

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

Tuesday, 3 June, 1980

Time — 2:00 p.m.

OPENING PRAYER by Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER, Hon. Harry E. Graham (Birtle-Russell): Presenting Petitions . . . Reading and Receiving Petitions . . .

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Radisson.

MR. ABE KOVNATS: Mr. Speaker, the Committee of Supply has adopted certain resolutions, directs me to report same and asks leave to sit again. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Virden, report of Committee be received.

MOTION presented and carried.

MR. SPEAKER: Ministerial Statements and Tabling of Reports . . . Notices of Motion . . .

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

MR. SPEAKER: Before we proceed with Oral Questions, I should like to draw the honourable members' attention to the gallery on my right where we have 20(OK) students of Grade 3 standing from the Happy Thought School, under the direction of Marilyn Woloshyn. This school is in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Lac du Bonnet.

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

ORAL QUESTIONS

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. HOWARD PAWLEY (Selkirk): Mr. Speaker, a question to the Minister of Health. Further to the Minister of Health's statements of yesterday, can he further confirm today that life and limb is not presently threatened by way of the strike by health care workers.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Health.

HON. L.R. (Bud) SHERMAN (Fort Garry): I can confirm, Mr. Speaker, that that's the information conveyed to me by the medical chiefs of staff of Winnipeg urban hospitals and by those who are in the rural facility group bargaining through the MHO, yes.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, then questions to the Minister of Labour. Can the Minister of Labour report back as to the question which he accepted as notice yesterday, namely the date of his appointment of a conciliation officer to deal with the strike involving MHO and the Health Sciences Centre.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

HON. KEN MacMASTER (Thompson): May 2.

MR. PAWLEY: Can the Minister advise whether or not he has, of today, received a report from the conciliation officer appointed on May 2.

MR. MacMASTER: Not specifically, Mr. Speaker, but I have been aware of the events, most certainly.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, a further question to the Minister of Labour. In view of the fact that The Labour Relations Act requires notice to be provided within 30 days, to report to the Minister of Labour within 30 days of the date of the appointment of the conciliation officer, does the Minister acknowledge the fact that he is now in violation of the Act in not having received a report from the conciliation officer in the manner prescribed by the legislation.

MR. MacMASTER: I think the Leader of the Opposition should reread the particular piece of legislation. I am not in violation of any piece of legislation.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, then by further supplementary to the Minister of Labour, has the Minister of Labour waived a 30-day provision in writing?

MR. MacMASTER: The particular piece of legislation that I think that member is referring to, I repeat, Mr. Speaker, I am not in violation of it.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition with a sixth question.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, yes, it is the sixth and there may be some more, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we heard some directives from the First Minister's seat.

Mr. Speaker, by way of further supplementary to the Minister, in view of the fact that the Minister apparently has violated the provisions of The Labour Relations Act, and in view of the information which was provided yesterday in which the Minister had acknowledged that in fact there had been no active role undertaken on his part, can the Minister indicate to this House whether he intends to undertake any reasonable effort on his part in order to bring about a resolution of the present strike in the province of Manitoba involving the health care workers.

MR. MacMASTER: Mr. Speaker, just to clear the records. Again, I am not in violation of any portion of the particular Act and I suggest to you very respectfully, Mr. Speaker, that if I was to involve myself whatsoever in this particular dispute, I would not do it here in the House.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge.

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MRS. JUNE WESTBURY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Honourable Minister responsible for Manitoba Housing and Renewal Corporation. Will the Honourable Minister please tell us how many proposals for development of any kind at the York and Garry site were received between the 1st of August, and September, October of 1979, apart from the one from a group of independent and voluntary grocery retailers, which was followed by a local developer and his solicitor, which proposal was approved by the grocery retailers. Were there any other proposals receiving in that time?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Economic Development.

HON. J. FRANK JOHNSTON (Sturgeon Creek): There were two received as far as I have been aware of, Mr. Speaker.

MRS. WESTBURY: Mr. Speaker, would the Minister please advise the House on what date he replied to the proposal from the group of independent and voluntary grocery retailers, and secondly, on what date he replied to the local developer?

MR. JOHNSTON: The department has had discussions after it was referred to the Board of MHRC with the people that I am aware of that came to the department, Mr. Speaker, and there has been communication to the second person, or the first person that made a submission. The exact dates I would have to get for the honourable member.

MRS. WESTBURY: In view of the fact that the local developer and the group of grocery retailers state that they have not received replies, I would appreciate it if the Minister would advise the House on what dates communications were sent by him or by members of his department, please, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. I think I have been remiss in that I took this matter under advisement yesterday, and perhaps I should have handed down a ruling before the question period started today. I thought I would probably do it after question period, but with permission of the House, I can give that ruling now. Is that agreeable? (Agreed)

SPEAKER'S RULING

MR. SPEAKER: Yesterday afternoon, the Member for Fort Rouge raised a matter of House privilege, in which she alleged that the Minister of Economic Development misled the House in answers to her questions. I have been in contact with the Minister of Economic Development, have had the opportunity to peruse his files, and without divulging or disclosing any of the confidentiality of those files, I can assure the House that the Minister of Economic Development did not mislead the House yesterday.

ORAL QUESTIONS (cont'd)

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Inkster.

MR. SIDNEY GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct a question to the Minister of Municipal Affairs. I would like to determine, Mr. Speaker, whether the information that is available to him would confirm that the Local government district administrator in Alexander participated in and encouraged resignations from his own council, which had the result of creating a lack of quorum on that council?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs.

HON. DOUG GOURLAY (Swan River): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There is some indication that the administrator participated in this area.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, knowing that a local government administrator participated in the elimination of his own council, can the Minister tell the House how he would come to reappoint that local government district administrator regardless of what the council may now say with regard to its desire to have that administrator, or otherwise.

Can the Minister justify reappointing an administrator to a district, knowing that that administrator has wrongfully interfered in the politics of the council?

MR. GOURLAY: Mr. Speaker, the indication that I have from legal advice was that the administrator had not participated to any extent that would violate his role as an administrator, and furthermore, the council has requested that I, as Minister, have the administrator return to the LGD of Alexander as soon as possible. However, I did indicate yesterday that they had passed a resolution requesting that he be transferred as of not later than August 1st of this year.

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

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I want to indicate that I did not deal with the legality of the question, although if the Minister is relying on a legal opinion, I would think that he would want to table it with the House. But I ask the Minister whether as a matter of Ministerial policy he would appoint a local government administrator to a community knowing that that the local government administrator has been actively participating in the council's politics, including participated in an attempt to virtually overthrow the council, Mr. Speaker?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs.

MR. GOURLAY: As I indicated, the council have requested that the administrator return to work as soon as possible. I must admit that I would be inclined not to have the administrator return to the area but I am only fulfilling the wishes of the council. There is a quorum there now and they wish him back as soon as possible because there is a backlog of work. He is familiar with the details of the government district and so on that basis I wish to fulfil the wishes of the council.

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MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Churchill.

MR. JAY COWAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Labour, following up on the questions from my leader earlier in the question period. As the Minister does have a responsibility in regard to the dispute, and as this House, I believe, is the proper place to question the Minister as to his fulfillment of that responsibility, can the Minister indicate if he has received any reports from any conciliation officer in regard to the dispute that is currently taking place at the Health Sciences Centre, or the dispute that is currently taking place in any other of Manitoba's health care facilities?

MR. SPEAKER: The question is repetitive. The Honourable Member for Churchill with another question.

MR. COWAN: Mr. Speaker, if I might humbly suggest that you review the Hansard on that. I had asked him specifically in regard to the Health Science Centre, and the Minister had referred earlier in the question period only to the Manitoba Health Organization. So I would hope that you would take the opportunity to peruse Hansard to see in fact if that question was repetitive. Perhaps I can rephrase it so as to not appear to be repetitive to yourself, Mr. Speaker.

I would ask the Minister if he could confirm that on April 21st, a conciliator was appointed to conciliate in regard to the core group at the Health Sciences Centre, and on April 30th, a conciliator was appointed in regard to the x-ray technicians at the Health Science Centre in regard to the strike that is currently taking place, and ask the Minister in specific if he has received any reports from those conciliation officers as to those two specific areas of concern?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

MR. MacMASTER: I'll take the question as notice, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Churchill.

MR. COWAN: Well, Mr. Speaker, as the Minister has had some time to review his activities, I am surprised that he must now take the question as notice. It does imply a lackadaisical attitude on his part. My question to the Minister now is, while he is taking that question as notice, will he not also take the opportunity to check with Section 98 of The Labour Relations Act in regard to the time limit that is imposed in reference to reports from the conciliation officer, and can he tell us now — I'm certain that he should know and have this information at — can he tell us now if he has in fact waived the time limit period or the other parties have agreed to extending the time limit period, and if so, when he did so, and in what form did he proceed with that extension?

MR. MacMASTER: I am satisfied, Mr. Speaker, that appropriate conciliation officers have been established to deal with the particular cases that the member is talking about, and I have a great deal of faith in their judgement and their work.

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

MR. COWAN: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I would then ask the Minister if he is satisfied that he himself as Minister of Labour, and as a person who should have some responsibility in this area, is he satisfied that he is not in violation of The Labour Relations Act at this time by not having proceeded in the manner that is drawn out under Section 98 of the Act?

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Order please. The question is repetitive.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

MR. SPEAKER: While I am on my feet, may I ask the indulgence of the House to recognize twelve visitors from all parts of Manitoba, who are regional finalists in public speaking for the 4-H Group in Manitoba. These twelve are under the direction of Mr. Bill Martin of the Department of Agriculture. They have just completed their finals. The finals were held approximately one hour ago at the Fort Garry Hotel. The three finalists were Miss Ellen Campbell, Miss Colleen Stewart, and Miss Wendy Tibats, and the winner of that was Miss Wendy Tibats. On behalf of all the honourable members we welcome you here today.

ORAL QUESTIONS (Cont'd)

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Lac du Bonnet.

MR. USKIW: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of Municipal Affairs whether he can confirm that the LGD Council of Alexander has requested the transfer of the Local Government District Administrator and did not wish that Administrator, which was suspended for a period of time, to be returned to the affairs of that Local Government District, but that the department insisted that they could not provide another administrator to assist the Council with their work, and that he was in fact reimposed on that Council.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs.

MR. GOURLAY: Mr. Speaker, I cannot confirm the statements that the honourable member has indicated. The information that I have would indicate that the Council had requested the return of the Administrator as soon as possible to attend to the backlog of work that has piled up since his absence. They did pass a resolution though requesting that he would be replaced by not later than August 1st.

MR. USKIW: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Minister would take under advisement then, respond tomorrow, to the fact that that was the situation that I have just outlined, and that is, that the Council was

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forced to take the Administrator back under protest, and the Minister should know that. If he doesn't, he should check with his department.

MR. SPEAKER: Orders of the Day. The Honourable Member for Lac du Bonnet.

MR. USKIW: Mr. Speaker, I would like the Minister to respond to whether he is willing to check into that question, and to confirm that the Council of the LGD of Alexander was asked to take back a resident Administrator that they rejected and that they had asked to be transferred away from that particular Local Government District. Is it not a fact, and can the Minister take that under advisement and report back tomorrow?

MR. GOURLAY: Mr. Speaker, I would be pleased to do that.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge.

MRS. WESTBURY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Honourable Minister responsible for Manitoba Housing and Renewal Corporation. In view of the fact that since 4:30 yesterday afternoon the Minister has reviewed the file with the Speaker of this House, can he give me an approximate date to within a week as to when letters were sent to the group of independent and voluntary grocery retailers, and to the local developer in respect to the proposals which they made for the site at York and Garry.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Economic Development.

MR. JOHNSTON: Mr. Speaker, yesterday I was accused of misleading the House and I phoned you to ask your opinion on it. You asked me to meet with you to decide whether I had or I hadn't. I produced the file to show that I hadn't. I don't have it in front of me at the present time, and I might say, Mr. Speaker, I said to the member earlier, I took her question as notice and she will have the dates of the letters.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Transcona.

MR. WILSON PARASIUK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Natural Resources. In view of the fact that I have received many outraged complaints from cottage owners in the Nopiming Park, Bissett area, complaining that provincial staff are preventing them from going to their cottages or staying in their cottages, could the Minister explain to the public why these people are being prevented access to our resources?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Natural Resources.

HON. BRIAN RANSOM (Souris-Killarney): Mr. Speaker, I would have assumed that the honourable member was aware of the serious extreme fire situation which has existed in the province up to this point, and it has been necessary to take some

extreme precautions in order to prevent further outbreak of fires, and I'm sure that's the reason why people who have been contacting him have been restricted in their travel.

However, there will be some relaxation of the travel restrictions taking place this afternoon. As a result of the showers we have had, they have reduced the fire risk to some extent, and the details of those travel restriction relaxations will be announced later this afternoon, Mr. Speaker.

MR. PARASIUK: I thank the Minister for his answer, and I'd also like him to explain why American campers and American tourists at private lodges in that area, like the Caribou Lake resort, are being allowed, and have been allowed to go in to camp in that area, or to go to private lodges in that area, supposedly on the basis of Ministerial, or at least government approval, while Manitobans are being prevented access to those same resources which are owned by the people of Manitoba?

MR. RANSOM: Mr. Speaker, let me assure the honourable member at the outset that any on-the-scene sorts of relaxation of regulations or restrictions, if they have taken place, have certainly not taken place at my direction. But we have a very competent field staff who have been dealing with the fire situation. They have found it necessary, from time to time, to take special restrictions on the scene. The situation can change from hour to hour, as a matter of fact, and in some cases, the sort of restrictions which have been in place have allowed people to go to established camps when they have not been allowed to go and establish a camp on the lakeshore, for instance, with a tent, or simply put their boat ashore on the lake.

So there have been some differences in the restrictions in place in different areas, and depending on the circumstances. And I'm sure that given the large numbers of people involved, and that non-residents could conceivably be coming from many thousands of miles away to try and take advantage of a booking that had been made months before, and if they have arrived on the scene, it's possible that the officer in charge may have given permission for them to go in because the officers do have the authority to issue permits. Last weekend we made a general appeal to the public simply to stay out of those forested areas. It was not a restriction that said they couldn't go in. It was an appeal to them to stay out because of the extreme fire situation. And I am sure that some people have suffered inconvenience, Mr. Speaker. We regret that very much, but in our efforts to restrict, to lessen the possibility of further forest fire outbreaks, we have put restrictions in place and we have asked for people's co-operation.

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

MR. PARASIUK: In view of the fact that in every complaint I received, it was a Manitoba cottage owner who'd been in the area for some time, who had been asked by conservation officers to leave, while at the same time every one of these people noticed that the cars and campers allowed to stay in

the area all bore American licence plates, is it then the policy of this government to give preferential treatment to our recreational resources, owned by the people of Manitoba, to people outside of this country, while at the same time refusing access to those recreational resources to the people of Manitoba?

MR. RANSOM: Of course not, Mr. Speaker. But the honourable member is doing his best to find some kind of weakness in the fashion with which the government has been dealing with a forest fire situation that is more serious than anyone has ever experienced in the history of the province before. I am not saying that there haven't been some seemingly inconsistent applications of restrictions. It doesn't surprise me. But in cases where people have had bookings, for instance, to come to the province, they've had them for months, they may have travelled thousands of miles to get here, it is quite a different situation. If the local officer is convinced that there is no special danger in having them in there, it's possible that those sorts of decisions were made on the spot, Mr. Speaker, and I am sure that they are relatively isolated situations.

We regret that people have been inconvenienced in any way and as I said earlier, Mr. Speaker, the travel restrictions are being relaxed this afternoon, and I would ask anyone who is interested in the specific restrictions that will be in place henceforth, that they listen for details of that announcement later today.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Government House Leader.

HON. GERALD W. J. MERCIER (Osborne): Mr. Speaker, on May 29th, the Member for Elmwood asked me if I would take a look at the prescribed seating limits in the MLA's dining room and the number of chairs. I am advised by the manager of the Licence and Permit Department of the Liquor Control Commission that the manager requested permission to extend the licence and the Licencing Board on March 5th, 1979, approved the request and authorized a seating capacity of 144 persons in the main dining area. Inadvertently the posted seating capacity sign in the dining room was not amended and I am advised that either has been done or is in the process of being done.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rossmere.

MR. VIC SCHROEDER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A question to the Minister of Municipal Affairs. In view of the fact that several years ago his department suggested to the LGD of Alexander that if they wanted to trade their local government district administrator, they would be required to purchase his house, can he advise as to whether that is a stipulation with respect to the current transfer?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs.

MR. GOURLAY: No, that is not stipulated.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Wellington.

MR. BRIAN CORRIN: My question, Mr. Speaker, is for the Minister of Health. Has the Minister met with representatives of the Manitoba Optometric Society in order to discuss ways and means to resolve the current shortage of optometrists within our province? In this regard, Mr. Speaker, we note that there are only some 68 practitioners of optometry in the province as opposed to the recommended standard of 100.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Health.

MR. SHERMAN: Yes, Mr. Speaker, and my officials have also met with their counterparts in the other western provinces to discuss the whole challenge for western Canada where there is a similar situation in each of the western provinces.

MR. CORRIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In view of the fact that Manitoba has only 28 ophthalmologists rather than the recommended 40, has the government met with the Manitoba Medical Association to try and resolve what the head of that association's ophthalmological section has described as a crisis in eye care in the province?

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Speaker, I meet regularly with the current president of the Manitoba Medical Association and his top officials. Ophthalmology is certainly one of the specialities that is discussed and reviewed on an ongoing basis.

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

MR. CORRIN: Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that Canada's only school of optometry at the University of Windsor has only three places per year allocated for Manitoba students, and in view of the fact that 60 percent of our province's optometrists will be retiring within the next decade, can the Minister indicate what steps he plans to take in order to avert what the president of the Manitoba Optometric Society describes as a pending catastrophe with no solution in sight in this area?

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Speaker, we will either act unilaterally to deal with it, or we will act collectively with our western colleagues. The determination of that course rests on ongoing discussions that are taking place between the four western provinces at the Deputy Ministerial level right now with respect to optometry and some other health specialities.

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

MR. SAUL CHERNIACK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask a question of the Minister of Community Services, to ascertain whether or not he has developed and completed his development of the program for extension of day care as announced in the Budget Speech and the White Paper?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Community Services.

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HON. MR. GEORGE MINAKER (St. James): No, it has not been finished as yet, Mr. Speaker.

MR. CHERNIACK: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the same Minister whether he has yet developed the program relating to the Child-Related Income Support Program announced in the Budget Speech and in the White Paper?

MR. MINAKER: Mr. Speaker, that is presently being developed in conjunction with the Minister of Finance's Department.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for St. Johns with a final supplementary.

MR. CHERNIACK: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of Housing whether he has as yet developed his program dealing with the enriched SAFER Program referred to in the budget and in the White Paper?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Economic Development.

MR. JOHNSTON: It's being worked on, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Roblin.

MR. J. WALLY MCKENZIE: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Honourable Minister of Government Services. Mr. Speaker, it's been reported that the Saskatchewan Government Insurance Corporation suffered a loss of some 28.7 million last year. I wonder, could the Minister provide the members of this House the copy of their annual report?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Government Services.

HON. HARRY J. ENNS (Lakeside): Mr. Speaker, I do have the responsibility of providing all members of this House a copy of the annual report of our public insurance corporation. That isn't extended to the Saskatchewan one. I am aware of the subject matter that the Honourable Member for Roblin raises. I can perhaps provide him and those others who are interested with some summary of the Saskatchewan report.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Logan.

MR. WILLIAM JENKINS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Labour, and it deals with inspections of amusements rides. It is my understanding that McKay Amusement Ride Company from Spokane, Washington is presently appearing at the Unicity and propose to go to the St. Vital Shopping Centre and also to the Portage la Prairie Shopping Centre. It is also my understanding that this firm has not had a Manitoba inspection. Could the Minister explain why and when an inspection is anticipated of this amusement company, which is under his jurisdiction.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

MR. MacMASTER: I wasn't aware that they hadn't had an inspection and I'm not sure to date whether in fact they have or they haven't. I will get back to the Member for Logan as soon as I get that information, Mr. Speaker.

MR. JENKINS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My second question is to the Minister of Consumer Affairs. I think two weeks ago I raised with the Honourable Minister then a question that he promised he'd come back with an answer, which was regarding the enquiries that were made by the Banking Association of Canada with respect to the two newly-elected members of the House of Commons, namely the Member for Winnipeg Centre and the Member for Dauphin. I asked him at that time whether there had been a violation of any legislation here in Manitoba, and I wonder if the Minister has an answer at this time.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs.

HON. WARNER H. JORGENSON (Morris): Yes, Mr. Speaker, I am advised that there were no breaches or violations of The Personal Investigation Act in the sending out of that particular letter.

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

MR. JENKINS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At the same time, I also asked the Minister, and he took as notice, whether he would be able to find out whether there were personal dossiers on other Members of Parliament representing Manitoba ridings, and also whether there were personal dossiers on Members of this Legislative Assembly, and I wonder if the Minister has an answer at this time.

MR. JORGENSON: Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding that this is a normal practice of the part of the bank insofar as Members of Parliament are concerned, but I am also advised that there are no such files on the Members of the Manitoba Legislature.

While I am on my feet, Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I may also answer a question that was posed to me some time ago by the Member for Fort Rouge. I might also add that the Member for Minnedosa and the Member for Virden were enquiring about the same matter. That was in connection with an extension of an order of the Clean Environment Commission with respect to the building of a sewage facility in Minnedosa. The extension was granted by the Water Services Board because the original tender that had been allowed for the construction of that particular facility was somewhat in excess . . . there was only one bid and it was somewhat in excess of what the Water Services Board considered to be a reasonable price. The extension was granted, the bids were resubmitted, and the tenders closed a few weeks ago and construction will proceed this year so there will be no necessity for an extension of that time limit.

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

MR. CHERNIACK: Mr. Speaker, I would like to address a question to the First Minister. In view of the fact that the Minister of Community Services has not completed the development of his program relating to day care and to the CRISP Program, and in view of the fact that the Minister for Housing has not completed developing his program relating to the SAFER Program, can the First Minister indicate to the House why it is that he has published an advertisement in the daily newspapers inviting people to send in applications for a pamphlet dealing with the White Paper reforms, as indicated in the newspaper, which he no doubt has seen and which bears his name.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

HON. STERLING R. LYON (Charleswood): Mr. Speaker, my honourable friend, with his convenient lapse of memory, will recall, I am sure, when I reinvest his memory with this knowledge, that in the White Paper document, which was tabled at the time of the budget, there was a schedule given as to when each of the various programs would come into effect. The departments, as has been indicated by the various Ministers, are working on the detailed regulations for these programs. In the meantime we are, through the instrumentality of the advertisements to which he makes reference, advising the public of Manitoba that they can have access to a pamphlet, which is in preparation, to outline the major points of the proposals contained in the budget, which I am sure even my honourable friend will agree, targeted as they are on those in greatest need in this province, represent one of the largest steps forward in terms of helping the poor of this province that has been seen in many a long time.

MR. CHERNIACK: Mr. Speaker, in thanking the Minister for referring to my memory and indicating that two of the programs are not due to start until January next and one next September, may I ask the Minister how it is that he has been spending taxpayers' money for an advertisement inviting applications for a brochure which has not yet been made available, Mr. Speaker, and cannot be found in this building or in government's hands.

MR. LYON: Mr. Speaker, that brochure is in the course of preparation and will be sent out to all who ask for it to outline to them all of the indications of new programs made in the Budget Speech, which was only, what, some two, two-and-a-half weeks ago. I merely ask my honourable friend, Sir, through you, to conjure this situation. Had such a brochure been prepared in advance of the budget and somehow been distributed before the budget, then he would have been the first to have been on his feet complaining about a leak of the budget. It was prepared properly and with commonsense management, which I know is strange to him, after the budget. When it is ready, Mr. Speaker, it will be sent out to all people who ask for it, and I know it causes a great deal of discomfort and writhing among my honourable friends opposite for them to

realize that there are other people on the face of the earth beyond Socialists who have compassion and care for the poor.

MR. CHERNIACK: Mr. Speaker, I would invite you and request you to look at Hansard and see what was said by the First Minister, and bear in mind what your admonishments were yesterday, only yesterday, in regard to responses from the other side as well as questions.

Mr. Speaker, I would appreciate your doing that, just as you looked at the files of the Honourable the Minister for Economic Affairs.

Mr. Speaker, then may I ask the Honourable the First Minister, since the department was so precipitous in spending taxpayers' money to invite enquiries for brochures which have not yet been printed and for which there is no urgency because the program is long delayed and the programs have not been developed, would the First Minister indicate to the House and to the people of Manitoba what opportunities he is going to give for a public discussion of the White Paper as invited and stated in the White Paper, which says that further improvements or reforms may be suggested during public discussions of this White Paper. What plans are now available to make it possible to invite public discussion, and that's the word that I quote from the White Paper?

MR. LYON: Mr. Speaker, I will have to take a look at the particular line that my honourable friend has taken out of, or in context of the particular paragraph from which it appears. My recollection, Sir, would be that was with reference, I should say, Sir, to Education financing other things that were indicated in the report, but I will be happy to take a look at that sentence.

My understanding is, Mr. Speaker, that we had seven days of discussion during the Budget Speech Debate, and I don't know what — my honourable friend thinks he is here representing Karl Marx, that is fine. The rest of us, Mr. Speaker, are here representing the public of Manitoba, and I daresay that the discussion we have in this House is fairly important.

POINT OF PRIVILEGE

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for St. Johns on a point of privilege.

MR. CHERNIACK: Mr. Speaker, I raise this, not that I feel deeply wounded, but only to indicate to you, Mr. Speaker, that the Minister has now suggested that I represent Karl Marx whereas all the rest of the House represents the people of Manitoba. Mr. Speaker, I think it is time that the Minister was called upon to withdraw remarks of that kind and I think he should do so right now.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister on the point of privilege.

MR. LYON: Mr. Speaker, realizing what a tender heart my honourable friend from St. Johns has, I happily withdraw any reference to Karl Marx. He doesn't represent just Karl Marx in this House, he

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has a number of colleagues who also represent him, and I am the first to admit that they also try to represent the people of Manitoba, not too well, Mr. Speaker, but they try.

MR. CHERNIACK: Mr. Speaker, I want the First Minister to be given every opportunity to continue to cast these kinds of slurs, not only in this House but outside, and I want him, Mr. Speaker, once again to be called upon to withdraw the remarks he made not only about me, but about other members of the House as to whom they represent. Mr. Speaker, I invite him again to make the kind of speeches he has already made so as to show to the people of Manitoba the kind of person they have as the Leader of this government and of this province.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Order please. The time for question period having expired, we will proceed with Orders of the Day.

The Honourable Government House Leader.

MR. MERCIER: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Minister of Government Services that Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair and House resolve itself into a Committee to consider of 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 Virden in the Chair for the Department of Northern Affairs.

CONCURRENT COMMITTEES OF SUPPLY SUPPLY — NORTHERN AFFAIRS

MR. CHAIRMAN, Morris McGregor (Virden): I call the committee to order. We are starting on Resolution 116. I will call on the Minister; I think there were some unanswered questions hanging over from yesterday's session.

The Honourable Minister.

HON. DOUG GOURLAY (Swan River): Mr. Chairman, in response to a question that came up last night with respect to whether or not I had contacted the previous Minister of Northern Affairs with respect to funding for the current year to the MMF, there was a letter sent by Mr. MacMaster dated March 28, indicating the fourth quarter payment for the year ending March 31, 1980. He reminds Mr. Morrisseau that the funding for the grant has been transferred to the Department of Northern Affairs for the 1980-81 fiscal year. This is the only commitment that was made in writing from the previous Minister.

I have some figures for the number of communities that were self-administering, dating back to 1970-71. In that year, there were 19; the following year, 20; in 1972-73, 22. It was the same until 1976, with 22. In 1976-77 that changed to 23, and it has remained at 23.

I'll just go over that again. In 1970-71, there were 19; 1971-72, 20; in 1972-73, 22. It remained at 22

until 1976-77. In 1977-78, 23; then it dropped down to 21 in 1978-79; and it was 21 until now. It has increased to 23 and it is anticipated by the end of this year there will be 26.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Transcona.

MR. PARASIUK: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We are on 4.(a)(1), as a matter of fact.

MR. PARASIUK: This is Salaries and Wages for Agreements, Management and Co-ordination. I assume, then, that this group would be very involved in negotiating extensions to the Canada-Manitoba Northlands Agreement; this would be one group that would be involved in doing that.

I would like to ask the Minister, because I think this is probably the most appropriate time, to indicate when the first stage of the 15-year Canada-Manitoba Northlands Agreement expires. I believe it is the end of fiscal year 1980-81; that would be March 31 of this year.

MR. GOURLAY: That's correct. That's the first phase of the 15-year program.

MR. PARASIUK: That's phase one. Therefore, as of April 1, 1981, phase two, which presumably would be another five-year program; the second five-year program within a long-term 15-year agreement would then be launched.

Could the Minister indicate whether he is in a position at this stage to tell us, or to confirm to us and to commit to us, that the order of magnitude of federal-provincial programming with respect to these special long-term programs relating to northern development, especially for native people in northern Manitoba, will in fact be of the same order of magnitude, taking into account inflation — in fact we should have some increases — as is presently the case.

MR. GOURLAY: All I can say at this time is that the Minister of Finance for the province of Manitoba has had some discussions with the federal Minister responsible for DREE. Some discussions have taken place. We know that some type of program will be available for the next five years. We are not sure at this point as to the number of dollars or what format the next five-year program will take, at this point.

MR. PARASIUK: Since we have, in the Canada-Manitoba Northlands Agreement, something in the order of 25 million, and I think something in the order of 2 million for administration and 800,000 for Acquisition and Construction, we are basically speaking of yearly expenditures in the order of 28 million right now, through the Canada-Manitoba Northlands Agreement, for northern Manitoba development. Is that roughly the order of magnitude?

MR. GOURLAY: It is probably closer to 30 million.

MR. PARASIUK: 30 million per year, which I would argue, Mr. Chairperson, is probably a valid amount. We are talking about long-term development problems. That was recognized when the Canada-

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Manitoba Northlands Agreement was originally signed. That's why it was seen as being a 15-year agreement. It was decided at that time that since the problems of northerners, especially in northern Manitoba, are so severe and that the problems are structural, it would require a very definite, sincere, long-term commitment on the part of both federal and provincial governments to try and provide economic development and social and human resource adjustment and development of a long term nature. What staggers me is that we are not that far away from the time when we will have to begin the next five-year agreement, and the Minister is not in a position to tell us what that agreement will look like. Because if you have no idea of what it looks like at this particular stage of the negotiating process, you certainly will have no idea in about ten short months, because the process is such that it starts going into both Treasury Boards sometime about September, if in fact it's going to be in place by April 1st of next year, next fiscal year. And what I've heard from my Ottawa sources is that the provincial government is going to decrease the commitment to northern development under the Canada-Manitoba Northlands Agreement quite substantially next year, that there will be very little time, if any, for consultation with northern communities and with native groups in the north, as was committed in previous years, because nothing has taken place to date, and that that will be a tremendous blow to northern Manitoba.

Northern Manitoba to date has suffered tremendous blows by government cutbacks. I think that the people of northern Manitoba have reacted to this by, quite rightly, throwing out the federal Conservative MP for northern Manitoba, and I think that most people who have looked at that situation have acknowledged that the reason why Cecil Smith was turfed out by the voters is that there was a reaction to the cutbacks in northern programming by the Conservative government of Manitoba.

To compound the situation and to add to the misery in northern Manitoba, we find now, and I'm quite certain that the government will, indeed, cut back the program very drastically. That will be wrong. It will be a tremendous slap in the face to northerners. It will increase their cynicism of government opportunism and lack of concern. It will be the type of body blow to northern development which will be very difficult for any succeeding provincial government and succeeding generations in the north to recover from. And I say that that type of action would be a tragedy. It would take so much time, and really what it would do, it's not a matter of just forgetting about the north, because if you cut back on programming in the north, you will really add to the social and economic problems that we face in the inner city, because many people from the north don't have economic opportunities, don't have equality of opportunity up north, and that's one of the reasons why they are coming down to Winnipeg, ill-prepared to live in Winnipeg, seeking some type of life chance. And they aren't that prepared to get it here; they aren't that prepared to live in an urban milieu, and many of them end up on skid row, many of them end up in our corrections institutes. We talk about it here and we moan about it, and we don't have enough programs in the inner core to deal with that problem, but surely, the key thing we have to do

is to try and establish the economic development and social development programs in the north so that northerners, who I believe really sincerely wish to stay in the north, to live in the north, to live out their full lives in the north, have the opportunity there and aren't forced by economic circumstances to come to the south, ill-prepared to seek a better living condition here.

That is what's going on, and that's one of the reasons why Northlands was established. It was recognized that this was a very, very difficult set of problems to overcome and that it would take a long time to overcome them, and that's why the 15-year agreement was put in place.

Now, what concerns me is that we've got a provincial abdication shaping up because the Minister isn't in a position to indicate what the future programming will be in northern Manitoba, and if you're talking about five-year programs, surely you should be able to do that. And secondly, I believe that we are getting some type of concurrence for opportunistic purposes, by the federal government, to this switch. Up until a little while ago, my sources in Ottawa told me that the DREE officials were quite concerned about this lack of interest in northern development by the provincial government. They thought and they knew that within a year there would be a tremendous shortfall in DREE spending in Manitoba, because no spending would take place in the north, which takes up 30 million per year, and they were concerned. Some bureaucrats are always concerned about their budgets; they want to protect their budgets and they felt it was important to continue the northern program.

Well, what's happened in the last little while is that Lloyd Axworthy's gotten into the scene and he is now recognizing that there will be this surplus of DREE funds in Manitoba because of decreased expenditure in northern Manitoba, which I say is wrong, and he has moved in opportunistically, and he has made a number of fairly grandiose announcements with respect to committing DREE funding in the city of Winnipeg.

Now, my position is that I want DREE funding in the city of Winnipeg. From 1970 to 1977, I tried to negotiate to get DREE to put money in the city of Winnipeg, to recognize that there were serious problems with the inner core, to recognize that a lot of those problems were human problems and that required a pretty strong injection of funds geared to eliminating regional disparities to try and deal with that problem. They refused at that particular time. Now I find that they are making commitments of supposedly up to 60 million, possibly something in the order of 30 million in DREE funding. It's not quite sure. We've not been able to get a clear answer from the provincial Minister of Urban Affairs, who was at the joint conference with the federal Minister of Immigration and the federal Minister of the Department of Regional Economic Expansion when these commitments were made.

But my concern is that Axworthy is making these commitments at the expense of northern Manitoba. My concern is that Peter, the North, will be robbed to pay Paul, the city of Winnipeg, and my suggestion, and my firm conviction, is that it is very important to have that level and quality of programming continue in northern Manitoba that has continued to date. We

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have to guarantee that we, as a society, are prepared to put something in the order of 30 million or 35 million of Northlands Development, protected for a future 10-year period, per year, into the north, taking into account, inflation, and then at the same time what is required is a further injection of federal money matched by provincial input to deal with the particular problems of the city of Winnipeg; and if it is the intention of the federal government to somehow save face with respect to the rail relocation issue and take money that they knew the province wasn't going to use, or didn't want to use in northern Manitoba, to funnel it into Winnipeg, that would be a despicable devious scheme. It would, in fact, hurt those people who can least protect themselves, the northerners who often have a very great difficulty coming down here and making their problems known to the public, having their concerns heard and having their problems dealt with.

What I would like to get from the Minister is a firm commitment that DREE money being spent in northern Manitoba, as part of a 15-year program, will not be diverted from northern Manitoba to the city of Winnipeg; that there will be a commitment by this government, which would be honoured by future governments, because we, I think, believe sincerely in northern development; that The Northlands Agreement, which is a 15-year agreement, will be honoured at the present order of magnitude taking into account inflation; and that DREE announcements regarding injections of federal DREE funding into the City of Winnipeg or for Tourism development, or for grants to businessmen in southern Manitoba, will not come at the expense of northern programming, which this Minister is responsible for when we talk about The Canada-Manitoba Northlands Agreement which is carried in this particular Budget appropriation; that is the type of commitment I want from this Minister, that he, as the Minister of Northern Development; that he, as the Minister responsible for The Canada-Manitoba Northlands Agreement, will not let federal funds be diverted to other areas of Manitoba because he recognizes that the problems are long-term and require a 15-year commitment. If he is prepared to make that commitment, then I think we can then talk to other Ministers like the Minister of Urban Affairs, like the First Minister, like the Finance Minister, and insure that they recognize the commitment of the Minister of Northern Affairs to northern development and that they honour that commitment; and that, therefore, they press the federal government that when it makes announcements that it is going to put injections of new federal money into Winnipeg or into rural Manitoba, it is doing so because it recognizes the problems of the inner core as being another set of specific particular problems that does require a fresh injection of federal money in order to try and deal with them. That is very important, that to me is the most critical item facing us through the remainder of these three items, which all relate to The Canada-Manitoba Northlands Agreement. I think that what we need is a very strong clear statement from the Minister that the order of magnitude of funding in northern Manitoba under The Canada-Manitoba Northlands Agreement will be the same next year as it is this year, and that his government is fully committed to a five-year program of

economic and social development primarily geared to indigenous northerners in order to deal with the problems that exist up there. I hope the Minister is in position to give that to us right now.

MR. GOURLAY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When I entered this portfolio back last November, one of the concerns that I was faced with was the fact that the Northland Agreement was quickly running out, and in fact the first five-year program expires March 31st, 1981. Several meetings had been arranged just at the time when the previous federal government was defeated and so meetings with the DREE Minister of the day didn't take place as was hoped for in early December.

I realize and appreciate the time is running out, however, I am still optimistic that a new agreement will be in place as soon as possible, and as I indicated earlier, our Minister of Finance has been in touch with the Minister of DREE and we are hoping to have further meetings set up within the next few weeks to optimistically get a new program in place.

I share the view of the Member for Transcona that northern development is very important and certainly I plan to not lessen the effort into the north, but to increase it. We have worked on some budgets aiming at some 208 million for the northland program, which would probably not, taking into account the inflation factor, would probably not do any more than we have done in the past five years.

Further to that, we are also looking at a longer-term agreement than five years, five years is not very long when you are taking long-range programs of development in northern Manitoba, and we are hoping that we can reach an agreement on a 10-year program. I don't know just how this will be received by the federal people, but certainly the 10 years would give us more time to develop longer-range programs for northern development.

I am sure that the federal government would agree with the statements made here today that they are not prepared to slap the faces of northerners by cutting back on funding that would be earmarked for projects in the north. The discussions that will take place in the next few weeks will be strongly bargained for by this Minister and other Ministers in the Cabinet to ensure that we get our fair share for northern development in hopefully the next 10-year program.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Member for Transcona.

MR. PARASIUK: Mr. Chairperson, my fears aren't ameliorated by the remarks of the Minister for Northern Affairs. The government has been in office now for over two and a half years, it is in part excusable for this Minister to say, well, I have just come onto the portfolio and I haven't had a chance to put the wheels in motion to develop comprehensive long-range detailed programs for negotiating with the federal government, but it certainly is inexcusable for his predecessor, and for the government of this day, that they would have so callously disregarded the north, to let the situation just fall apart as badly as they have.

There have been many many strong approaches to this government by communities in the north, by

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organizations in the north, saying, let us participate in the planning process, so that our needs can be better defined and better dealt with, and that isn't happening. Obviously, the Minister now is confirming that cannot happen, that the programming will be rushed if, in fact, it takes place at all.

So what we have now is a situation where this government will indeed be slapping the northerners in the face by turning their backs on them completely in the planning and programming function for the next year, and that is happening, and the Minister, in fact, has been saying that he will be hard-pressed to meet the April 1st deadline.

So I hold the government responsible for that. I do believe that they aren't taking a hard position with Ottawa. My sources in Ottawa say that the funds indeed were running out after 1981, April 1st, 1981, that indeed there was an amount of money available that could be used for other purposes. As a result, other provinces were looking around; the federal Minister of Immigration has moved in. I think it is important for us to get a clear commitment from the government, from both the provincial government and the federal government, that northern programming will not be robbed by either government for purposes of political expediency.

We should recognize that the problems of the inner city are very real and therefore we should deal with that issue as a separate issue, a new issue. If it requires funding, fine, we have to seek other sources for it but, surely, it would be wrong and it would be tragic if we robbed the north to pay for that and that is the major concern I have. I know the logistics of government programming and spending: If the funds appear to be lapsing they'll be diverted and if no programs are in place next year they will be diverted. I think the Minister of Immigration may be gambling on that. I hope that is not the case. I hope that he will insure that there is fresh funding coming into Manitoba to back his commitments that he is making to the city of Winnipeg, and I think this is a matter of major and serious concern. And it should be not only to northerners, it should be to us all, because we surely must believe that the people of the north deserve a fair chance, deserve equality of opportunity and indeed, in order to insure that, we have to do extra things to ensure that that takes place.

I wonder if my colleagues have any comments on that, but I have tremendous concerns about this in terms of shifts of money. But I think there must be tremendous concerns that exist with respect to the whole question of whether northern groups, northern people, northern communities, will get any opportunity to get involved in a planning process to try and better shape the programs that might deal with their needs; given the time constraints, that doesn't seem to be the case.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: 4.(a)(1)—pass — the Member for Churchill.

MR. COWAN: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairperson. We do have a number of questions in regard to specifics as well as generalities, reference to Northland. I'd like to ask the Minister right now if he can table before us the annual report for the 1978-79 year. I note that we have gotten in the past progress

reports for 1977-78 and also for 1976-77, but there has not to date been any report tabled in regards to 1978-79. As the materials contained in those reports are important to our discussions here today, I'd ask the Minister if he could provide copies to us?

MR. GOURLAY: I understand that those copies are not available to us yet. They will probably be another couple of months.

MR. COWAN: I would ask the Minister then if that is not unusual that copies for the year 1978-79 would not be available at this time? Is that out of keeping with past practice in regard to the timing of the presentation of those reports?

MR. GOURLAY: I understand that this is the usual timing for this publication to come out, which will be around August.

MR. COWAN: Well perhaps the Minister then can indicate what materials were used at the last annual review of Northlands that is supposed to be held every year before September 1st, in regard to analysing the activities of the program over the previous year and in regard to being able to provide some insight into how those activities should continue in the upcoming year.

MR. GOURLAY: Usually the annual review of materials provided by the various departments.

MR. COWAN: Would the Minister then be able to provide those materials to us?

MR. GOURLAY: The review that is provided in September is for the year coming up.

MR. COWAN: Would the Minister then be willing to provide those materials for us?

MR. GOURLAY: It would appear that the publications that are available have already been tabled, unless there are some specific items that you are missing.

MR. COWAN: Would the Minister indicate so I can check with my files as to specifically which reports have been tabled in regard to the analysis of individual projects and community activities under the Northlands Agreement?

MR. GOURLAY: I've been informed that the progress reports, if this is what you are requesting, will be available, but not for another couple of months.

MR. COWAN: Mr. Chairperson, according to the agreement dated September 15th, 1976, the subsidiary agreement between Manitoba and the federal government in regard to Northland, Section 9 says that A progress report shall be submitted by the joint managers to the principal Ministers on or before the annual meeting of the Ministers, as prescribed under Sub-section 9(1) and Section 10 of the GDA. I would ask the Minister if he has received that progress report.

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MR. GOURLAY: That's the progress report that we are talking about, which will not be available for another couple of months.

MR. COWAN: I would ask the Minister then which progress report they used for last year's annual meeting.

MR. GOURLAY: It would be the 1977-78 progress report.

MR. COWAN: So in fact they're working, Mr. Chairperson, on a one-year time lag in reference to reviewing the specific projects that have been undertaken via the Northlands Agreement; is that not correct?

MR. GOURLAY: That's right, and nothing has changed; this was the same with the previous administration.

MR. COWAN: Is the Minister satisfied that they in fact at that annual review at that annual meeting can in fact review the activities of the different communities during the previous year and also try to determine long range goals as well as short-term goals, using reports that are outdated at the very onset by at least one year?

MR. GOURLAY: Well, I would agree that it would certainly be to an advantage to have more current information.

MR. COWAN: Then does the Minister have, by way of specific documents or by way of information from his staff, an updating of those reports and activities before he goes into that annual meeting?

MR. GOURLAY: No.

MR. COWAN: I am sorry, if I could ask the other committee member to put his briefcase down at the front there, so I can . . . That's okay now. I missed what the Minister had said on that last one, Mr. Chairperson. Perhaps he could . . .

MR. GOURLAY: I am not sure what you had asked.

MR. COWAN: What I had asked the Minister, Mr. Chairperson, was had he been updated as to specific activities that had taken place during the past year before going into that annual meeting, by either specific documentation or by staff reports.

MR. GOURLAY: Mr. Chairman, each department is supplied by reports so that they know what is going on.

MR. COWAN: So each department supplied those reports to the Minister, Mr. Chairperson, so that he would know what was going on when he attended that meeting; is that a correct interpretation of what I have been told?

MR. GOURLAY: Each department supplies me with the program that they are involved with, but the progress reports as such would not be available at this time.

MR. COWAN: The Minister has indicated that each department, under the on-line departments, provides him with information as to the programs that are currently being undertaken under the direction of that department. I would ask the Minister if, in that document, they also provide the Minister with an analysis of how the program is going, recommendations as to what changes should be made, any sort of indication as to any problems that might be experienced so that the Minister then can take those concerns forward and discuss them with the appropriate persons at the annual meeting.

MR. GOURLAY: Yes, the types of things you are mentioning is an ongoing procedure and not something that just happens at one point in the year.

MR. COWAN: So the Minister then is in fact receiving ongoing reports as to the progress of each of the activities taking place under the Northlands Agreement; am I correct in that assumption?

MR. GOURLAY: Yes.

MR. COWAN: I would ask the Minister, Mr. Chairperson, then, what happens to those reports once they reach his hands?

MR. GOURLAY: These are reviewed and discussed with other Ministers and handled as required.

MR. COWAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. It has just been brought to my attention, and perhaps we can revert back to it for one moment, and I'm reading now from the Canada-Manitoba Northlands Agreement 1976-81 Progress Report for the Year 1977-78. It says that the first annual progress report covering programming for 1976-77 was published in the Fall of 1977. If that is the case, and the Minister indicated that was not the case in his statements and I would hope he would take this opportunity either to correct this written document or to correct his statements earlier, but if that is the case, then one would have to assume that the report for 1978-79 would have been presented at the Fall meeting of 1979. Was that not the case, as it would appear according to this, Mr. Chairperson?

MR. GOURLAY: There seems to be maybe some confusion on our part regarding the documents we are talking about. I can take this under advisement and report back this evening on it.

MR. COWAN: I'm not certain, Mr. Chairperson, whether we will be on this item this evening or not, but I would appreciate the reporting back, and we can carry it further under the Minister's Salary, if necessary. There is some confusion and I would just hope that the confusion that is at that end of the table would not be foisted upon this end of the table, because it is rather important that we do understand fully the activities that are taking place in regard to the Northlands Agreement.

The Minister indicated that once he got those progress reports, that they were then reviewed by his staff. What happens to them at that point?

MR. GOURLAY: Appropriate action is taken with them.

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MR. COWAN: Are those reports made public in any respect, Mr. Chairperson?

MR. GOURLAY: No, they are not.

MR. COWAN: I would ask the Minister if he is aware that under Section 8 of the Agreement, entitled Public Information and Participation — I almost said Participation there for a moment — under Public Information and Participation, it reads: In order to encourage the participation of northern people in the development initiatives described in this agreement, Canada and the province agree to ensure that information regarding past performance, the purpose and objectives, progress and future directions of all initiatives under this Agreement shall be made available regularly to the people of northern Manitoba.

I would ask the Minister if the reports that are being presented to him, and are at this point the only reports that we have or that we know of that are being made with regard to recent activities, are not being presented to the public, is that not in fact a breach of that particular section of the Agreement?

MR. GOURLAY: Reports are made available to the public and to each community.

MR. COWAN: But those are not the reports that the Minister is receiving; is that correct?

MR. GOURLAY: Those are annual reports that are provided.

MR. COWAN: Then I would ask the Minister if he can confirm that those annual reports are outdated as of the present time; in other words, the last one that we have is 1977-78, and we were told by the Minister not to expect one for several months now. Is that not a fact?

MR. GOURLAY: 1977-78 is the last one that is available. 1978-79 is going to print and should be available in two months.

MR. COWAN: The Minister indicates that it is going to print. Is it going to print right now?

MR. GOURLAY: I understand that this report of 1978-79 has been delayed because of the third-year review, and maybe normally it would have been out sooner.

MR. COWAN: That is interesting, Mr. Chairperson, because now the Minister is saying something contradictory to what he said before. Before he said that the procedures were being followed perfectly, as they have been in the past, and now he is telling us that, well, perhaps in this instance it is an extraordinary situation and the report has been delayed.

I find that interesting, but I would ask the Minister the specific question that I addressed to him before and that is, is this report currently going to press at this time, as he indicated just a moment ago?

MR. GOURLAY: I understand within a couple of weeks.

MR. COWAN: I would ask the Minister to be more explicit in his detailing of the status of that report. Has that report been drafted?

MR. GOURLAY: Yes.

MR. COWAN: Is that draft in final form?

MR. GOURLAY: It's in its final form except for a few final word corrections.

MR. COWAN: Well, in order to enable this committee to more fully review the estimates of the Minister in regard specifically to Northlands Agreement, is the Minister prepared to xerox a copy of that report and present it to this committee on the basis that we understand that it is in draft form only and that we do not take it as a completed report?

MR. GOURLAY: Apparently, I'm not at liberty to do that.

MR. COWAN: I'd ask the Minister why he's not at liberty to do that, then?

MR. GOURLAY: It's a federal-provincial agreement, and the agreement is that it will come out in its final printed form.

MR. COWAN: I would like the Minister to point out in this report where it says it will come out in its final printed form and where it says that members of the Legislative Assembly, and in particular, members of Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition shall not have access to that report in order to competently and completely and fully review the proceedings under the Northlands Agreement.

I'd like the Minister to answer this question if he will, and that is, does he not believe that being able to have that report before us now during these estimates procedures would enable us to more fully examine the Minister's activities under this particular section and thereby perform a greater service, not only to our constituents but to his constituents, because the Northlands Agreement does in fact, affect many areas, and that we would in that way be able to improve upon our role as both opposition and government? Would he agree with that statement?

MR. GOURLAY: The decision to table the reports in their final printed form is a decision made by the joint managers.

MR. COWAN: I would ask the Minister to answer my question though. Would it not enable us to better perform our function if we had that report here?

MR. GOURLAY: It probably would, although we could have been in estimates two months ago, too.

MR. COWAN: I'd just suggest to the Minister we could have had the report two months ago, too. So the fact is that we are not, in fact, able to, as fully as we should be able to, investigate and examine these estimates because of procedures that the Minister has finally admitted to are extraordinary and procedures that are not in keeping with past

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practices, and procedures which I suggest will act to the detriment of northerners.

So having seen that, I am now certain that we will be here until 4:30, because we are going to have to go through the progress report, community by community, in order to update ourselves as to what is happening in special areas. I'm not saying we will have to examine every project, because that would be far too lengthy a procedure and I'm certain that it's not necessary, but there have been some changes that have been made that are going to have profound impact and therefore, I believe we should, as members of Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition and as members of the government, review them at least briefly in order to acquaint ourselves with developments that have taken place during the previous year.

The Minister mentioned earlier that the Canada-Manitoba Northlands Agreement progress report for 1978-79 had been, in fact, delayed because they had completed a third review, 1979. I have that review before me, and I'd like to ask the Minister a couple of questions but I see he wishes to answer . . .

MR. GOURLAY: Just to clarify a couple of points, the publication that's coming out in August, this coming August, will be for 1978-79, and the 1979-80 would not be available until next year some time.

MR. COWAN: When would the 1979-80 be available next year? When does the Minister anticipate that report being tabled?

MR. GOURLAY: I understand that it could be available as early as January, 1981.

MR. COWAN: So in fact, the 1978-79 will be, if we can use that January date as a basis, will be approximately seven months late. Is that not correct?

MR. GOURLAY: Yes, it would be approximately seven months after the end of the fiscal year.

MR. COWAN: But it will be seven months after when one would normally expect the report to be tabled. Is that correct?

MR. GOURLAY: I wouldn't expect that they would be able to table the report immediately after the end of the fiscal year. It would take some time to tabulate the information.

MR. COWAN: Well, we'll go back to the points we were trying to proceed upon. I think we've examined, as much as we can, the delay in the reporting mechanism. We're on the record as suggesting that that delay is inappropriate, so I would ask the Minister, according to his third year review, Page 2, it states that, in the first paragraph, that the Ministers responsible for the agreement decided that the review of the surface transportation program, to be effective, would have to be done in light of progress in the other ten programs and of current circumstances in Manitoba's north. That would indicate that there was, in fact, an extensive review of the other ten programs that were undergone before this third year review was written. Can the Minister indicate if that was a fact, and can he also

provide us with documentation as to that review of the other ten programs?

MR. GOURLAY: This third year review was tabled a year ago, and it involved the complete review of the program at the time.

MR. COWAN: In that same paragraph, it states They, and they as speaking to the Ministers, agreed that it was essential to ensure that the review encompassed a process of a consultation, not only with the various agencies involved in funding or delivering programs under the agreement but, more particularly, with northern residents and organizations. I would ask the Minister if he could table a list of meetings that were held between northern organizations and northern residents in regard to discussing this third year review.

MR. GOURLAY: I can get that and have it sent out. It's not available right now.

MR. COWAN: The Minister indicated that he can get it and have it sent out to me. I've heard that before in the estimates and I always get it after the estimates. I'm wondering if we could have it by this evening.

MR. GOURLAY: I'll try and have that here this evening.

MR. COWAN: I would appreciate the Minister's efforts in that regard.

On Page 5 of the report, under Sector A, Resources and Community Economic Development, Number 3, it says, The original allocation of 5 million will be expanded to 14.9 million by transfer of funds from other sectors. Can the Minister indicate which sectors those funds will be transferred from? Or can he point me to a portion of the book where that information might be available in table form?

MR. GOURLAY: If you can refer to Page 8.

MR. COWAN: The Minister has indicated that we can find details as to those changes in allocations on Page 8.

MR. GOURLAY: There's a table there, Page 8.

MR. COWAN: It says under Program 3, Sector A, Resource Development Employment that the original allocation was zero dollars, and that the revised allocations recommended by the review was 8,125,000.00. Can the Minister indicate primarily where that 8 million will be spent?

MR. GOURLAY: Parks and Forestry.

MR. COWAN: I'm sorry, I missed the second part of the Minister's answer — Parks and . . . ?

MR. GOURLAY: Forestry.

MR. COWAN: And Forestry. Can the Minister then indicate what specific programs are planned in regard to that sector and how many jobs, permanent full-time jobs, will be created by the expenditure of 8,125,000.00?

MR. GOURLAY: We don't have that information available right now and it would probably take about a couple of days to provide it for you. We would be pleased to do that.

MR. COWAN: I'm glad to hear the Minister will be pleased to do that and I understand the difficulty in providing that on the spur of the moment and will eagerly await detailing of that particular allocation, because I believe it to be important.

You know, one has to — if I can just sidetrack for one moment — one has to, when reviewing the Northlands Agreement, remember that one of the primary purposes of it was to provide jobs, permanent full-time jobs, for northern persons. That was decided upon because of the need that we have witnessed and we have been able to document in the north for those types of jobs. If I can just read from Page 17, Schedule A of the Canada-Manitoba Northlands Subsidiary Agreement, it says: To provide adequate levels of income and employment in remote communities, some 3,500 jobs must be created in 1976, with the job gap growing to 7,000 by 1981, unless positive action is taken.

Since we are now close to that 1981 date, I would ask the Minister if he can indicate how many full-time permanent jobs have been created as a result of the expenditures of money under the Northlands Agreement, in general terms? I'm not asking him for a detailed community-by-community, but I would ask him, in general terms, how many have been created? And also, to break it down just a bit further, which I feel is a legitimate question, I would ask the Minister to indicate how many of those jobs, in fact, went to persons residing in northern Manitoba previous to their job?

MR. GOURLAY: We don't have that information available right now and it might take a few weeks to provide that, but we can do that for you.

MR. COWAN: Again, Mr. Chairperson, I would appreciate the Minister providing that material to us as early as possible and I again understand that there might be some delay in putting it together, and look forward to receiving it within a number of weeks.

On Page 6, Sector C, Transportation and Communication, the report indicates, The strategy for the surface transportation program be adjusted to allow for the strengthening of regional roads, while continuing to pursue the remote access objectives through a combination of surface and air modes.

I would ask the Minister if there is in fact any intent to pursue the remote access objectives, if there are any programs that are in place now that will enable access to communities, remote communities, that do not already have such access under this particular section?

MR. GOURLAY: All of the projects that were listed under the terms of the Remote Agreement will be fulfilled. One such example is the road that is being completed into Cross Lake at the present time.

MR. COWAN: Yes, these are all projects that have been onstream for some time. I'd ask the Minister if there are any new projects that are anticipated in

regard to providing surface access to remote communities. In other words, the road to Cross Lake was not intended originally to end at Cross Lake, that there was supposed to be an entire network built throughout the north in regard to surface roads and that each community led to a different community, or many of the communities led to a different community, and that the roads were intended to be continued.

I would ask the Minister if his government is still pursuing that objective and what roads they have planned in regard to connecting up communities that are not already serviced by surface roads.

MR. GOURLAY: We are working on that and it is part of the negotiations taking place on the next 5-year or 10-year agreement.

MR. COWAN: So there are, in fact, right now no other roads anticipated by the Minister in regard to this particular section?

MR. GOURLAY: Actually, we are anticipating many more under the new Agreement.

MR. COWAN: But the Minister cannot tell me at this time where those roads would go or when they should be completed. In other words, perhaps anticipation was a wrong word, there are no roads that the Minister can document where commitments have been made in regard to extending this access to remote communities by surface modes of transportation?

MR. GOURLAY: That would be available during the next set of estimates.

MR. COWAN: I certainly hope it is available during the next estimates. I'm not certain that I share the Minister's optimism, and that's because I have been talking to people who are intimately involved in reviewing the Northlands Agreement and reviewing the work of the government in regard to negotiating and reviewing the work of the government in regard to applying themselves to the original objectives of the Northlands Agreement, and they too are somewhat discouraged and disappointed.

So I hope that the Minister's enthusiasm will win out over what seems to be some very realistic attitudes and opinions that are coming from people that have informed me that they are intimately involved in reviewing what has been done.

I would ask the Minister if he can indicate where Emergency Evacuation Services, according to Section 4 of Sector C, are not adequate as of the present.

MR. GOURLAY: This report covers the first three years and this publication was out a year ago. The remaining two years, the upgrading of the Emergency Evacuation Services will be completed, hopefully by the Department of Highways.

MR. COWAN: If you look at the next section on Page 7, it says that the original remote airstrip improvement allocation of 9.2 million will be reduced to 7.4 million, with the residual transferred to Sector A, and Sector A, of course, being Resources and

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Community Economic Development. Can the Minister indicate which projects have been stopped as a result of that 1.8 million reduction in the Remote Airstrip Improvement Program.

MR. GOURLAY: No projects have been stopped. The 9.2 million budgeted was not required to do all the work.

MR. COWAN: So the Minister is indicating that within two years every community in northern Manitoba will have adequate emergency evacuation services by airstrip?

MR. GOURLAY: I guess it depends on what is meant by the definition of the word adequate, but what was proposed under this Agreement will be completely done.

MR. COWAN: Then there is no intention on the part of the Minister to expand this program if it came to his attention that there were other proposals that were not anticipated initially that are not being met?

MR. GOURLAY: We had planned to continue it under the new Agreement.

MR. COWAN: I would ask the Minister then to go on to Page 13 of the report. We have a number of programs listed on the bottom of the page. I would ask the Minister if he can give us some indication, and I'll read the list off, as to the status of these programs: No. 1 is Special ARDA; is it continuing and is it continuing at a level of activity that it has seen in the past number of years?

MR. GOURLAY: Yes, it is.

MR. COWAN: The Wild Fur Agreement? The same questions, Mr. Chairperson.

MR. GOURLAY: This part is being handled under the Department of Natural Resources.

MR. COWAN: Is the program continuing?

MR. GOURLAY: Yes. I wouldn't want to comment as to what stage it is at. It is handled under that department.

MR. COWAN: I realize, as we go through this list, we are going to run into areas that are handled under other departments, but as the Minister is the co-ordinating Minister in this regard, I would hope that he could get the information for us in either letter form — I don't expect him to have it by the time his estimates end — but if he would forward it to us at his earliest convenience.

The Indian Economic Development Fund, can the Minister report as to the status of that?

MR. GOURLAY: We don't have anything to do with the Indian Economic Development Fund, that's administered under the Department of Indian Affairs.

MR. COWAN: Would you not discuss that at your annual meeting, Mr. Chairperson?

MR. GOURLAY: No.

MR. COWAN: I would imagine then I would receive the same answer for the Indian Agricultural Program?

MR. GOURLAY: That's right.

MR. COWAN: I would ask the Minister, in regard to the CEDF, the Community Economic Development Fund, if that is operating at the same level as previously?

MR. GOURLAY: Well, we had a good discussion in the Economic Development Committee with respect to CEDF and there will be further discussions with respect to the development agencies that deal specifically with the operational moneys of the CEDF.

MR. COWAN: As the Minister knows full well, that in that particular discussion there were some very serious concerns raised, I believe by the Member for Rupertsland, and I'm certain he would like to pursue those during these estimates procedures to try to develop, in his own mind, where the Minister stands with regard to changes in procedures that have been implemented under his administration, so I will allow that item to go until such a time as the Member for Rupertsland has the floor.

I would ask the Minister about the next program, SNEP, the Special Northern Native Employment Program, can he indicate the status of that program?

MR. GOURLAY: The SNEP Program was transferred to CEDF.

MR. COWAN: So in fact the SNEP Program no longer exists. Would that be a correct interpretation of the situation as it stands today?

MR. GOURLAY: That's right.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 4.(a) — the Member for Churchill.

MR. COWAN: The Member for Transcona says that it was transferred, and I think that would be the more appropriate way to describe the torturous process that SNEP has undergone, that there is no money left and that it in fact has not been transferred as a program to CEDF, but rather the Minister is hoping that CEDF will take up the slack, and of course CEDF can't take up the slack, given the torturous changes that CEDF has undergone as a result of the Minister's changes in policy.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister is wanting to interject here.

MR. GOURLAY: I would like to correct the Member for Churchill. There were SNEP funds transferred to CEDF, half million dollars, as a matter of fact.

MR. COWAN: Are there any staff for the program, Special Northern Native Employment Program?

MR. GOURLAY: No.

MR. COWAN: I didn't think there were, Mr. Chairperson.

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The Manitoba Agricultural Credit Corporation, can the Minister indicate the status of that?

MR. GOURLAY: That's handled under the Department of Agriculture.

MR. COWAN: Is it still proceeding as it was intended to at the levels of activity that one would have anticipated.

MR. GOURLAY: It is still operating, I am not sure as to the level.

MR. COWAN: The report on Page 19 indicates that local consultation, second paragraph, Local consultation process began by inviting written submissions, followed by meetings with various interest groups. This leads from a question I had asked earlier from the Minister and I would like to just elaborate upon it, and ask him for further information.

It says that, The intent of this process was to attain local views and attitudes and the objectives and implementation of the agreement, and to discuss proposed directions for the last two years of the agreement. It is indicated in the report that written submissions and letters were received from the Northern Association of Community Councils, the Manitoba Metis Federation, the Northern Manitoba Commercial Fisheries Association, and that meetings were held with the Manitoba Indian Brotherhood, the MMF Executive, the MMF Thompson Regional Representatives, 3 regional sessions with NACC communities, and the Interlake Reserves Development Council (the Interlake Indian Chiefs).

Would the Minister be prepared to table the letters that were written in regard to the submissions and letters that were written in regard to requests from his department, and also table minutes of the meetings that were held in order to discuss options for the next two years, and also to discuss opinions that were presented by the different organizations in regard to how the Manitoba Northlands Agreement was functioning to date?

MR. GOURLAY: Mr. Chairman, this is a summary of all those meetings and submissions.

MR. COWAN: Yes, but the reports themselves, the submissions and letters are a summary of the individual organizations and individual's feelings. This is a summary that is presented to us by the federal and provincial governments. I would like to see firsthand what the first line parties had to say about how this agreement has been working and what they perceive for the next number of years, so I would ask the Minister again if he would be prepared to table the information that I just requested.

MR. GOURLAY: I understand that we could provide these; it would take some xeroxing and that to — we'll get them for you.

MR. COWAN: Again, I understand that there might be some time delay and appreciate the fact that xeroxing has to be undertaken and don't wish to rush the Minister, but hope that he will do a complete and thorough job.

Also, on the next paragraph it says, Several meetings resulted in requests for smaller regional sessions, which were also held . . . If he could, at a later date, detail when and where those were held?

On Page 20, Part 6, it says, One organization expressed a desire to deliver some programs under the agreement. I wonder if the Minister could elaborate upon that and tell us which organization it was, and what the results of their request happened to be.

MR. GOURLAY: I understand the MMF had requested the delivery of this program but the province felt that they wished to do this through the province.

MR. COWAN: So it was the Manitoba Metis Federation that, in fact, had suggested that they might be able to deliver the program, and it was the province that had denied them that request. I would ask the Minister the reasons for such a denial.

MR. GOURLAY: To correct the earlier statement I made, some of the programs apparently are being delivered by the MMF, such as the Relocation Program in Thompson.

MR. COWAN: Is that the only program that is being delivered by the MMF?

MR. GOURLAY: We think probably that is the only program under this Northlands Agreement.

MR. COWAN: Could the Minister provide us with an opinion as to how the MMF is delivering that service, what his attitudes are towards it, and whether or not he believe they are doing a capable job and whether or not he believes that perhaps there may be room for added activity of this nature in the future?

MR. GOURLAY: I might add that program comes under the Minister of Labour, but I have had the opportunity to inquire of the Minister regarding that program and he feels that it has worked out real well.

MR. COWAN: Did the Minister of Labour not indicate to the Minister of Northern Affairs that from time to time he might have been dissatisfied with specific details of that program?

MR. GOURLAY: No, I don't recall him mentioning any concerns. As far as what he indicated to me, the program had worked quite well.

MR. COWAN: Is that program then continuing?

MR. GOURLAY: Yes.

MR. COWAN: Is that program then continuing at levels that it has worked under in the past? In other words, by that I mean staffing levels and also the number of individuals that are being serviced by the program.

MR. GOURLAY: I couldn't be specific on the actual level as to the delivery of that program. I have the

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feeling that it remains constant, but I wouldn't want to be certain on that point.

MR. COWAN: I would hope that the Minister could report back to me in that regard as to that specific program and if he can table any progress reports on that program, as well as documentation that might be of a public nature.

MR. GOURLAY: Well, this is a program under the Department of Labour. I am not sure that I can fulfill all the requests, if I start taking one side; there could be numerous programs to co-ordinate, and those are handled under specific departments.

MR. COWAN: That, in fact, Mr. Chairperson, is one of the problems with the agreement as it stands now, and that is that it has been so divided up and fragmented that the Minister responsible for negotiating the agreement in the future, or negotiating a continuation of the agreement, doesn't know what programs are working, doesn't know what programs aren't working; he is not familiar with the specific details of the programs, and therefore when the Minister has to play a co-ordinating role he will find it extremely difficult because of the fragmentation of the delivery of the programs. This is something that members on this side have suggested will act to the detriment of the program and also will make life more difficult for the Minister, and, in fact, our suggestions of the past few moments indicate that that is in fact the case; that this fragmentation is not going to work to the benefit of the program; that it will in fact complicate matters; that it will in fact build in redundancies; and it will in fact insure that the program is not the most effective program possible.

I would hope that the Minister, as the co-ordinating Minister, could provide me with what materials he has in regard to the Relocation Program, so as we can understand, ourselves, as to how acquainted he is with the specific programs under The Northlands Agreement.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN, Lloyd G. Hyde (Portage la Prairie): The Honourable Minister.

MR. GOURLAY: Yes, I am wondering why the honourable member didn't question the Minister of Labour on these points. He would be quite familiar with the Relocation Program, and I think it is unreasonable to expect me to have all the details on the various programs administered by the department.

MR. COWAN: I don't believe it is unreasonable, Mr. Chairperson. I believe that the Minister has his staff with him, I believe they are very capable staff. I have watched them over the last couple of days. They seem intent on following the procedures. They seem to be providing the Minister with accurate and adequate information when asked, and I am just a bit surprised that in this particular instance we can't get that kind of information.

I would assure the Minister that I don't expect him to carry around in his head all the details of all the programs that his department is responsible for, nor do I expect any Minister to carry around inside them

all the details of the programs for which they are responsible, but I would hope that they would have access to the details, because if they don't, then they are probably not performing to the level that they could if they did have that access. I would hope that the Minister does have access.

As to why the Minister of Labour wasn't questioned in this regard, I am certain if the Minister of Northern Affairs reviews the record over the past number of years, as well as letters that I have written personally to the Minister, he will find that in fact we have taken an interest in this program, and in fact we have questioned the Minister, but we wanted to, in this instance, discuss this program with the Minister responsible for co-ordinating the whole program in order to assure ourselves that fragmentation isn't far more destructive than we had anticipated. I am fairly certain now that our initial fears were founded.

I would just suggest to the Minister that if he could get information back to us on that we would appreciate it as co-ordinating Minister.

On Page 22 of the report, entitled Sector A — Resources and Community Economic Development. I am going to read a couple of sections here and I would ask for the Minister's comments on them.

It says, Sector A was thus established with the following stated objective: and this was in the beginning of the program, To provide financial assistance and to permit the undertaking of preplanning, and I would like the Minister now to note these words specifically, and other activities necessary to enable the development of viable proposals which may be assisted under existing federal and provincial financial support programs or through private institutions. The sector will actively encourage a high degree of participation from northern people. Furthermore, any regional initiatives, which are identified or assisted through these means, are intended to directly complement and assist the urgent need to encourage and emphasize community economic development.

I have asked the Minister to note all those words after the word preplanning. I would ask the Minister then to turn to Page 29, where it says that, The sector objective be broadened to accommodate this change. More specifically, it is recommended that the resource and community economic development sector objective in Schedule A of the agreement be revised to read . . . , and I believe that is the one that I just read and here is the revision: The objective is to provide financial assistance and to permit the undertaking of preplanning — so far, so good — and resource information assembly and to develop the natural resources of the region.

That is a fairly major change in the objectives of the program. I would ask the Minister if he could comment on why he felt that change was necessary.

MR. GOURLAY: I am not sure that I can answer that question. I wasn't around at the time that change was initiated.

MR. COWAN: Hasn't the Minister wondered why such a broad ranging change would be made? Has he not taken the opportunity to check, and if he hasn't, perhaps he could now take the opportunity to

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check with his staff as to why they believe that change was necessary?

MR. GOURLAY: I understand it was a way of bringing the Parks and Forestry under the agreement, which was not otherwise provided for.

MR. COWAN: The Minister is telling me now and expects me to accept that the ripping of the guts from that particular objective was intended only to bring the Parks and Forestries under this particular sector. Could not it have been done and have, at the same time, left in some, what I believe to be, very important concepts. Those concepts to be specifically, The sector will actively encourage a high degree of participation from northern people. By the removal of that sentence, does that mean that the government is no longer actively encouraging that high degree of participation?

Also it says that, Regional initiatives which are identified or assisted through these means are intended to directly compliment and assist the urgent need to encourage and emphasize community economic development. Are we to believe by the removal of those that the Minister is suggesting that we should no longer be encouraging and emphasizing community economic development? Because that in fact it what the change in this particular objective will result in if it is followed. And why would one change it if one does not anticipate continuing and following up on that particular change?

MR. GOURLAY: I really see no change. We still consult with the community councils regarding these issues.

MR. COWAN: Then why was the wording changed? If in fact nothing was changed in the methodology, why was it necessary to so totally emasculate that objective of Sector A?

MR. GOURLAY: Actually it was really broadened and things were going well as a result of it.

MR. COWAN: We might — well, I don't think we will — but we probably should discuss this for quite some time, because I would suggest to the Minister that it was not broadened at all, as a matter of fact that it was severely limited, and that the Minister has taken out what I believe to be some very important concepts in regard to how this Northlands Agreement is supposed to work. I think the Minister will find that what we are talking about here is symptomatic of his whole government's reaction to Northlands, that they are stripping the guts, they are ripping the guts from the Northlands Agreement, that they are no longer committed to the type of activity which was anticipated by the Northlands Agreement and that their activity in the north has suggested that. That, in fact, we are seeing a total change in attitude; one which we had suspected and one which was carried out in regard to how this program should work for northern Manitobans, and that's who it should work for. I would suggest that we on this side are fairly upset and fairly discouraged that such a change in the objective, the wording of the objective, would be considered necessary by the government.

I would ask the Minister then if he can indicate what is happening currently with the Manpower Development Services?

MR. GOURLAY: What page is that on?

MR. COWAN: We're on page 39 now, program 3.

MR. GOURLAY: I can give you the list of activities that are going on under the Employment Services which is actually really under the Department of Labour and Manpower: Employment support and counselling services; job information system; referral and placement service, including assistance to northerners participating in all provincial Manpower programs; may assist in the implementation of on-the-job training program with employers in private sector; counselling services in support of referral and placement process; and the relocation programs at Thompson, Flin Flon, and Leaf Rapids; Northern Youth Program; staff operating out of Winnipeg, and this is on-the-job training and education program for professional, para-professional; technical administrative jobs in both the public and private sector. This is under the New Careers Program, northern component. The target level is 64 full-year trainees, and the job areas may include community health workers, corrections, chemical abuse, day care workers, air mechanics, recreation workers, and lab assistants.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Member for Rupertsland.

MR. HARVEY BOSTROM: Since we are discussing programs that have operated along with Northlands program and are also complimentary to the Northlands program, I wonder if the Minister could explain or elaborate what role the Communities Economic Development Fund now plays in the delivery of Northlands programs?

MR. GOURLAY: Under this program there are 7 staff man years located in Winnipeg; provides initial and ongoing assistance to local entrepreneurs in remote communities regarding all aspects of business operations, including accounting and marketing, etc. Assistance includes general management assistance, financial statement preparation, financial evaluation and formal client courses where judged feasible and possible. It is anticipated that some 85 clients will receive assistance from this program.

MR. BOSTROM: Yes, Mr. Chairman, can the Minister indicate what the funding is allocated for this particular program he just outlined, for the fiscal year 1980-81?

MR. GOURLAY: 148,000.00.

MR. BOSTROM: I would like to ask the Minister a specific question related to the Communities Economic Development Fund, and it is related to a loan and/or loans made to the Diamond Willow Inn. It is listed in the Manitoba Gazette and also in the list which the Minister supplied to me after the committee meeting in the Legislature here last week. There was a loan of 581,000 over five years, as

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reported in the Manitoba Gazette. I would like to ask the Minister if that is the only loan made to the Diamond Willow Inn, or if, in addition to that, there was a loan of 248,000 which was made and recorded on the list which he provided to me? In other words, there were two loans, 248,000, and 581,000, made to the Diamond Willow Inn. I wonder if the Minister could indicate what the economic rationale was for making these loans which amount to, in total, about 40 percent or more of the total loans made by the Communities Economic Development Fund in their last fiscal year?

MR. GOURLAY: Mr. Chairman, I don't feel that this is the appropriate place to be discussing the estimates of the CEDF.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: 4.(a)(1)—pass. The Member for Rupertsland.

MR. BOSTROM: Mr. Chairman, the Communities Economic Development Fund reports to this Minister, and we are discussing a part of the estimates, Northlands Agreements, which relate to the operation of the Communities Economic Development Fund, and there is a particular question we have with respect to this one loan, which is a massive loan, made to one company. In addition to that I believe there were other loans made to the individuals involved in this company. This represents a substantial amount of the total operation of the Communities Economic Development Fund, as I indicated over 800,000 of loans indicated in the list, 829,000, plus an amount indicated in the Manitoba Gazette of May 17, 1980 of 5,000 of loans made to the principles of this business. So, Mr. Chairman, that amounts to a total of 833,000 of loans made to what appears to be two individuals to establish a hotel in northern Manitoba. I think it is a substantial amount of money which the Minister should be able to answer for since I believe The Communities Economic Development Fund Act requires that any loan over 75,000 must be approved by the Minister. That loan must go to the Minister and I am sure a loan of this amount must have gone to the Minister, not only to the Minister, I'm sure the Minister must have discussed this in Cabinet, so he must be aware of and familiar with this particular loan above all others. I am not asking about the day-to-day operation of the Communities Economic Development Fund. I realize that the CEDF is operated by a board of directors that make their own independent decisions on any loans up to 75,000, but loans over that amount go by statute, by law, to the Minister for approval, so he must be aware of the loan and I would ask him to explain to the committee what the rationale is for this particular loan. I would ask him what the status, the financial status is of the principles that are involved in this business? If they put any money into the operation themselves, or if the total amount of 800 and . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN, Morris McGregor: The Honourable Minister on a point of order.

MR. GOURLAY: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order. We are not discussing CEDF here. The Northlands is not involved with loan money. We spent some time a week or two ago discussing the CEDF in the

Economic Development Committee and the honourable member had full opportunity at that time to raise these questions which could have been appropriately discussed and fully gone into at that time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Rupertsland on the same point of order.

MR. BOSTROM: On the point of order, the information which I am requesting, which the form the basis of the questions which I am posing at this time, was supplied to me after the meeting which we had that day. I asked the Minister for a list of the loans that were made over the last fiscal year of the company, which was not available on the day we discussed and was subsequently made available to me, and I am asking the questions based on that information. I don't know what other occasion I have to discuss this item other than with respect to the estimates for this department, and the estimates which relate to the Minister's Salary particularly.

When one considers that this Minister reports for the Communities Economic Development Fund, and as the Minister responsible for the CEDF he must take responsibility for making this loan. Now it may be argued that one cannot ask this particular question under this item that's under consideration right now, although I would argue that because we are discussing the Northlands Agreement which is related to the Communities Economic Development Fund, aspects of the Northlands Agreement relate to the Communities Economic Development Fund. They operate a program which the Minister just described to us, where they provide management advice and services to northern clients, or clients that are within the jurisdiction of the Communities Economic Development Fund. So I would expect that the Minister would have possibly a group within his Communities Economic Development Fund, or at least one person who would be responsible for overseeing this massive loan to two individuals in northern Manitoba. I think since we are discussing the two in this item, the two issues of Northland funding and also the operations of the Communities Economic Development Fund, as it relates to Northland funding, then I would argue that this is the appropriate place to discuss this question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Rock Lake.

MR. HENRY J. EINARSON: On the same point of order, Mr. Chairman, I think we are discussing, if I may read here, the Agreements Management and Co-ordination, responsible for the management and co-ordination of programming and funding as defined by the Canada-Manitoba Northlands and Special ARDA Agreements and the Northern Flood Agreement. And now we are under, I understand, Mr. Chairman, 4.(a)(1) under Salaries and Wages, in Canada-Manitoba Northlands Agreement, and I don't see that it says anything about CEDF.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Transcona on the same point of order.

MR. PARASIUK: To the point of order, Special ARDA, the staff who administer Special ARDA and

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make the decisions for Special ARDA would be under this particular appropriation of Salaries and Wages; and the point is CEDF provides bridge financing for Special ARDA projects and that is the connection. The project would be a Special ARDA project and that's why it's entirely legitimate for this item to be discussed here.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

MR. GOURLAY: ARDA comes under 4.(c). We are currently dealing in 4.(a).

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Transcona.

MR. PARASIUKE: Yes, responsible for the management and co-ordination of programs and funding, that's their ultimate responsibility, not just the amount in there. The funding as defined by the Canada-Manitoba Northlands Agreement and the Special ARDA agreements, specifically outlined, broken out in the sub-appropriation.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Well it's the opinion of the Chair, it would seem as though we could fit this in. If it isn't answered now, it certainly could fit in 4.(c)(1) and (2) so I would say continue (a) (b) and try to maybe give the staff some time to have those answers by the time we do get to (c). That's the Chair's suggestion only. The Member for Rupertsland.

MR. BOSTROM: Mr. Chairman, I would be happy to leave this question until whichever item it comes under most logically. However, I must insist that we discuss this item under this Minister's estimates, because . . .

MR. GOURLAY: Mr. Chairman, I'm not prepared to discuss . . . loans in this committee. We had the opportunity to do that some time ago, and if you got information after that time, I can't help that.

MR. BOSTROM: Mr. Chairman, this Minister is responsible for the Communities Economic Development Fund. Part of his responsibility as a Minister is the overseeing of the operations of the Communities Economic Development Fund. And when the fund makes loans amounting to some 834,000, that is a loan which must come to the Minister for approval. The Minister must be aware of that loan; the Minister must take responsibility for that loan; the Minister must be able to answer questions about that kind of loan. So I expect that within these estimates somewhere, we demand an answer from the Minister as to the rationale for making such a loan, and particularly when one considers that the loan is made at 12 1/2 percent, when interest rates are running at 17 and 18 percent. This represents a massive subsidy to two individuals, so I would ask the Minister to indicate to us what the rationale is for this government to personally approve such a loan.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Inasmuch as it is past 4:30, committee, if we do run over on this one, we are interfering with our Private Members' Hour. Possibly we will have an answer over the supper hour, unless the Honourable Minister wants to add something.

MR. GOURLAY: Well, CEDF is not part of this committee. And so I am not prepared to discuss CEDF loans in this committee. —(Interjection)— I'm not talking Special ARDA.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Chairman will be leaving the Chair for Private Members' Hour and will return at 8:00 o'clock (tonight).

SUPPLY — EDUCATION

MR. CHAIRMAN, Abe Kovnats (Radisson): This Committee will come to order. I would direct the honourable members' attention to Page 39 of the Main Estimates, Department of Education. Resolution No. 51, Clause 2. Research, (a) Salaries—pass — the Honourable Minister.

HON. KEITH COSENS: Mr. Chairman, there were a number of questions that I took as notice yesterday and I have that information here for the honourable members. I will send it over to the Education critic on the other side of the House.

Mr. Chairman, if I could continue, the Research Branch that we now have under consideration is responsible for the conduct of all the research activities essential to support effective planning, policy making, management and assessment of those aspects of elementary, secondary, and post-secondary education for which my Ministry is responsible. It functions as a service unit to all sections of the department; as such it does not have operational responsibilities for any programs. Reporting directly to the Deputy Minister, this Branch facilitates and assists with planning and assessment of the total operation of the department.

MR. CHAIRMAN: (1)—pass; (2)—pass — the Honourable Member for St. Vital.

MR. D. JAMES WALDING: Mr. Chairman, I believe that we would seek a breakdown of this department as to the number of persons and whether there have been any changes over the past year. We would also be interested to know what research projects are being developed by this section, and perhaps the Minister could inform us of what the department or what the section produced over the last year.

MR. COSENS: Mr. Chairman, in response to the Member for St. Vital, there have been no changes in the number of SMYs in this department, it was 11 last year, it will be 11 in 1980-81.

The department has completed a considerable number of projects, and I can go through those projects for the information of the honourable member. They completed a study of counselling and guidance services in Junior High Schools of this province. They did a feasibility study on program accounting, budgeting. They did a special study on teacher demand supply, the Manpower outlook in Manitoba. They did a study of the employment of the Manitoba teacher education graduates from 1974 to 1978. They have produced an annotated bibliography on declining enrollments, an analysis of the costs and benefits of teaching computer science in Manitoba schools, an assessment of the utilization

and effectiveness of instructional media services and multi-media kits, an evaluation of the nine-month school year in Frontier School Division. They are responsible for the conduct of a conference on declining school enrollments, which was held last year. They have completed a study on the elementary-secondary school enrollment projections 1978 to 1984.

A study has been completed on the interprovincial and international migration of children in Manitoba. They have completed a study on the decline of teacher entries into Manitoba from 1970 to 1978. They have completed a study also, Mr. Chairman, of the aging of Manitoba's teaching force. A study has been also completed on the historical analysis of public school enrollments 1970 to 1978, and they also have produced a data directory. They have a number of projects that are now in progress, one of them being the utilization and effectiveness of on-air school broadcasts and other instructional media services in northern schools. They are also conducting a study in actuality of evaluation of the high school computer network. They are also, at this time, involved in a community needs assessment in regard to Keewatin Community College. They are also involved, Mr. Chairman, in a follow-up survey of vocational education graduates from our high schools.

They are in the progress, at this time, in a study on post-high school plans of Manitoba high school students. They also, at this time, are working on the implementation of the program accounting budgeting scheme. They are working on the development of an EDP organizational plan and they are also working on enrolments and hours of instruction, K to 12, and the development and piloting of a collection system.

These are some of the major topics that the branch has either completed, or projects that the branch has in progress at this time, Mr. Chairman.

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

MR. WALDING: Mr. Chairman, I thank the Minister for that information. I was not able to write down all of those projects that he mentioned, but they will be in Hansard to refer back to. I want to refer to a couple of them in just a moment, but the Minister indicates, I believe, that there were some 11 staff man years for this particular section and that there has been no change. The government telephone directory lists 10 names under research. I wonder if the Minister could just clarify for us, please, how many of these are research officers, if that's the right term, and how many of them are support staff.

MR. COSENS: Perhaps, Mr. Chairman, the honourable member could pursue some further questioning while I'm getting the particular answer in that regard.

MR. WALDING: Mr. Chairman, the Minister mentioned two of the projects that this section had been working on, and two of them had to do with PAB. I seem to recall that stands for Program Analysis and Budget, or Program Auditing and Budget, I believe is more correct. —(Interjection)— Program Accounting and Budgeting, right. I wonder

if the Minister can tell me, first of all, why this appears twice in his list of projects. Is it a matter of the development of it and then the implementation of it, and could he, perhaps inform the committee of just what PAB is all about and how it came into being?

MR. COSENS: Mr. Chairman, in regard to the Honourable Member for St. Vital's first question, those 11 staff members in the research department, three are classified as support personnel and eight as professional personnel. In regard to the Program Accounting and Budgeting program, he is quite correct: One of the projects involved the developmental aspect of this, and the other one, of course, is dealing with the implementation aspect. The program is a program that we hope to have apply provincially in all school divisions. It will provide some universality, complete similarity in the accounting procedures, in the budgeting procedures for school boards across the province, something that they have been requesting for some time. It will enable my department to work more closely with the school boards in this regard. We will all be speaking the same language. The terminology, the forms of budgeting and accounting will all be similar and, as a result, it is hoped that a certain efficiency will be attained, not only from the school board point of view, but also from the department point of view, and this in turn, I would expect, will be reflected as far as the taxpayers are concerned.

MR. WALDING: Mr. Chairman, the Minister has explained in rather vague terms what PAB is, and from what I have heard of it and the Minister's comments, it sounds like a very good idea and should have perhaps been done a long time ago. I wonder if the Minister could be a little more specific, first of all as to how the research came into being. Was the program developed only by research people from his department, or were there others involved, and if so, how, how many, who, when was the project first started? I infer from his remarks that it has now been completed. But perhaps he could clarify that matter for us. As far as the implementation is concerned, could he perhaps expand as to when he sees this going into operation?

MR. COSENS: Mr. Chairman, in regard to the PAB program, a task force was established under the chairmanship of the Research Branch, consisting of representatives of the Manitoba Association of School Business Officials, the Provincial Auditor's office, and the Department of Education Finance Branch. This particular task force then conducted a study and from that particular study, particular recommendations were provided, and the latter part of his question, we would hope to move into the implementation of that particular program this year. It will probably take two to three years to achieve full implementation.

MR. WALDING: I asked the Minister whether any persons other than from those three sources were involved in the development of this program.

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MR. COSENS: Not to my knowledge, Mr. Chairman. These are the people who were involved in the feasibility study. It's quite possible that people from my department may have consulted with people in other provinces, and so on, in the initial stages of studying programs similar to this, but these are the people who were actually involved in this particular study.

MR. WALDING: Can the Minister inform the committee when the task force was set up?

MR. COSENS: I'm informed, Mr. Chairman, that the committee was set up in September of 1979.

MR. WALDING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'd like to ask the Minister whether this is a completely new concept that is being recommended for Manitoba or whether it is a scheme that is modeled on perhaps another jurisdiction, or perhaps it is a modified form of a system presently in effect in another jurisdiction?

MR. COSENS: Yes, Mr. Chairman, the PAB program is modeled very closely on the system that is now in use in Alberta.

MR. WALDING: Mr. Chairman, I would further like to ask the Minister whether there were any representatives of Education from Alberta that came into advise on this project.

MR. COSENS: Mr. Chairman, the answer is no.

MR. WALDING: Could the Minister give us a few more details, then, on this program of just how it will work and what effect it will have on the Department of Education, or is the effect only to be at the school division level?

MR. COSENS: Mr. Chairman, just to expand on the fact that I mentioned earlier, I think the honourable member can appreciate now that if we have 48 school divisions and a number of school districts, he can well imagine that each school division and each school district can be using a different type of bookkeeping, different accounting terminology — and I'm not an accountant, Mr. Chairman, so I won't get into that terminology — but this does present some problems, not only for school divisions, I suppose, in trying to compare their operations with other school divisions, but also when they are working with the Department of Education in regard to grants and budgeting and so on. What this program will achieve, then, is a uniform system where the same accounting procedures, the same language is being used, and in fact, everyone will be able to benefit from clarity of approach. It should result, Mr. Chairman, in more rational funding and better management of resources, both at the school board level, and I would suggest also, at the Department of Education level. This is a program that the Provincial Auditor, I believe, has pointed out that has been needed for some time in this province.

MR. WALDING: Mr. Chairman, I hope that the Minister is correct in his statement that this will result in a better grasp of the situation. He has explained to the committee that this new system will

be in effect at all of the school divisions. The question I asked him before was, to what effect this would have on the Department of Education. Will the department's files or books also be affected by this new scheme?

MR. COSENS: I would suggest, Mr. Chairman, that this should certainly improve the efficiency of our Finance Branch, as well as the operation of the school divisions.

MR. WALDING: I'd like to ask the Minister whether he has informed all of the school divisions and districts of this new concept. Have they been advised what it is the Minister has in mind for these changes, and can he inform the committee of what the reaction has been from school divisions? Are they generally in favour of it? Has it met with universal approval? A further question, too: Is this to be a voluntary change as far as the school divisions are concerned or does the Minister intend to impose it to insist that all of the divisions comply with the new accounting guidelines?

MR. COSENS: Mr. Chairman, the greatest enthusiasm and, I would suggest, the strongest demand for this system, has come from the Manitoba Association of School Business Officials. These are the people who are responsible for the accounting and bookkeeping procedures in school divisions and districts across the province. They, I understand from the earliest stages, were the people who were most adamant in asserting the need for this particular program in the province, speaking as an association; they have continued to work very strongly for this particular program. They have been included on the committee that has worked on this. The Manitoba Association of School Trustees of course, has given its support to this particular program. We will begin the program, of course, on a pilot basis in several school divisions, but at this point, I find nothing but enthusiasm from the school divisions in regard to this particular program.

MR. WALDING: I'd like to ask the Minister whether this new system will be a computerized system or not. Do computers enter into it, and if so, is there a central computing facility that will be made available to all of the divisions or is it optional with them whether they will use the present manual method or their own local computer method?

MR. COSENS: Mr. Chairman, I understand that it is flexible. It can be used in either way, either with the computer component or without. Of course, again, that will depend on the size of the school division and its particular wishes in that regard. The larger divisions, I imagine, will employ the computer component.

MR. WALDING: Just one further question on this item, Mr. Chairman. The name program accounting could suggest that the word program could apply to educational programs, being an educational program within a school. Can the Minister either confirm that or, on the other hand, confirm that program accounting has only to do with accounts themselves.

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In other words, is it a financial accounting or an educational accounting?

MR. COSENS: Again, Mr. Chairman, I don't speak as an accountant, but I would suggest to the honourable member that the program is financial accounting. The way it is organized and structured will enable school boards to set out more clearly the particular programs that they offer and the particular functions that they perform, whether it be transportation, maintenance and so on, set these up in particular program forms and receive a better accounting, perhaps a better control, the financial control of these areas than they have been able to do under some of the older systems.

MR. WALDING: Then can the Minister confirm that it is his intention that this PAB will refer only to financial matters in the school divisions, and not the actual educational programs? Is that the Minister's intent?

MR. COSENS: Certainly, Mr. Chairman, the purpose of the program is financial. I suppose there is a difficulty in the educational system, at any time, in separating the dollars from the actual program. The two are very closely related, as they should be. But the intent, of course, has to do with the accounting procedures within the school divisions of this province.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Rossmere.

MR. SCHROEDER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the Minister for that list of school districts with no superintendents. I would ask the Minister whether this branch, the research branch, does any investigation or examination with respect to how schools are run. Do they look at teachers, evaluate teachers, or that type of thing, in any way.

MR. COSENS: They do not evaluate teachers, Mr. Chairman. There could be a situation where the Research Branch would look at a particular program operating in the province of Manitoba. I think I mentioned that they did a study of counselling and guidance services in junior high schools in the province, looking at the utilization of those services and the perceived need. Now, the needs that have been identified, if that's the type of program support the member is referring to, yes, it is possible that the Research Branch at times would deal with that type of research.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Rossmere.

MR. SCHROEDER: We had been dealing for several days on the matter of field representatives who, we were assured, were not involved in teacher evaluation. This group apparently is not either. I refer the Minister to a recent edition of the Brandon Sun of May 29, 1980, in which there is an indication that there was a school principal who was fired, and a school trustee was stating to the newspaper that the board based its decision of dismissal on an evaluation conducted for it by the provincial

Education Department, which was critical of such things as timetabling at the school. The report was released to the board in February.

If it's not field representatives who do that type of thing and it's not these people, who is it?

MR. COSENS: Certainly that's not a function of the Research Branch, Mr. Chairman.

MR. SCHROEDER: Could the Minister then advise as to which branch of his department has that type of evaluation as its function?

MR. COSENS: I think I have mentioned before, Mr. Chairman, that the Field Services Branch, the field representatives, on request, do systems analysis and evaluation for school divisions.

MR. SCHROEDER: So then what the Minister is saying is that if a school division requests an evaluation of a teacher, the Department of Education does have personnel who go in and do that type of evaluation?

MR. COSENS: Mr. Chairman, I mentioned that it was a system evaluation, not an evaluation of the teachers per se. I know that it is very difficult to separate the two, but there is certainly a distinction. They are assessing the particular education system in a school division or a school. They are not assessing each individual teacher, as the old school inspectors did, for instance.

MR. SCHROEDER: The individual who is fired would probably have, as a result of this special study, would have the same difficulty in recognizing the distinction, as I do.

Going on to another area, I note that the Headingley computer experiment with the Telephone System has, as a part of its component, some educational television from the Ontario Education Department. I am just wondering whether the Minister could comment on the type of programming that is available and as to whether his department sees that programming as being useful, or whether you expect that to be useful in the future in Manitoba or in specific geographical areas of Manitoba.

MR. COSENS: Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the honourable member asking that question because I really feel if there has been an area where education generally has been lax, or at least has been dragging its feet somewhat, it has been in the utilization of television for educational purposes. The Headingley experiment appeared to us to be an excellent opportunity for us to become part of an experiment. We have utilized the Ontario Educational Ministry's television programming, and they have very extensive television programming, in this particular experiment. I am rather interested in seeing what the particular results will be.

MR. SCHROEDER: I don't have any expertise in this at all, but my reading of the material indicates that that Headingley experiment is a two-way experiment; that is that in certain cases individuals can ask for a response from someone at the other end. I am just wondering whether the department is

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doing anything specific to take advantage of that in terms of trying to co-ordinate research into what happens with those sets with preschoolers, with others who are at home, and with adults, I would suppose.

MR. COSENS: The education portion, Mr. Chairman, of that particular experiment is not a two-way type of operation. Certainly there are other operations, I understand, within that experiment, being conducted by the Manitoba Telephone System that are two-way operations but the educational component is not. I might mention that that is an area that we are looking at at this time, as far as distance learning, as a matter of concern and there are certain possibilities that we would like to explore there.

MR. SCHROEDER: In his opening statements, the Minister indicated that the Research Department had developed a provincial projection of public school enrolments for the period from 1980 to 1985, based on preschool population information from the Family Allowance information. Could the Minister indicate whether there has been any projection made with respect to increases or decreases in size in terms of suburbs as opposed to inner city, with respect to increases or decreases in size of the private school population, and with respect to the rural population?

MR. COSENS: I was under the impression that the honourable member had received a copy of that particular information, Mr. Chairman, but apparently he has not. It was done, by school division, across the province and is a very interesting study and indicates, of course, that we are going to see a continual decline in school population to 1984 and into 1985. On the basis of the birth statistics that we have, it is difficult to go beyond that date very accurately. After that point, we are merely projecting on the basis of statistics that don't exist. It would be hypothetical. But I can inform the honourable member that the birth statistics for this particular year, 1980, do not indicate any levelling off or increase that will have any effect. I suggest to honourable members of this House that we are going to see a continual decline in school population beyond the middle of the 1980s.

A year or so ago, most of the experts were predicting that we would see a plateauing by the middle of the 1980s but there is no indication at this point that that plateauing is going to appear. It would seem to me, on the basis of birth statistics in 1980, unless the last half of 1980 does something to reverse the present trend, that we are going to see a decline continuing on into the last half of the 1980s, which of course has all sorts of implications for the educational system and, I suppose, for other systems in our society.

The particular studies that have been done indicate that the decline over the next few years will be felt most seriously in the urban areas. There will still be some decline in the rural, but that seems to have peaked, if we can use that particular word, Mr. Chairman, that the decline in the rural areas will not be as major as that that will be experienced in the urban areas of this province.

MR. SCHROEDER: I was wondering whether the calculations for the next five years were based on a simple addition for each year, that is, the one-year olds, the number of mothers receiving mother's allowance, etc., or was there some calculation build into that as well as to the number of families which would be moving into Manitoba and moving out of Manitoba, and what kind of a ratio was used, if that type of calculation was built, on top of just adding up the kids that are there now. If there wasn't, what guarantee do we have that we even will have those children available to teach?

MR. COSENS: The study was based on a number of factors, Mr. Chairman. Of course, the birth statistics, as we have already mentioned, some attrition, and also on in and out movements and the stability there. It's very difficult to guarantee to anyone how many children we will have at any given time, as the honourable member can appreciate. On the migration, we gain on the in-migration from the eastern provinces and we lose on out-migration to the western provinces, at this particular time, and this has been the pattern in Manitoba over a number of years. I imagine it will continue to be the pattern, looking at the overall economic situation in this country.

MR. SCHROEDER: Is this the area, are these the people who are doing some work on preparing kits for teachers with respect to Vietnamese children with English as a second language?

MR. COSENS: That particular area, Mr. Chairman, falls under the program section of the department, Part 4 of the estimates.

MR. SCHROEDER: There were some other programs, I believe, that were in existence several years ago which did come under this department such as, I believe, a migrant study program and schools for urban neighborhoods. Were they not under the Research Branch?

MR. COSENS: The honourable member, I believe, is speaking of programs that existed or may have existed in the department some four years ago. I am not familiar with those programs to any great extent, Mr. Chairman.

MR. SCHROEDER: I take it then that the Minister would confirm that those programs, which I understood had been farmed out since the Minister became Minister, that those programs are no longer in existence, either in the department or in the city of Winnipeg; that is that they have been buried, although our urban problems are getting worse.

MR. COSENS: Mr. Chairman, as I understand, those were division-based projects, many of them research projects based on short-term study of a particular type of program. They do not exist in the department at this time. There's a possibility that certain school divisions could be pursuing a similar type of program at this time.

MR. SCHROEDER: My understanding is, though, that up until several years ago, there was specific

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funding for that type of initiative by the local school divisions. I would ask the Minister then, whether, if Winnipeg 1 or any other division came up with a proposal for a revival of that type of program, whether the Minister is prepared to pay a reasonable portion of the costs.

MR. COSENS: Mr. Chairman, the honourable member's question is a bit hypothetical, but certainly we are always open to receiving representation from any particular school board that has any particular project that they would like to pursue. That policy has not changed at all and we're quite prepared to hear what these presentations may be and see if there is some feasibility study that should be done and whether they in fact could be pursued to the benefit of the children of that particular school division, as well as perhaps other children in the province.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Elmwood.

MR. RUSSELL DOERN: Mr. Chairman, I am most interested in some of the remarks of the Minister on declining enrolments because this is an area that he is studying and one that the people of Winnipeg and the MLAs in the Winnipeg area are living with. This is nothing in terms of no new information here. This is something that we are staring at as a stark reality.

Last night, as an example, I attended a meeting at the Sir Sam Steele School, which I believe is still represented by you, and which will, in the next election, be represented by me. As for the Minister, we're not sure about where he is going to run or we're not even sure if he's going to run. We know he is running for the nomination and we wish him well.

Mr. Chairman, given the fact that this is the branch that apparently has as its mandate policy-making, undertakes research and has sponsored a conference on declining enrolments, I just wonder whether the Minister might indicate some of the recommendations or conclusions that came out of that conference, or if he has any so-called solutions or thoughts as to how we can meet that particular challenge. Because we all know that the population is going down, that the birth-rate is going down, that there is a lot of out-migration which is compounding the problem. There is a downturn in the economy, which undoubtedly has some effect in terms of family size and mobility of people and their decision whether to stay in Manitoba and raise a family, or not to have a family, or to move to Alberta or B.C. or Ontario, etc.

So I am just saying, can he indicate any suggested solutions that grew out of the conference or that came out of the department, in terms of research?

MR. COSENS: Mr. Chairman, this of course is a very timely subject and one that we are going to have to live with for a number of years, and governments in many jurisdictions across this province are living with it, as we are. It is a matter of concern to every one of us, whether we are in government, whether we are parents, or whether we are educators.

The solutions are not easy. There are not pat answers to the particular problem. What we are

going to see over the next number of years no doubt will be the closing of a number of schools because there won't be enough children to make them viable operations. This is going to result in a certain amount of controversy, I am sure, that the educational system will be living with. That's a reality that, regardless of what government is in power, they are going to have to face. We are probably going to see in the next number of years, more busing of children and that is not necessarily an alternative that I take kindly to at all, but nonetheless, a reality. If we don't again have the numbers of children in a particular area, the only way we are going to solve it is by busing them to another centre.

As I say, Mr. Chairman, I have mentioned two solutions, if you wish to call them that, or two matters of reality that are going to take place: The closing of some schools where there is no longer a student enrolment to justify them being kept open; and the increase in transportation of students from areas which are sparsely populated as far as school children are concerned.

Those two areas, in particular, are not, again, going to be popular with the general public, certainly not with parents of children, who would very much like to have them attending close to their residence. But, Mr. Chairman, if there is anyone who can give me some other solution than those two very obvious ones, I would like to know what those solutions are. We have been looking at other jurisdictions across this country as to how they are coping with this particular problem and it appears that these two rather stark solutions, if you wish to call them that, are the two that are being adopted in most jurisdictions where they are suffering some decline in student population.

To this point in Manitoba, I think we have been coping with the problem reasonably well. We are not seeing any great diminution in the number of programs that are being offered. In fact, I was noticing that a month or so ago, when school divisions were publishing their mill rates and so on, they were saying that they were able to operate with a certain staff level and that they were not going to have to suffer program cuts. In some cases, they found it necessary, of course, to decrease the size of their teaching staff because they didn't have the student enrolment to justify the staff that they have had with them for a number of years.

It is rather interesting, Mr. Chairman, that the student population in this province since, I believe it is 1973, has dropped very close to 40,000 students, in round figures. In that time, we have been able to maintain our staffing level without any serious drop at all. In fact, with a drop of 40,000 students over 1973, we now have 10 less teachers than we had back in 1973 with 40,000 more students, which I think is a rather dramatic statistic, Mr. Chairman.

It will in all probability necessitate Departments of Education and school boards looking very closely at alternatives to program offerings that they presently have. One of the problems that you encounter, certainly at the high school level where you offer a large number of alternative programs, a large number of options to students, as high school populations diminish, decline, it will become necessary for those particular schools to look rather closely at the number of options that they can offer.

Of course, Mr. Chairman, there is a very easy solution to the whole thing and that is that government will provide all sorts of money and provide teachers for three or four students in a particular option throughout the system at the high school level, but I don't think we can justify that. I don't really think that the parents of young people in this province expect that that type of system should operate. They would be as critical of the government for wasting money in that regard as they would be of a government that did not offer adequate programming to their students.

So without going into this whole problem in greater detail, Mr. Chairman, I can say to the honourable member opposite, the Member for Elmwood, that, yes, we are going to go through a period in the next five or six years, possibly seven and possibly beyond, unless there is some change in the birth statistics of this province and many other jurisdictions as well, we are going to go through a period where there will be a great deal of controversy caused as a result of the declining enrolment phenomena. We will see schools closed; we will see school divisions resorting to bussing students to centres so that they can offer the type of program that they feel students should receive. Otherwise, if they don't take that type of alternative, I suppose they will find themselves in the position of having to limit the number of options and offerings that they can provide for students in a much smaller school locale.

I have no easy solutions to these problems. As I say, if honourable members opposite have an easy solution or a pat answer to them, I would be very interested in entertaining their suggestions. What I can say at this time, I would hope that school boards across the province, and I trust they will, will take great pains to converse and discuss and plan two, three, perhaps four years ahead with the parents, and the taxpayers of their particular areas, as to how they are going to cope in their own particular local area with this whole problem of declining enrolment. I think we run into problems when parents have decisions sprung on them, if I can use that term, quite suddenly without any rationale, where they are just suddenly told their school will close, and they have not had an opportunity to understand why, or the rationale that their particular school board is using. That, unfortunately, has happened in one or two cases, but I believe school boards now are adopting a policy where they are quite prepared to discuss the matter with their local ratepayers, the local parents' organizations, and try to work out mutual solutions.

Mr. Chairman, I imagine the problems that we are facing in this regard are perhaps not much greater than the problems that were faced, what, ten, eleven years ago, when we were looking at expanding school populations and attempting to cope with them. I'm sure that there were associated problems in that regard as well. I have every confidence that people who have the genuine concern of students at heart in the school divisions across this province will sit down and attempt to solve this problem of declining enrolment to the best of their ability.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Elmwood.

MR. DOERN: Mr. Chairman, I think inadvertently the Minister has put his finger on the problem, meaning that it's just not a case of declining enrolment, it's ultimately an economic question. It's a question of the tax base. The fact that there are fewer students, relative to the population, should make it easier to finance and fund education. But the problem is that we're in an economic downturn and we're losing population, and in particular, we're losing that dynamic 25 to 45 age group, which has been talked about for many years in this province. I always first date it in my experience to the TED report, but that hasn't been cracked, and it seems to have accelerated in the past couple of years. We're also confronted, I think, with another bad and ongoing phenomenon in the city of Winnipeg, namely, that the suburban areas continue to grow, and there are expansions in some of the suburban schools, and possibly some new schools as well. I am told that there are some additions taking place in some of the divisions.

So what the Minister is telling us, Mr. Chairman, is that he is forecasting the death of the neighbourhood school, and he is forecasting more bussing, just as not too many years ago in this Chamber, mid-60s and so on, we were talking about consolidation. I think there were, if my memory serves me correctly, some 700 little red school houses and most of them have now gone by the boards, and the Minister is now telling us, in effect, that the small neighbourhood school, in most cases, I suppose, the elementary school is on its way out. I would simply say that I think that is an area we'd have to be particularly concerned about. I suppose most of us have a greater concern for the elementary student when it comes to bussing; when students are in high school and in junior high, they can often — I'm thinking largely in urban terms here — they can often make their own way to school. I'm sure all of us who have lived in the city of Winnipeg at one time walked to school, and some of us graduated to bicycles and then may have ultimately either had cars or had friends who supplied cars. One of my proudest moments, Mr. Chairman, as a northender was when I was driving to high school with a friend of mine in his old 1936 or 1938 Hudson Terraplane. It gave us a great feeling of zooming along in this gangster car, passing some of the other students who were walking and riding their bikes. But it isn't difficult for senior students to get to school. I'm thinking again, particularly in the city, they can take public transportation; I think today most high schools, I suppose, have 100 or 200 student cars around it. I think if we're going to move in that direction, which we have been moving in for the past number of years, I think we have to possibly be prepared to spend more money on the elementary student in the sense of trying to keep that student in the neighbourhood as much as is humanly possible.

I want to give the Minister some figures which came out of a meeting last night, again at Sir Sam Steele School, there was a meeting there to discuss the possible closing of that school. I want to give him a specific. There's a school which was built, I think some 59 years ago, in immaculate condition, it looks as if it can go another 59 years, that's my visual impression, it seems to be almost brand new and has certainly been well maintained and apparently

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not at considerable cost, and we were told last night by representatives of the Winnipeg School Division No. 1 administration that compared to other schools in the immediate vicinity it costs something like 1,400-odd dollars to 1,100-odd dollars, taking the most unfavourable comparison, to add these students in to other neighbourhood schools, or schools in the near vicinity.

According to my calculation, Mr. Chairman, if you took those figures, some 373 per student difference, and multiply it times 67, you get a figure of some 25,000, approximately. And then you would have to bus those students, since they are small, again depending on where you go and other factors, it would cost some 12,000 to 18,000 to bus them, so the way I see it, it seems to indicate that on one hand it would cost you some 25,000 more to send those students to another school, like Kent Road or George V, and then on the other hand, you might spend up to 18,000 for bussing. So the net effect could be, if the figures are correct, that it would only be a difference of some 7,000 to keep that neighbourhood school open, which doesn't seem to be a great deal of money, especially when you weigh it against the inconvenience of these little children getting up earlier, going to the school, being bussed home for lunch, going back to school, and being bussed home, having to spend X number of minutes or hours per day on a bus.

The Winnipeg Division made a very powerful point in passing, namely, that they could not think of one illustration where a school had been closed where it had later reopened. And I don't find that surprising, I find that totally predictable, because once you close that neighbourhood school then the parents in the area, in some cases will move out, and in other cases new younger families with children, or planning to have children, will not move into the area. So I think that it's predictable. And then you get that old effect of, the people move out of the older areas and go into the suburban areas, the next thing you know, you might be opening new schools in the suburban area, or adding staff, or adding classrooms, or building additions.

The other point that I make, and I would like to ask the Minister to comment on is, when he's looking at these factors, is he doing this in isolation from some of his colleagues in Cabinet, particularly the Minister who sits behind him who is responsible for such things as Day Care and Corrections and other community programs, and the Minister of Health, does he attempt to co-ordinate with other departments in terms of the social and economic impact of what he does, because what he does has a direct bearing on non-educational issues. I don't think he can only concern himself with education in a vacuum. His decisions have important social and economic ramifications and I ask him whether he feels that his mandate is purely educational, which he may, or does he also believe that his decisions have social effects and economic effects, and that whereas he might save some money in one instance by closing a neighbourhood school, that effect might have to be picked up by some other department or some other division.

So I wonder whether he could comment on those remarks.

MR. COSENS: Mr. Chairman, the Member for Elmwood of course, has given us an example of one particular situation that he is familiar with. It well may be an example of what is happening in several situations in this particular city and also across the province. He says that the small elementary school is on the way out. I'm not prepared to accept that it is on the way out, I am prepared to say that the small elementary school is going to continue to get smaller and I suppose the decision as to what point it becomes too small to offer a viable program, and becomes too small to operate in a viable manner, then is what is crucial here; and those decisions have a bearing on what the parents of the particular area have as expectations for the educational program that can be offered to their students, it has some bearing on the particular policies of the particular school division where that school operates. And I would remind the honourable member that I don't close schools, local school divisions make those particular types of determinations, and you will find across this province, Mr. Chairman, a large variety of schooling arrangements. We have some very, very small elementary schools that exist right now in the province, some of them two or three classroom schools that are operating in the province. They operate because the parents and the school board in that particular division have decided that, in spite of the size of that particular plant, the program that is offered is adequate and meets the expectations of the parents and they are quite prepared to go along with that particular type of operation.

In other areas, it may well be the feeling of the parents and the school board that size of operation is not viable, it is not what they want for their children, and it is at that point where a board and parents make decisions regarding the closing of a school. But they make that decision, Mr. Chairman, it's not made by my department. I might add, of course, that we are attempting to ameliorate the declining enrolment problem to some extent with a declining enrolment grant that has existed for a few years, I believe since 1977. It was some 350 per student. We have increased that to some 500 per student this year, again attempting to cushion somewhat this whole problem of declining enrolment in the province.

The Member for Elmwood wonders if I have the opportunity to discuss the impact of declining enrollment with my colleagues in Community Services and Health. I can tell him that we do discuss this problem in conjunction with many of those associated problems that their departments deal with most directly.

I know that we do have the situation where certain neighbourhoods are changing because younger people are not settling in them, they are aging neighbourhoods, and as a result the school population is dropping very very dramatically. The solutions in that regard, I think, go far beyond anything that my department can deal with. It perhaps is something that Housing and some of my other colleagues are looking at, at this time.

Of course, it is also a matter of personal preference as far as individuals are concerned. There has been a certain movement in North America, it would seem, to the suburbs, regardless of what

particular city they live in. That has become the national or almost North American trend.

We have a committee that works on the population, demography and migration aspect within this province. It is made up of people from different departments within the government. But regardless of how well we monitor what is happening, Mr. Chairman, the problem will still exist. There will be decisions that have to be made, and I say to the Honourable Member for Elmwood that those decisions will be made locally and they will be made by people who decide at a certain point that in some cases their school plant is too small to offer a viable program. It does not become a matter of dollars, it becomes a matter of the viability of the program, and as a result they, at that point, decide that their children have to be in a larger establishment where a greater diversity of subjects and special subjects are available to them.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Elmwood.

MR. DOERN: Mr. Chairman, just a couple of more questions here. The Winnipeg School Division is apparently thinking in terms of 120 students as being a minimum or ideal minimum size for a school, and I was intrigued with the Minister's comments about some smaller schools throughout the province at the elementary level. I wonder if he could throw out any figures, if he is thinking of any particular instances where there might be a couple of dozen students or under 50 in some of these elementary schools that are still viable or still continuing.

MR. COSENS: Mr. Chairman, I don't have those particular statistics with me. I can only tell the honourable member that in certain school divisions in the province the parents and school boards have made that decision, that they are prepared to operate their schools at that particular size, realizing that in some cases it means that rather than having a full-time music teacher, for instance, that they will have an itinerant teacher, who will travel from one small school to another and spend a certain amount of time in each particular location. There are a great variety of arrangements and alternatives that different school divisions have entertained and are using, and I think probably the most important aspect of this is that in those particular school divisions these are decisions that have been arrived at by the board in consultation with the parents of the school division, and they feel that the system that they are offering is meeting the expectations of the parents and providing a good sound education for their children.

MR. DOERN: Mr. Chairman, I have to remind the Minister though that it is not fair to say, as he did, that he doesn't close schools. No Minister of Education would want to admit that, no Minister of Economic Development would want to say that he closes plants, but I think that he has to admit that in providing the basic funding he provides the parameters within which decisions are made, and if school boards make certain decisions in economic and educational terms, it is frequently because of the fact that they are only obtaining a certain amount of

funding from the province. So I say that the Minister in effect is . . . Maybe he doesn't make the ultimate decision, but he holds the gun against the head of the school boards, and I believe that is his position. I don't want to give him the metaphor of the piano player in the brothel, because that has been used several times already.

I just want to say that he does in fact close schools by the amount of money that he hands out and by the amount of money that he obtains in the struggle around the Cabinet table for the taxpayers' dollars. The thing that most concerns me, that we will have an opportunity to discuss perhaps this evening, is the fact that he apparently fails to recognize the special requirements and the special needs of the people and in particular the students in Greater Winnipeg School Division No. 1. He is not recognizing their . . .

MR. COSENS: Mr. Chairman, just on point of — I suppose it is a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: A point of order, the Honourable Minister.

MR. COSENS: We are into educational financing now, which we will be discussing, I would imagine, at some length under 3.(a). We are talking about Research at this point, I believe.

MR. CHAIRMAN: To the honourable members, I would have believed that it was on school financing, which does come under 3.(a), but I felt that there was a point trying to be established so I didn't bring him to order.

The Honourable Member for Elmwood.

MR. DOERN: As I said, Mr. Chairman, I intend to develop that at greater length, but I only refer to it now in passing.

I have one more question here and then I will defer to my colleagues. Can the Minister give us some figures — this is the Research Branch, he has provincial projections of public school enrolments for the period 1980 to 1985. I don't know if he has given those already, but I would like to again have the following information: The projections of public school enrolment for 1980 to 1985; the projections for private and parochial school enrolment for the same period; and related to that, the number of teachers that are projected in Manitoba in the next five years, both in the public school system and in the private and parochial school system. If the Minister has that, I would like to have it now, if not perhaps he could give it to us this evening or tomorrow.

MR. COSENS: I don't have those specific figures with me, Mr. Chairman, at this time. If I was to give the member figures off the top of my head, they would only be approximate. I would like to bring those in, either this evening or tomorrow.

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

MR. WALDING: Mr. Chairman, I would like to follow up on some of the comments that my

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colleagues were raising on declining enrolment, and I have to agree with the Minister that it is a particular problem and probably goes to the heart of what is facing education at the moment, but fortunately it is also bound up very intimately with education finance, and as the Minister has pointed out, that would be better dealt with a little later down and we intend to do so.

Reference has been made to a study on enrolment projection and the Minister listed that as one of the research projects of the Research Branch. That being the case, Mr. Chairman, I have to ask the Minister why he denied having such a report a month or so ago when I asked him that question. He stated that there was another study that was done last year and was to the effect that was still in effect. He did admit at a later date to a later question that this was an ongoing project and that perhaps there was an updated report. I had asked if it was possible to have such a report tabled and the Minister has made a reference again today to that report having been completed.

I have been informed that various members of the educational community are in possession of such a document and, if it is any help to the Minister, I am informed that it has a yellow cover, Mr. Chairman. My colleagues on this side would be also interested in seeing such a report if the Minister is now prepared to admit its existence, and I would ask him, can we have a copy of that and why did he deny in this House that there was such a document in existence?

MR. COSENS: Mr. Chairman, there is no problem at all. I was under the understanding that the report had been sent to the Education critic on that side of the House, and I apologize if it is not in his hands. There is certainly no problem at all in providing a copy or copies of this to honourable members opposite.

The question that the member asked at the time, I am afraid was somewhat confusing. He was referring to last year's report and I wasn't quite clear on really what he was asking at that particular time. We certainly keep upgrading and monitoring the enrolment figures of the province, and, of course, I have just outlined that we have had studies under way, so that we are current in this regard. The only thing that changes these figures dramatically, of course, is the current year's birth statistics, and as soon as we have those finalized for 1980, then it will enable us to project one more year into the future with some certainty.

MR. WALDING: Mr. Chairman, the Minister is not correct when he said I was referring to last year's study. If I can find the reference quickly I will read the text of the question to the Minister. My question was to the effect that, did the Minister have a new study, and he replied to the effect that, well, there was a study of last year. I went on to comment in the next question that study was out of date even for the year that it was presented. I said at the time, and this was on Thursday, the 6th of March, I have another question for the same Minister. I would like to ask the Minister if he is currently conducting a study — currently, Mr. Chairman — currently conducting a study into enrolment estimates for the

future enrolment of Manitoba schools? The Minister replied, We completed that type of study last year and have what we consider reasonably accurate estimates that would carry us well into the late 1980s.

The Minister is not in so many words denying that he has such a new study, but the import of the answer to the question clearly suggests, Mr. Chairman, that there is no such study and that the Minister is relying on the study from the year before.

In a follow-up supplementary question, I said, Mr. Speaker, the study that the Minister provided us with last year was clearly out of date, even as to the year that it was tabled . . . and I went on to ask another question. I fail to see, Mr. Chairman, how the Minister could possibly take that as being any reference to an enquiry for a study the year before. I was quite clearly asking for the updated study or the new study, whichever it happened to be, and I took that as a clear denial from the Minister that there was such a study. Perhaps the Minister would care to comment on that.

MR. COSENS: Mr. Chairman, the member refers to the 6th of March as the date when he asked that question. I understand that the new report was tabled subsequent to that date and if I led him to understand that we didn't have a new set of figures at that time, that had been published, I was quite correct, they were published subsequent to that date. It is unfortunate if I implied to him that we weren't monitoring the situation and updating our data and continuing in our study of enrolments in this province. I can assure him that this is a continual process.

MR. WALDING: Mr. Chairman, I accept the Minister's explanation of that and look forward to receiving the updated version of it. I wonder if I might just digress for a moment and refer back to some of the material that the Minister provided us, as a result of questions asked under Other lines in the department, one of them being a three, four-page document that he has passed over showing a breakdown by line with, I suppose, it's a dollar amount under the heading, balance. I had asked the Minister if he would provide us with a breakdown of the lapsing of the some 2.6 million and I assume that what this document indicates is the amounts of money that were unexpended as of March 31st, 1980. The Minister is nodding that is in fact the case.

Without going into it too deeply in advance, Mr. Chairman, the Minister was not entirely correct when he said that these were all little amounts that were scattered throughout the department. Almost half of it, 1,052,000 comes under 3.(a) School Grants and Other Assistance, in one single line, however we will get to that later.

The other question that I asked the Minister of, that he said he would provide the information, was a breakdown of the number of special warrants that were issued for the Department of Education during the same year. I don't see them listed on here and, without some further indication, I would be puzzled to know for which appropriations special warrants were issued since it would seem on all but seven lines there was money not expended by the end of the year. It's my understanding special warrants are

issued when a particular appropriation does not cover the amount needed for that particular appropriation for that year. So I would be interested to know from the Minister, for which appropriations special warrants were needed.

MR. COSENS: I wonder, Mr. Chairman, if the honourable member would be prepared to receive that information where it's applicable as we move to each particular section of the estimates. In other words, I would be quite prepared in 3.(a) if there is something that applies there in the special warrant area to refer to it and as we move through the estimates then, in totality, cover the lump sum that I mentioned to him on the previous evening?

MR. WALDING: That would be acceptable, Mr. Chairman. As long as we get the information and that it's not overlooked as we go through that would be quite acceptable.

I had also asked the Minister a question or two about the matter of teachers in private schools in an attempt to relate that to the previous year. The Minister provided me with one sheet headed, Teacher Certification, which he's broken down into three lines — private schools, shared services schools, and Others, includes Indian Affairs primarily. Those are further broken down into two columns, certified and uncertified, and a total.

I have difficulty in relating those to the information given last year. I would also like to ask the Minister, what is the effective date of these figures that he has provided me. I will just repeat for his benefit the figures that he gave to the committee last year, which he said were effective as of February 1979. He gave a figure for private school teachers of 498, and it's not clear to me from that breakdown whether that is a grand total, in other words, of these three lines that the Minister gave, or whether it includes only private schools and shared services schools.

The Minister further gave a breakdown of 383 certified school teachers and 115 uncertified. He further gave a number under Shared Services Agreements of 359 certified teachers and 53 uncertified teachers. I am not sure whether he has the information immediately to hand for comparison purposes, but I would appreciate an indication from the Minister as to how these two sets of figures are to be reconciled so that we can have a fairly clear indication of what is happening in regard to the number of teachers in private schools, and also an indication of what is happening to the number of uncertified teachers in private schools.

The Minister gave an indication without going into details last year that certain steps were being taken to deal with the uncertified teachers. I ask the question particularly because it would appear, from a glance at the new education bills, that the direct grants are being paid and that there will be a requirement for certified teachers to be teaching in those schools that receive private school grants.

MR. COSENS: Mr. Chairman, if the honourable member is agreeable, what I will do is produce a sheet of information with last year's figures, and this year's figures for the corresponding headings. I think that would be the simplest way of approaching the particular information that he desires. If I am correct

he would like to know the total number of teachers in the private schools of the province, this year, last year; he would like to know the total number who are certified, the total number uncertified, and the comparisons for the two years. He is not concerned about whether these people who are certified are under particular agreements or not; he would just like the gross figure for the total in the private school system.

MR. WALDING: Mr. Chairman, I am interested mostly in the gross figure. Since the Minister has provided it for us this year with a breakdown, it might be as easy to do for the previous year, which I noticed that he did. Although there was no mention in his statement last year of Others, including Indian Affairs primarily, and there is a fair number of teachers involved there. According to this, Mr. Chairman, the Minister quotes the number at 233 certified teachers and 28 uncertified teachers. Perhaps he could clarify whether those are actually Department of Education or come under a provincial school board or whether those are federal schools in which that applies.

MR. COSENS: Mr. Chairman, as I mentioned, I'll provide the honourable member with a sheet of information setting out the different headings and the comparison for 1978-79 and 1979-80. I believe those are the figures that he requires, and not confusing them with the teachers in the Department of Indian Affairs Schools and so on.

MR. WALDING: Mr. Chairman, I seem to recall that one of my colleagues had asked for the numbers of students in private schools as well. I wonder if the Minister is intending to give us that information and perhaps we could have a comparison of the latest figures over a year ago with a breakdown if possible or if indicated in the same three lines on the teacher's sheet.

MR. COSENS: Mr. Chairman, the enrolment in private schools as of September of the 1978-79 year was 8,574 students and the enrolment for 1979-80 was 8,788 students. That's counting Kindergarten twice, I suppose, Mr. Chairman, and also it includes the nursery figures. If we take that total enrolment and convert it to average enrolment, less the nursery and 50 percent of the Kindergarten for 1978-79 it becomes 8,303, and 1979-80 8,470.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Rossmere.

MR. SCHROEDER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I've noticed in most areas of our province, especially in urban areas, that elementary and senior schools are on separate locations and in Valley Gardens right now there is a problem with respect to overcrowding of some schools and just immediately down the road there is underattendance. I am just wondering whether the research branch or the Minister have done any studies to indicate that it is preferable to have schools, have the K to 6 separate from the K to 12 schools as they are asking in Valley Gardens?

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MR. COSENS: Mr. Chairman, I am not aware that we have had any research projects in recent years in that regard. It would seem to be a matter of preference of a particular locality and we find, across the provinces, that some areas prefer different types of school arrangements than others. We have some who prefer the Kindergarten to Grade 6 separate; there are others that use a Kindergarten to Grade 8 arrangement; others who separate out their junior high students; others who use a Grade 9 to 12 arrangement. This is a matter of local preference, Mr. Chairman, and I suppose if we were to delve into the research we could find research papers that would support almost any type of arrangement we might suggest. But we have a great diversity in the type of particular arrangements that we find across the provinces.

MR. SCHROEDER: Thank you. I had been informed that at Landmark, Manitoba there had been, in fact, a request made by the school board for a separate new K to 6 school and that, in response to that request, the Public Schools Finance Board had suggested that they would only be entitled to a new school providing that it was built onto, as an additional structure, on the existing high school. I am just wondering how that would square with the policy just enunciated by the Minister that in the separate parts of the province people do what they feel is appropriate for their children, and that is what is supported by the department.

MR. COSENS: Mr. Chairman, we are getting somewhat away from the whole topic of research. This would come under 3.(a) again, School Grants and Public Schools Finance Board, but there certainly are instances, I suppose, of particular proposals that are entertained by the Public Schools Finance Board where, on the basis of student enrolment, on the basis of existing facilities, that the finance board after careful study of the situation makes a recommendation that may differ from the original proposal. That recommendation is then passed on to the local school division who may or may not accept that recommendation. In some cases if they feel strongly that it will not meet their needs and is not in line with their philosophy and so on, they can then appeal that particular decision to the Minister in this case, or in any case where they feel strongly in this regard, and the whole proposal is reviewed rather carefully before a final recommendation is made on a particular school building.

MR. SCHROEDER: Last year, the Minister indicated in the estimates that he wasn't aware of any particular problems with respect to delivery of education in the core area of Winnipeg. I am just wondering whether he has requested his Research Department to do any research into the manner in which education is now being delivered. I'm thinking specifically about the reported problems with respect to truancy, some of the difficulties faced by single-parent families, and the people who have come into the city from native and remote communities.

Is the Minister still not aware of any problems in education delivery in the core area?

MR. COSENS: Mr. Chairman, I have some trouble imagining that I made a statement that there were no problems of delivery of educational services in the core area, but the honourable member may very well be able to show me that I made a statement like that. Again, I would like to see in what context that statement may have been made.

I am well aware that there are problems in the core area, a great number of problems, and they do affect the delivery of educational services and one of them, of course, is the great mobility of students within schools, where I am told that a particular child may in one year attend up to 20 different schools. That almost is unbelievable, Mr. Chairman, but in fact I am told by teachers and administrators in the schools that that sort of thing does occur. Of course, it creates almost an impossible situation for the people who are trying to deliver a program.

The honourable member asks if the Research Department has proceeded with a particular study in that area. I think he is probably aware that the Winnipeg School Division has their own Research Department and it is my understanding that a research project has just been completed in that regard, concerning not only the delivery of educational services in that particular area of the city, but the delivery of community services and health services to the people of that area. I have not had the opportunity to examine that report to this date and I have only seen the particular report that was in the newspapers. I will examine that report with some interest.

MR. SCHROEDER: It seems to me that this has to be the area of the greatest concern to those of us in this committee. We are talking about a number of thousands of children, who are in the system right now. It is a matter of human concern; it is a matter of economic concern. If we don't do the job right now, it is going to be costly. It is going to be costly in terms of our justice system, in terms of our health system, in terms of unemployment. We are creating social problems if we are not prepared to act now. I would suggest that the provincial department ought not to be abdicating its role to local departments, to local cities, and just expecting the city of Winnipeg to be bearing the entire brunt of this kind of research into how some of these problems can be alleviated. I would suggest that the direction in which this department appears to be going in this area is one that does not bode well for the future. Under this Minister, a large number of projects, experimental projects, research projects for the underprivileged have been cancelled and I believe that, if anywhere, if we are spending money anywhere, extra money anywhere, this has to be the area where we have to be going.

I would urge the Minister to provide more funding, adequate funding, to do whatever is necessary to provide these kids with a fair chance in life.

MR. COSENS: Mr. Chairman, I am very sympathetic to what the Member for Rossmere is saying and I can assure him, as we move down into the funding that we provide to school divisions of the province, that he will find under that particular section that we have increased the particular support

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for the core area by 50 percent this year, which is a rather significant increase in itself.

We have also increased certain other aspects that bear on this area in our granting system as well, so I will deal with that and I'll be pleased to highlight those particular areas when we get to that section.

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

MR. WALDING: Mr. Chairman, I wanted to raise another topic that has something to do with education finance, but I think it impinges quite closely on this particular branch. I would like to quote a letter, Mr. Chairman, or a paragraph from a letter that the Minister of Education wrote to the Secretary-Treasurer of Winnipeg School Division No. 1. In part, it said, The Greater Winnipeg Education Levy is under continuing study to see what should be done with respect to it. I have asked my staff to provide me with alternatives to the levy, with a view to seeing what might be possible.

Now, the Minister wrote that just over a year ago, on May 25, 1979. I would like to ask the Minister whether the staff referred to in that letter was staff of the Research Branch, and have they in fact provided the Minister with alternatives to the levy?

MR. COSENS: Mr. Chairman, in response to the Honourable Member for St. Vital, the answer is no, it was not the staff of the Research Branch but the finance staff of my department who worked very closely with school grants and educational financing. These are the people who have been working not only on the problems associated with the Greater Winnipeg Equalization Levy but with all problems associated with the financing of education in this province.

Once again, this is a topic that, if the member so desires, we can pursue at some length under the financing of schools under 3.(a).

MR. WALDING: Mr. Chairman, I'm sure that we will pursue this particular item. I know that there are members on both side of the House that have an interest in it.

Perhaps, just before we leave it, could the Minister inform the House whether his staff in Finance or Research, or anywhere else, have in fact provided him with alternatives?

MR. COSENS: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

MR. WALDING: Mr. Chairman, again, it impinges upon education finance but the Minister of Finance made mention of it in his Budget Speech and the Throne Speech, I believe, also mentioned the matter, and that was that the government was intending to come up with a new formula for the financing of education by the end of this fiscal year. I would like to ask the Minister whether it is staff in the Research Branch of his department that are working on this problem.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please. The hour being 4:30, I am interrupting the proceedings for Private Members' House, and Committee will resume at 8:00 o'clock this evening.

IN SESSION

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Can I have some indication of whether members are still in the other committee or not.

The Honourable Minister of Community Services.

MR. MINAKER: Mr. Speaker, I just left the committee and, as far as I know, it had risen and would be returning at 8:00 o'clock.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' HOUR

ADJOURNED DEBATE ON SECOND READING — PRIVATE BILLS

MR. SPEAKER: We are now under Private Members' Hour. Tuesdays, the first item of business, Private Bills, on the Order Paper under Adjourned Debates on Second Reading, the first order of business, Bill No. 11, An Act to Incorporate the Brandon General Hospital Foundation, standing in the name of the Honourable Member for Gladstone.

BILL NO. 11 — AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE BRANDON GENERAL HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

MR. JAMES R. FERGUSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I adjourned this bill for the Member for Brandon West.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister without Portfolio.

HON. EDWARD MCGILL (Brandon West): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have examined Bill No. 11 and the explanations given by the Member for Brandon East and the principle involved here is, I think all members would agree, is a worthy one, that is, the establishment of a foundation, a Brandon General Hospital Foundation, which would provide the necessary machinery to receive and disburse any moneys that might be willed to the Brandon General Hospital.

In principle, Mr. Speaker, we have no difficulty in supporting this bill. If there are any questions relating to the particular clauses, they can be dealt with in committee. I would recommend that this bill proceed to committee.

QUESTION put, MOTION carried.

BILL NO. 41 — AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE BETHESDA FOUNDATION

MR. SPEAKER: Bill No. 41, An Act to Incorporate the Bethesda Foundation. The Honourable Member for Logan.

MR. JENKINS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I adjourned this debate on behalf of the Honourable Member for St. John.

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

MR. CHERNIACK: Mr. Speaker, there are a few comments I would like to make on this bill. Firstly,

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you will notice that it has a very lengthy preamble, which is referred to by the member who proposed the bill, sponsored it. I remember being cautioned years back by people concerned about legislation, that it is not desirable to have a preamble in legislation because it tends to confuse, rather than to clarify what the law becomes, since the preamble is not part of the law. Nevertheless, I do understand the reasoning behind the proponents of the bill, and I'm glad it is not my responsibility to decide whether or not there ought to be a principle about preambles because, in this case, the people who have given of their efforts in years gone by, and referred to here, 1884, 1900, I understand their desire to have the legislation reflect some historic monument to their past.

But in passing, I just comment that I'm not sure that it's a good trend and it may well become a precedent for lengthy introductions to bills which might be a problem, certainly not a problem in this case, Mr. Speaker, but I just mention it as being a principle one should be concerned with.

I think also, that once the preamble is there and one notes the principles established therein in the preamble, and I quote from the third, that the residents of the community continued their recognition that self-help was the most desirable form of seeking change and resolved to make imaginative strides as insurance for their sons and daughters by creating a society which they named the Verein fur Kranken Hilfe, which is the history on this continent of very many immigrants to this continent, right across the United States and Canada, where people of similar religious or ethnic or cultural background found it necessary in the times of the complete free enterprise system to have to gather together and rely on each other with a co-operative effort, recognizing indeed the principle that you are your brother's keeper and that you do have a responsibility for your neighbours or for your friends, or for your people.

And that is one that was essential, because in those days, government operated on the basis that it had no real concerns about individuals, and therefore individuals found it necessary and advisable to form vereins or groups or associations of this kind in order to ensure that they would be supportive of each other in a true sense of co-operation and in a communal atmosphere. I think that the people in this group, who I believe are Mennonites, have proven, have shown the importance of their history and their contribution to their own communities, and in that way to the general community and that of Canada.

I, of course, am much more familiar with the history as it applies to Jewish settlers of Canada and the United States, who for the same reasons, formed all sorts of organizations in order to help each other to survive and to grow and to develop within a strange atmosphere, sometimes in a strange physical climate, but certainly usually in a strange emotional climate with a strange language to them, where they really felt that they were strangers within the larger community until they were able to develop, and it took, often, more than one generation to accomplish that.

Mr. Speaker, I think one should salute the people who formed the society that is referred to in the bill,

along with all those other people who formed similar self-help societies. It is a mark of credit, Mr. Speaker, that society has developed to the extent where now it is possible to rely on elected representatives to carry on that kind of work, and it is a credit to the community, the larger community, that we have developed with our progressive attitudes in government, to rely on members of the Legislature to be representative of the people that elect them to make sure that we have the social attitudes where we do, as a people, through government, using the MLAs in Manitoba as their method of seeing to it that the principle of being our brother's keeper is maintained. That is why we now have tremendous involvement of government in social services, in health services, in the Health Services Commission, for example, in Autopac, for example, Mr. Speaker, in all those aspects where government has become involved in helping people of the community to help themselves and to help each other. It is only right, I believe, that it should be done through the means of government, and the principle of self-help referred to in this preamble is indeed to me, a reflection of the progress we've made where we, as legislators, elected by the people we represent, are doing the same thing.

I can't help but note in passing that I think that the history, as described in the preamble, and indeed, the history and the progress of Manitobans, is greatly reflective of those who have the most progressive points of view in regard to the need of government to become involved and to participate in service to the community and in service to each other. And that is why, as I say, one should salute — and I do salute — the people who are described as the pioneers in the preamble and all those others like them, amongst all the various other cultural religious ethnic groups who have come to Canada and who have built the community, as has been the case in this one, which more specifically deals with the area of the Steinbach Hospital District No. 27.

The mover of this bill, the Honourable Member for Emerson, enabled me to speak to the solicitor for the foundation, and I was able to speak to him just less than an hour ago to clarify a couple of points, although I didn't think I'd be ready to speak to today at his request, and I was glad to accede to Mr. Regier's request to help the bill along in the process. Although I don't know that there is any great urgency, nevertheless there is in his mind, so as a co-operation with a colleague, I am speaking on it now.

But I pointed out to him that there is one section of the bill which provides that the foundation shall observe, carry out, perform and give effect to all terms, provisions, and conditions that attach to a donation and are expressed in the instrument affecting the donation or creating the trust. I sometimes worry about people trying to control their assets into the future, after their death and beyond that, in perpetuity. I recognize there is a section that says the foundation is not required to accept any gift, but I interpret this to mean that once having accepted the gift, the foundation is bound to carry out the conditions, the instructions, that are expressed in the instrument affecting the donation or trust.

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I am very much concerned, Mr. Speaker, that we, as legislators, must always protect the future generations from what may be old-fashioned ideas, and indeed, prejudices of the past, and I suggested to Mr. Regier that I would be concerned that there should not be a condition attached to any fund that will offend against public interest; indeed I think it would offend against the Human Rights legislation. I think we should recognize that a person who may have certain biases or prejudices should not be allowed to carry them forward to the extent of imposing conditions which would not be acceptable as being contrary to the public interest.

So that I don't know if the Honourable Member for Emerson knows it as yet, but if he doesn't, he will know soon, that Mr. Regier indicated to me that he would be amenable to an amendment to this section to provide that the obligation to carry out the conditions would be one which the amendment would provide that it must not be contrary to the public interest, and that change would then make it possible for the foundation itself to say, well, this condition seems offensive to the public interest, and they could then go to the court and have the court review it and declare that, it being contrary to the public interest, it would relieve the foundation of the obligation to carry out a condition which is offensive.

I discussed another point with counsel, and I must say that he satisfied me not to press the issue, but I should mention it, Mr. Speaker. I did, when I was allowed to ask the certain member questions. As I recall it, you, Mr. Speaker, thought I was entering into a debate, and I had to assure you I wasn't, but I was asking about why it was felt so necessary to deny to the board the discretion of reducing any deficit incurred by the Steinbach Hospital district. Because I felt that in the interest of self-help, they should be prepared, when the need arose, to finance a deficit. However, what Mr. Regier explained to me was that they feared that the hospital board might say, well, let's go ahead, we'll spend the money anyway, because we can always go back to the foundation and they will be able to look after the deficit. He wanted to make it very clear that no one should be able to allow themselves to have a deficit and in any way expect to rely on this fund.

Well, I can understand the point; I'm not sure I fully agree with it, but that's not important. I understand it, and he has indicated to me that this section had a great deal of discussion amongst the members of the foundation, or the potential members of the foundation, and it was very important to them to have this section in, then of course by all means, since in itself, it is not one to which I would object in principle, and by all means, if that is so important to them, I would withdraw any question or doubt I had.

On that basis, Mr. Speaker, I would endorse the proposal to have the bill go to committee and having it voted on on second reading.

QUESTION put, MOTION carried.

MR. SPEAKER: Bill No. 45, The Investors Syndicate Limited Act, 1980, standing in the name of the Honourable Member for Logan.

MR. JENKINS: Stand, Mr. Speaker.

BILL NO. 46 — AN ACT TO AMEND AN ACT INCORPORATING THE REGENT TRUST COMPANY

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Logan.

MR. JENKINS: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I adjourned this debate on behalf of the Honourable Member for St. Johns.

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

MR. CHERNIACK: Mr. Speaker, one glances at the Bill No. 46, dealing with an amendment to The Regent Trust Company Act. There are two features to this; one which I consider unimportant is the one to which the mover spent, I think, all his time, and that's dealing with an increase in the authorized capital of the company, that is increasing the maximum consideration is one he explained at some length. The second one, which to me is a much more important change, was not referred to by him, and that is the one that provides that a Certificate of Continuance under Section 181 of The Corporations Act may be issued, in spite of The Corporations Act. That, to me, is a very important section because, Mr. Speaker, I have had occasion in the past, well, not to complain so much as to question the need for the Legislature to become involved in the powers and authority and legislation affecting many private Acts of Incorporation, and I wondered why it was necessary to continue to have to come to the Legislature for incorporation of certain legislation. I know that there were certain limitations in the former Companies Act which made it impossible for certain corporation with certain objectives to achieve this desired status under the old Companies Act, but that was changed. One of the important changes that was enacted under The Corporations Act was indeed Section 181. The specific subsection I would like to refer to is Section 181, Subsection 4, which reads: On the date shown in the Certificate of Continuance, (a) the body corporate becomes a corporation to which this Act applies as if it had been incorporated under this Act; (b) the articles of continuance are deemed to be the articles of incorporation of the continued corporation; and (c) the Certificate of Continuance is deemed to be the Certificate of Incorporation of the continued corporation.

All this, Mr. Speaker, seems to spell out that once we, in the Legislature, by amendment to a private company Act, enable the company to obtain a Certificate of Continuance under Section 181, that company can henceforth carry on its various changes in corporate structure under The Corporations Act, rather than having to come back here to the Legislature for any change they want to make. And that, I think, is a good measure and will save a good deal of time and the expenditure of funds needed to carry on the business of this Legislature, by enabling, in this case The Regent Trust Company, to get a Certificate of Continuance and not have to come back here anymore but to carry on its changes under The Corporations Act.

I believe that is the consequences, the effectiveness of this proposed change. I confirmed it with one of the legislative counsel who confirmed to me that he had talked to Gordon Snider, who was the registrar of The Corporations Act and that he was told that by Gordon Snider.

Mr. Speaker, it is not out of order at this stage for me to pay a little bit of tribute to Gordon Snider, who really was one of the outstanding civil servants with whom I had an opportunity to deal. — (Interjection)— That's the first time I've received that much applause from the other side, Mr. Speaker, but I know it wasn't intended for me, but rather to recognize that what I was saying about Gordon Snider was justified. I dealt with Gordon Snider as a fledgling lawyer and that means for — it's not 40 years. I've been practising 40 years but he hasn't been in that position that long, but I would guess that 25 or 30 years has been easily the amount of time that I spent in association with him in his capacity as Registrar, and I think he gave outstanding service and proved that his knowledge of the law dealing with corporations was greater than any lawyer I've had an opportunity to talk to about the intricacies of the Act.

So that I have a third-hand report from Gordon Snider that that is the intent of this section of this amendment on Bill 46, and on that basis, I think that it is a progressive step which was made possible by the enactment of The Corporations Act itself back in 1976. On that basis, I certainly endorse the bill before us, Mr. Speaker.

QUESTION put, MOTION CARRIED.

MR. SPEAKER: Bill No. 54. The Honourable Member for Logan. (Stand.)

SECOND READING — PRIVATE BILLS

BILL NO. 52 — AN ACT TO AMEND AN ACT

TO AMEND, REVISE AND CONSOLIDATE AN ACT

RESPECTING THE CONGREGATION SHAAREY ZEDEK

MR. SPEAKER: Bill No. 52. The Honourable Member for River Heights.

MR. GARY FILMON presented Bill No. 52, An Act to Amend an Act to Amend, Revise and Consolidate an Act Respecting the Congregation Shaarey Zedek, for second reading.

MOTION presented.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for River Heights.

MR. FILMON: Mr. Speaker, the Congregation Shaarey Zedek was given its own Act at a time, I believe it was 1913, at a time when there was no provision under The Corporations Act for corporations without share capital. Now that provision exists it is the desire of the congregation to become a corporation under The Corporations Act, without share capital. As such they would have all

the rights and responsibilities that apply to a corporation, but it would give them the advantage of being able to amend certain provisions and procedures by by-law, rather than having to come to the Assembly for an Act to amend their Act, and this has happened from time to time. It is a rather cumbersome procedure; it is a procedure that the congregation would like to be relieved of at the present time.

The purposes of the bill, Mr. Speaker, in explanation of what I have said, are to continue the corporation under Section 181 of The Companies Act and, as I say, it would allow them to function under the general provisions of The Companies Act in the future, without having to deal with future changes, they can deal with matters under their own changes in by-law.

This Act would also allow the Congregation Shaarey Zedek to use its former name, Congregation Shaarey Zedek, without having to add Incorporation, Inc., or Corporation, or Limited, at the end.

Under Section 272 of The Companies Act, this privilege is accorded to corporations without share capital, where incorporated prior to November 16, 1964.

Since Congregation Shaarey Zedek was originally incorporated, as I said, in 1913, we are asking for this provision in the bill to ensure that the privilege applies to the Congregation.

In addition, Mr. Speaker, out of an abundance of caution, to make sure that certain provisions in the present statutes of the Congregation Shaarey Zedek will cease to apply once a Certificate of Continuance issues, the Congregation has passed a new by-law, which will come into force upon issuance of the Certificate of Continuance, which has changed certain internal matters which are dealt with in the statute, and to make sure that there is no overlap or gap. These are all internal matters dealing with the size of the board, etc.

With those brief words of explanation, Mr. Speaker, I would recommend acceptance of the bill.

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

MMR. CHERNIACK: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the honourable member a question, if I may. Could he please explain the one section he did not deal with, and that is the substitution of the word otherwise for the word hereinafter as set out in the first section of the bill.

MR. FILMON: Mr. Speaker, because I do not have the original bill before me, I would have to undertake to find the explanation to that and bring it back then for the member. Is there anything else, then, so I may bring back anything?

MR. CHERNIACK: Mr. Speaker, I will accept the honourable member's undertaking to let us have that. I would presume he would undertake to let us have a copy of the old section, or possibly of the old Act itself, so we can see it, but I'm sure there is no reason to hold up passing the bill just for that. It may be just a correction of a clerical — well, it couldn't be clerical error — but just a nomenclature. In any event, I doubt if it's of any consequence.

Nevertheless, as legislators, we ought to make sure and I should think that by the time we get to committee, and I would hope before that, the member at least would let me have an answer to my question, for my own satisfaction.

But, Mr. Speaker, one of the reasons why I was glad that he was prepared to speak on it today was to keep Hansard nice and tidy, because the more extensive remarks are made in regard to the previous bill, that is Bill 46 dealing with The Regent Trust Company, apply completely to this bill. It is the same Section 181 that The Regent Trust Company was dealing with, as referred to by the member in Bill 52. Therefore, there is no need whatsoever for me to repeat what I have said only a few moments ago in relation to the prior bill, No. 46, and since it's the same purpose and the same consequences and therefore a desirable one, I would support the passing of this bill.

QUESTION put, MOTION carried.

BILL NO. 53 — THE WINNIPEG FOUNDATION ACT

MR. SPEAKER: Bill No. 53. The Honourable Member for River Heights.

MR. FILMON presented Bill No. 53, The Winnipeg Foundation Act, for second reading.

MOTION presented.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for River Heights.

MR. FILMON: Mr. Speaker, in introducing this Act to amend The Winnipeg Foundation Act, I might indicate that The Winnipeg Foundation was incorporated by Act of the Legislature in 1921. Since that time, several further Acts have been passed which relate to the Foundation. As a matter of fact, today there are eight different Acts which govern the operation of The Winnipeg Foundation. These eight Acts are listed in the bill.

The major purpose of this bill is to bring some order to the existing situation by consolidating these eight existing statutes into one new Act and to frame that new Act in modern language.

The bill does not in any basic way change the existing powers or objects of the Foundation, or the manner in which the Foundation carries out its affairs. Rather, the purpose of the bill is to set out the existing objects and powers of the Foundation in unambiguous terms in order to avoid the confusion involved in interpreting the several current Acts.

The major areas requiring clarification which are dealt with by this bill are: Firstly, the bill specifically includes this conservation of human, natural and heritage resources as an object of the Act. I would think that the Member for Fort Rouge would be interested in the fact that this probably allows them now to become involved in heritage properties and parks, the preservation or maintenance of parks is an object of the Foundation.

Secondly, the trust companies which hold the property of the Foundation are referred to as custodians rather than as trustees, so that there is

no ambiguity concerning the functions which the trust company is to perform.

As members might be aware, trust companies, if they are referred to as trustees, normally expect to have some powers of discretion as to the manner in which investments are made, some recommendation towards that end. In this case, the investments of the foundation are made by its board, the investment decisions, and the trust companies merely act as custodians, holding the securities on behalf of the foundation. So that makes the title and the terminology of custodian very clear as opposed to the old act, which referred to them as custodian trustees and which was judged to be ambiguous by solicitors for the foundation.

Also, Mr. Speaker, specific provision is made for a consolidated trust fund. The purpose of this is that separate donations may be combined for the purposes of facilitating investment and is something that is very necessary to the foundation in being able to make best use and take best advantage of funds that are given to the foundation.

In addition to providing clarification in respect of the three areas I have referred to, this bill does make one substantive change in that whereas it is possible to interpret the acts which are currently in force as limiting the benefit of the objects of the foundation to the inhabitants of the city of Winnipeg, the bill makes provision that the objects of the foundation are not limited exclusively to the inhabitants of the city of Winnipeg but instead may benefit other residents of Manitoba. I believe that currently there is a donation in the hands of the foundation from Miami, Manitoba, and the intention is to utilize the proceeds for the benefit of people in that area of the province. There is some question as to whether the current legislation governing the Winnipeg Foundation allows them to do this, and this will be clarified by virtue of the new provisions in this act, Mr. Speaker.

The bill contains other changes from existing legislation which are not of a substantive nature but which will be of assistance to the foundation in administering its affairs. Some of these changes are, firstly, the numbers of members of the board of directors has increased to provide for as many as nine members rather than the current limitation of five. Specific provision is made for the payment of the expenses of the foundation out of its general income. Thirdly, provision is made that the rule against accumulations does not apply to the foundation. Fourthly, a requirement for publication of the audit of the foundation's financial affairs in two daily newspapers is not included in this bill. As you can appreciate, Mr. Speaker, there are two daily newspapers, as well as several weekly newspapers and other newspapers which are being formed, and so this again became an ambiguous requirement and so it is clarified in the bill that's presently before the House. And finally, provision is made that The Corporations Act does not apply to the foundation.

With that brief introduction I would recommend the bill for adoption by the House, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Logan.

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MR. JENKINS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Lac du Bonnet, debate be adjourned.

MOTION presented and carried.

**ADJOURNED DEBATE ON SECOND
READING
PUBLIC BILLS**

**BILL NO. 15 — AN ACT TO AMEND
THE BRANDON CHARTER**

MR. SPEAKER: Adjourned debate on Second Reading of Public Bills. Bill No. 15, An Act to amend The Brandon Charter, standing in the name of the Honourable Member for Gladstone.

MR. FERGUSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I adjourned this bill for the Honourable Member for Brandon West, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister without Portfolio.

MR. MCGILL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Bill 15 amends The Brandon Charter and the purpose, of course, is fairly simple and straightforward. It would provide the authority to the council to pass by-laws which would enable them to impose fines up to 1,000.00. In 1946 the Act which dealt with this matter provided a limit of 50 and, as the mover has explained, the purpose of this new amendment is simply to bring the maximum fine that can be imposed by by-law up to more modern figures.

I would think that there would be little opposition to such a move by the city of Brandon and I would think then that the House would be prepared to move this bill to committee and if any further explanations are required, they could be received at that stage. Thank you.

QUESTION put, MOTION carried.

MR. SPEAKER: Bill No. 40, An Act to amend The Labour Relations Act, standing in the name of the Honourable Member for Inkster. (Stand)

Bill No. 44, An Act to amend The Medical Act, standing in the name of the Honourable Member for Logan. (Stand.)

**RESOLUTION NO. 20 — REGULATIONS
UNDER
THE LIQUOR CONTROL ACT**

MR. SPEAKER: We then move on to resolutions, Resolution No. 20, the amendment as proposed by the Honourable Attorney-General. The Honourable Member for Wolseley has eight minutes left in closing debate.

MR. ROBERT G. WILSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am speaking only to the amendment because in eight minutes you couldn't begin to cover the field. I did want to speak to the amendment because it was my wish to try to hope that the members of the House would have a free vote on

this particular resolution. I won't be upset if that doesn't take place but I think it is paramount to the tourism industry, to the common sense and to the public demand that we get on with the job in some areas that the Liquor Review Committee is looking at and those particular areas cannot wait for another two or three years.

I looked at a particular article that the Premier was quoted as saying that there might not be any further need for any increased liquor advertising and I, for one, cannot see any harm in that, when it's compared to other products which are available. I, for one, would like to see the restrictions on the advertising of liquor removed immediately. I see no harm in many of the products that the Liquor Commission sells in comparison to some of the brainwashing that takes place with such items as coffee and glucose sugar, and even the water scenes which depict our water, and of course I've been one that's been lobbying for the removal of fluoride from our water for a long time, and I know for a fact that myself included, have been given doctors' advice that coffee is more harmful than the contents of low-ball beer or, for that matter, beer.

I think we've got to be honest, and I appreciate what the woman in Brandon said to the Liquor Review Committee and I support the United Church in their particular statement, but if you would have listened to my resolution, it called for a greater increase in government involvement in recognizing that alcoholism is a disease and to continue to put a greater share of the Liquor Commission profits, which are well in excess, I believe, of 80 million, that those particular profits could go towards recognizing that not all people can cope with a particular liquor problem.

I think we have to be honest and liquor is readily available to anyone that wants it, anyone that has money, and to say that keeping an archaic liquor laws of this province in place is going to aid tourism, it's going to stop people from drinking, they're going to come here solely for the purpose of our climate conditions, I say there is another amenity which brings people to this province and it happens to be communication, camaraderie and good times. I think that the church, themselves, would be honest if they reviewed the situation and the United Church looked at the harmful advertising of these other products and said to them, if the Conservative government, if the Member for Wolseley is willing to work hard to get a greater share of profits to go towards the preventative and medical situation pertaining to the amendment, then I would like the amendment to be defeated and vote on my resolution because I believe that we have to protect, in a large degree, the government Liquor Control employees, but I think we have to be fair to the demands of the public and I can see nothing wrong with permitting wine sales to take place in the private sector.

At first I had talked about only cheese stores being able to sell this wine, but I do believe that the private sector in grocery stores could be, and if that was successful, somewhere down the line another amendment could be made. I'm not particularly that turned on to selling liquor and beer in grocery stores at this point in time. I would rather just test the market with the wine sales because I do believe that wine contains a lot of good byproducts as well as the

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social aspect and, in my opinion, it is a lot better for individuals than coffee and some of the sugar products that are being sold and advertised on the market.

Time won't permit me to speak on the amendment itself but I do hope to be able to close debate on the resolution and get into some of the areas which I think will convince both the United Church and both the government Liquor Control employees that I am on their side. I share their concerns and I think of nothing that I would like better than to be able to offer some hope to the alcoholics of this province that greater funding, greater facilities and greater recognition of the disease that they have will be recognized but, at the same time, the largest majority of the people — and they are the majority — that can cope with socialized drinking, they should be recognized and they should be given the opportunity to enjoy themselves in an atmosphere of a friendly province. I, for one, really think that one of the things lacking in what I consider one of the places that I have chosen to live and one of the places that people keep coming back to even that have moved away, one of the drawbacks is our archaic liquor laws and how we subvert them through occasional permits and other means and methods, because there is always a way, and I would like to see, like the horse and buggy, the Winnipeg bootlegger be a thing of the past. And that can happen with more liberalized liquor laws.

I would like to see in sporting events that, if the amendment is defeated, that immediately that the particular operators in the arena and the stadium could be able to encourage the tailgate parties that are so prominent south of the border, so that there won't be this massive rush after the game to fight traffic, that some of those will stay behind in a group and camaraderie situation and be able to enjoy the fellowship and the spirit of sports in their trailers and barbequing, and whatever else they do on the parking lots outside the arena. I think it would help lagging ticket sales. You talk about a product to sell, besides having a winning football team on the field, you have to also make it enjoyable for people to go to, to see their friends and to have a reason, other than a losing football team, to want to go and participate in that particular event. I think the very relaxation of those laws would help just one area and I do believe that it should be beer only in the stands. I think that all hard liquor sales should be in a confined area and run by the stadium. I am not willing to accept completely removal of all restrictions and would like to see the hard liquor sales confined to an area.

I did, as I say, not want to get it because I am speaking to the amendment to encourage my fellow colleagues to defeat the amendment and give consideration to the resolution after they hear my arguments, and I do believe that we, as shepherds, and the people are looking for leadership, have to turn around and say the time is now to avoid the delays that are taking place by throwing Liquor Review Committees at us, and further delaying tactics, worrying about a temperance vote, when I am sure that the United Church and others will recognize that what we have here it a common-sense approach to the quiet enjoyment of the majority of people, and we will take their concerns and we, as

politicians, will see to it the additional funding will take place to avoid further alcohol abuse in the province.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you ready for the question?

The question before the House is the proposed amendment of the Honourable Attorney-General to Resolution No. 20 and the wording of that is as follows:

Be amended by deleting the words government of Manitoba amend in paragraph 1 and by substituting the following Ministerial Advisory Committee consider the advisability or inadvisability of revising.

QUESTION put on the Amendment, MOTION carried.

MR. SPEAKER: We are now dealing with the original Motion as amended. Are you ready for the question?

The Honourable Member for Wolseley will be closing debate. The Honourable Member for Wolseley.

MR. WILSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wanted to put some things on the record with the hope that the Liquor Review Committee who is looking at the changes in the liquor laws will have something from a political point of view that may or may not be of some help to them.

I did want to speak, as I say they will be hearing representation during the summer months, which I must admit is not the time of the year when you can get a maximum type of attendance that is probably necessary to bring forward all the suggestions, but I do believe there are some interested parties and some lobbies which will be talking to the Committee.

I do believe that in the review we have to look at our iron-fist approach that we have and control over licenced operators as to the type and weave of carpet that they put in; the location of the equipment; the difference between the urban establishments and those in the fishing camps in the north. I think that the restrictions in the review and the control should allow the operator to tailor his business and type of establishment to suit his customer's taste. I think particularly of a type of thing I suggested in a peanut bar, where papers and peanut shells and everything are tossed on the floor, and the operator at the end of the evening clears them up. It is a case of serving in the bar the type of things such as pretzels and peanuts and things that allow people to do things that they might not be able to do at home.

I talked about the enforcement of the Act. I would like to see the Review Committee recommend that in some troubled areas of the province and the city that if the arena sees fits to have you put your lowball beer in a plastic container, I cannot see why the Leland Hotel and the Northern and the West and all the hotels along the Main Street strip, as well as some of these very very crowded stand-up bars and discos have a container requirement. I think the operators have more than enough profit in their present pricing to be able to agree to that. It may not have to be regulated, it may be an agreement.

One of the problems the Review Committee is going to have to face, there is going to be lobbies

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about the underage drinker. I would like to see that the onus be put on the operator of the hotel to accept as proof only an ID Card that the government should pay for, because certainly if we are making over 80 million on this product we should have an ID card with a picture on it that is the only acceptable proof, in addition to a birth certificate, and/or one of the other as a means for underage drinkers who may be questioned on licenced premises.

I do believe that in the area of the occasional permits is where you really run into the underage drinker and I would like to say that the very fact that there is a demand for so many occasional permits shows us that there is a demand for change and I think there is a demand at these socials for movement with drinking. I think the restriction of licencing people to have you restricted to your seat, the very success of these socials is a case of public demand for movement with drinking.

I have occasion myself to attend several of the licenced premises in the downtown area and the one thing people always start asking about Thursday and Friday, where are the socials this week? It is through that means that people are able to continue and have a good time in a wedding spirit, a teen spirit, spirit of enjoyment, that communication is there. I think that if the one problem of the underage drinking can't be solved by stricter enforcement of the liquor laws, then we may have to look at raising the drinking age to 19.

I think that we should change the regulations which don't allow, under the fund raising, fund raising for sickness. So many of the medical bills and treatments that are needed for south of the line cost a lot of money. I think that we have a difference in possibly raising money for wedding expenses, for sports equipment that somebody may want to donate. Sometimes people for reasons, they have a family member is charged with murder, they may need socials to raise legal fees rather than lose their home and all their belongings.

We should have those type of regulations deregulated so that occasional permits become more readily available, but at the same time, with the changes in the Liquor Laws, that particular fab, that phenomena of the mass attendance at socials will decrease because the private sector will have put the capital expenditure, the increased capital investment into this province into establishments that people will start to go to these establishments, and will no longer be travelling away out in Headingley and Transcona and different places for socials every Friday evening.

I did want to continue because I talked about these sporting events and I did want to look at that aspect, but I was also concerned that we have got to look at the economy and if the Liquor Review Committee can come up with some suggestions to liberalize the liquor laws, especially in the area of advertising. We don't need any time restrictions on this advertising. It seems to me that this would be a benefit to not only — I believe one liquor firm is anticipating changes and has already gone ahead with an ad, but it can't be shown until after ten o'clock at night. I see nothing wrong with billboard ads. If we can advertise coffee and surgical items and different other products that are sold, you know,

different types of lingerie and that, I see nothing wrong with outdoor advertising.

I think that this would be . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The hour being 5:30, when this subject matter next comes up the honourable member will have 13 minutes.

The Honourable Government House Leader.

MR. MERCIER: I move, Mr. Speaker, seconded by the Minister of Government Services, that this House do now adjourn and resume in Committee of Supply at 8:00 o'clock.

MOTION presented and carried and the House accordingly adjourned and stands adjourned until 2:00 o'clock tomorrow afternoon (Wednesday).