we, I think are becoming guilty of a form of xenophobia, assuming that anything we do is perfect and right, we are not able to learn from other people, which I think is wrong.

But let me deal with that argument in particular, Mr. Speaker, because this idea is not an American idea. Anyone who says it is simply doesn't know very much about government. Frankly the matter was borrowed from Sweden, which has had a similar practice now for close to 150 years. And I'm somewhat mystified by the fact that members of the New Democratic Party who fly by the plane loads to Sweden and bring back boxloads of any of the newest, latest, economic theories that they can derive from Sweden, are so objectionable to something in which the Swedes think is very important. Because they recognize that if government is going to intervene more directly in economy, there must be a counter voice and a counterbalance to that government intervention, and therefore their counterbalance has been to provide for a much higher degree of openness in government to the point where the onus on the Swedish government is that everything is open, it only can be kept secret in fact if government deliberately decides to do so. So in fact they are almost 180 degrees more open than we are in terms of that spectrum. And yet the interesting thing about our friends across from us is that they are so anxious, and fall over themselves running about to pick up the latest social democratic economic theory, but are so reluctant to realize that there is a harmony in the Swedish governmental system, and that is if government itself is going to be a more direct intervener then it must also provide for a much higher degree of constraint upon government in terms of not abusing the power that they have acquired. One of the ways in which they ensure that that takes place is to make sure that government is completely open. Because as I say, that if government itself for social reasons must take more responsibility in the economy then at the same time must be far more open and accessible, and that government can not work by secrecy. If you're going to have government intervening in the economic and social life, then there must be a balance, and the major balance is that total openness of government itself.

And so, Mr. Speaker, I would simply say to the members of the New Democratic Party, get your Act in order. Get yourselves together on this thing, that if you are going to walk around and carry the label of Social-Democrats, then for goodness sakes carry the logic of that argument through, not just simply on the economic intervening side but also on the requirement to build some political institutions to ensure that the power that accrues is not borrowed. And so, Mr. Speaker, I would say that when I am mystified by the argument, I mean simply that. That I don't think that the New Democrats do oppose this bill are really being true to their own principles, or if they are being true, it would make one suspicious as to who they do want to intervene, and maybe it really is because they want a high degree of power that is unaccountable and unexamined and irresponsible, because that is really the end result. If in fact there is not a counterbalance to the high degree of government intervention, then in fact that you do get power that is unaccountable and irresponsible. And therefore, Mr. Speaker, as

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(MR. AXWORTHY cont'd) . . . . long as this particular government holding the philosophy it does and holding a philosophy similar in tone to many other governments, adheres to the objective that government itself must take more of the responsibility in economy, then I think that they owe it to the people of Manitoba to ensure that there is a much higher degree of openness and accountability in terms of the political institutions that they develop.

So Mr. Speaker, I would simply say, to claim that this is an American derivative, is wrong factually, wrong historically, even wrong philosophically, and in fact really derives its initial impulse from Sweden, and it has since been borrowed by many other countries. Let me say, as my colleague mentioned, that in other countries, Australia for example, another parliamentary system, established a legislative committee two years ago to again examine the application of a Freedom of Information Act. Now I don't know what's happened subsequent to the last election, but certainly as late as this year that committee was reporting on its findings and was going to bring a bill forward in the Australian parliament. So again here's a country, another Commonwealth country, which has also borrowed its institutions from Great Britain and has melded other institutions into it, they don't seem to think it's such an eccentricity, they don't seem to think it's so invalid. Somehow they have also recognized the importance of redefining and rebuilding our institutions, commensurate with the kind of problems they must face.

So, Mr. Speaker, I think that that is why I say it's a specious argument and one that is not really grounded very well in fact, and I think that that is in many cases, Mr. Speaker, the worst kind of argument. It still leaves me with the question as to why it is that, particularly members on the other side oppose it so vehemently. And I find it curious I guess that their vehemence is only equalled by the vehemence of the more right-wing members of the Conservative Party and it would seem to me that there is a very curious alliance going on here. Mr. Speaker, I guess the only alternative in this province are the Liberals who seem to think in this way, because if there's such strong alliance in the way that government operates, then I would simply say, Mr. Speaker, that people in Manitoba have only one choice in terms of an alternative, the government. Because in fact, Mr. Speaker, I think that that happens to be the way it works out, that while this government plays from time to time somewhat so-called left-wing economic policies, although they are not so left-wing any more, because I don't think they have any policies, so you can't really describe them, but I think that when it comes to their social-political position, they are as right-wing as our friends to the right here are, that they are probably economically left and socially right, and that I don't think gives the people much choice. I think therefore, Mr. Speaker, when people in Manitoba recognize the fact that they are really being in part duped by this label of progressiveness that some members of the New Democrats would like to address to themselves, it really just isn't so. In fact, Mr. Speaker, they are highly reactionary when it comes to their willingness to accept change and redefinition and reform in the interest of government.

And that, Mr. Speaker, comes down I guess to the major part. Let me deal for a moment with some of the remarks made by members of the Conservative Caucus who seem to claim, Mr. Speaker, that this thing was really an aberration. The fact that Jed Baldwin, the Health Leader of the Conservatives of the House of Commons - I think the argument by the Member from Morris was, because they took away the Estimates out of parliament, that was the reason that Jed Baldwin has had this absence of mind, has introduced a bill totally similar in concept to this one. Well, Mr. Speaker, I was taken by the argument, so I contacted a friend of mine in the Conservative Caucus - and I have several, certainly since the change of leadership I have several - and they sent me a document that was prepared, Mr. Speaker, by the Conservative Caucus. It would be very interesting reading for the members of this Conservative Caucus, because the basic note is, and I quote from it, is that to date any efforts in this area probably would have been seen more as a personal initiative by Jed than any policy thrust by our party as such, apparently heading toward some kind of government response. It would now be more worthwhile to lend more widespread party support to the Freedom of Information Act. And then, Mr. Speaker, when you go into the - you know, it's a very interesting document, and I wish members of the Progressive Conservative Caucus would

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(MR. AXWORTHY cont'd) . . . .be in closer consultation with their colleagues in Ottawa, it would save me having to repeat for what the Conservatives are saying. But the fact of the matter is this,--(Interjection)--I beg to argue, I've read it very thoroughly.

Mr. Speaker, the Conservative Caucus, as they point out in their own research paper concerning freedom of information, and I quote, because they come back with the same thesis that I've been concerned about: "As we in Canada at all levels, as in any other democracy, we have been moving towards greater centralization of power in the hands of the executive branch in the hands of cabinet advisors; coupled with this trend has been the growing reluctance of all bureaucratic institutions to divulge any information concerning the reasoning involved in decision-making," - and in very glowing terms which I wish that I had written at some point. "Self government with maximum participation, that the citizenry and affairs of state is meaningful only with an informed public. How can we govern ourselves if we do not know how we govern?" And the paper then goes on to argue, Mr. Speaker, as to how the full Conservative Caucus in Ottawa should be supporting a Freedom of Information Bill.

Well, I suppose that every party can disagree amongst itself, and it's interesting to know that there is such wide sort of opinions between the Federal Conservatives and the Provincial Conservatives of Manitoba, and I don't hold that against them. I would only hope, Mr. Speaker, that they would learn from time to time from their colleagues, because Mr. Baldwin, who is a very well noted parliamentarian with many years experience, doesn't think like the Member from Morris thinks, that this idea is so foreign and so alien and so ridiculous, because he's promoting a bill of a similar kind. In fact, Mr. Speaker, when it comes to the question of quoting authorities or sources, I would think that while some Members of this House have a great deal of experience in parliament, I think that it would have been more worthwhile if they had looked a little wider afield, and in particular looked at the fact that the bill that was brought in by Jed Baldwin is now being considered by a committee of the House of Commons, and a number of very interesting people have appeared before that committee in support of the Freedom of Information Bill. They include such people, Mr. Speaker, as Max Cohen, who is a well known Professor of Law at McGill, who has commented many times on legal and parliamentary matter. Someone like Donald Smiley, who was President of the Canadian Political Science Association, someone who I would assume would know a little bit about government and in fact has just finished doing a study, a book that has been written on the whole question of freedom of information in various democracies. He came out in full scale support. Davidson Dunton, who is former President of Carleton University, President of the Ontario Trust Council and a former Commissioner of Bilingualist Commission, and I think a highly respected man of public affairs, has also come out in favour of this idea.

Mr. Speaker, there is a whole range of people, not on the basis on a partisan issue, but just simply because they come back time and again to the fundamental problem, and that is that the monopoly over information is a source of power, and if we are simply to say that that source of monopoly of power is to be purely in the hands of the politicians, then the old saying comes up, who watches the politician? You know, who watches the night watchman, as the old saying used to go? And I think that that is really the basic concern, Mr. Speaker, because I am saying that there is nothing in the bill that I have presented which in any way or form limits or constrains the power of this House, and members who have said that simply have not read the bill clearly. In fact, Mr. Speaker, I would assert that if a bill such as this was passed, it would strengthen the role of members of this House. It would certainly strengthen the role of the individual members, the elected representative. It certainly would not strengthen the role of the executive, it may make the cabinet uneasy, it certainly wouldn't help make the civil servants happy, but it would greatly enhance the ability of individual members of this House to deal knowledgably and in an informed way with the affairs of government. Because all that the bill simply says is that government must be required to give information, and therefore, Mr. Speaker, the requirement to give that information is as much to benefit the individual members of this House as it is anyone else. The only thing that keeps me saying is that if there is a dispute, if there is a dispute about

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(MR. AXWORTHY cont'd) . . . . giving the information, then the matter should be adjudicated by a provincial judge, simply therefore to determine whether the arguments of the government wants to withhold, is valid in terms of some reason of state that they would put forward. And that is the only place that the court comes into play. The Court is not taking the right of enquiry out of the hands of members of this House. And as my colleague pointed out, in the past days we've had examples of where there have been a number of government documents which would have been extremely helpful in debating issues like Hydro and the Manitoba Telephone System and others in order to find out what was going on in this province, rather than having it held behind closed doors, held in a pocket - when it comes out two or three years later it's pretty late, Mr. Speaker, decisions have already been made. If that kind of information was available then our democracy would work much more effectively and we would be able therefore to provide the kind of reason, criticism and response that is so necessary if proper decisions are going to be made. Because in fact, Mr. Speaker, there is wealth of information and material and resources held away in government filing cabinets and desk drawers which no one ever gets to see. Yet it's that kind of basic kind of data and information that can provide, not just members of this House, but the full citizenry, with the right to know not only what government decides but the kind of alternatives that should be available to them.

Mr. Speaker, if there was anything disturbing about this debate, particularly the remarks of the Minister of Mines and Resources, it was a thing that I'd noticed in this House before, and it's that kind of hard prejudice against the judiciary. And frankly, Mr. Speaker, if there's anything that should disturb members of this House, it's the kind of attitude that I've heard members, particularly opposite, express where there's an antagonism towards the judicial part of our governmental system, somehow that everything should be politicized, everything should be in this Chamber. Well, if the Member for Inkster, the Minister of Mines, was to bring the logic of that argument into being, it means that we wouldn't have a Public Utilities Board, it means we wouldn't have a Clean Environment Commission, it means that we wouldn't have any of the agencies of government; everything would be so politicized, so sort of subject to the kind of confrontation which he enjoys, then we'd simply have a society which is at continual war with itself.

And the fact of the matter, Mr. Speaker, is that our society cannot realize that. The point is that the sovereignty will come back to this Legislature in terms of setting up institutions and debating its laws, but if we were to follow the logic of that argument, Mr. Speaker, then we would be returning to a savage state. And that is what really disturbs me about the arguments against the idea of having the judiciary play a proper role in restraining the executive and in fact restraining the politicians. Because if there's anything that concerns private citizens in this day and age, Mr. Speaker, is that many people believe that politicians have not been as responsible and that the institutions do not work well. I think it is our responsibility as elected members to show that we are prepared to look at our own institutions, to change and reform them where we can, and to try and provide the means by which a democratic system can more easily work in a society where things are so technical and so complex and so scientific.

So, Mr. Speaker, to simply fall into the trap that the Minister of Mines and Resources has set for this House of saying, well, everything can be decided here and all power should reside here. If you think about that for a minute, Mr. Speaker, you'll realize just what a dangerous, dangerous point of view that is, and the kind of danger which I say would be the ruination of our kind of community. That we need a balance of institutions, Mr. Speaker, a balance of institutions between a properly balanced judiciary, executive and Legislature. And I would say the balance is out of whack, that right now the concentration of power is in the hands of cabinet and bureaucracy, and that the other institutions are not capable of providing the kind of restraint and accountability control that's required to ensure that there is full information, the right to know, and that decisions are made openly with full discussion and participation. Thank you.

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QUESTION put, MOTION lost.

MR. SPEAKER: Bill No. 46. The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge.

MR. AXWORTHY: Stand Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Resolution 22. The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge . . .  
unless the House is disposed to call it 5:30. Is that agreed? (Agreed) Very well.  
I am now leaving the Chair and the House will reconvene at 8 p.m. with the Deputy  
Speaker in the Chair in the Committee of Supply.