



Second Session — Thirty-Second Legislature
of the
Legislative Assembly of Manitoba

DEBATES
and
PROCEEDINGS

31-32 Elizabeth II

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Speaker*



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MANITOBA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
Thirty-Second Legislature

Members, Constituencies and Political Affiliation

Name	Constituency	Party
ADAM, Hon. A.R. (Pete)	Ste. Rose	NDP
ANSTETT, Andy	Springfield	NDP
ASHTON, Steve	Thompson	NDP
BANMAN, Robert (Bob)	La Verendrye	PC
BLAKE, David R. (Dave)	Minnedosa	PC
BROWN, Arnold	Rhineland	PC
BUCKLASCHUK, John M.	Gimli	NDP
CARROLL, Q.C., Henry N.	Brandon West	IND
CORRIN, Brian	Ellice	NDP
COWAN, Hon. Jay	Churchill	NDP
DESJARDINS, Hon. Laurent	St. Boniface	NDP
DODICK, Doreen	Riel	NDP
DOERN, Russell	Elmwood	NDP
DOLIN, Mary Beth	Kildonan	NDP
DOWNEY, James E.	Arthur	PC
DRIEDGER, Albert	Emerson	PC
ENNS, Harry	Lakeside	PC
EVANS, Hon. Leonard S.	Brandon East	NDP
EYLER, Phil	River East	NDP
FILMON, Gary	Tuxedo	PC
FOX, Peter	Concordia	NDP
GOURLAY, D.M. (Doug)	Swan River	PC
GRAHAM, Harry	Virden	PC
HAMMOND, Gerrie	Kirkfield Park	PC
HARAPIAK, Harry M.	The Pas	NDP
HARPER, Elijah	Rupertsland	NDP
HEMPHILL, Hon. Maureen	Logan	NDP
HYDE, Lloyd	Portage la Prairie	PC
JOHNSTON, J. Frank	Sturgeon Creek	PC
KOSTYRA, Hon. Eugene	Seven Oaks	NDP
KOVNATS, Abe	Niakwa	PC
LECUYER, Gérard	Radisson	NDP
LYON, Q.C., Hon. Sterling	Charleswood	PC
MACKLING, Q.C., Hon. Al	St. James	NDP
MALINOWSKI, Donald M.	St. Johns	NDP
MANNES, Clayton	Morris	PC
McKENZIE, J. Wally	Roblin-Russell	PC
MERCIER, Q.C., G.W.J. (Gerry)	St. Norbert	PC
NORDMAN, Rurik (Ric)	Assiniboia	PC
OLESON, Charlotte	Gladstone	PC
ORCHARD, Donald	Pembina	PC
PAWLEY, Q.C., Hon. Howard R.	Selkirk	NDP
PARASIUK, Hon. Wilson	Transcona	NDP
PENNER, Q.C., Hon. Roland	Fort Rouge	NDP
PHILLIPS, Myrna A.	Wolseley	NDP
PLOHMAN, John	Dauphin	NDP
RANSOM, A. Brian	Turtle Mountain	PC
SANTOS, Conrad	Burrows	NDP
SCHROEDER, Hon. Vic	Rossmere	NDP
SCOTT, Don	Inkster	NDP
SHERMAN, L.R. (Bud)	Fort Garry	PC
SMITH, Hon. Muriel	Osborne	NDP
STEEN, Warren	River Heights	PC
STORIE, Jerry T.	Flin Flon	NDP
URUSKI, Hon. Bill	Interlake	NDP
USKIW, Hon. Samuel	Lac du Bonnet	NDP
WALDING, Hon. D. James	St. Vital	NDP

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

Tuesday, 12 April, 1983.

Time — 2:00 p.m.

OPENING PRAYER by Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER, Hon. J. Walding: Presenting Petitions
. . .

READING AND RECEIVING PETITIONS

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Inkster.

MR. CLERK, W. Remnant: The Petition of the Victoria Curling Club Ltd., praying for passage of an Act to grant additional powers to the Victoria Curling Club Ltd.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. CLERK: The petition of the Portage Avenue Baptist Church, an Act to amend an Act to incorporate Portage Avenue Baptist Church.

The petition of Major Earl Robinson, an Act to incorporate the Salvation Army Catherine Booth Bible College.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Tuxedo.

MR. CLERK: The petition of the Steinbach Curling Club, praying for the passing of an Act granting additional powers to the Steinbach Curling Club Ltd.

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for River East.

MR. P. EYLER: Mr. Speaker, the Committee of Supply has adopted certain resolutions, directs me to report the same, and asks leave to sit again.

I move, seconded by the Member for Radisson, that the report of the committee be received.

MOTION presented and carried.

MR. SPEAKER: Presenting Reports by Standing and Special Committees . . .

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS AND TABLING OF REPORTS

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Finance.

HON. V. SCHROEDER: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I have several additions or changes in provincial tax comparisons to table, as well as supplementary information for legislative review of the Department of Finance Estimates.

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

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

MR. SPEAKER: Before we reach Oral Questions, may I direct the attention of members to the Gallery.

We have 65 students of Grade 9 standing from the St. Boniface Diocesan High School under the direction of Mr. Bennett. The school is in the constituency of the Honourable Minister of Health.

There are 32 students of Grade 6 standing from the Garson Tyndall School under the direction of Miss Stefansson. The school is in the constituency of the Honourable Minister of Highways.

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

ORAL QUESTIONS

Sherritt Gordon Mines - NEED Program

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Turtle Mountain.

MR. B. RANSOM: Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Economic Development. Has the Minister of Economic Development had any discussions with Sherritt Gordon Mines over their application under the NEED Program to conduct further exploration to prove up the Aggasiz gold deposit which, if proven up, could conceivably give another decade of life to the Town of Lynn Lake?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Economic Development.

HON. M. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, negotiations relating to the NEED Program are generally dealt with by the Minister of Labour, and I would defer to her.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

HON. M. DOLIN: Mr. Speaker, I noted with some surprise the report in the paper that the province had not looked favourably on such a request. Nothing has come to me, and to my knowledge, no request has gone to the NEED Advisory Board over this issue.

MR. B. RANSOM: Mr. Speaker, my question then is to the First Minister. It seems as though the future of a town and an industry is at stake here. The government has a program, the NEED Program; neither the Minister of Labour nor the Minister of Economic Development seem to be aware of the application by Sherritt. My question to the First Minister is: Was the First Minister aware of that application and has he had any discussion with Sherritt Gordon concerning that proposal?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

HON. H. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, the Member for Turtle Mountain is presuming an application.

MR. B. RANSOM: A supplementary to the First Minister then, Mr. Speaker. Has Sherritt Gordon made an application to the Provincial Government and the Federal Government under the NEED Program?

HON. H. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Labour, who is responsible pertaining to the NEED Program, has indicated that she is not aware of the receipt of any application. We'll take that question as one of further notice to double-check to ensure that there has not been an application submitted in the last short period of time. We are not aware of an application having been made.

Fox Lake Mine

MR. B. RANSOM: A further supplementary to the First Minister. When did the First Minister become aware that the ore body at Lynn Lake would expire by approximately 1985 and that the town would then have no further economic base?

HON. H. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, there have been rumours to that effect for quite some time. I have received no direct information of that nature from the company nor precise reports of same until this past weekend despite the fact there have been rumours of same for some time.

MR. B. RANSOM: A further question to the First Minister then, Mr. Speaker. What action did the First Minister take, or any member of his Cabinet take, when they heard rumours which, if true, would certainly mean that the Town of Lynn Lake would be without an economic base?

HON. H. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, I'll take that question as notice.

Community Colleges Staff and Procedure Changes

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Tuxedo.

MR. G. FILMON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise on a matter of House privilege. It's just come to my attention that the Minister of Education has released a news release just moments before the House in which she has announced some fairly major changes in staffing and in procedures at the Community Colleges Division, which include, among other things, the redeployment and retraining of some 38 staff members, dropping of a number of courses, I believe, as many as nine full-time courses at the community college.

I want to say, Mr. Speaker, that I believe in doing so, that she has shown a distinct lack of courtesy to members on this side of the House and indeed, to all Manitobans in not bringing this forward as a release to the House first in Ministerial Statements and in not dealing with it in a manner so that it could be dealt with in question period.

It just happened that the release has come to my attention as we arrive in the House and I believe that the Minister has not dealt with it properly and, I believe that an apology is in order.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Since the matter of House privilege upon which the member rose was not followed by a substantive motion, it is not a Matter of Privilege.

The Honourable Member for Tuxedo.

MR. G. FILMON: In that case, Mr. Speaker, I wish to question the Minister on the release that she has issued, as I say, in a manner that I do not believe was proper.

My question to the Minister is, having made a rather major policy decision and statement that involves the redeployment and retraining of as many as 38 staff members at the community colleges, why was this not discussed beforehand with the Manitoba Government Employees Association? Why did she not give them the courtesy of some notice and forewarning other than, as I understand it, less than 24 hours, and why were they not consulted ahead of time about some matters that deal with some very substantial long-range aspects of the training offered at the Community Colleges Division in Manitoba?

HON. M. HEMPHILL: Mr. Speaker, I'll try and deal with the number of questions that were raised by the member opposite, and if I miss some of the three or four questions that he raised, perhaps he will remind me of what they were and I will be glad to answer them.

I think, first of all, he is suggesting that I should have announced a major policy change in the House. I do want to indicate clearly that this is not a major policy change; that we review courses at the colleges all the time and that we are yearly making some course changes. We add new courses and we drop some existing courses. It isn't a policy change; it is an ongoing activity of educational institutions whose job is to keep pace with the training requirements of the times.

I don't know - we stopped a number of courses or reduced them last year and there was no problem or no discussion of that. I think in terms of the redeployment and the retraining, we have already had in the House I think full discussion about the intentions and the commitment of the government to have no layoffs with the MGEA, and the people in Red River and in the colleges are members of the MGEA; so that there has been sort of full, I think, notice that we were embarking in all departments on redeployment and some retraining programs in order to meet the commitments that were given previously.

His question about the no involvement and no discussion with the MGEA is totally inaccurate and they will be in a good position to communicate that themselves. We have had discussions with them and the Civil Service Commission for the last couple of months. They are in, and will say so for themselves, complete agreement with the options being presented of some redeployment and some examination and some possibilities of retraining.

They are selecting a representative from each community college to sit on a joint retraining planning committee. I also want to say that we have a

responsibility to change our institutions so we are meeting the technologies of industry in the future, and we don't have money to keep adding new programs. We have to make changes, and that means we have to look at the programs that we are doing and make some tough choices about which have a lower priority for the times and which we can't continue to offer.

MR. G. FILMON: Mr. Speaker, the Minister has indicated that last year a number of courses were changed and dropped and that no concern was made of it, but I can also indicate that there was no news release issued and there was no dropping of some 38 staff positions.

I'd like to know, Mr. Speaker, since she indicates that the Manitoba Government Employees Association has been aware of this for months, is she then saying that Mr. Grant Rodgers, who is quoted in today's paper, an MGEA representative for the affected college employees, has said the union did not find out about the changes until yesterday. Is she saying that that's incorrect or that Mr. Rodgers is lying?

HON. M. HEMPHILL: No, Mr. Speaker, I certainly am not saying that it's either incorrect or that the gentleman is lying.

I think that he was referring to getting information about the specific courses, perhaps. We have had discussions about this option of some deployment and some retraining for some time. They have agreed to sit on a joint committee; they have agreed with this option and this method of dealing with the problems.

I believe, and he'll have to speak for himself, that he was dealing specifically with perhaps not knowing exactly which courses or which individuals; but I am also sure they will communicate clearly that they have been aware of this process and this way of dealing with the issue and that they are in agreement and support the direction, which is a progressive move for both the educational institution and the employees.

MR. G. FILMON: Mr. Speaker, I think it's one thing to consult ahead of time; it's another thing to give people the opportunity, having made the decision, to then decide what's going to happen with them. It's a very different thing, Mr. Speaker.

My next question to the Minister is: Does she think that it's more important to divert \$4.5 million into the Jobs Fund to create make-work short-term positions rather than to allow that money to support full-time training needs for Manitobans who want to go into technology and other programs offered at the community colleges?

HON. M. HEMPHILL: Well, Mr. Speaker, that's exactly what we're doing. It would cost us \$1.2 million to continue to offer these courses that we have identified are in the low priority area, because they're low-cost, low-enrolment, low-employment. The Federal Government has cut back on their buying of spaces and they are programs that are being offered by other institutions. We are — (Interjection)—

HON. R. PENNER: Like typing.

HON. M. HEMPHILL: Like typing, yes, yes. What we are doing is saying that for us to continue offering

these low priority courses would cost us \$1.2 million. We do not have that money to now offer the new high priority programs in computer technology, microcomputers, and data processing. If we're going to move into the 20th Century which the colleges have to do, we're going to have to cut down on some of the programs that are still back in the horse and buggy days. We're redistributing the money within the community college system, so that we can meet the times and meet the demands of industry and the technologies, so we're not training our students for obsolescence like we are doing today, but we're training them for secured jobs for the next decade or two.

MR. G. FILMON: So, Mr. Speaker, what the Minister is saying is that this is another example of the fraudulent aspect of the Jobs Fund whereby — (Interjection) —

MR. SPEAKER: Question. Question.

SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. G. FILMON: Is the Minister telling us now that this is another example — (Interjection) —

MR. SPEAKER: Order please, order please. May I remind the honourable member that this is question period. It's a time for seeking information from the government. It is not a time for statements or for making argumentative questions.

The Honourable Member for Tuxedo.

MR. G. FILMON: Mr. Speaker, my question is, is the Minister now telling us that this is another example of taking money out of normal budgetary items as they exist in all the departmental budgets and redirecting them into the Jobs Fund, so that the government can get a higher political profile and more credit for taking away money from full-time, long-term jobs to create short-term make-work jobs under its Jobs Fund?

HON. M. HEMPHILL: Mr. Speaker, I have a hard time understanding the point that the Member for Tuxedo is making, since what we are doing is guaranteeing the permanent, full-time, secure employment of these individuals, so that they will not be classed as redundant; so that they will not be continuing to teach courses that are not required, or not as important. These are not part-time positions, short-term employment. They are going to be redeployment and retraining for full-time positions.

Farm Support Program

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Arthur.

MR. J. DOWNEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Agriculture.

In view of the fact, Mr. Speaker, that during the 1981 election campaign the Premier and the Minister of Agriculture promised that there would be no farmers lose their homes, farms or businesses; in view of that fact that tomorrow, there are going to be several hard-pressed farmers marching on the Manitoba Legislature

to get their message across to the Minister of Agriculture, who apparently according to reports is too busy to pay attention to the concerns of the farm community.

Can the Minister confirm, Mr. Speaker, that the forms have not even reached the banks now to help those farmers under a proposed MACC program that he said would be the major support program for the banks and the farmers? Have the banks got those forms to support the farm community?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Agriculture.

HON. B. URUSKI: Mr. Speaker, first of all, the honourable member makes certain assumptions in his remarks that I am too busy to meet with interested parties in the province — (Interjection) — Well, the honourable member makes those statements which are inaccurate, firstly. The fact of the matter is, I have met several times with the group of farmers who have difficulties; there's no doubt about it. In terms of the statements that are coming out from the farmers and the statements coming out from the financial institutions, there seems to be a discrepancy as to what the actual nature of the problems are and that farmers are facing in terms of the availability of credit.

Mr. Speaker, we have attempted to, and are attempting to see whether we can extend counselling and mediation in terms of dealing with some of the problems that farmers have with financial institutions, whether they be public or private.

Specifically, to the question dealing with whether the forms are in place in the bankers' hands, Mr. Speaker, I'm advised that as of a week or so ago, all institutions within the province have signed their agreements with MACC to participate within the program. I will take the specific question as notice as to whether all branches of those institutions have received application forms from their head offices.

MR. J. DOWNEY: Mr. Speaker, then, in view of the fact that the Minister says there is an agreement now signed with the banks, can the Minister confirm that because of the qualifications for the program, that you have to have 20 percent of your operation owned by that farmer - an increase of some 10 percent from the old program - that it is now prohibiting those farmers who are in need of getting support from MACC, and in fact the majority of people who are hard-pressed, are not getting support through the government program?

HON. B. URUSKI: Mr. Speaker, the decisions as to whether or not individual farmers are accepted onto the program are made by the financial institutions themselves as to whether or not they're prepared to guarantee or loan further funds to the farmers. We have requested as part of the agreement that any declines made by the financial institutions will be referred to MACC to see whether additional measures or additional reviews should be undertaken. That is part of the present agreement, so that information has to be supplied to Manitoba Agricultural Credit Corporations to notify them as to the number of farmers who are in fact being turned down in receiving operating funds through their lending institutions.

MR. J. DOWNEY: Mr. Speaker, can the Minister of Agriculture confirm that particularly the one credit union at Gladstone says that he looks at these loans the same way he looks at the other high risk loans that they deal with? If they're doing that, Mr. Speaker, would the Minister then not consider, and it's a specific question, will he consider changing the programs to deal with those hard-pressed farmers and those people that are going to be here tomorrow, who he hasn't listened to at this point, and have had to go to the extent of marching on the Legislature so that he pays attention to the difficulties of farm financing? Will he change the program to accommodate those people so that they can continue farming?

MR. D. ORCHARD: Start listening to advice.

HON. B. URUSKI: Mr. Speaker, the honourable members should be aware and then will know tomorrow - they are presuming what the demonstration is about before they've even heard it or seen it. I will be attending the demonstration to hear the concerns of farmers, but I am not standing here so as to presume I know exactly what the demonstration will be about even before it's held. If there will be any changes in the program, Mr. Speaker, it will be based on the number of applications and the decisions that financial institutions will make in dealing with their farmers.

HON. J. DOWNEY: A final supplementary to the Minister, Mr. Speaker. Can the Minister confirm that last night he had a meeting set up with the Cattle Producers Association to discuss the program that the beef cattle producers wanted for the feedlot industry and some changes they were considering for the cattle producers, and that the Minister of Agriculture did not have the courtesy to show up and meet with those individuals last night in Winnipeg?

SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

HON. B. URUSKI: Mr. Speaker, the honourable member should be aware that his colleague was on the same aircraft as I was from Swan River, where we attended a public meeting — (Interjection) — I left the aircraft at Arborg, where my vehicle, was in the morning and certainly at 8:00 o'clock in the evening, when the meeting was to be held at 8:30, I was unable to make it. My staff and my Deputy attended the meeting and their concerns were presented to the government and are being reviewed.

HON. J. DOWNEY: Mr. Speaker, a final supplementary. The Minister makes reference to the fact that my colleague was on the same plane. Yes, my colleague was on the same plane and he did have time to meet with the cattle producers.

Quality of drinking water City of Winnipeg

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Tuxedo.

MR. G. FILMON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Honourable Minister of Health. As a result

of some rather sensational statements made by the Medical Director of the Manitoba Federation of Labour, Dr. Linda Murray, to the effect that bodies would pile up if something were not done to replace the asbestos cement water mains in the City of Winnipeg, and in view of the lack of assurance and the very uncertain answers given yesterday by the Minister of Environment, can the Minister of Health indicate whether or not the Public Health officials in his department can give the people of Winnipeg a firm assurance as to whether the drinking water of the City of Winnipeg is safe for the people to drink?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Health.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Mr. Speaker, my colleague dealt with that yesterday.

SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. G. FILMON: Mr. Speaker, that's precisely the problem, that your colleague dealt with it yesterday without giving a firm answer, and the people of Winnipeg need some assurance. Since the Minister of the Environment cannot give the assurance, can the Minister of Health, who is responsible for the health concerns of all the people of Manitoba, give any assurance that the drinking water supply of the City of Winnipeg is safe?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Mr. Speaker, I repeat, the member is repeating the same question that he asked I think three times yesterday, and the answer is the same. It was dealt with; and it is being dealt with by my colleague, the Minister responsible.

MR. G. FILMON: Mr. Speaker, some rather sensational statements were made over the weekend that may have verged on the irresponsible - that were designed to scare people about the safety of the water supply. We have a right to know from the Minister of Health, since we can't get that answer, is the water supply safe to drink?

Oil and Salt Water Spill - Virden

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Virden.

MR. H. GRAHAM: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, after the questions asked by my colleague yesterday, I'm somewhat hesitant to ask some questions but I'll ask a further question of the Minister responsible for the Environment.

In the last several days there have been two rather serious salt water and oil spills in the Cromer and Virden area. I would ask the Minister of the Environment what steps he has taken to control the spills, to contain them so they don't further pollute the streams, and what steps are they taking to clean up the mess?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Northern Affairs.

HON. J. COWAN: Mr. Speaker, as you are aware we discussed this matter in the context of spills last year

around this time as well. At that time the government responded to a longstanding problem by reviewing the mechanisms by which these spills were examined and also reviewing the procedures which would be followed in the event of such a spill.

It's my understanding that there was an oil salt water spill in the Cromer area, or spills, as the member indicated, and that the cleanup of the affected area is proceeding under the direction of the Petroleum Branch. The member will recall we indicated that would be the procedure in the event of such spills last year and we are following through on that.

The Virden area Public Health Inspector is involved in a review of that cleanup, has inspected the site, and is providing assistance to the Petroleum Branch upon request. Water samples have been taken to check for salt contamination in the property owners' water supply. Well water samples were taken as well and they indicated that there was an excess of chlorides in the well water that were found as a result of those particular samples. The spill occurred on April 6th, it involved approximately 150 barrels of a 50-50 mixture of crude oil and salt water. What is happening now is the Department of Energy and Mines, through the Petroleum Branch is in fact involved in the cleanup and working with residents in the area and my department to ensure that whatever action is necessary and can be taken is being taken.

MR. H. GRAHAM: A supplementary question to the Minister. What efforts have been made to provide safe drinking water to the farmers whose wells have been contaminated? Has the Minister taken any action in that respect seeing as how he can't give any assurance to the people of Winnipeg that they have safe drinking water?

HON. J. COWAN: Well, there are really two questions in that one question. I'll answer both of them.

In respect to the Virden spill, as I indicated, the Petroleum Branch is the lead agency and I will take the member's question as notice in the absence of the Minister of Energy and Mines and report back to him as to what activities the Petroleum Branch is taking. We are providing an advisory role in respect to that spill.

In respect to the questions regarding Winnipeg, in the previous questions from his seatmate I can only indicate, as I did yesterday, that the province is, in fact, concerned about any statements and concerned about any studies or any opinions which would indicate there might be a problem with the City of Winnipeg water supply in regard to asbestos contamination or any other form of contamination, and that, of course, includes other water supplies in the province.

Yesterday I listed out a whole long list of studies which have been undertaken and studies which have been done and studies which are ongoing and indicated that the province will, in fact, be reviewing that material and responding accordingly.

What the members opposite are asking for is a categorical assurance that the water supply is safe and history has shown us, and it should have shown them, that those sorts of categorical assurances are, No. 1, difficult to provide and No. 2, oftentimes misleading. Inadvertently so, but misleading nonetheless.

What we want to do is acknowledge the concerns, which I think is the reasonable thing to do — (Interjection) — and that acknowledgement also indicates what action this Provincial Government is going to take to assure itself that it benefits from the latest available information. That is exactly what we are attempting to do and for the members opposite to try to blow that out of proportion or to try to indicate that is not a proper course of action, I believe, is being unfair to the activities which we are undertaking in good faith and at the same time is not providing an accurate assessment to the problem.

There are concerns that have been expressed, we take those concerns very seriously. As I indicated to him yesterday, we have had no indication by the studies that have been done to show that there is a great danger as a result of individuals drinking the City of Winnipeg water supply but we will remain concerned because we know that there is new evidence being brought to bear every day on issues such as this and other issues. We will continue to play the role of responsible government reviewing new evidence and acting accordingly.

User Fees - Health Care System

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Honourable Minister of Health. I would remind the Minister of the Environment, however, that we'll read that speech back to him when he's back in opposition a few years from now.

Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Honourable Minister of Health and I would ask him; in view of the increasing signs of deterioration in and danger to our universal health care system, has the Minister had any discussions with his counterparts in Alberta and British Columbia about their plans, firm or projected, for introducing user fees into their insured health care systems?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

HON. M. DOLIN: Mr. Speaker, I have information about a question asked — (Interjection) — I'm sorry - I didn't know the member was continuing his line of questioning?

MR. SPEAKER: I believe the honourable member was waiting for an answer to his question.

MR. L. SHERMAN: On a point of order, I think you've clarified it, Mr. Speaker; I had a question on the floor to the Minister of Health and I was waiting for his answer. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

HON. R. PENNER: With respect, I don't think the Minister of Health heard your question. Could the Member for Fort Garry just rephrase it.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Speaker, my question to the Minister of Health was based on contentions that our health care system in general seems to be deteriorating

and in increasing danger. My question to him is whether he has had any discussions with his counterparts in either Alberta and British Columbia about their plans, firm or projected, for the introduction of user fees into their insured health care systems?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: No, Mr. Speaker, the last meeting that I've had with the Ministers of Health was months ago and this wasn't a topic of conversation. I only saw the report on the proposed action of the Alberta Government and I think you remember that I made a statement in the House on that, here in Manitoba we certainly don't intend to go the same way.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Speaker, has the Minister met with other provincial Ministers of Health or have provincial Ministers of Health met with the national Minister of Health and Welfare on this particular subject of projected and anticipated cutbacks in federal health-care funding?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Mr. Speaker, I can only repeat what I said last week or earlier in the week. The situation is that we have on a number of occasions, as a group, requested a meeting with the Federal Minister of Health, and to this day we haven't heard any answer to that request.

Provincial road conditions

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for La Verendrye.

MR. R. BANMAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I direct my question to the Minister of Highways and would ask him, in light of the bad and deteriorating road conditions on PR 302, running from the Trans-Canada north to the PR 501, I wonder if the Minister of Highways can give some assurance to the residents and the motorists who use that particular road that there will be some upgrading taking place this year.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Highways.

HON. S. USKIW: Mr. Speaker, I think it's fair to point out to the Member for La Verendrye that the Highways Department Estimates have yet to be tabled and, therefore, we're not in a position to respond with respect to his specific, but I want to remind the honourable member that we have so much carry-over work in that particular part of the province that it's very difficult to anticipate a lot of additional new work.

MR. R. BANMAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the Minister's remarks. I wonder if he could confirm though that the land acquisition has been completed on that particular stretch of road.

HON. S. USKIW: Mr. Speaker, I'm subject to correction, but I believe that is correct. There are a whole host of roads and highways throughout Manitoba where that is the case, but where projects will not be proceeding this year.

Sherritt Gordon Mines - NEED Program

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

HON. M. DOLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have information in response to a question asked earlier, which we took as notice, since we've been able to gain this information from federal staff. It has to do with the Sherritt Gordon request under the NEED Program.

It is our information that Mr. Neil Heinrichs of the Federal Government staff on the Development Fund Group has received an application from Sherritt Gordon dated February 14, 1983. The request is for federal and provincial joint funding, as well as some input, I understand, from the company. The project has been held at that level and is under review.

The problem, as I understand it, has to do with the match of the project being suggested with the criteria for the program, which of course is targeted at those people who have exhausted their unemployment insurance or are social welfare recipients; so the project application has not come forward beyond the staff level at this point.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Turtle Mountain.

MR. B. RANSOM: Mr. Speaker, just since the Minister of Energy and Mines may well have failed, once again, to keep his colleagues informed on this application, I would like to table a copy of the application for the information of the Minister of Labour and the First Minister.

Manitoba Tourism Industry

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Sturgeon Creek.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism. Can she inform the House if the figures presented by Mr. Wilf Organ, the president of the Tourism Industry Association of Manitoba, that Manitoba's income from U.S. travellers in 1982 is down 9 percent?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Economic Development.

HON. M. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I was expecting the member opposite to ask about the numbers of tourists, not necessarily the income. I understand the income level is fairly constant. There has been a reduction, however, in the numbers of travellers; higher in the area of day crossings than in the area of overnight crossings. The main causes for this decline, Mr. Speaker, in addition to general recession conditions, have been that there's been a greatly increased advertising campaign by the Ontario Tourism Department, which offers very similar lodges and outdoor experience activities closer to the American border.

Having recognized this, we feel that we can recapture our fair share of that market. Interestingly enough, the North Dakota tourist number has held fairly constant and the decline was mainly in the Minnesota market where the Ontario thrust was most concentrated. There

was a suggestion in the speech recorded in the paper that it was our tax system that was a deterrent to travellers, and I guess the answer to that has to be, Mr. Speaker, that a tourist policy has to be set in the context of the larger overall policy for the province. I think it would be quite inappropriate for us to tie our energy policy and tax issues precisely to increasing tourism. It's a question of balancing out the different demands.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Mr. Speaker, it's fairly obvious that Ontario is doing a better job than us, according to the Minister.

Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Minister can explain why Manitoba is down less than B.C., Alberta and Saskatchewan. Down more, pardon me, than Alberta, B.C. and Saskatchewan. Excuse me, Mr. Speaker. If somebody happens to make a little slip in this House, we always have the children from the other side commenting; but the article does say very sincerely that Manitoba is down less than the other provinces.

I ask the Minister why we are down more than the other western provinces and why is Ontario doing a better job of advertising than us? It must be quite a bit better because we were not down this far before in 1980 and 1981. Maybe the Minister can tell us why.

HON. M. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I do recognize that the enormously increased input into advertising in Ontario has assisted in their ability to attract tourists to what was a fairly undeveloped potential relative to ours; but I think, without taking the name of the deity in vain, that we may have to lay some of the responsibility on his or her shoulders, because the lakes and the outdoor attractions in that area happen to be closer to the border and therefore somewhat more accessible to American tourists.

Mr. Speaker, in developing tourist destinations, there is some advantage that comes to an area that gets in early and has directed advertising, but over time there is something of a balancing out as other areas follow and advertise their attractions in an equally effective way, and I think we are experiencing some of that balancing out.

Mr. Speaker, it would be inaccurate of me not to identify as well that the brief slowdown and uncertainties at the track did cause an immediate impact on American tourism, and I do caution the members opposite that they should accept some of the responsibility for the very unstable situation we had at that track that led to the hiatus in the middle of the summer. We do look forward to a much more stable and steady influx of tourists this summer.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Mr. Speaker, the Minister has made some comments regarding the lakes, etc. in Ontario being close to the border. In the latest issue of the Manitoba Business, it says here, "We have tourist attractions including everything from deserts to culture in the Province of Manitoba." An article by a person in the Minister's department is saying that we should stop them from running through our province and going to other provinces.

Mr. Speaker, if we have all these attractions, why aren't we stopping the people from going to other provinces such as Ontario and the other western provinces as they have been doing, obviously in 1982, because we're down so much?

MR. SPEAKER: Order please, order please.
The Honourable Minister of Economic Development.

HON. M. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, the task of attracting tourists and retaining them is something that has many aspects to it. One has to do with, I suppose, the highway pattern and whether or not tourists get lured off to the attractions that lie throughout the province. We're looking at the varieties of ways by giving better information, more dramatic information and better signage that we will be able to draw tourists off into those delightful areas that we all know are there.

We have, in fact, made, I think a very substantive grant to the very organization that spokesman represented to assist in the advertising, because one of the desires of the private-sector organizations in tourism is that they retain an active role in assisting with the advertising. I for one, am confident that we have a co-operative approach to that advertising and a pretty strategic approach and I think we shall retain our fair share of the tourist market.

I think it's inappropriate to think that we wish Ontario ill-will and low tourism in order to help ourselves. I think what we want is our reasonable and fair share of the tourism market.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The time for Oral Questions has expired, Orders of the Day.

The Honourable Member for Sturgeon Creek on a point of order.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Do I have leave, Mr. Speaker? The Premier said, "leave", when I was up.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. I understand the expression "leave" means unanimous consent. One member cannot give unanimous consent.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The Honourable Government House Leader.

HON. R. PENNER: I don't know, Mr. Speaker, whether I should wait for the member to leave. Wasn't that the request?

Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Minister of Finance, that Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair and the 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 to consider of the Supply to be granted to Her Majesty with the Honourable Member for River East in the Chair for the Department of Health and the Honourable Member for Burrows in the Chair for the Department of Labour and Employment Services.

CONCURRENT COMMITTEES OF SUPPLY SUPPLY - LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

MR. CHAIRMAN, C. Santos: We are on Item 3.(d)(2)(b) Federal-Provincial Programs Co-ordination - Other Expenditures; 3.(d)(2)(b)—pass; next Item is 3.(d)(3)(a) The Minister of Labour.

HON. M. B. DOLIN: I could give a brief overview of what happens at the Selkirk Training Plant, the purpose of it, if the member wishes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for St. Norbert.

MR. G. MERCIER: Mr. Chairman, perhaps I can ask a question then. In the departmental report there is an indication that due to worsening economic conditions the plant's ability to place graduates in permanent jobs was reduced. A further result of these conditions is that more trainees now remain on the program for the maximum six months after completing the first two phases. The Annual Report covers the year 1982. Could the Minister perhaps comment on that comment in last year's report and indicate what the experience has been so far this year and perhaps the prognostications of being able to obtain permanent jobs for the graduates?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: Taking the first part of that question, the difficulty in finding jobs for the people who are in training there, it is obvious in what was a worsening economic situation, that any group is going to have difficulty finding permanent jobs. The Selkirk Training Plant experienced this same difficulty just as other employers or trainers did and, therefore, the people in training were kept in the training course to its maximum in many cases.

With regard to the other information. With the fiscal year as the structure, the structure about which I will be speaking, in other words, the April through March year, not the calendar year of January through December, there are 57 trainees of the '82-83 fiscal year at the Selkirk Training Plant. One of the ways in which the issue of the difficulty in finding permanent jobs for these trainees has been dealt with is the incorporation of a third phase of the training which involves a job search, an assistance to these trainees in conducting a job search. That was a part of the program that didn't exist before; it was straight training. Now job search, that includes a workshop and all the related activities necessary to find work in the private sector, or to find work outside of the Selkirk Training Plant, are incorporated into the training procedure. That's the final 10 weeks of the training.

MR. G. MERCIER: Mr. Chairman, the report indicated that in the year '80-81, 23 persons completed the program and went on to employment; and in '81-82, there were only 13 who completed the program and went on to employment. In '80-81, there were five who completed the program and did not go directly on to employment; in '81-82, there were 23 persons who completed the program and did not directly go on to

employment. So obviously, the statistics point out a very serious problem for the graduates of this program in finding employment and opportunity.

Does the Minister have the statistics for '82-83 for those two areas?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: I'm told that the reporting time that is included in the report that you have in front of you, the report of the department, is a different time than the figures that I'm using which is the fiscal year. The report to the Legislature is a different time than the fiscal year. So we can compare the figures in that report and we can compare the figures here. I can give you accurate figures for the number of people who found employment from the training group in the last fiscal year, the previous fiscal year and we can, I suppose, discuss hypothetically how many will find employment in the future?

MR. G. MERCIER: Just to clarify it, it would seem from the statistics here, although the report is for the year 1982, these statistics are for the fiscal year '80-81 and '81-82. Does she have the statistics for '82-83?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: To the end of October, '82.

MR. G. MERCIER: These statistics are only to October of 1982?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: Yes, it's not the full fiscal year because the report was obviously gathered and written — (Interjection) —

MR. G. MERCIER: You have the statistics up to October, '82?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: No, you have the statistics in that report. In the Annual Report of the department the statistics are clear up to October, '82. Yes, the figures that I have are an update on that.

MR. G. MERCIER: Could we have them again then?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: I have a whole group of figures and I'd be happy to answer any questions you have about them.

MR. G. MERCIER: I'd like to know how many completed the program and went on to employment and how many completed the program and did not go on to employment?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: The number of trainees who went on to employment during the fiscal year in 1981-82 is 26; in '82-83 was 12. The number of trainees who completed the program, but did not go on to employment, there's no figure for '81-82 indicating that the group of trainees who went on to employment was a much smaller group. In '82-83 there are 27 who did not go on to employment. There is a larger group of trainees in '82-83, but of that larger group there were a number of them, about two-thirds who did not go on to employment and about one-third that did. There were two that went on to further training.

MR. G. MERCIER: Mr. Chairman, I raise this as a serious question, has the Minister examined the cost-

effectiveness of this whole program, in terms of the number of people that are finding jobs as a result of the program.

HON. M. B. DOLIN: Part of the operating plan that I mentioned to you before is new, as I indicated. The plan is to operate the plant under a new management system or a new operating plan, a new training scheme, and that plan has been in place for nearly a month now. It started in March of 1983. We, of course, are monitoring it closely to see if we can produce a skill level, or trainees, that will have an easier time finding jobs in the marketplace. Of course, that depends on the marketplace as well, but we're hopeful, with the improvement that is evident there, that there will be a higher success rate for the trainees. In the meantime, the training program has been revamped, to a very great degree, to meet the needs of the trainees.

MR. G. MERCIER: Mr. Chairman, quite often we hear criticism from the government of us, as an Opposition, that we recommend, where we consider appropriate, increases in expenditures. We do so always at the same time keeping in mind the limit there must be in overall expenditures. But, I would suggest to the Minister, that they have put in a new plan and obviously they're concerned about the cost-effectiveness of this program. We would like to know, I think, next year during the Estimates, the results of that review of these expenditures, because it might be found to be much more cost-effective to go into other sorts of job creation programs. I have suggested to the Minister, for example, an expansion of the Youth Employment Program. If there's a problem with finding money this might be one area that they might look at, because certainly my experience under our program that we had, which has been criticized by some members of the government, in many of those situations where there was a subsidy to the private sector that employers used that subsidy to hire young people. It was, in effect, a career training program because they learned various skills while on the job and, while the employer was receiving the subsidy, he was able, because of that subsidy, to train young people; and many of them, under our programs, were able to find permanent employment in those jobs. So, for the amount of money that was spent there, for the number of jobs that were created, it's a fairly cost-effective program. So I just ask the Minister, in this area, that I would agree with her, because I think she's of the same view that this program should be looked at and reviewed seriously from a cost-effective point of view. Perhaps next year we can deal with the results of that review and whether changes should be made and perhaps other more cost-effective ways looked at of job creation.

HON. M. B. DOLIN: This program is certainly under constant review. We will be watching carefully to see that we are, in fact, doing the best possible job for the trainees as well.

The interesting part of the figures, I think, for the program over the past few years is that the number of trainees retained has significantly increased. The number of trainees at the beginning of the fiscal year and those registered throughout the year has remained

fairly constant over the last four years, which is what I have the figures for, but the number of trainees retained for the entire program is much higher; they're not dropping out. I think that's an indication, not only of their intent to finish the course, but also of the problems in the marketplace, the fact that jobs simply are not available; and there is an awareness on the part of those in the training programs that the more training they get the better equipped they'll be to eventually find jobs.

I certainly hope that does turn around, but we will be monitoring it and reporting back to you next year.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Pembina.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Mr. Chairman, just to get a couple of figures clear from the Minister. For fiscal year, I believe it is '81-82 that she has her last figures on?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: No, I have them for '82-83.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Okay then, for '82-83 how many of the trainees were able to get jobs after completion of their training? Was that number 26?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: '82-83 figures, which includes the time up until, and including January 31, 1983, the number of trainees who went on to employment during the fiscal year was 12.

MR. D. ORCHARD: I think that reinforces the point that my colleague has been saying. If the expenditure for - I realize we're looking at '83-84 when we're talking a 2 million expenditure - but I would assume that last year it was at 1.75 million, in total, and if there were 12 trainees that ended up in the labour force with jobs, as a result of their training, that boils down to, on a quick calculation, of somewhere in the neighbourhood of \$150,000 cost per job created. In, I think, any cost accounting as to the effectiveness of a program one would have to seriously analyze this one to see whether those \$150,000 per successfully placed trainee might not be better spent in other areas to assure permanent jobs for unemployed Manitobans.

HON. M. B. DOLIN: This is a training program, not a job creation program, and it should be clearly delineated as such. Skilled training is an important part of the work of this department; job creation and employment services is another part of it, but this is a training plant, this is not a job creation plant. The point that I made earlier is also an important one I think, the number of trainees in '81-82 who withdrew for their own reasons from the program, was 60; in '82-83 that number dropped to 26.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Surely though the Minister must concede that, even though this is a training program, and not a job creation program per se, whatever the definition of a job creation program may be with the Minister and with the government, but the end result of this training program is to place people in the work force and to give them skills that will allow them to be employed in the work force of the Province of Manitoba. When the Minister indicates that there are 12 successful

trainees who have been placed, the cost of training them for that still boils down to \$150,000, give or take a few dollars, per successful trainee. I don't believe that, for instance, Red River Community College has those kinds of costs assigned per trained individual who is successfully in the job market after one-year training.

HON. M. B. DOLIN: The community colleges are not always dealing with Special Needs clients; these are Special Needs clients. I would also like to point out to the member that there is some money returned from the product made, which is then purchased; so that's \$250,000.00. There is money recoverable from Canada, almost an equal amount, and so, to use the figure of \$2 million and divide it by the number of trainees is not exactly accurate because there is recoverable money. The million dollars is the figure you should be working with, in about the third line of the Estimates there.

MR. D. ORCHARD: What is the amount recoverable from the ongoing production of the training program, and where does that recovery or that revenue appear?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: It's just below the figure I just gave you in the Estimate book, \$250,000.00. It's (c).

MR. D. ORCHARD: That is a recovery of theoretically sale of materials that are produced.

HON. M. B. DOLIN: Yes, it's recoverable from the departments that purchase it.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Are there no sales to outside of government departments?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: Yes, it's primarily to Provincial Government departments. There is occasionally a sale to a Federal Government department but not to the general public.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 3.(d)(3)(a)—pass; 3.(d)(3)(b)—pass; 3.(d)(3)(c) Recoverable from Other Appropriations—pass; 3.(e)(1)(a) - the Member for St. Norbert.

MR. G. MERCIER: Staff positions, is the increase just due to an increase in salaries?

MR. SPEAKER: Will the Member for St. Norbert please repeat the question?

MR. G. MERCIER: Is the increase here simply due to an increase in salary, or are there new staff positions?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: No new staff positions; an increase in salary.

MR. G. MERCIER: Can the Minister indicate how many trainees or graduates the program is expected to result in during this year?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: Approximately 111 trainees, if that's the question you're asking. To actually break out the number of ongoing training positions, short-term

training positions, in the North and the south and so on, it will take us a few minutes to break out the information but we can get it for you and gave it to you later if you want.

MR. G. MERCIER: Mr. Chairman, the 1982 report indicates that 91 trainees graduated from New Careers during that period of time. It doesn't seem to indicate how many of those obtained permanent employment afterwards.

HON. M. B. DOLIN: Permanent employment, on-the-job-training is a part of the program. We work with employers to give the training.

MR. G. MERCIER: The Minister is saying then that all of those 91 graduates stayed on in permanent employment?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: During 1982-83 there were some trainees who left and we have the figures on that. We keep track of these people and determine what happened to them. In the North three people left their positions for whatever reason; in the south 12 people left their positions. No one left because of illness; two were subsequently dismissed; and no one was relocated. A very good retention rate.

MR. G. MERCIER: Is the Minister saying the rest of them stayed on in permanent employment, how many would that be?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: In my calculation you would subtract 17 from the total number of graduates.

MR. G. MERCIER: The total cost of the program is \$1.4 million and \$500,000 is recoverable from the Federal Government?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: Yes, that's correct.

MR. G. MERCIER: Under which agreement is that money recoverable? Is there a limit on it, is that why it's final?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: The Northern Development Agreement.

MR. G. MERCIER: Is there a limit on the amount recoverable?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: Well, it's for the northern part of this program; obviously, it's from the Northern Development Agreement. The number of trainees that we have determines the amount that we can claim under the agreement, the number of programs that are going, but it's only for the North; it's under the Northern Development Agreement.

MR. G. MERCIER: Mr. Chairman, the report indicates that there are two agreements, one Adult Occupational Training Agreement with Canada Employment and Immigration and another agreement under the Department of Regional and Economic Expansion. The Canada-Manitoba Northlands Agreements indicates

approximately that one out of every two dollars spent is recovered from the Federal Government. The Minister's Estimates show a total expenditure of \$1.4 million with \$500,000 recoverable. Could the Minister indicate how much is recovered under each agreement and why only \$500,000 is shown as recoverable when the report says that approximately one out of every two dollars spent is recovered from the Federal Government?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: I will give you a more complete explanation of how we recover the monies under each part of this program.

Under the southern part of the program, New Careers South, that's south of the Northlands Agreement boundary, that's how it's divided. The costs of training are shared with the - it's called the Canada Manpower Industrial Training Program so some of the funds are recoverable for the southern part of the New Careers Training Program under that particular federal agreement.

Contracts are for a term of up to 52 weeks and include recoveries that are 85 percent of the trainee's salaries, 50 percent of trainee travel and living expenses, and 100 percent of instructor's salary for preparation, instruction and evaluation of the modules. Under the Northern part of the program, New Careers North, that's cost-shared on a 60/40 basis, under the Northlands Agreement. It's 60 percent federal and 40 percent provincial. The geographic boundary is determined again by the Department of Northern Affairs under that agreement.

MR. G. MERCIER: Mr. Chairman, in view of the fact the report says that approximately one out of every two dollars spent is recovered from the Federal Government, and in view of the fact that the Estimates show that only \$500,000 of \$1.4 million will be recovered, which is perhaps a little more than one-third, can the Minister explain why there is that difference? Why are we not recovering 50 percent?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: If you look at (e)(1)(a) and (b), which I think is what you were doing, and the \$500,000 underneath that and that's against the \$1,408,400 figure that you see on the right, and you look at the other part of New Careers, of course, both parts of this are administered by the same branch. As far as we're concerned it's the same program being delivered but you recover them in different ways.

You look at the next section, which is (2)(a)(b) and (c) and so on, the cost there is shared 60/40, so if you look at the entire New Careers Program, you have a 60/40 recoverable base in one section and you have slightly less than 50 percent in the other section. It amounts to about half the money being recoverable in the entire New Careers Program.

MR. G. MERCIER: What is the total amount recoverable then? The \$500,000 plus the \$1.4 million?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: Yes, \$500,000 plus \$1,410,600, then Northern Affairs recovers at 60/40 under the agreement; 60 percent of the \$1,410,600.00.

MR. G. MERCIER: What is the amount spent per job?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: I'm sorry, I'm not sure of the question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The amount spent per job.

MR. G. MERCIER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

HON. M. B. DOLIN: Per trainee? We have a figure on the unit cost for the North and for the south. In the south, the unit cost is estimated at \$20,000 for 1982-83; in the North, the estimated cost is \$23,700, which gives you the total program cost of \$21,850.00.

MR. G. MERCIER: Does the Minister consider that high or justifiable?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: When one looks at this program which has been in place for quite for quite awhile I think that it has to be considered one of the best training programs that any government has. It is the model for programs put in place by other governments and the effectiveness of the program is clearly indicated by a question you asked earlier and the answer that I gave you about the number of trainees who are employed, who are still employed. The dropout rate is absolutely minimal and the employers are obviously happy with the person that they have trained to do the job in their place, or they have assisted in training I should say. Our success rate is very high and as I've said, the New Careers Program is a model being used and requested by other jurisdictions as a model, and in fact is also being used as a model in other parts of Manitoba as a way in which to effectively train people to function to a high degree of success in the workplace and within a career of their choice.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Pembina.

MR. D. ORCHARD: The Minister indicated a North and a south figure. Of those two figures, is that the salaries paid to the trainee or is that the administrative cost plus the salaries?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: It's the list of items that I gave earlier that are recoverable.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Then do we take it, for instance, that in Northern Manitoba, the \$23,700 is only the portion recovered from the Federal Government of the training cost?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: In the North, the full cost of operating the program is what is recoverable on a 60/40 shared basis.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Then what does the \$23,700 represent per trainee?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: That is our unit cost per annum for the program in the North, salary plus training and so on.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Of the \$23,700, what is the salary portion that's directly paid to the trainee?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: The average salary of the trainee - and this is an average - is \$17,160.00.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will the Member for Pembina put the microphone closer to him. They are having a hard time recording it.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Okay now, I assume that \$17,160 would be an average between North and south. There would be a differential between the two?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: No, that's the average of salaries in the North.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Okay, fine. Now then, when the trainees finish their program and they are employed outside of the program by the employer presumably, does the Minister have the average salaries they receive post-training when they're fully employed?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: These are the entry level salaries in the jobs that they are performing.

MR. D. ORCHARD: So then . . .

HON. M. B. DOLIN: Excuse me, the average salary, the figure that I gave you is 85 percent of the entry level salaries. They are paid an entry level salary when they're actually on the job.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Okay then, if we were to do a quick calculation - I don't have a calculator here - you might end up with their starting salaries after they finish their training program somewhere in the neighbourhood of \$20,000 per year? Would that be approximate?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: Yes, in the North. That's the figures we're using.

MR. D. ORCHARD: If the Minister could just provide a couple of typical job occupations from the program?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: There were nutrition and health advisors, store managers, adult corrections, aircraft mechanics, chemical abuse counsellors, juvenile counsellors, child and family service workers. The aircraft mechanics is a program that is expanding and continuing. Those are the current projects, and those that are currently under consideration to be put in place shortly will be the child and family service workers, residential counsellors, school counsellors, natural resource officers, production managers, budget and financial analysts and Native trainers.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Would the Minister have any indication of what the breakdown in employment would be of the trainees who are employed after they finished their program; the breakdown of employment in the private sector versus jobs that are either directly or indirectly funded by the public?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: We strive for one-third in the private sector and one area where I think that we have achieved some success in this area is the store managers.

I was at that graduation myself before I became a Minister and was pleased to see that a number of the trainees were involved with stores such as The Bay, as well band stores; Codville Company; Hudson's Bay Company, and having lived in the North and being involved, in fact, with some of the trainees as students in the early 1970s, I was pleased to see the success

that was being achieved by them and the co-operation of the companies involved. There are a number of band stores, of course, too that were involved in this project. Others are within the area of the public sector or service industries.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Just one final question. The Minister is indicating that the ballpark breakdown has been attempted to be one-third private, two-thirds . . .

HON. M. B. DOLIN: That's what we strive for, yes.

MR. D. ORCHARD: And have you been able to consistently stay pretty close to that one-third, two-thirds?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: Over the last year?

MR. D. ORCHARD: Well, over the last several years, say.

HON. M. B. DOLIN: With the inclusion of the aircraft mechanics training we have been able to keep just about right on the one-third, two-third mark. There has been a request from the Hudson's Bay Company to repeat the training of the store managers again.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 3.(1)(a)—pass; 3.(1)(b)—pass; 3.(2)(a)—pass; 3.(2)(b)—pass.
3.(3)(a) Unemployment Support Services.

HON. M. B. DOLIN: It's not Unemployment Support Services; it's Employment Support Services, I might point out.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Employment Support Services.
The Member for St. Norbert.

MR. G. MERCIER: I'm having some difficulty, Mr. Chairman, in correlating this area with the Annual Report from 1982. I guess it's because of the restructuring of the Estimates by the Minister. Perhaps she could offer an explanation of this area.

HON. M. B. DOLIN: I think that since this is a newly reorganized branch that I should give some introductory remarks, so that your questions are answered.

With the establishment of this new unit, a consolidation and co-ordination of existing rural employment services is taking place. The Career Resource Centres in Winkler, Brandon and Dauphin are being amalgamated with the Regional Services Offices at Winkler, Dauphin, Killarney and Teulon. This is resulting in a redefinition of the career resource center mandate to include co-ordination and facilitation functions for all divisional initiatives in rural Manitoba. This expanded role enhances the center's counselling role and provides for improved employment services in rural areas.

Regional service officers will continue to implement divisional programs including summer student employment and the Manitoba Employment Action Program while working more closely with the career counsellors and with program co-ordinators within the department.

It is anticipated that the rural resource centers are going to be more pro-active and responsive to the needs of the region in which they are located with results which accurately reflect the employment opportunities of each region.

The Thompson Career Resource Centre is also provided for under this appropriation. In 1982-83, a greater emphasis has been placed on ways in which the services of the centre can be made more relevant and accessible to residents of remote communities in Northern Manitoba. It is proposed that a closer tie-in will be developed with the employment support and counselling services delivered by the branch within Thompson in order to provide a more integrated service.

In 1982-83, there were 20 staff years in the reorganized unit; for '83-'84 we are requesting 19 staff years, the reduction being a vacant career counsellor staff year from the Dauphin Career Resource Centre.

MR. G. MERCIER: Did the Minister indicate there'd be a closing of offices of career resources centres?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: No, I did not. I said, there would be an amalgamation of the services offered by the career resource centres and the employment services.

MR. G. MERCIER: Where will that be?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: In the same towns originally listed.

MR. G. MERCIER: Will there be any expansion of the career resource centres?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: Will there be an expansion of the career resource centres? No, there's not an expansion of the career resource centres. There is a change in the mandate of the career resource centres to make it more employment related.

MR. G. MERCIER: Would you like to expand on that new mandate?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: Much of the work previously done by those people working in the career resource centres was a duplication of opportunities offered either through the schools, through their guidance counselling programs, or through the federal programs, the career resource programs that are available through federal offices. It is felt that in a time of need for employment opportunities and for the matching of people with jobs available, that it was more important to gear the efforts of the province and the people working for the province to employment-related activities, rather than duplicating something already being done on two different levels.

MR. G. MERCIER: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the Minister could direct me in the report for the year 1982 as to where the reference is to the career resource centres?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: It is on Page 118 of your draft copy.

MR. G. MERCIER: I don't have very many questions in this area, Mr. Chairman, so I ask the indulgence of

the Minister. Perhaps, under 4., following this item, do those expenditures refer to the career resource centres in the North?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: That's not a part of the former career resource centre staff, no.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 3.(e)(3)(b)—pass; 3.(e)(4)(a) - the Honourable Member for St. Norbert.

MR. G. MERCIER: Could the Minister offer an explanation in this area?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: The Northern Regional Services offices will be responsible for the provision of employment, support, and counselling services to enable special-needs individuals and northerners to take advantage of employment opportunities.

These offices offer certain specific programs within their regions and in the past year have administered the Northern Youth Core Program, the Northern Employment Program, relocation assistance, and career counselling, as well as counselling and referral services in co-operation with other agencies.

Under the programs, the Northern Youth Core Program provides summer employment for youth in northern communities where other agencies are not involved and employment opportunities are minimal. Wage subsidies are provided for the employment of students during the summer on community improvement projects.

During the past winter, the Northern Employment Program was implemented to provide employment opportunities for unemployed residents of Northern Manitoba in projects of a community improvement nature and additional job opportunities created by businesses and organizations within their existing operations. Wage subsidies were provided as incentives to this creation of incremental employment.

The Northern Regional Services offices act as a field delivery point for a growing number of employment and training related programs within the division. There were 26 staff years in this program area last year and we are requesting the same number for '83-84.

MR. G. MERCIER: The full amount of the expenditures is recoverable from Northern Affairs under the Northern Development Agreement, which is shared 60/40, is that correct?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: That's correct.

MR. G. MERCIER: Perhaps the Minister can help me. Do we now have a signed Northern Development Agreement for a five-year period?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: We do have a signed Northern Development Agreement, yes.

MR. G. MERCIER: For how long?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: Yes, it's a five-year agreement.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 3.(e)(4)(a)—pass; 3.(e)(4)(b)—pass; 3.(e)(4)(c)—pass; 3.(e)(4)(d)—pass.

Resolution No. 106: Resolve that there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$8,438,300 for Labour and Employment Services for the fiscal year ending the 31st day of March, 1984—pass.

The next item under consideration is Item No. 4.(a)—the Member for St. Norbert.

MR. G. MERCIER: Can the Minister explain what that is for?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: Yes, the Acquisition/Construction of Physical Assets section includes three items: compressed breathing air systems, fire services communication system equipment, and welding/testing equipment.

MR. G. MERCIER: What is the rationale for making those Capital Assets?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: The compressed breathing air systems and fire services communication system equipment, of course, is through the Fire Commissioner's office. That is totally recoverable from the fund, as you know, items under the Fire Commissioner's office. All of that money expended is recoverable from the insurance fund. The welding/testing equipment was a one-time expense, and it was in '82 - 83 adjusted load.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 4.(a)—pass. Resolution 107: Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$85,000 for Labour and Employment Services for the fiscal year ending the 31st day of March, 1984—pass.

Now we're going back to Item 1.(a) which is the Minister's Salary.

The Member for St. Norbert.

MR. G. MERCIER: Mr. Chairman, I have a question first that I want to put to the Minister to see whether her department deals with this. I expect that it's a matter actually for the Workplace Safety and Health Department. It relates to CSA approval of tools. Would that short description of it be sufficient for the Minister to let me know whether that is a matter for the Workplace Safety and Health?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: Is this CSA approval of tools used by workers in the workplace?

MR. G. MERCIER: Yes.

HON. M. B. DOLIN: If this is a mechanical and electrical component, then it would be under our Mechanical and Engineering Branch. If you're talking about safety in the workplace though, it's obviously Workplace Health and Safety. I'm not sure what the question is so I find it hard to determine whether it's our department or the Honourable Jay Cowan's.

MR. G. MERCIER: It's a matter of some detail so I think I will perhaps write both the Minister of Labour and the Minister responsible for the Workplace.

HON. M. B. DOLIN: That would be fine. We can then pursue it and get you an answer.

I would like to bring some information to the members that I indicated I would do at the beginning of the Estimate review and I'm pleased to bring this information forward. It's with regard to staffing within my department and it refers to the TAP Program. We applied to the TAP Program, which, as you know, is under a different department, the Department of Finance, but we did apply to them for a second position and that is the position of Senior Manager for the Jobs Fund Policy and Program Development Unit, Employment Services Division, Department of Labour and Employment Services. This was an internal appointment, Mr. Peter Ferris was appointed and the note here is that Mr. Ferris has many years of experience with the Manitoba Civil Service and volunteered for a TAP assignment and we are very happy that he has done this and that we were able to secure his services for this position.

This relates to my comments early on in the Estimate review where I said that the TAP Program not only brought in people from outside, but was an opportunity for civil servants to look at a variety of career paths or career changes and do these short-term jobs in a way of either exploration or putting a unique set of talents to use in a different way and we're pleased that both Mr. Ferris and ourselves agree that this is a good way to pursue this particular position.

MR. G. MERCIER: Could the Minister advise me whether Mr. Ferris - I believe was employed in the Department of Health or the Department . . .

HON. M. B. DOLIN: The Department of Education in the PACE Branch.

MR. G. MERCIER: Could she outline his position and responsibilities?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: The position is that of senior manager of the Jobs Fund Unit, the Job Creation Unit. We spoke at some length, I believe, about one section of that unit which was concerned with administration and so on. Mr. Ferris' responsibilities include not only being senior manager for the entire group but also having the separate responsibility for the part of the unit that is concerned with policy and program development.

MR. G. MERCIER: Under which area would he be located, is it Employment Development and Youth Services?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: Mr. Ferris works directly under the Assistant Deputy Minister of Employment Services.

MR. G. MERCIER: That salary would be in administration then, 1.(b) is it?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: Yes, that's correct.

MR. G. MERCIER: What are his responsibilities as senior manager of the Jobs Fund?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: Senior manager of the Job Creation Unit or the Jobs Fund Unit, that's the staff. I think there

is perhaps a fine line of distinction there as opposed to being Senior Manager of the Jobs Fund per se. Mr. Ferris' task is to oversee the planning, development, administration, finance and so on, all of the administrative details and the preparation of materials for the Jobs Fund Committee, in anything that relates to the functioning of the Jobs Fund and the dispersing of programs and monies within it.

MR. G. MERCIER: Mr. Chairman, in view of that appointment and that acknowledgement of the Minister's and this department's responsibilities for the Jobs Fund is she now prepared to discuss the Jobs Fund?

HON. M. B. DOLIN: No, Mr. Chairman, the point that I was making and I believe that I indicated early on that I would do this so I am living up to my own good word in that area is that I would discuss the staff that is assigned to my department in this area. The discussion of the Jobs Fund is, as I said, under Appropriation 29 and I would certainly hope that the member is not going to abuse my good faith in bringing him information about the staff in order to reopen the whole issue of whether or not we discuss the Jobs Fund in its entirety at this point.

MR. G. MERCIER: Mr. Chairman, it's not a matter of good faith in her bringing information to the Committee. She is obligated as a servant of the people of Manitoba to answer questions and to bring information to the committee. It's not a matter - Mr. Chairman, the Minister seems to have had, throughout a good portion of these Estimates, the attitude that we have to be satisfied with whatever she decides to offer us in the way of information and that's frankly not the way our system of government works, Mr. Chairman. She is responsible to account to the members of this committee for the Estimates of this department. We have here and we knew before she brought to us the information of another appointment under the TAP Program, that this department has the responsibility of dealing with employment and unemployment in Manitoba.

When you have a program that's offered and alleged by the government that the Jobs Fund is part of this government's war on unemployment, we should have been entitled to receive a great deal more information about the Jobs Fund Program from this Minister, Mr. Chairman, because that is - we have to perhaps put it all in perspective.

We have a situation in Manitoba where despite the position relative to other provincial economies, there are still in Manitoba 54,000 unemployed people and that I would hope that the Minister would acknowledge is a crisis of unemployment. Hopefully those numbers will decrease, Mr. Chairman, because we on this side do not take any delight in talking about 54,000 individual cases of tragedy, because it is a tragedy for every one of those persons who are unemployed, for their spouses and for their families. We have announced a Jobs Fund Program which is supposedly going to be a large factor in reducing unemployment in Manitoba. We've asked a great number of questions which the Minister said we could not ask and she would not answer at this particular time because we have to wait until the Jobs Fund Program is discussed.

The First Minister, in answering questions the other day with respect to the demonstration at the U.S. Consulate's Office and in newspaper articles, said he wished the opposition would deal with real issues like unemployment. So I asked him, Mr. Chairman, if it was the government's position, as they continue to make it, that we have to wait until the Jobs Fund item is discussed in the Estimates, would he move up the Jobs Fund in the order of the Estimates? The government chooses the departments it wishes to have reviewed in the House and chooses the order, and the government has chosen to place the Jobs Fund as the last item in those Estimates.

Now he could have, in response to my question, agreed to put the Jobs Fund immediately after the Health Estimates which are going to be finished within a few days, I expect, and we could have discussed this program. The government alleges it's going to be a large factor in combating the war on unemployment. We believe it's a fraud, Mr. Chairman, to a great extent and the Minister has refused to discuss the Jobs Fund in these Estimates and we object most seriously to that.

The Minister of Labour has a responsibility with respect to unemployment in this province and, because of that responsibility, she should have agreed to discuss the Jobs Fund and the overall job creation prospects under that Jobs Fund, but she chose to tell us that we have to wait until the Jobs Fund is discussed when it will be introduced by the First Minister.

Now we have today, as we expected, as was the case before she gave us this information, but now we have, within these Estimates, the appointment of a senior manager of the Jobs Fund whose overall duties are to administer, to advise, to develop criteria and oversee the whole Jobs Fund. The recommendations, I expect, will be coming from - at least any proposals for allocations from the Jobs Fund would be, I would think, reviewed by the administration of this department and the senior manager of the Jobs Funds and recommendations or comments made to the Cabinet Committee looking at the Jobs Fund, but we are unable to get any answers on that program from the Minister.

Mr. Chairman, we are not very happy with the Minister's performance. I can tell her it's an item that we think is very serious for at least 54,000 unemployed Manitobans and their families. We are not happy, also, Mr. Chairman, because of the youth unemployment statistics. Yesterday, and in past days, we have talked about the increase in unemployment among youth between 15 and 24 being 4.3 percentage higher at this time of the year than it was last year, and we have a program introduced that will only accommodate the same number of jobs as last year, and the one last year was 1,000 less than the program the previous year when unemployment was much lower.

Again I say to the Minister, she's going to have to look at immediately creating and developing further plans to deal with the catastrophically high rates of unemployment among young people. We have discussed, Mr. Chairman, in this committee, the disinterest almost of the Minister of Labour in plant closings and layoffs. She has acknowledged, in question period, with respect to a few of those plant closings that she's been questioned on, that she simply received the notice that's required under the legislation and no

action was taken by her. In one instance, attempted to cast responsibility onto the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism who unfortunately has other interests and other problems.

Mr. Chairman, I say to the Minister that surely the legislation contemplated advance notice to the government so that the government could take some action, so the Minister could at least investigate, find out the reasons why, meet with the employer, meet with the union, try to find some solutions to these, at least try to find out the causes of the problems. But the Minister refuses, apparently, to delve into and find out the reasons why these plant closings and layoffs in the private sector are taking place.

Through her Research and Planning Department, she refuses to have a study done of the effects of the payroll tax, a tax on unemployment, Mr. Chairman, which has been, justifiably, severely criticized by our members on this side in the opposition, Mr. Chairman. It is a tax imposed on non-profit, charitable institutions, day care centres, etc. It is a new tax in Manitoba imposed last year by the Minister of Finance that directly affects the number of jobs in Manitoba; it directly affects the conversion of full-time to part-time employees in Manitoba; it directly affects the rate of remuneration to employees in Manitoba, and the Minister of Labour, whom I would expect would be concerned with those problems from labour's viewpoint, refuses to have the Research Planning Department, within her Branch, within her administration, study and analyse the effects of that payroll tax so that she could make some recommendations to the Minister of Finance that would perhaps make it clear to him that this tax is hurting labour in Manitoba.

It's an additional overhead burden for labour in Manitoba, as well as the other increases in taxes that this government has imposed, and contributes, in part, to the overhead of any manufacturing or business operation in Manitoba, and reduces any cost advantage that may have been in place for Manitoba businesses, and their ability to compete outside of the province. And that results in a loss of jobs. The Minister only has to look at the reduction of jobs in the manufacturing sector to realize that there is a problem there and it's a problem that should be addressed by the Minister, as well as looking at the private sector, and some of the reasons why plant closings are taking place in Manitoba, the reasons why investment is going south of the border. Money is going from Manitoba, south of the border, to be invested. Why are Manitobans doing that; why are they not investing at home in Manitoba and creating jobs in Manitoba? Those are areas, Mr. Chairman, that I suggest to the Minister of Labour that if she is, and I would expect she would be, interested in developing new employment opportunities in Manitoba and retaining employment opportunities in Manitoba that she should investigate and she should find out why those are happening so that more jobs will not be lost to Manitobans.

We heard from the Minister that through the Research and Planning Department that unemployment is expected to be maintained at 10.3 percent for the balance of this year. The Manitoba actual rate is, according to the latest statistics, 10.8, so there may very well be a small reduction but there will still be well over 50,000 people unemployed in Manitoba. The

future prosperity in Manitoba, in jobs in Manitoba, is going to depend, Mr. Chairman, on the development of permanent jobs in the private sector. I have to emphasize again that the tax regime, the payroll tax, the reasons why private investment is not coming to Manitoba, is leaving Manitoba, are things that the Minister of Labour in the interests of the workers of Manitoba has to look at very carefully and investigate very thoroughly and make sure these concerns are brought to her colleagues in Cabinet, so that actions are not taken particularly with respect to taxes that will hurt the job situation in Manitoba.

Then, Mr. Chairman, we have the government's answer to this problem, the Jobs Fund. One of my colleagues indicates that it should be referred to as the "fraud fund," Mr. Chairman, and I have every reason to believe that his description is a more accurate description. We would have liked the Minister to have answered our questions on that program and try to prove our suggestions and impressions wrong, but we apparently will have to wait until the Jobs Fund appropriation is discussed, when the government wants it to be discussed, which is the last item to be considered in the House.

This problem is so serious that it should have been discussed now, Mr. Chairman, because we all agree - both sides of the House agree - that unemployment is the major No. 1 problem for governments to deal with. Supposedly we have a \$200,000 fund and we have heard in this committee that well over \$100,000 of that \$200,000 is simply a continuation of existing programs. We know that, for example, there have always been within the Department of Labour special employment programs for youth; we had one. The former Minister had one last year. He changed the name to the Career Internship Program and there is one this year called Careerstart. The Minister acknowledged in her opening comments that it was an ongoing program but it is being funded out of the Jobs Fund. The Minister and the government - no doubt, not this Minister - but perhaps the political advisors of the Premier feel that they can fool the people as they put large ads in the paper that say the Jobs Fund makes it happen. This is with respect to the Careerstart Program.

Mr. Chairman, the fact of the matter is it is just a continuing program; it's an important program, it should have been continued. I don't believe for one moment that the Minister of Labour would have contemplated introducing a set of Estimates into this Legislature that would not have included a special employment program for unemployed young people when the rate of unemployment in March of 1983 is 18.3 percent, well over 20,000 young people unemployed and predictions that it's going to go up to 25,000 young people unemployed.

If the Minister is going to tell us that she was thinking of doing that, I would find it very difficult to believe. I don't think she would and that just goes to prove, Mr. Chairman, that an employment program for young people was and is and, while this crisis of unemployment continues, will always be an ongoing program of the Department of Labour Estimates. So to suggest that it's the Jobs Fund that makes it happen, some new initiative on the part of the Premier and the NDP Government and this Minister, is absolutely wrong, Mr. Chairman, and it's a blatant attempt to persuade the

people of Manitoba that this government is doing something new, something different and something additional.

Mr. Chairman, we have learned that the Jobs Fund includes the construction of an addition to the Red River Community College which is simply an ongoing capital works project. We have heard that the Jobs Fund includes money for the Rural Water and Sewer Services Program which is simply an ongoing continuing program in that department.

We learned yesterday that the Manitoba Employment Action Program which the Minister had announced initially back last November and actually was announced in conjunction with the former Minister of Labour's Youth Employment Program last spring, the funding would now be transferred into the Jobs Fund \$3 million for 1983-84. We learned that the NEED Program funding, the agreement between the Federal and the Provincial Governments, is to be funded totally out of the Jobs Fund and may well go up to \$12 million - an agreement that was signed between the Federal Government and the Provincial Government last December or early January. So we find that this government has taken ongoing programs, ongoing commitments, and lumped them all together and is attempting to call them something new.

Well, Mr. Chairman, I know there's an old saying, you can fool some of the people some of the time, but you can't fool all of the people all of the time. I don't think that Manitobans, Mr. Chairman, are going to be completely fooled by this. Apart from the attempt to fool the people of Manitoba by taking ongoing programs and calling them something new, a new initiative, there is a lack of any emphasis whatsoever on the private sector. We know, Mr. Chairman, it's the private sector where the permanent lasting jobs for Manitobans are going to be created, not in make-work jobs, which I have said are important in times of a crisis of unemployment, but in the Throne Speech, in the Budget, all of which this Minister has an opportunity for a contribution to make, the private sector is left out of it. The whole emphasis of the Minister and the government are on make-work, short-term job creation projects. You can do that for a certain period of time, but if you want to create the long-term lasting jobs for Manitobans, it's going to have to be in the private sector. The Minister of Labour is going to have to turn her attention to bringing her influence to bear upon the actions of her colleagues in government and her own department to ensure that this government is doing everything it can to encourage and support permanent jobs in the private sector.

Mr. Chairman, the situation among all ages of people unemployed is serious. It certainly is a crisis where we have the students that are in our colleges, in our universities, simply continuing on in school each year, not because they don't want to go out and work, simply because they can't find jobs. That has to be the biggest reason, Mr. Chairman, for the large numbers of enrolments at our universities, schools and colleges.

The Minister, I believe in fact, perhaps acknowledged it directly, certainly confirmed the enrolment statistics during these Estimates; that is, when young people, let alone people that have been on the job market for some time and there are many many of those, lose hope in the future, Mr. Chairman, our democratic society

is in a great deal of difficulty. So, Mr. Chairman, we have concern, continued concern, about the rate of unemployment in Manitoba, even recognizing the position of the Province of Manitoba relative to other provinces. There is certainly no mention made of national factors or national circumstances in the promises that the NDP made to the electorate in the fall of 1981, when the First Minister guaranteed a bright future for the people of Manitoba under an NDP Government, when they promised job security, when they promised to stop the layoffs. Mr. Chairman, what we had during those years is nothing compared to what has taken place under this government.

We did, indeed, create well over 30,000 new jobs in the private sector, and in the short term of this government, unemployment has increased by almost 30,000, almost the same number, Mr. Chairman. That is a devastating indication of what the promises of the NDP Government and the First Minister and the NDP Party made in the fall of 1981.

The Member for Thompson indicates that those statistics are nonsense. I suggest to him, Mr. Chairman, through you that he simply consult the administration and this department. They will confirm the fact that all of those jobs were created under a Progressive Conservative Government. He knows very well, simply by looking at the unemployment statistics, that there are almost 30,000 more unemployed people under the NDP Government since the day that they took office. That's absolutely contrary to the promises that this government, this NDP Party, made in the fall of 1981.

Mr. Chairman, the difficulty is that the situation under this government and under the policies and the attitude of this Minister and the NDP Government are going to get worse. They may very well be able through a short term to create a lot of make-work projects for unemployed people, but they will be very short term. They will not be permanent; they will not be lasting. They will not give hope to the young people of this province who have been raised and educated here, want to get jobs here, want to remain here and raise families here, they're going to have to look elsewhere for permanent opportunities.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would like to remind the Member for St. Norbert that he has almost taken up his maximum 30 minutes.

MR. G. MERCIER: How much time do I have left?

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have five minutes left, because you started speaking at 4:00.

MR. G. MERCIER: Mr. Chairman, this interest of the Minister in the private sector is one of the concerns that we have, a very serious concern that we have, because it doesn't bode well for the future of Manitoba at all. Without those permanent jobs in the private sector there is little hope for the young people of this province.

The Minister has got to be concerned with creating an economic climate in this province where there is investment in this province and permanent jobs created. We are dissatisfied, Mr. Chairman, with the lack of answers that we are given by this Minister on the Jobs Fund, the inability to predict on a simple capital works

project the number of jobs that are supposed to be created. The addition to the Red River Community College, there's no idea of how many jobs will be created, not even whether the project has been tendered, no idea with respect to the Rural Water and Sewer Program, when and where those projects will be done? How many jobs will be created? These are some of the first programs that we're learning are coming out of the Jobs Fund and the First Minister has indicated we want to create jobs immediately, and the Minister of Labour who is administering the overall aspects of that program doesn't know how many jobs will be created.

So, Mr. Chairman, I have no alternative, but to move, seconded by the Member for Pembina, that the Minister's Salary be reduced to \$1.00.

A MEMBER: Too much.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hour being 4:30, I am interrupting the proceedings for the Private Members' Hour.

SUPPLY - HEALTH

MR. CHAIRMAN, P. EYLER: Committee come to order.

We are considering the Estimates of the Department of Health, Item 5(a), Chief Provincial Psychiatrist (a) Administration, (1) Salaries.

The Member for Arthur.

MR. J. DOWNEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, some time ago — (Interjection) — Do you have a statement you want to make?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please, order please.

The Minister of Health on a point of order.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: I'd like to ask the members of the committee if they can accommodate the Director of Forensic Services who cannot stay with us that long. He won't be here tonight. I wonder if we could start with that and then go back to (a).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Item 5.(b), is that agreed? (Agreed) 5.(b)(1) Forensic Services, Salaries - the Member for Fort Garry.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Minister for a report to the committee on what is contemplated in 1983-84 in terms of reinforcing and improving our capability to deliver forensic services?

In particular, I'd like to ask him about staffing changes or additions and about the facilities for delivering forensic services, both at the adult and the children's level. For some considerable time, I think it's been recognized by many of us with some familiarity with the field that a new adult forensic facility is needed in the mental health and psychiatric care spectrum in this province.

Where do we stand with respect to that need? What does the Minister foresee in improvement expansion or reinforcement of our forensic capabilities in 1983-84?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister of Health.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Yes, to answer the question of the Member for Fort Garry, there is some talk with the Health Sciences Centre, and it is a difficult thing because of the overall work that has to be done at the Health Sciences Centre and the planning that's taking place, there is a possibility, we've been negotiating with the Health Sciences Centre, and it's possible there could be a free-standing psychiatric centre. If that is the case, there's a possibility we would obtain the present location that they have and that could be used for this centre.

Now, the staff that we have for this is a psychiatrist, the director is full time, another psychiatrist - that is under-filled - it's filled by a clinical clerk, a psychiatrist part-time four half days each week to Headingley Correctional Institute; a psychologist full time; a social worker full time; an administrative secretary full time.

The children's forensic, there's a psychiatrist full time, although he's now personally on extended sick leave; a psychologist full time, an administrative secretary, two of them, they're full time. We also hired two psychiatrists on a sessional basis.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, for some time it has been my experience that there's been considerable pressure on forensic services here in Manitoba. What is the condition in terms of volume of traffic? How many criminal offenders requiring forensic service are processed through this adult facility; this adult service area per year? Is that figure rising or decreasing? Do we have the capability of keeping up with it? Are we nearing a point of explosion in terms of forensic services where there's going to be a serious breakdown in our capability to meet this problem in the community because of a lack of proper facilities and staffing and resources and the ability to meet an increasing case load?

My question has to do with the climate in forensic care. It seems to me it's been reaching a crisis point for some years. Are we at that crisis point? Is the traffic and the volume increasing? Is it threatening to break down the walls or do we have it under control? Is the volume diminishing each year?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Actually, Mr. Chairman, there is a slight decrease, except at Headingley. At Headingley there is a decrease, but there it is because of a shortage of psychiatrists. As I mentioned, there's only four half days a week. We're trying to beef that up.

I can give you the breakdown in the two years 1981 and '82. The adult forensic service in '81 was 97 forensic out-patients; in '82, 68; inpatients in 1981, 92; in 1982, 116; Headingley in '81, 312; Headingley 230.

The children's forensic, the referrals through courts and probation services 1981, 116 psychiatric; 78 in '82; psychological 72 in '81 and 36 and '82; psychiatric 7 and 7; consultative conferences 17 in '81 and 8 for a total in '81 of 212 and 128 in '82.

Other referrals in the Manitoba Youth Centre, 43 in '81 and 31 in '82; Doncaster Centre for Youth 5 in '81 and 1 in '82; Agassiz Centre for Youth 8 in '81, 11 in '82; Other, 2 in '81 and 5 in '82, for a total of 58 in '81 and 48 in '82.

The followup sessions, the Manitoba Youth Centre 42 in '81, 16 in '82; Doncaster Centre 12 in '81, 7 in '82; Agassiz, 17 in '81, 16 in '82; Regular 34 in '81, 28

in '82 and the other at 3 in '81 and 18 in '82, for a total of 108 in '81 and 85 in '82. Because of the decrease in referrals from other program areas, the number of children receiving the services through the children's forensic services has also decreased.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Those are a lot of figures and a lot of statistics, Mr. Chairman. I'm glad to have them for the record but there's no way that I can record them at the speed at which the Minister reads them into the record. I certainly will check the record, but on the basis of the information that he has in front of him, can he give me an overview as to whether the caseload pressure is building up in adult forensic and in children's forensic or whether it's diminishing?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Well all I can repeat is that, in general, there is a slight decrease, not a heavy decrease but there is a slight decrease.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Is there a forensic facility, or capability, or capacity at the Selkirk Mental Health Centre, or is adult forensic located in its entirety at the Health Sciences Centre in Winnipeg?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: I'm told that the long-time forensic treatment exists at Selkirk. There are 26 patients there and the short term is at the Health Sciences Centre.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Is there sufficient physical capability at Selkirk for handling long-term, long-time adult forensic, or is there a need for a physical forensic capability to be built at Selkirk, or is there a need for some renovation or redevelopment of an existing building at Selkirk to be turned into a forensic unit, or do we have the necessary physical facility at Selkirk right now to handle the traffic, the volume and the pressure in adult forensic, Mr. Chairman? Could the Minister address that subject?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: I think it would be wrong to say there isn't a need for a centre. It's not planned for this year, the economic situation, of course. I think one of the factors is that we're trying to do something about the recruitment of psychiatrists and other personnel that we need, which is very difficult, as we stated all along, talking about mental health, the programs that we're doing to try to recruit and even educate some of the people who will then work with us. So a centre would not be of too great value if we couldn't staff it properly and that's one of the problems that we're having now.

MR. L. SHERMAN: When the Minister says, "staff it properly," Mr. Chairman, is he talking about psychiatrists, or psychiatric nurses, RPN's, or psychologists, or rehabilitation counsellors, or community mental health workers, or what? Or is he talking about the whole spectrum of psychiatric health care occupations? Is he talking specifically about requiring more psychiatrists than we presently have?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Yes, it is mostly psychiatrists but psychologists also and then we could do with more

psychiatric nurses also. I might say that we have a sub-committee chaired by our Director of Nursing who's looking at the whole situation and should be able to report fairly soon. That is the sub-committee that acts also on the committee that I mentioned a while back that we're working in all this field of mental health, working with the Mental Health Association and the other two groups, the Social Planning of Winnipeg and the Manitoba Health Organization. We're working with them and we should have a report some time in July or so, around July 15th.

MR. L. SHERMAN: I don't have a documentation of such in front of me at the moment, Mr. Chairman, but from time-to-time one reads of tragic situations in which persons who are accused of various crimes, or actually in detention for a conviction of various crimes, are driven to desperation as a result of requiring psychiatric treatment, forensic treatment, mental health counselling and they have been unable to receive that. The required psychiatric assessment and treatment of their condition has been unavailable to them and occasionally we have a suicide that follows as a result.

I'd like to ask the Minister whether there is, in his view, sufficient professional capability at the present time to ensure that psychiatric assessment of criminal offenders can be provided as required and that he feels reasonably safe in suggesting to the committee that there aren't shortcomings in this area that will compromise the right of criminal offenders to receive the psychiatric treatment that they are deemed to require.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, I certainly am not going to say that I'm satisfied that everything is perfect. I think that we've admitted that and we're looking at the whole situation of mental health, but we're doing the best we can in the meantime, and I said there was a sub-committee chaired by Dr. Bankier that is looking at the situation and the manpower and the staffing, and I'm told that there exists now some psychiatric nurses who are on call for any emergency any time of day or night, so they would have the immediate service when needed, for emergency anyway.

MR. L. SHERMAN: How important is it, Mr. Chairman, that we build a new forensic facility for adults, either at the Health Sciences Centre, or at Selkirk, or wherever the Minister wants to build it? Where does this rank in his scale of priorities? Where would he put it on a scale of one to ten?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, I'd be in a much better position to answer that once I receive the report. I don't think it would be proper for me to comment on that. I think, all in all, probably in this field there's an awful lot more that could be redone in this field of mental illness. I think we're working in the right direction; it has not been easy. The member knows, when he was Minister, how difficult it was for him to start recruiting, how to find a chief psychiatrist, provincial psychiatrist and then also to recruit. I think we're gaining a bit on that with some of the courses that we've had, some of the incentives that we've had, but we're still a long way from being satisfied. We beefed up our research

section and the first priority, they've had a couple of priorities, but the first priority is that they are now working with the agencies in the private sector and we'll probably, depending on what happens on that, enlist the support or invite the public also, those that feel they have a contribution to make and then it would be easier to say this is the direction we want to go and this is what we want to do.

I think it would be premature and wrong on my part to try to comment on something when there are so many people that are diligently working and trying to bring in a report by July.

I might say that initially that recommendation would have been a little earlier but some of these organizations in the private sector or volunteer organizations or associations changed their mind and decided to participate with us and they've asked, at their request, there was an extension of a couple of months to make sure that they could participate. That was granted because we felt that it was very important to have them work with us.

As I say there should be something in July and I would imagine that - I would hope that next year I won't have any excuse or reason not to at least, be able to give the blueprint of where we're going, what is needed here in Manitoba and what action we intend to take.

MR. L. SHERMAN: So the Minister is saying that he is expecting that report in July and he'll be able to draw some conclusions then? He nods in accord with that suggestion, Mr. Chairman, I might just note for the record.

An interesting question arises for me having been in the position that the Minister is in. I must say, Mr. Chairman, that when I had the privilege of serving as Minister of Health one of the crucial, fundamental missing links in the mental health spectrum, psychiatric care spectrum, as indicated to me by my advisors and officials was a competent, capable, adult forensic facility. And in looking at the kinds of things that my colleagues and I hoped to do in the years ahead, provided we had the opportunity to continue in office, there is no question that a high-priority item was going to be capital investment in, and a capital commitment to an adult forensic facility. That probably comes as no consolation to Dr. Bankier because he didn't get it while I was Minister and I'm not suggesting that we're on the threshold of turning the sod. What I am saying to you, Mr. Chairman, is that that had been elevated in my thinking to a high priority position on the basis of advice that I was getting from my officials. Given another few years in office that was certainly one area into which I wanted to lead the department and lead the province.

Now we find that apparently there is no similar pressure for or interest in or demand for a new adult forensic capability, which leads one to conclude that there are more difficulties in the area of psychiatric assessment of social offenders when a Progressive Conservative Government is in office than is the case when a New Democratic Government is in office. I refuse to accept that, Sir, either as a political or a philosophical reality and I would ask the Minister what has brought about the change in priorities in interest and in attention on this subject?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, I think that's - either the honourable member misunderstands me or

it's a little unfair. I did not say that it wasn't a priority. I said that it would be premature for me to speak about that when we're looking at the whole thing and it's not a question that'll take years to do. We have different subcommittees and Dr. Bankier was recommending that last year and the year before and now the subcommittee is looking in this area, I hardly think that all of a sudden it's not going to be an important thing.

I think that the member, the former Minister, realizes how difficult these things are to come about. I can say that I have the same dream as he is having now or the same priority and for me it was many years ago - a psychiatric treatment unit for the adolescents and he carried the ball also when he was he was Minister and he tried very hard, we both tried very hard, for years. I remember that it was announced - I think that's the record in the 25 years, about 30 Throne Speeches that I heard in this House, I think that I've heard that repeated more times by different Ministers and different parties. I'm sure we were all very sincere, it took a long time and finally, that, to me, was the priority at the time and it probably still is. Finally, after even the last fight that we had on the zoning and so on this is going to become a reality.

So it's a long time in coming but I think that, at least, we are progressing. I hope that it's not going to be so long for the next step whatever we're going to do, we're looking at the whole situation. The whole development at the hospital, the Health Sciences Centre for instance, I might say the same thing that one of my first priorities in 1975-76, after the Clarkson-Vayda Report, was psychiatry. I don't know how it came about but at the hospital, when the planning went down a bit in the other years and now we're bringing that priority up but now we're looking, as you know, we're looking exactly - the member asked me yesterday and I know he wants to talk about day hospitals - we want to make sure that we're not going to build any white elephant or something that'll be obsolete. We want to know where we're going before we continue with the Health Sciences Centre, the tower, to see if we're building too large units, not necessarily just the beds but the facilities for the staff and all that.

We're looking and I've asked the hospital to see if it would not destroy and damage their plans if we could look at the possibility of a free standing health centre, the university at the Health Sciences Centre and we're supposed to have a report on that. That could be another step and then I say - I'm not saying it's not and it will not be a high priority, I'm saying that it wouldn't be quite proper to out-guess the recommendations of this department, people that are working in it.

The same thing as in Brandon, for instance, it's not a question of just the commitment for the future sometime. As far as the Cabinet is concerned, I have the money available for the tower at the Brandon and Selkirk Mental Hospital and there are some there that we're holding to make sure that we're doing the right thing to wait till we have the report.

I'm just hoping that the members of the Committee will be patient. I want to reassure them that I can't see myself, I join the member, I can't see that any difference in treating them and we might agree on everything but it's not because we're members of different parties, I'm sure. I think that we see the importance of that

and it is fairly difficult, it's not only in Manitoba, it's all across the land. If anything, I guess it might be considered a relatively new science compared to other fields in the medical profession. That's been very difficult, probably because of our program of Medicare, which has certainly been a terrific program, but maybe it doesn't lend itself to much of that because of the longer time needed. Also, as I said, with the shortage it is quite difficult to recruit the kind of people that we want, the qualified people. We hope that is a problem we can lick. I hope that we can improve it and I can commit myself to this committee. Next year I will not expect that you will be lenient with us. I don't say that we'll have everything ready for the following year, but at least I'll have a better idea of where I would hope, we're going. I hope that I can enunciate it quite clearly the next time we meet.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, I thank the Minister for that reassurance. I would just ask him whether there is at the present time sufficient capability to meet the adult Forensic Services requirements in terms of psychiatric assessment of accused persons who are referred by the courts for such assessment, and psychiatric assessment of patients who are referred by the correctional system itself or by Probation Services? Can the Minister just - he may have already done so in his earlier remarks - comment on the existing capability and capacity to meet the cases referred by the courts and by the correctional system requesting psychiatric assessment of offenders, of patients or inmates in correctional institutions?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: We have some problems. I would imagine that we're not any worse off than we have been these last few years, except that there's probably a little more hope. The situation that we have with our director on sick leave, that's not helpful. I don't know exactly when he'll be back.

As I stated earlier, we have asked the Health Sciences Centre if they can look without damaging in having to start all their planning at the Health Sciences Centre and see if they could put a priority to see if they could maybe accept the construction of a free-standing psychiatric unit for Dr. Prosen and his group at the university. In fact, I have an understanding that although this will not be announced in the five-year construction plan, but if anything develops at this time that I would go back to Cabinet although it's not announced this year. It would be a priority. We weren't sure, so it's not included.

Now if that is the case, the present building we got, the facilities that Dr. Bankier had, if we can have the whole facility, that would be just dandy and we hope that it could happen.

MR. L. SHERMAN: With respect to Children's Forensic, Mr. Chairman, can the Minister just recap that situation for the committee? It's located at the Manitoba Youth Centre. The Minister has indicated that he has no particular difficulty with the location and presumably there is sufficient professional staffing although, in my experience, we seldom have enough child psychiatrists. I would like to know whether we have enough qualified child psychiatrists in the Minister's opinion at the

present time, or whether there is a search for an expansion of that kind of staffing, and whether or not there are sufficient beds to meet the Children's Forensic needs at the present time?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Dr. Sigmundson tells me that there is no doubt that this unit that we were talking about that finally is being built, will be greatly helpful. There doesn't seem to be too much concern that it will be staffed properly. We don't know exactly where the staff will come from. It might be from the hospital, it might be from the department but I'm told that we're sure that we'll be able to staff it properly.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Is that the adolescent psychiatric facility that will be located near the Health Sciences Centre?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Yes, it will be located on the site of the old Montcalm School.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Yes. So, Mr. Chairman, what this Minister is saying is, that the new adolescent psychiatric facility, which is going in on this site of the old Montcalm School will then provide us with sufficient beds. So at the present time we don't have sufficient beds for Children's Forensic. Is that correct?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: I would imagine that's the case, or I don't think we would be building this hospital if we had the beds. I think in the past we've sent people out of province, but I think there has been an improvement on that in the time that my honourable friend was Minister and that is still going on. We will probably be able to lick that problem completely when we get our own adolescent hospital here.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Well, Mr. Chairman, perhaps there is a misunderstanding in my mind here of what is involved then. I want to ask the Minister about out-of-province referrals. I was going to do that under the section on Children's Psychiatric Services to which we haven't come yet. But am I confusing conventional children's psychiatric needs and requirements such as would be delivered in the adolescent psychiatric facility which has been an objective of his and mine over the lifetimes of two governments - perhaps even longer - am I confusing that with Children's Forensic Services? I mean, Adolescent Psychiatric Services surely consist of a lot more than purely clinical forensic services. Forensic Services is at the Manitoba Youth Centre. What I am wondering is whether there are sufficient capabilities, sufficient beds, sufficient staff there, or is the new adolescent psychiatric facility on the Montcalm School site going to be a forensic facility?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: I am told that the assessment will continue to take place at the Youth Centre. But then if it's a long-term assessment, then it will be transferred and the needs will be met at the adolescent hospital, either if these people have to be hospitalized or even in day programs that will take place at the Adolescent Psychiatric unit.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Okay, pass. Well, you'll want to get on a different subject?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Dr. Sigmundson is here. Could we do the Children's Psychiatric Services?

MR. L. SHERMAN: Well, just a minute . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please. Would you like to pass these before we do?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Oh, I'm sorry.

MR. L. SHERMAN: I've got one other question on Forensic, so I was going to pass the first part of Forensic, that was all.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 5.(b)(1)—pass; 5.(b)(2) - the Member for Fort Garry.

MR. L. SHERMAN: What does this Other Expenditures cover in this case, Mr. Chairman?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: It would be the sessional fees and other administrative costs.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 5.(b)(2)—pass; 5.(a)(1) Administration: Salaries.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, there's a statement. I think the member wanted to make a statement and we have Dr. Sigmundson here also. Can you tell us the question or the statement you'd like to make?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Fort Garry.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, my colleague, the Honourable Member for Arthur, wants to ask a couple of questions of the Minister relative to a specific area of psychiatric care in mental health, but I understand that Dr. Bankier can only be here this afternoon and perhaps even Dr. Sigmundson can only be here this afternoon, but we've still got an hour. So could we allow the Honourable Member for Arthur to go ahead now and then we'll come back to Children's Psychiatric Services?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay. The Member for Arthur.

MR. J. DOWNEY: Well, Mr. Chairman, this maybe should more properly be asked on the Minister's Salary. Some time ago, I had written the Minister a letter dealing with a policy of Brandon Hospital particularly dealing with the elderly patients at this particular constituency - maybe the Minister cannot remember the letter, it's some time ago - where patients of the mental health institute or some of the other hospitals there automatically have an autopsy or a post mortem done on them. In this particular situation - the Minister maybe doesn't set the policy, maybe it's done at a local board level - where this kind of procedure was very upsetting to the family of this elderly person and, as well, very upsetting to me that it would be a normal process, where in a mental institute or in any other hospital that they would automatically go through that kind of

procedure, and for clarification sake, the Minister could probably respond to me at this time if that is the policy, if it's an automatic post mortem or autopsies being done without permission of the family, why in fact that is allowed to happen? Would the Minister not consider changing that, if at all possible? I'd like his response on it.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Yes, I do, now that the member has refreshed my memory, I remember the case that he did discuss it with me. I've checked and it is not a policy; it's not an obligation that it's automatic. I can tell you by past experience and not necessarily at that hospital, the situation is that if the attendant physician doesn't know the cause of death he cannot rightfully fill the Death Certificate with the cause of death then. He has no recourse but to order a post mortem or an autopsy, or if it is a sudden death you call the medical examiner. For instance, if they suspect that there might be foul play or anything, any sudden death at all, there will be a post mortem or an autopsy. I'm told that is the same thing in these hospitals.

For instance, if the person has been there for a number of years, the attending physician knows what the problem is, he might request it as sometimes it helps in research, but they would do so only with permission, and it should be the written permission of the family. So I don't remember exactly where it's at. If the member wants me to pursue that case, I remember that we've talked about that and I don't know if I answered that at all. If not, we will look at files and we will investigate what happened in that instance.

But that doesn't mean that the family can stop any post mortem. If a doctor, in conscience, does not know the cause of death, then there's no other recourse - or if it's a sudden death.

MR. J. DOWNEY: Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the Minister being prepared to look at it because this particular case, as I understand it and I think I'm fairly correct, that the elderly lady was operated on and a tumour removed from her chest cavity. She was 90 years of age and it was very apparent that that was the cause of death. Following on that, there was a post mortem ordered without the permission of the family which was very upsetting to the family. They're very good people; they have been very upset about it for some time.

I did write to the Minister at that time. They forwarded some files to me which I have. They say it's too late for their mother because they didn't feel that she deserved to have that kind of treatment, following her death, on her body - it's a respect - that they would like it stopped, or at least looked into so that it doesn't happen to other families. They've gone through this anguish themselves and they don't want it to happen again. I'm pleased to hear the Minister say, if he would proceed to look back into his files and give this family the assurance that it won't happen again, I think it would put their minds at ease and I would appreciate if the Minister would do that.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Yes, I wonder if the honourable member can send me the name on a piece of paper that I'll give the staff to look at it. I think, as they say,

it's too late for their mother and especially at that age also, but the least we can do is a letter of apology and explanation. We'd send a copy to the member and that might make the people feel a little better, the fact that they did communicate with us might help other people not to go through the same thing.

MR. J. DOWNEY: Mr. Chairman, I would appreciate that and I will forward to the Minister the names of the people and as much information as I feel can be provided. I think that would be very fitting and would hope the Minister would proceed to do that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is it the will of the committee to begin with 5.(a)(1)?

5.(a)(1) - the Member for Fort Garry.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, I think if I'm not mistaken the Minister would prefer to proceed with 5.(c) at this juncture, is that correct? And that's fine with this side.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, actually I was trying to accommodate everybody, but if you ask me what I prefer, I prefer we finish this this afternoon. So if we do, we can stay with (a). We've done (b). We can do (c) and (d).

MR. CHAIRMAN: 5.(a)(1) - the Member for Fort Garry.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, could the Minister provide the committee with changes, if any, in the staff man year complement of this branch, the Administration Branch, under the Chief Provincial Psychiatrist? Are there changes, additions, deletions? How many SMYs are there in this particular administrative directorate and what is their function? I know the line in the Estimates refers to the operation of the office and Chief Provincial Psychiatrist but perhaps the Minister could give us a breakdown of function by category.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Yes, Mr. Chairman, there are no changes at all. There were seven last year and there are seven this year. There's the Chief Provincial Psychiatrist who is the Director of Psychiatric Services, that's Dr. Kovacs, administrative assistants and two secretaries and also paid from this appropriation is one staff member formerly with the Winnipeg Psychiatric Institute, now seconded to the Health Sciences Centre and two staff located at the Eden Mental Health Centre.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, can the Minister confirm that the correct title for Dr. Mike Kovacs is Chief Provincial Psychiatrist? Is that the correct title? Is he confirmed in that position and does that represent a change in designation from past years' practice?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: The actual legal term would be Acting Chief Provincial Psychiatrist but I might say, to make sure that it's understood by the members of the committee, that he's Acting at his request at this time; he's had some trouble with his health. I hope and I think he's getting better and it was at his request that he has not been confirmed as the definite Chief Provincial Psychiatrist.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, is Dr. Roy Tavener still connected with the office in any way?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: No, he isn't, Mr. Chairman, but we received help from Dr. Prosen, especially on that committee, some of the work that he's done, we're reviewing that work, some of the ideas that he had for a better relationship with the university and so on, and he's very much a part of this team that I talked about.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Could the Minister just sketch for the committee the situation with respect to Dr. Prosen? There was some consideration being given by Dr. Prosen some months ago - I think about a year ago - to his leaving the province and taking an appointment in another jurisdiction, I believe in Denver, Colorado. Has Dr. Prosen determined to reject that proposition and to stay in practice and stay with the university and with the department here in Manitoba, Mr. Chairman?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Yes, Mr. Chairman, when I became the Minister responsible for this I'd heard that there was some suggestion that Dr. Prosen might leave, that he'd received quite an offer from Denver - I'm not talking only monetary - to do some of the things that he felt he could do. I've had many, many meetings with Dr. Prosen and part of his team at the Health Sciences Centre, I could see that he was very interested, and at the time also, we were trying to recruit for the Chief Provincial Psychiatrist and Dr. Kovacs didn't seem to be interested at the time, as I said, because of concern that he had for his health. I did make a real effort to get Dr. Prosen to accept this position, or in fact that we could look at what he was doing because he was needed also at the university, at the faculty, and we did talk and that's where that report came in. It was exaggerated, became the Prosen Report as if he was going to decide by himself. It was just the ideas that he had that he wanted to communicate, that he discussed with other people in the department.

It took awhile for him to decide. I think that he practically accepted, he had his house for sale and finally, at his last trip there, he decided that he wanted to stay here. We had some discussions, some ideas what we wanted to do and he certainly has made up his mind now. He's back where he is and as I say, we've had good rapport with him. We have him on a retainer as a consultant to help us and it looks like he's made up his mind to stay here.

MR. L. SHERMAN: I thank the Minister for that information, Mr. Chairman. I'd also like to say that members on this side of the committee, in the House, would, I'm sure like to add their hopes and express their hopes that Dr. Kovacs' health is restored to its fullness and it is restored in such a way that it enables him to take on the position of Chief Provincial Psychiatrist in a permanent capacity, not merely in an acting capacity.

What has happened to Dr. Kovacs' responsibility vis-a-vis the Selkirk Mental Health Centre now that he is Acting Chief Provincial Psychiatrist?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Of course we have the doctor who is assuming the post as Acting Director of Selkirk

because of the situation with Dr. Kovacs. It's Dr. Andrews, as I'm sure the members of committee know and we are very pleased with the work he's doing in Selkirk.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, I know my colleague, the Honourable Member for Rhineland has some questions he would like to ask in consideration of these particular appropriations. Just before we pass 5.(a)(1) and (2), Mr. Chairman, I wonder if I could just have 30 seconds to confer with him. I know that both he and I want to look at the Professional Training Provision and I just want to check with him to make sure that he has no questions he wants to raise before we pass 5.(a)(1) and (2).

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We're prepared to pass 5.(a)(1) and (2).

MR. CHAIRMAN: 5.(a)(1)—pass; 5.(a)(2)—pass; 5.(a)(3). The Member for Rhineland.

MR. A. BROWN: Mr. Chairman, the other day I asked under which appropriation that we had the training of psychiatric nurses. I wonder if this is that particular section, 5.(a)(3).

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Yes it is.

MR. A. BROWN: Well I would like to ask the Minister how many psychiatric nurses graduate from Brandon every year and how many graduate from Selkirk?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: The nurses graduated in - let's start with Brandon - I'll give you 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981 and 1982, starting with 1978.

19; 9; 19; 18; 32. In Selkirk, starting again with 1978, 21; 18; 17; 10 and 27. So the total, there were 40 in 1978, counting the two institutions; 27 in 1979; 36 in 1980; 28 in 1981; and 59 in 1982.

Now, in this year nurses in training, I imagine that will be helpful to the Committee, the total nurses training now in Brandon is 57, that's 30 the first year, and 27 in their second year; in Selkirk there are 75, a total of 48 in the first year and 27 in the second year. So in two years they all graduate we should have another 132 - I say two years, there are 78 in their first year and 54 in the second year.

The projected enrolment for September of 1983 they expect to have approximately 40 in Brandon and 50 in Selkirk.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. A. BROWN: There seem to be quite a few starting off with the course but not all that many finishing. In Brandon, for instance, if they have 57 starting the course and only about 19, or thereabouts, graduating, although the last year I guess there were 32 that graduated. It seems to be that there is quite a few dropping out; what is the problem, can the Minister tell me? The other thing that I would like to know is what is the demand in psychiatric nursing every year? How many nurses do we require every year, approximately?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: My honourable friend asked me about the failure rate. I know it's high but I don't

know what the answer is. I guess the only answer would be that they didn't get enough high marks. I don't really know. We know approximately how many we need, we're doing well now, we can probably use a few. We can quote how many they accept, that's something else because that is so difficult because how many of them will decide to either get married, or if they're married and decide to have a family and retire or move somewhere, that's very difficult to say. I would say that we're not too badly off, because if you notice, there's more graduating, not only those that are - there's no doubt that they won't all graduate, those that are there now. I gave you that we have 59 that graduated last year and the year before was only 28. So this year there's 132 in the school now and, of course, they won't all graduate. I guess there's a better chance in the second year because the failure rate would be way less and there's still 54 so that's not bad. I'm told that we could probably use some and we will know more again when the Pascoe Study with all the subcommittees come in with recommendations, but we're not too badly off right now.

I would imagine that my honourable friend was talking about not necessarily working for us but working in psychiatric units in Winnipeg. In other words, how many needed are in Manitoba, that's what I wanted to answer.

MR. A. BROWN: I wonder if the Minister could tell me about what the cost is for Brandon for training these and what the cost is for Selkirk?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: What the training?

MR. A. BROWN: Yes, the training program, what the cost is to the province?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: 1982-83 - Brandon was 191.05, 1983-84 is 152; and Selkirk in 1982-83 was 109 and this year 125, for a total of 382 in '83 and 277 in 1983-84.

MR. A. BROWN: Has the Minister taken a look at whether we should only be training in one location. I notice that there is quite a few entering the course. The figures that I had really were only on how many completed the course and when I saw how few really completed the course, I thought, well, the training could possibly be done in one of these institutions, thereby freeing up some capital. I wonder if the Minister could give me a comment on this, is it really necessary to have a training program in both Brandon and Selkirk?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Maybe I wasn't quite clear. I could have answered a little better when I was asked what the reasons were. It's not necessarily that these people do not have the brains to finish their education. I know certain people that start in that, they just can't cope. It is a very very difficult thing to do, that kind of work. Some people find it very depressing and I would imagine that if you only had the one school you could recruit less and your rate might be just as high. You don't know until they've tried it. Probably more so than most other professions that you can have and I think that they do also if I'm not mistaken, I am looking at the staff in front of me and I hope they will tell me

if I'm wrong, some of the training also is part-time, for other nurses who might come for a short duration also, just an ordinary R.N. that will attend these schools for maybe a week or two weeks, I don't know exactly what it is, so that is another factor. I think that we would be taking a chance if we did that. We could have it all in one place. We might have instead of 75, let's say, we might have 40 or so or 35 and it might be that the rate would be just as high and then where would we go? We'd lose a year and we'd have to start all over again. It hasn't been a big factor that we feel that it's worth taking a chance at this time.

MR. A. BROWN: I realize the good work that these psychiatric nurses are doing and I know that they have a very difficult task to cope with. I certainly agree with the Minister that they are doing a good job and that not everybody can do the work that is asked to be done by this particular group. This really is my question, Mr. Minister, is whether we could have them in one area, but I didn't realize that there were that many starting off every year in that particular program so

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Excuse me, I'd like to add some information that I wasn't aware of, but there was a study and the report, the recommendation was that they should remain with the two.

MR. A. BROWN: Can the Minister tell me if there is any psychiatric training going on under this Appropriation?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: There are some under the Community - we're asking for 377 this year; nurses, 277; physicians 25; community health workers, 75. That's the amount of money, we are breaking down that 377.1. In the first nine months of this fiscal year 1982-83, there were 28 days of training conducted; 128 community mental health workers, 63 institutional staff and 10 other staff attended.

The actual spending last year was about 55. We're asking for 75 for that this year, so we should do at least as well or a bit better.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Rhineland.

MR. A. BROWN: The Minister, I believe, answered that there were some physicians that were in training. Are we doing any psychiatric training at all in Manitoba at the present time, training psychiatrists?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: That was one of the areas Dr. Prosen had certain ideas about because he is a professor and head of the department at the university. But Dr. Kovacs has arranged with the university and there are the career residents chosen; we recruit them; they come in for six months. There could be the full training, of course, and then they might be G.P.s also given the option to train. I think it is six months for those to have some training anyway. So, there is that kind of training and recruiting going on now.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Fort Garry.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, I don't think there is any doubt that we suffer from a shortage of

psychiatrists in general terms in Manitoba. As has been noted with respect to other professional shortages, that is not a condition that is unique in Manitoba. Most jurisdictions in North America, I believe, suffer from varying degrees of shortages of professional personnel and a great many of them suffer in particular from shortages of psychiatrists.

My colleague and the Minister have just discussed the Career Residents Program as one means of meeting this shortage, but before we pass this item on Professional Training, I would like to ask the Minister for a comment or two with respect to the supply of psychiatrists. What is the outlook for the 1980s in terms of meeting the need for psychiatrists? Surely the field of mental health, psychiatric services, represents one of the major frontiers for health care generally that still has to be conquered. It's an area and a frontier where much of our attention and priorities should be focused.

What are we doing about encouraging young people, medical students, men and women at the Medical College to specialize in psychiatry, or would the Minister prefer to discuss that under the medical services component of the Commission? If he prefers, then I can raise it there, but we are looking at the Office of the Chief Provincial Psychiatrist. We are looking at three psychiatrists at the present time sitting in front of the Minister, Dr. Kovacs, Sigmondson and Bankier and we are looking at professional training, so while we've got that powerful lineup of psychiatric talent here in front of the committee, Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Minister what initiatives are being taken and what the outlook is for encouraging more young people to specialize as they go through medical school in the field of psychiatry.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, yes, I might say that in Selkirk, at the Selkirk Mental Health Centre, there are seven qualified psychiatrists. There are also seven general practitioners and one radiologist. That makes 15 physicians at the Selkirk Mental Health Centre.

In Brandon, there are three qualified psychiatrists. In addition, there are nine general practitioners. This makes a total of 12 physicians at Brandon Mental Health Centre. I am told that we are recruiting now and we have a good chance of enticing four qualified psychiatrists to come to Manitoba; the discussion is going on now with the Commission. I guess the only thing I can say is the courses in this program with the resident careers, we're working with the University of Manitoba and the Selkirk Centre.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Are the professional instructors, clinical instructors and teachers at the Medical College preaching the gospel of psychiatry, or is it a field that is playing second, third, fourth fiddle to other glamorous specialties which are creaming off the top of the medical graduation class each year?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: That's a hot one and I don't think you really think I am going to try and answer that one. I am not going to comment for the college or the medical profession. I've heard different concerns, but I think that more and more the value and the necessity of psychiatrists is recognized. I'm told that there are

23 residents in training in the post-graduate program in psychiatry. There is a six months optional course in forensic psychiatry under Dr. Bankier.

Things are maybe not improving as fast as we would like, but the member is so right that this is a problem all across the country and probably much more so in other countries than Canada.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 5.(a)(3)—pass; 5.(c)(1) Children's Psychiatric Services - Salaries - the Member for Fort Garry.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Perhaps we could just pick up here precisely where we left off on 5.(a)(3), Mr. Chairman, and I could ask the Minister in the general reference to psychiatrists, how are we fixed with respect to child psychiatrists? I think this is one of the fields where we and other citizens of Canada and United States, other jurisdictions in North America, are perhaps suffering most acutely in terms of required professional supply.

What are we looking at in terms of the community of child psychiatrists that we have in Winnipeg and Manitoba at the present time? What are we looking at in terms of the need and requirements for child psychiatrists throughout the 1980s? What are we looking at in the psychiatric residency program or career residency program in terms of child psychiatrists coming out of that program as against adult psychiatric services?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: We have a full time director and another position filled half-time by a psychiatrist on research duties at the Health Sciences Centre. We have a full-time medical officer and one filled by two psychiatrists, each half time, and one filled by a pediatrician seven-tenths of the time. We're looking for consultants and there are four-and-a-half positions empty now. We're still trying to recruit.

In addition, I should say one psychiatrist is employed approximately three days a week and two psychiatrists each are employed two days a week, all on a sessional fee.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Now there is, Mr. Chairman, a service delivery system in place in the Children's Psychiatric Services field which is equipped presumably to deliver psychiatric services to children and adolescents in Manitoba in various parts of the province, not just Winnipeg. The Annual Report makes reference to the fact that over the past nine years a network, so-called, of community mental health workers has been established; each worker assigned to a regional office to assist in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of emotional disturbances in children and adolescents. What sort of professional backup in the way of child psychiatrists is available to support and counsel and lead this network of community mental health workers?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: I think that we pretty well made up our minds that we're not going to get the child psychiatrists that are required here. It could take a while, so what we're trying to do is have the trained staff of all our different regions with mental health workers. We are still understaffed. We have a supervisor now; we have two in the Eastman region; one in the

Central region; one in the Interlake; one in Norman; one in Thompson; two in Winnipeg central office; and we have two vacant spots. In addition, community health workers occupy a medical officer position half of the time and is employed in Parkman region. One occupies a medical officer position full time and is employed in Winnipeg.

Now, in their career residency that I've talked about, we are successful in getting some of the medical officers to act as backup and it's been proven very helpful to our community health workers in the different regions. We still need more of them. We're progressing on that and we would like to have more community mental health workers also in the region - like we have two vacancies now.

MR. L. SHERMAN: So the community mental health workers, in terms of rural Manitoba, obviously work out of major regional community bases. Where do the urban community health workers work from? Do they work in the school system or the Health Sciences or where?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Service is delivered through the Child Guidance Clinic. We have the equivalent of four-and-a-half psychiatrists working there, and then they'll provide the backup and the treatment as needed also with services through the Child Guidance Clinic.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Most of these cases, I presume, Mr. Chairman, are dealt with as outpatient cases. How close are we to the adolescent psychiatric facility that the Minister and I have both talked about? There are no shovels in the ground yet on that project, if I'm correct. I may be incorrect, but if there are shovels in the ground on it, they're just in the ground, so how close are we to being able to provide in-patient treatment and service to these children who come into contact with and are assessed by the community mental health workers working in Children's Psychiatric Services?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Finally, I have encouraging news to give. The architectural plans are all finished. A contract will be signed in approximately a week and the Honourable Member for Fort Garry now probably will be invited to the sod-turning ceremony some time in May.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Oh, very good.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Construction time will be approximately a year.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Very good, very good.

Mr. Chairman, how many out-of-province referrals are we averaging now in a given year or in a given month, if those statistics are easier, in the children's psychiatric field and adolescent psychiatric services? Are we still out of necessity shipping children to specialized adolescent psychiatric facilities in other parts of North America?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: This is done through the Office of the Director of Child Welfare who placed these

people, but I'm told that we are looking at all these people, reassessing them, and that there is approximately 22 now, unless it's impossible, but the reassessment, when that place is opened, they'd all be returned back to Manitoba.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Good, okay. You got anything, Arnold?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Rhineland.

MR. A. BROWN: Well, Mr. Chairman, if we are ever going to really practice preventative medicine, then this is an area I'm certain in which we could make a lot of improvements. It's very encouraging to note that a contract will be signed on a new facility shortly, and that construction is going to start.

I always think back to what my good friend Dr. Penner said when he was head of this particular department in Manitoba. He said that if he could get a child early enough then we could just about empty out Headingley because you could tell at a very early age, who was going to have a problem dealing with society and who was going to be all right.

I think we have to make every effort so that we can treat these young children at a very early age when it's first noticed that they have a problem adapting to society. I wonder if the Minister could tell me how much money we are spending at the present time on these 22 children that are being treated out-of-province.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: I'd like to also inform the committee that on that Board of the Psychiatric Adolescent Hospital, that there will be community involvement. I think that's important because we've talked about getting people out of institutions. We're building this institution because we feel that it is needed but, as I said, there will be day programs also and community programs and there'll be community involvement on the Board of that hospital, so I think that will go a long way to meet some of the suggestions that you're making.

MR. A. BROWN: The Minister didn't say what the cost was of these 22 children who are outside-of-province now.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: That's one that you can write in your little book and ask my confrere and colleague - he's the one that pays for that - the Minister of Community Services and Corrections. I thought you were talking about the construction of the hospital, the cost; I misunderstood. That will be announced. It's part of the program that we've had to improve also, the five-year program, and I haven't got the cost now but you'll be given that in a few days.

MR. A. BROWN: Once we have this facility completed in Manitoba and it's ready to operate, what kind of program is the Minister anticipating? Who are we going to have out in the communities detecting these children with the problems? Are we going to be working with schools only, or are we going to have some kind of a program where we can possibly detect these children with problems at an earlier age, at preschool age?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Yes, these people probably will be referred by physicians and also in the regions through our Regional Director, the mental health workers, through them, and it could be that they'll be referred by relatives and friends and schools and so on. There are a number of referrals that come from a number of different places.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 5.(c)(1)—pass; 5(c)(2)—pass; 5.(d)(1) Community Mental Health Directorate: Salaries - the Member for Fort Garry.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, we're into an area here that may take a few minutes. I know the Minister and I have talked about trying to deal with this particular appropriation, Resolution No. 92, Chief Provincial Psychiatrist, this afternoon, and then moving into consideration of Resolution No. 93 on the Alcoholism Foundation of Manitoba tonight, and certainly we're fully prepared to get on with Resolution No. 93 on the Alcoholism Foundation tonight.

We may not be able to finish this particular resolution by 4:30 though. I'll have to see how we progress in these remaining 17 minutes because we're into an area here where, rightly or wrongly, there are a number of horror stories that are appearing in print now with respect to Community Mental Health Services, support in the community for the mentally ill. Certainly the Minister is as familiar as I or anybody else in this committee with recent reports in the Winnipeg Free Press and other media, of a jungle of conflicting programs, of anomalies, of contradictions, of weaknesses, of gaps and loopholes in the mental health system, and particularly in the community mental health system. So perhaps we won't be able to deal with it all in the 16 or 17 minutes remaining in the committee's time this afternoon and I just want to make that point because I don't mean to be unco-operative with the Minister. I think we've worked very well up to this point in time but it may take us a little time for my colleague, the Honourable Member for Rhineland and me to find ourselves satisfied that some of these horror stories are not as they are reported and we are looking to the Minister for that kind of reassurance.

So let's embark on that examination at this juncture, Mr. Chairman, and let me begin by pointing out to the Minister that the Salaries component in the Community Mental Health Directorate reflects something like a 57 percent increase for 1983-84, requested appropriation of \$93,700 as against \$59,700.00. I would ask the Minister what that is attributable to and whether, in fact, there is enough personnel in the Community Mental Health Directorate to do the job of developing and formulating and designing programs and program services to keep Community Mental Health functioning properly, to keep it out of trouble and to give the media something other than horror stories to report.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, the increase in Salaries, there's still only the two; the appropriation \$21,500 shows a 20.7 percent overall increase in Salaries primarily due to vacant positions in Community Mental Health; that's 57 percent being reclassified to higher levels in order to attract high-calibre staff including a Director. I think that is what we were talking

about earlier. We tried and I guess the salary wasn't attractive enough and there's no way that we're going to get any kind of people for that, so we've had to increase that. That's the explanation for 57 percent of that. Reclassification and merit increases in Forensic Services takes 21.4 percent and Children's Psychiatric Services, 20.7 percent so that is the reason for that increase.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, the objective of Community Mental Health Services obviously is to meet the projection that's implicit in its name, to deliver mental health services to persons in the community, keep people in the community and out of institutions insofar as that is possible.

All through the 1970s, we and every other jurisdiction in North America, went through a great trend towards de-institutionalization. We were emptying our mental hospitals; Brandon and Selkirk, our mental health centres, were being emptied. The resident populations of those two mental health centres were reduced, I would say - and I don't have the figures right in front of me, Mr. Chairman, that it is no exaggeration to suggest that their resident inpatient populations were reduced by about two-thirds, by about 65 or 67 percent from what they were 15 years ago. Those persons are now out in the community and that's where Community Mental Health has to function. In addition, of course, it has to function among the rest of us in the community who want to avoid conditions of emotional and psychological and mental stress and mental illness to begin with - who don't want to suffer mental illness to begin with.

So Community Mental Health has to function on those two planes, to keep those of us who are not mentally ill as relatively healthy as possible and to repair those who are suffering from mental illness and enable them to function in the community and outside of institutions. We may, however, have gone somewhat too far in our zeal towards de-institutionalization and wound up with a society now that is pockmarked by groups of persons who are emotionally or psychologically injured, if not crippled, and do not have the support services and the infrastructure out there in the community to keep them functioning properly.

So I would like to ask the Minister at this juncture how successful we have been in Manitoba with the de-institutionalization philosophy and concept. Has the objective of de-institutionalization been achieved insofar as his office and his advisors are concerned, or is there still an underlying thrust to get more and more people out of our mental health centres and into the community?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Yes, I think I can go along with most of what was said. I know that years ago, we probably were a little too optimistic; we thought that we could get everybody out of the institutions. We forgot a couple of things; we forgot that maybe the people in the community were not ready - I'm talking about a few years ago now - to accept these people. I know that we passed an Act for the education of some of these people and it wasn't proclaimed for awhile; it was to try to educate the people, including the teachers, and so on. We felt that we had to have support in place

for these people; we had to spend more money in education and other areas. Then these people had to have somewhere to go to get them out of the institution and we weren't ready for that. We did not have the trained personnel for one thing, and we did not have the facilities. So what happened? They ended up filling the beds in the psychiatric wards of the acute hospitals, which were not meant for that at all.

So from 1975, we had to say, hey, just a minute. We had to back down from that and the cost was also a big factor and we then tried to do it and the Member for Fort Garry, when he was Minister, continued in the same line to try to get things in place in the community to be able to receive these. So I would think that we could probably, eventually, when we're ready maybe still cut down on the people that we have in institutions, but all the advice that I'm getting is we'll never be able to close the institutions completely. I think we've got the same problem in mental retardation also. There are some people in society who think that it can be done; if nothing else, the cost would be prohibitive when you have one-on-one. I'm not talking about the experts, the people that you have and the medical doctors because that's impossible to have one-on-one with a medical doctor. It could mean two or three people, some of them need care and supervision around the clock, so I don't think that you'll ever close them so therefore, the next best thing is do it; try to aim at closing them, but do it in an orderly fashion.

I think this is one of the reasons that this new Directorate was set up. It hasn't been doing much this last year. I've had the authorization now to advertise; we're going to go ahead and advertise for the Director. Then when the appointment to the staff of the Director has been made, the second appointment would probably follow quite quickly and consideration would be given to what kind of staff they need. It's pretty hard for us to say this is the kind of staff you have without a Director.

I was just handed a note there are some people in mental hospitals now that could go back to the community, however, they require a professionally staffed community residence to accommodate them. We've started gradually, probably not as fast as we would like to do, but we're going in the direction of more residences. I know that the admission to mental health centres by the Community Mental Health Programs have steadily been decreasing. We can see with the data from both Brandon and Selkirk, the average length of stay in the case of patients admitted to Brandon and Selkirk, all cases with less than one-year stay on the average remain in hospital for a much longer period than a patient admitted to the General Hospital with a psychiatric diagnosis. There may be a number of variables which contribute to this phenomenon, though.

The number of patients at Brandon and Selkirk has remained relatively steady, not going down as much as we would like to, but the case load of the Community Mental Health Program has tended to increase also. That's one of the other factors. Yes, I am of the same opinion that we should try and get people out of the institutions as much as possible. We believe that it is not going to be done for a long time that you'll actually close both institutions, but we feel that we have to have, first of all, probably just as important as

residences and maybe more so, would be the proper trained staff out there and we hope that that staff could also work in the schools in other areas with the people. I'm sure that some of these services will be day services.

Again we're going back to this hospital that we're all so anxious to see built and that will help somewhat with the children, mind you. I think that's about all I can say at this time, as I say, I hope that the committee is looking at all the situations. That is one of the reasons why we're kind of holding back on the construction although, as I say, I've had the approval of Cabinet for the funds and all that but we, in our department, decided that we would hold back until at least, we got this recommendation, this report to make darned sure that we don't build new facilities that will not be needed.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, according to the Canadian Mental Health Association or, as a matter of fact, according to any statistical review that any of us takes the time and trouble to complete, we have in Manitoba sufficient acute and chronic care beds for persons suffering from mental illness, to accommodate a total of 1,300 men, women and children. That apparently is the figure that is available; 1,300 men, women and children can be accommodated at an acute or chronic care level in Manitoba through mental health hospital beds. Many of those beds, of course, are in the Brandon and Selkirk Mental Health Centres and many of them are in other specific mental health facilities of that kind, such as the Eden Mental Health Centre at Morden and the Manitoba School at Portage. But some of them are general hospital beds, psychiatric beds in general hospitals, particularly in the Winnipeg area.

Now, according to those statistics, that means there are sufficient beds to take care of approximately 10 percent of those Manitobans who need them because the Canadian Mental Health Association, again, and some of the media reporters who have investigated this subject project or propose that somewhere between 10,000 and 20,000 Manitobans suffer from mental illness. I wonder if the Minister could comment to the committee as to whether those figures that I have just enumerated and have been proposed in the media reports on the subject dovetail with his records and his figures; whether he considers them accurate, and if they are accurate whether he considers that one of the urgent priorities for us and for his department is the building of more psychiatric beds, whether they are in mental health centres of general hospitals is beside the point; but whether a priority for us should be the building of considerably more, perhaps several hundred more psychiatric beds? If these figures that I have offered for consideration and I certainly offer them sincerely on the basis of knowledge that's been made available to me, Mr. Chairman, if they are accurate it would suggest that we do need many more psychiatric beds, unless the Minister feels that entire excess need out there can be met through community mental health services, rather than facility based mental health services.

Could the Minister address that series of proposals?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: The article referred, if they are talking about 10,000 or 20,000 beds, we certainly don't

feel that we need these kinds of beds. When I was talking about Brandon and Selkirk, the idea was not to build more beds, but mostly to replace the beds that are there. Even then, we're waiting; it might be that we will need less beds there.

Now, the extended care beds and the beds in the psychiatric units in acute hospitals are something else. We do need some there. We figure that there will be 20 new extended care beds at Grace Hospital. That should open the door in a very few weeks; we think that will be helpful. We think that the majority of persons that are suffering from mental disorders, those that are referred to in this article, do not have to be admitted to hospital for treatment. They can be treated as outpatients by general practitioner and psychiatrists, and that's what we're trying to build in the community.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please. The hour is 4:30, time for Private Members' Hour. The committee will resume at 8:00 p.m. tonight.

IN SESSION

PRIVATE MEMBERS' HOUR

MR. SPEAKER, Hon. J. Walding: Order please, the first item on the agenda for Tuesday's Private Members' Hour is the adjourned debate on the second readings of public bills. Bill No. 36, on the proposed motion of the Honourable Member for The Pas, standing in the name of the Honourable Member for Morris.

MR. C. MANNESS: Stand, Mr. Speaker

SECOND READING - PUBLIC BILLS

BILL NO. 39 - AN ACT TO VALIDATE BY-LAW NUMBER 1311 OF THE TOWN OF MELITA

MR. J. DOWNEY presented Bill No. 39, An Act to Validate By-law Number 1311 of The Town of Melita; Loi validant le règlement numéro 1311 de la ville de Melita, for second reading.

MOTION presented.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Arthur.

MR. J. DOWNEY: Mr. Speaker, Bill No.39, I'll give a brief explanation of the bill.

In the summer of 1981, the Council of the Town of Melita decided to proceed with the construction of a mobile home subdivision, including water and sewer extensions, in the north end of the town. It was determined that the total cost of the project would be approximately \$78,000 and would be funded from the different sources: a Community Services Contribution Program grant of \$10,000; debenture issue of \$40,000; and Town of Melita reserve accounts of some \$28,000.00.

Public notice of the proposed project was advertised in accordance with the provisions in The Municipal Act. There weren't any representations or petitions against

the project, and none were made at the hearing dated August 10, 1981.

Members of the Council, after giving the first reading to the proposed local improvement, then erred by proceeding with the commencement of the project prior to the obtaining of the Municipal Board hearing, contrary to The Municipal Act. Some of the reasons for proceeding was it was thought that the cost would increase for the 1982 year and also they thought that the grant money had to be expended prior to the end of the 1982 year. The contractor was ready to proceed with the work in the fall of 1981.

Rather than to mislead the Municipal Board or to not come straight forward, or to try and cover up the procedure of building it without prior Municipal Board approval, the town decided to inform the Municipal Board of their error and put the commencement of their project prior to obtaining of their approval, as I had indicated.

After correspondence between the parties, and the amendments of the bylaw, a Municipal Board hearing was held on September 16, 1982, wherein the Board held that since the project and local improvement had already been proceeded with it did not have jurisdiction to, after the fact, give them their approval. Accordingly the expenditures made are at this point unauthorized and it would seem the only route is to proceed with a Private Members' Bill, and can get the authorization for the construction of the project. The financing of that project, as I have indicated, has been prepared for the avenue of introducing this Private Members' Bill to authorize expenditure by the municipalities follows established precedence, as I understand, therefore, the Town of Melita requests, through the legislative process and this Private Members' Bill, that we support them in their efforts to expand and, in doing so, would accommodate the town, particularly in light of current housing shortages being created by the oil activity and the many businesses that are now being started in the southwest region, and would hope that I could get support for the Town of Melita and would recommend that all members support it.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs.

HON. A. ADAM: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Minister of Consumer Affairs that debate be adjourned.

MOTION presented and carried.

MR. SPEAKER: On the proposed resolution No. 4, the proposed resolution of the Honourable Member for Thompson standing in the name of the Honourable Member for Radisson who has 20 minutes.

The Honourable Member for River East on a point of order.

MR. P. EYLER: Yes, Mr. Speaker. The film "If You Love This Planet" was announced on Friday by the Member for Radisson as being shown on CBC on Sunday evening, and I am informed today that it will be shown tonight on the CBC Journal, therefore, I would ask the consent of the House to withdraw the Resolution No. 3, regarding the film "If You Love This Planet".

MR. SPEAKER: Does the Honourable Member for River East have leave of the House to withdraw the Resolution? Agreed and so order. The Resolution is accordingly withdrawn.

The Honourable Member for Radisson has 20 minutes remaining.

MR. G. LECUYER: Merci, Monsieur le Président.

Moi aussi, je voudrais profiter de cette occasion pour ajouter quelques mots sur cette résolution.

Tout d'abord, je voudrais dire que personnellement je ne suis jamais allé à Churchill et c'est à mon grand regret. Ce que je connais de Churchill et plus particulièrement, du port de Churchill, provient de films que j'ai vus et de mes lectures, surtout lorsque j'étais professeur de géographie.

Je sais aussi que, comme l'a bien indiqué mon collègue, le député de Le Pas, que le rôle de Churchill remonte au tout début de l'histoire de l'ouest canadien.

Avant de procéder un peu plus loin, je voudrais faire allusion à quelques statistiques qui proviennent du Rapport des communautés du Manitoba pour 1982 tel que publié par le Ministère du développement économique.

On dit sur Churchill selon le recensement de 1971, que la population totale était de 1 604 dont 785 environ, donc 50 pourcent de la population, était âgée de moins de 20 ans. Alors qu'en 1981, dix ans plus tard, la population totale est de 1 304 dont seulement 515 sont âgés de moins de 20 ans. Donc, sur la population jeune de moins de 20 ans, il y a dans les dernières dix années une déperdition d'environ, 20 pourcent.

Pourtant pour un village comme celui de Churchill, avec une population de plus de 1 300 en 1981, ce genre de village que l'on retrouverait dans le sud du Manitoba, aurait toutes les facilités; et le village de Churchill, le port de Churchill, est aussi passablement bien équipé en terme de facilités. On y retrouve l'eau, l'électricité, bien que ce ne soit pas à base de l'hydro. Il y a là des services d'ambulances, d'hôpitaux, de salles municipales, de salles paroissiales, d'églises, de plusieurs dénominations, des services de protection contre le feu, des hôtels, des motels, des librairies, deux musées, ainsi de suite, aussi les services de la radio et la télévision. Il y a les services de transports par train et par avion.

Du côté récréatif, on y retrouve une piscine, une patinoire, un rond pour le curling, un gymnase, un centre sanitaire, salle de billards, une allée pour les quilles, le patin de fantaisie, ainsi de suite.

Du côté commercial, il y a onze boutiques pour la vente au détail et il y huit centres pour les services.

Ceci dit, je voudrais aussi dire que j'ai toujours cru que le Manitoba et les prairies détenaient une opportunité d'une grande valeur en ayant un accès direct aux routes maritimes. Si dans le passé, le port de Churchill n'a pas atteint son développement potentiel et n'a pas jusqu'à maintenant joué un rôle prépondérant dans l'économie manitobaine, cela ne dépend que du manque de compréhension, et à la discrimination exercée par ceux qui ont des intérêts investis ailleurs et le manque de volonté et l'inaction du gouvernement canadien, la Commission du blé et le Canadien National.

Ceux qui ont parlé avant moi ont aussi mentionné certaines sociétés de l'Est telles l'Association marine

canadienne et des sociétés liées à des ports de la côte du Pacifique qui exercent un lobby constant auprès du gouvernement canadien pour que ce dernier n'accorde pas, au port de Churchill, le financement requis pour son développement et l'optimalisation de ces opérations.

C'est là un autre exemple de l'étroussure d'esprit. Leur seule préoccupation est de protéger leurs propres intérêts, leurs propres gains même si cela devait faire sombrer le port de Churchill au détriment du Manitoba et des prairies. Ce qui est encore plus regrettable, c'est que le gouvernement canadien se laisse influencer par ce genre de pression.

Le port de Churchill aurait pu dans le passé jouer un rôle important dans l'économie manitobaine et pourrait encore jouer un rôle économique vital dans les décennies à venir.

Il est urgent que les divers niveaux de gouvernement, dans les décisions qu'ils auront bientôt à prendre, ne ferment pas la porte de façon définitive face au port de Churchill car l'avenir du nord tout entier et surtout du nord de cette province en dépendent. C'est aussi l'avenir des localités de Thompson, de Flin Flon, Lynn Lake et bien d'autres encore qui sont issues de développement d'une seule ressource non-renouvelable qui dépend de ce qu'advient de Churchill. Le port de Churchill peut contribuer à la diversification de l'économie du nord et par ses retombées au progrès du Manitoba tout entier.

Ce port offre de nombreux avantages sur les autres ports de notre pays. D'abord, c'est le port le plus rapproché d'une bonne partie de la zone agricole des prairies. Deuxièmement, il offre à l'ouest canadien la route maritime la plus courte vers l'Europe, un de nos marchés traditionnels importants. Cet avantage devrait permettre aux provinces des prairies d'acheminer les produits de notre agriculture, de nos forêts et de nos mines—nos principales ressources d'exportation — à des coûts réduits.

De plus, le port peut accommoder des navires à teneur beaucoup plus élevée que les ports situés sur la voie maritime du St-Laurent et des Grands Lacs.

Mon collègue, le député de Thompson, a passé en revue plusieurs autres avantages qu'offre le port de Churchill. Si le port de Churchill est désavantagé par rapport aux ports de l'est et de l'ouest à cause d'une saison navigable trop courte, c'est là un obstacle surmontable. En fait, la saison pourrait être doublée en longueur en utilisant les moyens de la technologie moderne — en particulier les brise-glaces.

Cependant rien oblige d'attendre la saison navigable avant de transporter les céréales vers le port de Churchill. Lorsque la saison navigable arrive, les dépôts à grains devraient déjà être pleins.

Les problèmes qui font obstacles à la viabilité du port de Churchill peuvent être surmontés si seulement les différents niveaux de gouvernement, surtout le gouvernement fédéral, acceptent le défi et s'engagent sans plus tarder au développement du potentiel du port de Churchill.

Malheureusement, je crains que Churchill et le nord manitobain tout entier vont à nouveau être relégués à l'oubli.

La semaine dernière, lors de la première audience du Comité agricole en vue de consulter les manitobains au sujet des changements proposés aux tarifs du Nid

de Corbeau, le représentant du Canadien National a indiqué qu'aucune modification n'était prévue à la voie ferrée de Churchill. Le gouvernement fédéral semble déterminé à sonner le glas pour plusieurs communautés situées sur les voies ferrées secondaires et pour le port de Churchill.

Les modifications et améliorations à la voie ferrée vers Churchill sont essentielles pour assurer l'avenir du port. Sinon, le sort est jeté pour Churchill qui ne tarderait pas à devenir un autre village fantôme.

Il faut à tout prix que nos gouvernements aient dès maintenant la sagesse et la clairvoyance pour miser sur l'avenir. Le temps est tout désigné pour une entreprise d'envergure de ce genre car elle permettrait d'atteindre un deuxième objectif: celui de créer de nouveaux emplois.

La région de Churchill offre un potentiel très particulier et important à développer dans le secteur du tourisme. D'abord, c'est une ouverture vers la Baie d'Hudson, l'accès le plus rapproché à la population du sud, aussi bien pour les américains que pour les canadiens, surtout de la région des prairies. La région de Churchill, offre des sites particuliers, une faune et une flore qu'on ne retrouve pas ailleurs dans le sud du pays, aussi bien que toute une vie marine qu'on ne retrouve pas ni du côté atlantique ni du côté pacifique telles que la baleine blanche et l'ours polaire qui sont sans doute les principaux facteurs d'attraction des touristes qui se rendent vers Churchill.

Une étude a été faite en novembre 1982 qui démontre qu' approximativement la moitié des visiteurs de Churchill en 1982 étaient d'origine canadienne, donc l'autre moitié surtout provenait des Etats-Unis. De ces visiteurs à Churchill, environ 50 pourcent étaient âgés de plus de 55 ans, et environ 30 pourcent étaient des étudiants.

Ceux qui ont répondu au questionnaire, ont indiqué, que leur raison principale pour visiter Churchill, était surtout par raison purement touristique, par curiosité, parce qu'il y avait là une région inexplorée, une région désertique et parce que Churchill en soi offrait un caractère unique. Ils y sont allés pour la plupart, c'est à dire 75 pourcent de ces répondants ont indiqués qu'ils sont allés à Churchill purement pour vacances ou pour plaisir. Quatre-vingt-cinq pourcent des visiteurs à Churchill en 1982 y sont allés par train. Et ça, ce n'est pas un facteur négligeable et c'est un facteur sur lequel les gouvernements doivent miser à l'avenir aussi bien qu'ils doivent miser sur la promotion touristique de Churchill. Il y a là un potentiel à développer pour la création d'emplois surtout pour les gens de la région comme telle, et aussi pour la diversification des sources de rentabilité de la région de Churchill.

Soixante pourcent des gens qui ont visité Churchill en 1982 y sont demeurés pour deux nuits ou plus et 88 pourcent des gens qui y étaient allés, y allaient pour la première fois. Je crois qu'il y a donc un potentiel extraordinaire à développer du côté touristique et qui donnerait sans aucun doute des retombées commerciales importantes pour les habitants de la région.

Monsieur le Président, cent ans après la Confédération, l'heure est venue de penser à développer le nord; cette immense étendue qui recèle de richesses et qui attend depuis toujours des voies de communications et de transport pour attirer les

manitobains et les canadiens de partout, pour mettre à profit ses ressources. Ces mêmes développements permettraient aussi d'attirer des milliers de touristes qui contribueraient à diversifier l'économie du nord.

Il y a déjà plus de vingt ans, des hommes perspicaces parlaient du corridor du nord. Le temps est venu de concrétiser cette vision pour donner à l'économie canadienne un nouvel essor. Il ne s'agit pas seulement d'améliorer le port de Churchill par exemple, en y amenant l'électricité.

Tout cela n'est pour rien, si la voie ferrée n'est pas améliorée et on n'augmente pas le volume et la variété des denrées qui y sont acheminées et si on ne fait pas la promotion touristique de Churchill. Il faut à tout prix que le Manitoba et les autres provinces des prairies, d'urgence, fassent pression auprès d'Ottawa, sur la Commission du blé et sur le Canadien National pour une concertation et une prise d'engagement ferme en faveur du nord et du port de Churchill. Merci.

(Translation will appear in Volume 45, Wednesday, 13 April, 1983)

MR. SPEAKER: Are you ready for the question? The Honourable Minister of Northern Affairs.

HON. J. COWAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Indeed it is a pleasure and a privilege to be able to add my voice today to those who have already expressed their support for this resolution, and through that expression of support, have indicated, as well, their support for an enhanced and expanded role for the Port of Churchill.

You know, Mr. Speaker, this is one of those rare resolutions which allows for all members of this Chamber, both Conservative and New Democrats, to show their mutual support for a good idea and, for that reason I commend the Member for Thompson, who is also a member on the Port Churchill Development Board, for bringing it forward and allowing us that opportunity.

I believe it is also timely, today, to note that the Hudson Bay Route Association in Melville, Saskatchewan, is holding its 40th Annual Convention and, of course, they have a long and proud history in respect to the support of the Port of Churchill, and the encouragement of an enhanced use of the Port of Churchill. I had attempted to attend that convention but, unfortunately, due to the weather in Saskatchewan, was unable to go either yesterday or today. However, through this resolution, I do want to indicate to them, while we may not be able to be present in the physical sense, we are certainly with them in respect to a common goal and objective of improving the use of the Port of Churchill.

Basically this resolution calls upon the Federal Government, and the Wheat Board, to use the Port of Churchill to its present capacity for the shipment of grain. Further to that request, it asks all of us to urge the Federal Government to clearly commit itself to upgrading and to the development of the Hudson Bay Rail Line and the port itself, so that we are able to fully utilize the services of that port. And again, and this resolution is most timely, given the not entirely welcome news which we received through the committee hearings in this Legislature the other day from CNR. And l'il

quote just briefly from the Winnipeg Free Press of Saturday, in which they, under a headline entitled "No Plan to Repair the Rails to Churchill", indicate that Canadian National Railways has no plans to fix the track, or to upgrade the Bay Line. And that is not welcome news, Sir, and that is not the type of news that we would expect to hear, nor we would like to hear, and that official CNR, at that particular hearing, went on to say, according to the press reports of it "that virtually all the discretionary funds for Capital construction, in respect to western transportation systems, are earmarked for mainline work and, by implication, indicated that they view Churchill as a branch line which, indeed, it is not, not should it ever be viewed in that perspective. But they went on further to say that they had no plans for an extensive capitalization of work on that particular rail line, and we regret that news. I think every member in this House regrets that news, and I think the people of this province regret that news.

So, this resolution is, indeed, helpful in that it allows all of us to join together and to attack that sort of attitude, and that sort of philosophy, in respect to the future use of the Port of Churchill, and actions which are necessary to ensure that use. Just today, for instance, the Winnipeg Free Press Editorial, under the heading of "Grim News for Churchill" indicated that that news was not welcomed by the people of this province, and I am not one who is prone to quoting the Winnipeg Free Press Editorials very often, but in this particular instance I think that they have indicated very clearly that this news is not good news.

The speakers before me in this House, on both sides, have eloquently outlined what we think to be the many advantages of the Port of Churchill. They have done so in great detail and it has been an interesting and an informative debate from that perspective, but it is also interesting to note that in that regard there is a remarkable consensus among us, and it is a consensus which we must put to good use in lobbying the Federal Government, in lobbying the CNR, and in lobbying the Canadian Wheat Board to ensure that the Port of Churchill is, in fact, utilized to its fullest extent.

This consensus — (Interjection) — Well the Member for Morris has indicated that he is not lobbying the Canadian Wheat Board. Can we at least count on his support for lobbying the Federal Government and the CNR? — (Interjection) — Okay, well at least we have developed a consensus around that particular lobbying effort, and I would hope over a period of time he would involve himself in lobbying the Canadian Wheat Board but, of course, that remains a choice that he must make, and one which would be unfair to impose upon him.

But, I believe, the consensus, and the large consensus which we have been able to develop, in fact, adds significantly to the credibility of this appeal, to the credibility of this resolution, to the credibility of the work which is ongoing in respect to asking the Federal Government to take action where action is necessary.

And it is also fair to acknowledge that other speakers have addressed in similar detail the persuasive and persistent myths that are propagated about by those who know little about the port, and far too often, care even less, and those are harsh words, indeed, but I think they are true. That, in a nutshell, is the substantial

part of the problem. There are those who don't care enough about the port, and I believe, when you analyze their arguments, and analyze their thoughts, you will find that they do not care enough because they do not know enough.

So, this resolution is worthwhile in that it allows us to repeat many times, and by doing so, reemphasize the many advantages of the port. Firstly, and perhaps most significantly, it offers a substantial and considerable cost-saving to grain producers within the shipping area. — (Interjection) — Well the Member for Morris indicate that it's not true, and in all fairness to him he did, in fact, have some comments to make respecting that in his speech, but I think he would also acknowledge that it can, if utilized properly, offer significant cost savings to many shippers in that area. — (Interjection) — He's indicated that it is a possibility. We will move him along slowly as the need may be, I hope, until he agrees with that statement.

In fact, as he confirmed in his speech, Churchill does offer the shortest route, and oftentimes offers the lowest cost route for approximately 20-25 percent of the prairie grain production. It offers that cost advantage because it is approximately 1,000 miles closer to European markets for those producers in the catchment area.

The Port also has sufficient capability to handle 40,000 tonne ships and the Member for Morris indicated in his speech that Prince Rupert will have that when the improvements are made to Prince Rupert, and that the St. Lawrence Seaway has that capacity now and that is indeed very true, but it does not take away, in any respect, the fact that Churchill also has that capacity and that is an advantage of that particular Port.

So, that ability to handle those size ships when coupled with the excellent safety record and perhaps the best labour relations record in the country, does indeed provide powerful incentives for the greater use of this Port. It's interesting to note that a few years back when there was a labour dispute in respect to the operation of the Port of Churchill, there was much said about that particular dispute. — (Interjection) — I think it's important at this time to say that it was a very rare occurrence and one which we anticipate will be equally rare in the future. As a matter of fact the Hudson's Bay Route Association in their resolutions, commended the union and the Port manager for their negotiations over a number of years, and the fact that they were able to provide such an exemplary labour relations record for other ports to aspire to.

There is another lesser known, but equally important factor in respect to the efficiency of the Port, and that is the efficiency of the facilities and the productivity of the work force. Not only do they have a good labour relations record, but they have a good record in respect to their productivity.

You know, Mr. Speaker, it is possible to turn over at the Port of Churchill an average of five times in one month — (Interjection) — Five times. Excuse me, I'm sorry, five times in three months. The Member for Morris shook his head, no, and corrected me on that and he's absolutely right. Five times in three months and the Member for Seven Oaks and for Kostyra, who has oftentimes travelled to Churchill with me in order to enjoy the beauty of the area, to enjoy the hospitality of the residents, and to more fully familiarize himself with the operation of the Port, so he can speak next

on this resolution, has indicated that he as well knew that the average of five times was for a three-month period and not a one-month period. So I stand corrected and thank the members for that particular assistance.

— (Interjection) —

Well, the Member for Morris says it's five times a week in New Orleans, is that correct? I have to accept his knowledge in this area, because I can't dispute that. But I can tell you that the average in other ports in Canada, it takes nine to twelve months to accomplish those same five turnovers. Now he's doing some fast computing in his head and I think he'll agree with me that, in fact, is the case. So it does not compare significantly well with New Orleans, but how much of our grain are we shipping to that particular Port? It does compare very well with other ports which would be competitive ports for that grain.

So with all those advantages which are obvious, well-known for the most part and certainly persuasive, what are we doing now, having once more to implore upon the Federal Government, to implore upon CNR and for some of us to implore upon the Canadian Wheat Board for a greater use of that particular Port?

Well, I think there are two reasons, basically. Firstly, as the Member for Morris so clearly indicated in his statements, there are disadvantages to the use of the Port as well and they have to be acknowledged and they have to be dealt with. But let the record be clear, none of these particular disadvantages, either the ones which he has read into the record or the ones which I have read about, are irreconcilable, are insurmountable.

There are solutions to the problems and there are solutions which are in many respects evolutionary, such as the use of cryo-anchors and there are solutions which in many respects are just common sense, such as an upgrading of the line and, in fact, a stronger emphasis on the use of the Port. If I time later in my comments, Mr. Chairman, I'll come back to the cryo-anchors and what can be done in that instance.

But, I want to talk basically about the new demand on all of us for a renewed commitment to the Port and that demand arises out of the news which I read into the record earlier in respect to CNR's intentions regarding upgrading of the line and also in respect to the Federal Government's intention regarding the use of this Port. These are days that demand that renewed commitment to the Port. At the same time they demand a cautious consideration of the impacts of the transportation policy which is evolving for Western Canada. I believe the Member for Morris will go so far as to agree that they demand a cautious consideration of the impacts of that new policy on the use of the Port.

MR. C. MANNES: Give me time for one question at the end.

HON. J. COWAN: We must all be even more vigilant in our activities to promote the Port in order to ensure that the Hudson's Bay rail line and the Port itself receive their fair share of the infrastructure improvements. We must also be vigilant to ensure that the Port of Churchill is included in an equitable fashion in the overall grain transportation system, we ask for no more, just that it be given a fair share in an equitable fashion.

The Province of Manitoba through this government stands committed to the increased use of the Port of Churchill just as the previous government stood committed to the increased use of the Port of Churchill and the government previous to that and previous to that also took on that same commitment. It is not an idle commitment. It is a carefully considered commitment. It is a commitment with strong historical roots. It is a commitment that is borne out of a sense of the future as well and there is not enough time today to speak in great detail to all the different aspects of that commitment. However, I do want to highlight some of the ways by which we as a Provincial Government have chosen to illustrate it.

Firstly, when talking about the Port of Churchill it is important not to forget the Town of Churchill. It is important not to forget the surrounding area which was so eloquently described by the Member for Radisson in his speech a few moments ago. It is important not to forget the general environment in which that Port exists. I want to speak directly to the town.

It is obvious that the long-term viability of the Town of Churchill is in many ways dependent upon the Port's operation; there'd be no question about that. It should be equally as obvious that the long-term viability of the Port itself is dependent in some ways upon the viability of the Port of the Town of Churchill and the two have a mutually symbiotic relationship with each other — (Interjection) — nothing wrong with that for the Member for Springfield. So it is important to note that that which supports the Town of Churchill also, in an ancillary or a direct fashion, supports the Port of Churchill.

The town itself provides much of the labour force and the necessary important support services which enable the Port to continue its operations. It provides a base for the operations of the Port. So it stands to reason that the more stable the town becomes, the more stable the locale becomes, the more stable the community becomes, the more stable an environment we will have in which the Port can operate. That is why the Provincial Government, a little more than a year ago, committed itself to providing to the town a grant representing 90 percent of the operating costs of the Town Centre complex.

The Member for Seven Oaks has been in that complex and knows, in fact, that it provides an essential service to the community of Churchill. It's not the most perfect complex, Mr. Speaker. I will acknowledge that there are some difficulties in respect to its design and there are some difficulties in respect to its operation, but it is also fair to acknowledge that it is a significant asset to that community and, for that reason, demands the support of the Provincial Government and we have given that support.

The Member for Sturgeon Creek says, that's not new and if he wants to enter into the debate - he in fact will be able to enter into the debate. I'm told that for the 1982-83 fiscal year, the commitment, the grant totaled over \$737,000.00. That's a significant commitment and one which I think even the Member for Sturgeon Creek would acknowledge as being significant.

The present government also has approached the Federal Government in regard to construction of a hydro-electric line from Gillam to Churchill. If

constructed, this line would provide line power to both the community and the Port facilities. That provision of line power would mean significant cost savings to the residents of Churchill, for CNR, for the Port and for other businesses in the area. These savings would stimulate new economic activity as well as increase the viability of ongoing operations. In addition to these obvious benefits, the construction phase of this project would provide needed employment for Manitobans and for residents along the bayline in specific.

So, in essence, this multimillion dollar project would have five objectives. They are, Mr. Speaker, firstly, the reduction of energy costs for all users in Churchill. As I indicated earlier, this could mean a significant cost savings to the Port of Churchill. As a matter of fact, it could mean a cost savings of millions of dollars over a number of years. This, in itself, would serve as an added incentive to its continued operation.

The second objective is the provision of needed jobs in an area where unemployment is much too high - we should all acknowledge that; I think we all would acknowledge that - and where every extra job takes on added importance.

The third objective would be to reduce our oil consumption by promoting the greater use of one of Manitoba's greatest assets, its great hydro potential.

The fourth objective would be to promote economic growth in the area by providing cheaper electricity to commercial users.

The final objective, the fifth objective, is really a combination of all the others and that, Mr. Speaker, would be to provide for a better standard of living for all residents of the community, for all residents of the area, for all residents along the bayline and, by doing so, provide a greater standard of living for all Manitoba.

We also realize the importance of the rail line to the Port, and that is why we have taken so seriously the comments which have been made recently by CNR in respect to their intentions. Mr. Speaker, we have made known to the Federal Government our willingness to discuss with them improvements to the rail lines as part of an overall development program for the area, and I think it's important that the record show that. Those improvements would have to be put in the context of that developmental plan but, in fact, we have acknowledged that we are prepared to discuss it.

We have also suggested that a number of other initiatives be undertaken. Unfortunately, my time today is limited and I understand I have but a few moments left so I won't be able to go into all the detail, but there will be other opportunities and there will be other speakers who, I'm certain, will be pleased to make those points known.

But I do want to say one thing, that there are others who have a role to play in the development of these initiatives and, through them, the development of the Port. There must be a purpose to these efforts which we had indicated we are prepared to discuss. It is not enough to provide the opportunity for the expanded use of the Port if there is not a similar commitment by others to take advantage of that particular opportunity.

That is why the Provincial Government is joining with the Port Churchill Development Board, the Hudson Bay Route Association, the members of the opposition in requesting a guarantee from the Canadian Wheat Board

that one million tonnes be shipped through Churchill during the 1983 shipping season. We believe that a guarantee of one million tonnes is an accurate reflection of Churchill's share, its fair share, its equitable portion of an ever increasing export grain movement in the country. Of course, we also believe that this amount must grow and should increase as overall exports increase, and it is anticipated that they will. This figure of approximately one million tonnes for the upcoming year would roughly translate to 3 percent of the prairie grain exports. That percentage has been a landmark figure for many years when one has talked about Churchill's fair and equitable share of the export trade.

Mr. Speaker, it's about time that figure became a reality. The Manitoba Government, with the support of the opposition members for the most part I think, is prepared to do its part to work with the Federal Government, to work with the local government in the area, to work with others to make that a reality and to ensure that Churchill does, in fact, get a fair share of the trade which it was designed to use.

For that reason, I commend this resolution to you and, for that reason, I hope that this resolution will continue to enjoy the support of all members of this House so that when we make that call on the Federal Government, we do so in a unified fashion which has the power of consensus behind it and which they must listen to very carefully.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Morris.

MR. C. MANNES: I'm wondering if the member that just spoke would entertain a question.

The member made reference to an article which reported on a CN official's comment in the agricultural hearings the other day. I am wondering if the Minister had an opportunity to peruse the total comments made by that CN official. Indeed, I'm wondering if he had an opportunity to read for himself that that official indicated that the main reason the boxcar fleet for 1987 would be dropping down to zero was because of the CTC recommendations regarding the fact that boxcars by that date would have to have brought forward frictionless ball bearings. I'm wondering which direction the Minister would like to take. Would he like to see Churchill continue and see the requirements of CTC relaxed in that regard?

HON. J. COWAN: No, what I would like to see is the new evolving technology such as the cryo-anchors which can be implemented at a cost of \$15 million approximately, which is 1/40th the cost of anticipated improvements by CP to Rogers Pass, and 1/40th of the cost of anticipated improvements by CNR to the rail line put into place and that would enable the use of hopper cars.

I didn't have the opportunity to answer specifically the question, to hear the full comments, however, I did have the opportunity to discuss them with the Minister of Transportation previous to making my speech. I have requested for the transcript of them, which should be ready later in the week, and we'll peruse them at that time. But I don't think that in any way should take away from the fact that there is a technology evolving which can be put in, in a fairly cost efficient manner, which

will allow for hopper cars to traverse the bayline and I have spoken to the Port manager in the past and he has indicated to me that in fact they could accommodate hopper cars with some modifications to the Port. So it is a matter of using that technology, and that is a course of action which I would recommend, and that is a course of action which the Provincial Government has indicated it is prepared to discuss with the Federal Government in the context of an overall development plan for the Port.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Cultural Affairs.

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I, too, rise to support this resolution. As the Member for Churchill indicated, I have had the opportunity of visiting the Port of Churchill, and the Town of Churchill several times, some subsequent to assuming office as part of the Government of Manitoba and prior to that for pleasure purposes of visiting the Town of Churchill. In fact, my first visit to Churchill was, I guess, some 12 years ago and in thinking back to that time and reviewing this resolution, Mr. Speaker, it gave me the opportunity to think of the contrast between the state of the Town of Churchill 12 years ago and the state of the town today. There's in many respects no comparison.

Twelve years ago there was an active air base at the Town of Churchill. The population was considerably higher than it is today and it's really because of the actions of the Federal Government that we're discussing this resolution. The lack of action - one respect dealing with the rail line and the Port itself; another respect - the action, the direct action of the Federal Government when it removed the base from Churchill and removed other subsequent activities. In fact, it would be fair to say, Mr. Speaker, that the Federal Government has in effect abandoned Churchill. You know, the recent grim news we heard a few days ago that the Member for Churchill mademention of in his remarks, that the CNR has no intention whatsoever to look at any upgrading of the rail line to the Port, and it's obvious that they're doing that and that position of the CNR has got the direct concurrence of the Federal Government.

On one hand, we see the Federal Government prepared to make massive concessions with respect to the railways in this country, with the changes that are coming on the Crow, and we've seen that with the kind of subsidies that have existed since 1968 with respect to the branch lines. Yet when it comes to the town and the Port of Churchill, we see the Federal Government completely abandoning, saying to the people of Churchill, and in fact the people of Manitoba, that they don't care, that they don't care what happens to our province with respect to the Port. That causes me a great deal of concern, Mr. Speaker.

Churchill is a unique community and it's somewhat surprising that that community has been able to hold together considering the lack of attention and the action that the Federal Government has taken with respect to that community. It's a unique brand of individual that is staying in the Town of Churchill.

I've had the opportunity of meeting with business people, with the Chamber of Commerce in the Town

of Churchill on a number of occasions, with people involved with the labour movement in the Town of Churchill, with the Port Manager, with other groups, cultural and historic groups in Churchill, and on occasion with the MLA for that area, even though he hasn't been there on every occasion that I've been into the town. But they are a determined breed of people that are attempting to keep the Town of Churchill and the Port alive. They're doing it in the face of a very difficult situation and in spite of the action of the Federal Government and the CNR.

I would like for a couple of moments, Mr. Speaker, to talk about another aspect of Churchill that the Member for Radisson talked a bit about, and that is the opportunity that exists for us in Manitoba with respect to the Town of Churchill, and that is its unique historical heritage and background of the community, and some of the unique natural wonders that exist in the Churchill area.

We have in the Town of Churchill and the surrounding areas part of our province that saw the first settlement, the first visitors from outside our boundaries to the province. We have the national historic site in Fort Prince of Wales. We also have areas surrounding that that are in the process of being declared a national historic site. A few air miles from the Town of Churchill we have York Factory, the famous Hudson's Bay Company Post.

We also have some unique natural beauties in the area of the Town of Churchill with its unique tundra and wildlife. We have, of course, the polar bears, the Ross' gulls, which my colleague the Minister of Natural Resources is well aware of and has done a fine effort in ensuring that that part of our natural heritage in the north is being sustained, wherein he's brought in a special project to ensure the protection of the Ross' gulls and their eggs where they were given 24-hour attention by staff of the Department of Natural Resources. We have the unique feature for a province like Manitoba of having beluga whales within the boundaries of our province.

So there are a number of natural beauties that exist in the Churchill area, in fact, are unique to Churchill that cannot be found anywhere else in the Province of Manitoba, in fact, in few locations in Canada.

There is also another interesting development that I've noticed in the past few years in the Town of Churchill, and that is a developing artist's community. There are a number of artists who have chosen to live and to work and to develop their art in the Town of Churchill. There's Brian Lagoon, who is becoming a fairly famous visual artist throughout Manitoba, indeed, in other parts of Canada, who works on the Northern landscape that are in many galleries throughout Manitoba and other parts of Canada. We have a developing industry with respect to handicrafts and art of our first peoples, the Native people of our province, and there is a growing industry developing in the Churchill area and one that has satellite operations in other communities, other remote communities in the close vicinity of the Town of Churchill in Northern Manitoba.

We also have, Mr. Speaker, one of the finest collections of Inuit artifacts in the Province of Manitoba. In fact, it's probably one of the most unique collections outside of the one that exists in the Winnipeg Art Gallery in the City of Winnipeg. It's one of the unique collections

throughout Canada - the Churchill Eskimo Museum - a museum that's run by the church organization in Churchill and run on the auspices of Bishop Robidioux, who I have had the pleasure of meeting on many occasions, and it is indeed something for all to see when they come to the Town of Churchill.

My point in emphasizing some of these natural historic and cultural aspects of Churchill is to illustrate that Churchill has a great potential with respect to the development of the tourist industry in Manitoba. The train that comes into Churchill every couple or three days is filled with tourists from all over North America. In fact, I've met tourists from outside of the North American continent.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The time being 5:30, when this resolution next comes before the House, the Honourable Minister will have 10 minutes remaining. The Chair will entertain a motion to adjourn.

The Honourable Minister of Natural Resources.

HON. A. MACKLING: I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Tuxedo, that this House do now adjourn, subject to the House sitting in committees at 8:00 o'clock.

MOTION presented and carried and the House adjourned and stands adjourned until 2:00 p.m. tomorrow (Wednesday).