

TIME: 8:00 p.m.

CONCURRENT COMMITTEES OF SUPPLY  
ESTIMATES - RENEWABLE RESOURCES

**MR. CHAIRMAN, Mr. A.R. (Pete) Adam, (Ste. Rose):** Order please. Gentlemen we have a quorum. I would refer honourable members to Page 54, Resolution 104(b) Lands Management (2) Surveys, Resolution (a). The Honourable Minister of Renewable Resources and Transportation.

**HONOURABLE HARVEY BOSTROM (Rupertsland):** I had taken some questions as notice the other day, one from the Honourable Member for St. James which I will hold until he arrives, just in case he will not have the opportunity to read it in the record.

One question was asked about beaver cycles, I believe the Honourable Member for Roblin asked this question. Beaver, apparently, do not cycle in the same manner as other animal species such as grouse and lynx, however, beaver population are susceptible to peak at levels which will overrun the habitat and ordinarily crash as nature takes its course due to over-use of habitat and disease break-outs due to overcrowding of range.

Another question was asked regarding lure crops. I believe the Honourable Member for Pembina raised this issue. I would ask honourable members of his caucus to bring this to his attention. The policy regarding the purchase of lure crops is as follows: The payment is based on the formula of the number of bushels per acre, the yield estimates are carried out by the adjusters of the Manitoba Crop Insurance Corporation. This is multiplied times the price per bushel. The price is established as the price which is published by the Canadian Wheat Board, and if you multiply these two together, it equals the payment to farmer for the farmer's per acre of lure crop purchased, plus there is a fee paid for swathing of the crop. In 1976 this fee was \$2.75 per acre for swathing.

Another question was asked by the Honourable Member for Roblin regarding the towers which are erected in the Baldy Mountains. The CBC tower, which is in the Baldy Mountains, was acquired with the department on a ten-year lease basis, option to renew for a further ten years. Present lease expires in 1984. The agreement with Yorkton TV provided for an annual review of the fee this September. The present fee is \$250 per year. There is another user of this : tower apparently, the Western Manitoba Broadcasters Limited, : they use the CBC tower and they pay the CBC a rental fee. They also pay the department \$400 a year under a separate lease with the department. There's also a ten year lease on this basis with option to renew for a second ten year period. The present lease with the department which authorizes them to be a joint user of this CBC tower site is good until 1984 as well. I would hope this answers the honourable member's question.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Roblin.

**MR. J. WALLY McKENZIE:** I maybe missed what the CBC pays.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, the CBC pays a fee to the department of \$250 per year. The lease expires 1984.

**MR. McKENZIE:** And then Yorkton TV pays \$250 a year to the department? They pay it to the CBC?

**MR. BOSTROM:** No, as I understand it, Mr. Chairman, the reference here to Yorkton is, that is the area serviced by the CBC in this case. Mr. Chairman, my mistake here. The Associate Deputy Minister informs me that Yorkton had the site previous and the CBC acquired it. The CBC now pays the department \$250 a year on the existing lease.

**MR. McKENZIE:** So, Mr. Chairman, the CBC pays \$250 a year, Yorkton pays \$250 and then the CTV turns around and pays the CBC \$400 for . . .

**MR. BOSTROM:** No, the Western Manitoba Broadcasters pay the CBC a rental which I'm not aware of.

**MR. McKENZIE:** I see.

**MR. BOSTROM:** They also separately pay the department \$400 a year.

**MR. McKENZIE:** Okay, fine. Thank you.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Minnedosa.

**MR. DAVID BLAKE:** Just a clarification on the location of the towers, Mr. Chairman, I wonder, has there been any evidence of any problems or any unsatisfactory effects on wildlife, either animals or birdlife in the area from the towers, from radiation or whatever emissions there might be. I'm thinking of the turkey farmers some years ago were complaining of power sites — chicken farmers, probably, I might be corrected — I just wondered, has there been any evidence of this from these towers located in the park areas.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Minister of Renewable Resources and Transportation.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, the Director of Wildlife informs me there is none. I would suggest that probably, logically speaking, it is due to the fact that these are fairly small wavelengths, or power sources I should say, and the towers are mainly for communications. Therefore the power source is

not required to be very large.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Resolution 2(a) Salaries and Wages — pass. The Honourable Member for Minnedosa.

**MR. BLAKE:** Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the Minister might just give us some indication of what surveys are being undertaken, what his projections are in this department, what they plan to achieve and what they have achieved during the past year.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Minister.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, the Surveys section of this department carries out a number of surveys, many of them are not planned before the year begins. It is a service section which relates to other government departments and needs for surveys as they arise. There are surveys, for example, for Indian land entitlement and exchanges which occur during the year, not all of which are planned very much in advance. There is a continuing program of control surveys, extension of the provincial survey framework for mapping and resource administration purposes, there are water control surveys which are required for the right-of-way for drainage purposes, as a service to the water resources division of Mines & Resources, there are a number of northern community surveys that are underway as a regular process — these are carried out to satisfy the mapping control required by the Department of Northern Affairs in their service to remote communities and the housing program. There are recreational surveys that are carried out on behalf of parks, these are for cottage subdivisions and park campgrounds and so on. There are also retracement surveys which is an ongoing program to maintain the provincial land surveys system. The current program permits an "as needed" approach to the problem of the general deterioration of the Dominion land surveys system in the southern agricultural area of Manitoba. The Director of Surveys has informed me that many of these original surveys need to be retraced because the original pins were plowed under or they were the type that were not that durable and some are either lost or missing.

We have a number of areas in northern Manitoba that are being surveyed as part of an ongoing program under the Manitoba Northlands. The actual sites which are to be surveyed, I do not have on hand here. If the honourable member wishes a list of those, I could pass that information on.

**MR. BLAKE:** Mr. Chairman, I just wonder if the Minister could inform us, how do you allocate the cost of these surveys? Do you recover the cost of these surveys from the other departments involved, and how is the cost arrived at?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, as a service department, the cost for surveys are indeed charged to the departments which require the surveys, whether it's Water Resources, Parks, or Northern Affairs, or whoever may require the actual work.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Resolution 2(a) Salaries and Wages—pass. The Honourable Member for Roblin

**MR. MCKENZIE:** I understand he's surveying the water control system of the northern areas especially. What does that entail? Are you surveying the diversion on the Nelson diversion, the Churchill diversion or what water control works are you surveying? Are you surveying the Fishing River, as an example, in my constituency that is flooding from time to time. What does the water control area that you are surveying consist of?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, the water control surveys which I have mentioned in my remarks here are the ones which are the rights-of-way required for drainage purposes by the Water Resources Division and the rights-of-way surveys for the Manitoba Water Services Board. The severance lines in the north which relate to Hydro developments are ordinarily done, I believe, on a catch-as-catch-can basis where they are required to be done. The agency referred to Manitoba Hydro has certain elevations which they have stipulated cannot be exceeded or at least they have certain elevations up to which they can flood. They have the right to flood up to those levels. They are not always marked out on the ground but they are marked out where they are required. If there is a particular piece of land within the general area that's required for residential purposes for example as part of the survey that is done for the residential subdivision they would mark out exactly where the severance line is so that no houses would be built below that for example.

**MR. MCKENZIE:** Well then I'll give you, Mr. Chairman, an example of what we were talking about in the committee yesterday. The east periphery of the Riding Mountain for example where there are several rivers that are a problem; flood states there from time to time. Are you mapping those areas? Secondly, are you making recommendations when you've mapped it? What happens after you've mapped it? Do you make recommendations to another department or do you in fact recognize that there is a problem there and if you do recognize there is a problem who do you tell?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Well, Mr. Chairman, this section as I mentioned is a service section. That is, they are a technical survey section and they service other departments and other departments' needs. If the Water Resources Branch of the Department of Mines, Resources and Environmental Management indicated that there were rivers in your area that you're discussing that are a problem and they made a request to Surveys to do the work, and if Surveys had the necessary financial resources and time to do it, they would indeed do that. To my knowledge they have not made this request to us and the Director of Surveys is indicating that they have not.

**MR. McKENZIE:** That's the question, I was wondering if — now, who do I, in my wildest imagination tried to get somebody to — now you wouldn't survey it unless you were requested by the Water Resources Branch there?

Let's look at the locks along the Shellmouth reservoir where the plan was, it's been in the works now for about 7 or 8 years. The areas would be subdivided. The people would be able to come in there and acquire land and build cottages. Some of the churches tried to get in there and nothing has happened. Everybody that's tried, at least. They find out now that they're going to have to build the roads themselves. They're going to have to pay the services. The whole thing has fallen flat, whereas in the original plan they were more or less led to believe that these would be part and parcel of the development, all they had to do was come in and acquire the property.

**MR. BOSTROM:** I believe, Mr. Chairman, that the question the honourable member has would more properly be directed at the Minister of Mines when his estimates come up because the problem in that area, as I understand his question, would more properly relate to the water resources division of the Department of Mines and Resources. As I say, if they identify a problem area and wish to have this department do a survey then this department would respond to that request. So I suggest to the honourable member that he direct his inquiry there.

**MR. McKENZIE:** Again, Mr. Chairman, nothing would happen unless the Water Resources or the Minister contacted your office to request that such a survey — or to go in and subdivide the land you don't move unless . . . That's all I have at the moment Mr. Chairman.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Member for Minnedosa.

**MR. BLAKE:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, it's not in connection with this department. I just wanted to mention to the Minister I had someone request a couple of reports earlier today from the Forestry Branch and apparently there was Ministerial approval required before we could have copies of these reports. I think they're pertaining to the development or rationalization of forest industries in Manitoba and proposals of forestry development. I think those were the two reports that we've asked for. We just were requesting Ministerial approval to have those reports made available to us.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Yes well, Mr. Chairman, if those reports that the honourable gentleman indicates are indeed available in the department I have no objection to them being made available to the honourable member. I would just ask the staff to prepare necessary document to send over to the caucus.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Resolution 104. The Member for Roblin.

**MR. McKENZIE:** One more question. Mr. Chairman, we were asked last session and we passed an expenditure of \$987,500 for the department and I see under the estimates that are before us in '77 it shows \$1,034,400.00.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, I have documents here which explain all of those changes that are in this document and how they relate to the voted figure from last year. Just in general, Mr. Chairman, the total voted figure for 1976-77 for the department was \$13,957,600, and added to that in a general way there is a general salary increase of \$445,500. There were two supplementary estimate proposals which went through Manitoba Legislature for the perusal of all members of the House. This was \$159,000 for the ARDA, ALU, that's the Alternate Land Use program. There was an additional for the Northlands Agreement and that was divided up into the sections you see in the printed Estimates Book here as part of the Northlands Agreement. It came in the Supplementary Estimates because the Manitoba government was not assured at the time the Estimates Book was printed that there would indeed even be a Northlands Agreement signed.

There were a number of internal transfers within the department to make up the difference, to make the total figure which you have in the Book, the 1976-77 adjusted vote of \$15,923,100 which is in this Estimates Book here.

I have a number of supplementary individual explanations for each item if it's necessary to go into that detail.

**MR. McKENZIE:** Mr. Chairman, I take very firm exception to the way these Estimates are before us here on this desk. Well, Mr. Chairman, we don't have a research staff like you got over there and we think it's very unfair for you to come manipulating figures, changing them around. Sure, if we had a staff like you have we'd go and dig out these Orders-in-Council and dig out all these figures, but I think you should be only fair to us in opposition and leave the figures that we passed last year in that column there so at least we have a base to work from. For us to go back now and try and figure out where all this money went that's been shifted all through the department, it just isn't fair to the opposition because we don't have — we just are by ourselves to try and justify this expenditure of taxpayers' dollars. I'm just suggesting to the Minister to be fair with the opposition because maybe some day you'll be in the opposition and you'll see what we're talking about. and I just again suggest it to the staff, if you want in your wildest imagination to change statements around and create confusion for the opposition you're doing a heck of a good job on these Estimates here.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, I believe the confusion mainly rests in the member's own mind because, as I stated yesterday when we went into this, I am completely prepared to provide as many

answers as the honourable members desire and as much detail as the honourable members desire. I've outlined it in a general way. If that is not satisfactory, if you want to go into each individual line and how much there was a change, what made up the salary increase and so on, that is no problem, Mr. Chairman, I can make the information available and I am saying there is nothing improper or unusual about the way in which this is working because it is the normal procedure, as I understand it, to make corrections in the voted figure, to add in the amounts that came about during the year as a result of general salary increases, as a result of the Supplementary Estimates which go into the House, and granted they are passed separately, but as they relate to this department, those funds come into this department and therefore should show up in the final spending figures of this department, and other changes that are made during the year. Mr. Chairman, this is not a static department, it is a dynamic department. And as I mentioned in my opening statements when the Estimates were introduced, we have gone through a period of reorganization in this department and there have been redeployment and changes in staff and that is reflected in these Estimates. Where we have transferred staff from one section to another, the staff man years, the moneys for salary and other expenditures, show up accurately in the areas to which they were transferred. So there are bound to be differences between what was discussed one year ago in some of these appropriations and what came out at the end of the year as the final spending figure.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Member for Roblin.

**MR. McKENZIE:** Mr. Chairman, I would like to give you a classic example. We have before me the Estimates of Expenditures and Revenues, 1976-1977. That is your figures. It shows the department at the end of March 31st, 1977, \$15,923,600. We come up with this figure here in your new Estimates, 1978. See what you have got for the 1977 figure here? Just take a look at it, \$18,010,000. That's almost \$3 million bucks out and if you think that is fair to us in opposition to come here with no accountants, we don't have all these computers and things to find out where all these figures are and I think that

**MR. BOSTROM; Mr. Chairman, a point of order.**

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Minister on a point of order.

**MR. BOSTROM:** I was indicating the Renewable Resources section of the department. The total departmental Estimates are indeed \$18 million, \$18,010,400 in fact. I was indicating the Renewable Resources section and explaining to the honourable member the changes that had taken place during the year from the time the last Estimates were discussed in Committee in the last Legislature. I will be going into the changes in the Transportation Services side of the department to indicate what changes there were to make up the total figure.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Member for Souris-Killarney.

**MR. STERLING LYON:** Mr. Chairman, the Minister has offered to give a reconciliation of the figures as between last year's voted Estimates and supplementaries and the special warrants and so on. I know he can't produce it out of a hat tonight. If he would produce it well in advance of when we get to the Salary item that would be very helpful. I think it would meet the requirement that the Member for Roblin has been asking for. It is not an unusual practice, or at least it didn't used to be an unusual practice and it would be a good one to start again.

And, Mr. Chairman, for the benefit of the Member for St. George, he may think it is nonsense, when he is in opposition he will find out that the nonsense works. We will do our best to make sure that he has that experience fairly soon.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Mr. Minister.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, the honourable member has my commitment stated more than once that this information will be available in as much detail as required. There is nothing improper in the figures and there is nothing improper in the procedure. The Honourable Leader of the Opposition probably can indeed state that this is an acceptable procedure, as I am sure he realizes.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Member for Souris-Killarney.

**MR. LYON:** . . . give us the reconciliation.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** (2)(a)—pass? The Member for Roblin.

**MR. McKENZIE:** One more question, Mr. Chairman. I wonder — the Canada Land Inventory mapping which apparently the department is involved in, is any of that public information, especially the agricultural areas?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Mr. Minister.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, all of the maps are public information.

**MR. McKENZIE:** We could have copies of those?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Yes.

**MR. McKENZIE:** Thank you.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** (2)(a)—pass. (b) Other Expenditures—pass. (2)—pass. 104(3) Canada-Manitoba ARDA Agreement, Salaries and Wages (3)(a). The Member for Minnedosa.

**MR. BLAKE:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, there has been some change here. I assume that if it goes

throughout the next three items, maybe the Minister might just verify that this is changes in the ARDA and the Fred agreements in merging with the Canada-Manitoba Northlands Agreement. Is this just some changes in responsibilities or areas of allocation of funds?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Mr. Minister.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, the Alternate Land Use Program, as I believe we discussed earlier, is part of the ARDA III agreements signed in October, 1973. It is 50-50 cost-shared with the Federal Government. The objective is to make alternative and more efficient use of rural lands through an active program of purchasing and converting marginal lands to other uses and stabilizing damaged or misused lands. There is a restriction of \$100 per acre average cost for acquisition and conversion in total and the program must concentrate 75 percent of land purchases within a designated portion of the province which is agreed to by both levels of government. 1976-1977 is the last year of the current ARDA agreement, however a three-year extension has been proposed and is presently under negotiation. The amount in the Estimates here is the current expenditure, \$193,900. There are fourteen staff man years which are attached to this who are on term, they are not permanent staff man years because of the kind of program it is. It may be one which would be cancelled at some time. There is an item in the Capital Estimates, which we will be considering later in the Legislature, to make up the amount of moneys required for actual purchase of lands and I can inform the member in advance that the capital item is in the amount of \$863,300, which would be in addition to the amount in the Estimates here which is the current figure, the current expenditure.

**MR. BLAKE:** Could the Minister give us some indication of the long-range planning on this particular agreement? What is the ultimate goal? Does he have any acreage in sight in their planning or in their forecasts? What acreage do they plan on acquiring, or how far will this agreement go?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, at total conversion cost, purchase plus conversion cost, of \$100 per acre, you can see that the program would be limited to the amount of capital available. Some quick calculation there would give you an approximate amount that could be the maximum. So far the program acquired approximately 3,500 acres of land and completed conversion work on approximately 900 acres, so some of the capital funds that are in this year's budget are to complete conversion work on some of that 3,500 acres that has already been purchased.

The main project areas include the Assiniboine Valley, which is west of Brandon, the Duck Mountain periphery, Turtle River watershed, Mars Hill, Portage Sand Hills, and the Whitemud watershed. It is proposed that the program concentrate on the watershed and conservation districts and continue to be active in the periphery of the Duck Mountain, the periphery of the Riding Mountain, southeast Manitoba, Assiboine River Valley west of Brandon and portions of the Interlake. So this may in fact answer some of the concerns the Honourable Member for Roblin raised the other day. If he has particular specified areas in mind in fact which he feels, as a representative of that area, that this program should be taking a look at, I recommend that he pass those requests on through my office and I will see that they are looked at.

**MR. BLAKE:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, one more question. I wonder if the Minister could give us some indication of what has priority in this particular agreement. Would it be recreational park lands or would it be wildfowl habitat or wildlife habitat? Which would have priority in the program?

**MR. BOSTROM:** The priority is really on the purchasing and converting of marginal farmlands, that is, lands that are, in the opinion of those that are in the program and in fact municipalities as well, that these lands would best be put to other use and to in fact work on and stabilize those lands that have been damaged or misused through improper land-use practices. Some of these lands of course, after being purchased and converted, make quite good wildlife areas. In fact in that sense, that is probably their best use since they are not suitable for agricultural purposes.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Resolution 3(a) Salaries and Wages—pass? The Member for Souris-Killarney.

**MR. LYON:** Mr. Chairman, under Salaries and Wages, does that include only the salaries with respect to civil service commission staff? Does that include contract employees, consultants, or what? The second branch of that same question: Could we have made available to us, hopefully at the same time that the reconciliation of the figures comes in, the breakdown by vote of the number of personnel included in each of the salary votes? And that should apply also, Mr. Chairman, to the shared-cost programs and the number of employees included in those programming costs whose salaries may not be shown under the Salary vote. Because of course we know in all these programs, that there are people attached to them.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, in this particular program there are fourteen term staff man years, term in the sense that they have a finite date, unlike a permanent staff man year which normally carries on this has a termination date on it. It's unlike a contract which is even more short-term in nature ordinarily, this is a term staff man year and fourteen are in this particular appropriation.

**MR. LYON:** Mr. Chairman, perhaps I wasn't clear, what I would like to see on a sheet is a separate indication under each Salary vote as to the number of staff who are covered under the Salary vote, and then as to the number of staff under each of the program votes as well, because of course there are staff included in those program votes. If you could do that vote by vote, again I don't expect the

Minister to produce it out of his hat tonight. We have just asked for the same thing from the Department of Health. I think the Associate Deputy Minister will know what I am talking about. This is the kind of a sheet that the opposition used to asked for before the change of government, in detail. We would like to get back to the same practice, it leads to the certainty of accounting of the spending of money.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, it may have been the practice of the Leader of the Opposition to pull his answers out of a hat. I can assure the Honourable Leader of the Opposition that I will make the correct information available.

**MR. LYON:** Good. On a sheet it would help, rather than read it into the record.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Yes.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Resolution (a) Salaries and Wages—pass. Resolution 3(b) Other Expenditures—pass. Resolution 104(3)—pass.

Resolution 104(4) Canada-Manitoba FRED Agreement, (a) Salaries and Wages.

**MR. BOSTROM:** There is no vote.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Just pass that?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Yes.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** 104(5) Canada-Manitoba Northlands Agreement, (a) Salaries and Wages. The Member for Minnedosa.

**MR. BLAKE:** On this item, Mr. Chairman, the same question would apply. Could the Minister give us an indication of whether these are all salaried employees or are some of them contract employees, and how many contract employees would be under this Canada-Manitoba Northlands Agreement?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, there are 20.26 SMY attached to this section. It is the Canada-Manitoba Northlands Agreement, it relates to lands planning. There are people who are working on land-use planning related to northern Manitoba communities. There is some cost-sharing of regional planning exercises under this section as well. There is a Northern Resource Information Program which is lands classification. There are areas that I have marked out on the map here which I could make available to the honourable members if that kind of detailed information is desired. Attached to this section as well, which I can indicate in the sheet which I will be sending out to the honourable member, there are six contract staff, resource technicians and engineering aides in this area.

**MR. BLAKE:** Mr. Chairman, would they be fully employed contract employees with this department or would they be shared with other departments?

**MR. BOSTROM; No, these, as a part of the agreement, would have specific duties to perform which are related to the agreement between the federal and provincial governments and it would be improper for them to be doing other duties unrelated to the project has been agreed on between the province and the federal government.**

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Member for Roblin had a question?

**MR. McKENZIE:** It was the FRED agreement, but I guess it is expired. I was wondering is there any possibility of that program being renewed with the federal government?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Not to my knowledge, Mr. Chairman.

**MR. McKENZIE:** Thank you.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Resolution 5(a) Salaries and Wages— pass. 5(b) Other Expenditures. The Member for Minnedosa.

**MR. BLAKE:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, there is a considerable drop in the appropriations here. I wonder if the Minister might just elaborate a little on that.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Mr. Minister.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, there are some items here that are non-recurring, that is that are cut from last year's budget, \$184,000. There has also been a transfer to supplementary supply of part of the appropriation which will be coming up for discussion in the House later in the amount of \$471,300 which would be added to that other expenditures portion

if it is approved by the Legislature.

**MR. BLAKE:** Which will bring it back up very close to what it was last year?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Yes.

**MR. BLAKE:** And this covers what program?

**MR. BOSTROM:** It covers a Resource Information Program, a Comprehensive Land Use Planning which is related to Northern Community Land Planning, a Surveys and Mapping Program of \$370,800 which is part of the \$471,000 which I mentioned which will be coming in in Supplementary Supply.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Member for Souris-Killarney.

**MR. LYON:** Mr. Chairman, do I understand the Minister to say that there will be a supplementary vote on this item, 5(b), of another, what was it, \$400,000.00?

**MR. BOSTROM:** \$471,300, Mr. Chairman.

**MR. LYON:** That's as much as we are being asked to vote here. Why would that not be included in

the printed Estimates?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, at the time that these Estimates were being considered, that was an item which was transferred to Supplementary Supply in order to allow further consideration of the necessity of that particular item. It was determined after these Estimates were printed that that was indeed one that would be going through Supplementary Supply. It was related to the discussions that had been ongoing between this department and the Department of Northern Affairs who handle the negotiations with the Federal Government. I believe there were discussions related to the amount as well as the kind of projects that would be carried out here and there was need to reach agreement on it before we could be firm in putting it forward to the House for approval.

**MR. LYON:** Could I then ask the Minister, as a further addendum to his reconciliation sheet that he's going to be providing us with, if he could indicate those items of which he presently has knowledge, such as Item 5(b), which are going to be augmented, if he could indicate on that reconciliation what we might expect by way of Supplementaries under each of these votes, I think that would be helpful too in keeping us in shape for it.

While we are on that, because we do not have the Public Accounts for the year ended March 31st, '77 because of course the year hasn't yet ended, could he give us a general breakdown of the expenditure that occurred in last year's vote, \$1,069,500 in general terms, that is, under general categories — how was that money spent?

**MR. BOSTROM:** As I indicated earlier, Mr. Chairman, this information is available and will be provided.

**MR. LYON:** Is available where?

**MR. BOSTROM:** I say it is available and will be provided, the detailed information that you are requesting.

**MR. LYON:** At the next sitting?

**MR. BOSTROM:** I have it on sheets which can be made available.

**MR. LYON:** Yes, if you would.

**MR. BOSTROM:** I don't believe you would need a sheet for each member, I'll make a copy available for your Caucus.

**MR. LYON:** And we'll have that before . . .

**MR. BOSTROM:** I have it here, it should be available . . .

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Order please. We seem to be getting a two-way conversation and we are unable to identify for the tapes. I wish that you would address the Chair.

**MR. LYON:** We'll do our best, Mr. Chairman.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Thank you. 5(b)—pass; 104(5)—pass?

**MR. LYON:** Mr. Chairman, here is part of the quandary we're in, you see . . . what the Member from Roblin was saying before, we're passing item 5(b), \$476,000.00. Thanks to the candour of the Minister, he advised us that there will be another \$400,000 Supplementary Supply coming in on that item.

**A MEMBER:** What's the problem?

**MR. LYON:** The problem is that we are passing in effect two sets of figures and it's difficult to pass 5(b) without . . .

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Minister on a point of order.

**MR. BOSTROM:** On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, I believe that it is common procedure to have a Supplementary Supply where it is necessary to do so and at the time when the Supplementary Supply Bill is submitted to the House, that item can be debated.

**MR. LYON:** That's technically true, but it tends to be rather, if I may say so, a sloppy way to do public business. Supplementary Supply is intended to be supplementary, it's not intended to be a vote that is almost the equivalent of the printed vote.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, I don't believe the honourable member is saying that introduction of Supplementary Supply is an unusual procedure and I believe that I did indicate the reason that there is Supplementary Supply coming forward in this case. It was due to the discussions that were ongoing between the Province and the Federal Government; they were not completed satisfactorily to be able to be included in the printed Estimates in this book. It was therefore necessary for that figure to be put into Supplementary Supply.

**MR. LYON:** The additional items, some \$400,000 that the Minister mentioned, Mr. Chairman, I heard him mention something about resource or conservation information, could he give us more of a breakdown now of just what is involved in the printed figure and in the supplementary figure? Either that, or leave the item open.

**MR. BOSTROM:** That information, I believe, for the edification of the Member for Souris-Killarney, will come up in Supplementary Supply and that information should be available then and can be debated at that time. —(Interjection)— We are not voting on the Supplementary Supply at this time.

**MR. LYON:** We're not, Mr. Chairman, I realize that, but we're being asked to vote and I have

already indicated to the Minister, I thank him for his candour. I think that all other Ministers should be that frank when they are putting through a vote that is not an appropriate vote. He's indicating . . .

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, the amount that is before us is most definitely appropriate and it is also appropriate to submit Supplementary Supply. I believe that I am trying to be as candid and as honest and straightforward and as informative as possible. If the honourable member is going to drag Supplementary Supply into the debate here, then it would encourage me not to be so candid. And I say, Mr. Chairman, that I am making this information available, and that is one particular item that will come up for discussion and vote at a later time.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The point is well taken. I remind honourable members again that this item will come up in Supplementary Supply and can be debated at that time and the information that the committee members require should be available at that time. The Honourable Member for Minnedosa.

**MR. BLAKE:** Mr. Chairman, if these programs are dovetailed and I assume that they are, that part of the \$476,000 allocation is going to cover part of the program. The other four hundred and some odd thousand that we are going to be asked to approve under Supplementary will finish the program and the Minister would probably be able to tell us what programs these are going to cover. The program is going to be started with part of the allocation that is here and will be finished with what's going to be voted in Supplementary Estimates. He could probably indicate to us which programs these are going to cover. When we hit the Supplementary Estimates we will have some idea what programs we are looking at.

**MR. BOSTROM:** I had indeed indicated, Mr. Chairman, which items, in fact, a breakdown as to program, which items were being transferred to Supplementary Supply and which items are included in the Estimates before us. There is a total of 20.26 staff man years, \$225,500 total in the Salaries and Wages; \$476,000 in the Other Expenditures, for a total of \$701,500.00.

**MR. BLAKE:** I wonder, these 20.26 staff man years, I just wondered what they will be doing, what programs will they be undertaking?

**MR. BOSTROM:** They are related to three main programs: Resource Information Program; a Land Use Program which I indicated is land use planning in the northern Manitoba area, concentrating on remote and isolated communities. The purpose of this program is to document the resource base, to assist the community to identify land use guidelines and zones, to encourage proper use of the land in the immediate area of the communities. The funding here, as I mentioned, is cost-shared under DREE. There is 9 SMY in this area and the '77-'78 Estimate for salaries for this section is \$140,000, Other Expenses \$21,000.00.

There is planning in the agro area of Manitoba as well. There is an expenditure here of \$31,900 which is related to two staff man years, and other expenses, \$16,900.00.

There is Regional Planning activity which is cost-shared under this section. In this area there are three personnel for a total of \$46,700.00.

There is a Surveys and Mapping Program in this section as well.

**MR. BLAKE:** These are all studies and research work; there's no physical improvements to the lands involved at all, this allocation is all for studies and planning work?

**MR. BOSTROM:** That's right.

**MR. CHAIRMAN, Mr. D. James Walding (St. Vital):** The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

**MR. LYON:** Mr. Chairman, the 22 staff man years is all very interesting. What sort of people are we looking at? What are their qualifications, what categorizations of people are we looking at under this vote? We've got civil servants lying around in the north like black flies; we would like to identify some of them here.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, the people that are involved in this section are technical people, the surveys and mapping people, some of them are people that are working within the Department of Surveys. The Comprehensive Land Use Planning is carried out by technicians that have capability to identify land use and to do the necessary technical activities which are involved in a project of that nature. The Resource Information Program is also staffed with people who are experts in the area of gathering information on a resource base.

I don't have the exact detail of staff qualifications and staff categories at hand but I would say that these are by and large technical people who are necessary to carry out this type of work.

**MR. LYON:** Presumably the Minister, if not in front of him, has somewhere in his office an Estimate book which shows the breakdown by vote as to the number of these people who are secretaries, clerks, technicians, engineers, and so on, by categorization. Could he give us just on this one vote some indication of what we are talking about. What are the professional requirements, for instance, of a technician who is doing land resource surveys under this vote? Are we looking at a professionally-trained person, are we looking at a person who has pragmatic experience in the north? What kind of people are we looking at?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, just as an example here, involved in this particular section there are two biologists, three drafting technicians, two resource planners, three resource technicians,

and one technical engineering officer.

**MR. LYON:** Under the category of resource planner, where would one find the qualifications for a resource planner, what is a resource planner?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, I don't have that kind of detail but this would be a position bulletined within the Civil Service that would be a classification that is in a published volume that is available through the Civil Service Commission. The honourable member, I'm sure, could look up that classification for his interest.

**MR. LYON:** Oh, but my honourable friend, the Minister, has all of that information at his fingertips so we can expect him to give us an answer to that, if not tonight, tomorrow. Is the Minister suggesting, Mr. Chairman, by his comments, that all of the persons hired under the Canada-Manitoba Northlands Agreement are hired through the Civil Service Commission of Manitoba?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, in almost all cases I would say that they are, yes.

**MR. LYON:** Could we have a breakdown, Mr. Chairman, as to those who are hired through the Civil Service Commission and those who are not hired through the Civil Service Commission.

**MR. BOSTROM:** In this particular classification, I'm not sure if we would have those records. I'll take the question as notice, Mr. Chairman.

**MR. LYON:** It would be helpful, Mr. Chairman, if we could have that similar information for all of those shared-cost programs as well, those who were hired through the Civil Service Commission, those who were not hired, and if not hired through the Civil Service Commission, by what criteria.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, I will take the question as notice and provide the information if it is available.

**MR. LYON:** Mr. Chairman, not if it's available, it is available.

**MR. CHAIAN:** The Honourable Member for Roblin.

**MR. McKENZIE:** I was wondering, Mr. Chairman, to the Minister, how you can negotiate these Federal agreements. You said a while ago that some of them were negotiated after the Estimates were prepared. Is it an ongoing thing that you are negotiating month after month after month and the Federal Government flows in certain dollars and then you have to go back again a month later and get more dollars? Does not the Federal Government come with one block sum of money and say, "That's it for the year."

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, unfortunately not and I don't know all the details and negotiations that are undertaken in this respect. I would request the honourable gentleman to pose his question to the Honourable Minister of Northern Affairs when his Estimates are up, if he wishes to get that detail.

**MR. McKENZIE:** Well, then, Mr. Chairman, these moneys that you are showing in your Estimates here are allocated to you by the Minister of Northern Affairs?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, the Honourable Minister of Northern Affairs is responsible for negotiating the overall agreement with the Federal Government. The department that I am responsible for has certain items which are included in that agreement. The senior staff of my department are in consultation with the senior staff of his department to work out the details. The point I was making earlier is that all the details were not completed, were not completely negotiated before the Estimate book was printed and that is the reason for these items to be included in Supplementary Supply.

**MR. McKENZIE:** Well the Minister didn't answer my question, Mr. Chairman. Do the moneys that we see here flow from the Department of Northern Affairs to you?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, the moneys flow, as far as I understand it from the Department of Finance to my department as they would flow from the Department of Finance to the Ministry of Northern Affairs.

**MR. McKENZIE:** And then to your department? The federal money flows into the Minister of Finance then to the Minister of Northern Affairs and then to your office.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, there is a budget for the department which is expenditure. There is also another part of government budgeting which is called revenue and the Department of Finance is responsible for collecting the revenue and the Department of Finance provides this department with an overall budget and looks after the details of the expenditure and the flowing of funds. The details of how the revenue is handled I'm sure the Department of Finance could answer and that question could more properly be directed at the Minister of Finance.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Birtle-Russell.

**MR. GRAHAM:** Mr. Chairman, I'd like to ask the Minister in the program that you have for mapping, is that mapping of a geographical nature or is it minerals or what type of mapping is it that you're carrying out.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, as part of the Resource Information Program there are maps prepared which indicate areas of particular kinds of resources. In other words the resources are mapped on sheets, on maps. As well, there is the geographical mapping, which is an ongoing program which is really a kind of surveying. It's not field surveying, it's aerial photography from which maps are reproduced.

**MR. GRAHAM:** Mr. Chairman, I was involved in surveying in northern Manitoba some 34 years ago. I'd like the Minister to indicate how much of northern Manitoba still remains to be surveyed or mapped.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, there are some areas of the north — I don't have the details here but I have a map in front of me which shows that the field work was completed and maps produced through this program of all of the east side of Lake Winnipeg. The reason being that maps were not available for that area before, for the Oxford House and Island Lake area, the Sipiwesk area around Thompson, Kneeh Lake area to the east of Thompson and the priority areas for this coming year and the following fiscal year are in the northwest part of the province around Nelson Lake, Kississing, Granville and north of that region, Brochet to Dooley Lake and so on. The areas that are being mapped are primarily as a first priority those areas where people are living and where there is a need to know what the resource base is so that development can proceed with accurate information.

**MR. GRAHAM:** So the mapping that you're carrying out is of several natures then I would presume. You're not only interested in the topography of the country, you're interested in the resource base as well. Is that correct?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, we are indeed interested in not only the topography or the actual flat maps but some information about the resources as well.

**MR. GRAHAM:** Well, then the personnel that are carrying out these mapping expeditions, are they qualified in the field of geology as well as the mapping skills?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, they are qualified to undertake the kind of technical work which is associated with the mapping and the classification of those maps as to the kind of resource base that the maps will indicate

**MR. GRAHAM:** Has the Minister any of those maps available that we can peruse?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, any and all maps that are produced by this department are public knowledge and are available through the maps section of the Department of Surveys and any citizen of the province can obtain them.

**MR. GRAHAM:** Will the Minister endeavour to provide us with two or three maps to indicate to us the type of work that is being done in the mapping and showing us the resources that he is indicating on the map?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, for the honourable member's information I will request the department to make available to his caucus a couple of examples of the maps that are produced.

**MR. GRAHAM:** Thank you.

**MR. BOSTROM:** You may receive a bill along with them.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Resolution 104(b)5(b) Other Expenditures. The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

**MR. LYON:** Mr. Chairman, in view of the fact that we still have some information to come which the Minister has undertaken to produce I wonder if we could leave that item open and pass on to something else.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Is it the will of the committee to leave that item open? (Agreed) We then pass on to 104(b)(6) Regional Technical Support (a) Salaries and Wages. The Honourable Member for Rock Lake.

**MR. EINARSON:** Mr. Chairman, for information I would like to ask how many regions are involved here and could the Minister explain the nature of the kind of technical support that is given to these regions?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, there are, I believe, three regions involved here that have Lands technical people that provide a support service and a field service to the implementation of Lands programs. There is one person in the northern region, one person in the southern region and one in the western region. In other words, there are three permanent staff man years attached to this section and they are located in the regions as I have indicated.

**MR. EINARSON:** I wonder, Mr. Chairman, could the Minister also indicate what are their qualifications through the civil service or are they all appointments?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, these are technical land people. They're permanent staff man years; they're permanent civil servants that have been recruited in the normal process.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Resolution 104(b)(6)(a)—pass; (6)(b) Other Expenditures. The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

**MR. LYON:** What does that include?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, that is the support service expenditures attached to the staff man years that are in this appropriation.

**MR. LYON:** We're talking about travel, typewriters? What are we talking about?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Well whatever expenses are associated with the activities of the Lands people in that area. It will involve such things as printing and stationery if the honourable member wants to get down to details.

**MR. LYON:** Yes, we do.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Printing and stationery, equipment purchases, rental of aircraft, automobiles, travelling and other expenses.

**MR. LYON:** Thank you.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Resolution 104(b)(6)(b)—pass; (6)—pass. Resolution 104(c) Forestry Management (1) Program Development and Management (a) Salaries and Wages. The Honourable Member for Gladstone.

**MR. JAMES R. FERGUSON:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In view of the damage that we are having through the infestation of the spruce bud worm, could we have an indication from the Minister how many acres are involved? I'm talking particularly about my area Spruce Woods, south of Carberry, how general this infestation is and what precautions the Minister is taking to control it.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, the department is involved in forest protection of various kinds and research on forestry on insects and diseases.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Order please. If the Minister is telling me that this item comes under Forestry Protection, we haven't reached that section yet.

**MR. BOSTROM:** I think, Mr. Chairman, it in fact would more properly be put under the section on research which is on the following page.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** 104(c)(4). The Honourable for Gladstone.

**MR. FERGUSON:** I don't particularly want to argue with the Minister but research doesn't come under controlling or the extent of damage. This is what I'm interested in finding out.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Well, Mr. Chairman, if it would be under any section regarding activities of the department of a protection nature, it would come under the following section which is No.(3) at the bottom of page 54.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Would the honourable member care to ask his question when we reach that section?

**MR. FERGUSON:** That was under Forest Protection?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Yes.

**MR. FERGUSON:** Yes, sure.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for La Verendrye.

**MR. BOBBANMAN:** Mr. Chairman, I wonder if this is the proper section where we deal with timber rights?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Minister.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman the Program and Development Management section would be an appropriate place to ask that question.

**MR. BANMAN:** That's on the next page. —(Interjection)— Right now? Okay. wonder if the Minister could tell us what percentage of the timber rights are up in 1980 as far as the province is concerned. How many special agreements have we got such as ManFor, Columbia Forest Products, Abitibi, how many special agreements have we got of that type that won't be up in 1980.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, to my knowledge there would only be the one special agreement with Abitibi which is at the present time a five-year agreement. I believe it was signed in 1975 so that also would be expiring in 1980.

**MR. BANMAN:** So the Minister is saying that Columbia Forest for instance, the company that was sold to a group of people in the Sprague area does not have a special agreement with the Department of Renewable Resources?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, in 1975 the Columbia Forest Products Limited was acquired by a group of persons from southeastern Manitoba. The sawmill is now known as Sandilands Forest Products Limited and is operating under a timber sale agreement which is not, in the honourable member's words, a special agreement. It is one of the normal agreements that is signed by the department.

**MR. BANMAN:** Is the department doing any research or any planning or implementing a policy as to what they anticipate to do in 1980 when the majority of the timber rights are up?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, the policy of timber quotas is presently under review and a policy will be announced in due course.

**MR. BANMAN:** I wonder if the Minister could tell me if the people involved in the Columbia Forest deal got a special concession as far as stumpage fees is concerned.

**MR. BOSTROM:** No, Mr. Chairman.

**MR. BANMAN:** That's fine, thanks.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Minnedosa.

**MR. BLAKE:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the Minister could give us some indication under Program Development if they're examining the feasibility of some long range agreement or long term agreement with Abitibi?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, the idea of signing a five-year agreement was with the intention of negotiating with Abitibi for a longer term arrangement. The present arrangement is for a guaranteed

volume rather than the old timber berth method which was signed in 1925 and renewed in 1950 and expired in 1975; 25 years at a crack. This one was negotiated and signed on an interim basis to give the department and the government and Abitibi time to work out a longer term arrangement.

**MR. BLAKE:** Yes, well I'm glad to hear that because I'm thinking that plant up there is fairly old and I don't imagine those plants will run forever and if they're going to consider in any way undertaking a major renovation — I'm thinking in millions of dollars in the way of expenditures — to that plant, they would certainly have to have some type of longer term agreement than a five-year term before they would undertake an expenditure like that. That plant is certainly a viable operation and important to the economy of Manitoba and I would hope that the negotiations are current and being encouraged by the government so that there is no possible danger of losing that industry to Manitoba.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, I personally have been encouraging Abitibi, the President and the senior officials of that company, to make a long term commitment with respect to the Abitibi company or Abitibi plant at Pine Falls with respect to the existing plant as well as to future development in that area. It is my impression, from the information that I have received from the forest experts, that there is indeed opportunity for much greater utilization and much better utilization of the forest on the east side of Lake Winnipeg. At the present time the plant which is operating there is, as the honourable member has indicated, a fairly old plant and requires reinvestment to improve its capacity for production of newsprint. They could also be looking at the alternative products from the forest. Most of the forest in that area is not the high quality spruce which is required for newsprint but is in fact the jack pine and other sources which are more appropriate for the production of kraft paper. The analysis of my department indicates that in fact there is potential on the east side of Lake Winnipeg for another plant the size of the one that Abitibi now has to produce kraft paper and it is one item which has been under discussion with Abitibi. As I said, I have been personally encouraging them to look at this possibility, as well as to look at the necessity of upgrading their present facility. This has been one of the major areas of discussion, in fact during the discussions leading up to the interim agreement and it's called interim agreement with the full expectation that there will be a long term agreement to follow that interim agreement.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Birtle-Russell.

**MR. GRAHAM:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When the ManFor operations first commenced in The Pas area and north of that I believe there was quite some concern expressed about the policies of regeneration and I believe at that time they started on a policy of clear-cut, with the hopes that within five to six years they would be able to assess the regeneration factor in the area and some decisions would be made after a few years as to the policy with respect to reforestation after the ManFor operation had cleaned out the timbers. Could the Minister give us a report on how the reforestation project is coming along in that area.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, I can give you a general statement about reforestation in this province. The forest research section of this department which I will discuss later, was established in 1971 to provide the research necessary to be able to assess the effectiveness of various types of reforestation techniques, that is scarification and natural reseeded programs to determine which would be the most effective way, the most efficient economical way of having a reforestation program. I might point out that in 1969, which was the last year of the previous government in this province, there were 9,289 acres reforested. In 1976, we have increased this effort to more than double the efforts of the previous government, so that in 1976, our reforestation resulted in the treatment of over 18,466 acres. Of this, the tree planting method was used, also the scarification method which is widely used in the north in the ManFor area. I'm not sure if the honourable member is familiar with the scarification method, but just as a brief explanation, I can mention that it is a method by which there is a clear-cutting operation undertaken, followed by a heavy machine moving through the area, dragging equipment which turns up the cones and reveals them to the light of the sun so that the natural re-seeding can take effect. I might say that it has been my intention and instruction to the department that we should be proceeding as fast as we can to narrow the gap between the areas that are being cut over and those that are reforested. Historically in this province, there has been an ever-increasing gap, if you look at the areas that are being reforested and those that are being cut over. The gap has been widening. Our efforts over the past number of years have been to narrow that gap and in fact, bring the two lines closer together.

**MR. GRAHAM:** Well, Mr. Chairman, that doesn't really tell us very much about what is happening in the ManFor production area yet. I was wondering if the Minister has any plans on doing a full assessment of that as soon as possible, so that we can determine what the effects of the scarification method are and what percentage of regeneration are we getting. Is it a 90 percent effort or 75 percent, or what is the result in that area?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, the reforestation program in the north is under constant surveillance. There's no immediate requirement to do further surveillance. In fact, the surveillance that we do, which is, as I say, constant in nature, indicates that we are getting excellent success from the scarification techniques in the north. The areas scarified in the north, to date, I'm informed,

exceed 8,000 acres.

**MR. GRAHAM:** Has the Minister any comparison on the results of the scarification as opposed to no activity whatsoever and just waiting for natural regeneration?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Well, Mr. Chairman, indications are that scarification is superior to waiting for natural regeneration and that is the reason that the department carries out scarification. I might say that this opinion comes about as a result of research activities which were carried out by the Forest Research section of this department, which I said was established in 1971, and which assesses the effectiveness of the various reforestation techniques, and it is the opinion of the experts that scarification is indeed a very successful way to reforest and it is the reason that it is being used very successfully in northern Manitoba. Just to make clear the statement I made earlier, Mr. Chairman, it is in excess of 8,000 acres annually that are being scarified in northern Manitoba.

**MR. GRAHAM:** Well I'm sure the Minister must have had some reports from the people he has in the field. I was wondering if those reports are public, or are they still classified as confidential information.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, there would be internal departmental reports by those field officers to their managers in the various sections of the department and there is no published report, as such, but this is information that comes to the experts in the department whose responsibility it is to oversee the operations of these various field operations.

**MR. GRAHAM:** Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the Minister would undertake, in the coming year, to assess the whole reforestation program and probably make available a public report on the success they are having with the various methods.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, we have, indeed, as I have mentioned, followed up on a constant program of surveillance and monitoring of the reforestation efforts of the department. This information is available and we can undertake to have it documented and published in a public form. It might be a good idea if citizens are interested in that information. We have, indeed, made a film of some of the activities and some of the information the honourable member is interested in is contained in that film which is available to the public.

**MR. GRAHAM:** Thank you.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Radisson.

**MR. HARRY SHAFRANSKY:** Mr. Chairman, I just wish to ask a question with regards to the Columbia Forest Products. I understand that you have indicated that there has been some change in the management, in the name of the particular company, and where is it located?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Minister.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, in 1975, Columbia Forest Products was acquired, that is purchased by a group of persons and firms from south-eastern Manitoba. The saw mill that is located at Sprague is now known as Sandilands Forest Products. That is the new name of the firm, and for the past year, my reports are that it has been operating well.

**MR. SHAFRANSKY:** So this is the company that had been established some period of time ago that was funded originally by the Manitoba Development Fund?

**MR. BOSTROM:** That is my understanding, Mr. Chairman, that this company was funded by the Manitoba Development Fund and suffered many serious financial problems and eventually was closed down. It was not operating at the time that it was acquired by the Sandilands Forest Products people and to my knowledge, they have been operating successfully and are operating on a timber-sale agreement which has contained in it stumpage fees which I believe are quite substantially more than those that were charged to the previous company by the previous government.

**MR. SHAFRANSKY:** I believe a few years ago there was a court case dealing with the type of agreement that was agreed to in which the Manitoba Development Fund, and later the Manitoba Development Corporation, was supposed to provide continuing operating funds. What has happened in that? Has there ever been any recovery of the funds with the company that was originally in charge of this operation?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, I do not have that information. I'm not even sure the department has that information, I believe it was private records that were involved in this case and the only connection that this department has had with the new firm is to negotiate a new timber sale agreement. My instructions to the department at the time this agreement was being drawn up was that the terms and conditions should not be special in any way, that it should be a normal kind of agreement that's signed with forest producing companies in Manitoba.

**MR. SHAFRANSKY:** Can the Minister indicate what were the losses to the province of Manitoba and the Manitoba Development Fund as a result of those deals which were entered into with the private companies, has there been any kind of figures indicated?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Order please. The Chair does like to give members as much latitude as possible but the honourable member is drifting into an area covered better under another department. We are on the matter of Forest Management.

**MR. SHAFRANSKY:** I appreciate the Chair's admonitions on this. I just figured that since the

Minister is responsible for Renewable Resources, that he might have some ideas as to what has happened with the changeover. When the new company was established there must have been some idea as to the losses incurred and what has happened under the new operation. If the Minister cannot answer, I will wait for another time.

The Member for Birtle-Russell referred to ManFor Forest Products. What is that company? What is the name of that company, it's a new company?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, the previous company, as he probably is aware, was called Churchill Forest Products, I believe. In the changeover of management which was obviously necessary, it was renamed Manitoba Forestry Resources and is a Crown corporation operating the plant which is located at The Pas.

**MR. SHAFRANSKY:** You indicated that there's been some changes in the type of arrangements that are made, and I understand that there's some reduction in the acreage. Can the Minister indicate what reduction there has been from the original agreement established with the Churchill Forest Products and today as ManFor, or Manitoba Forest Products.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, as I understand it, the original agreement that was signed between the previous government and Churchill Forest Products has simply continued in effect as it was written up and there has been no change in area, to my knowledge.

**A MEMBER:** It's all Crown land anyways.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Order please.

**MR. BOSTROM:** I understand the Member for Swan River says, It's all crown land anyways, but the fact is, my understanding is that this all Crown land was signed away by the previous administration, of which the present Leader of the official Opposition was one of the signators that gave it away to a private company. He was giving it away.

**MR. SHAFRANSKY:** I'm just merely trying to find out whether this Minister is continuing giving away Crown land to people in the private sector and saying that this rugged individualist will have invested \$100 million of public money.

**A MEMBER:** Who wrote that speech for you, Harry?

**MR. SHAFRANSKY:** I wrote that speech for myself. The Honourable Member for Minnedosa would like to create a little argument. I think he should argue with his leader, his venerable leader.

Mr. Chairman, I would still like to ask, who were the principals involved in the original agreement, and what are the changes that have been brought about? How many acres originally agreed to, and what it is today under ManFor.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, I don't have the actual acres, but I believe there was something in the neighbourhood of 40,000 square miles that were signed over to a group of private individuals and I believe that there has been 19 or 20 square miles removed from that area by recent adjustments, but in any case, now that those forest products are in the name of the Crown, owned by the people of Manitoba, they're not flying away to Switzerland, they're in the hands of Manitobans again, thank goodness, and we can make adjustments wherever necessary if need be.

**MR. SHAFRANSKY:** Can the Minister indicate whether in the signing of that deal of Crown land to private concerns, whether any private operators suffered as a result of this mammoth deal that was signed, signing Crown land away to people that we did not know who they were. —(Interjection— You want to ask about that question, you better ask your present Leader and the former Minister of Mines & Resources, the present Member for Lakeside.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Order please. Would honourable members direct their remarks to the Chair and not to each other. The Honourable Minister.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, I am not completely familiar with what happened to the private producers in the area. Indications are that there were some protections drawn into the agreement so that they were able to get some timber rights in the area. I'm not sure exactly what the requirements were.

**MR. SHAFRANSKY:** You see, Mr. Chairman, this so-called opposition member would like to make jest of matters which they spent a number of years in jeopardizing the whole future of Manitoba, and they would like to try to have everybody forget it as a big joke, the fact that they gave away some millions of dollars away to so-called "rugged individualists". —(Interjection)— I know it is an election year. I have no concern about it. I notice that your calm Leader is trying to be somebody other than what he truly is.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Order please. Does the honourable member have a question?

**MR. SHAFRANSKY:** Mr. Chairman, I thank you very much. I know that the Minister is not prepared to answer all the questions because it is unfair of me to ask specifically at this time.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Chair recognizes the Honourable Member for St. James.

**MR. GEORGE MINAKER:** Mr. Chairman, I yield to my Honourable Leader.

**A MEMBER:** Isn't that beautiful? Anybody else yielding to the Honourable Leader?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Leader of the Opposition. Order please.

**MR. LYON:** If we're quite through with all of the comedy on the far side of the table, Mr. Chairman, the Minister mentioned before negotiations with Abitibi about a new plant on the east side of Lake Winnipeg?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, I did not mention anything about a plant on the east side of Lake Winnipeg.

**MR. LYON:** I understood the Minister to say he was encouraging Abitibi to consider new production facilities or an expansion of the present plant at Pine Falls?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, as I've indicated I have had discussions with Abitibi representatives from time to time and have pointed out to them the figures on forest inventory that are available through my department and the estimates that the department had made with respect to the potential harvest on the east side the fact that there is a potential there for much greater harvest and a much better utilization of the forest than is presently being accomplished and merely to give them ideas as to future investment in that area.

**MR. LYON:** Can the Minister tell us, Mr. Chairman, whether he or to his knowledge any of his colleagues have been engaged in negotiations with Abitibi with respect to the Government of Manitoba assuming an equity position in that company?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, I have not directly been involved in those negotiations and I do not have the details of the negotiations.

**MR. LYON:** Who would have that information Mr. Chairman?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, I believe the Honourable Minister of Mines who was my predecessor in this department would have the information about negotiations that have been held previously between Abitibi and the Province of Manitoba.

**MR. LYON:** . . . with respect to an equity position being taken by the province in the operation of Abitibi?

**MR. BOSTROM:** With respect to whatever discussions were held between the Province of Manitoba and the Abitibi company which is based in Toronto I believe.

**MR. LYON:** At the same time, Mr. Chairman, this Minister says that he is actively encouraging Abitibi to make plant expansions with respect to their plant at Pine Falls while at the same time or in recent times his colleague has been negotiating an equity position with that company? Could he swear that?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, the questions regarding previous discussions on negotiations between the province of Manitoba and the Abitibi plant as I indicated will have to be directed to the Minister who was involved with the negotiations at that time. I'm not familiar with all the details.

**MR. LYON:** There are no negotiations at the present time between government to the knowledge of this Minister with Abitibi with respect to the Government of Manitoba with taxpayers' money taking an equity position with Abitibi today?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Not to my knowledge, Mr. Chairman.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Order please. The Honourable Leader of the Opposition. —(Interjection)— The Honourable Minister.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, I'm not aware of that negotiation if it is going on.

**MR. LYON:** At the present time.

**MR. BOSTROM:** At the present time.

**MR. LYON:** What would be the interest of the Government of Manitoba, if I may ask the Minister, Mr. Chairman, in assuming an equity position in a company like Abitibi in Manitoba?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, the question which has been posed by the honourable member is not a program or existing policy of the provincial government with respect to Abitibi. It is not something which is contained in the existing agreement and he would be simply asking my opinion which is not necessarily relevant to the Estimates that are before us.

**MR. LYON:** Mr. Chairman, I suggest with respect that the Minister's opinion is very relevant to the Estimates that are before us as to whether or not the taxpayers of Manitoba, today or in the past, through the instrumentality of the —(Interjection)—

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Order please.

**MR. LYON:** Mr. Chairman, how long do we have to put up with the comic relief on the far side of the table before it's called to order? —(Interjection)—

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Order please. The Honourable Minister.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, on the point the honourable member is raising, there will no doubt be negotiations which will be carried out between the Province of Manitoba and the Abitibi company. These negotiations will result in a longer term agreement with the company which will be acceptable to the company as well as the Province of Manitoba. The terms and conditions of that new agreement when it is reached will be announced. The process of negotiation at the present time is not before us within these Estimates.

**MR. LYON:** But, Mr. Chairman, I am asking what appears to me at least to be a reasonable question. How can my honourable friend be negotiating with a company like Abitibi about future

expansion when at the same time the Government of Manitoba through another Ministry is perhaps talking to Abitibi about acquisition?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, I indicated that there was another Minister involved in the negotiations which led up to the existing interim agreement which is in effect until 1980. Before 1980 there will be negotiations carried out with Abitibi to work out the terms and conditions of a new agreement which will be a supplement to the interim agreement which is in effect right now. And those negotiations, to my knowledge, are not in any way near to completion and therefore the details of these negotiations are not available at the present time.

**MR. LYON:** Those negotiations, Mr. Chairman, I take it are being conducted with a view to Abitibi continuing as a private sector company and the Government of Manitoba continuing to negotiate with them with respect only to berth, not acquisition. Is that what I understand?

**MR. BOSTROM:** The existing agreement is public knowledge, Mr. Chairman, and the existing agreement provides for a volume to ensure the continued operation of the plant at Pine Falls. There is no equity position in the existing plant at Pine Falls. There was no agreement on such a proposal. If one was made there is no agreement on such a proposal. The major change in the existing agreement with Abitibi at the present time from the old agreement is the change with respect to the rights to timber in the area. It is now a volume agreement rather than the old berth agreement. There was a substantial increase in the dues payable to the Crown as a result of the new interim agreement. I believe it was approximately a four-fold increase over that which was charged previously and I would say that those were the two major points of difference. The interim agreement was signed with a view to working out the details for a longer term agreement and those details have not been worked out. The negotiation that is an ongoing process between Abitibi and the Province of Manitoba — it's an open process — there is no final results of any negotiation at the present time.

**MR. LYON:** Those negotiations, Mr. Chairman, I take it are being carried out by the Minister and/or members of his department at the present time.

**MR. BOSTROM:** There are no negotiations going on at the present time which are leading to an imminent agreement. We will be working with Abitibi over the next three years to work out the details of a new agreement.

**MR. LYONS:** What kind of term are we looking for or could we expect from the new agreement, it being understood that a five-year term is not necessarily the kind of term upon which private investment would like to put money in place for new capital installations and so on.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, the term will be consistent with whatever is agreed on with respect to amount of investment that will be made and the requirement of wood resources to make such an investment possible.

**MR. LYON:** Mr. Chairman, is the Minister or his department carrying out negotiations with any other private forestry concerns in Manitoba with respect to the government of Manitoba assuming an equity position in them.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Not to my knowledge, Mr. Chairman.

**MR. LYON:** Certainly not through your department in any case.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Not through my office in any case, Mr. Chairman.

**MR. LYON:** Would it be possible that such negotiations could be carried on by another ministry such as Mines?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Not to my knowledge, Mr. Chairman.

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

**MR. MINAKER:** Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the Honourable Minister could advise the committee. It is my understanding that the Planning Section in the Forestry Department prepared three reports for the RED Sub-Committee and also the Northern Strategy Group. I'm wondering, are those three reports available at this time to the members of the legislature?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, I'm not sure what reports the honourable member is referring to.

**MR. MINAKER:** I'm referring to the three reports that are mentioned in the Honourable Minister's year-end Annual Report that he has his signature on and I understand that these three reports dealt with short term and long term potential developments of the forestry industry by communities. I'm wondering if . . .

**MR. BOSTROM:** I believe, Mr. Chairman, that those titles were mentioned earlier in the estimates discussion this evening and I had made a note of it and so instructed the staff to pass these on to the honourable member's caucus.

**MR. MINAKER:** I wonder if the Honourable Minister can advise that in the one proposal for forestry developments, this one report that deals with long term potential development by communities, if any of those proposals are now in fact becoming a policy of the Minister's department and being implemented?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman there are number of projections that were made as to the inventory, matching up the inventory, forest inventory information that we have with some estimate of employment requirements in various areas of the province, in particular remote community areas,

Lake Winnipeg communities as well as those in northern and rural Manitoba. The department has had discussions with some of these communities, with some at the initiative of the community where the community came forward and requested the department to discuss with them the possibility of launching a harvesting operation in the immediate area of their community to produce pulpwood, lumber, fence posts or whatever with a view to increasing the employment opportunities available to the residents of those communities. Our estimates are, for example, in the area around the Lake Winnipeg basin, which would be delivering pulpwood to the Pine Falls mill, the one we were discussing earlier. We're estimating that as a result of government's efforts through discussion with communities and assisting communities to undertake projects related to forest harvesting that there will be something in the neighbourhood of 25,000 cords produced in the Lake Winnipeg basin in the next fiscal year.

In other areas of the province, Mr. Chairman, the department has had discussions with Nelson House, Oxford House, Norway House, Pikwitonei, Cross Lake, Pelican Rapids and others with a view to either assisting them in starting up new operations or making those operations which they are now involved in more efficient and more productive.

**MR. MINAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I wonder in these reports dealing with the long-term development of the industry, has there been any recommendations that the industry should be operated by Crown-owned agencies exclusively?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, there are a number of approaches taken. Primarily the emphasis is put on assisting the community to implement the kind of operation that they desire. If it is a Crown-owned operation which they desire, one which we can agree to, then we would assist them in establishing such an operation. If it is a community-owned operation, community-owned and controlled and operated which they desire, we assist them to get that kind of operation established and we assist them in the actual timber cruising and so on to ensure more success in the operation. For example, Moose Lake is one area in Manitoba where a corporation has been established to provide employment and involve local people in the community in the production of pulpwood for the mill at The Pas. Bloodvein Reserve, on the east side of Lake Winnipeg, is an example of a community-owned and operated operation which was started in the last year and a half, I believe, where the community has formed a corporation called Bloodvein Foundation and they're involved in logging for pulpwood as well as lumber production. They're involved in other things as a part of that corporation such as winter road construction and so on. It's a community-owned and operated corporation. In effect it's sort of like a local Crown corporation, owned and operated by the people of the community.

**MR. MINAKER:** Mr. Chairman, maybe the Honourable Minister misunderstood my question. What I had asked the Honourable Minister was, in these reports that deal with long-range development have they recommended that the forestry industry be handled exclusively by Crown-owned corporations? Has that recommendation been put forward in any of those reports?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, I don't believe that is the recommendation of the reports. The main purpose of the reports was to identify the opportunities available' employment opportunities available through a more efficient and complete harvest of the forest resources that are available in the Province of Manitoba.

**MR. MINAKER:** Mr. Chairman, I would ask the Honourable Minister, would the Honourable Minister like to see the forest industry be operated exclusively by Crown-owned corporations.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, I would prefer to see the forest industry operated in the way which would make it most efficient.

**MR. MINAKER:** I'm sorry I can't hear the Minister's answer, Mr. Chairman.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, I would prefer to see the forestry operation in each case be operated in such a way as to be most efficient.

**MR. MINAKER:** Well, we know which way that is, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, also, I was wondering, in the Honourable Minister's report there is mention of permit for cutting of wood and I think there were 80 such permits issued in 1975-76. I wonder if the Minister could advise how many permits of this type have been issued in the last year.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, I'm sorry, I did not catch the full question. Permits for what purpose?

**MR. MINAKER:** For cutting wood. I think they're called occasional or casual permits.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, I believe that information is available in the statistical tables in the back of the annual report.

**MR. MINAKER:** I'm asking the Minister for this year. How do they compare, the permits, being . . .

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, I believe that those are not yet compiled. When they are compiled they are public information and he can request them of my department.

**MR. MINAKER:** I wonder if the Honourable Minister can advise of any permits being turned down or anybody requesting, that has been approved.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, if there is timber available in the area that the person applies for a

permit, it is normally approved. The criteria is efficient and prudent use of the forest. We would not approve a permit if it were to put the forest in danger. On the other hand, following the criteria of good, efficient, sustained yield management, we will allow permits in all those areas where there is sufficient timber.

**MR. MINAKER:** I wonder, Mr. Chairman, if the Honourable Minister can advise the committee how many cords are allowed to be cut in a permit of this type? Is there a restriction on the cordage that a person can cut on one of these casual type . . .

**MR. BOSTROM:** Well, Mr. Chairman, if it's for their own use, there's no stipulated volume on it. It's normally small volumes, but there's no stipulated maximum.

**MR. MINAKER:** Thank you. That's all for now.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for La Verendrye.

**MR. BANMAN:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. I wonder, with the advent of high energy costs, I noticed, speaking to a fellow in my constituency that's selling wood stoves, the sales apparently are very good for wood stoves right now, and when I look at the birchwood that's rolling through the towns in my constituency, namely coming from the Sandilands Forest Reserve . . . as far as birchwood goes, for fireplaces, I imagine, I wonder if the Minister or his department is anticipating a fairly large number of requests in the coming years for this type of facility? I think that if the trend continues, like I mentioned for high energy costs, you're going to see more and more people sort of supplementing their heating with either birch or with any type of wood fuels that are available. I would also note that in most of the permits that are issued as far as the birchwood is concerned, and I got one myself this year, I think you're restricted to two cords, and I'm wondering if there will be any considerations or any changes made with regards to that.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Minister.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Well, Mr. Chairman, the restriction on birchwood, as my honourable friend will probably understand, is related to the criteria of good, sustained yield management of that resource. It is a finite resource and birch is not in great quantities in Manitoba. We therefore put the limit of two cords on that particular permit.

For the other part of the question, Mr. Chairman, we do anticipate greatly increased demand for firewood for fuel purposes and the department is, at this time, designating areas where this increased demand can be met.

**MR. BANMAN:** Would you then, for somebody that is requiring this type of a permit, be stipulating different amounts, like number of cords on the permit that this person can cut? I'm not talking specifically about birch, I'm talking about other types of lumber.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, that is a management decision that can be taken, based on the areas that are available and the number of demands for permits are known. There's no definite decision taken at this time yet.

**MR. BANMAN:** I wonder if the Minister could confirm that there has been a substantial increase this year over last year as far as the issuing of these different cutting permits, for instance for birch and for other trees for this type of fuel for heating houses.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, I don't have the figures in front of me, but the indications from the department are that, yes indeed, there has been a substantial increase in the demand for these kinds of permits and we are anticipating an even greater increase in the years to come.

**MR. BANMAN:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Minnedosa.

**MR. BLAKE:** Mr. Chairman, it looks like there are going to be quite a number of questions on this particular item. If it is the wish of the committee, I would move that committee rise.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Committee rise.

TIME: 8:00 p.m.

**ESTIMATES — HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** When we recessed at Private Members' Hour we were on Page 28, Resolution 60(a)(2) Other Expenditures, \$88,900—pass; (a)(3) Professional Training, \$24,000.00. The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

**MR. BROWN:** I wonder if the Minister could tell us how many people are being trained and who is doing the training under this item. What type of training are they receiving?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Minister of Health and Social Development.

**MR. DESJARDINS:** Mr. Chairman, it is on a bursary program at the different universities and it's training for Public Health Nurses, Social Workers, Home Economists, and the Public Health Nursing Institute. There was a reduction of \$125,000 here from the previous year pending the reassessment of the Nurse Practitioner Program by the Minister's committee that has been named that has been working at it now.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Swan River.

**MR. BILTON:** Mr. Chairman, how much of that \$24,000 is included in the recoverable amount from Ottawa for \$93,500.00?

**MR. DESJARDINS:** There is only \$5,000 of the \$24,000 that is recoverable from Ottawa.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge.

**MR. AXWORTHY:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wonder if the Minister could tell us if, under this particular expenditure, this is where the training for people in the mental health professions are included, or is there a separate item for that professional development in those areas?

**MR. DESJARDINS:** This would be in the next division, Page 30, Medical and Rehabilitative Services, 4(a).

**MR. AXWORTHY:** Mr. Chairman, I wonder, in the bursaries that this offers for social workers and nurses, does it include those who would be working in the psychiatric field or doing clinical psychology in the mental health or mental retardation field?

**MR. DESJARDINS:** This is only for the Public Health Nurses.

**MR. AXWORTHY:** Only Public Health Nurses?

**MR. DESJARDINS:** Yes, the others would be Professional Training, Page 30, 4(a)(3). It's people in the field services, the social workers and public health nurses and so on that are in the field.

**MR. AXWORTHY:** If that's the case, Mr. Chairman, could the Minister describe, when the bursaries are given, on what criteria they are awarded? Are they designated for those who will be only serving in the rural districts? Are there any kind of qualifications as to who gets these particular bursaries and what the purpose is for them?

**MR. DESJARDINS:** What we usually do, it's people that have been with the department for a while that are interested and whose services have been good. There's not that many, with \$24,000 there's not that many.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Swan River.

**MR. BILTON:** Mr. Chairman, I don't know whether this is the item or not, but I would be rather interested in knowing how many public health nurses are on staff and distributed throughout rural Manitoba, whether this is the item or not? This seems a very minimal amount, Mr. Minister, with the problem confronting those of us in remote areas that are short on staff of this type.

**MR. DESJARDINS:** This has been recognized by the department, Mr. Chairman. If the members remember, when I introduced my Estimates, we discussed the question of staff and that we have been trying to stay with the staff that we have except that the department felt the first priority was public health nurses, and I'm not talking about the Dental Program which is a new program, but of the existing programs. We have 10 more, we asked for and received 10 more public health nurses. There are 191 altogether; that's all Manitoba, that's not in the rural areas. I would have to try to find that for you. Excuse me, I have that information here, 150 in the rural areas.

**MR. BILTON:** Mr. Chairman, it's not my purpose to find fault, but I have three Indian Reserves and a fairly large constituency and it seems to me that from a health point of view we don't have the services that other areas have. We have problems, great driving distances, and I don't think that a decision has been arrived at insofar as a Public Health Doctor being appointed to Swan River. I think you've got a temporary man, a good man doing a good job, but I don't think we are getting the services that the people require in that particular area.

I'm thinking, Mr. Chairman, of Pelican Rapids which is 85 miles northeast of Swan River and the public health nurse some goes in there once a week or once a month, I'm not too sure on those points. But, Mr. Chairman, we have something like 1,500 people, 2,000 people in there, men, women and children, an Indian Reserve and the Indian-Metis people, and I don't think it is good enough. I believe that if the medical services were put in there in a sort of a clinic basis, if I may say that without asking the department to go to extreme expense, that a far better job would be done than is being done at the

moment.

I would like the Minister to pinpoint how many health nurses we've got in the Swan Valley area. I think it's so minimal with the outstanding areas that have to be covered, that it's a disgrace to the department.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

**MR. L.R. (BUD) SHERMAN:** My question may have already been answered, Mr. Chairman, but just to clarify my own thinking, do I infer from the Minister's remarks, and I may have missed it, that what we are talking about here in this appropriation which represents a considerable reduction from last year's vote, what we are talking about here is a specific expenditure related to a specific kind of professional training. We are not talking about cutbacks in public health nurses, are we? We are talking about a different approach to that phase of the training.

**MR. DESJARDINS:** Of course, as I stated, one of the only areas where we did receive additional staff man years has been for public health nurses, with 10.

Now, the question of my other honourable friend, in the Dauphin-Swan River area there are 21 public health nurses. Now, I must say there is something I'm not too happy with.

**MR. BILTON:** That covers half of Manitoba.

**MR. DESJARDINS:** Half the population of Manitoba? I think you'd better sharpen your pencil if we're talking about population. There's 51,700 people in that area and there's 21 nurses so that's not bad. We would like to have more but then you wouldn't be very happy with the tax that we would have to raise to get these kind of people.

Now, there's another area and I hope this will be settled very soon, it seems that we are getting much closer. My honourable friend talked about the Reserve, we're not doing too much on the Reserves. We feel that it is the responsibility of the Federal Government. We have had some exchange with the Federal Government; they take care of some of the native people, we take care of some of the Metis people, but I'm very pleased to say that our First Minister has been discussing this with the Prime Minister of Canada and there is a committee setting up and these things, I would hope, will be settled in the very near future. —(Interjection)— I do, I have the responsibility in the field of health in Manitoba.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Resolution 60(a)(3)—pass; Resolution 60(b) Medical Public Health Services: (1) Salaries \$455,600. The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

**MR. BROWN:** Can the Minister tell me how many public health doctors are involved in this item of salaries and what type of medical programs are provided?

**MR. DESJARDINS:** This includes the salary of the Executive Director of Medical Services and five doctors. There's a clinical health service

**MR. DESJARDINS:** This includes the salary of the Executive Director of Medical Services and five doctors. There is clinical health services, venereal disease, contagious disease, epidemiological services; this is the area, the people that are looking after that. For instance, the swine flu that we had, to prepare that and any other of the ordinary.

**MR. BROWN:** We seem to have had a tremendous increase in venereal disease since 1955 when there were 1,215 cases of gonorrhoea reported; this has risen now to 4,028. I am just wondering whether the department is going ahead with trying to come up with a comprehensive program to control this because we seem to have been reaching near epidemic proportions here.

**MR. DESJARDINS:** I've been told that I was responsible for that too, Mr. Chairman. I might say that first of all you can't just go by the numbers that are reported because there is an improvement in this way, that there are many more cases reported. I'm not saying that there is not an increase, but it is very difficult to make sure because there's the recording. There's been a lot of work done and the department not too long ago, approximately two years ago, recruited the service of a doctor and that's his full-time job, he's working with the College of Physicians, with the medical profession and so on to work on this and I think that — we're also concerned. —(Interjection)— I don't know, I think it is maybe society with this permissiveness and so on, that's possible. I don't know if the pill has anything to do with it.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

**MR. SHERMAN:** Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Minister where the Occupational Health section fits into the overall program now?

**MR. DESJARDINS:** My friend the labour critic for the loyal opposition would be very pleased to know that he will have to get that from the Minister of Labour, his dear friend, who will be following me with his Estimates.

**MR. SHERMAN:** That's a pretty attractive invitation, Mr. Chairman. In other words, the transfer of that area has now been completed, concluded. One other question, I would appreciate some direction as to where their Home Economics Services dovetails with Medical Public Health Services? I take it from my limited knowledge of the operations of the department and the departmental report that there is a monitoring operation which involves the combined efforts of the public health services and the home economics section. The Home Economics Service, I notice, is a separate section and a separate appropriation. Are there two distinct roles carried out by the Home Economics Services?

**MR. DESJARDINS:** Mr. Chairman, that will go for pretty well all or many of the next pages that are the Directorate only who are formulating the programs and so on, but the field staff are what we are dealing with at this time. They have a Directorate, they report to the Medical Director. They are part of the team in the community, delivering the services, all the services are delivered by a team at single unit delivery.

The field staff is in community operation and what you will see on the next line is the directorate that prepare the program and so on, and that is giving services in general to all the areas.

I should say at this time, because I know my honourable friend is very interested, they are also getting closer, and we hope that they will work very closely with the Director of Fitness also because we believe that that will go together also.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Swan River.

**MR. BILTON:** Mr. Chairman, my colleague spoke of venereal disease. I wonder if the Honourable Minister could tell us the division between juveniles and adults? He mentioned 4,000, I think.

**MR. DESJARDINS:** I'll try to get it for you. I haven't got it now. I think the 4,000 or so is the complete of all the population.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Wolseley.

**MR. ROBERT G. WILSON:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Being from the core area and having familiar knowledge of some of the problems, I wonder if the Minister could explain the preventative aspect of that venereal disease program in the core area and I wonder, where do these transient people in the many rooming-house areas that we have — could he explain for the records where they would go in the core area of Winnipeg? You mentioned one doctor housed in the medical college.

What is being done in the downtown area? Where do these people go and this type of thing? At one time, if you remember last year, I had suggested that you put in all the Main Street hotels and that, a sign indicating where they could go for this type of prevention.

**MR. DESJARDINS:** A neon sign? I would say to my honourable friend that these people would be treated at the Outpatient Department of the Health Sciences Centre, the St. Boniface, and the Mount Carmel Clinic, and the Klinik on Broadway.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Resolution 60(b)(1)—pass; (b)(2) Other Expenditures. The Honourable Leader of the Opposition on (1) or (2)?

**MR. LYON:** I'll ask a question on (1). It has application to all votes in my honourable friend's department. With respect to the provision by the Minister, if he could, before we get to his salary, the kind of breakdown of staff for the whole department that we used to receive when my honourable friend was a distinguished member of the opposition and I think he used to call for each year. It would help facilitate the discussion of the Estimates if we could have that breakdown for the department. I don't expect him to produce it out of a hat tonight, Mr. Chairman.

**MR. DESJARDINS:** In this area or the whole part?

**MR. LYON:** Under each vote. I think my honourable friend will recall the sheets that we used to get, two or three pages or more.

**MR. DESJARDINS:** Yes, I remember very well when Dr. Johnson . . . I might say to my honourable friend, though, that I gave quite a bit of that information when I introduced my Estimates and I sat down, at his request, with the health critic of the Conservatives and went out and gave him that information. But I can give you the breakdown again if you wish. Another thing is that I think that last year we went through every one and had the breakdown and I explained this year that there was only an increase of I think it was 28 ½ and I gave that information. I gave the information on contract salaries and so on, but if there is any particular thing, I don't mind, I can give you the breakdown again.

**MR. LYON:** I thank the Minister, Mr. Chairman. I unfortunately had to miss the introduction of this Estimates but it would be helpful if we could have this in tabulated form under each of the votes, indicating not only the full-time civil service personnel but contract employees, part-time help of any sort that he may have, everybody who is drawing a cheque from the Department of Health and Social Services. —(Interjection)— Right, and including in that, Mr. Chairman, if he would, all other salaries that are paid under shared-cost programs with the Federal Government, that is, under programming that is stimulated or initiated by the Federal Government, so that we have a global idea of the number of people we are talking about.

**MR. DESJARDINS:** Just to make sure that this is the information that the Honourable Leader of the Opposition would like to have, we'll give you the SMYs on the department and we'll break it down. We'll also give you the contract people that we have, by department also. Now, everybody that gets a cheque might be difficult, you know, because you're talking about home care people and so on, you have part-time people that might work for a few hours. That will be a little more difficult to get. There's 1,500 of those, those are people who are employed to come in and do some home care. I could give you the total number and I hope I can give you the money involved, but that's about all I can give you

on that. But I will give you the SMYs, the contract people and so on.

**MR. LYON:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think we can begin with that. We'll take a look at it and I'm sure we can have discussions with my honourable friend — (Interjection) — Oh, you'll be here long enough to provide that, Mr. Chairman.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Resolution 60(a). The Honourable Minister of Health.

**MR. DESJARDINS:** I would like to say here if we are still on (a) that we have another program. There are not too many new programs this year but it is the Hearing Services. Now we have increased that, we have a Regional Hearing Centre now that will open in Thompson, and one in Brandon, and we are following through on the custody. What we have been doing on the Dental Care Program — we go to the schools and I think you can detect there might be seven percent of the children that might need further examination and this is being done. So we are going to provide that in the schools. We have these new centres. There is one here at the Health Sciences Centre, and we are adding those two in Thompson and Brandon to provide this service.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

**MR. SHERMAN:** Well, Mr. Chairman, I would ask the Minister whether what is identified in the report of the department as clinical health services is covered under this section, Medical Public Health Services — does that mean clinical health services as well? So that includes the hearing program, the vision screening and all the various clinical programs of that kind.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Resolution 60(b)(1)—pass. (b)(2) Other Expenditures, \$860,300.00. The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

**MR. BROWN:** I wonder if the Minister could give us a breakdown on the Other Expenditures?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Minister of Health and Social Development.

**MR. DESJARDINS:** That is the Estimates? Rheumatic Heart Disease, \$8,700; Life Saving and Cystic Fibrosis Program \$93,700; Diabetic Drug, \$46,000; Vaccines and Immunization Agents, \$345,200; Western Encephalitis Surveillance Program, \$42,900; Improved Hearing and Screening Program, \$96,500; Doctors and Dentists Rural Incentive Grant, \$21,700.

**MR. BROWN:** I would like to ask a question. The immunization program as such would come under Public Health and Nursing Services? It would come right over here. Then I would ask the Minister whether he is doing anything to encourage a program to maintain inoculations and other measures that provide immunity against polio at a much higher level than what we seem to have at the present time? It seems as if our immunity has been declining.

**MR. DESJARDINS:** There has been \$53,000 worth of vaccine for polio this year. This is one of the main functions of our Public Health Nurses and of course the people are free to go to their own doctors also and get this treatment, get the immunization.

**MR. BROWN:** I wonder if the Minister can give us any indication of what percentage of less children would be immune to polio now than what we would have had, let's say five years ago, or approximately, or in the approximate range. We seem to be declining.

**MR. DESJARDINS:** It is very difficult because many of the people go to their own doctors. I can't say that I am too pleased with that. I think that this is something that we have been discussing and it could be that that service . . . I personally would like to see all this service given right in the schools — we have the dental program, now we are going the hearing aid, I would like to see eventually the eyes testing, the ears, nose, throat and also the immunization. We could keep records and it could be done regularly at the right age and once we have got a clinic, like we have the type of clinic or the space for the dental program, we could utilize those facilities. And we hope that this will be going. But now it is very difficult because it is done at schools, it is voluntary of course, and then the people will choose to go to their own doctors also.

**MR. SHERMAN:** Mr. Chairman, is this where we get at the hearing program generally or are we talking here about a limited program? What I want to know is — (Interjection) — So this is the one that covers, for example, children with severe hearing impairment and services and facilities in that field. Is that correct or does this just cover a screening program in the schools generally?

**MR. DESJARDINS:** We were involved in that in a limited fashion. It was a voluntary thing. We never paid for the full treatment of that — it was for the screening. Now we expanded that. Once they have had the first screening, mostly done with mobile vans and some of the volunteers, people are prepared in the community before the van comes, and . . . you're having trouble hearing, I see. Then if there is more — of the children there is only roughly seven percent that need further examination and so on — they are sent to these centres. There are now two new ones. There was one in the Greater Winnipeg area and then there is Thompson and Brandon that will be open this year. And as I have said, we are moving in the schools more and more but we are not doing the full treatment, just the screening.

**MR. SHERMAN:** It is the screening then, I take it, that has been expanded. That program has been expanded.

**MR. DESJARDINS:** Yes.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Resolution 60(b)(2)—pass. 60(b)(3) External Agencies. The Honourable

Member for Fort Garry.

**MR. SHERMAN:** Would the Minister explain this item? What external agencies are we talking about here?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Minister of Health and Social Development.

**MR. DESJARDINS:** There is only three of them here, the Canadian Public Health Association, and the Family Planning Association of Manitoba — this is mostly administration — and then there is a new one of \$20,000 to the St. John Ambulance and it is to train people in the rural area. They weren't going in the rural area and there is a grant to start training people in the rural area now.

**MR. SHERMAN:** This appropriation does not then represent an operational funding participation? It is for a grant for specific training, is that correct? —(Interjection)—

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Resolution 60(b)(3). The Honourable Member for Swan River.

**MR. BILTON:** Could the Honourable Minister explain why it has doubled? What did you do last year? It requires another 22,000 bucks?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Minister of Health and Social Development.

**MR. DESJARDINS:** We can always remove it. This is what I said, the new grant to train people, the St. John Ambulance to train people in the rural area. I thought my friend would be very pleased that we included that. Previously this was done only in the city. There was no training by the St. John Ambulance. This is an extra twenty point something-or-other thousand dollars to St. John Ambulance to carry on their training in the rural areas.

**MR. BILTON:** Mr. Chairman, the Minister was rather flippant when we said to me that he thought I would be pleased that this was being extended to rural Manitoba. Of course I am pleased. Where is the grant being spent, in the City of Winnipeg?

**MR. DESJARDINS:** No. (Inaudible)

**MR. BILTON:** Where are you training these people?

**MR. DESJARDINS:** In the rural areas. (Inaudible)

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Order please. Order please. If the honourable members wish to be recorded, they will have to rise in their place, not have conversations going on across the floor. I want remarks directed through this Chair. Is that understood? The Honourable Member for Swan River.

**MR. BILTON:** I feel that if I ask the Minister a legitimate question, I would hope he would see to it that he would give me a legitimate answer, not a flippant one.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Minister of Health and Social Development.

**MR. DESJARDINS:** I assure you for the fourth time, I am saying that the St. John Ambulance who are training people in first aid and so on were not helped by us for the training that they were doing in the country, in the rural area. Now there is \$20,000 going to the St. John Ambulance to train people in the rural area and I can't say it any differently.

**MR. BILTON:** I've got to carry this thing a little further. I asked the Honourable Minister the headquarters of St. John Ambulance or in the City of Winnipeg. They don't have training units throughout rural Manitoba and he knows it just as well as I do. I asked him a simple question and I wanted a simple answer. That's all.

**MR. DESJARDINS:** Mr. Chairman, I haven't got this money yet. It is up to my honourable friend to see if I am going to get it or not and starting April 1st that grant will go out and they will train people. He can like it or not, they will train people in the rural area. I am sorry.

**MR. BILTON:** Would the Minister kindly tell me where these people ? trained Are they being trained in the City of Winnipeg or are they being trained in Moose Factory?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Resolution 60(b)(3)—pass. —(Interjections)— Order please. Order please. Order please. Let us not get too exercised over the Estimates, please. Resolution 60(c) Child and Family Services, (1) Salaries, \$276,200. The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

**MR. SHERMAN:** Mr. Chairman, with this item and this appropriation, I guess we get down to the nitty-gritty of the Minister's Estimates. The Minister says he has a statement he would like to make on that. I would welcome it. I would hope not to lose my place in the rotation in the debate, but I would welcome a statement from the Minister on it because this is really one of the crucial areas that we will be examining.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Minister of Health and Social Development.

**MR. DESJARDINS:** I agree with my honourable friend, Mr. Chairman. This is an area that we have been very weak and I have a two-page statement that I think will answer many of the questions.

We now come to our Child and Family Services appropriation which includes our statutory Child Welfare Services as provided under the authority of the provincial Child Welfare Act. I would like to outline my concerns in this program area and to describe some positive action which my department is taking. We see before us an appropriation which will increase from \$17.8 million in the current year to \$23 million in fiscal year 1977-1978. I am concerned with the growing cost of caring for children and adolescents and equally important, I have questions about the quality of care and treatment children

are receiving.

At the present time we have approximately 3,000 Manitoba children who are in permanent or temporary paid guardianship under the authority of the Child Welfare Act. Two thousand two hundred of these children are cared for by foster parents. Five hundred fifty are placed in group homes and 250 are accommodated in institutions. Seventy percent of the children in foster care require only 25 percent of the available financial and service resources, while the remaining 30 percent of the children in group homes and institutions require some 75 percent of these resources. What we are facing in Child Welfare is an increasing number of children in the upper age category with a variety of difficult problems. Over one-third of the children in care are between the ages of fourteen and eighteen and over 60 percent of the children are over twelve years of age.

As we discuss the Estimates for the next fiscal year, I want my department child and family services to give priority and attention to in general and to child welfare in particular. We must take action now so that today's children will become the productive citizens of tomorrow. We must avoid the tragedy of allowing them to become the future clients of the judicial and correctional system.

Of all the problems with which my department must deal, the problems in child welfare are amongst the most difficult and the child welfare system is amongst the hardest for which to provide leadership. Over 80 percent of the Child Welfare responsibility is delegated to non-governmental agencies and individuals. Five Children's Aid Societies and six of the department's regional offices carry responsibility for the identification and placement of and follow-up services for children who are in the care of over 1,500 foster parents, 100 group homes and six institutional care-givers. For too long now the system has not received the attention it has deserved and it is my wish that it receive better co-ordination and as service gaps are identified, to have more resources made available.

In our endeavour to improve our Child and Family Service programming, we are taking a number of steps. First, the child abuse. I am concerned with the increasing number of reported cases of physically and sexually abused children. I am equally concerned about the lack of a co-ordinated service in the City of Winnipeg to serve these children and to work with families. Accordingly, I have authorised the establishment of a working group to be chaired by a board member of the Winnipeg Children's Aid Society to review this matter and to make recommendations for the establishment of a central child abuse unit for the City of Winnipeg. Furthermore, this working group will recommend on the need for and type of facility and service to accommodate abused children following medical attention and to provide parental counselling and preventative services. There will be representation on this working group from physicians at the Children's Centre and St. Boniface Hospital, Children's Aid Societies of Winnipeg and eastern Manitoba, my department and the City of Winnipeg policy youth squad. The Estimates before you contain a general amount to fund this service including the provision of part-time - services. physician

Foster care: I believe that the best way to care for children who become the responsibility of the Child Welfare system is one that most closely approximates the care given in the normal family situation. I feel that whenever and wherever possible, institutional and group home care should be avoided in favour of or suitable foster parents. In today's society and especially in the larger urban areas, foster parents are becoming difficult to find, particularly for adolescents in the fourteen to eighteen year range. My department will be working closely with the placing agencies to develop foster parenting. The current foster home rate in fact created a disincentive to potential foster home parents. Some foster parents in caring for children can actually be out of pocket. To assist in this regard, the Estimates before you reflect close to an additional \$1 million to increase our foster parental rates. The rates will be increased on average of 30 percent and for parenting of children in the upper age brackets, the rates will be increased up to 60 percent.

Out-of-province placement: At the present time, there are some 65 children in care who have been placed in out-of-province treatment and care facilities. It is my strong belief that as much as possible, Manitoba children should be cared for in Manitoba. There are gaps in the Manitoba system that I am convinced we must identify and fill them with appropriate facilities and services. Working in co-operation with the placement and care agencies, we are developing plans to avoid out-of-province placement as much as possible and to repatriate children currently out of Manitoba. We have identified the need to establish an extended treatment psychiatric centre for

emotionally disturbed children and adolescents. This facility will be established at the Health Sciences Centre and planning is currently under way to bring this service into operation, hopefully within the next few months. I will discuss this matter more fully under the Mental Health portion of my Estimates.

Year-round wilderness programming, as part of the child-caring spectrum, has become an accepted mode of treatment and has been a major attraction in placing children out of province. Wilderness programming, however, has caused problems, most notably in the Province of Saskatchewan. To fill a Manitoba void in this area, I will shortly be advising one of the Manitoba child caring institutions to proceed with plans to develop a wilderness program in Manitoba for use by the child placing system. This will be a year-round rotational program to accommodate up to 15 adolescents and will be operational this summer. It will be closely supervised and established as an experimental model, to prove or disprove the need for such a program. If this works, we have another possibility of setting up another camp in the Duck Mountain area.

Native children and families in Winnipeg. The migration of native families to Winnipeg and most particularly to the core area, has placed increasing pressure on the Winnipeg child caring system, especially on the Children's Aid Society of Winnipeg. In recognition of this pressure, my department will be employing 10 native persons who have undergone a two year family counselling training program. These counsellors will work in various program areas, with special emphasis on native child welfare.

Indian child welfare. The province of Manitoba has been extremely disturbed by the gradual, but obvious withdrawal by the Federal Government of both services and funding for all help and social services to our native population. Because of initiatives which Premier Schreyer is taking directly with the Prime Minister, the Federal-Provincial Manitoba Indian Brotherhood Working Group has been established. This group is developing a master agreement that will delineate the respective service delivery and financing responsibilities among all partners for such health and social services as may be agreed to be supplied to native persons who may be resident on, or off, reserve lands. I am pleased to report that this tripartite working group has established native child welfare as the top priority program and a sub-working group is being established to recommend on the method of financing and the system by which child welfare services will be made available for native children, both on and off reserves.

Distribution of Facilities. As in all program areas, it is our general belief that children entering the child welfare system, should be cared for in facilities located in close proximity to their own community. For those children who require intensive care and treatment, it is of course, not possible to build institutions in each and every community in the province. We recognize, however, that certain northern and rural areas are lacking in child caring facilities. It is my department's intention to review those areas most deficient in facilities and to promote the development of group homes for children and adolescents who cannot be looked after by foster parents. Such a facility currently is being developed in The Pas, and other such group homes will be established as requests are identified and as funding will permit. There should be three or four by the end of the year, that is approved.

Group Homes. Over the past five years, because of the difficulty in recruiting foster parents and the growing number of older children to be cared for, the child welfare system has witnessed the development of so-called "group homes". This is nation-wide experience. A few short years ago, we had practically no group homes in Manitoba, and now we have over 100, each accommodating an average of six adolescents. In terms of need, as well as care and treatment standards, this development can be described as "uncontrolled", and I can say quite frankly, that I am not pleased with this situation. As I have mentioned previously, my department will be establishing an office of residential care to establish licensing procedures for these group homes and to establish necessary fire, building, public health and program standards. I might say we will be careful with the people running these institutions, because some, I don't think should be licensed. This will not be an easy job, but it is a needed one which will be undertaken in the very near future. The steps which I have described represent positive action in a program area that deserves attention.

The Estimates before you, Mr. Chairman, represent my department's commitment to provide the direction and leadership needed in this important field. Before relinquishing the floor, I will express my appreciation to those voluntary board members and dedicated staff who work in the child placing and caring agencies and who spend so much time and effort in this most difficult program area. I think I said this afternoon that

there has been an improvement. We enjoy a very good relationship with these different institutions now. We're working together. I think that with our encouragement, they are forming a kind of an umbrella group to act as a group and we feel that at least we're making an important start in solving these very difficult problems.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

**MR. SHERMAN:** Mr. Chairman, we certainly welcome the Minister's statement and we wish him well in the directions on which he's embarked. I would say that at the outset, he appears to have attempted to come to grips with many of the criticisms of the child and family services system in Manitoba that have been expressed from various sectors of the community for many years now, have been expressed by many people working in the field, and many people in this and earlier legislatures. The most stinging indictment, I guess, of the whole system, was contained in the Ryant Report of approximately a year and a half ago, but there have been equally perceptive and critical assessments of the shortcomings of the whole social service system in Manitoba delivered from other quarters, and the Child Welfare Services aspect of the social services system has probably been the primary target in those indictments.

The Minister has anticipated a number of areas of examination that we would intend to zero in on, and he has also anticipated a number of questions that would be asked, and for the sake of expediting the work of the committee, I would hope, Mr. Chairman, that we can avoid repetition in seeking out answers to questions that have already been given, provided we're satisfied with those answers. I'm sure we'll attempt to take the Minister's statement at face value and do what we can to avoid redundancy and repetition. But there still are a great many questions that need examination and require answers because the ambitions of the Minister, lofty as they are, are only ambitions at this point, and it's essential that he approaches these new directions and this new task with a commitment in himself and among his advisers in his department to meet the expert, professional criticisms that have been laid at the department's door.

I guess the primary one, and there are a number which we will have to work through, no doubt there will be many members of the committee who will have their own specific areas of interest. There will be a good number of them that will be working through, no doubt, but the first one I would like to put to the Minister, has to do with the charge that there are no preventive objectives in the work of the child and family services branch of this division, or in the social service system in Manitoba generally, that essentially the system is oriented towards a rehabilitative kind of service delivery, that it is stereo-typed in its approach to the whole problem of social disadvantage, that it's basically directed from the kinds of parameters of the social work discipline, that it doesn't take into account the required input and co-operation and co-ordination that is available from other disciplines in the whole health and social development and socio-economic field, and that for those reasons, among others, it falls far short of really meeting the needs of the community and serving the needs of the taxpayer.

As I say, the specific in this area is that essentially the approach is a "catch-up" approach, essentially it's a remedial approach for problems that have evolved, festered and worsened, and it requires a desperate effort on the part of the department and on the part of the taxpayer to bandage the wounds and we don't seem to be getting away from that kind of an approach to our major social problems. So I would begin at that point and at a related point, the related point being that there seems to be in the minds of most of the critics of the department and its operations, that there is no accountability, really, in the child welfare system, or the child and family services system, in terms of the results and a measurement of those results obtained for the dollars spent.

I would suspect that there would not be many, if any members of this House who would find any fault with the increased appropriation being asked in this year's Estimates in this area. There are massive problems to be met, there's a massive job to be done, and if we can free up dollars to do a job for the province anywhere, surely we can do it in the child and family services area of social development.

So I want to make it plain, Mr. Chairman, that I'm not criticizing the appropriation, but I think all of us and certainly the more knowledgeable critics of the department feel that the essential requirement here is the fullest possible bang for the buck and that in this area, there is very little, if any, proper accountability in terms of benefits for the buck spent.

So let me just start with those two points with the Minister. (1) The suggestion that is certainly firmly held by many knowledgeable critics that work in this area is catch-up

and rehabilitative, without a proper concentration on and direction towards preventive spending and preventive initiatives; and (2) I assume it's largely because of the size of the machinery necessary in administering programs and services of this kind in a province of one million people, but whatever the cause, that there is not sufficient accountability, not sufficient measurement, and not sufficient reportage on the benefits obtained for the money that's being voted and spent. I wonder if the Minister could address himself to those two primary criticisms for the next minute or two.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge.

**MR. AXWORTHY:** Mr. Chairman, I would like to add my comments of appreciation that the Minister read a statement tonight that would indicate the beginnings of a change in the direction on the child care programs. If the Minister recalls in our exchanges of last year, we had a number of comments to make and I think that in part, some of those have been answered. There were, however, some areas which were missing and I think that he might be prepared to further elaborate upon them.

One does come down to the basic question of the administration of the child care program. It has come to my attention that in reviewing the way in which the program was operating that there was serious concern expressed by the government about the overall administration of the programs, going to the extent that I understand that the Premier himself set up a special committee to look into child welfare and child care attitudes and if that's not the case, we'd like to know. But I understand that there has been some very special steps taken to bring about some major reorganizations and perhaps changes in personnel in dealing with the program. I believe that that may as much be the source of some of the problem as it is in terms of the programs themselves, and I would hope that the Minister, in the elaboration of his statement, might be prepared to indicate if there are any contemplated changes in personnel and in the management of the programs themselves.

I think a second area which we raised last year with him was on the relationship with the external agencies, particularly the Children's Aid Society. Both the complaints by those who are involved in society work and sometimes those out was that the definition of their role was again ambiguous. They were performing statutory duties on behalf of the province of Manitoba, and doing so as a private agency, and that therefore there is oftentimes a confusion of role and there wasn't really a very clear definition exactly where their autonomy and independence began and where it ended. I would think that again, without wanting to sound too managerial in approach, it strikes me that that is again something that requires very clear definition, what do we intend to have as the role of these external agencies.

The Minister did mention that there has been this large expansion and growth in group homes in the province, and I certainly concur that the necessity to start doing something serious about standards, not just of the physical structures, but also — and I believe he mentioned this in a glancing way — about the actual personnel who are operating these homes and the kind of training that they bring. Also, the question is, the degree to which there is treatment offered in these places, whether they are there simply as residential homes for keeping people or whether in fact there is going to be a series of upgrading and training programs being offered to the volunteers or laymen working in this field.

I think it's very obvious, as we all know, there aren't nearly enough trained professionals available in this province. Perhaps we may not want to have them but there is, Mr. Chairman, almost virtually no opportunity for the training of para-professionals who would provide the kind of supplementary assistance in many of these programs that are really necessary. I think that as much of the resources that the Minister is asking for should be going into that question of the development of para-professionals in this field so that there can be some minimum standards of training and education in group home and foster home arrangements. In fact, I believe, going back to the Ryant Report, there is even a suggestion that foster home parents themselves have the opportunity to receive short-term training, and I think that this, again, is a very legitimate exercise.

The third question I have, Mr. Chairman, and the Minister and I have argued about this in the past. I do so with some trepidation because he did mention that the government is now concerned about the question of child care services to Treaty Indians and I don't want to get into a debate as to which came first. The objections that were raised about the lack of activity at both the province and the Federal Government, and I will simply say that I am pleased the Premier is taking the initiative and that the Federal Government has equally responded to set up the working group. But — and

there's always that classic opposition "but" — if you go back to the definition of the provinces contained in the Ryant Report, which I don't know if we necessarily always have to accept, but it did state very clearly that the province was as much in terms of non-status native people living in communities close to reserves, which are very clearly a provincial jurisdiction, as it was in the treaties themselves.

I don't know if I have to quote, but on Page 47 of the Ryant Report, it says, "However grievous is the refusal of the Provincial Government to exercise its rightful authority to offer child welfare services to status Indians living in reserve communities, we should not imagine the reversal of policy, or the arrival in agreement with Canada, will by itself, regress the very serious problems faced by Manitobans of native origin". And the Ryant Report does go on to explain that there are as serious problems in those communities adjacent to reserves as there are on the reserves themselves. Now that is very clearly a provincial responsibility. You can't book the Feds for that one. It's very clearly a provincial responsibility and I think that in addition to the indications given by the Minister that they're prepared to work out new agreements with the Federal Government, that still leaves in abeyance the question Ryant that Mr. raised and that is, you still have to then discuss what you are going to do once the agreement is raised. And also there's that whole vast area of communities, many of them, which are off Reserve. I would like the Minister to comment on that as a third point.

I would also like to say finally, Mr. Chairman, in terms of some preliminary responses to the statement raised by the Minister; he spoke about the increasing incidence of child abuse. What he didn't mention, I think, as an important part of that problem, is the difficulty being faced increasingly with children born to teenage mothers for which there is no treatment facility. I only have to go back in history I think no more than a year to realize that it was this department which cancelled a grant to McMillan House which was one of the only treatment centres that was made available to unwed teenage children. I think there was a report that appeared in one of our daily newspapers about three weeks ago that assessed the problems of the increasing incidence of young teenage mothers who, for reasons of fashion or fancy, I'm not sure what the cause was, decide to keep their children rather than putting them up for adoption, and it is in many cases those children which become the victims of abuse and neglect.

According to those reports, and I since have asked several high school teachers about it and they say that in fact is true, it is now becoming, as these things sometimes go in waves, something that is to be done these days; whereas I guess at one time there was a certain social stigma attached to keeping one's child I think there has been a certain change in society's attitude to saying that they want to keep them. But what is obvious is that for young mothers, very young mothers, 14, 15, 16 year-old mothers keeping their own children — after all, I suppose the fun ends and the hard work begins and at that point the child becomes neglected.

One of the few facilities that we did have available that would provide a place for mothers and children in those circumstances to retire to, to get some training, was McMillan House and it was closed, closed simply because you cancelled the grant and I think that now we're paying the price in part for that kind of short-sightedness that appeared last year.

So, Mr. Chairman, I think that there are a number of still missing gaps in the positions taken by the department in this area of child care. I would simply also like to perhaps reserve comment later for the question of adoption registries which still bothers me in some ways, the way that we deal with children in those circumstances. Perhaps with those points he has a fairly full agenda to respond to.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Swan River.

**MR. BILTON:** Mr. Chairman, I too appreciated the report that the Minister gave us tonight. It covered an awful lot of territory but I think we've got to be realistic with this problem. We are talking in terms of \$23 million under this program and somewhere, somehow, something has gone wrong. There's no one, there's no one, Mr. Chairman, don't misunderstand me, that would begrudge a child in need everything that they ought to have in this world, so far as I am concerned.

But throughout the Minister's statement, and at no time, at no time did he make any comment as to what was being done with the people that was responsible for bringing those youngsters into this world that are now almost a charge of the State. When we look at \$23 million under this program for some hundred foster homes, as he said a moment ago, and some 3,000 children, there's something going wrong somewhere there. Bureaucracy is creeping into this item. When we talk of maintenance of children, \$16 million, Mr. Chairman, in a province of a million people population, there's

something that really requires the Minister's not only personal attention, but this has got to be rooted up, Mr. Minister. You've got to get to the bottom of this. What's going wrong? Are the parents of these people absolutely neglecting these children? Are the men that fathered these children leaving this province and walking out and leaving multitudes? I know of unwedded girls that are bringing children into the world for what they can get out of welfare. What are you doing about that program? Are you working on it. I know of one unwed mother that has four children and she might have a dozen before she is finished, and not get married. Are you encouraging it under this program? Are you encouraging it under this program or are you trying to do something about it? — (Interjection)—

It's not my purpose, you're the Minister, you're getting \$430 million a year to handle this program — (Interjection)— Yes, indeed, you are, according to what we are dealing with tonight. I'm suggesting to you, Mr. Minister, in all sincerity and personalities aside, that here we have a program that has got to be grappled with in the most serious way. Are you going to come to us next year with another \$5 million increase — (Interjection)— but you won't be here to do it. But at the same time, is this going to be allowed to go on or have you got an answer?

Are these high-priced officials that you've got all around you, are they giving you some answers; are they giving you some suggestions? Because, Sir, this can't go on and I'd like you to elaborate a little bit more on why it's costing us \$16 million for the maintenance of children in this province.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Wolseley.

**MR. WILSON:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I, too, listened to the Minister's talk which was almost a duplicate of last year. However, he has done something by getting an increase in the money. But some of his statements like he's "now working together with the external agencies," that's a quote from him, and he's "working on as a group." These were things that he said and so we assume that the battles of the threatened government takeover are over and we can now look forward to an increased workload for the Children's Aid Society and . . .

**MR. DESJARDINS:** Mr. Chairman on a question of principle. At no time did the . . .

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Order please. That's a new point of order or privilege. There are points of order — the Honourable Minister state his point of order.

**MR. DESJARDINS:** Mr. Chairman, at no time did the government say they were going to take these institutions over, that is not the case. There might have been rumours, certainly it wasn't started by me.

**MR. WILSON:** Well, whatever they were, rumours or possible plans, I'm sure election year has slowed them down. However, I do . . .

**MR. DESJARDINS:** Mr. Chairman, on a point of order. This shouldn't be allowed in this House of imputing motives and I would ask you to ask the honourable member to withdraw this thing and get back to the job of debating these Estimates.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Order please. I think it is a well-known rule in this House we do not impute motives to one another in this House; we shouldn't be. If you want the quotation out of our rules, or out of Beauchesne, I can dig it up for you. I think the honourable member should just reconsider his remarks.

**MR. WILSON:** I withdraw the statement that it's an election year because it's true, we haven't had an announcement yet.

**MR. DESJARDINS:** Mr. Chairman, I don't give a damn if he's withdrawing the statement about election, I want him to withdraw the statement of imputing motives.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The point is well-taken, I think the honourable member's withdrawal should be complete. We don't impute motives in this House. The Honourable Member for Wolseley.

**MR. WILSON:** I withdraw whatever it is that was termed wrong. However, far be as it may, the point is the Minister said everyone's working together, they're working together as a group, the external agencies are now operating without interference, there's supposed to be a lift in the morale and I remember I used to get calls that there was two or three children making a noise and crying and their parents had taken off somewhere to a hotel and I would sit down and attempt to phone the government but there they were, unionized with their 20-day sick pay, their month's holiday, the Minister was in Tel Aviv and one is in Ghana and the other one is off in Argentina so they couldn't phone anybody on that side of the House, so I would get the call and refer them to the Children's Aid Society and we would get results.

However, dealing with this amount of money, I think we have to look at it. I agree with a lot of the things the Member for Fort Rouge says. I think we need a shake-up; we need a

real outside look where we can get a change in personnel with people who have the loyalty to a career that they have taken on themselves and I look upon the fact that the Minister seemed very, I don't know, he seemed to be rather emphasizing some kind of a swelled chest that there were 100 group homes with six adolescents in each. I agree with his thinking that it's about time and we recommended it last year, that there be some safety check of the conditions and certainly licensing may be the answer. However, a lot of times that can have political overtones.

But headlines in the paper of February 25th said that the group homes were established as money-making projects. I think if the Minister could talk Mr. Syms to spend one-fifth of the money he spends on liquor advertising to advertise for foster homes, we wouldn't have these big businesses operating in the group-home field.

And when you look at the per diem rate, and I would like the Minister to maybe indicate to the House what the per diem rate is, because it seems funny, they make up to \$42.00 a day and now there's a suggested increase and there's still trouble finding foster homes. Yet I talked to the teachers and they say they're looking after the children eight hours a day. They would like to have one-third of the money that these group homes and foster homes are getting for some of these cases of \$42.00 a day because these disturbed children are in the school system and in my area we have got what they call "crisis teachers" in all our schools.

I agree with Vic Grant when he says, "Who is going to protect our children?" I've had all kinds of cases of child abuse and I've talked to the staff of the Children's Aid and what happens? They phone a Legal Aid lawyer and these low-lives come out as "guns for hire" and get the children back. They'll do anything to fee generate. This is one of the things that bothers me because I welcome the Minister's statement that he's going to have a preventative situation where there's going to be family counselling and the possibility of these repeated beatings, that these children are going to be looked after and protected. That protection involves someone on the government side putting those Legal Aid lawyers in their place.

That's my beef. I'm very annoyed at the fact that it seems that we don't advertise for foster parents; I'm sure there's a lot of kind people in Manitoba, I know there are, and I think that they would come forward if we could spend some of that liquor advertising on the need for looking after these children and taking them out of these battered home situations where they get hammered around all over the place. And certainly the Minister has had a look at at least trying to put some of these homes in a rural setting, some of them in the suburban areas instead of concentrating them all in these big homes in the downtown core.

I welcome the expense of the money, I agree with what the Member for Fort Rouge said regarding some of the things regarding the shake-up in personnel, and I really do think that if this money is wisely presented and we can get on with the job of examining these particular homes to make sure it's not money, advertise for foster parents, we'll get them, they're out there. I can't agree that we have to have in my area one woman alone running six or eight of them because what are the qualifications to be able to look after one of those? If the qualification is that she is an R.N. or a nurse, that doesn't give her the right to turn around and run 12 of them because who's looking after the other 11? And I know some of the characters that are looking after some of these homes. So that's my concern.

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, unfortunately I must agree with practically everything that has been said by my two friends from the forts, that is, Fort Garry and Fort Rouge. There has been some discussion on prevention. Well, there is no doubt that first of all we are catching up, I'm not hiding that at all, but we are not doing this in any panic. It is going to take a number of years, probably three years before this is remedied, I don't think we'll ever have everything working perfectly, but it will take a number of years.

Prevention is a difficult thing to decide because what am I going to do to prevent families to break up? You know, this kind of thing. We can help, we would hope, by encouraging sports and fitness programs and this kind of recreation and maybe centres, getting more counsellors to work with them. This is being done. We're doing a lot of preventive group. Our Community Operation, the people in the field are meeting with these people. They are trying to help the families stay together, to understand their responsibilities. We're doing that. It would take much more money and my honourable friend is probably right, maybe next year. I know there are certain things I didn't get; I wanted more new careerists, more native people to work with their own. I couldn't get

the money for that at this time. As you say, we're spending enough.

Another thing the department has requested is better education for some of these people, even the people running foster homes and so on. This is one of the things that we have done. I think there are many ways; I think this is done. But the first thing, it is catch-up; it is taking hold of something which we definitely didn't have. It is very difficult, it is probably the most difficult thing in all government to try to give leadership in this area, it is difficult. You know if the Almighty creates people that are so bad as defined by my honourable friend from Wolseley, what is a human being going to do? You know, it's okay to blame the government for everything. Now I'll expect to be blamed for the bad weather, because we're talking about the state of society. If society is sick, it's not only to blame the Minister because he has that money and I'm supposed to have all the answers. I haven't got all the answers; I never will have all the answers.

**A MEMBER:** Got all the money though.

**MR. DESJARDINS:** That's right, it is my responsibility to spend this money and I've been getting good advice. We are going to look at the operation; we are re-organizing the Child Welfare Directorate. I stated that many of the abuses, which I have to agree with, even though I hate like hell agreeing with him, with the Member from Wolseley. He has some points, the odd one. Maybe if self-righteous people like him would want to take people in foster homes, I would be very glad to give it to them. You know, who are you going to decide and tell us the people are no good? We would welcome anybody and we will increase this. At one time it wasn't done only for money but it is difficult. But it is not just a question of advertising. We are now competing in our own department with people in other departments for those type of people, for the people who are running day care and other areas like that — home care. Do you know how many people we have working in home care? Before the home care program, some of them were taking care of kids. But we have thousands of people who are working in day care. It's not that easy.

I'm ready to accept all the responsibility but there's no way that I can perform miracles or if society is sick, that I can change that. What am I supposed to do? What do I do with alcoholics? There have been some from Day One; there will be more. We are trying to do our best. What am I doing with husbands that leave their wives and families? What can I do? Chase them? Let's come down to earth a bit.

**A MEMBER:** Whip them.

**MR. DESJARDINS:** Yeah, whip them, and somebody said, "shoot them," and other people say, "bring the rope back." Fine. You say damn right. Then there's young kids that are having children. What are we going to do? It's a little too late when we find out, for one thing. Sure, we are talking about family planning, maybe this is something definitely that should be improved. We have a committee that will look into that. It is not an easy solution. That comes in. There are a lot of factors. Yes, we will look. First of all, before I start knocking the staff of the department, I think we must accept the responsibility for the lack of leadership, if anything, or for the changes, but we will shake up the administration. We will reorganize. If we can't recruit more personnel, then we will go after the best people possible. If it costs money, we will pay it because this is an area that we are in trouble and also we are spending too much money but that is being corrected. I repeat it, the Office of Residential Care will do all that. We look at standards right now — I am not going to hide it, we have a situation, it is a bad situation. There are certain agencies who do the work but they place the people, they don't take care of the children, that is the Children's Aid Society and so on. Then there is another level who take it and that has to be stopped. There has to be a standard and the per diem rates have to be checked right now. They couldn't care less. If they need to place somebody in a hurry, it might be to go in a home that is a what? — \$35 or \$40 per diem instead of something that maybe we can get away with \$12 — so that will be done. It will be difficult but it will be done.

I hope I answered the concern of the Member for Fort Garry and I say there is no way I can disagree with him. He stated what were facts and the Honourable Member for Fort Rouge also. My friend from Fort Rouge talked about defining the responsibility. That is being done. It is true that my Deputy Minister has been working with this umbrella group, with this group. We have reversed our decision in some areas. If you remember, last year I talked about the abused people that we were going to take over. There has been some concern by the association. We looked at it again and said, "Yes, we will talk to you," and now we are going to work together on that.

The Wilderness Camp: We are concerned about that. . . This is an area that at one time the relationship wasn't that good. Now we have had meetings with all the groups and we

are going to probably go to the Hugh John Macdonald, work with them for the time being. That will be temporarily, but to start that, they have the facilities. We have had meetings with the other groups who are accepting that. There won't be all kinds of them, though; this will be the one. And if we need more, we will go to the Duck Mountain area.

The question of off-reserve: I recognize that also, that it is our responsibility. This is why we are going in smaller groups instead of bringing them all to Marymount and so on. We will open maybe three or four of those smaller centres in the rural area. We are bringing these people all the way down to Winnipeg. We are going to try to improve in that way. There was a shortage of facilities.

McMillan Home: I was concerned about that too but when they made their grant, they weren't specific, they couldn't come out with exactly the programs that they wanted. We weren't the only one financing them. If they had a definite program, fine, they could submit it to us and we will look at it again but the program that was submitted to us was quite vague.

In answer to my honourable friend from Wolseley, I just finished stating that we want to encourage single families. We will pay another million dollars to pay higher rates for foster parents. We are not going to encourage these homes with too many people in there, but what else are we going to do if we don't get anybody? Where are we going to put these people, in jail? —(Interjection)— Advertise what? For decent people to look after it. —(Interjection)— All right, we have done that. We have done a lot of that and there are all kinds of programs, but for one thing, they did not have the proper rates. That is one thing. That is the first thing to do to try and attract them. —(Interjection)— All right, we are doing that and that is the first step. There was no point in advertising before. But again I repeat to my honourable friend, it is not that easy. It is not that easy because at one time you had more foster homes. You might have had more foster homes but you did not compete with the people who have home care now, who are keeping guest homes or keeping older people. We didn't have that or people who are running day care.

I think that we must also accept the fact that there have been a lot of changes in society. Not too many years ago, in nearly every home you saw older people but now they are in institutions because it is not our style. Who am I to comment on that? It is a fact of life things are changing and we are not doing the same thing as our parents and grandparents were doing before. Even those who had large families always kept the grandparents. That is not the case. There are more and more and the government has to do more and more and I will not . . . I am surprised especially for people on that side of the House, to think that the government can solve all the problems. That isn't possible and I will be the first one to admit it. There is no way. We must prioritize. I can take criticism because I think it is constructive criticism by the Members for Fort Garry and Fort Rouge, but I mean, . . . what the hell am I going to say when they tell me, "What are you doing because the families are breaking up, because the people are abandoning their wives and families, and because kids fourteen years old have had three kids?" What am I going to do about it? I think that everyone, every single one of us, should help in this way to make society a better society. As I said it is a society of sickness. That's not my fault. That's not the kind of help that the Minister of Health of Manitoba can do.

I will accept these criticisms and most of them are certainly an awful lot of truth. And what was said tonight — I think that we are moving in the direction. We will probably make mistakes. Whenever you try to do anything, you will make mistakes. We will try to correct these mistakes and we will try to go along but it is not going to be cheap and it is not going to be easy and it is certainly a priority of the department and of the government.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

**MR. SHERMAN:** Mr. Chairman, I would say to the Minister that certainly no one on this side of the House, I think, is blaming him for the malaise of society. Obviously he inherits a condition which has been with us from the beginning of time and has increased and intensified with urbanization and it is not going to be solved easily. What he faces, he inherited, and I would hope the Minister doesn't infer from our remarks, because they are certainly not intended, at least from my perspective, that he is to blame for the problems in society with which he has to cope as Minister of Health and Social Development.

The question that I suggest we are putting to him and to which we urge his attention is the most efficient and the most effective and the most productive manner in which any Minister of Health and Social Development, faced with the kinds of problems he is faced with, can rationalize and organize a service that will produce the greatest benefit within the constraints of the most reasonable kind of budget that taxpayers can be asked to

provide him with. I agree with him when he says that prevention is the most difficult challenge facing him. I would agree that it is simple for the Ryant report and other critics and us to stand up and say that that seems to be one of the major shortcomings and certainly has been one of the singular indictments of social service policy in the province for many, many years, long before the Minister was steward of this department. But I think that it is not unreasonable to re-emphasize that indictment and the strength of that indictment. I am sure the Minister is aware of it and perhaps reminded of it again as a consequence of some remarks in the examination of his Estimates and that intensified efforts will be made to try to get at society insofar as it is possible before some of these problems worsen, or before some of them perhaps even develop. Now how you do that would tax the best minds on both sides of the House and far beyond the perimeters of this House. But it is something we obviously in society have a responsibility to try to do.

The other indictment that I have cited as the parallel in the primary indictments of the department and its role is the one having to do with accountability. I would just remind him that, as I said a few minutes ago, most critics have said that this is one of the biggest things wrong with the system, not just the Child and Family Service system, but the whole social service system in the province, that it is essentially unaccountable, that there is no measurement of the extent to which services meet their objectives or conform with the budget laid down for them. I would appreciate the comments of the Minister, when next he has the opportunity, as to whether there are cost accounting procedures, assessment procedures being pursued in the Child and Family Services branch of this department to try to measure the results obtained from the input.

But just before I yield the floor, Mr. Chairman, I will leave that challenge with him and I am sure he will remarks — reply to it in the course of his let me put one or two other questions to him. I was very interested in what he had to say in his preliminary remarks about new initiatives in the area of child abuse and battered children. I wish I had a copy of his preliminary remarks because I tried to take notes and only got a few of them down. This is an area that I think has been, for far too long, swept under the rug to a certain extent, ignored by society generally speaking and is one of the most serious problems in society that any public servant could address himself or herself to. I know that there are men and women of enormous dedication and commitment, Dr. Ken McRae being one of them, who have toiled in the vineyards of child abuse for many years and who have established many production and progressive steps in the field for society. But, as many commentators on the subject will attest, what we see in the area of abused and battered children is only the tip of the iceberg and as we stand here tonight at this very moment debating the Estimates of the Minister of this department, there are probably four or five children in the City of Winnipeg being, in effect, physically tortured at this very moment. There are a handful who are being in one way or another physically tortured at the moment that we're standing here talking about it and there's no one to help them; there's no one to rescue them. I'm not suggesting that the Minister can ride forth on a white horse and do it but I say that this is an area that is so repugnant, it's so repulsive that a lot of us don't even want to face up to it. A lot of us bring value judgements to bear out of our own environments and we don't want to admit that there can be environments where that actual kind of criminal abuse of certain members of our society is taking place. So, I was most interested in what the Minister had to say in that field. I think it is a field that is deserving of every effort, every initiative and in fact every dollar that we can squeeze out of the budget to meet.

Concomitant with that, and I've raised this subject before in this House, is the problem of the battered wife, the battered mother, who has been beaten, abused and deserted by her spouse and who has very little hope in the way of refuge or rescue or safety. —(Interjection)— Well, the Minister of Public Works raises the subject of the battered husband and all I can say, Mr. Chairman, is perhaps he knows whereof he speaks but I haven't encountered too many people who have been in that unfortunate position. I would like to hear from the Minister of Public Works on that subject. I would think that he could take care of himself but there are many battered spouses, the vast majority of them who can't.

During the hearings of the Committee on Statutory Regulations and Orders dealing with Family Law reform, we heard one or two submissions having to do with this subject and some proposals that were advanced by delegations appearing before the committee to deal with the problem or at least try to arrest the problem of the battered wife. One suggestion was for a special police squad to work in that area. The problem is, and I speak from personal experience in this field to a certain limited extent because my

wife has worked in the field, as the Minister well knows, that a police squad is only as useful as the motivation of the injured party to press charges. Ninety percent of the women who get beaten and deserted, well not deserted but beaten and battered and abused, won't press the charges so there's not much point in sending a police squad in unless it's simply to protect her against a further battering. But that's a subject that is related to the one having to do with child abuse and I think it's an area in which initiatives are very desperately needed and it's one that I would appreciate some further elaboration on from the Minister having only heard the reference to it in his preliminary remarks and having not caught the full implication of that reference. —(Interjection)— Well, you talked about some progress and initiatives being taken in the field of child abuse and child abuse services.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Health.

**MR. DESJARDINS:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, yes we are setting up a child abuse committee and this Dr. McRae is part of that and also a doctor at St. Boniface Hospital who we will fund besides Dr. McRae, a half-time position, to give the services. As far as the abused and battered wives and so on that is another social problem. All these social problems, the people in the Community Field branch are working with these people also as much as possible. This is a service that these people in the field give.

Now the accountability is very important. I thought that I had covered that. That is the thing that we have been trying for two years to have, this office of residential care will do exactly that. It's true that there was no accountability, maybe not enough standard and the rates — and this is being tied in now — and they will be the direction and what should I say, the decision as to where the people go and so on will be worked at with these groups and the office of Residential Care.

Now, I can assure my honourable friend that I wasn't getting touchy at anything he said. I think I said that and I appreciate that everything he said was very constructive. My comments were when the Member for Swan River got up and said, "Well, you've got \$40 million or \$20 million; you've got to have all the answers." That's the thing that I thought was going a little too far.

There is a certain thing that I forgot that I think is worth mentioning at this time. One of the problems that we have in finding these foster homes and that's probably the largest, the biggest problem is that now there are many kids between 14 and 18, and that causes an awful lot of trouble. When the Honourable Member for Wolseley mentioned some of these kids with guns and getting dope and all that, those are not easy kids to deal with. And I don't know, I don't know out of 57 members here, how many would be ready to take these kids into their families. It is a very difficult thing. It's not going to be easy at all. Some of those people you have no recourse but have an institution for them or this kind of a home. You know these are problems that will be very difficult, but we are going to try to do. I guess that's why we need some of these homes. If we can have all foster homes, we'd be very very happy. It would be much easier and I think it would be better for the children who are in a kind of home life with their family and get the proper love and so on than just being people in an institution. But unfortunately, we will always have institutions and with some of the people that's the only way they would be cared for, in there or in a jail.

I don't know if I covered the points, if I have elaborated enough. I think I did and I only have this copy if my honourable friend wants to look at it now. I'd want it back although you'll see it in Hansard tomorrow, this statement, do you want to see that now?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge.

**MR. AXWORTHY:** Mr. Chairman, the Minister in responding to some of the questions, I think as he's had to do has raised a second series of them in my mind concerning what he's doing. That's right, he sometimes gives too much away. But he did indicate that there was going to be some restructuring and reorganizing in the department but he didn't spell out what that was to be. I think that considering that we are passing Estimates for that department, I think it is important that we know more precisely what it is that the government has in mind in this connection between the money we are going to spend and the reorganizing and the re-shuffling and the re-settlement of people and places and desks and all the rest of it and get some appropriate picture, because if we simply go upon the record that we have in the Annual Report, it obviously isn't going to be the same structure. So that would be question No. 1 that I would have.

I would ask the Minister really to be a little bit more explicit about the kind of undertakings he plans in changing the organization dealing with child welfare. I think he did mention that there would be some changes in the child welfare office or the

directorate. I'd certainly like to know more about exactly what is taking place there.

Secondly, Mr. Chairman, I also must express my concern that it seems to be the reforms that are being postulated in part are committee reforms. It's a pretty good standard way of dealing with a problem is to set up a committee to re-study the problem. If in fact these are working groups which have assigned responsibility to actually implement programs, that's an awful lot different from putting another group of civil servants and agency people together to re-examine what I think is already a very obvious problem.

The Member from Fort Garry talked about battered women and abused children. Last year the Minister and I had a fairly volatile dispute about the issue of Osborne House. We had several and that was one of them and the fact that Osborne House, which again, was the only institution in the city providing again a sanctuary for battered women but wasn't getting any money, or if it was getting any money it was certainly coming awfully late. And I think that that is still the problem, that many of these agencies which have taken somewhat innovative approaches to these problems, doing what the Minister has suggested they do and that is to strike off and try to provide some community response, take some initiative, undertake their own particular responsibility in those areas' find themselves getting ground down or overly frustrated by the fact that they can't get their cheques on time or they can't get their grant money or they've got to go through a series of negotiations or they've got a multitude of forms. And so, we are talking a little bit about accountability, that can be a very easy word to slip by. And accountability is too often translated into a horrendous amount of paper work which for small agencies they are totally incapable of handling.

I know, for example, Mr. Chairman, having been involved in some evaluation reports on two or three social agencies in this city that one of the things that is increasingly taking more of their time is simply the problem. You get a small private agency with one executive director and three or four or five field staff and all of a sudden they have to fill out line by line budget assessments to get their grants and everything else. They're spending an enormous amount of their time trying to fulfil the kind of budgetary requirements that the department sets down and that really eats in very drastically into their capacity to perform a service.

Now I know that in some of these cases with some of these agencies where they have requested some form of central auditing systems or central accounting systems or some form of service in the department where those things could happen they don't get that. They simply said go and fill out the forms, fill out the auditing and in many cases some of the child care agencies, as of only six months ago according to my information, and I haven't updated it since then, sometimes were a full year in arrears in receiving their money. In fact the actual delivery of support for these agencies had fallen behind a whole year. While they're being asked to prepare budget estimates for 1978-79 they hadn't yet received their full allotment of grants or 1975-76. per diems for So there is almost sometimes an 18 month gap in the transfer of funds which creates a fair degree of anxiety and also certainly ended up being counter-productive in terms of the works of those agencies.

So I think the accountability can be in some ways stretched to the point where it becomes a burden as opposed to simply maintaining some auditing function. I think that it may be that the accountability has been too zealously pursued from a paper point of view and perhaps not from a point of view of asking questions. So I would raise those concerns that I think the Minister himself has to take a greater degree of interest, if you like, in those specific examples or specific cases where there are agencies trying to perform services that find themselves having to leap over a number of really unnecessary barriers in the way.

Now a third question I would raise with the Minister about the provisional child care is one that he didn't deal with and that is that there is still a number of children being sent out of the province. He indicated that we're going to establish some wilderness camps, and I'm not so sure again where the division lies between himself and the Minister of Corrections. This is one of these problems where there is a kind of schizophrenic department arrangement that we have. But the fact of the matter is that there is a number of children presently located in camps in Florida, California, Arizona, Wisconsin, a variety of places, many of which according to some of the U.S. reports are extremely substandard. We are paying a very large per diem sometimes up to a \$100, \$150 per day for them and again I'm wondering if the department is undertaking any investigation of the standards in those departments and whether we are planning to bring a lot of these

so-called travellers; children who have certain psychiatric disturbances or certain emotional problems, back again into the province or if we are still going to maintain an out-of-province placement in these kind of camps in different parts of the United States, that I think it is really essential that we get a pretty fair report as to exactly what is going on in these places and that we talk about some of the profit-mongering that goes on in group homes in the city. I think that maybe we are equally guilty of that particular problem in placing children outside of the province. My own preference I think is, I'd certainly prefer to see that they're based on a much closer co-ordination program, say, in the prairie regions between the three provincial governments. I realize that in some cases there wouldn't be enough children from one province themselves to provide placements, but certainly if we could get agreements between the three prairie provinces to provide common facilities that were all commonly inspected on standards, it might be a very important answer for this in some way of sharing the costs across the board.

So, Mr. Chairman, I think that those would be some of the questions I would have arising out of the Minister's remarks.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Minister of Health.

**MR. DESJARDINS:** I'd like to start with the out-of-province people. That's true that we stated that we would like to bring them into Manitoba — last year, Mr. Chairman, there were 97 out-of-province and there's about 61 now — we are investigating all those in Saskatchewan, case by case. Some of them are going to be brought back immediately. We will remedy this and I will talk about that under the Mental Health Program. We then may find the need for at least a 20-bed extended treatment and psychiatric treatment for children. This will be part of the total program. The kids are not going to come back and go into one area or one camp. That camp that I mentioned, The Wilderness Camp, is also part of that. So we would think that this time next year there won't be too many kids, we would hope, that would still be outside of the province. There's only four in the United States now at this time. I forgot my paper.

Now, grounding down agencies, my honourable friend must remember that some of these agencies start their program without even discussing it with the government at all, without any commitment of help or finance at all. Some of them were started unfortunately with the LIP Program and all of a sudden the rug was pulled from under them and then there's something that we are forced in a priority. Maybe it's good at times, maybe this is not our priority. So there is no doubt that we have to be careful. You know how careful you are here with the Estimates and that's only part of it. We have to go through Cabinet and much scrutiny.

It is true that at times there is red tape and I guess there always will be red tape, I think, I would hope and I'd be very disappointed if that has not been improved because that is one thing that I was very concerned with. I can say though that it's not all the government's fault. At many times some of the agencies, my honourable friend said that I should be interested, I have been. I've had many meetings with some of the agencies especially when this was brought up. I've discussed that with them and put the staff on the spot right in front of them. And invariably, in every instance, some of the information hasn't reached or some of the information that had been requested. So it's a thing that certainly can improve of course. Again it's a question of maybe more staff. You have many agencies' and you have some of them that are receiving an awful lot of money. For instance the Children's Aid Society of Greater Winnipeg they will receive about \$7 million. There's no way that we can just send them a cheque. In fact we're doing that in some instances, giving them an advance. I know that I wrote letters. This was an accepted manner of doing things, they expect that. And I know that in the last month or so, I probably sent about six or seven letters telling them that they were done, they owed us some money, please send us a cheque.

Now, also, it is very difficult because you can't just say this is your allotment for this year. Some of it we don't know. It depends on how many kids they place. It depends on where they place them and it is very difficult and it's practically the same as Medicare, We can have a budget but we don't know until the end of the year how much we're going to spend on Medicare, how much we're going to spend on the hospitals. This is something that varies. I'm not trying to find an excuse and blame somebody else. I think we should take some of the blame. I think we've come a long way and we have improved that in the last few years and we're still trying.

But now you've got a fine line. Some people will tell me, well, be very careful, you must have accountability and that's important. And other people say, well, take care of the problem first and then collect. So, you know, where do you go? You've got to walk a

tight rope and I guess we'll never please everybody on that. Some people would want us to say, well either be very careful before you make any grants and other people might tell us that maybe we should spend the money and then worry about it.

Then another problem, at times the United Way through no fault of theirs, haven't been raising as much money as they wanted and oftentimes they've cut down. In the middle of the year all of a sudden we're — and where do you think everybody comes back? To the province, and they say they're getting funding and different places. This is why we have to be so careful and this is why we've got to set the level of standards, the level of care, of services that we agree to pay and then after that, it is difficult. I think the system is good. I think that if it was just government alone who would decide this is what we want, then the people would suffer. I think that you must have groups that are pushing and that might force you into accepting a level of care, maybe a little higher than you are ready to give, and I think there's got to be a balance, we've got to be careful and I know that if they don't get all the money that they want, they'll be disappointed. I think it is a good system, probably a better system, this is why I don't mind voluntary agencies and so on, because they do become a pressure group and if the government was doing all the work, well then the department can't argue with the Minister, they can't argue with the government, they're very satisfied or if they're not satisfied, they've got to keep quiet.

Now those independent agencies, those voluntary agencies, they don't have to keep their mouth shut, they can go after the department and the Minister. But there has to be a happy medium somewhere. You still have so many dollars to work with and you have to get the best out of that as possible. So I recognize that we should improve and I hope we will improve again in having less red tape. The agencies also are improving because, as I said, many of them are asked for some information, they never send it and then when they come back and meet with us, they're the first one to admit, yes, you're right; we didn't give all this information, but in this area you've had the information, you're not moving. So I think it's give and take on both sides and I think there's an improvement and I hope that we will continue.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Wolseley.

**MR. WILSON:** Mr. Chairman, thank you. I'm glad to hear the Minister's not going to have a takeover philosophy like the Member for Thompson and some of the other people because I was glad to hear him talk about having some of it go outside the health care situation. I couldn't agree more that health care is a responsibility of government but certainly some of the people that carry that out really should be left alone to perform and compete and seek the recognition that they deserve for a job well done. I've always found and I say that the state somehow or other doesn't seem to reward good performance amongst their employees so what happens? You don't have the same people that work as hard; you have the people that work hard are told to slow down by their colleagues or they're told that they still have 11 sick days left and they'd better take a few days off. So I am very pleased to see that the Children's Aid is still operating.

I did want to ask the Minister, he mentioned again about setting up a Child Abuse Committee and I see where the Children's Aid Society has been providing that service. I wondered if the Minister would indicate, is there anything wrong with their service compared to the service he is going to provide?

The other is the *per diem* rate. I would really like read into Hansard the *per diem* rate because when we get into post-psychiatric care, I want to be able to record also the *per diem* rate there so we can compare. I wish he would give the *per diem* rate for Hansard so we could get it on the record record.

I'm glad the First Minister is here, but it is a matter of priorities. We talked about liquor ads and the Minister of Public Works was here with his electric cars, his \$7 million worth of government cars; his \$40 million worth of buildings and certainly MDC and somebody else was buying rabbit traps and stuff like that. To me it would seem that the emphasis should be on solving some of these problems with some of the suggestions of the Member from Fort Rouge and certainly some of my colleagues, and I see many of the suggestions that were made, other than the signs in the washrooms in the Main Street hotels, have been accepted by the Minister. So I just wanted to comment if he could put that *per diem* in Hansard I would be extremely grateful.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

**MR. SHERMAN:** Mr Chairman, what about the question of definition of directions between the directorate and the private agencies, themselves. One of the major criticisms has been that there has not been the kind of clearly defined delegation of responsibility, clearly stated definition of objectives, clearly stated parameters of

resources to achieve objectives, and as a consequence the private agencies who had statutory responsibilities delegated to them really don't know whether they are coming or going.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Minister of Health.

**MR. DESJARDINS:** I don't know what I can add on this question of . . . I know I mentioned a few times that we are working with the Childrens Aid Society now to determine their role. There is no doubt that they were concerned. I think that they felt that there was a possibility that the government wanted to take them over. I think what scared them the most was probably the Ryant Report. I can say that we assured them that we felt that we didn't care. There was no ideology, no concern about who can do the job, as long as the job is done well. I can't see the government taking over that area at all. I can see, eventually maybe, the community, like my honourable friend was talking about this afternoon, that might come in and then in fact our people will go to the community too. We hope that this will be the direction that we will be going and this legislation will allow that. That is a possibility but I can assure my honourable friend that we have no intention, that I certainly have no intention of seeing us taking over from these . . . And I think that's the main thing, I think they were concerned. They were concerned. There were a lot of rumours and there were studies and they read different papers and reports but that's not necessarily government policy. That's one thing, you know, that sometimes you see on paper and you say well this is what the government wants and some civil servants who are giving you the best advice that they feel they can give you, but at times it doesn't always become government policy.

So I think that there is an improvement. I think that they know now. They have problems, too. The most difficult area is right in the city here. The Childrens Aid Society of Winnipeg had a real tough job. Now we work with them. They were always in a question of deficit. Now we spend a few thousand dollars. We work with them in a committee and everything and they are very enthused and they are moving now. And as I say we are working quite closely with them. Now as far as the committees, maybe I mentioned committees there. . . In some of the areas we have the money. The money is right there, so it's not just a question of trying to pretend that we're going to, you know, waste time by having a committee. But we're told also to plan with society and with the experts of society. I have been hearing that for two years. And this is what I am trying to do. We are consulting with the people in the field wherever the expertise is. In some instances when I'm talking about a committee, well it's a committee that will have the treatment, like in the child abuse committee, for instance, the money is there and the people are there and in place in the hospital, and so on, and that committee will keep on meeting. I'm sure that they're going to advise us how to spend the money and we might have different policies but it's not just a committee that is there to waste time, to decide, we know an awful lot of what there is to do.

Now, one of the questions was . . . well, the Childrens Aid Society took care of that. That is true, but that wasn't satisfactory and if you remember last year I announced we would step in and do it because, for one thing, we had to centralize it. It had to be done for all Manitoba, not only in one area. There was duplication because we had somebody in the field, also our field workers doing some of that work. So now, as I've said, there was a back-up of our position. I don't think that it's anything to be proud of saying that you will never change your mind if anybody can prove to you that you should, and this is what happened. We've delayed this a bit and now this is being done with everybody co-operating, and everybody quite satisfied. So I think that we're moving in that direction. It's not that they weren't doing their best but they were limited and there was duplication and of course it was only for one area instead of having the service for all the province.

**MR. SHERMAN:** Well maybe I've put the question wrongly or maybe I misunderstood the criticism at the time that it was directed at the department, Mr. Chairman. e Minister is talking about philosophy here. He's really talking about philosophy and the sense of concern that some of the agencies, private agencies, may have felt at the time when . . . —(Interjection)— Right. Right. And the sense of concern that they felt at the time when it was being suggested in some quarters that maybe there was an ideological approach being taken. So that becomes an area of philosophy. That really wasn't what I was trying to get at. He has said that there is no such philosophy, there is no such ideology, and that's fine. But the criticism . . . —(Interjection)— Well if that's why they were concerned, then that's fine, then I guess their concern has disappeared. I thought it was one of mechanics, more than philosophy, that one reason why they were at sea was that they were never properly instructed in terms of the responsibilities that were being

delegated to them, and the amount of funding that they were going to get and the responsibilities for delivery that they had. I thought it was a problem of mechanics; the Minister is saying that it was purely a problem of confusion about philosophy. Is that what you are saying?

**MR. DESJARDINS:** Yes, I think this is true. My Deputy Minister had a meeting with the President of all the Childrens Aid Societies and that point wasn't raised at all. I think that now they feel fine. There is a role for us so therefore they recognize that we accepted their role. That, in effect, is a definition that by statute somebody has to deliver this service and they are doing it. This has been accepted by government, if there was any concern, and I guess that besides that, the better rapport — and that of course made for an improvement in the communication — also working closer together than we ever had. As I said, in the first year we certainly didn't meet with all the Presidents. We met with different agencies to talk about their budget, and so on, but it wasn't just a question of meeting them when we wanted to look at their budget; to meet them to see what we should do, how we should move, and if we can work together, and that has been quite rewarding. As I've said, my Deputy Minister had a meeting with them just a couple of weeks ago and this wasn't brought in at all, this wasn't brought up or discussed at all.

**MR. SHERMAN:** Mr. Chairman' what about the problem of what is known in the trade, I guess, as "burn-out"? The Minister is going to be supplying us with details on the staff man hours in the department. In the department itself, working in such sensitive and such demanding fields as this, Child and Family Services, and outside the department in those agencies that work with the department in this field, is there a major staff turnover? Is there a major problem with personnel, staff members who, because of the demands of the work, become quickly exhausted and who have to be replaced.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge.

**MR. AXWORTHY:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to come back to one point that sort of sticks in my mind from the Minister's remarks. If what he is saying is what I think I heard, we are into a real serious problem. He says that there seems to be two changes happening in this whole field. One is that there is a different change in the age cohort, that children are now coming in to the program at fourteen and eighteen years old, which strikes me as something that is very serious and, at the same time, there is a tremendous competition for available places. There are only so many old homes, so many good samaritans or whatever it is, or people who want to get into this field, and then all of a sudden the competition is coming a wide variety, for senior citizens care, day care, and everything else. And it really strikes me that if you add those two points up and assume that those trends might continue, then it would strike me that we really are into a very serious bind; that with all the attempts that we have to follow the theories of community related care, or care in the community, that there isn't so much community anymore to go into. How much of an overload do you take into the community? How many X-places? The Member from Wolseley suggested to take on one place, he hasn't volunteered yet. I suppose we could get a few more volunteers and recruits if we changed the advertising. It strikes me that we are really kind of reaching a threshold where there just isn't any more places that they can be done, and yet the kind of children under your care are concerning so let me raise this question then. If that's a fair assessment, from what you're saying or drawing that conclusion, it would strike me that maybe a lot of the conventional ways that we have approached the problem are no longer as efficient, that we have established certain lines. There are institutions, and there are group homes and foster homes, and it seems to me that if we have reached almost the limits, the maximums in those areas, that we really should be trying to find incentives to bring about different forms of care.

Now let me give you an example. I can recall doing some work in an American city about three years ago, working on some economic development programs. One of the things that they were beginning to develop there was combination sort of youth work programs sometimes connected with the school, sometimes getting groups like trade unions and other organizations to provide sponsorships for these, so that in fact it became not something where it was a caring, dependent program, but in fact, when incentive was given to different kinds of organizations to set up community level corporations or organizations to sponsor these kinds of programs, it had a certain economic element to it.

I just remember reading something that just struck my eye a couple of days ago, the same thing is happening in Great Britain. That one of the interesting statistics between our own country and theirs is that they have far fewer people in institutional care — they are talking about senior citizens or young people — far fewer per thousand people are in

institutional care. And when you ask the reasons why; you go back and find that many of the community-based institutions, like the schools and churches and other kinds of voluntary type organizations in society, do receive certain incentives from government to provide, in effect, partial work programs, partial training programs and this becomes part of their locally based activities. This goes back to our discussion this afternoon, that in many ways part of the problem is that maybe we've almost set up a feeling in society that the government will take care of the problem. Well we've reached the stage where it can't take care of it anymore but what it might be able to do is provide incentives to bring other people into the field. —(Interjection)— Well, sure, you tell them that. It's your business, not mine.

I guess what I'm saying is that it doesn't strike me that anywhere in these Estimates there seems to be some dollars available for those kind of incentives, to do just a little bit of innovation and a little bit of experimenting of providing those incentives to those organizations. I'm not talking about the traditional social welfare groups, but other organizations, community groups in society. I can think in part of some of them that are working in this way, like the youth action committee that works just off one of the older renewal districts. They have an old paint factory on Dufferin, I think it is, isn't it, Bud, on Dufferin that it works out of? Yes, it is in your constituency. And there are a couple of organizations like that, that given those sort of incentives might be able to provide a new generation, if you like, of placements and opportunities for children in this fourteen to eighteen year old bracket.

And I guess the question that I'm coming back to is, is it possible to start carving out of these Estimates some portion of moneys to begin providing the incentives, even to business organizations? I mean whether it's business or trade unions or church organizations, or whatever they may be, to start thinking in this kind of developmental terms rather than in placement remedial terms. I think that if the Minister sees the distinction that I am making, that what seems to be happening in some other places is that they are using the concept of development where children that are brought in are — in these cases really adolescents and almost young adults — given something to do. They do work in part. I'm not talking about the old workhouse idea but they are doing it under controlled situations which have a residential attachment to it. I think of a thing like Rossbrook House, again which sort of kind of scrambles from day to day to get enough money to hold together, and yet given some incentive, I think, would be able to really provide a different approach to the problem than is presently being provided.

So that's my question. Where in these Estimates on child welfare do we provide the incentives to give some spur to different organizations in society to begin addressing the problem that you proposed without really any answers at this stage.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable House Leader.

**MR. PAULLEY:** After the oration from my honourable friend I think it is time that I suggested that the committee rise and report.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Committee rise. Call in the Speaker.

*The Chairman reported upon the Committee's deliberations to Mr. Speaker and requested leave to sit again.*

#### IN SESSION

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Flin Flon.

**MR. BARROW:** Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Member for Thompson, that the report of the committee be received.

**MOTION presented and carried** and the House adjourned until 10:00 a.m. Friday.