



Third Session — Thirty-First Legislature
of the
Legislative Assembly of Manitoba

DEBATES
and
PROCEEDINGS

28 Elizabeth II

*Published under the
authority of
The Honourable Harry E. Graham
Speaker*



VOL. XXVII No. 48A

2:30 P.M. Thursday, April 26, 1979

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

Thursday, April 26, 1979

Time: 2:30 p.m.

OPENING PRAYER by Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER, Hon. Harry E. Graham (Birtle-Russell): Before we proceed, I should like to draw the honourable members' attention to the gallery where we have 19 students of Grade 6 standing from Prince Edward School under the direction of Mrs. Facia. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Kildonan. We also have 55 students of Grade 5 standing from Prendergast School under the direction of Mrs. Poitras. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Radisson. On behalf of all the honourable members, we welcome you here this afternoon.

Presenting Petitions . . . Reading and Receiving Petitions . . . Presenting Reports by Standing and Special Committees . . .

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS AND TABLING OF REPORTS

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Transportation.

HON. HARRY J. ENNS (Lakeside): Mr. Speaker, I was about to make a brief updating statement, however, I have only one copy of the statement. I wonder if by leave — it's very brief — do I have leave of the House to provide the members . . . (Agreed) Thank you. I'll provide the members with the following information.

Mr. Speaker, it has been ascertained that as of Friday, the Emergency Measures Organization will be requesting that a total of some 375 men from the Canadian Forces Base Winnipeg are being assigned to provide the trained manpower for maintenance of dikes in the form of dike patrols and emergency repairs at the following locations: In Emerson, St. Jean and Morris, some 75 men in each community will be stationed there sometime tomorrow, Friday; in St. Adolphe, an additional 75 men from the Armed Services will be in place on Saturday. The Reserve Unit and headquarters will be based in the community of St. Pierre on Friday. Liaison with and direction of the above forces, including support aircraft in the above defined task will be through senior Water Resources officers assigned to Morris and Emerson.

Mr. Speaker, just more generally I can indicate to the members that the need and requirement for sandbags is of course escalating but I have been informed by the Emergency Measures Organization that a sufficient supply of sandbags is well on its way or in the province with some additional 2,000,000 bags that have been ordered from the U. S. with deliveries of upwards to some 200,000 of them coming this afternoon with the balance tomorrow.

Might I say also, Mr. Speaker, that the evacuation of the Red River Valley is well in hand and while of course at this point the actual data as to the number of people that have left the Valley is skimpy but I can indicate to members that by 9 o'clock this morning — and members will appreciate that the operation barely got started much before that period of time but already we estimate some 2,000 or 2,500 people have left the Valley.

And, Sir, I would also like to use this occasion to express, as we knew we would be able to express, the thankfulness, if I may, on behalf of those people looking for quarters during the next two or three weeks, or three or four weeks, that the response from the citizens of Manitoba, and in particular the City of Winnipeg, is precisely what we expected. Overwhelming perhaps is not too strong a term a use. It would appear that the generosity of fellow Manitobans in meeting the requirements, in terms of bull billeting and looking after people, will be well looked after. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. HOWARD PAWLEY (Selkirk): Mr. Speaker, I would like to first express my appreciation to the Minister for having provided both the Member for Kildonan and myself with the opportunity to visit the flood-stricken area yesterday and to see firsthand the very real problems that are created

by the rampage of the flood, the effect that it is having in regard to the people in the community, the people who are being required now to evacuate.

I want to also simply indicate that, from the observations which we had the opportunity to make yesterday, there seems to be, at this point, little doubt that there was any alternative to the Minister and to the First Minister but to order the evacuation. Of course, we will be awaiting the full detailed basis of that decision, but it certainly appears that there was no alternative to the mass evacuation that was ordered.

At the present time, one has to also express some real concern about the emotional problems that certainly those that are aged and ill must feel, being routed from their communities and being required to move from those communities into the City of Winnipeg. I think that our hearts certainly go out to them, because I believe that for them it's the most difficult, the most painful type of move than it is for others within the communities.

I'm pleased to note that volunteers are coming forward, that there is a — as we would expect in Manitoba, with its hospitality and with its desire to co-operate and to extend a helping hand to those in need — that there is that sort of response developing within the City of Winnipeg to the people from the Red River Valley, and I'm sure that when all is completed and the story is written that that will be the story that will be remembered most, and remembered the longest, the fact that people extended their hand to help other people in time of need, to demonstrate the very real value of co-operation in times of crisis, such as this.

MR. SPEAKER: Tabling of Reports . . . Notices of Motion . . . Introduction of Bills . . .

ORAL QUESTIONS

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. PAWLEY: A question to the Minister of Health and Social Development. Does the Minister of Health and Social Development concur with the statement by the President of the Manitoba Health Organizations to the effect that after two years of restraint we cannot be expected to take out more light bulbs, restrict linen usage, turn down thermostats, reduce varieties of menus, delay turning on air conditioning in the spring, freeze the hiring of staff, avoid vacation and other relief, increase staff meal charges and scores of other sometimes obvious, sometimes unique ways of paring costs without having significant effects upon the patients in our health care facilities?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Health.

HON. L. R. SHERMAN (Fort Garry): Well, I would agree, Mr. Speaker, that hospitals and health facilities cannot be expected or asked to do that kind of thing; that is not what they have been asked to do. There's a legitimate difference of opinion between spokesmen for particular professional and interest groups and the government and others.

The facilities in the province have been asked and have responded most co-operatively in meeting budgetary limitations by reducing unnecessary services and eliminating duplication. That's the object of the exercise and most facilities have been able to comply without any significant impact on patient care.

MR. PAWLEY: Does the minister concur then that in fact his budgetary cutbacks have reached the point where in the City of Winnipeg which has been mainly hit by the budgetary cutbacks according to the President of the Manitoba Health Organizations, there has been a reduction in beds, the elimination of entire programs and that the hardest hit is, as he indicated, the large city hospitals which will have the greatest problem and have had the greatest problem in contending with the procedures and increased referrals which have resulted from the budgetary cutbacks.

MR. SHERMAN: No Sir, I don't concur in that. The fact of the matter is that the hospitals and other health facilities deal with the Health Services Commission with respect to their Budgets, that continual examination and assessment of the conditions and situations in health facilities is carried on by the Health Services Commission, that a number of spokesmen for a number of Boards for a number of health facilities have said to me that the exercise has been good, has been desirable and in fact is not complete, that there still is room for rationalization of expenditures in the hospital field and for elimination of duplication and unnecessary services.

I don't challenge the Chairman or the President of the Manitoba Health Organizations' right to

make whatever kind of case he wants to make; he has an interest group to represent and I don't find it surprising that he puts that position, but those complaints are not coming to the Health Services Commission or to my office.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, can I gather from what the minister is stating that he denies the specific charges by the President of the Manitoba Health Organizations that the minister is denying, for example, that there have been such budgetary cutbacks that have resulted in the reduction of beds, that there have been such budgetary cutbacks that there has been an elimination of entire programs, that there has been budgetary cutbacks that in effect have resulted in the restriction of linen that is available to patients, and that in effect there have been budgetary cutbacks that have resulted in the removal of light bulbs, the turning down of thermostats, the reducing of the variety of menus, the delay in turning on air-conditioning units in the spring. Is the Minister denying those specific and precise items referred to by the president of the Manitoba Health Organizations?

MR. SHERMAN: I'm not in a position, Mr. Speaker, to deny specific things that may have happened in specific facilities. What I am denying is the general allegation made by some and certainly being trumpeted by the Leader of the Opposition, that limitations on budgets have reduced the quality of patient care in hospitals. I put it to the honourable, the Leader of the Opposition and his colleagues, Mr. Speaker, that there well may have been some beds closed. But if they were closed it was because they were deemed unnecessary. There are for example more beds per population, more beds per capita in Manitoba than is considered acceptable in either Ontario or Alberta. I put it to him that there may well have been some programs reduced or eliminated. I can't identify specific instances with respect to specific institutions but if they have been it's because they are offered elsewhere; it's because they were deemed redundant and unnecessary. The exercise that's being carried out here, is being carried out in his best interests as well as the best interests of all Manitobans, that is to maintain a hospital and health program that can be maintained, that keeps patient quality care in place and can be afforded and is affordable.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, in view of the Minister's admissions that there are in effect some cutbacks, is the Minister now prepared to re-examine the arbitrary limitation imposed of 6 percent immediate and at once before there are serious consequences as a result of the continuation of that arbitrary 6 percent.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Speaker, first I would like to say that I do not concur in the Leader of the Opposition's suggestion that I have agreed that there are or have been cutbacks. What I have said is I am not denying that there may be instances in which some hospitals and health facilities have eliminated programs that they felt were not necessary. With respect to the Budgets —(Interjection)— well, Mr. Speaker, you know my honourable friends opposite who rely on the money tree to supply

MR. SPEAKER: Order please, order please. Every member will have an opportunity to speak in the Chamber on subject matters of his choice when the suitable conditions prevail. He also has the opportunity to ask questions during the Question Period. The Honourable Minister of Health.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Speaker, with respect to the reference to the arbitrary imposition of a 6 percent budget increase, I have said and I say again that the budgetary increase proposed for the health facilities was a general 6 percent increase and the Leader of the Opposition well knows that we've made the point that it would be a general, universal increase. There would naturally be some flexibility relative to the market demands, the patient demands of different hospitals in different locations in this province. Those budget discussions are under way at the present time, nearing conclusion at the present time, between the Commission and the hospitals and health facilities.

Mr. Speaker, members opposite say, "Go and visit hospitals." I assure them I have visited more hospitals in the last 18 months than I believe they have, and it's my job to do that, but don't challenge me on the grounds of visiting hospitals. I have visited hospitals and talked to patients and consumers as well as administrators, Board members and professionals, and I can tell them that the exercise in the main has been an exercise that has been good, that has been productive, and that will guarantee that our health system here can stay in place.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, in view of the Minister's statement that those programs which have been cut are only those programs that the hospital administrators and officials felt were redundant

or unnecessary, can the Minister assure us that the information which is related to this House is information which has been imparted to him by Board members and by the various administrators in our hospitals as represented by the President of the Manitoba Health Organizations itself? What is the source of the Minister's information that only those programs which were considered to be unnecessary by the hospitals have been cut?

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Speaker, the source of my information is Board members, administrators, professionals, and patients at hospitals and health facilities throughout this province. The President of the Manitoba Health Organizations, who just recently assumed that position, succeeding Mr. Roy Brown of the Flin Flon General Hospital, happens to be a Vice President of the Health Sciences Centre here in Winnipeg, as the Leader of the Opposition well knows. The perspective and position taken by persons associated with the Health Sciences Centre is for obvious reasons frequently quite different from that taken by other health facilities in the province.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, certainly the Minister's last comment creates further questions. Is the Minister denying that there are any serious problems pertaining to the cutbacks insofar as our Health Sciences Centre is concerned in the City of Winnipeg?

MR. SHERMAN: What I'm suggesting, Mr. Speaker, is that the Health Sciences Centre encounters perhaps more difficulties with its budget than many other facilities in this province do, one reason being that, as he well knows, it's a major referral centre, the major referral centre for the province and obviously has demands levied upon it that don't occur in all other facilities — in fact occur in few other facilities, and they are always in a difficult budgetary position. That position is being discussed and studied very carefully between the Health Sciences Centre and the Commission and will be resolved successfully.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, would the Minister then advise us when he realized that there were additional demands and pressures that were being weighted upon the Health Sciences Centre? When did he first become aware of those pressures and demands, and when did the discussions which he made reference to — when did he begin to have meetings pertaining to them?

MR. SHERMAN: I first began to realize it when I moved to Winnipeg from Calgary in 1943, Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. BILLIE URUSKI: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A question to the Minister of Health. Could he indicate to this House which programs that he has spoken about were waste programs that were brought forward by the administrators and staff of hospitals that he said that have been cut? Could he give us an indication of the waste programs that he spoke about?

MR. SHERMAN: Not without an hour's opportunity, Mr. Speaker. The honourable member knows well that subjects of this nature were examined very thoroughly or certainly the opportunity was there to examine them very thoroughly during consideration of my Estimates. What I am saying, Mr. Speaker, is that administrators and boards of hospitals and doctors and nurses themselves have looked at programs, have looked at usage of material, have looked at usage of and demands on equipment, have made determinations that have produced rationalizations that in some cases have eliminated programs or services that were duplicative of others in place or that were being provided by other facilities or that made unnecessary use or over-use of equipment and supplies. That is an ongoing managerial practice that I am sure the Honourable Member for St. George might have some experience with some day, if he engages in any business activities of his own.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Mines, Resources and the Environment.

HON. BRIAN RANSOM (Souris-Killarney): Mr. Speaker, some days ago the Member for Kildonan asked a question concerning Hooker Chemicals, following a report of contamination that had allegedly resulted from disposal of chemicals from the plant in New York, and he raised the question of whether or not that same possibility might exist in Manitoba at the Plant at Brandon. I responded at the time by saying that I didn't think the products were the same, that in fact is the case, Mr. Speaker, that the Plant at Brandon has never produced organic chemicals of the nature produced in the plant at New York, and therefore we are not faced with a similar situation at all.

In response to a second question, Mr. Speaker, that was asked by the Member for The Pas,

concerning runoff conditions on the Carrot River. I'm advised that runoff there is well under way and water levels are rising rapidly, that moderate to severe flooding along the Carrot River is anticipated and it's expected that stages will be similar to or slightly above 1974 levels, and those will be expected to occur in early May.

Mr. Speaker, I also have updated information on runoff conditions which I can either table at the end of the Session or . . .

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, out of courtesy I didn't wish to interrupt the minister earlier with his previous statements, but it does cause concern to ourselves, Mr. Speaker, on this side that certainly tradition has been when a member does pose a question and has obviously a supplementary — in the case of the Member for St. George, he'd only asked his main question and clearly had a supplementary — that, Mr. Speaker, in all due respect that you permitted the minister to interrupt that pattern and train of questions.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please, order please. May I suggest to the honourable member that the avenue open to him is very clearly stated in the rules. If he disagrees with the action taken by the Speaker, he cannot debate it, only move a Motion. Has the Honourable Minister of Mines, Resources and the Environment completed his statement?

MR. RANSOM: Mr. Speaker, I just was bringing to your attention and to the attention of the House that I had a recent report handed to me, a flood report, which I would be prepared to either make now by leave or at the end of the Question Period.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, order please. May I suggest the honourable member table it at the end of the Question Period and we do not interrupt the Question Period. The Honourable Member for St. George.

MR. URUSKI: Thank you for your courteousness, Mr. Speaker, and I'd like to place my second question to the Minister of Health. In view of the fact that the Minister of Health is generalizing in terms of indicating that there is a duplication of services throughout the hospitals of Manitoba, could he indicate to this House and the people which services have been duplicated and which services are a waste, in the language that he has told this House and all the members and the people of Manitoba; that those services were duplicated and being a waste, and those services that the hospital Boards and administrators have as a result of general and open management and management decisions, cut from the services of the people? Can he give us that indication, which services are a waste and a duplication?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Health.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Speaker, we discussed this subject during consideration of my Estimates. I am prepared to sit down and discuss it at length with the Honourable Member for St. George. It's not something that can be dealt with in one minute in Question Period; we're talking about the whole operation of an entity that, in some cases, has 1,300 patients in it and in some cases has 10 patients in it. Obviously, there is room in the administration of an \$80 million budget for a particular facility to rationalize services and the use of equipment and the use of material. These are the things that have been done. Obviously, in a multi-million dollar operation unless there is a close watch maintained, there can be unnecessary wastage of material or supplies. These are the things that have been rationalized.

MR. URUSKI: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In view of the fact that the Minister now cannot and has not been able to pinpoint and is prepared to rationalize his entire budget in terms of health expenditures, that there has to be a waste in the system, can he not now indicate to the people which programs he is prepared to cut out and he is prepared to tell the hospitals in Manitoba that he is prepared to cut out, in order that they should not be able to deliver the services that are necessary and have to reduce their services to all their patients and the public of Manitoba?

MR. SHERMAN: No services of the kind to which the Member for St. George is referring or alluding have been cut out or would be proposed for elimination by me, Mr. Speaker. I can assure the Honourable Member for St. George that, whether he chooses to believe it or not, I have as many calls, as many letters from persons in the hospitals receiving service in hospitals, who phone to

compliment the hospitals, to compliment the professionals attending them, as he suggests in his experience there are criticisms and there are objections. —(Interjection)— Well, Mr. Speaker, the Honourable Member for St. Johns doesn't like that. I assure him that I have calls frequently and continually and letters and communications from people saying that the myth is simply that, Mr. Speaker, that the care in our hospitals is very good.

Let me say to the Member for St. George with respect to his suggestion that I identify particular services. One of the areas is administration, Mr. Speaker, that's been . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, order please, order please. I want to point out to the Honourable Minister that the Question Period is a time for asking questions and eliciting information. Lengthy answers tend to become argumentative and create more discussion, rather than enlightenment. The Honourable Minister of Health.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Speaker, I believe I gave the Chair and members opposite fair warning. I said a subject like this cannot be discussed in one minute on Question Period.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for The Pas.

MR. RONALD McBRYDE: Mr. Speaker, I would like to address a question to the same Minister, a further question, and I can certainly appreciate that the people in the health services field are struggling valiantly under the difficult conditions imposed upon them by this government. I wonder for clarification, Mr. Speaker, whether the Minister could indicate whether the Chairman of the Manitoba Health Organizations is misleading the people of Manitoba, then, with his statement?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Health.

MR. SHERMAN: Not at all, Mr. Speaker, but the Honourable Member for The Pas knows that there . . . —(Interjection)— Well, Mr. Speaker, you admonished me for lengthy answers but the opposition continually misinterprets and deliberately, I suggest, misinterprets the answers I try to give. I was asked whether I am suggesting that the Chairman of the Manitoba Health Organizations was misleading the public through his statements and my answer is: Not at all, Mr. Speaker; I am not suggesting that. The Member for The Pas well knows that the Chairman of the Manitoba Health Organizations has a particular position to take, as the President of the Manitoba Medical Association has to take. They represent an interest group. They are entitled to make their statements, the same as the members of the New Democratic Party, the same as a leader of a labour union.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, order please, order please. May I suggest to all honourable members that we give members the opportunity to ask their questions and get their answers without constant interference from any other members in the Chamber. The Honourable Member for The Pas.

MR. McBRYDE: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I am going to have to get further clarification from the Minister because his answers are not very clear. I wonder if the Minister thinks that the Chairman of the Manitoba Health Organizations is misleading people when he says that some institutions have reached the point where budget cutbacks will result in reduction of beds and the elimination of whole programs, because obviously the two comments by the Minister and the Chairman are different? I wonder if the Minister could indicate whether this Chairman is misleading people with that statement.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. I suggest the question is repetitive and I would have to rule it out of order. The Honourable Member for Elmwood.

MR. RUSSELL DOERN: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct a question to the Minister of Education in view of the fact that the schools in the Red River Valley are closed and in view of the fact that there are some 12,000 people leaving the area — I assume some 3,000 or so of them would be students — has the Minister made any provision for the influx of students into other parts of the province?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Education.

HON. KEITH A. COSENS (Gimli): Mr. Speaker, I can assure the Member for Elmwood that as people have left the Red River Valley and have dispersed across this province to many other towns and cities that we are encouraging parents with children to contact the local school officials where

they are relocating, and I can assure them that their children will be absorbed into that particular school system where they will be relocated.

MR. DOERN: Mr. Speaker, given that there are obviously thousands of students who will be inconvenienced and relocated for a number of weeks — some may have been already out of school a week or so — has the Minister or representatives of his department, say, met with superintendents from the various divisions and is he going to be issuing any public statements? Because I believe it's more of a mystery to people as to what they should do and what action should be taken. So I am asking the Minister whether he has provided any leadership in terms of meeting with superintendents, trustees, etc., and whether he is going to also inform the general public as to what procedures they should adopt.

MR. COSENS: Mr. Speaker, I can also assure the Member for Elmwood that we have been in contact with the officials of the School Divisions concerns and I believe they quite clearly understand the particular procedures that will pertain under these circumstances. I can see no problem at all in this situation.

MR. DOERN: I would also ask the Minister whether there will be any allowances or special consideration given in the divisions and by the department to the fact that there has been this serious allocation problem and disruption of studies?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Education.

MR. COSENS: Mr. Speaker, that's always a concern, of course, when students do lose time from school. I have been assured by the school officials of the divisions who are concerned with the flooding that they will make every effort to make up the hours of instructional time that students have lost and where necessary additional instruction will be provided once things have returned to a normal state.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Burrows.

MR. BEN HANUSCHAK: Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct my question to the Minister responsible for EMO. Would the Minister reassure the citizens of Winnipeg that the condition of the floodgate is being kept under close watch and that it is found to be in proper and sound working condition?

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister of Transportation.

MR. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, nothing gives me greater pleasure than to use whatever opportunities I have to remind members opposite and indeed all Manitobans, particularly at a time like this, what a wonderfully working piece of engineering the Winnipeg Floodway is that was provided by the previous Conservative administration under the leadership by one Duff Roblin. It was sometimes referred to as Duff's Ditch and Duff's Folly. Indeed, Mr. Speaker, I am satisfied while we had a concern, but the fact that we in Winnipeg are hardly aware that there is a flood in the province of major proportions, exceeding that of 1950, is thanks to the good working operations of that public expenditure. The operations of the floodway are in order; it is working as designed. We are currently sending some 32,000 cubic feet per second bypassing the City of Winnipeg. The capacity of the floodway is designed for 60,000 cubic feet per second so that should give some assurance to all Manitobans and to Winnipeggers particularly that the floodway is indeed doing the job that it was designed for and that was initiated by a great Manitoban, Senator Dufferin Roblin.

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

MR. SAUL CHERNIACK: Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that I agree that the floodway proposed by Duff Roblin was worthwhile, and for which no member I am sure, opposite has the right to claim any credit and in view of the statement by the Honourable Minister responsible for EMO who spent so much time praising the past as to make me unsure that he was guaranteeing the — if I may use the word of the First Minister, the integrity of the floodgates — is he assuring us that the concern raised and about which the Member for Burrows has already received some reassurance, that he has validly stated that there is no problem relating to the floodgates?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Transportation.

MR. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, again I am pleased to indicate that I understand there was a rumour aired by one of the radio stations in the city that talked about a possible defect in the floodgates, a cracked floodgate or some such — I didn't hear the broadcast — but if that is what the Honourable Member for Burrows is referring to, then let me assure him that what has occurred through a normal maintenance check, a cracked pneumatic gauge, a very small part and part of the regular maintenance program of the floodway and the gate control structure which is under constant attention and supervision, was replaced the other day. A cracked pneumatic gauge was replaced the other day and I can only surmise that from that normal maintenance repair, somebody was left with the impression that it might have been something more serious.

MR. CHERNIACK: Mr. Speaker, I do indeed want to thank the Honourable Minister for now clarifying that situation. It is one that concerned the Member for Burrows, that he did enquire from the people at the works and that reassurance is good.

May I then ask the Honourable Minister if he can describe the concerns that now exist relating to the possibility of a flooding of the Red River in the northern part of the city on Scotia Avenue and on Glenwood Crescent and for which apparently the city is now spending 24 hours a day building dikes. Are those dikes to protect the homes on the river side of the streets, which I believe are themselves dikes, or is there concern about the other side of the streets from the river?

MR. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, we have every reason to believe that the integrity of the primary diking system is in order and will perform as designed, partly because of the fact that a very recent senior employee of the City of Winnipeg who has — I think members may be aware of the fact he has become or accepted the responsibilities of Deputy Minister of Government Services, one Mr. Boris Rhyhorczuk — was seconded to us by the city some two weeks in advance of his actual time coming to the Government Service. It is largely through him that we have a particularly excellent and good relationship with the city Public Works system right now.

He assures me that the city is in excellent shape and I believe the Deputy Mayor yesterday indicated that they are going full throttle in providing the additional protection of the secondary diking system which would include the kind of homes in the area such as Scotia Street as the Honourable Member for St. Johns refers to. In other words, the city assures us through Emergency Measures that they will have enough material, sandbags, and have no question in terms of their having sufficient time to have the secondary diking system in place to provide that measure of protection for those residences that are outside of the primary diking system.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Burrows.

MR. HANUSCHAK: Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct my question to the Honourable Minister of Education. Would the Minister be willing to meet with any Manitobans having an interest in, or suggestions to make to him regarding the continued implementation of Section 258 of The Public Schools Act and in particular as it relates to the two official languages?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Education.

MR. COSENS: Mr. Speaker, I can assure the Member for Burrows that I meet with a great number of delegations and people with particular interests. I would have no reservations about meeting with a group such as he suggests.

MR. HANUSCHAK: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Given the Minister's answer, would the Minister then be willing to meet with a group of parents who have an immediate interest, namely those in the Howden School area in the St. Boniface School Division regarding a French Immersion Program planned for their school?

MR. COSENS: Mr. Speaker, where a group has a particular concern that is not under the jurisdiction of their local school division but applies to my department, and contacts my department, then as soon as I can find time free to meet with them then I usually follow that particular practice. If the group in question falls into that category, I would be prepared to meet with them.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, my question to the Attorney-General. In view of the report today pertaining to the decision by the Court of Appeal pertaining to the finding that The Manitoba Act

is, in fact, invalid, could the Attorney-General advise the House as to what position his government will take pertaining to that decision by the Court of Appeal, including whether or not it's intended to launch an appeal from that finding of the Court of Appeal?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Attorney-General.

HON. GERALD W.J. MERCIER (Osborne): Mr. Speaker, I was just informed of that decision earlier this morning before a Flood Committee meeting of Cabinet. We will be obtaining a transcript of that decision and an analysis of that decision from Counsel for the Province of Manitoba in order to determine what, if any, future appeals will or will not be made with respect to that decision. We have already, Mr. Speaker, taken steps to intervene in the case from Quebec dealing with a relatively similar issue which I anticipate will be before the Supreme Court in June of this year.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Brandon East.

MR. LEONARD S. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to address a question either to the Minister of Highways, who's involved in the flood fighting situation, or perhaps to the Minister of Health. The question is with regard to the residents of hospitals and nursing homes in the flood-stricken area. Can the government advise whether all such residents have now been safely evacuated out of the flood-stricken areas?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Transportation.

MR. ENNS: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I can so advise the Honourable Member for Brandon that that has occurred some time ago. They were among the very first, of course, that were evacuated. I could provide for him perhaps later on some details as to where and what numbers of persons this category of evacuees involves.

MR. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I did appreciate the fact that they were among the first to be considered and to be moved and I guess the Minister has anticipated a supplementary question I had, and that is, to what extent these people were being moved to the City of Winnipeg as opposed to other communities, and perhaps, without getting into a lot of detail and a lot of numbers, could the Minister at least advise what arrangements have there been for the relocation of such people in the City of Winnipeg, and are the bulk of them coming to one or two hospitals in the City of Winnipeg, or one or two nursing homes, or indeed are they being scattered throughout the whole Province of Manitoba?

MR. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, as a general rule it was felt that the best possible way of doing it was to place the people into the similar surroundings from which they came; that is, senior citizens went to other senior citizen homes within the general area. Personal Care patients went to other Personal Care homes within the area. Hospital, acute hospital cases, of course, went to other acute hospital beds. The Carman Hospital which, for instance, by example was evacuated; the patients were dispersed to the Portage la Prairie Hospital and I believe even some to Brandon. In general there has been no specific area or no one large gathering place. The places were found, no doubt not without some effort, two and three, and five and six, wherever they could be possibly located, but that, Sir, is the role of the Emergency Measures Organization, to have these places located in advance to meet this kind of an emergency.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Brandon East with a final supplementary.

MR. EVANS: With a supplementary, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to ask the Minister, or perhaps the Minister of Health, whether the staff, the personnel that had been looking after the people resident in the nursing homes and in the hospitals, whether they too were transferred with them to other institutions or are the people in the existing institutions, in Portage, Brandon, Winnipeg, or wherever, are these people those who are responsible now for those personal care people or the acute hospital care residents?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Health.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Speaker, in some cases — in fact, in most cases the staff have been moved to enable the additional services required in the facilities to which the evacuees have been moved.

This ranges over the kinds of facilities discussed by my colleague, the Honourable Minister responsible for Emergency Measures, to facilities such as the CNIB in Winnipeg where a substantial number of beds have been made available, and the decision is made in each instance as to whether additional staff is required and whether the staff should then be moved in.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Brandon East with a final question.

MR. EVANS: It's just a final supplementary then, Mr. Speaker, to the Minister of Health. Have there been any difficulties at all encountered in accommodating these people in existing institutions. In other words, are there sufficient spare beds or spare rooms, or are these people being put in hallways or are there special arrangements that have to be made within the existing institutions. Is there sufficient space for these people or do special arrangements have to be made to put beds in hallways or to find other kinds of space that may be used for such people?

MR. SHERMAN: Sufficient space has been found for proper accommodation, Mr. Speaker. In many cases it's been found by using vacant beds; in other cases by doubling up in single-bedded rooms, but that is the extent of it. It has not required the placing of people in hallways. As the honourable member knows, many rural hospitals have a relatively low normal bed occupancy rate and so there are vacant beds available, and in the cases of our provincial institutions such as Portage, Selkirk and Brandon, there are beds available there. In fact, at Selkirk there is a building available.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The hour for Question Period having expired, we proceed with Orders of the Day. The Honourable Minister of Mines.

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS AND TABLING OF REPORTS(Cont'd)

MR. RANSOM: I would request leave to make a statement concerning flood conditions in the areas primarily other than the Red River Valley. (Agreed)

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Mines.

MR. RANSOM: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Stages along the Pembina River are generally declining. Rock Lake is slightly below the peak level of 1,337.56 which occurred late yesterday. The river continues to drop at Windygates where stages have decreased by about one-third of a foot in the last 24 hours. Water levels at this location are expected to increase again shortly.

A second peak at Windygates is expected early next week at stages up to one foot above those experienced on April 22nd. The second peak will also cause levels to rise near Niche, North Dakota, in early May. However, water levels are expected to be about three feet below those of April 21st which caused flooding in the Greta area due to overflows from the Pembina River.

Water levels along the Assiniboine River in Saskatchewan have risen by almost one foot in the last 24 hours. As a result of the increasing inflow, water levels in Shellmouth Reservoir have increased by about a foot in the last 24 hours. All inflow to the Shellmouth Reservoir continues to be stored.

Water levels along the Assiniboine River between St. Lazare and Miniota have declined approximately one-half of a foot since yesterday. However, agricultural lands in this reach of the Assiniboine Valley are still being flooded. River levels are still rising between Virden and Brandon. The river is expected to crest at Virden today and at Brandon on Monday. Stages are expected to be similar to 1974 in the reach between St. Lazare and Brandon. River stages between Brandon and Portage la Prairie remain near the peak levels which occurred during the last two days. Approximately 12,000 cubic feet per second is being diverted into the Portage Diversion. River levels downstream of Portage la Prairie have increased during the last 24 hours. Increases of almost one foot at Bay St. Paul and half a foot at Headingley have been reported. The river is expected to crest at Headingley on the weekend at a stage similar to that which occurred in 1970.

On the Souris River, river stages at Melita have remained relatively constant during the last 24 hours. At Hartney the river has dropped by about one foot since yesterday when an ice jam caused a one foot rise in level. Water levels at Souris and Wawanesa are rising slowly at the present time, having risen by only a few inches since yesterday. The Souris River is not expected to crest in Manitoba until the second week of May. Peak stages should be below those recorded in 1974. Water levels on rivers in the Dauphin area are generally declining. The Whitemud River crested at Woodside on April 24th, and at Westbourne late yesterday at stages similar to those experienced in 1970. No further rises in water levels are expected on the Whitemud River. Water levels have continued to decline in the Interlake area.

Mr. Speaker, in examining the attached tables the honourable members will notice a change from a heading called Dike Capacity to Dike Design Capacity, and the elevations shown now reflect the levels at which overflows could occur if no raising of dikes is undertaken, rather than the elevation shown previously which were the levels for which the dikes were designed. This seems to be an easier figure for people to understand. Thank you.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the Minister responsible for Water Resources for his statement and generally we see from the statement that in contrast to the situation in the Red River Valley that in most instances the situation is improving or at least stable generally outside the Red River Valley, so that at least is one small area of favourable news and we'll be looking forward to the Minister's further reports.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Government House Leader.

HON. WARNER H. JORGENSON (Morris): Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Minister of Health I'm sure, that Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair and the House resolve itself into a committee to consider the supply to be granted to Her Majesty.

MOTION presented and carried and the House resolved itself into a Committee of Supply with the Honourable Member for Radisson in the Chair for the Department of Education and the Honourable Member for Emerson in the Chair for the Department of Fitness, Recreation and Sport.

CONCURRENT COMMITTEES OF SUPPLY

SUPPLY — FITNESS, RECREATION AND SPORT

MR. CHAIRMAN, Mr. Albert Driedger (Emerson): Committee come to order. I would like to refer members of the Committee to Page 40, Fitness, Recreation and Sport, Resolution No. 55, 1. General Administration, 1.(b)(1). The Honourable Minister.

HON. ROBERT BANMAN, Minister of Fitness, Recreation and Sport (La Verendrye): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's a pleasure to present the first Estimates of the newly-formed Department of Fitness, Recreation and Sport.

In keeping with the requests of the people in the sports community as articulated in the daily report, the services of Fitness, Recreation and Sport have now been amalgamated under one department. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank my Acting Deputy Minister, Al Miller and the staff who are working diligently to develop Fitness, Recreation and Sport Programs and working with organizations throughout Manitoba.

Before presenting some of the highlights of this particular Estimate, I would like to bring to the attention of all members the extraordinary achievements which recently occurred in Brandon; I refer to the 1979 Canada Winter Games where our athletes, coaches and managers had their best showing since the games were inaugurated in 1967. Our athletes performed magnificently winning a record number of medals and placing 4th and thereby edging out Alberta for the first time in our history.

The people of Brandon and western Manitoba can be proud of conducting one of the finest Canada Games ever. I would like to pay tribute to the members of the Games Society and the thousands of volunteers who contributed to the Games. It was a great demonstration of total community involvement similar to that experienced in Winnipeg during the 1967 Pan Am Games.

The development of Fitness, Recreation and Sport depends largely on the interests and efforts of municipalities, community organizations, and the provincial and recreation agencies. It is our purpose to enable all Manitobans to achieve happiness and physical, social and mental well-being through recreation pursuits in their leisure time. Our objective is to assist community and provincial groups to develop leaders, facilities and programs which will offer a wide spectrum of activities. It is not intended that government conduct activities directly as they can do more in working with communities in a supportive role.

In our reorganization, we have retained our regional services and will continue to provide consultation and support to communities through our eight regional offices. The staff works with municipal councils, recreation commissions, local recreation and sports clubs to assist in the

of community opportunities mobilizing resources and linking up with programs of provincial agencies being constantly aware that programming operations must be managed by the local authority and community groups.

On the provincial scene, we are working in co-operation with the Manitoba Sports Federation and its memberships consisting of over 50 sport governing bodies, as well as the recreation agencies such as the Manitoba Parks and Recreation Association, Manitoba Camping Association and many others dedicating time and effort to recreation and sport programs. Projects include instructor and coach development, aid to athletes with special skills, games and participation of Manitoba in events at all levels of skill. Efforts are made to strengthen the capability of organizations in providing community services.

Fitness is a state of well-being, is primarily a by-product of activity and depends largely on the motivation and desire of the individual. It is our intention to co-operate with other departments of government and interested agencies in a more intensive education program to improve public fitness awareness. We can capitalize on projects like Participation and the many other programs taking place in our school system. We will continue to emphasize the importance of people becoming active in programs of their own choice. The continuation or the success of fitness depends on people getting involved in activities which are fun and bring other rewards which as we have mentioned before are higher standards of physical and mental health. We are optimistic about the coming year and anticipate expansion and improvements in physical fitness awareness, recreation and sport opportunities.

MR. CHAIRMAN: (b)(1) — the Member for Elmwood.

MR. DOERN: Mr. Chairman, I think it's well known that our main critic for this department is in the hospital, Larry Desjardins, suffered some sort of heart trouble and I'm happy to report that I spoke briefly to his sister today, and she informed me that he hopes to be out on Monday, and possibly getting carried away with that information hopes to be back in the Legislature, but I don't know if that isn't being a bit too optimistic on his part. We're certainly happy to know that he apparently is recovering and will hopefully be out of the hospital, and either at home recuperating or back to work next week. And so we are going to attempt to fill the breach and that will be a difficult assignment since Mr. Desjardins was involved in this department for a number of years and is in particular highly versed in the field of lotteries.

So in keeping with that background information and in preparing myself for today, Mr. Chairman, I went out jogging this morning to get myself in a proper physical and mental condition for the Estimates. I was also interested to hear the opening statement of the minister, who talked a great deal about happiness and so on and it reminded me a bit of Charlie Brown saying that happiness is keeping fit and I certainly can concur with that general thinking.

I did want to make one major statement at the beginning but before I do that I just wanted to raise a couple of short quick points. One is that the Minister's Salary here is only half the normal amount; I wonder if the minister could explain that, and secondly, that the administration of the department accounts for one-third of the total expenditure, which would seem to indicate that the department is top heavy. So I wonder if the minister could comment on those points for openers?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

MR. BANMAN: Mr. Chairman, first of all let me say that the Member for Elmwood made reference to the Member for St. Boniface and I know that he would like to be here today because he has I guess all through his life taken a keen interest in sport and it's unfortunate that he's not with us to give us the benefit of his wisdom on some of the matters, and of course particularly dealing with lotteries since he was one of the people who was very active in forming the Western Canada Lotteries system and I guess one of the main driving pushes behind that.

In reply to the member's question, first of all the reason for the half salary is that the other half is found in the Department of Co-operative Development, which is another agency I am responsible for. And I guess to answer the other question, part of the problem we had while we were going through the Co-op Development Estimates we were being accused that we had cut too much out, and I pointed out at that time that one of the reasons or one of the sort of scales of economy that was achieved when the two departments were amalgamated was the fact that the administration unit, the personnel unit, as well as the research unit for these two departments is housed within this particular structure. There is no magic formula of why it's in Fitness or why it wouldn't have been put in Co-operative Development but this is where it is at the present time and that unit serves both departments.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Elmwood.

MR. DOERN: My, I suppose, main comment, Mr. Chairman, would be to attempt to understand the direction of the provincial department as it relates in particular to teenagers and in particular in regard to community clubs and programs for youth throughout the province. My own experience in this background is generally limited to the City of Winnipeg, because although I spent some time down in your riding, Mr. Chairman, as a youth, a number of summers, and although I taught one year at Emerson and knew something of their facilities in 1960 and in Stonewall in 1962-63 that is now some time ago, so I'm not up on the latest methods of recreation and pursuits of teenage youth. But I am fairly familiar with the situation in the City of Winnipeg and I assume that some of the problems being faced in the city are similar throughout the province. And we all know that there has been problems with youth, not only in the City of Winnipeg, and it's always the urban youth that tend to get the publicity but, you know, we all know that there are problems throughout the province particularly in the towns and villages where sometimes people have nothing better to do than get into trouble and fool around and drink, and race cars and crash weddings and parties, and so on and so on. I guess some of us did it when we were younger and some of it's still being done. Some is just normal youthful exuberance, some is mischief and some, I suppose, is vandalism and worse.

But I wanted to draw to the Committee's attention some of the problems as I see them, and also some of the solutions which have been proposed by civic officials, which I don't believe are good solutions. And I think particularly of the City of Winnipeg which has come up with a series of proposals, which I don't think are of any particular value.

One of the ways in which this has been drawn to the attention of citizens, I suppose, is the fact that in the city there are a lot of convenience stores, which I guess are open 24 hours a day or at least open until 11 or 12 at night, and these tend to be centres for teenagers to hang around. And, as a result of this, I would like to reiterate some of the so-called solutions, as put by civic officials, and then to make a number of suggestions of my own to the Minister and ask him if he would respond to this.

For example, it has been suggested that they set up throughout the city — and these are merely proposals at the moment — but suggestions have been made that they establish experimental 24-hour drop-in centres in the core area for youngsters from 12 to 17. And then they suggest things like the following: Privately-owned discos, which would not serve liquor and would have an age of 14 as a minimum. They suggest that community centres and churches get more involved in programming, which I think is a good idea, and that community and youth centres should be a little more with it in terms of certain activities and so on. And then they talk about things like hiring teenagers for jobs.

Some of the specifics they mention — this is the Civic Recreation and Social Services Committee — they talk about things like more coin-operated electric pinball machines. And, you know, as one who all his life has tried to be an athlete or tried to keep in shape, I certainly deplore the notion that we should be providing pinball machines for young people to amuse themselves because I regard that as a wasted pursuit that has little merit other than allowing one to pass the time away. I would put it on a rough par with watching television. I suppose there is some skill involved and some amusement involved, assuming you have the quarters, but really not the kind of program that a community or a government should be attempting to formulate and implement.

And then they talk about extended hours for non-licensed discos and a minimum age of 14, and so on. There, again, I don't know what good it does to have privately-operated discotheques operating until 4 in the morning, which I believe was one . . . Well, I know there is one discotheque on Nairn Avenue, in my own riding, which is now going to be open until 4 o'clock. And I'm sure that's terrific for all of the teenagers who are interested in discoing the night away. Maybe you can keep in shape that way, but I don't consider that — it's not a healthy pursuit; it's not a healthy pursuit.

So when they're talking about programs like this, I sort of throw up my hands and would look for better-rounded recreation programs, because I think those are not good suggestions and yet they appear to be serious recommendations by the city and ones that may be implemented.

Mr. Chairman, what I wanted to draw to the attention of the minister first of all is that I believe is a problem, a problem which you will have to attempt to deal with, and I would like to point out what I consider to be partial solutions to this particular problem or set of problems.

One is that the community clubs of Winnipeg, I believe that there are some 80 according to my information within the city, are certainly short of supervision. Some of them are short of facilities in that they need larger facilities or better facilities. They certainly need better maintenance and

caretaking; it's almost impossible to go into a community club that isn't just sort of piled with junk in terms of chewing gum, peanuts, everything all over the place, cigarette butts, filthy washrooms, shower rooms that either are rarely used or would only be used almost by risking one's health, and so on. But the main problem there, in addition to maybe more equipment or more change rooms or dressing rooms, etc., etc., is the lack of supervision and the problem that all the clubs seem to have with getting volunteers — and we all pick up the paper every winter and particularly in the fall, and read how such-and-such club is in imminent danger of closing because they had a meeting, they only got out a half a dozen people — there's such a lack of interest that they have decided to close the club. And this has happened time and again, it's happened in my area, it's happened in other areas of the city and it probably happens throughout the entire province.

So you have these community clubs; they have problems getting volunteers, nothing new here, this has been going on I guess since the dawn of history. But the problem is that therefore a lot of the clubs are not open, and therefore whereas the physical facility is there, the capital has been spent, people could, if they were open, go there and play table tennis or various indoor things. They could go skating, they could play baseball in the summer and other sports and so on, some of which require the club house, some of which don't. The trouble is that too often, and I'm now thinking particularly of the winter when you need the club house if you want to change for skating or hockey, those clubs are closed, and I find that a lot of clubs are not open after school and that a lot of local community clubs are not open very much on weekends, in other words, some of them open late in the afternoon or around supper time during the week; some open maybe at 4:00 p.m., some at 6:00 p.m., and then on weekends some of them are closed, like on a Sunday afternoon. So that if a person wanted to use the club they can't get there. Yet I can recall as a child in the early grades of school, always going skating, every day after school. I recall that very well. Yet nowadays it seems that a number of the clubs are not open after school, so children can't go, younger ones can't go, they can only go after supper with their parents, assuming they're able to get there.

So I say that one thing that the minister should consider, and one of the main points that I make to him is that there is a need for supervision and this may entail the hiring and the funding of personnel on a far greater scale than we have today because they can't seem to get the volunteers. These are logical places for young people to hang around. I mean, if they're going to hang around, I'd just as soon they hung around the local community club, and when I was a teen-ager with my friends we tended to be either at what was then called CUAC, which is now Sinclair Park or around Mountain and McGregor, which is now sort of the YMCA area — those were two particular club houses. Better people are hanging around there and may be engaging in some form of recreation than hanging around pool halls or bowling alleys or pinball places or convenience stores or discotheques that are open till 4 o'clock in the morning. So I would just make that as my first point and question to the minister, and say to him and ask him if he would respond: Given that that is the problem, does he see any possibility of his department in conjunction with municipalities attempting to provide more staff, so that these community clubs in particular can be better maintained, because they seem to be poorly maintained now in terms of everything — inside the club house, snow on the skating rinks so that you can't skate, etc., and in particular just simply opening the club house so that people can go into the community clubs and use them either for change purposes or for activities within. So could the minister comment on that?

MR. BANMAN: Well, I think the member raises a few valid points when he's talking about that, except that when you're talking about our particular department, we consult with the City Parks and Recreation Association, who have the responsibility and who have this under their jurisdiction. One of the problems we face in sport, and we've been telling the Federal Government this, is that the people that can best provide the best delivery system are the peoples on the local level, on the community level — and that is the philosophical approach the department has taken. We meet on a regular basis with the Association of Community Clubs, and we can explore that particular matter that the member raises a little further.

He points out a few areas of concern that I guess we all have when we're talking about opening discos till 4 o'clock in the morning for the teen-agers, I think we've got to watch that pretty close unless they're going to spend maybe a Friday night or Saturday night there. I don't know, I don't think that any teenager that's 15, 16 and 17 years old that spends a weekday in a disco till 4 o'clock in the morning is much good in school or any job that he's trying to hold down. So I don't think that's a particular solution to that problem.

The other thing that we overlook very often is the responsibility of parents in this particular area too. Whether it be the City of Winnipeg or the state or whatever, I don't think that we should be providing all kinds of entertainment for the wee hours of the morning. Children should be home,

people should be resting and getting ready for the school day or getting ready for work during the week. So I agree with the member on those few comments and I can assure him that the department isn't going to go out and buy all kinds of pinball machines and stuff like that.

The other problem that he mentions, dealing with community clubs and that, is a basic problem with a lot of public facilities and I don't know how we're going to solve it. You know, one of the problems that we have in the utilization of public facilities is that there's a lot of vandalism that takes place and people are very hard on the facilities. We've learnt a long time ago that if you're going to build rest room facilities, or shower facilities out of wood or use plywood or something like that, you might as well forget about it. It's almost got to be concrete block or concrete. The taps and everything have to be of a very durable nature so that they're not torn off the wall every day, and I don't know if there's any way that we can communicate this better to the people that are using those facilities that they are there for everyone to use and that there shouldn't be the abuse that we're finding right now.

And that's part of the problem that the Community Clubs face and many public facilities face. You can have somebody walking in and doing a beautiful cleaning job in the morning and all you have to do is have a few people who are very untidy and very destructive walk in an hour later, and for the rest of the day the thing looks like a cyclone went through it. So I guess it's all part of trying to get the public to realize that these facilities are there for them to use, that all the people want to enjoy it, and that we shouldn't go ahead and abuse them to that extent. And in order to try and get as many people involved, as many young people involved, and keep as many people off the street, I think, which is a by-product of the recreation activities, is the fact that we have embarked in the last while over Coach Development programs, Coach Certification programs.

One of the biggest problems we have may be much moreso in rural Manitoba versus the City is that we would have people in areas such as Neepawa, Steinbach, Altona areas, who would feel that they might want to get their child involved in gymnastics, but because we haven't got the people who have been trained or have the ability to know how to teach that particular field of recreation or sport, we have an awful hard time starting that. We have embarked on a program which was started a number of years ago and has been expanded over the last number of years, to try and get leadership training development so that people will take over that responsibility and hopefully provide that service.

I know in my own area there's a gentleman who came in — there was nobody doing anything with Judo, and he happened to come in and take it over and I think he's in the Ste. Anne area and the Steinbach area — he's got over a hundred students right now. So here's a classic example of an individual who has taken the initiative, and if you have these people in the leadership area they do a tremendous job.

The other area that we have embarked on is a grant system to municipal recreation associations where three municipalities get together, we provide a substantial amount of the recreation director's salary in the hope that that person will then go around and organize different recreational activities for not only the youth of the area but also possibly for senior citizens and other people who have leisure time and want to make the most of that leisure time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Elmwood.

MR. DOERN: Mr. Chairman, I think one of the points that the Minister's making to me either directly or indirectly is that some of these problems are problems of supervision, that when you have adult supervision he, of course, is very strong on the notion of the responsibility of the family, which I am as well. Nevertheless we also know especially any of us who've had anything to do with young people as teachers or in other capacities and so on, that sometimes children behave differently away from home than at home, so that they're little angels at home and little devils in school or in the street or in the Community Club and part of the problem which I am raising to a very large extent is the fact that there is a need for more supervision. By that I don't mean somebody — big brother looking over the shoulder of these young people all the time — I just mean that in some cases, because there is no supervision, there's vandalism, because there's no supervision there is simply a mess, you know, in the sense of physical dirtiness in terms of garbage, etc., and in some cases the facilities are closed because there's nobody there to keep an eye on the facility or to open it, or to perhaps provide the coaching, etc.

So that in part we're talking about the need for volunteers and we're talking about the need for paid personnel, either partly paid in the sense of part-time, or fully paid. I know that some of these people are provided, I guess, through the various municipal governments and perhaps some of the funding comes from the province. But I'm calling for more of this, Mr. Chairman, and we're also dealing here with a broader problem of when you don't have good facilities, etc. etc., it seems that there's a greater danger or a greater incidence of juvenile delinquency.

Now, it doesn't follow that you will eliminate all delinquency, because you have delinquency sometimes in the best part of town or among families where there's a considerable amount of money, but it has always been thought, and I think is generally correct, that if you have good sports programs and clubs and organizations and so on, and the schools are open for activity, etc., that you will have what is generally considered to be healthy pursuits, and where you have deficiencies in these programs you may have young people hanging around getting into trouble.

The other point I make to the Minister is this, that there is a desperate need for employment opportunities for young people, and there are all kinds of young people who are willing to work, not looking for handouts, but willing to work either in grocery stores or drug stores or delivering newspapers, or selling in Zellers — anything — pumping gas, anything that you can think of wherever there's an opportunity, looking for some way of earning a few dollars a week. And so I'm saying to the Minister this; he's a member of the Executive Council; they are looking for ways of alleviating unemployment, first of all for adults and secondly, for students, both university and High School, and I'm saying to him that there is a real genuine need for people who can work in Community Clubs on a part-time basis as well as on a full-time basis to run programs.

For instance, in the summer some of the parks have programs in terms of helping out with sports programs and other activities and last, and not least, just keeping the clubhouses open so that I know in my own area and in the City of Winnipeg, there are all kinds of Community Clubs which are simply locked because there's nobody there to open them, and if they were open people could play some of the games that are available — I'm thinking of things like table tennis, etc. — and could go into the clubhouse and in particular in the wintertime could then go skating and go and play hockey which they cannot do now, so I'm urging the Minister to look upon this in a variety of ways. One is supervision of physical facilities; another is opening them up to people for recreation; another is combatting juvenile delinquency and another is simply to provide employment programs in the way, in particular, of part-time employment for students and possibly adults, as well, on a year-round basis but with particular needs at particular times of the year when there is a special demand for these services.

So I would ask the Minister is he is able to do anything along the lines I am suggesting, and I would at least expect him to be able to have an input to special employment programs and employment for youth programs. He certainly would have a voice in that area. So could he comment.

MR. BANMAN: Mr. Chairman, the Member for Elmwood raises several valid points, and there are certain problems that have developed over the last little while which I think the Association for Community Centres has recognized.

One of the problems is that we have many arenas, pools and schools which are now being used, which provide many facilities for gymnastics, for basketball, for volleyball, for ringette and many other sports which have grown very rapidly. The other thing is there is a desire, I think, on behalf of many people, to get involved in a particular sport instead of a spectator sport, a participatory type sport where you can get involved and go out and do the thing yourself, and that's why I think a thing like ringette has caught on so tremendously fast for the girls of Winnipeg, because it provides a team activity which the girls were not involved with before.

The other area that we have been exploring and have been making overtures to the federal government on at different meetings is the fact that we would like to see, before the federal government comes out with a particular program such as Opportunities for Youth or something, that there is some consultation with the community centres and with the province to try and see where the priorities will be. This particular department this year will have some 87 STEP students, which we will be employing in a variety of different ways such as the Birds Hill Day Care Program and others, which will involve young people and will give young people who are underprivileged an opportunity to do things which they might not normally do.

But I can tell the member that we will take his suggestions and when we meet with the Association of Community Centres explore a few of those further, possibly, and keep pursuing the federal government to make sure that when they do implement programs that we are apprised of them and maybe the Young Canada Works or the Opportunity for Youth Program is some area in which some of these things could possibly be done.

MR. CHAIRMAN, Mr. Morris McGregor (Virden): In committee, whoever wants the floor, if they would just signal the Chairman then we would know. The Member for Elmwood.

MR. DOERN: Mr. Chairman, I would urge the Minister that what he should attempt to do is perhaps investigate this problem in terms of requirements of community clubs, in terms of personnel, in terms of part-time staff, volunteers, problems, etc., etc., and I think if he could spearhead something

like that in conjunction with the municipalities then he would see there is quite a need and he would then find out what the problem is and then perhaps he could address the problem.

One other area that I wanted to cover now was perhaps a few remarks on track and field. I note with some interest that the track, the indoor track, which I had something to do with in terms of fighting for a cost-shared track, indoor, portable, at a cost of about \$150,000, has been used a number of times, I guess, in the past year. I attended the Tribune's Meet a couple of months ago and I notice that this same track was used in Edmonton, and I believe it was also used in Brandon, or at least it is certainly capable of being used in other parts of the province.

I'm just wondering if the Minister could tell me, in regard to that facility, whether when it's used outside of Manitoba it is done so on the basis of a loan or whether it is rented. I'd also like to know whether it is true that for the time being the provincial garage is being used to house it and is in fact being used as an indoor track facility.

MR. BANMAN: Well, first of all, the track, Mr. Chairman, is owned by the City of Winnipeg, who look after it. The track has been a very popular thing in Manitoba and if the member was at the Tribune Track Meet some of the comments of the athletes there were very very positive. It has got just enough spring that it becomes a very very fast track. I know several weeks ago when I was at the Boston Marathon I went to see the new track that the University of Harvard just developed. It's supposed to be one of the best ones around, and we're told that this one, as far as speed and the spring, is very much like that one over there. So that the people who have built it have done a good job.

The track was used in Steinbach about a month ago. It's fairly easy to set up. It takes a number of volunteers and it takes some arm muscle, but it has been used in several facilities.

The province originally gave permission to the City of Winnipeg to use the provincial garage for repairing the track because they needed a large space, and what has happened is that the track now, I understand, has been set up again. There are certain repairs that have happened to it and it will be allowed to stay in there until, I think, the beginning of June. It was a two-month authorization that they could use the track. They are using the garage facility, I think, along with Skills Unlimited, who are using a certain portion of it also.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Transcona.

MR. WILSON PARASIUK: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I'd like to make a few general comments about —(Interjection)— No, I would call him Mr. Chairperson; I can quite easily and readily determine

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please, order please.

MR. ENNS: Would the Chair get some order in this Committee, please?

MR. PARASIUK: We've just had our biggest cause of disorder come in the room. —(Interjections)—

MR. CHAIRMAN: Address your remarks to this Chair, Committee, and everybody will be on side again.

MR. PARASIUK: I apologize to the Member for Minnedosa, who is very well known for his comportment. I wouldn't want to . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Transcona.

MR. PARASIUK: Thank you. I want to make some general overview comments about the Department. Although we have a new name and a separate department and a separate responsibility I see really from the specifics that it's the same program as existed before. It's got a new name and possibly that might have some political payoff although there's a double edge to that, in that once you create a separate department like this you do develop some expectations which may or may not be met in the future and of course we will have to see what happens in that respect.

In an overview sense the only area that has in fact received a reduction in programming and in services for next year is the north. There has been a reduction in the northern programming of some \$10,000, and if you take into account inflation, it's been somewhat greater than that, which then means that that area which probably requires this type of input most in that the secondary

groups that might exist in northern communities are really lacking, and there aren't the other institution and service clubs and other groups like that to pick up the slack, so that the young people, especially the young people of northern Manitoba, need this type of programming and it's rather unfortunate and probably in keeping with the priorities of this government that that particular region again has been cut back in this general departmental spending.

I'm wondering if the Minister can indicate to us whether in fact his department has developed any idea of what the level of fitness of the average Manitoban is and whether that's been broken down into, old, middle-aged young Manitobans, having set up a department of Fitness, Recreation and Sport, especially with respect to the first part of that? Are we doing any work to determine whether we are fit or not fit? People talked a few years back about the fact that the thirty year old Canadian wasn't as fit as the sixty year old Swede, and I am wondering whether we've had any improvement in that in Canada, and specifically whether there has been any improvement in the fitness of Manitobans? People have always associated fitness with health and they see it as a preventative thing to do with respect to health care. So I am asking the Minister if any work has been done in determining the level of fitness of Manitobans?

MR. BANMAN: Well, Mr. Chairman, first of all let me say with regard to northern programming, some of the programs come from lotteries as the member would be well aware. Things like the Frontier Games and that are funded directly out of lotteries and don't appear in the printed estimates. We have right now a third of our regional services budget is spent in the north. We have two offices, one in Thompson, one in The Pas, which services the north. So, we are spending a fair amount of our ongoing dollars in that particular area. —(Interjection)— Yes I realize it's more than half the province but on per capita we do spend quite a bit more up there than we do down here.

The particular question that the member asked with regard to fitness. One of the problems that we had when I was in charge of Recreation for awhile when it was in the old system of Tourism, Recreation and Cultural Affairs, there was a lot of overlap and confusion between two departments, between the Department of Fitness and Amateur Sport and the other department. For instance, we would have the games, the Manitoba Games which were funded and administered by Fitness, Recreation and Sport, but we would have our regional recreation directors involved very intensely with the setting up and the development of it. So, one of the rationales and I guess one of the reasons that many people said that department should be put together is the fact that you'd go to one department and they'd say no, that's not ours it's the other guys and then they'd come back and they'd say no, that's not really ours, it's the other fellows, and that sort of not knowing where to go created quite a bit of confusion and that of course has been now straightened out because it's all under one roof.

The direct fitness levels and that I understand the Department of Education has done some fitness testing over the last couple of years and there are some computer print-outs available showing the level of fitness as far as Manitoba students are concerned. The YMCA along with many other organizations are holding workshops throughout the year at different times checking people's fitness levels and I would commend that to any member here. The University of Manitoba just opened a program called Target Fitness and for I believe around \$10 you can go out and get a very very thorough check done showing your lung capacity, cardiovascular, I think it's the whole system. They've even gone so far as to immerse you for a few seconds in water to see what your displacement is and come down with a pretty factual assessment of what kind of body fat you have versus muscle, and it's a pretty revealing thing.

Also, one of the big areas which will enhance many of the people that are involved in running and also dealing with sport medicine is the RehFit Centre that just opened on Taylor. It's one of the few centres in all of Canada of its kind and we are very hopeful that not only will that help to rehabilitate people who have had cardiac problems and other problems but will provide a very accurate testing and appraisal of people and their physical condition.

MR. PARASIUKE: Mr. Chairman, again I can appreciate that some work is done in terms of doing some fitness level tests of the school children and I gather that the YMCA runs some fitness tests, I don't know if they do it out of Winnipeg or centres where the YMCA isn't located, in that I think it would be a wise idea for us to possibly think about running some clinics and advertising and informing the public that these things are available. I think sometimes there is a tendency on the part of the general public to think that those tests are for someone else and really that they wouldn't have an opportunity to partake of them. And you know we have something, we have a type of fitness level testing done for cars and people are sent letters saying that if your car is over a certain age you should take it into a clinic, it's a government clinic, and you get it checked out and if in fact there is something wrong with it, you have to get it fixed. I don't think you can do anything

like that for humans but at the same time I think that we should think about possibly establishing clinics like that, where we might inform people that these things are available. I can appreciate the Minister's comments about the RehFit Centre, but again the RehFit Centre is dealing with the crisis after the fact, after it's happened, and at that stage it's a long long way back in trying to bring your health back up to a level after a heart attack or some other cardiovascular problem.

So, that if in fact we're serious about prevention and I think all of us are, but I don't know whether in fact we go beyond paying lip service to it and I am wondering you know again, what might be done to take it a bit beyond that, not just through advertising, and not just through \$10 tests, which again although they are comprehensive, it might be useful to try and run some of these clinics as we used to do for example with respect to tuberculosis. People used to go into an area, they used to send out letters through the school children to parents indicating that people can come in for a TB test.

Again, it was voluntary but people used to come in, and I am wondering whether in fact it might not be possible to consider doing something like that at least on a pilot basis in Manitoba. I think we don't have a clear enough idea. I think what has been done and what has been done in the past in this area is totally ad hoc and yet at the same time, if we are really going to be serious about preventative health care, especially with respect to cardiovascular health problems, I think that this department does have potential if in fact it goes about systematically dealing with this problem. If in fact it is just going to be a facade or in a sense a paper tiger just set up to give the impression that something is happening, then I don't think that we'll see much happening over the next two or three years.

So I would like the Minister to take that particular suggestion under advisement and determine whether it might not be possible to establish some clinics that might do a sample testing, at least, in the community or some communities, so that we can get some idea on a sample basis, and you know, we have sample techniques which have some degree of reliability, so that we can get some general idea of what the fitness level of people is. I am hoping that next year we can get a further indication from the Minister on this. I know that this is a new responsibility for him but I think that if he is taking the title of the department seriously, he will come back with something more systematic and more comprehensive and, frankly, a bit more scientific with regard to the whole matter of fitness.

MR. CHAIRMAN, Mr. Albert Driedger: (b)(1)—pass — the Honourable Minister.

MR. BANMAN: Well, let me just say that the member's suggestion is a good one. We are in the process right now of possibly getting some outreach programming going. I know the RehFit Centre will be going out and trying to get an outreach program going. The problem we have, of course, is one which is of a voluntary nature. I mentioned the YMCA put on a week of activity and indicated and sent out many brochures indicating to people they could come and have this test done and they would even establish a proper program for them and then you could come back after awhile after following that program for three months and see what kind of level of fitness you were in.

The point is a good one. I think that in order to see exactly where we stack up against many of the other areas as far as physical fitness, is one we are going to have to pursue. You know, the whole fitness awareness as far as jogging and many other things, I think, is slowly catching on. But if you just look, I notice a few members smoking here right now, if you just take that out, and this was one of the figures that came out in the test that was done with the YMCA, your lung capacity drops by about 40 percent if you smoke. So there is one thing which many people could do to try to alleviate some of their health problems, by doing that. But again, it is a voluntary thing and I would stress that, like the member said, you can do a lot of public awareness but if the people aren't ready to accept it there is very little else you can do. But I think people generally are becoming much more fit orientated or fit conscious and we will have to pursue that further.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please. Gentlemen, in accordance with Rule 19 (2), the hour being 4:30, I am interrupting proceedings for Private Members' Hour and will return at 8:00 p.m.

SUPPLY — EDUCATION

MR. CHAIRMAN, Mr. Abe Kovnats (Radisson): I would draw the honourable members' attention to Page 31 of the Main Estimates, Resolution No. 43, Department of Education, Clause 4. Program Development and Support Services, Item (b) Curriculum Development, (1) Salaries—pass — the

Honourable Member for Winnipeg Centre.

MR. J.R. (Bud) BOYCE: Mr. Chairman, when we were last on this item and listening to the debate of my colleague, the Member for Burrows, and the Minister of Education, the Minister's statements left me somewhat perplexed in that when we were talking about Ukrainian education in response to a question of what future plans were for these youngsters who were going into school at Grade 1 what they were going to do in ensuing years, the Minister I believe used the term that it was a pilot project.

So, Mr. Chairman, perhaps the Minister could enlighten us, because maybe I misunderstood what he had said. But from what he has said, it appears that what the government is proposing to do is to start a program in Grade 1, with no future plans to start at Grade 2, 3 and build up underneath this pilot project of Grade 1. Is what the Minister is suggesting going to require people to have their youngsters attend school for a full year in Grade 1 with no assurance that they will be able to go from Grade 1 to 12 through the usual educational system with any assurance whatsoever that this will be an ongoing program within the system?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

MR. COSENS: Mr. Chairman, of course the pilot program is just that and applies through grades 1, 2 and 3. It would be our intention to see the program expand beyond those grades but the pilot program itself applies to the next three years, which would encompass Grades 1, 2 and 3. The expansion that will take place after that I would hope will be of a considerable nature but certainly we are using the pilot program, as you always use a pilot program, to find out those discrepancies in our planning in the course, if any exist. The three years will enable us to improve the program where improvements are necessary, to assess it carefully and to make sure that in fact it contains all the elements that it should contain.

MR. BOYCE: Well, I'm sure the Minister can understand our apprehension when we have just concluded an item in which there were \$200,000 voted in prior years to go to the Winnipeg School Division No. 1 for pilot projects. Specifically one of them was involved in community schools, and the position of the government was that they have no commitment to continuing these programs. The Minister's position was, relative to that item, that it was a pilot project and it's now wrapped up. So we can understand why some parents have expressed apprehension of just exactly what the government intends to do in this field.

The Minister uses terms such as "hope" in expressing the government's future intention, that they hope to be able to do this, but what assurance can they give the parents of these youngsters that they will be able to have more than a hope that these children will be able to have a continuous education without making a commitment at this moment which will put them in jeopardy in two or three years from now?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Burrows.

MR. HANUSCHAK: Mr. Chairman, I'm glad — or I shouldn't say I'm glad — it doesn't surprise me that the Minister does not answer, nor did it surprise me to hear the answer to the previous question of the Honourable Member for Winnipeg Centre. Upon my participation in the debate on this item of the Estimates on Tuesday night, it was reported that I'm in support of the government's program, that I'm in agreement with the Minister. The fact of the matter is, Mr. Speaker, that I am in full support of allowing school divisions to use whatever languages of instruction that may be demanded, for which there may be a desire in any particular school division, but I am not in agreement, Mr. Chairman, and I want to stress that most emphatically, I am not in agreement with the manner in which the government is introducing this program.

The Minister had indicated on Tuesday night that by asking for the regulations, I am muddying the waters. He says that the phrase, "subject to regulations," it's a common phrase — in compliance with the regulations, rather — it's a common phrase that appears in legislation. In other words, he tried to make it sound, Mr. Chairman, as if the phrase, "in compliance with the regulation" is of the same significance, of the same intent and weight as spelling out in words the 24th Day of the month of April in the year of our Lord One Thousand, Nine Hundred and 79, rather than simply saying April 24, 1979, where both have the same meaning and intent. But, Mr. Chairman, there is a reason for this phrase in this particular section of the Act and it does have a meaning and a purpose. It means exactly what it says, that the Minister, in bringing this bill to the House last year, said to the people of Manitoba, I am going to bring in regulations outlining the manner and method of the implementation of this section regarding the use of languages other than English

or French as the languages of instruction, and if the Minister still thinks that there is no need or no particular legal weight to that particular phrase, I would suggest to the Minister that he check with the Attorney-General. I am asking him whether he has in fact checked with the Attorney-General?

Let's just take a second, Mr. Chairman, to review what the Minister had said. He said that he gave approval to the use of Ukrainian as a language of instruction in a three-year pilot project, or pilot program, I'm sorry, he used the word program because I checked Hansard this morning, or this afternoon, and the word is program. He may have also used project, but "program," that word I did find in Hansard and I underline the term "pilot program." But, Mr. Chairman, let's take a look at the Act. That is not what the Minister was supposed to have done. According to his own legislation, that was not the role and function of the Minister of Education. The section, and I am just lifting the relevant portions of the section that apply to this particular action on the part of the Minister: "When authorized by the board of a school division, a language other than English or French may be used in any school in the school division in compliance with the regulations, as a language of instruction for not more than 50 percent of the regular school hours, for pilot courses as determined by the Minister."

Now, Mr. Chairman, just consider that section carefully. What does it really imply? It implies the following: No. 1, that the decision whether or not to use any language other than English or French and the choice of language or languages other than English and/or French, that's a decision to be made by a school board. I would refer you again to Section 258, Subsection 2: "When authorized by the board of a school district, school division or school area . . . " It doesn't say when authorized by the Minister of Education, it says when authorized by the school board. That's a decision for the school board to make and not for the Minister to say to a school board, you and you and you must offer a program of instruction in this language, you in that language, and you in some other. That's a decision for the school board to make. Then, after the school board has made that decision, after the school board has authorized the use of a language other than English or French as a language of instruction, then the program must be the courses, part of the program, they must be developed. Then they come to the Minister and they say, we have decided to offer instruction — well, in this case, let's say in Ukrainian — these are the courses that we wish to offer as 50 percent of the program as part of the Ukrainian program, using Ukrainian as a language of instruction. Do you approve these courses? The Minister has the courses reviewed and he says, yes, I approve them as pilot courses. Then they run their course for a period of time as pilot courses. The Minister then says, yes, I am satisfied that those courses are suitable, serve the proper function for the use of that language as a language of instruction, that that teaching method is suitable. Or he may say, no, those courses are not suitable. I have had them evaluated; they are not suitable. And then he says to the school division, you must devise, if you wish to continue using that language as a language of instruction, you must devise some other courses.

But, by the Minister's own bill which he brought into this House last year, that is the extent of his role and responsibility, to simply determine the pilot courses within the program that are to be offered, but not, and I underline the phrase "but not" whether or not a particular language shall or shall not be used as a language of instruction. That, Mr. Chairman, is the role and function of the school board, as the Act clearly states, "When authorized by the board of a school district or school division," and not when authorized by the Minister.

So therefore, Mr. Chairman, when the Minister said to me on Tuesday night that by calling for the regulations which the Act clearly makes reference to, that I am muddying the waters, Mr. Chairman, I am not muddying the waters. It is the Minister who has already muddied the waters on this issue. The Minister has muddied the waters. It was the Minister who took upon himself the responsibility to make the decision which should have been properly the decision of the school board, and not his, because it is the school board that ought to have made the decision what language or languages they are going to use as languages of instruction and his role only extends to giving approval to the pilot courses. Then again this afternoon, Mr. Chairman, we heard the Minister say that at the end of the three-year period, you know, he is going to make a decision then as to the future of this program. Mr. Chairman, according to his own legislation, that is not within his sphere of responsibility to make that decision as to whether or not Ukrainian will be continued, or any other language other than the two official languages, will be continued as languages of instruction. That's a decision to be made at the local level and not in his office or in his department, Mr. Chairman.

This afternoon, the Minister once again muddied the waters still further by saying that he is going to make that decision as to whether he is going to allow the continuation of the use of Ukrainian or any other language as languages of instruction. So therefore the onus now rests upon the Minister to clarify the waters, and I think that the Minister ought to be well aware of the fact that it is apparent from recent actions by the Winnipeg School Division that the Winnipeg School Division interprets

this section of the Act in the same manner as I do. The Winnipeg School Division is in the process of considering using some of the Indian dialects as language of instruction. The Winnipeg School Division isn't saying that it's going to go to the Minister to ask for permission. The Winnipeg School Division says it is going to do it, which is the power that it has, to decide which languages it is going to offer as a language or languages of instruction, then I presume that the Winnipeg School Division, and I have no doubt that the Winnipeg School would comply with the law, and after having made the decision which Indian languages it is going to offer instruction in, then it will come to the Minister and say, we wish to offer Sioux or Cree or Saulteaux as a language of instruction and these are the courses that we have prepared. The Minister will then say to the Winnipeg School Division, yes, I approve of these courses or I do not approve of these courses, I want certain changes, certain modifications made and I want you . . . And then in the end, this is the approval that I am giving for a certain period of time and then we'll review the progress that you are making with the use of those courses. And then either the permanent seal of approval or recommendations for change or revision. But not as to whether or not a school division can offer instruction in whatever language it should decide to offer it in.

Now, by assuming the role of a school division, Mr. Chairman, the Minister has muddied the waters to the extent that the people of Manitoba — in the absence of regulations to clarify these waters — the people in the Province of Manitoba now do not know to whom to turn, what course of action to pursue in the process of requesting the use of whatever other language as a language of instruction. In other words, if a group of people would want to have their children taught in Zulu, what are the requirements, what are the basic requirements? And there may well be a group that would want, in whatever language that they would want their language taught in. To whom is the application to be made? Who must make the application? What's the minimum number of applicants that whoever, because the Minister hasn't told who is to consider that application, what is the minimum number of applicants that one considering the application would require? Is it 10, 15, 20, 25, 50, 1,000? In what fashion is the application to be made? What level of support will the government offer? What commitment is the government prepared to make, because the Minister did indicate on Tuesday night that he would, you know, be quite happy to see instruction, or many languages used as a language of instruction. What is the procedure to be followed for the implementation of the program? Those are just a few questions in the minds of the people of Manitoba, which presently are unanswered.

The average Manitoban would think that the application should go to the school board. No one knows whether two parents applying to a school board would suffice, or should it be 10 or 50 or a certain percentage of parents? No one knows. They would think that one should go to a school board but the school board might say, well, yes, we think that we should deal with your application but you will recall in early 1979, it was the Minister who took upon himself to take the lead, to take the initiative and decide where a language other than English or French shall be used as a language of instruction, so you had better go to the Minister. Then, you know what answer the applicants would receive from the Minister's office. The Minister's office would read Section 258, Subsection 2. They would say, no, you had better go to your school board but it is a school board that is to give authorization. And the applicants will be given the old merry-go-round treatment.

So, the Minister does have to clarify the procedure which the bill anticipated because, once again I say it makes very clear and specific reference to the regulations because the draftsmen of that section did recognize that there is a need to spell out a procedure for the implementation of this section, which normally is done by regulations, and hence there is the need for regulations, which the Minister just seems to brush aside. He says, well, we'll come up with regulations after the three-year pilot period.

But, Mr. Chairman, what happens in the meantime? We have noticed already that the Winnipeg School Division wants to use another language or languages as languages of instruction. There might be other people, there might be groups of parents who would want their children taught in other languages, and they don't know where to go, they don't know what procedure to take. They don't know what level of support they can receive and furthermore they were told by the Minister on Tuesday night that they won't know for three years.

Mr. Chairman, so it's not only for the benefit — the Minister might say, well, insofar as the present pilot program is concerned, those most keenly interested in it, I had met with them or I had met with their representatives and they know where it's at and they know what they can expect and I had announced in the House the other night what level of support and assistance would be from the Department of Education and so forth, so everything is fine with them — but, Mr. Speaker, the section does not deal only with the use of Ukrainian as a language of instruction, but it deals with the use of all languages other than English and French. So for the benefit of those people, the Minister must clarify his position on the procedure for the implementation of this section of

the Act. And that, the section specifically states, calls for regulations, which the Minister admitted he did not have.

So, in the absence of the regulations, and further, as indicated in response to my colleague, the Member for Winnipeg Centre, the people of Manitoba do not have a program wherein Ukrainian will be used as a language of instruction. There is a vague promise of one, a vague promise being held out that perhaps three years hence there may be one. So the Minister is saying this section of the bill doesn't mean a damn thing, it doesn't mean a thing.

It doesn't give the School Boards the authority that it appears to give them, because I'm the one that's going to have the last word, I the minister, I'm going to determine whether a School Division may or may not offer, use, whatever language it wishes as a language of instruction. So really there's nothing offered the people of Manitoba in here. There's a vague, fuzzy IOU being held out to the people, as I had referred to it in the Throne Speech Debate. And it's interesting, Mr. Chairman, that three years down the road, three years from this fall, three years from 1979, very conveniently it takes the government to September of 1982 which is just a few months beyond the 5-year limit, or I'm sorry, it pretty well coincides with the 5-year limit under The Legislative Assembly Act from October 11th, 1977. Isn't it interesting, Mr. Chairman, that there was that period of time chosen to make a decision at that time? And at that time I suppose the government may want to read the latest few pages added to the publication of the Chief Electoral Officer and see how the vote distribution was, and if it's not re-elected, because this government apparently has some uneasiness some unwillingness to say that yes, here's the Bill. The Bill allows for the use of languages other than English and French as languages of instruction, these are the regulations, this is the procedure for the implementation of the program.

So, I'm willing to say that. It says it's going to make that decision in the fall of 1982, at a very convenient time. So, one of two things is going to happen, one of two things; if this government will, God forbid, be still in the position in the fall of 1982 to make this decision, well, it'll make that decision then in some fashion or another. If it is not in a position to make that decision, then it's let off the hook, then it's let off the hook and it'll say well, you New Democrats, you make that decision. A decision that this government, was too chicken to make on its own, but playing around having the minister assume a responsibility that by law he doesn't have the right to assume. By law, he gave the right to make that decision to a School Board, now he took it back from them. Now he took it back from them.

So again I say to the minister that by not doing what the law said that he should do, he has muddied the waters and the responsibility, the onus rests on him to clarify the waters by producing regulations so the people would know exactly what procedure to take. Otherwise, —(Interjection)— now there goes the Member for Roblin again, there goes that Member for Roblin again with that little switch in his ears and in his brain, he turns it on and off at will, and as I'd indicated to the Member for Roblin, I am in support, I am in full support of the intent of the Bill that was approved in the last Session of this Legislature.

I am opposed to the manner in which this minister is proceeding with the implementation of this Section because he is not doing what he himself told the people last year that he would do. That's what I'm opposed to; that's what I'm opposed to, Mr. Chairman.

Now, the parents want to know, the parents want to know. If the parents are going to commit even in the existing program, if the parents are going to commit three years of their child's life span, one-quarter of his public school education span to a program the the future of which is uncertain, Mr. Chairman, no parent would be that mean to his child. No parent would be that mean to his child to thrust this child into a program that he doesn't know what the future of it is going to be. It's one thing, Mr. Chairman, it's one thing to tell the parent look, we're committed to this program, we have courses for the teaching of the following subjects which constitutes 50 percent of the program, but we're experimenting with them, this is the first year. We're not sure whether we're going to continue with that particular course or not, we'll try it out if it's successful, but the only way we could find out is by trying it out, by testing it out so we're going to test it on your children, and we may find that we may want to change it. That's fine, that's fair ball, that's been going on in the education system since time immemorial, experimentation, change, improvement, and so forth; that's fair ball. But the minister is saying more than that.

The minister isn't saying that he's only going to examine the courses constituting part of the Ukrainian Program; he is saying that the entire future of the program may be killed three years from now. That is quite different. That is totally different, Mr. Chairman, and that is the manner in which the minister has muddied the waters about this program. So the minister at this time ought to — if he doesn't have time to whip the regulations into shape and run off to Cabinet and get Cabinet approval or exercise his own ministerial authority if he has that and I'm not quite sure who has to give approval to these regulations — but he'd better do what he must do according to law and do it fast to clarify his position on this Section. This Section has raised the expectations

of many people of the Province of Manitoba but they don't know how to go about taking advantage of it because the minister wouldn't tell them.

They read the Act; the Act seems to tell them one thing, that it's up to the School Board to give approval, but then they find out that the minister seems to be taking over the responsibility of a School Board and he is the one who is giving approval. He is the one who is indicating, who is designating what languages are going to be taught and where. So the people have to have this clarified and with this particular program the minister has to clarify his position.

What is it that is on trial? Is it merely the courses that constitute part of this program, or is it the program in its entirety?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

MR. COSENS: Mr. Chairman, the Member for Burrows seems to have a great deal of problem understanding the legislation and understanding the direction that the government is proceeding with this particular course. If there is anyone who doesn't seem to understand clearly what's happening, I would suggest it's the Member for Burrows, and I would suggest it's because he doesn't want to understand what is happening here; because on the one hand he has finally after painting himself into a corner on this issue decided that he will say that he's in favour of the principle behind the program and he's decided to say that. Now he practices the deceit of after having said that of course, of trying to come up with every possible obstacle that he can see, every possible item that he can bring forth that would suggest that there is some particular problem involved here. —(Interjection)—.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please. The Honourable Member for St. Vital on a Point of Order.

MR. D. JAMES WALDING: Mr. Chairman, I believe I heard the minister accusing another member of this House of practicing deceit. I'm sure that that is not a parliamentary expression and that the minister would wish to reconsider it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: To the honourable members — the word "deceit" is not considered unparliamentarian. The word "deceive" is considered unparliamentarian. I would recommend that the word be not used, but it is not considered unparliamentarian. The Honourable Minister.

MR. COSENS: Well, Mr. Chairman, certainly if that is too strong a word to use and I would doubt that it is, I would just merely say that I feel that the Member for Burrows for some reason that is beyond me is attempting to create all sorts of straw men. In other words, he would like to imply that he supports the program but at the same time he would like to imply that somehow there is something wrong in the way that our government is implementing it. And I say to him that the School Divisions seem to have no problem in clearly understanding the points of reference here.

We have had no problem with them understanding that particular program. We've said that we would have a Pilot Program in three Divisions in three schools, in Grades 1, 2 and 3 over the three year period; that the purpose of the Pilot Program of course as any Pilot Program and as I'm sure the Member for Burrows understands, is to enable us to have time to evaluate carefully and make sure it is the best possible program we can have.

It is our intention certainly, to extend the program beyond Grade 3 through the grade system, and it is our intention to expand the program into other heritage languages. We have never, at any time, said that our intention was otherwise but the Member for Burrows would like to, somehow, cast some doubts as to how honourable we are in our intentions. Well, I say to him, we are quite honourable in our intentions. There has never been any doubt as to what way we would go with these programs, where we would expand, and when, and we have very clearly spelled out that it would be a Pilot Program in three School Divisions in three classes, one in each one of those Divisions.

Now, beyond that type of clarity, Mr. Chairman, I have some problem imagining what these particular straw men that the Member for Burrows is creating are really. He keeps talking about this problem, that, he is worried about regulations, if it's his regulations that will reassure him, Mr. Chairman, then there is no problem in providing them. They will merely re-affirm what I have been saying during this particular debate, no problem whatsoever.

If this is the particular hang-up that he has in this regard, certainly they will evolve, they will be forthcoming and that will reassure him. I have a hunch, Mr. Chairman, that regardless of what we provided, the Member for Burrows in this regard, he still wouldn't be satisfied because he has this built-in resistance to this program, a built-in resistance, and he will continue I suggest finding

straw men and erecting them to try to cast aspersions upon this particular program. He has been doing it with some success I suppose. As far as he's concerned, I suggest to him that the Ukrainian people of Ukrainian descent in this province are not agreeing with his particular aspersions.

MR. HANUSCHAK: I have a question to ask of the minister. I'm surprised — before I ask the question — I can't pass up the opportunity to comment upon the minister's last statement when he was referring to the Manitobans of Ukrainian origin and their reaction towards this program. I wasn't aware of the fact that the use of the Ukrainian's language of instruction was restricted to those of Ukrainian origin. I thought that the program was available to all, but it isn't.

A MEMBER: But it is.

MR. HANUSCHAK: It is, so then the reference to one particular group of our province, I wasn't aware that this government is now legislating for Ukrainians, and legislating education for Germans, and legislating education for Icelandic people of Icelandic origin and so forth, I wasn't aware of that; but apparently this government is.

My question to the minister is this. My question to the minister is: I have a group of constituents who are interested in having their children taught in the Zulu language. Could the minister please indicate to me what advice I could offer them as to the procedure that they should follow in seeking an attempt to bring their wishes to fruition? They want their children educated in Zulu. What should they do? Where should they go?

MR. COSENS: Mr. Chairman, it's very simple. They should see their local School Division.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Winnipeg Centre.

MR. BOYCE: Well, Mr. Chairman, I think it's important that we . . . —(Interjection)—

I think that it's important after the minister's comments to this furious argument that he uses, to put on the record just exactly what we're talking about. When he uses the phrase "straw men" because what we're talking about is a Statute of this House, and we're Legislators in this House and the government, when they are outside of this House, they are government, but when they are in this House, we are speaking as legislators, and if he believes that the statutes of this province are straw men, then he should stand up and say so, not to use a fallacious argument with my colleague.

I will read into the record, so that people may see just exactly what is being talked about. The section that is being referred to is 258, Subsection 1 says: "Subject as otherwise provided in this section, English and French being the two languages to which reference is made in The British North America Act, 1867, are the languages of instruction in public schools." It goes on: "Use of Other Languages, Section 258.2: When authorized by the board of a school district, school division or school area, a language other than English or French may be used in any school in the school district, school division or school area, (a) during a period authorized for religious teaching; (b) during a period authorized by the Minister for teaching a language other than English or French; (c) before and after the regular school hours prescribed in the regulations and applicable to that school; (d) as a language of instruction for transitional purposes in compliance with the regulations and (e) in compliance with the regulations as a language of instruction for not more than 50 percent of the regular school hours for pilot courses as determined by the Minister."

Now, Mr. Chairman, if the Minister had adopted the position that he said he was going to adopt during his Estimates, that he was going to listen to genuine concerns and not attribute motives, that would be another case. If he said, well, it appears as if we have to have regulations and the regulations will be forthcoming, I think we on this side would understand. I really don't know how many people of Zulu ancestry my colleague, the Member for Burrows has in his constituency . . .

MR. HANUSCHAK: I didn't say that, I didn't say that, I said they would want their children talking Zulu.

MR. BOYCE: I'm sorry, I stand corrected. My colleague is chirping from his seat, so I stand corrected that he never referred to people of Zulu ancestry; he said a number of people who wanted to learn Zulu.

But, Mr. Chairman, I have a goodly number of Portugese people in my area, a goodly number of Italian people in my community, and recently, a good number of Philippine people in my community and the latter three groups have asked me, what is the possibility of them having this benefit extended

to them. I have told them, as a result of what is being discussed in the House that I, at the moment, don't know the advice to give them in this regard because the government hasn't really clarified where they intend to go. The Minister, in trying to make the case that my colleague from Burrows is only raising this question to muddy the waters, you know, I don't want to be unparliamentary in my choice of language, but nevertheless it is passing strange — my colleague from Lakeside helps me again — it is passing strange because the questions that have been raised by the Member for Burrows are legitimate questions. It may be strange to the Minister but people phone us all the time about many things and how can we answer these questions genuinely and sincerely when we don't know.

Now, the political process being what it is, you know, it is incumbent upon us as adversaries to take some things and try to make political hay but I haven't heard any political hay in this regard except from that side of the House where they are trying to attribute motives to my colleague, the Member for Burrows. If I was being parochial, I would perhaps push for Gaelic in schools, but maybe that would cause too much concern so perhaps we should go back a little further and bring in Celtic, which would cover more people in schools. But nevertheless the government has suggested that they are going to put in place a program.

Mr. Chairman, governments from time to time make mistakes and I don't see anything the matter with the Minister, when something is drawn to his attention, just saying, well, okay, it looks like you goofed. Because, you know, these are the statutes of the Province of Manitoba. This isn't a straw man and I think that the Minister of Education's understanding of the semantics of the language and the syntax, you know, that he is quite adept. So the language of this bill, "when authorized by the board of a school district . . ." with reference to the regulations, it is quite clear in what is spelled out in this particular section of the Act. I don't think the Minister should use terms of disrespect for the statutes which this House passes. If he wants to change the law, change it. You know, we can debate that issue, but nevertheless, when the statute is there, I think it is incumbent upon us all to deal with it as the law exists, not to just ignore it, or when somebody draws an oversight to our attention, to attribute, you know, motives, deceitful or whatever other term that you wish to use. Because as I have listened to the debate between my colleague, the Member for Burrows, and the Minister, the questions that he has asked are quite legitimate and the only reason I am entering the debate at this time, Mr. Chairman, is to demonstrate some support for my colleague.

I wish the people who want to learn Ukrainian, whether they be of Ukrainian ancestry or Irish, as I am, good luck because I think the more languages we understand, the better off we are. My knowledge of Yiddish is not as extensive as I would want it to be; I find it a delightful language when it gets into story-telling time because from what I understand of that particular language language, it is quite enjoyable.

But nevertheless, Mr. Chairman, for the Minister to try to attribute motives and to use terms such as deceit, I find passing strange. I hope that the Minister will take the questions in the manner in which they are intended and if he does come up with the regulations that he will go through the usual procedure, having them Gazetted so we will all have access to them.

I know my colleague from St. George has a couple of questions in this regard also, Mr. Chairman.

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

MR. URUSKI: I would like to ask the Minister, since he indicates that this is a pilot project and the budget for the area that we are talking about has increased by approximately \$10,000, what funds are earmarked specifically for the program of Ukrainian instruction in the schools in the three divisions? I don't know — I wasn't here for the Estimates — as to which divisions he has selected as the pilot program.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

MR. COSENS: Mr. Chairman, let me assure the Member for St. George, I have answered these questions, of course, previously. In the three classes involved, it is our responsibility to provide textbooks and support materials. We will be providing personnel support from the Department of Education and we will pick up full teacher costs in those three classes where necessary.

MR. URUSKI: Mr. Chairman, if the Minister is indicating that the department is prepared to supply the resource material and the backup staff in terms of assisting the divisions, could he indicate which divisions and the cost that is anticipated for this program?

MR. COSENS: I have already indicated the divisions, Mr. Chairman, but I'll repeat for the Honourable Member for St. George: Winnipeg School Division No. 1, Transcona-Springfield, and Agassiz. The costs that we anticipate for the three pilot classes would amount to a total of some \$36,000.00.

MR. URUSKI: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In terms of the development of the program, what areas within the budget have been removed in terms of the budget as the budget is increased by approximately \$10,000 of Curriculum Development. What shifts has the Branch made in terms of making this program a priority?

MR. COSENS: I don't have that particular detail before me, Mr. Chairman, but I can assure the Member for St. George that the money is there.

MR. URUSKI: Mr. Chairman, I hope that the Minister can indicate to me — if he can't get the detail, could he obtain the detail? I don't deny that the Minister is prepared to put the funds necessary to put this program into motion. At least he is indicating to members on this side that he is prepared to allow a program to proceed on the basis of providing the necessary staff to have this program — and backup from the department — to have this program go ahead and his government was not prepared, after all the curriculum development was done in the Co-operatives Program to be made available to all school divisions. His government, whether it be his department or the Department of Co-operatives, was not prepared to proceed on that program. Is the Minister, in terms of allowing this program to go ahead, on what basis is he going ahead in terms of having those school divisions that he has named be the areas that the pilot program will be carried on? On what basis is he carrying it forward? Is he carrying it forward that the Minister may, or is he saying that this is the desire of the provincial government and these programs are here and they shall be carried forward, or is he indicating that there had been a request from the divisions and if that is the case, if there had been a request from the divisions, have there been requests from other divisions to have this program carried on or at least established? What was the criteria used to select the divisions that he has selected?

MR. COSENS: The divisions that are participating, Mr. Chairman, contain a large number of parents with children in the school systems in those particular divisions who have shown a marked interest in this type of instruction for their children and that has been one of the main criteria in establishing the courses within those three divisions.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Burrows.

MR. HANUSCHAK: Mr. Chairman, in accordance with the Act which states, "where authorized by the board of a school district . . ." could the Minister give a commitment to the committee that he would go to the three school divisions and obtain from them a copy of a motion or a resolution duly and properly passed by the board, making this request. Because from my recollection of the debate which had occurred, it happened the other way around, it was the Minister who selected the divisions and then went to the divisions and said, look, I would like you to establish a pilot class in Ukrainian, which is contrary to what the Act says, Mr. Chairman.

My second question to the minister. With respect to the group that I have interested in seeing a program instituted offering Zulu as a language of instruction. They went to their School Board and the Chairman of the Board said to them, "I am sorry, I don't know whether we can offer a program wherein Zulu will be offered as a language of instruction because the minister hasn't told us what the minimum number of parents should be or the minimum number of students making such a request. The minister hasn't told us what level of support he will offer us. He has indicated the level of support that he is going to offer the Ukrainian program but he hasn't indicated whether that's going to be the general pattern, that's going to be the precedent for the level of support that will be offered to all programs. The minister hasn't told us what level of support we would receive after we have completed the pilot period assigned for the various courses because we as a board will make that decision, and if we make a decision to offer Zulu as a language of instruction then that decision is going to be permanent from now until thy kingdom come. But the minister will have to approve the courses for a certain period of time. And then after the pilot program has run its course, he hasn't told us what level of support we can expect then."

So the Chairman of the Board said to the people interested in having their children taught in Zulu, "You folks better go to the minister, and let the minister do what the law says that he must do, provide the regulations that would answer the questions which we, the board, have on our minds, which are unanswered and which you, the interest parents, would want answered."

MR. COSENS: Mr. Chairman, I am quite prepared to consult with legal counsel as to the necessity of the regulations that the member refers to, and if it would seem obvious that regulations are required in this case I'm quite prepared to bring them forward.

MR. CHAIRMAN: (1)—pass — the Honourable Member for St. George.

MR. URUSKI: Mr. Chairman, I posed a question to the minister earlier in terms of the criteria. He indicated that there was a large number of children in these school divisions who were desirous. Certainly there are numbers of children in other school divisions in Manitoba of Ukrainian ancestry, and speaking on this pilot program specifically, that no doubt would be desirous of having this program taught in their division, but it has been the positions of their respective school boards that: in terms of their special levies they could not afford, they could not see their way clear to have a program presented in their division because of the additional cost that would be imposed; or that they felt their curriculum of courses would be of such a magnitude that they could not see themselves offering additional courses, that in effect, their plate was full. Now if that is the case, and if it isn't I'd like the minister to tell me that that isn't the case, that these school divisions did not have ample courses, that they certainly had greater flexibility in their curriculums than many of the, shall we say, rural divisions that have a lot of students that come from — and I'm using the minister's own words — Ukrainian ancestry, that may be desirous of improving upon their language of ancestry, and in what way does the minister see this program coming into those other divisions? How does he see this program evolving? Since he has provided \$36,000 to these three divisions as a pilot, and he will study it for three years — what does he hope to gain from this pilot program in order to evaluate and be able to bring it into the other divisions? I can put it to the minister, if I persuade the Board of Lakeshore School Division to indicate that they would be prepared to set up a course of Ukrainian studies under the legislation that is now available, is the minister prepared to provide the extra funding that will be necessary to carry on these studies, whether it be Ukrainian or whatever, but let's be just as specific as the government has been, in Ukrainian studies? What criteria has he established for other divisions to opt into the program or is there any criteria?

And all that we have from the minister now is that he has chosen these divisions, and that there has been a number of students that would like to pursue the Ukrainian language, that's being very vague in terms of the Establishment. Either the minister comes out and makes a general statement and says, look we will offer this course and here is the program and it is available to all or let him come out and say that, look it's a political decision, we wanted to have this course in the City of Winnipeg, to see that it be carried out according to our wishes, and this is the way it's been established. If that's the case, let him come out and say it. That it is government policy that we will only pick three divisions and we will not pick and choose. We will establish the course and this is the way it shall be handled, and be done with it.

But let's not be vague about the issue. Let's indicate that that's our intent and no more. We are just trying it out. We're not sure whether we're going to continue with the program. We're not sure that we want to put any more money. Maybe we want to entice some people to say that we're good guys, that we're only going to put \$36,000 into a program. If that's the case then let him say so. Let him not beat around the bush and indicate that we're going to bring about great things in terms of Ukrainian language instruction in this province. If it is, tell us how the program will be run. How can other divisions gear up? You know, we're talking about a three-year pilot program.

Surely I would want to as a parent in Lakeshore School Division. I know that we have some Ukrainian instruction, extra-curricular instruction by the local priest, who in place of religious instruction takes the time and is prepared to do instruction in the Ukrainian language, extra-curricularly, and there are numerous students who have taken advantage of it. However, if the government is really intent on saying, yes, this is a program that we would like to foster in terms of language, I would like to be able to tell my school division or neighbouring school divisions, that this is the criteria and here's how you can, three years from now, at least be able to prepare yourself on how to offer this course to students if there are enough parents interested in the course to have this taught in your division. But right now we don't know anything about it. All we know is that the government has moved in this direction. If that's all that it is your intent to do, well say so. Don't hide and say, look there are a large number of children in the Winnipeg School Division that are desirous of teaching it and that's how we chose them. Tell us how you chose them, and tell us what you're prepared to do for the rest of the province, and I have no difficulty. I would think that the program itself, if at least we knew what the criteria was, then you could at least judge it, but right now, you know, I'm not sure what your intents are.

I've looked through Tuesday, April 24 Hansard, and all we have gotten in reading your comments, you were very vague. I would like the minister to indicate to me, as a rural member, and I mean he's talked about members of Ukrainian ancestry, as a member of this Legislature who is of Ukrainian ancestry, tell me how I can assist my constituents of Ukrainian ancestry and others in the Dauphin area, and the Member for Dauphin, I'm sure the people from the Dauphin area and the Roblin area and the Swan River area, where there are many people of Ukrainian ancestry, and schools in the Ethelbert area, in Dauphin, in Sifton, in all those areas — how they can gear up in the next three years for being able to participate in the program that you've announced. Because we don't know what your criteria is, and I'd like to know.

MR. COSENS: Mr. Chairman, it is unfortunate that the Member for St. George wasn't here the other night because I did very clearly spell out what we were prepared to do with the three pilot classes that we have decided to support in the beginning phases of this program, and I state beginning phases, because certainly we have stated very clearly that we are starting off with three classes in a pilot form, and that we are prepared to expand beyond these three classes but that we are looking closely and will follow closely the development of these classes to make sure that we develop the best program possible, and after passing through the pilot stage we will expand to other divisions that show an interest.

And just as well, if the Member for St. George is speaking of his home area, and there is an interest found in that particular area by the parents of that particular school division, and they communicate that interest to their school board then we will in fact expand the program into

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please, order please. The hour being 4:30 p.m. and in accordance with Rule 19(2) I am interrupting the proceedings for Private Members' Hour and will return at 8:00 p.m. this evening.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' HOUR

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. We're now under Private Members' Hour. First item of business on Thursdays, Public Bills. On the Proposed Motion of the Honourable Member for Inkster, Bill No. 29 — the Honourable Member for Rhineland. (Stand.)

MR. SPEAKER: Bill No. 34 — the Honourable Member for Rhineland. (Stand.)

MR. SPEAKER: The Motion of the Honourable Member for St. James. Bill No. 33 — the Honourable Member for Kildonan. (Stand.)

RESOLUTION NO. 9 — SUPPORT FOR CANADIAN PUBLISHING INDUSTRY

MR. SPEAKER: Resolution No. 9 — the Honourable Member for Elmwood.

MR. DOERN: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Transcona that:
WHEREAS most book stores, drug stores, and other retail outlets carry few books by Canadian writers and/or magazines with Canadian content; and

WHEREAS most retail outlets are dominated by American and British publishers; and
WHEREAS the Canadian record industry was significantly strengthened by 20 percent requirement of Canadian content; and

WHEREAS the advancement of Canadian culture must be a high priority of government
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Province of Manitoba give consideration to establishing a requirement, that 20 percent of the display space in retail outlets that sell and distribute books, magazines and other publications be allocated to material containing Canadian content.

Mr. Speaker, may I also ask by leave if I could substitute the figure of 30 percent, which was the correct amount intended to be put in the clause about the record industry — substitute 30 percent for 20 percent.

MOTION presented.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Elmwood.

MR. DOERN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I might begin by indicating the origin of this Resolution for the information of members opposite. It began with discussions I had with a number

of writers, poets and publishers about some of the problems that they encounter in their industry, and it was originally in relation to just general discussions on cultural affairs, and this was a particular suggestion made to me which I thought had a considerable amount of merit.

It was also pointed out that, although there is no legislation along these lines in Canada at present, that the Ontario Government has taken quite an interest in this whole area, has had a Royal Commission, a bill, and legislation in regard to helping Canadian Publishers. And it is also believed, correctly or otherwise, that if a single province introduced legislation along these lines that it would probably quickly follow that other provinces would follow suit.

Mr. Speaker, one of the problems in the industry, and it sort of amuses me when I see my own Resolution described as "Aid to Canadian Publishers", or "to the Publishing Industry." That's a good shorthand analysis, but it really is in fact an incomplete summary, as would be expected. I'm talking about the whole aspect of Canadian writing, of Canadian culture, of Canadian consciousness, and so on. Mr. Speaker, if you go into an average store, in a corner store where they sell magazines and paperbacks, into a Cigar store, into a small outlet where you handle this type of material, you will find, if you look at the materials available, that only a very minute fraction of the total materials available are Canadian. And I have done some research into this. I've looked myself, and I have read articles on this question. I've listened to people on the radio discussing this, including James Gray, who's a prominent Canadian writer and historian, and between 2 and 4 percent — 2 to 4 percent, depending on who you're talking to or reading — are Canadian books and magazines. The remainder are overwhelmingly American.

Then you have the following system, again depending on who you listen to, 10 to 13 distributors, all American-owned, and they control the distribution of printed materials in this country in terms of magazines and paperbacks. Then what they have is, they then have some 38 geographical wholesalers across the country, and I suppose in Manitoba there may be only one. The well-known name in Manitoba is Canadian News, which certainly handles Winnipeg and I assume handles the rest of Manitoba, although I'm not entirely certain about that. So the point is that the distributors are American. They control the wholesale distributors, and the result is that when you come down to where the point of purchase is made you are seeing an overwhelming display of American materials. More on that point later, Mr. Chairman.

One of the reasons for this is, of course, that the American market is considerably larger than the Canadian market — about ten times, as a matter of fact — so when a best seller occurs in the United States it's a very simple matter for the American Publisher to run an extra 50 or 100,000 copies on a million best seller or whatever, and ship them up north on the overrun, as my colleague from Logan says. And on the overrun it's a simple matter to, in terms of economics, to produce another unit. —(Interjection)— Right. And I am told that it can cost as little as 8 cents to run a paperback when you have a very high production run, whereas, of course, for Canadian Publishers, they are working on a much smaller scale and therefore they have considerably greater problems when it comes to, first of all the economics of publishing. But I am dealing, Mr. Chairman, with one aspect and that is called distribution, because there are still the many problems associated with finding writers, with editing their work, with publishing their work, with promoting their work, and finally with distributing it, and then ultimately you have the actual selling. So there's a whole procedure involved here.

But I tell you, Mr. Speaker, and other members that one area where there is a significant block or barrier is in the distribution, that no matter how good your book is, no matter how much potential sales it may have, in general it is almost impossible to get that book out there on that rack. I am told, Mr. Speaker, that in book stores this is not the same sort of problem, that it is not uncommon to find 30 percent or so of the materials in a book store being Canadian, but when it comes to the smaller stores where a great percentage of paperbacks are carried, that this is almost 100 percent American — beyond reason, as my colleague offers.

So, Mr. Speaker, one could quote from all sorts of sources and so on, including the Secretary of State, Hugh Faulkner, who indicated — he said that our magazine racks — he said this in 1976, quoted in the Toronto Star — our magazine racks and paperback racks where most of us buy our reading material, are filled with foreign product, some of it very good, much of it very bad, and not a word about Canada in a ton of it. Why should this be? It wasn't written, edited, or published with us in mind. "Canada," he said, "is simply a convenient spillover market" etc., etc., etc. And there are other articles written on this particular question, and I simply read a couple of questions from Richard Rohmer, who is I think a General in the Canadian Armed Forces, the best-selling author, and was also a member of the Ontario Royal Commission. He asked these questions. He said, "Does it matter if Canadian authors and their publishers can't get rack space in their own country?" That's something to think about. "Does it matter that they can't get rack space because U.S. paperbacks have it all?" And does it matter that Canadian rack space is controlled by national distributors in the U.S., who find Canada a convenient, profitable, dumping ground for their

Mr. Speaker, the Canadian Record Industry has lived with a 30 percent requirement since 1971, and I spent a couple of hours the last few days talking to disc jockeys and people from radio stations about meeting that requirement. Some of them, in fact, think that the requirement is a third because they do, in fact, operate on that rough rule of thumb, and the actual legal requirement is 30 percent. That is a requirement of the CRTC. It is attached to their licence and so on.

I might just add at this point, before I forget, that a problem of what I am proposing would, of course, be the enforcement, and I would freely admit that, that that would be a difficulty. What would be the best technique, assuming one agreed with the concept or the proposal, what would be the best method of enforcement? It could be an attachment to the licence of the distributor, which is what I would propose, Mr. Speaker, that the onus be put on the people like Canadian News, so that they would be required to demonstrate, not on a daily basis, but on an occasional inspection, that they are in fact providing this kind of representation of Canadian writing and literature.

But I just point out that the Record industry has lived with this for seven years. It doesn't seem to be a major problem. There isn't any hue and cry. There appears to be a sufficient number of Canadian writers and composers and singers, and so on, who can come up with excellent material, and we all know, you know, the Burton Cummings from Winnipeg, and Ann Murray, and Gordon Lightfoot, and Hagood Hardy and so on and so on. My friend from St. James obviously would be a stomping Tom Connors fan, or a Paul Anka fan. I'm sure he used to dance to all those marvelous lyrics of Paul Anka, all of which had the word "baby" and "love" in them.

Mr. Speaker, I'm simply saying that the same kind of calibre exists in the publishing field. There are all kinds of famous Canadian writers. Many of them, in fact, interestingly enough, are women, that some of the finest Canadian novelists today appear to be women — Margaret Laurence and Margaret Atwood and so on and so on and so on. We have poets who are quite prominent — some of them a bit far out in their behaviour. We had the notorious fellow with the kilts, who was a friend of the last premier — Farley Mowat — got to watch that pronunciation, and many other well-known writers, and so on, but yet to try to find their materials on the newstands is very difficult to find.

Mr. Speaker, right now we're in the midst of a Federal Election, and I would assume that the book on Trudeau by George Radwanski would be all over, and you can find it, but it is not all over in terms of distribution. Margaret's book is more popular because I suppose it's spicier. But there's also a book — (Interjection) — Well, there's also a book on Joe Clark, and I don't know about Joe Clark's personal life but there's a book by Dave Humphreys — I think I went to university with somebody named Dave Humphreys, and that book, I think, should be readily available. There's a recent best seller by Pierre Burton — I have to watch I almost said Trudeau — Pierre Burton, on the Dionne Quintuplets, which I think would be read by a large number of people and so on. Yet if you go into a corner store or a corner Drug store you might have trouble finding these books. Yet you'll find no problem whatsoever in the latest American best seller, or some kind of an American best seller you never, ever heard of in your life but nevertheless it says it was a best seller and it sold so many copies in the United States. I'm saying, Mr. Speaker, that the writers are there. I'm telling you that the books are there, that the market is there, but that there is a roadblock, and that roadblock is the distribution system.

I could go on at greater length about the CRTC licencing business. There are limitations on foreign ownership. There are requirements for radio and television statements and so on. In the Record industry the playing of more Canadian records has helped Canadian artists. They get greater residuals. They get greater exposure, and the record companies, of course, sell more records as a result.

Mr. Speaker, I think that one of the reasons that we should be interested in a Resolution like this is, of course, because the fact of Canadian content and Canadian culture is of considerable importance to any nation, and you know, when I was a young child I got most of my information from the time I could barely read for the first 10 or 15 years of my life from Life Magazine. You know, I was a typical product of a Canadian family where every Sunday we'd go to my grandmother's and I would read Life Magazine. Why? Because it was easy to read. There was no television. The pictures were big, they were interesting. You could read the articles easily and so on and then when you graduated you read things like — when you got a little older you read Reader's Digest, another American publication — (Interjection) — well Playboy you only read when you got a little more advanced or a little more developed. I also of course read Time and Newsweek for many many years.

So what happens after that kind of an exposure over a period of time is that a typical Canadian youth becomes highly knowledgeable in terms of American culture. You know the American politicians, the American system, the American personalities, TV actors, movie stars, the whole bit, you may as well be an American, and this is one of the problems. I say that Canadian content

relates to the fact that we want the information about this country going into the minds and hearts of our people. We want the Canadian interpretation of history in the consciousness of Canadians. We want the consciousness of the land and the people through our writers and our books and our magazines. We want Canadian values. We want Canadian heroes. We want the Canadian history.

You know the people in Quebec I think are a little sharper than we are in this regard. They are very jealous and very conscious of their culture. They want to preserve a particular identity and I think we do too, but I think we often are throwing away the baby with the bath water. So, I say, Mr. Chairman, that it is in the public interest, in the public interest to have this kind of Legislation, and I'm not offering this to this House, Mr. Speaker, as a magic solution. I say that this is a serious problem which I want to raise to the members on both sides of this House because I suspect that most have never heard of it before, never thought of it before, and may now give it some attention. There are requirements now in radio, in television. There is now a great attempt to encourage the Canadian film industry 100 percent write-offs for investors. There is an interest in promoting Canadian playwrights through the theatre, the Canada Council is interested in this and is apparently giving heck to the Manitoba Theatre Centre for not coming up with enough Canadian material and Jack Shapiro out at Rainbow Stage produces Hello Dolly and Annie Get Your Gun, three times every summer. So I say that there is a need for this kind of thing, Mr. Speaker.

In conclusion, the passage of this Resolution which will no doubt strike horror into the hearts of many of my Conservative friends across the way, really does not get the Canadian publishers or writers off the hook. This will not give them any magic bonanza or profit. They're still on the hook. I don't want to see them sitting there and the government doing everything for them. I'm not in favour of that either. They still will have the responsibility even if this passed, to find writers, to find interesting subjects, to edit their material, to publish their material, to distribute their material and to promote that material. The fact that Canadian books and Canadian magazines are on the newsstand does not of course mean that they will sell. That has to be done through some intrinsic merit and it has to be done through promotion. But I say to you, Mr. Speaker, and to the members of the Assembly, that there is in fact a barrier and that barrier is in the distribution portion of the publishing industry because it is controlled by American interests, and I think therefore we have to look at a technique of getting around this. If we put the onus on the little people in the industry the publishers and the distributors will cut them off. So the only way that they could stand up to their own distributors is by having some kind of legal or Legislative requirement. So I urge members of the Assembly to think about this Resolution and ultimately to support it or offer something better.

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

MR. GEORGE MINAKER: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I rise to join in this major debate this afternoon by the fact that I support the Honourable Member for Elmwood in his ideas of his concern about the Canadian writer and the Canadian content because I've always supported made in Canada, in a preference to buy made in Canada products.

However, Mr. Speaker, I can't support a Resolution that suggests that we now regulate what we will read in Manitoba by indirectly trying to dictate what space in a store is allowed for Canadian content or Canadian books, and Mr. Speaker, it now comes to light, and I am sure the Honourable Member for Elmwood must have been one of the strong supporters of saving the Canadian publishing industry by supporting W. E. Clare, and I thought the honourable member would have learned his lesson by now that their one effort in trying to save the Canadian publishing industry in Canada has cost the people of Manitoba in excess of \$2,000,000 which we will never get back. I think the intent at that time was probably in the same vein as the Honourable Member for Elmwood's attempt at this time to encourage Canadian writers, to encourage the production of Canadian publishing. But, Mr. Speaker, I suggest that the honourable member is going about it in the wrong way, because I don't think you can force people to read the books that he thinks might be the right ones to be read, by dictating a regulation either provincially or federally that the people selling the product, retailing it in their store, are committed to a certain space for a Canadian product, because I don't think our system and way of life will accept that approach.

Now he mentions the record industry in Canada that the stars that we know today came about strictly because of laws that 20 percent of, or a certain percentage of time on TV or on radio has to have Canadian content because I don't think that law existed when Paul Anka, which he mentioned was a publisher or at least a song writer or an entertainer and I don't believe it was in place when the Guess Whos became popular. I think it was their talent that made them popular and I think it will be the talent of the writer that will make him popular, not the fact that there's going to be 20 percent of space on the shelf or 30 percent of space on a shelf that has to be Canadian content

or Canadian writing.

Mr. Speaker, what the honourable member is proposing really is a form of censorship. Indirectly what he is saying that we will only allow 80 percent of the books to be sold in a store to be outside the country, —(Interjection)— in our own country, so it's a form of censorship. It's almost the same form as the former government's attitude toward South African sherry or wine, that they wouldn't put them on the shelves because they didn't believe in the politics that were going on in that particular country, yet they would put wines on the shelf that came from Communist countries, so it was always difficult to understand that type of policy that the former government had.

Also, Mr. Speaker, I can see where the honourable member has mentioned there would be some difficulty in enforcement, so that I can see now where we'd have a new department set up at some time in the future — whichever government was involved — and the person would be a rack space inspector or something to that effect and would scurry around to the different book stores to make sure that the 20 to 30 percent space was being confined to Canadian writings.

Mr. Speaker, as the honourable member knows quite well our government is a government that believes in less government regulations and less government red tape, so as a supporter of that policy I would find it very difficult to support this Resolution because I can see that this would create again government red tape in the marketplace and I can't see that his objective will achieve what he wants without a lot of cost involved and to me it's nonsensical. I think that the publishing industry in Canada has to survive on its own merits like any other industry and I'm sure that the talents of Canadian writers will be discovered and will be read by Canadians and I support that concept that culture continue to grow in Canada but it's not in the manner that the Honourable Member for Elmwood is putting forward.

What he wants to do is save the publishing industry and his colleague from Brandon East sure tried to save the publishing industry in Canada to the tune of \$2,000,000 plus that we are now paying as taxpayers in Manitoba, with W. E. Clare and we'll never see the return of it, and we kept being told it's creating jobs in Manitoba, creating jobs — an answering service and a secretary. Creating jobs, and we had some authors write the books that will never ever see the school room and we're still spending the money for it, we're still the taxpayers. So that when the honourable member suggests that we should save the Canadian publishing industry and the writers then let the federal government take their approach to this problem. But I suggest that the provincial government of Manitoba should not get involved in it because we don't want to set up another board, marketing board to control the book space on shelves in book stores. Mr. Speaker, I support Canadian writers; I support made in Canada and I always will but I don't believe in censorship. I don't believe in the control of what you read and where you can pick it up in the store and for this reason, Mr. Speaker, I cannot support this Resolution.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Brandon East.

MR. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I join in a debate on a rather critical topic, a topic that I think is deserving of the attention of all members of this Legislature and I'm pleased even though I don't agree with many of the remarks made by my friend the Member for St. James. I am pleased nevertheless that he participated in the debate and showed some interest in the topic. It's unfortunate that he dragged in a few red herrings and didn't really stick to the gut issue and the issue really is, to what extent can we see the maintenance and development the Canadian publishing industry and to what extent can we provide opportunities for Canadian writers to reflect on the Canadian scene and make their works available to Canadians to read if they so desire?

I reject the suggestion that this is a form of censorship. I for one am totally opposed to censorship. If anything I suppose I am a bit of a libertarian. I'm opposed to any kind of regulations that infringe on personal freedom. I'm a continuing libertarian, but I don't regard this as a form of censorship. Yes, it does restrict one group and that group in particular is the American industry that seems to be able to use its muscle and leverage on Canadian publishers and Canadian distributors. There are, according to an article by Richard Rohmer in the Toronto Star of a year or so ago — yes a real Socialist, Richard Rohmer — who writes about Canadian paperbacks. The title of the article, Mr. Speaker, is "Canadian Paperbacks Will Sell If The Public Can Get Them." And he points out that: "the only way Canadian paperbacks are going to secure display space on racks across Ontario — because he is talking about his own province — is by legislation designed both to give space to Canadian paperbacks and to protect the Canadian wholesaler, the Canadian publisher, and its Canadian author against the totalitarian leverage of the all-powerful 13 U.S. national distributors."

And this is, I suppose, the essence of the problem. The fact is that the American distributors are, in effect, controlling the Canadian retailing of literature, of magazines, of papers, and so on. And, as my colleague from Elmwood is suggesting, you know, if you talk about censorship, that's

a form of censorship that's going on courtesy of the American distribution network. And here is another example of Canada, as a struggling nation, being overwhelmed by its cousin to the south; another example of our country being effectively controlled by the Americans.

And I would have thought that members opposite would join with us wholeheartedly in trying to do something, if not this particular suggestion, to at least support the idea that we should try to do something to support Canadian publishers and Canadian writers.

The fact is that our Canadian industry, as we all know and perhaps realize, is largely owned by the United States, by American companies. Whether it be the oil and gas industry, whether it be the electronics industry, whether it be the automobile industry, you take all the basic industries in Canada are owned by American parent companies. And here is a case of where you have American distributors effectively limiting the ability, curtailing the freedom, if you like, curtailing the potentiality of Canadian writers and Canadian publishers in distributing and making available to Canadians, if they so wish, to purchase this material.

And I suppose the position that my colleague from Elmwood is taking and the position I am taking is a nationalist position, a Canadian nationalist position. And I would have thought that the Tory Party of Manitoba, and as represented in this Legislature, would be in true form with the Conservative tradition of Canada, because the Conservative tradition of Canada, in the Canadian political scene, has been nationalistic. The Conservative Party in Canada has historically been known as protectionist. It was Sir John A. Macdonald, of course, and his government that imposed the national tariff of 1879 whereby we put into place a tariff structure to stimulate Canadian manufacturing, and the Conservative Party historically has taken a nationalist view with developing Canadian industry and protecting Canadian industry.

And I would say, Mr. Speaker, that this is true also with regard to the publishing industry, because I would like to tell my friends opposite, if they're interested, that I had the privilege at one time of working for Grattan O'Leary, a real raving Socialist. Grattan O'Leary, who was appointed by Mr. John Diefenbaker, then the Prime Minister of Canada was made the Chairman of the Royal Commission on Publications. And this goes back into the late fifties and early sixties or thereabouts — I have forgotten the exact year — but a Royal Commission on Publications was set up by Mr. Diefenbaker because he was concerned with the very same issue that we're discussing today, and that is the survival of the Canadian publishing industry. We had particular reference at that time to Canadian magazines. We were looking at other Canadian publications as well, including books and so on, and papers, but we were particularly concerned about magazines and we were particularly concerned — the government of the day, the Conservative government of the day, was particularly concerned, about the demise of magazines such as Macleans magazine and other Canadian magazines, Saturday Night and so on, who couldn't possibly compete against the American magazines, such as Time magazine or Newsweek magazine, and so on. And so the government set up the O'Leary Commission on Publications and I had the privilege of working for it on the research staff.

And a number of recommendations came out of that Royal Commission, Mr. Speaker. A number of recommendations were made by the O'Leary Commission, which eventually, it took a few years but eventually these recommendations, or at least some of them, were put into law, were put into legislation, which ultimately took away the unfair advantage that Time magazine had, in particular Time magazine and in particular Reader's Digest had, in competing with magazines such as Macleans. And when they took that tax advantage away, which goes back to the recommendations of the O'Leary Commission, you provided the framework for magazines such as Macleans to flourish and to grow.

And indeed, Mr. Speaker, we are seeing that today. Macleans, instead of being a monthly magazine, has now become, I believe, a weekly magazine and we are finally getting our own Canadian sort of a Newsweek, our own Canadian version of Time magazine, if you like. And it goes all the way back to that Commission headed by Grattan O'Leary, a very famous Canadian and a very good Conservative, a very well-known friend of John Diefenbaker. And their concern — Diefenbaker was concerned; O'Leary was concerned — about the Canadian publishing industry.

And so I appeal to my Conservative friends on the other side to follow the Conservative tradition of being concerned with the fostering and flourishing of Canadian values and Canadian ideas, and to assist, to whatever extent and in whatever way, Canadian writers in having their material at least made available to Canadians.

What is proposed here, in some ways, is comparable, I suppose, to what has already been done by CRTC and that is the Canadian content rules, and if you suggest that what my colleague from Elmwood is proposing in this Resolution is a form of censorship, then I must say you must also consider what the CRTC is doing is a form of censorship.

And I daresay, Mr. Speaker, that all political parties in Canada, to one extent or another, support what the CRT is attempting to do to stimulate Canadian culture. God knows, it's almost impossible

to have a distinctive Canadian culture being so close to friends across the border, our giant American nation just a few miles from us, a few miles from the centres of Canadian population. Friends so they be, but nevertheless we have a right within our country to provide the opportunity, we should provide an opportunity for our writers to have a right to have their views and their ideas made available to Canadians. And one very practical way of doing this is simply very mundane — it looks very mundane — and that is through providing adequate shelf space. It does not require a lot of red tape; it does not require another government department, because the whole distribution industry is relatively in very few hands. It can almost be done by agreement I would think; it could easily be done by agreement. And so it's not a matter of setting up a huge bureaucracy, having to do a lot of policing work, and so on. —(Interjection)— Yes, I am reminded it's really an oligopoly. There are not too many involved in the business, and I'm sure even a matter of persuasion, through the means of persuasion something could be accomplished.

But I think that perhaps we have become too complacent in our country. I think perhaps we're just used to being overwhelmed by the Americans. Maybe we don't give a damn any more. I don't know whether any of my friends opposite have read a book by George Grant called "Lament For A Nation". Mr. Speaker, I wonder if any of my friends opposite have read —(Interjection)— You are busy with Adam Smith. Well, I don't know whether my friend from Minnedosa have ever read George Grant's book or not, "Lament For A Nation". George Grant, who is a philosophical Conservative and who, incidentally, in the dedication of the book he dedicates it to two people. One of the persons named in the dedication is Derek Bedson, someone you may have heard of. The book by George Grant, "Lament For A Nation", is dedicated to Derek Bedson and one other person, whose name I have forgotten.

But George Grant talks about the demise of the Canadian nation and he talks about American ownership, and he talks about our attitude of not seeming to care about what happens to Canadian industry, to Canadian culture.

And I think that here is a suggestion by my colleague from Elmwood, which is not an earthshaking suggestion but I think will be very effective. It's not a total solution, Mr. Speaker; it's not a total solution at all. And I hasten to add in my concluding remarks, five minutes, it's not a total solution at all but it is a step in the right direction, if you will pardon the pun. And I, for one, will want everyone in Canada to have total access to books written in any language, written by anyone at any time, wherever they might write them, whether they write them in the British Museum in London or whether they write them in New York or Chicago, whether they write them in Australia, or whatever language they write them in. I am not for one moment suggesting that we should not be permitted to read any kind of material that we like. I am totally opposed to any form of restriction of reading.

But that isn't the case, Mr. Speaker, because our newsstands today are full of what I would consider garbage. Our newsstands have some very good material but, unfortunately, there is a lot of second and third rate paperback material, mainly printed in the United States — 95 percent or so printed in the United States. And if a little bit of that wasn't available, I don't think it will hurt whatsoever; in fact, it might help a bit.

So I support my colleague from Elmwood. I really and truly appeal and challenge my friends opposite to support this, because it's in the tradition of Grattan O'Leary and John Diefenbaker; it's in the tradition of the history of the Conservative Party of Canada, and I wouldn't be surprised if we see some provinces, such as Ontario, move in this direction in the not too distant future.

MR. SPEAKER: Is it agreed to call it five-thirty? (Agreed) The debate will stand in the name of the Honourable Member for Logan. The Honourable House Leader.

MR. JORGENSON: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Minister of Highways, that the House do now adjourn.

MOTION presented and carried and the House adjourned and stands adjourned until 10 o'clock tomorrow morning. (Friday) Committee will meet tonight at 8 o'clock.