

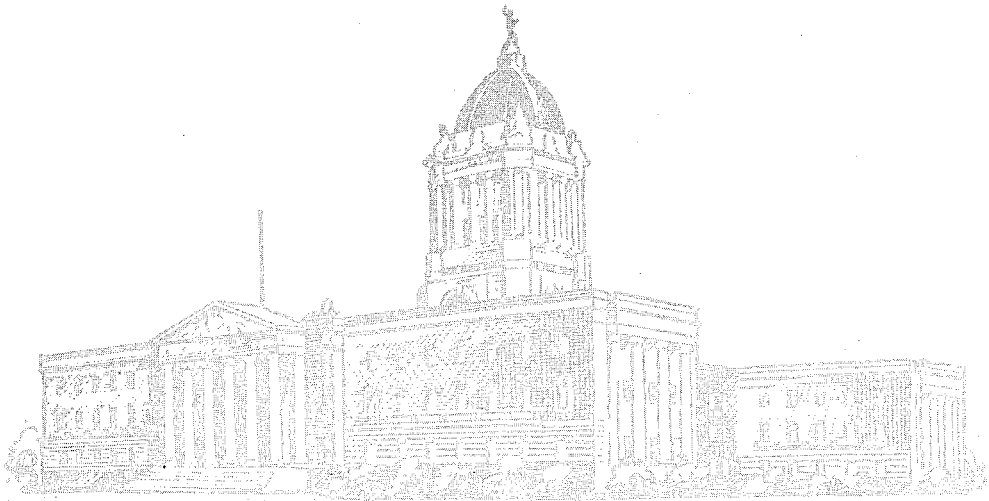


Legislative Assembly Of Manitoba

DEBATES and PROCEEDINGS

Speaker

The Honourable A. W. Harrison



Vol. VII No. 89 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 1, 1962.

5th Session, 26th Legislature

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA
2:30 o'clock, Tuesday, May 1st, 1962

Prayer by Mr. Speaker:

MR. SPEAKER: Presenting Petitions
Reading and Receiving Petitions
Presenting Reports by Standing and Special Committees
Notice of Motion
Introduction of Bills

Orders of the Day.

HON. CHARLES H. WITNEY (Minister of Mines and Natural Resources)(Flin Flon): Mr. Speaker, the other evening, the Honourable the Leader of the Opposition asked two questions in respect to the Manitoba pipeline. He asked: No. 1. Will it be a common carrier; and No. 2. Will the wells in the adjacent field which are directly adjoining the pipeline be able to use this pipeline to transport their oil to the station at Coleman. The Manitoba Pipeline is licensed by the National Energy Board at Ottawa and they have received presidential approval; and whether or not they are licensed as a common carrier, we have been unable to find out. Here, in Manitoba, they could apply for a license as a common carrier, and if they were to obtain that license after negotiations with the Dominion Government and the company concerned, it would be possible for the adjoining wells at Pierson to tie into the Manitoba pipeline.

MR. GILDAS MOLGAT (Leader of the Opposition)(Ste. Rose): Sir, I want to thank the Minister for his statement and ask a subsequent question. Will the Manitoba Government take steps to try and see to it that it does become a common carrier, because I think this would be very much to the advantage of the Pierson field in reducing their costs of transportation?

MR. WITNEY: If the Manitoba Pipeline were to be built, and there are no indications as yet that it is definitely going to be built, but if it were to be built, we would take that under consideration.

MR. RUSSELL PAULLEY (Leader of the NDP)(Radisson): Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day, I would like to direct a question to the Honourable the Minister of Labour and I must apologize to him because I haven't given him notice of the question that I'm going to ask.

There is a possibility, Mr. Speaker, that today may end the Session of this House and that Royal Assent will be given to a number of bills, including Bill No. 102 which deals with labour relations in the Province of Manitoba. It is my understanding that, in the construction industry in particular and also in connection with the questions of the electricians, that at the present time it appears as though the proceedings of a Conciliation Board will break down and that there is every likelihood that the electricians in the construction industry will be taking a strike vote. Bill No. 102 makes provision for a secret strike vote conducted by the department or the Manitoba Labour Board. My question to the Honourable the Minister of Labour: Is the department prepared to immediately set into effect the provisions of Bill No. 102 in respect of the taking of strike votes, or what will the situation be if Bill No. 102 is given Royal Assent this afternoon?

HON. J. B. CARROLL (Minister of Labour)(The Pas): Mr. Speaker, if Bill No. 102 gets Royal Assent today, then of course under the provisions of that Act every strike vote will have to be conducted under the auspices of the Manitoba Labour Board. We have written to the Board advising them of the possibility of an early strike vote by the electricians, and I would hope that they may be able to discuss this matter this afternoon. It's unfortunate, I think, that we are confronted almost immediately with a strike vote in the construction industry because, frankly, this is one of the most complicated kinds of vote that would have to be conducted by the Board and it may, in fact, just take a little while to get the organization set up to handle it, but I think that we can deal with it expeditiously and give them the kind of a vote that we feel they're entitled to.

MR. PAULLEY: May I ask a supplemental question on the basis of the Minister's reply? Do you realize that one of the peculiarities of the construction industry is that if any action is taken in respect of a strike vote it should be taken as expeditiously as possible? And also, Mr. Speaker, because of the peculiar situation of the construction industry, would the Minister give

(Mr. Paulley, cont'd.) . . . any consideration, and I don't know if this is technically possible or not, to withholding of the Royal Assent until such time as the Department of Labour or the Manitoba Labour Board who are going to conduct these strikes -- withholding the Royal Assent until such time as the department organizes the method by which these secret strike votes are to be taken.

MR. CARROLL: I don't really feel myself that there's any need to withhold Royal Assent on this particular bill, although there may be a slight delay with respect to the first vote that may be conducted by the Board. I think that there's no great urgency for the electricians to go out, at least in my opinion there doesn't appear to be. The plumbers for instance took a strike vote a few weeks ago and they're not calling their strike now, they're waiting until an appropriate time when the bill that is before us is such that the strike will be most effective. I don't know that there's this same urgency at the moment with respect to the construction industry. However, we're going to do everything we can to have the vote conducted as quickly as possible and we certainly, in the future, will try to be prepared for any votes that may have to be taken.

MR. PAULLEY: One further supplemental question, if I may, to the Minister of Labour. Can he give any indication as to the methods by which the Manitoba Labour Board will be conducting the strike?

MR. CARROLL: No, I can't, Mr. Speaker.

MR. FRED GROVES: (St. Vital): Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day, and with the indulgence of the House, could I read a short statement on Correct Posture Week. This statement should be of particular interest to the Honourable Leader of the NDP Party and to the Honourable Member from St. Boniface.

"Because Posture Week plays such an important part in physical fitness and general well-being, the subject is being stressed to the youth of the nation during Correct Posture Week, May 1st to the 7th, by The Canadian Chiropractic Association. Mr. D. C. Sutherland, D. C., Executive Secretary, reported that 1,200 members of the profession across the nation are devoting time to this public service project. In the sponsorship and promotion of Correct Posture Week, chiropractors are seeking the co-operation of government officials and educational authorities to disseminate information for the posture education program. In addition to distributing thousands of posters and other data, many trophies have been presented to schools by District Chiropractic Councils in Canada to stimulate interest in this important health subject. Last month, Lyman C. Johnson, D. C., Research Director of the Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College in Toronto, addressed the fourth Annual Conference on Physical Fitness in Regina, Saskatchewan. He spoke on the relationship between correct body mechanics and physical fitness. "Considerable interest has been shown by physical fitness authorities in the posturometer, an instrument for measuring posture or stress, developed at the Chiropractic College in Toronto," he said. "Emphasis is being placed on the important role that posture plays in the growth and development of the body," the chiropractor said today. "The student must be informed that the correction of faulty posture habits is much more readily attained at an early age. If these faults are left unattended to for a number of years, they usually become firmly established and change is then difficult or impossible. Improper posture can have a detrimental effect upon the spinal column and produce misalignments of vertebrae that result in such conditions in later life as neuritis, sciatica, headaches, angina and arthritis. These are brought about frequently by the irritation of the joints of the spine and the accompanying interference to the spinal nerve. Bad posture is the fundamental cause of such mechanical deficiency in the spine and the symptoms that result therefrom. It is for this reason that Correct Posture Week was initiated by the Chiropractic profession, and the emphasis is being placed on young people who should be made familiar with the damaging influence that poor posture can have upon them in later life if they do not take steps to correct their wrong habits now," he said. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

HON. GEO. HUTTON (Minister of Agriculture)(Rockwood-Iberville): Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day, I'd like the opportunity to give some information that was requested at the time of my estimates to the members of the Assembly. Now someone requested that I make available the TV Kits, and copies of the grasshopper control program in Manitoba for the year 1962. I haven't got enough of all these publications to go around, but any members that are interested can come over to my desk and pick them up.

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day, I'd like to address a question to the First Minister. Could he give the House a progress report on the RCMP investigation with regards to Churchill? I have not yet received the visit of those gentlemen.

HON. DUFF ROBLIN (Premier)(Wolseley): Well, I'm relieved to hear that. I hope my honourable friend does not receive a visit from the RCMP. I'd be loath to bother him, but there are others I think perhaps that we must talk to.

MR. MOLGAT: Has the Minister any progress to report however, Mr. Speaker, on the matter?

MR. ROBLIN: I think that when we find any information that we deem it advisable to inform the House, we'll do so.

MR. D. L. CAMPBELL (Lakeside): Mr. Speaker, when the Honourable the First Minister said that there are others that are going to be checked, did he mean in the same group?

MR. SPEAKER: Orders of the Day. Adjourned debate on the proposed resolution of the Honourable Minister of Health. The Honourable Member for St. John's.

MR. PAULLEY: The Honourable Member for St. John's has just left the Chamber for a moment or two. I wonder if it would meet with the approval of the House that we come back to this resolution. I'm sure he won't be very long.

MR. ROBLIN: I think so, Mr. Speaker, provided that the Honourable the Leader of the Opposition is prepared to proceed with his motion.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Speaker, I suggest if we pass it for now, we don't come back to it until after the other business has been completed, because there are motions standing on the Order Paper that have never yet been before the Assembly, and I think that it would be only fair that we should proceed through them rather than --

MR. ROBLIN: Well, Mr. Speaker, I don't think I could agree to that because, as the House will know, these are government resolutions -- these two that we're talking about now -- and I think that they should take precedence, so that if the Honourable Member isn't here and we haven't got unanimous consent, then we couldn't allow the matter to stand because we want those matters to be dealt with in their order as government items.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, if that is the case, maybe I can fill in the time until my honourable colleague from St. John's returns to the Chamber.

MR. ROBLIN: I'm sure they -- Ça va sans dire -- go ahead.

MR. PAULLEY: I might say, Mr. Speaker, that this will be strictly unrehearsed.

MR. ROBLIN: Before my honourable friend starts, would he please reassure the House that he sent someone out to find the Honourable Member for St. John's.

MR. PAULLEY: We're waiting on you David.

MR. DAVID ORLIKOW (St. John's): Mr. Speaker, I thought we were back on the regular order, and that this was not the first item. Mr. Speaker, I think that all members of the House could subscribe to the preamble of the constitution of the World Health Organization which says in part as follows, and I quote: "Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity. The enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health is one of the fundamental rights of every human being without distinction of race, religion, political belief, economic or social conditions. Governments have a responsibility for the health of their people which can be fulfilled only by the provision of adequate health and social measures."

Mr. Speaker, all groups in this House would agree with that general principle. The question, of course, is how can that be provided. We believe, Mr. Speaker, that the cost of medical care has increased tremendously in the past 50 years and this cost is something for which the average family cannot budget in advance. Illness, of course, cannot be foreseen; consequently, even a family with a fairly good income can find itself in serious financial difficulties when faced with heavy doctor bills. This is all the more true if the patient happens to be the breadwinner of the family. We believe that Canada must adopt some means of protecting the individual and his family against the financial catastrophe which occurs when serious illness comes into the home. I'm sure that all members of the House are acquainted with constituents of theirs who have had such serious financial problems as a result of prolonged illness, that in fact their life savings has been wiped out.

We believe that nothing must come between the citizen and his right to health.

(Mr. Orlikow, cont'd.) . . . Unfortunately, private medical plans do not guarantee every Canadian his right to health. They're inadequate for two reasons. First, because many people cannot belong to these plans. Some cannot afford the premiums; others are not allowed to join because they are too old; still others are excluded because they have a medical condition which makes them a bad risk. The plan we have in the Province of Manitoba, one of the better voluntary plans -- the Manitoba Medical Service -- still does not cover more than about 60% of the people of this province. Private plans do not take into account a person's ability to pay. They charge the same rates for every family. A family with an income of \$2,000 a year must pay the same premium as a family with a yearly income of \$20,000. Incidentally, Mr. Speaker, the group to which I belong now pays a premium of \$13.50 a month. I'm not complaining, I find it possible to pay that premium, but I'm certain that every member of this House will know many people who simply cannot afford to pay that kind of a premium and, therefore, are excluded from the protection which voluntary plans do give.

It has been suggested that those who cannot afford to belong to a private plan have their premiums paid for them by the government. This essentially is what is proposed in the resolution which the Minister of Health has proposed to this House. This means that in order to be covered, hundreds of thousands of Canadians would have to pass a means test. This would cost money to administer; would involve a lot of red tape; worst of all, it would be humiliating. Mr. Speaker, I don't have to give an extensive speech on that because we've heard the Minister of Health on many occasions talk about the humiliation of the means test, and yet, Mr. Speaker, the plan which would be proposed under the resolution proposed by the Minister of Health, would require a means test. We believe, Mr. Speaker, that all Canadians are entitled to medical care as a human right. The time has passed when Canadians should be required to prove they have no money before they can get the health services which they require. We believe that health care should be provided to all Canadians; it should be based on two fundamental principles. First, services must be available to every citizen, when needed, regardless of income. Second, the cost must be spread over society as a whole, each person contributing on the basis of ability to pay.

Now what are the principles which we think are important? First of all, comprehensive coverage -- every resident of Canada will be covered. Second, the plan should be administered by the provinces. Plans should be administered by the provinces in co-operation with the federal government in keeping with the spirit of dominion-provincial relations. Third, the federal government should share in the cost. We believe the federal government should pay well over 50% of the total cost of a program of health services. The balance will be raised from the provinces. Last year Canadians did spend several hundred million dollars on health services. Our plan would not constitute an additional burden on the taxpayer. What it would do would be to redistribute the existing burden so that the cost would be borne by all Canadians rather than only by those who are unfortunate enough to be ill. Fourth, we believe that the plan should be based on ability to pay. The cost to each individual should be related to the size of his income. This would be assured by the fact that the federal government's share would be paid from the general revenue. Fifth, we believe in comprehensive service. All medical, surgical, obstetrical, and psychiatric care should be covered. Optical treatment and glasses should be covered. Dental care should be covered and essential drugs and appliances should be covered.

We see no reason why the relationship between the doctor and the patient should be altered. We believe the patient should continue to be treated by the doctor of their own choice. Doctors would be paid on the basis of a fee for service. The only difference would be that instead of the doctor sending his bill to the patient or to the private plan, like the Manitoba Medical Service, would be that he would send the bill and be paid by the plan administered by the provincial government. We believe that there should be no interference with the practice of medicine by doctors. Our plan is concerned solely with removing the financial obstacle, which so many people have, so that services can be available to all those who need them. The medical decisions should be made entirely by the medical profession. We believe that with such a plan, Mr. Speaker, we can ensure continued high quality care. A program of financial assistance can be established to expand teacher training and research facilities so we can get the new doctors, nurses, dentists and other technicians which are needed. Now, Mr. Speaker, ostensibly

(Mr. Orlikow, cont'd.) the resolution which the Minister of Health moved will provide for this, but in fact this is not provided for under a voluntary plan.

The Canadian Federation of Agriculture presented a brief to the Royal Commission on Health Services in March of 1962. The brief began by quoting from a resolution passed at the 26th annual meeting of the federation held in January of 1962 at Banff. The resolution reads as follows, Mr. Speaker, and I commend it to all members of the House: "Resolved that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture support measures to obtain a complete prepaid national health insurance plan under provincial and federal government sponsorship and control, to give full medical and surgical care at a premium that the lowest income groups can reasonably afford." Mr. Speaker, I want members to note that the federation suggests that the plan be under provincial and federal government sponsorship and control, and this is the nub of the whole question. Who is to direct; who is to control the plan which will be established? Regardless of whether certain groups in the Canadian society like it or not, we are going to have a vast extension of medical care plans, and the question is: Who is to administer it; who is to control it? Mr. Speaker, we in this group associate ourselves with the Canadian Federation of Agriculture and the Canadian Labour Congress which have made it very clear that in their opinion, and speaking for their very large membership, that the control and the direction should be the responsibility of the Government of Canada, speaking for the people, rather than under the control of any particular group, be it the doctors or the insurance companies or any other group.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I would like to just read a few of the principles which the Canadian Federation of Agriculture believes are important to consider in the establishment of a medical care plan, and I quote from their brief: "(a). That the particular circumstances of long distances and scattered populations of farm and rural communities be fully taken into account in the improvement of the organization of health services. (b). That the federal government adopt as a policy the implementation of a national compulsory medical care insurance program to be carried out in co-operation with the provinces. (c) That public medical insurance be implemented on a basis that is contributory to a reasonable degree, rather than fully supported from general revenue, but that the basis of contributions be such that no unreasonable burden is imposed on any family or person. (d). That in any insurance plan the principle of the right of the patient to choose his own doctor be retained. (e). That in any health insurance plan which may be implemented, terms and conditions of such plans be so designed as to permit the development wherever consumers wish to take action of co-operative joint provision of medical services such as group practice, co-operatively owned and operated clinics and likewise (f). That the commission give particular attention to and recommend ways of achieving the co-ordinated planning of all services and conditions related to health; preventative, curative, nutritional and social, so that as far as possible the physical and mental health of the people shall be preserved, protected and improved on all fronts. (g). That the principle be accepted, a means of implementing is recommended that a provision of psychiatric services should be essentially provided by means of public services rather than through private practice." I think, Mr. Speaker, that that is a tremendous statement and one which the government ought to give serious consideration to. I don't expect them to change their minds today, but I would suggest that in the year to come that they look at this brief of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture and think through the implications.

Now, Mr. Speaker, the Canadian Sickness Survey conducted in 1950-51 proved that sickness, both with and without disability, was higher in non-metropolitan than in metropolitan areas; and secondly, doctors' calls and clinic visits per thousands of population were lower for non-metropolitan than for metropolitan areas. In other words, Mr. Speaker, the people living outside the cities and towns of this country, and this is true of Manitoba as well, get less service than do the people living in the cities. It has been estimated that the voluntary insurance coverage which we now have in the field of medical services for farm and rural people is really quite low, ranging from not more than between 15 and 30 percent of the people. Now when you realize, Mr. Speaker, that the 1958 survey of voluntary medical insurance conducted by the Department of National Health and Welfare showed that 43.2% of the total population was covered by voluntary plans, it's easy to see that the people who are really suffering as a result of the failure to extend universal medical coverage are the people living in the rural areas, because in the cities, most people -- including most wage earners, except those in the

(Mr. Orlikow, cont'd.) . . . very low income group, are now covered by the voluntary plan. So it's the people in the rural areas who are really suffering as a result of the lack of medical coverage.

Now, Mr. Speaker, if one looks at the statistics compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics which has to do with national incomes, it's not difficult to understand one of the basic reasons why this is true. For the year 1960 the percentage of farm people of the total labour force was 9.5%, but the net farm income of the people in terms of personal income was only 5.2%; so it is not difficult to realize why the people in the rural areas, aside from the shortage of doctors which is most acute in the rural area, are simply not getting the health coverage which they ought to get, because their income is just over half of what the income of the non-farm communities are.

Now in the Canadian Sickness Survey conducted by the federal government for the years 1950-1951, there was some very interesting statistics arrived at. It was found that physicians called were very definitely related to the level of income. In the low income group there were 1,468 calls per year per thousand population. In the high income group, this has risen to 2,172 calls. In other words, the high income group people are using doctors more than twice as much as the people in the low income groups; or if you put it on the basis of physicians called, you find that the low income groups had the doctor call on them 8.5 times per year as compared to 19.1 times per year for the high income groups. Now these are the facts, Mr. Speaker. It is obvious, therefore, that the low income groups have more sickness and disability; a lower expenditure on health care; less pre-payment coverage; and lower expenditures where pre-payment was carried than higher income groups. To farm families must be added the cost of being at a distance from the doctors, especially specialists, and the lower availability of both doctors and group plans.

Mr. Speaker, these are the reasons why we in this group feel that the proposal of the government, although it's a step in the right direction, it proves that even Conservative Governments can learn if they're hit on the head often enough. It's a step in the right direction but it's a step which will not meet the needs of the Canadian people, and the agreement of the Official Opposition is also to be expected, and also characteristic. After all, in 1919 the Liberal Party promised to introduce national health insurance. When they left office in 1930 they had done nothing about it. Again in 1945 they made the same promise; but when they were defeated in 1957, Canada was still without a health care plan. So, Mr. Speaker, if we don't take the promises of the Liberal, either provincially or federally very seriously, it is not to be surprised. Conservatives have done even less. Mr. Diefenbaker set up a Royal Commission to investigate the need for a health care plan, although it's obvious to everybody in Canada that the need has been proven over and over again.

So, Mr. Speaker, we feel that although we can go along with the whereases of this resolution which sketch the need for an improvement in health services, that the proposals of this government today for the establishment of a universally available but voluntary plan are, if I may say so, Mr. Speaker, a complete contradiction in terms. At least completely contradictory in ability to achieve what the government suggest is needed. This being the case, Mr. Speaker, we have no alternative but to vote against this resolution. We believe that health care should not be a commercial commodity available only to those who are able to pay for it. We believe that the time has come when the doctors, the patients and society generally must make the benefits of medical science available to all who need them, regardless of their income.

MR. CAMPBELL: May I ask the honourable member a question? When the honourable member says that the Liberals in 1945 made the same promise on the health plan, I'd like to ask him if he doesn't agree that it's a fact that the Federal-Liberal government at that time didn't make a promise, they made an offer; and that it was because of the reluctance of some of the provinces to accept that offer that it didn't come in at that time.

MR. ORLIKOW: Mr. Speaker, the Honourable Member for Lakeside is correct. The Federal-Liberal government made an offer. I want to suggest that if their offer had been as serious as their offer to establish a hospital plan, that the ways to establish a health insurance plan could have been found, even as the way to establish the Hospital Insurance Plan was found. If it wasn't, it was because the Federal-Liberal government wasn't as interested in

(Mr. Orlikow, oont'd.) establishing the plan and didn't provide enough inducements for enough provinces to get on the road.

HON. GEORGE JOHNSON (Minister of Health)(Gimli): Mr. Speaker, I just wish to speak at this time, to say in general terms the position I think of

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, I'm sorry I was away from the House this morning. Was the amendment of the Liberal Party disposed of? -- (Interjection) -- Well then, I would like to say a word or two before the Honourable the Minister closes the debate, if it's in order. I must apologize, Mr. Speaker, I haven't been able to catch up this morning as to what happened while a few of us were away.

I would like to say a word or two in connection with this. -- (Interjection) -- Pardon? Yes, yes, I'll be very, very brief on it. Might I ask was the Liberal Party accepted? -- (Interjection) -- No. Well then, Mr. Speaker, it's not my intention to speak for long on this particular resolution. My honourable colleague from St. John's covered the subject, I think, fairly adequately and reasonably. He pointed out from the brief of the Canadian Agricultural Association where they stand in respect of this matter. Other organizations, the Manitoba Farmers' Union have appeared before the Royal Commission investigating health services and they stated without any equivocation where they stand. I want to say and re-emphasize what my colleague from St. John's has said in this debate, that we of the New Democratic Party cannot accept the propositions of the government in respect of health care.

I followed with great interest and read in detail the presentations of the Government of Manitoba to the Royal Commission. Their statistical information was well worth reading and was very, very enlightening, but the conclusions of the Government of Manitoba as presented to the Royal Commission on Health are absolutely unacceptable as far as we are concerned. I think we have established in this House without any question of doubt, at least there should be no question of doubt with those of a real open mind, that the only possible solution to the health care problems of the Province of Manitoba and the whole of the Dominion of Canada, is that the provisions should be made available to all on a compulsory basis. We have endeavoured in the past, on many forms of health care, to make provision for only voluntary care. I noted that in the report, or in the reports of the hearings of the Royal Commission, that on this particular basis the government did have the support of the Liberal Party of Manitoba. I'm not surprised at that. I do recall that during the hearings here in Winnipeg of the Committee on Health -- or the Commission on Health, that there was others that concurred with parts of the presentation of the Government of Manitoba. I do recall, if I recall correctly, that there was some differences of opinion between the Medical Society of Manitoba and the government when they got into the field of deterrent charges, and I'm happy and I pay a compliment to the Manitoba Medical Society when they opposed any consideration for a deterrent charge in respect of medical care in the Province of Manitoba. I believe it was either the Honourable the First Minister or the Minister of Health that inferred in one presentation to the commission that was considering health care, that there should be some consideration to a deterrent charge. I noted something that is very, very evident to me, that at the conclusions of the hearings here in Winnipeg of the Royal Commission, that the only comment that the Honourable the Leader of the Liberal Party had to say to the government was: "They stole our thunder and we agree with them."

We, as far as the New Democratic Party is concerned, re-affirm our stand in respect of health care, that it should be compulsory and universal. With that objective in mind, Mr. Speaker, and without further delay in the House, it is my privilege to once again, for the purpose of the record, to re-affirm the stand of the New Democratic Party. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Member for St. John's, that all the words after the word "Canadians" in the seventh line be eliminated and the following added: "And resolved that this Legislature support measures to obtain a complete pre-paid National Health Insurance Plan under provincial and federal government sponsorship and control, to give full medical and surgical care at a premium that the lowest income group can reasonably afford." -- (Interjection) -- Yes. You will notice a change in the mover and seconder.

MR. M. E. McKellar (Souris-Lansdowne): Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Leader of the NDP a question? What's the price tag to this plan? How much is it going to cost the people of Canada?

MR. PAULLEY: Pardon?

MR. MCKELLAR: What's the price tag? What's it going to cost the people of Canada?

MR. PAULLEY: The price tag, Mr. Speaker, may I say in answer to my Honourable friend's question, the price tag is sufficient revenues from the taxpayers of the Dominion of Canada and the Province of Manitoba in order to assure adequate health care for all of the citizens of Canada. Is that brief enough?

Mr. Speaker read the motion.

MR. SPEAKER: I'm in some doubt whether this is a money resolution or not.

MR. ROBLIN: Mr. Speaker, I would submit that it is a money resolution, but I think that we would be quite willing to give the honourable gentleman the privilege of inserting the words: "That this Legislature give consideration to the advisability of supporting measures," in order that he may bring the matter before the House. I do think it is a money resolution but I have no objection, and I suppose the House has none, in allowing him to amend it in that way so it would be in order.

MR. PAULLEY: Well, Mr. Speaker, at this stage of the game, I'm not going to argue with my honourable friend. If that is what you desire Your Honour -- the First Minister -- all I'm concerned with at the particular time is the principle involved in the resolution before the House. Being a very agreeable individual, I accept the suggestions.

MR. SPEAKER: It's agreed by the House that the motion be amended.

Mr. Speaker put the motion and after a voice vote declared the motion lost.

MR. PAULLEY: Yeas and Nays please, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Call in the members. The question before the House is the amendment proposed by the Honourable Leader of the New Democratic Party, seconded by the Honourable Member for St. John's.

A standing vote was taken, the result being as follows:

YEAS: Messrs. Campbell, Desjardins, Dow, Gray, Guttormson, Harris, Hillhouse, Molgat, Orlikow, Paulley, Peters, Prefontaine, Roberts, Schreyer, Tanchak and Wagner.

NAYS: Messrs. Alexander, Bjornson, Carroll, Christianson, Corbett, Cowan, Evans, Groves, Hamilton, Hutton, Ingebrigtsen, Jeannotte, Johnson (Assiniboia), Johnson (Gimli), Klym, Lissaman, Lyon, McKellar, Martin, Roblin, Seaborn, Shewman, Stanes, Strickland, Watt, Witney, Mrs. Forbes and Mrs. Morrison.

MR. CLERK: Yeas, 16; Nays, 28.

MR. SPEAKER: I declare the amendment lost. Main motion. Are you ready for the question? The Honourable Member is closing the debate.

MR. JOHNSON (Gimli): I'd just like to say a few words in closing this debate with respect to this resolution, and on a subject as wide and as far-reaching as the subject of provision of medical care services, I don't intend to speak for any length of time, but I just wanted to make a few comments on the whole question with respect to the Province of Manitoba.

We tried faithfully in the brief which we presented last fall to the Royal Commission on Health Services, as I said earlier, to outline the pattern of care services in the past in this province, in each department of the Department of Health. We tried to give the present state of affairs and to map out what we thought we should follow in the future in developing and enhancing and improving the services which we presently have under way. We pointed out how more federal assistance is required in developing the program we have at the present time and indicated the large sums that would be required in the immediate future to shore up our present programs and to carry forward, in addition to the traditional role of prevention which has been the main work of the Department of Health across Canada over the years, into the problem of care in addition to prevention. Having dealt with those matters, we felt that we should share with this House these three essential principles which we, in our presentation, discussed openly with the Commission and asked the endorsement of this House. We feel that these are matters which they certainly should give a great deal of thought to; that these principles had merits. The deterrent, for example, was something we came across when I had an opportunity to visit Norway, where for 350 years they have been developing their health-care plan; where since 1911 they have been into it actively; where the grand old man of that country said to me when I told him our problems in Manitoba, he said: "you will not achieve excellence by revolution, but rather by a process of evolution within your province," from the facts that I discussed with him.

So I just want to review with the House the fact that we did specifically give specific

(Mr. Johnson, (Gimli), cont'd.) recommendations to the Royal Commission for their consideration. Certainly it was implicit throughout our brief and throughout the principles we presented to the House, that we believe in the freedom of the individual and we believe in the free choice of individual for his position. We tried to point out in that brief the facts as they are in the Province of Manitoba. The problem facing the province in this whole field becomes extremely complex the more and more you look into it. There is really not a country in the world who has really solved the entire problem. In the interests of the people of Manitoba, I feel this has to come about by evolution. Medical care, quality of care, the amount of care would not be improved overnight if such a scheme came in tomorrow. There's much shoring up to be done. These have been, I think, honestly and faithfully presented to the Commission and I thank my department for the tremendous amount of work they did in assisting me and the government in getting these facts before the federal authorities.

However, I would say to the Member from St. John's that I respect the principles of his Party and their belief that such a scheme, to be truly effective, must be compulsory. I wanted to speak on this debate also, and also to say goodbye to him, because I guess this is the last time we'll be seeing the Honourable Member in this House -- or possibly in any House -- but in all, to be good sports, we better wish him good luck. However, he certainly made his point today clearly, in that he believes that this is the manner by which this should be tackled. I just want to point out the problems we have in the Department of Health in this province and the need for further federal participation in our present programs and the hope that we can, by evolution, achieve excellence in the provision of health services.

It is pretty well coming to the point now, and very shortly, where, but for the medical and surgical fees, these services are becoming pretty well universally available to the people of this province. In all fairness to the medical profession where the Member for St. John's talks of control, I would say that, having been in practice; having some first-hand knowledge of the possible abuses of a plan; having sat with honourable members for four years and seen the politician's view point and the public's viewpoint; and I do hope that I represent the people of my constituency in saying this, that the problem is one of working out the very touchy matters before we go further.

I think in all fairness to the profession we should realize that the medical profession has traditionally, over the years, they have been leaders in the development of socialized medicine. Whenever procedures or tests, etcetera, are in the interests of all the people -- or it's in their interest that they become universally available -- they have given leadership in having public health departments -- Departments of Health across the country, assume these duties. I point to the control of diseases such as tuberculosis, the matter such as RH factors, now the cervical smear for early detection of carcinoma in women, the universal serological test for syphilis and so on. All these are measures which the medical profession has gradually, as they developed techniques and put them on a basis that they could easily be handled, on a mass basis, they have led the way and continued to do so.

I think the issue is not socialized medicine, and again I must say that in socialized medicine and in any medical care, I find that the profession in Canada appreciates fully that they need government -- they need government and government certainly needs them as the experts in this field to adopt and to operate such a scheme -- any scheme -- satisfactorily. I think it is this partnership between the professional groups and government that will result in excellence, and it's working together towards these goals. I would say to this House that I have noticed this tremendous change in the four years -- three or four years that I have been in this office, towards coming to a better understanding; and I think that this understanding will continue and that we will reach our goal in a manner which will be in the best interests of all, both to the taxpayer and to the person rendering the service.

I find, for example, in the Medicare scheme we have learned a great deal as reflected in our Royal Commission report. I would refer members to our report to the Restrictive Trade Practices Commission which sat here about a year ago with respect to drugs. In addition to the comments in that brief, we have learned a great deal about the dispensing of drugs. We have learned how important it is to complement this with government services. We are working out the multitude of small things that we never dreamt of in instituting medicare, that bugged both the professional groups and the government, and we're sitting down across the table

(Mr. Johnson, (Gimli), cont'd.) . . . resolving these. And as we resolve these matters and extend these services to the people who need them, and I'm all in favour of this and so is everyone in this House, that we will achieve the goal and make Manitoba a province to be looked to for the ideal resolution of probably the most complex social problem and potentially costly problem facing any organized community today. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you ready for the question?

Mr. Speaker presented the motion and after a voice vote declared the motion carried.

MR. ROBLIN: Yeas and Nays please, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Call in the members.

The question before the House is the proposed resolution proposed by the Honourable the Minister of Health which reads as follows:

A standing vote was taken, the result being as follows:

YEAS: Messrs. Alexander, Bjornson, Carroll, Christianson, Corbett, Cowan, Evans, Groves, Hamilton, Hutton, Ingebrigtsen, Jeannotte, Johnson (Assiniboia), Johnson (Gimli), Klym, Lissaman, Lyon, McKellar, Martin, Roblin, Seaborn, Shewman, Stanes, Strickland, Watt, Witney; and Mrs. Forbes and Mrs. Morrison.

NAYS: Messrs. Campbell, Desjardins, Gray, Guttormson, Harris, Hillhouse, Molgat, Orlikow, Paulley, Peters, Prefontaine, Reid, Roberts, Schreyer, Shoemaker, Tanchak and Wagner.

MR. CLERK: Yeas, 28; Nays, 17.

MR. SPEAKER: I declare the motion carried.

Adjourned debate on the proposed resolution of the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture. The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the House for allowing this to stand this morning. I had another appointment with the Leader of the New Democratic Party and the Member for Rhineland and could not be here. This resolution has been on the Order Paper for quite some time now without having been debated. It did, however, receive a very substantial debate when in the Resolution Committee originally and I think, if I recall correctly, it was something like six hours at that time if not more. We've had some discussion at other times so I will not cover all the aspects of the resolution once again, Mr. Speaker.

I want to say at the outset that I'm somewhat surprised, mind you, that the resolution should appear before us without the government still being able to tell the House whether or not it has a final agreement with Ottawa. It appears to me that when you look at what's been going on in this matter for the past three years, that we should have had at least a final agreement with the federal government before this resolution was presented to us, if the resolution ever was to be presented to us. We've asked the First Minister and the Minister of Agriculture on a number of occasions through the session when they could announce the final arrangements, and we have still been unable to get a reply from them. I don't know, possibly the Minister today can make an announcement when he replies, I don't know, but certainly the House should be advised very soon.

My comments, Mr. Speaker, will be on the financial arrangements proposed in this resolution. We've discussed in the past how this whole matter came about and how the First Minister in a temper tantrum set the Province of Manitoba in a very bad bargaining position in this whole subject of flood control in the Province of Manitoba. This cannot be denied, Mr. Speaker, and it's been the basic difficulty in the whole arrangement ever since that time, because as the Minister of Agriculture was saying the other day when he was speaking about farmers and what good bargainers they are, he recalled that when they go in and want to trade in some implements, for example, they are very hard bargainers. Well when governments are coming to agreements, the same bargaining process has to be carried on, and if one government comes along and tells the other, "well I'm going for the deal in any case", the same as a farmer coming in and saying to the implement salesman, "I'm going to buy your equipment anyway", well certainly the other party has the whip hand. That's what's happened here, Mr. Speaker, on this whole matter in Manitoba.

Now we submit that the financial arrangements proposed here are not satisfactory; they are not a good arrangement; Manitoba should get substantially better than this. If we look at what's happened in other jurisdictions, Mr. Speaker, I think that there's a perfectly sound case

(Mr. Molgat, cont'd.) for that proposition. Going back over a period of years to some other flood difficulties, we take the Fraser Valley Dyking -- this is after the Fraser Valley flood, I believe of 1949 or thereabouts -- in that vicinity. At that time this was one of the first times, I think, that some major work of this nature was done. The Fraser Valley Dyking Board spent some \$11,300,000 on flood protection there and it was paid for -- 8.4 million by the federal government; 2.8 million by the provincial government. In other words, 75/25. We came along to our own Manitoba problems here following on the 1950 flood. The Greater Winnipeg Dyking Board -- the arrangement there was a 25/75, with the province paying only 25 percent. Going to other types of projects which the present government has gone into, Mr. Speaker, we take for example the Canso Causeway, connecting Nova Scotia and Cape Breton. We find -- this is in Hansard, Ottawa, 1960 -- total costs there of \$25 million: 20 million paid by the federal government; 5 million by the provincial government. Once again, another example of a much better financial arrangement than that in Manitoba.

You take the PFRA reports, Mr. Speaker. Over the years, you find that some very considerable works have been done by PFRA. Very often we associate PFRA with smaller programs, programs of dugouts, community pastures, small dyking, and so on. The fact is that they have also gone into some very major programs. For example, in the Province of Alberta, the St. Mary's River irrigation program, 21.5 million, paid 100% by PFRA. In the case of the Bow River irrigation project, 28.2 million, paid by PFRA. As you look over the years, Mr. Speaker, at the expenditures of PFRA through the west, you'll find that from the 1st of April 1935 to the 31st of March 1960, the following were the expenditures by provinces across the west: Saskatchewan got 78 million; Alberta got 64.8 million; Manitoba got 14 million.

Now we come then to the project that is most recent, and the closest to us, Mr. Speaker, the South Saskatchewan River project. I'm quoting now from the PFRA report 1959-1960, Page 30, and this is what that agreement provides: "1. Canada and Saskatchewan will share in the cost of the construction of the dam and reservoir, 75% therefore to be borne by Canada and 25% by Saskatchewan, with the share of costs borne by Saskatchewan not to exceed \$25 million." A clear 75% federal, 25% provincial, and a maximum contribution by the province, regardless of where the costs go, of \$25 million. In other words, a top limit for the province itself. Point No. 2. "Canada will supply and cover the cost of all administration, engineering services and supervision of the work associated with dam construction and creation of the reservoir." This, Mr. Speaker, is a very sizeable amount. It's 10% of Canada's share. That is an additional 10%. The total project is estimated to cost 96 million. Of this, Canada is to pay 72 million; Saskatchewan 24; and over and above this 72 million, Canada is paying 7.5 million of engineering and of administration. Come then to the third point. "Canada will bear all costs of the maintenance of the dam and reservoir until six years from the day the dam is completed. For four years thereafter, Canada and Saskatchewan will share equally the cost of maintaining the dam and reservoir." So for six years, Mr. Speaker, a completely free maintenance for the Province of Saskatchewan paid for by the federal government. Fourth, "Saskatchewan will be responsible for and bear the cost of the construction of the power facilities for the generation and transmission of hydro electric power, with the exception that Canada will pay 25% of the cost of constructing and installing power penstocks of a size and capacity necessary to produce 200,000 horsepower at minimum operating head."

Mr. Speaker, in the Province of Manitoba the federal government has not contributed anything towards hydro electric developments. Now I know in an earlier debate the First Minister said that this was put in here particularly because the general works meant that the power works would be somewhat more expensive, and this was why it was added. However, Mr. Speaker, we've had no assistance here in the Province of Manitoba for works of that kind.

So there you have the two situations, Mr. Speaker. The Province of Saskatchewan on the South Saskatchewan project, which I don't think can be termed an urgent project. If you take it from the power development standpoint, certainly I cannot see any urgency because, at the moment, judging from the submissions of the Saskatchewan government to the National Power Grid Conference, they are prepared to sell power outside of Saskatchewan based on their coal deposits. Now if that's the case, then there cannot be that much urgency for power from the South Saskatchewan dam. The irrigation project did not appear to have the urgency that our own situation here in Manitoba would require. Furthermore, Mr. Speaker, this is on a 100%

(Mr. Molgat, cont'd.) . . . Canadian River. The waters flowing down the South Saskatchewan, to the best of my knowledge, are wholly Canadian waters.

Then you take the situation here in Manitoba, Mr. Speaker. We have a river, the bulk of the water going through it does not originate in the Province of Manitoba; it is water foreign to this province. You have a situation of urgency by comparison to Saskatchewan and yet the federal government is not, according to the figures given to us by the government here, contributing anywhere near the amount that they are giving to the Province of Saskatchewan. I've estimated, Mr. Speaker, the costs of the Manitoba works, given to us by the Minister, and what we would get if these were done under the same deal as Saskatchewan, even if the federal government didn't pay for the administration which it is doing in Saskatchewan. This will be an important factor because here in Manitoba the works are going to be done, I understand, by the provincial department. This means that we will supply the engineers, the supervisory staff, and so on. So if you take the total cost of the project here in Manitoba, Mr. Speaker, the Minister gave them to us as 64 million and 19 million, a total of 83 million. He gave us the sharing arrangements which were 37.3 million and 9.5, a total of 46.8 million. Mr. Speaker, if we were getting the same deal as Saskatchewan -- in fact not quite as good a deal, as I say, because of administration -- but if we were going to get just the 75/25 which Saskatchewan is getting, we should be getting a total of 62 million instead of 46.8. Mr. Speaker, this is a difference of 15.2 million and that, Mr. Speaker, is the cost of the rash statement made by the First Minister some three years ago when he first introduced this matter; and now he's asking the House to give approval to this financial arrangement. Insofar as our Party is concerned, Mr. Speaker, we are not prepared to approve the financial arrangements proposed in this resolution and we shall vote against the resolution on that basis.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, I'll be very brief. In regards to this resolution, I think that as far as this group is concerned, we don't agree with the net results of the negotiation and we do regret the fact that the First Minister or the Minister of Agriculture have not been able to announce to the House the signing of a formal agreement with Ottawa, unless the Minister does it this afternoon in closing the debate.

We have had a considerable amount of discussion in this House this year, as indeed we did last year, as to where we stand, the New Democratic Party, in respect to the policies of the Roblin administration of Manitoba respecting the floodway. Unlike the Liberal Party, we are going to support the resolution of the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture, not because of the fact that we think it is the answer -- and the answer is desirable -- but we feel that once the decision has been made and certain progress has been made in respect of the Red River floodway negotiations -- we were lucky apparently this year because of the subsiding of the rivers of the Red and the Assiniboine that we did not have a flood -- and for those reasons we are going to support the resolution of the Minister of Agriculture as we have indicated in the past.

I hate, quite frankly, Mr. Speaker, to be in this particular position but, after all, politicians are often put into rather treacherous positions and I feel that we're in one this afternoon. We regret, however, that the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture has not been able to announce any policy of the government respecting any adverse effect as a result of the excavations on the water tables in the general areas of the excavations of the Red River Floodway proposition. If you recall, Mr. Speaker, some days ago while dealing with the estimates of the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture, he quite frankly admitted: how can we have a policy when we don't know where we're going? I suggest this is very, very typical of the administration opposite and I'm sure that the Honourable Minister of Agriculture has studied the record of Hansard on numerous occasions and came up with the same conclusions as we got on this side of the House.

However, Mr. Speaker, while I say that in general we are going to support the resolution as proposed by the Honourable Minister of Agriculture, we don't agree with it in its present form. We think that there's something else required in the resolution so I'm suggesting an amendment to the resolution, and I'm sure that the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture and the Conservative administration will approve of, because it's so true. So therefore, Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Inkster, that the motion be amended by adding after the numerals "1962" in the last line thereof, as follows:

(Mr. Paulley, cont'd.) . . . "and be it further resolved that however, this House does not approve the methods adopted by the government in carrying out its policies, in particular those dealing with the expropriation of private property."

Mr. Speaker presented the motion and after a voice vote declared the motion lost.

MR. PAULLEY: Yeas and Nays please, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Call in the members.

A standing vote was taken, the result being as follows:

YEAS: Messrs. Froese, Gray, Harris, Hawryluk, Orlikow, Paulley, Peters, Reid, Schreyer, and Wagner.

NAYS: Messrs. Alexander, Bjornson, Campbell, Carroll, Christianson, Corbett, Cowan, Desjardins, Dow, Evans, Groves, Guttormson, Hamilton, Hillhouse, Hutton, Ingebrigtson, Jeannotte, Johnson (Assiniboia), Johnson (Gimli), Klym, Lissaman, Lyon, McKellar, Martin, Molgat, Prefontaine, Roberts, Roblin, Seaborn, Shewman, Shoemaker, Stanes, Strickland, Tanchak, Watt, Witney, Mrs. Forbes and Mrs. Morrison.

MR. CLERK: Yeas, 10; Nays, 38.

MR. SPEAKER: I declare the motion lost.

The motion before the House is the motion by the Honourable Minister of Agriculture. Are you ready for the question?

MR. J. M. FROESE (Rhineland): Mr. Speaker, before we vote on the resolution, I would like to state my opinion on this matter. I support water conservation in Manitoba and have been an advocate of it right along. I advocate the measures of water conservation, but I'm definitely opposed to the Floodway and to the big expense involved there; and, therefore, I will vote against the resolution.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Speaker, so far as our group is concerned, we certainly agree with the wording of the resolution -- the amendment that was voted on a minute ago. We're all in favour of it, but the trouble was that it was tacked on to the end of the whole resolution which meant that, had we supported it, we would have been supporting the resolution as a whole. Whether the honourable gentleman did that deliberately or whether he did it inadvertently, I don't know, but the fact is that he did it. Whether he knows he did it is not the question. The fact is that he did it. So this, I think, will be as an equally a short speech as my honourable friend from Rhineland. All I want to say, we agree with the tenet of the amendment that was moved, but we could not support it because of the fact that by doing it we would have been endorsing the resolution.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you ready for the question?

MR. HUTTON: I'll try and make this as short as possible. I just want to remind the Honourable Member for Rhineland the next time his municipalities come in and urge me to hurry up the construction of some of the big floodways down there, I'll remember that their member is against it and I can tell them so. He's in favour of conservation but he's against floodways. Well, he's gone on record.

The main argument in the House today is the question of whether Manitoba is getting a fair deal in relation to what others have gotten in other provinces and the question as to whether the Province of Manitoba should proceed with these works unless we get a minimum of 75% from the federal government. We had related to us certain aspects of the agreement between the government of Saskatchewan and the Government of Canada with respect to the South Saskatchewan project, but I have some figures that are taken from the Province of Saskatchewan publication, "Harnessing the South Saskatchewan, 1959" and it shows that, on the main reservoir, the Government of Canada is contributing three-quarters, 72 million and the Province 24 million. It shows that on irrigation works the Government of Canada is paying nothing and that the government of Saskatchewan is paying 51 million. It shows that the penstocks, that the Government of Canada is paying \$2 million because they are requiring penstocks of a larger size, due to requirements of the federal government, which would not be necessary in terms of what the government of Saskatchewan is looking for. It shows that the Government of Canada is contributing nothing to power and the cost to Saskatchewan is \$37 million. And so out of that total development on the Southern Saskatchewan, the Government of Canada is contributing 74 million and Saskatchewan's share is 118 million; that Canada's share is 38.5% and Saskatchewan's share is 61.5%.

(Mr. Hutton, cont'd.)

The comparative total breakdown on the Manitoba project on the Red River Floodway is 58.2% paid by Canada and 41.8% paid by Manitoba. I would like to point out too, Mr. Speaker, that the project in Saskatchewan is not a flood control program. The program in Manitoba, this particular program, the Red River Diversion, is strictly of a flood control nature and it is a matter of practise, a long-established precedent here in Manitoba, that we get less from PFRA, less of a contribution from PFRA, from the Federal Government in respect to flood control measures than we do from water conservation measures, and so there is precedent here. There is a difference in the nature of the works and it is not right, nor correct, nor is there any basis for making a comparison between the contribution that the Federal Government is making in relation to the Red River Diversion and that which they are making in respect to the Saskatchewan project. But if you want to, if you're determined that you're going to make a comparison, let's make a total comparison. In the total works, the contribution to the over-all program in Saskatchewan by the Government of Canada, is 38.5% and in respect of the Red River Diversion it is 58.2%.

Now let's just suppose that we can buy their argument today, that they don't feel that Manitoba should go along with this program unless they get more money. Now it has often been charged by the Leader of the Opposition, and he has directed this charge against me in particular, that I'm always talking about "why didn't you do it when." I submit that the Leader of the Opposition must be responsible for statements that he has made in this House since this government took over, whether or not he was Leader of the Opposition to the contrary. He must be responsible for the statements that he made in this House during the administration of this present government in his role as a member of the Opposition, and it is very interesting to go back and look at the statements that he made when he was charging the Roblin government with making "political hay" back in 1959.

He didn't think that it was right that the people of the Province of Manitoba shouldn't know what Manitoba's attitude was in respect to these measures that were much needed. That's what they thought then. "Well, Mr. Speaker, if we can get Ottawa money, well and good; I'm the first one to recommend it," -- Mr. Molgat, who is now the Leader of the Opposition -- "I'm the first one to recommend it," he says, "if we can get money from Ottawa. If we can get Ottawa money, well and good; I'm the first one to recommend it. I'll accept all the money Ottawa is prepared to send us for flood control and other measures. But it is very easy, Mr. Speaker, to make promises on someone else's money. This seems to me to be window-dressing." This is what the Leader of the Opposition said in 1959. And he said: "I don't think it's enough. In view of the present situation at Ottawa, we require an alternative. Now all that we're asking on this side of the House is -- what is the government going to do if Ottawa doesn't agree? It seems to us a reasonable question, in view of the present situation at Ottawa, and all we ask the government to give us at this time, before an election, so that the public of Manitoba will know -- is not just a statement on flood relief poked onto Ottawa, but a statement of what is the government going to do if Ottawa doesn't come across." And now that he found out what the government intends to do, is doing, he doesn't like that. He didn't like the answer he's gotten so he's changed his tactics. Well that is the prerogative of a party that doesn't need to take responsibility. They can be on any side of the fence that they want. They can change it twice a year or every two years or every three years, depending upon how they think the wind lies. Well the government of the Province of Manitoba -- a responsible government -- can't afford to indulge itself in that kind of child's play.

Now there are some statements here that I think are important. I think it's important to go back and see what the Premier of the province said on that occasion. When he had been pressed by the honourable members opposite to state what the intention of the Province of Manitoba was in respect to the citizens of the province; when he was pressed by the members of the opposition to prove the sincerity of the government; he said: "I can't tell you whether the 75% or the 25% ratio will come in, but there will be assistance from Ottawa and the Province of Manitoba will proceed with these works." He gave assurance that we were going to go ahead. And who pressed for this answer? It was the members of the Opposition. If they were so concerned, and if they're so concerned today that Manitoba has weakened its bargaining position with the federal government, why weren't they concerned then? For political purposes?

(Mr. Hutton, cont'd.) I submit, Mr. Speaker, that the responsibilities of an opposition in government are just as real as those of government if the opposition will accept them, but here in Manitoba they haven't accepted them. And what was the stand of some of the members opposite, especially in the Liberal Party? I'm not directing these criticisms, by the way, at the New Democratic Party because they aren't guilty in the same way that the Liberal Party in Manitoba has been guilty on this question. I may not agree with the stand that they have taken in respect to certain operations in getting this program going, but at the same time I must respect them for having taken a position with respect to the need of these works and having stayed by their guns.

But here's what the Honourable Member for St. George had to say. I should start at the beginning, because he was the person who got this debate going. It was a special debate. It was moved by the Honourable Member for St. George and seconded by the Honourable Member for La Verendrye that the House do now adjourn for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance; namely, a matter of urging the Government of Manitoba to be ready with an alternative policy regarding the flood control program announced by the First Minister in the event that the federal government refuses financial support. And he said: "Are you ready for the question?" And I could say the same thing to them today. They're still not ready for the question and they never will be ready for the question, Mr. Speaker. And what did the Honourable Member for St. George say? "However, the hopes of the people in Manitoba regarding flood control measures were dashed badly Wednesday when the Premier snapped an answer to a question I submitted on whether the agreements for this government would carry out the flood control program alone if the federal government refused financial assistance. Yet all to fool the public of Manitoba, but in reality what is really being done? All this is propaganda to fool the public and I wish to assure you, Mr. Speaker, that the people of Manitoba aren't so foolish to see through all this garble." Well they saw through it all right — they saw through it. He said: "I challenge the First Minister to tell us what happens if the federal government refuses financial assistance to these flood programs."

And then he went on again, and this is beautiful — just beautiful — and it comes in so handy. The Opposition, Mr. Speaker, has often reminded us of how handy Hansard is to keep us in line. Well here's one occasion when we can get the Liberals back into line. We can't guarantee that we can keep them in the harness but we can put it on them anyway. They may buck it off and I have no doubt that they will — they'll try awfully hard. The Honourable Member for St. George: "I've been accused by members across about criticizing the plan. If they'd been listening to what I said, I said I was very pleased when I heard the First Minister's announcement. That isn't a criticism. I criticized the First Minister's answer to my question yesterday. I never criticized the plan or told the government they were not going fast enough. All I asked them was to let us know whether they would proceed if the federal government would not provide the funds. I'm still not satisfied with the answers, however. We can't proceed any farther. The First Minister has gone into past history. I dealt strictly on present day. If he wants to go into history maybe we should go back to the days of the last Tory government. I'm all in favour of this plan. I wanted to see it go through, and if the government proceeds with it, I'll congratulate them."

A MEMBER: Let's hear it. Where are those congratulations? Let's hear them.

MR. HUTTON: Now the Honourable Member for Emerson: "Now, Mr. Speaker, in the past we've been accused that all we can do is pass the buck to Ottawa. Now I ask you a question. Isn't this passing the buck to Ottawa? Ottawa is supposed to participate 75% in this program. I think this is the greatest passing of the buck to Ottawa that has ever happened in the Province of Manitoba, or maybe since the days of Adam and Eve, in any administration — passing the buck to Ottawa. If Ottawa gives us some money well we'll do that. If Ottawa does this we will do this and on and on and on." And what are they doing today? Passing the buck to Ottawa. This is what they want to do. They want to pass the buck to Ottawa. How they've changed their story, and it didn't take long to change it either because in 1961 there were some very interesting statements made. The same member: "But I would say again, as I have mentioned once before, that if Manitoba is to carry this load by itself; that if Ottawa does not contribute at least 75% of the cost of this project; I say that rather than go it alone we should leave it alone." How they did change their minds. How they did change their minds.

(Mr. Hutton, cont'd.)

Mr. Speaker, that's all I'm going to say. I don't need to say any more. The Liberal Party in this province has been on both sides of this question. They don't know where they are at the present time. They want to blame it on Saskatchewan that they're not -- a Saskatchewan project or some project in B.C. We've got to be exactly like that or we don't go ahead. The government of Manitoba is convinced that we have got a good enough field; that we should proceed with this; that there's a great deal of benefit in this for Manitoba citizens and for the province. And on the basis of the encouragement -- the encouragement of the Liberal Party in 1959 and the conviction of the people of Manitoba that this thing should be gone ahead with -- and they are partly responsible because they helped form that opinion in 1959. It's too bad that they've changed their minds since then because I think they have departed from the consensus of opinion in the province, and I hope that even though they won't support us in going ahead with this, that somewhere along the line in the future that they will see the light.

.....Continued on next page.

MR. J. P. TANCHAK (Emerson): Mr. Speaker, I would like a question. Will he permit a question? Would you like to read from Hansard, on page 81 of 1959, two statements made by the First Minister, line 23 and then the following paragraph. I would like it in the record. Page 81, March 18th, 1959, line 23 -- (Interjection) -- I'm not permitted to read unless I get permission of the House. Have I? Have I got the permission of the House to read that?

MR. SPEAKER: You may ask a question.

MR. TANCHAK: I couldn't hear you.

MR. SPEAKER: You may ask a question -- (Interjection) -- Agreed?

MR. TANCHAK: Talking about the floodway, the Honourable the First Minister. --

MR. ROBLIN: If my honourable friend reads the question, he may expect an answer from the Minister and I trust that --

MR. TANCHAK: But I thought the Speaker said "go ahead". "It is comparable in scope and principle with developments that have been undertaken on a federal-provincial basis in other parts of Canada. The South Saskatchewan River Development in our sister province to the west and the Fraser Valley dikes in the Province of British Columbia are closely parallel to our integrated scheme of water control project for Manitoba." That's one. Now the second one: "The Province will move ahead immediately on the assumption that the federal government will share in our program on a basis at least equal to the formula being applied to the main reservoir aspects of the South Saskatchewan River Development."

MR. HUTTON: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to answer his question. I answered it once. I stated -- (Interjection) -- Oh yes, I answered it once and I -- (Interjection) -- Well, it was after the Premier of the Province of Manitoba had made that statement that the Honourable Member for Emerson, the Honourable Member for St. George and the Honourable Leader of the Opposition got up in this House and chastised him for not being ready to go it alone, even if he didn't get any help from the federal government. Oh, the statements -- shall I read them again, Mr. Speaker? They stand in Hansard -- a monument to the vacillation of the Liberal Party in Manitoba on the question of flood control for the people.

Mr. Speaker put the question and after a voice vote declared the motion carried.

MR. ROBLIN AND MR. MOLGAT: Yeas and Nays please, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Call in the members.

The question before the House is the proposed resolution proposed by the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture. I don't propose to read it.

A standing vote was taken, the result being as follows:

YEAS: Messrs. Alexander, Baizley, Bjornson, Carroll, Christianson, Corbett, Cowan, Evans, Gray, Groves, Hamilton, Harris, Hawfyluk, Hutton, Ingebrigtson, Jeannotte, Johnson (Assiniboia), Johnson (Gimli), Klym, Lissaman, Lyon, McKellar, Martin, Orlikow, Paulley, Peters, Reid, Roblin, Schreyer, Seaborn, Shewman, Stanes, Strickland, Wagner, Watt, Witney and Mrs. Forbes and Mrs. Morrison.

NAYS: Messrs. Campbell, Desjardins, Dow, Froese, Guttormson, Hillhouse, Molgat, Prefontaine, Roberts, Shoemaker, Tanchak.

MR. CLERK: Yeas 38; Nays 11.

MR. SPEAKER: I declare the motion carried. Adjourned debate on the proposed resolution proposed by the Honourable Member for Fisher and the amendment thereto proposed by the Honourable Member for Souris-Lansdowne. The Honourable Member for Arthur.

MR. WALTER WATT (Arthur): Mr. Speaker, some weeks ago the Honourable the Leader of the Opposition challenged me to dare him across the House to tell a story directly concerning the production of milk. Now I am not challenging him today to tell the story, but I'm just pointing out that the time is running short and if he wishes to get up at any time that it's perfectly all right with me.

MR. MOLGAT: I would just tell the honourable member the pail is already full.

MR. WATT: Thank you. I guess that's as far as we need go. Now, Mr. Speaker, I would like to make a few remarks this afternoon on the conditions of our rural farms. A great deal has been said in this House in this past session, and during the sessions that I have been in here, on cost of production, prices and so forth; and most of the figures and statements that we have had have come out of a book or out of statistics. So I would like to make a few remarks this afternoon -- I'll be very brief -- on the actual conditions in rural agricultural Manitoba as

(Mr. Watt, cont'd.) I see them and as I have lived them. I have no intentions of quoting from statistics or from the reports of economists or what have you, but rather to make a few comparisons to the House on my own actual experience and experiences, of course, that I have witnessed in the area where I live.

The reason that I am prompted to speak at this time is because of the remarks on the conditions in Manitoba's farming areas and also figures that have been given that I think should be corrected, or at least should be added to. I refer to the Honourable Member from Fisher's remarks when he was speaking in the House the other day and he remarked on the deplorable conditions, as he found them, during a trip down to the Peace Gardens. The Peace Gardens, of course, you know are in south central Manitoba in the Constituency of Turtle Mountain. Now he seemed to find farm buildings in a generally run-down condition, unpainted and dilapidated. Farm equipment also, in the same condition in his opinion, was also in a run-down condition and practically worn out. Now, Mr. Speaker, I have travelled over the greater part of the province from time to time and I find conditions are not as depicted by my honourable friend. In fact, travelling through the province, I have been to places such as Roblin, Swan River, to Hamiota, to Virden and Melita and, of course, I have been at Reston a few times as I farmed near the Town of Reston. I've been to Gladstone, to McCreary, and I have also been several times through the constituency referred to -- at least the member referred to passing through this area. I would like to say, Mr. Speaker, that probably I have not been looking for the right thing, but I find that farm buildings and the appearance of the way that they are keeping up their buildings through the province is not consistent with the remarks made by my honourable friend. And I do say my honourable friend because I sit with him on the Livestock Committee and, as a farmer, I am surprised that he made the statement that he did in this House in respect to conditions out in rural Manitoba.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I would like to say a few words regarding cost of production. Figures were given in the House again by my honourable friend from Fisher Branch on the price of machinery. Now he stated -- and I stand to be corrected, Mr. Speaker, but I believe I'm correct in saying that he stated that a combine, a large combine at the moment costs 6,400 bushels of wheat. Now this I agree with -- that is \$10,000.00. A \$10,000 self-propelled combine was formerly sold for a fraction of that price. It is true that that is the price of the largest combine you can buy now, but I wish to give to you, Mr. Speaker, from my own experience, actual cost of machinery in relation to capacity. And I point out to the House that there is not one farmer in 500 in the Province of Manitoba that has holdings large enough, that has a farm large enough to warrant the use of or that could possibly utilize a \$10,000 combine.

Now for the information of those of you in the House who are not interested with farming operations, I point out that this \$10,000 combine is capable of handling two 17-foot swaths. That is twice the capacity, Mr. Speaker, of a combine that is actually needed on the average farm in Manitoba. The largest combine sold by the Massey-Harris Company in 1945 cost \$3,200.00. Its capacity to thresh and properly separate -- that is separate grain from the straw -- was limited to a 12-foot swath in an average crop. A combine today for the same capacity can be bought for a great deal less than \$10,000, and actually in operation can not be compared with the models constructed 20 years ago. Now the same applies, Mr. Speaker, all down the line. I could give you comparative figures on the large John Deere tractor. I shouldn't be mentioning companies. I am not interested in any particular company but I think for the benefit of the House that these things should be known. I say a John Deere tractor was sold in 1937 for \$1,600, and can, by no stretch of the imagination, be compared with the largest tractor that is offered by the same company today.

Mr. Speaker, the cost of production figures were given to this House leaving the impression with those who are not acquainted with farming operation that it costs -- now I stand to be corrected again, Mr. Speaker, but I believe the Honourable Member from Fisher mentioned a figure of \$19.00 per acre to produce a crop and that it cost \$5.25 per acre to harvest. The \$5.25, I believe, was included in the total, in the figure of \$19.00. I submit, Mr. Speaker, that if this figure was correct, that no farmer in Manitoba could possibly ever own a farm. And I say from actual experience that this is exaggerated by approximately 100%.

I say further, Mr. Speaker, that while it is necessary that the farmer, along with other groups in our society, must strive to maintain a welded equity in the national income, the

(Mr. Watt, cont'd.) present agricultural situation does not warrant the gloom being cast over it by the constant exaggeration of actual conditions that really exist. And I submit, Mr. Speaker, that in spite of the unfavourable picture presented regarding our agriculture in Manitoba by the Opposition members, that agriculture in Manitoba is in a healthy condition, and that everything should be done to encourage rather than discourage our boys and girls of today to go into the agricultural industry.

Now to bear out what I have been saying, Mr. Speaker, I suggest that the House take a look at the healthy conditions of the municipalities in rural Manitoba; that they take a look at the small towns that are putting in waterworks. I know of about four or five that shortly will be holding referendums whose livelihood are dependent on agriculture. My own home town of Reston on the 11th of May will vote on a \$145,000 debenture, and I am sure that they would not be considering \$145,000 debenture in Reston if they did not think that the support of the agricultural area surrounding Reston was in a condition where it warranted such an expenditure.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I just point these things out. As I said, I have no figures from the books. I have the figures out of my head from actual experience, and I felt that before the House closed that I should bring them to the attention more for the members who are not familiar with farming operations.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you ready for the question?

MR. TANCHAK: Mr. Speaker, I won't be long, just a few words. The Minister of Agriculture now, I think, seems to be very complacent judging by the speech that he made yesterday. He implies that since the Tories took over, every farmer's troubles have been solved. He implies that. How does he do it? Yesterday he stated that the farmer never had it so good -- (Interjection) -- You don't know what you said? I agree. He seems to reason that since the farmer is so well off right now, so well taken no more effort is necessary on the part of the federal government or the provincial government on his behalf. Some time ago I was surprised to hear the Honourable Minister of Agriculture use the word "tripe" -- I am sure he will recall it -- on two occasions when he referred to certain groups -- pressure groups who spoke up for the farmer, and he seemed to be under the impression that it was nothing but tripe. Now there are many pressure groups -- or groups -- I wouldn't call them pressure groups -- but there are many groups who speak up for the farmer, and one of them is the farm unions. They head the list. Well I must disagree with the Minister.

MR. HUTTON: Mr. Speaker, on a point of privilege, is the Honourable Member suggesting that I referred to a farm organization as promoting a policy that was tripe, because if he is, I take grave exception to that. If I referred to anybody's propositions as tripe it was probably those of the Liberal Party.

MR. TANCHAK: I didn't say that he referred specifically to the farm unions. He just simply said, Mr. Speaker, that it was certain groups who speak up for the farmers, and I added that myself that the farm union does speak up. But he said that it was just so much tripe, this asking for parity prices. Who can define parity prices? It is just tripe. That is the word that he used, and I would ask, is asking for parity prices tripe? I don't think it is. If it was tripe, why did the Honourable the Prime Minister, Mr. Diefenbaker, promise it to the farmers? It is not tripe. Is asking for better crop insurance in the Province of Manitoba, is that tripe? Because these groups keep pressuring the government on it? I disagree with anybody -- I'm not suggesting --

MR. HUTTON: On a point of privilege, I believe that the honourable member is attributing some very nasty insinuations to me and I object, because I didn't refer in the manner that he suggests that I did, to any farm organization's policies being a matter of tripe, and I object.

MR. TANCHAK: I haven't got the Hansard here, but the Minister will agree that he used the word "tripe" in one of them.

MR. HUTTON: Mr. Speaker, I agree I may have referred to the honourable member's propositions as tripe, but certainly not to anybody outside of the House.

MR. TANCHAK: I'm sure it was not the honourable member or the honourable members of the Liberal Party that you referred to. He was simply referring to "certain groups" -- (Interjection) -- Well next time, be more specific if you -- (Interjection) -- And there are so many that are in favour of parity in that case. Will the Honourable Minister permit me to

(Mr. Tanchak, cont'd.) continue? I asked whether the crop insurance -- asking for crop -- and I'm not saying the Minister specifically mentioned this part of it, but he said that they are pressuring the government -- those groups -- and I assumed that these groups are pressuring the government for better crop insurance, and I'm sure that isn't tripe. Is asking for better farm credit tripe? I'm sure it isn't, and I don't say that the Honourable Minister --

MR. HUTTON: Mr. Speaker, I object to these insinuations by the honourable members. These things that he is saying, Mr. Speaker, just aren't true.

MR. TANCHAK: Just to oblige the Honourable Minister, I will not refer to that again. Simply say that I do not agree in that case with him, but he used the word tripe regardless. I must disagree with the Minister's statement that the farmer never had it better than he -- never had it as good as he has it at the present time. I don't think that statement is correct and I don't think that any farmer who reads a bit and he understands, will agree with the Honourable Minister he never had it so good, because there were many years in the past, and my colleague the Honourable Member for La Verendrye read from the Wheat Board report where the farmer actually received more per bushel for his wheat than he is presently doing. And then there is something else to consider, that at the time when he did receive more for it, the dollar was worth a hundred cents; not the way it is now. Does the Minister suggest that the farmer has it so good that even another drought would be advisable -- because the farmer has it so good and he had a drought here. I don't agree with the Honourable Minister that it is so very good. There's a lot of room -- an awful lot of room for improvement. I'm going to vote against this resolution because the provincial government is simply, in this resolution, taking another way to brag about its efforts. So why vote for it? I ask the government members across -- why vote for this resolution? It is not going to help the farmers any, anymore, and according to the Minister they don't need any help because they've never had it so good as before. You, yourself, say that so I'm going to oppose this resolution as simply patting oneself on the back.

Mr. Speaker put the question and after a voice vote declared the amendment carried.

MR. MOLGAT: Yeas and Nays, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Call in the Members. The question before the House is the proposed motion in amendment by the Honourable Member for Souris-Lansdowne to the motion proposed by the Honourable Member for Fisher.

A standing vote was taken with the following result:

YEAS: Messrs. Alexander, Baizley, Bjornson, Carroll, Christianson, Corbett, Cowan, Evans, Groves, Hamilton, Hutton, Ingebrigtsen, Jeannotte, Johnson (Assiniboia), Johnson (Gimli), Klym, Lissaman, Lyon, McKellar, Martin, Scarth, Seaborn, Shewman, Stanes, Strickland, Watt, Witney, Mrs. Forbes, and Mrs. Morrison.

NAYS: Messrs. Campbell, Desjardins, Dow, Froese, Gray, Guttormson, Harris, Hawryluk, Hillhouse, Molgat, Paulley, Peters, Prefontaine, Reid, Roberts, Schreyer, Shoemaker, Tanchak, Wagner.

MR. CLERK: Yeas 29; Nays 19.

MR. SPEAKER: I declare the motion carried. The question before the House is the resolution proposed by the Honourable Member for Fisher, as amended. Are you ready for the question?

MR. H. P. SHEWMAN (Morris): Mr. Speaker, I had no intentions of taking any part in this debate whatsoever. I'm a constituent of the Constituency of Provencher and on June 18th we're going to have an election. And the Conservatives have nominated a young chap by the name of Warner Jorgenson; the Social Credit have got a Mr. Loewen nominated, and the Liberals have got a Mr. Roberts nominated.

MR. SPEAKER: Order.

MR. SHEWMAN: I deem it an honour, Sir, to be corrected by you if I'm in the wrong.

MR. SPEAKER: I think it would be just as well to speak to the motion rather than the candidates.

MR. SHEWMAN: In speaking to the question at hand, Mr. Speaker, the Honourable Member for La Verendrye in his discourse here, I think it was yesterday -- it's one of the few days that he has been in the House -- and I would suggest to him, if possible, that he would have an opportunity to make another speech in this House before this House closes, because I cannot see whereby he has an opportunity of saving his deposit after the speech that was made

(Mr. Shewman, cont'd.) here yesterday. Now he criticized this government for having no agricultural policy and I just wish that we had Hansard here so we could quote him. But it has been mentioned in this House that a year ago this government took the initiative to establish a Research Council on farm policy for the Dominion of Canada. The Government of Manitoba at that time took the lead and that committee is working today and doing a very good job. Now the Chairman that was set up when this committee was established to look into the possibilities of discussing and looking at all phases of agriculture was Dr. J.R. Weir, the Dean of the University of Manitoba. And I hope that the Member from La Verendrye has faith in that man because I believe he's a student of the Department of Agriculture, University of Manitoba. And I think if he was fair, he would say that the people out there that are teaching our young folks of Manitoba today are doing the very best they can; and when the Manitoba Government could get a man such as Mr. Weir who chaired this committee there must be something to it.

Now he mentions crop insurance and, as I mentioned before, we have asked for crop insurance for a good many years in this House when his Party was the government. And at that time they said we could not go it alone; it was impossible to go it alone. I think that that was pretty fair advice. Today we're not trying to go it alone, Mr. Speaker. We're looking for assistance from the federal government. First, the previous government did not ask for it. And crop insurance is one of the soundest things that we have today in Manitoba as far as the economy of the province is concerned. It stabilizes the economy right across the board -- municipal -- any economy you want to pick out is stabilized and that's what we need for the betterment of the province. Now if you stop and just think for a moment, Mr. Speaker, there were 3,675 farmers insured under crop insurance, then there were 2,084 claimants and the average size claim in the crop insurance just in the fall of this past year was \$760.00. Now the largest payment was \$5,800 and some odd dollars. Now under the PFAA Act we have today there's 25,700 some odd farmers that was in that group, that received an average of \$2,279 and some odd cents. Now instead of the Honourable Member for La Verendrye criticizing, condemning the government at Ottawa, I would suggest that he should put his efforts behind the right people, which is his Party, to ask Ottawa and his Leader, Mr. Pearson, at Ottawa to see that there's some promise coming out of the Liberal Party that they will do something for agriculture.

Now we've heard talk about the Agricultural Stabilization Act. Now that was passed in 1957, Mr. Speaker, and it was passed with one thought in mind as far as the government was concerned, that the farmers of Manitoba and Canada would be able to get somewhere near their equal share of the national wealth. And they have paid large sums out to the farmers, and the previous government -- that is, the Liberal Government from 1953 to 1957 -- has paid out \$363 million. This present government at Ottawa have paid out from 1957 to 1961, \$706 million. Now as I said before, if he expects to be -- the Member from La Verendrye expects to be elected in Provencher, he should just change his tune not a little but a whole lot and leave here -- talk about the discussion in the House here about the price supports; what price supports there have been for the farmers and especially the farmers of western Canada. Mr. Speaker, we know that there is a Stabilization Act that sets the price, arrives at a price, an average price or a floor price, you can call it that, for a period of ten years. And for butter they have been paying 100.06% over the floor price in the previous year. Hogs, they've been paying 83.5% over the floor price; steers live weight 80% over the floor price on steers. Now when they ask for a parity price, it's hard to understand just what they mean by parity price, Mr. Speaker. Do they want parity price on the dollar or do they want parity price on production? I think that the government at Ottawa today is doing what they think is right and I think before too long that it will be proved what is right for the farmers. Now other countries have tried parity prices; parity price has been tried in Russia and I'm informed that it has been a failure, a total failure. And parity price has been tried in that great country just south of us, and I think the President over there in the United States would like to get rid of parity prices today if he could. When I think back when the United States started in to pay these parity prices, I couldn't agree with them at that time and I don't agree with them today. Parity prices mean larger production. They're producing more wheat on 50 acres of land over there today than they produced 15, 16, 18 years ago on 100 acres. Now if that's what the people want, they'll have to make up their minds that they'll have to pay for it.

Now there's been some discussion about the small farms. I think we need the small

(Mr. Shewman, cont'd.) farmers and I think the acreage payments that we're getting for the farmers in western Canada today is helping to keep the small farmer on the farm. I've spoken to quite a few recently and they tell me that this \$200 has been a godsend. It's helped them to pay their taxes and keep them where they should be on the farm. Now there is a government west of us, Alberta; their Provincial Treasurer up there, Mr. Hinman, he doesn't think it's necessary to keep the small farmer on the farm. He says that there's no place for them; that they will have to bow out to the large farmer. And I don't think we should do that. Manitoba should keep our small farmers where they are.

The Member from La Verendrye spoke about the efforts of our federal government, our provincial government, as far as marketing wheat is concerned. I can remember quite well asking the previous government in this House to do something about cash loans on farm stored grain. The government of that day, the Party which he is a member of, turned that down along with other things. When we asked for more money, cash advances on grain, that was turned down. When we asked, as I mentioned before, loans on stored grain, that was turned down by the Liberal government both at Ottawa and in Manitoba. The Liberals allowed grain to store up, pile up -- no sale for it. The present government at Ottawa has been criticized by the Member from La Verendrye of their attitude in selling the grains that they have sold. They shouldn't have sold it the way it had been sold.

Now, Mr. Speaker, the Liberal Party has been, and I predict will be, a party of half measures. And I think the farmers in Provencher are very foolish that they take a chance on half-party measures -- half promises -- rather than something that they have in their hands today.

MR. STAN ROBERTS (La Verendrye): Well, Mr. Speaker, I'm sure you would expect me to say a few words at least. First of all, of course, it's quite obvious that any argument on the merits of candidates running in Provencher cannot be settled in this House, so I would suggest to my honourable friend from Morris that he go home to Morris tomorrow and carry to his friend Mr. Jorgenson from Morris a message from me that I would like to meet him in Morris on a public platform in front of the Farmers' Union, the Chamber of Commerce; or anyone else who would sponsor such a meeting; and I will meet him in Dominion City and I will meet him in Steinbach and in Altona and in any other town -- Letellier or St. Jean Baptiste -- any location he chooses at any time, and I hope that the Honourable Member from Morris will be with him and we will discuss the agricultural policies of the federal government and of the government of Manitoba and those that affect Provencher.

MR. H. P. SHEWMAN (Morris): Mr. Speaker, would the honourable member permit a question right now? Could I ask you a question?

MR. ROBERTS: Yes, Sir.

MR. SHEWMAN: If you would guarantee that you'd put up a better debate on one of those platforms than you do here I'll accept the challenge.

MR. ROBERTS: Well, Mr. Speaker, the Member from Morris seems to be quite determined that I shouldn't win in Provencher, and so therefore I don't see why he wants me to put up a better debate than I have been doing in the past. I would think that he would be glad to have me come as I am. Let's have a "come as you are" party. And I will just repeat what I said, that I will meet the Member from Morris and the sitting Member from Provencher on any platform in any part of Provencher on any date at any hour between now and June 18th that we can get a public meeting set up. As often as possible. I haven't heard any acceptances. Will you meet me -- can I ask the Honourable Member from Morris a question a moment? Will you meet me -- I can't ask the Member from Provencher at the moment but can I ask you. Will you meet me on such a platform? You want to accept the challenge right now then.

MR. SHEWMAN: Yes.

MR. ROBERTS: Fine.

MR. E. R. SCHREYER (Brokenhead): On a point of privilege, Mr. Speaker, I think that the two honourable members are using this Assembly as a federal campaign hustling

MR. ROBERTS: I don't see how you get that impression at all, but I want to point out to the Honourable Member from Brokenhead that I didn't start this.

On the discussion of agricultural policy, though, I am quite surprised that the osmotic pressure -- I hope the Honourable Minister of Health heard this -- the osmotic pressure moving

(Mr. Roberts, cont'd.) from this area into that section of this side of the House hasn't carried to the Honourable Member from Morris concerning crop insurance. Surely to goodness he must realize by now that the crop insurance plan cannot succeed in Manitoba without federal assistance. I have been a promoter of a crop insurance plan just as long as the Honourable Member from Morris has been, but I know, just as he knows, that there will never be crop insurance in Manitoba until the federal government is prepared to get in the act, and the Honourable Minister of Agriculture has finally this year admitted that; and to say that any party has been dragging their feet in the crop insurance program over the years in the past has nothing to do with the future. The thing we want to know is what party, what federal party, what federal government in Ottawa is going to back up the Manitoba crop insurance plan -- underwrite it and give us a plan that we can put over the whole Province of Manitoba, and this will be the things we will be discussing on those platforms in Provencher between now and June 18th.

And while we're talking about insurance let's talk about livestock insurance too. In other words, insurance for those people who are producing other things than crops, and I refer to stabilization -- the floor price. Well now you tell me what protection the present government at Ottawa has given to the farmers of Manitoba in the form of a stabilization policy floor price, or of an insurance that they know that no matter how bad things get that they have a floor price that they can fall back on as a measure of protection against disaster. And you know what's happened. Why in 1958 this present government removed the floor price that was there -- set at a disaster level -- removed it entirely; replaced it by a deficiency payment policy which is weak, has no value to us; has no value, particularly, to the prairie farmers; removed any floor price -- any protection -- in other words, any livestock insurance to the producers of livestock and other products in the Province of Manitoba, and this is another thing we'll be discussing at these public meetings in Provencher between now and June 18th.

I'm sorry the Honourable Member from Morris is leaving because I want to say one more thing before he goes. He had something interesting to say about me speaking in one of the few days I have been in this House in this session. Well I have checked and I have found that early in the session I had the flu for two days -- I missed those two days -- and last week I was out of the province on Monday and Tuesday and missed those two days. With that exception I have not missed one day in this Chamber -- not one -- and I wanted to make that perfectly clear, that while I may at times not be sitting here, I am not out of the building and have been, I think, tending fairly close to the duties of a member.

I want to make a particular reference to the Honourable Member from Morris' remarks concerning parity prices. He said that they were terrible, terrible things. He's something like the Honourable Minister of Agriculture when he was speaking 'way back on February 22nd and calling them "tripe". The Honourable Minister of Agriculture said 'way back in February that "it is my business to see that the farmers that I am working for are not misled by a bunch of tripe that is pounded at them", and he was referring to parity prices. Well I want to tell this Chamber who it is that brought parity price talk to this country. It was John Diefenbaker, that's who it was, in 1957 and 1958, and now look at them back away from it. Parity price is a terrible word -- how did we get mixed up in this thing? Yes, it was parity, not charity, on every platform. It was parity, not charity, in Steinbach, in Provencher, and you heard it the same as I did.

A MEMBER: Parity

MR. ROBERTS: Parity -- but it's such a dirty word now all of a sudden, and who invented the word? The same guy that invented the word "vision" and it's a dirty word now too. And then there's the Minister of Agriculture who made the big speech about the farmers of Manitoba who never had it so good. Now I don't know -- he's been in politics four years but I'm still surprised that a man with at least four years' experience would make that kind of a speech, because I don't think that there's anything that you can say to the farmers of Manitoba that will put that hair up on the back of their necks quite so fast. "Never had it so good as they have right now in 1962" -- now I mean, really, do you mean that? Do you mean that in 1951 and 1952 that you didn't make more money farming than you are making now? Do you mean that your costs weren't lower and your income wasn't higher and therefore the difference in between,

(Mr. Roberts, cont'd.) your net income, wasn't greater than it is now? I think you mean better than that. Surely to goodness you're not trying to tell us that the agricultural policies of today are better than the agricultural policies there were then. That the agricultural prices of today are better than they were then, because they're far lower. That the costs of today are lower than they were then, because the cost of production of farm products is far higher than it was then. So I only want to repeat my challenge to the Member from Morris. I hope he will carry this back to Morris with him tomorrow, that I would like to meet he and the Honourable Member from Provencher on every platform in Morris and we'll discuss farm policy.

MR. HUTTON: Mr. Speaker, I just want to suggest to the Honourable Member for La Verendrye that the present M. P. for Provencher I don't think is quite as naive as the Honourable Member for La Verendrye thinks he is, because I doubt if he will allow himself to be used as an attraction to get people together so that the Honourable Member for La Verendrye can talk to them. Oh yes, a very clever little trick, because I don't think, Mr. Speaker, that anybody's going to bother listening to the Liberal candidates in this or any other election for a while. We listened to them -- Mr. Speaker we listened to them for 20 years, and he takes great exception to the fact that I said that the farmers never had it so good. When I made that statement I was referring to the amount of assistance that they were getting from the federal government, and it's been an awful long, long time -- a long time since the Government of Canada took the interest in the western Canadian farmer that they're taking today, and they're taking such an interest, Mr. Speaker, that the Liberal M. P.'s from eastern Canada are objecting to it. They're objecting to it, and I told you about it, and I've got a cut here -- even the New Democratic Party's objecting to it, and some chap by the name of Mr. Arnold Peters suggests that if they get into power we're going to have, the next agricultural minister will come from eastern Canada because he says, according to this Mr. Peters in an editorial in the Winnipeg Free Press, the western problems are largely solved and they haven't touched the eastern agricultural problems. That's what this chap says, and they tell me that the great strength in the New Democratic Party is going to be in eastern industrial Canada, so you can tell what we have to look forward to there. But to get back to the Honourable Member for La Verendrye and his statement that there was no insurance for the cattle business. Now this is some of their tripe. This is just plain tripe because there's an automatic floor price under beef cattle of 80% of the ten-year average price. It's an insurance, and all this talk about parity -- he said parity instead of charity, but he didn't say that, get that parity by using parity prices.

MR. ROBERTS: So what's he

MR. HUTTON: Oh no he isn't. You

MR. ROBERTS: give so much money away as he did the last

MR. HUTTON: Mr. Speaker, let them refer to acreage payments as charity if they want to. They can refer to acreage payments and all these other compensations that have been given to the farmer as charity if they like, but there was very good reason for giving this money to the farmer and -- whatever they call it -- let them call it whatever they want to, Mr. Speaker -- the fact is that the present Government of Canada recognized the need of the farmers here in the west and in other parts of Canada in a way that the former administration, the Liberal government of Canada, never did. This present government has a social conscience that the Liberals died -- it had died insofar as the Liberal government was concerned, and they still haven't regained it, and they object to help if it doesn't conform to their ideas. But there's one thing I'm worried about, Mr. Speaker -- one thing I'm very worried about. I'm very interested in crop insurance and I'm now waiting to hear what Mr. Pearson has to say about the kind of help that's coming on crop insurance, because I'm not going to be satisfied to read something like this: "Underwrite provincial crop insurance programs." I'm not interested in that. I want to know to what extent, because it's very important here. And I wouldn't be at all satisfied, as a farmer out in Provencher, if the Liberal candidate comes to me and says, "We're going to give you something." We're going to give you what? We want to know. -- (Interjection) -- No, it doesn't say. It's just as vague and elusive as all the other Liberal promises. At one stage they wouldn't -- their answer was no. They wouldn't give us anything. They wouldn't give us cash advances; they wouldn't give us farm credit; they wouldn't give us anything. Now they make big statements about orderly farm programs. Now what does it

(Mr. Hutton, cont'd.) mean? -- (Interjection) — I like that. I like to see it. I like to see the face of a cheque and I want to see the numbers on it, and we know what we've got, Mr. Speaker -- (Interjection) -- Oh, we know what we've got. We know that this government has spent hundreds of millions of dollars -- (Interjection) — No, no, not in -- in the over-all farm program -- (Interjection) -- Well it's spent quite a bit there. But we've got one more step to go and then we're away. The present government of Canada has spent hundreds of millions of dollars trying to jack up agriculture in Canada. Hundreds of millions of dollars that the former administration refused to spend. Now I want to see the color of their money before I sign any contracts with any Liberal government of Canada. And so do 200,000 farmers in western Canada want to see the color of their money. And they're not going to see it now -- (Interjection) -- Well it says, "underwrite provincial crop insurance program". Underwrite provincial crop insurance program — in what manner? Underwrite it. To what extent? to 25% or to 75%?

MR. ROBERTS: One hundred percent/

MR. HUTTON: Well I want to hear Mr. Pearson say it, because I'm not so sure that the honourable members — (Interjection) — Mr. Speaker, I am not so sure that the Honourable Member for La Verendrye has that much influence with the Leader of the Liberal Party in Canada that we can count on the fact that if the Honourable Member for La Verendrye says it's going to be 100%, that it's necessarily going to be 100%. I want to hear Mr. Pearson say it, and then it will mean something.

But I have one more little item. The Honourable Member for Emerson. The Honourable Member for Emerson likes this in-fighting and here awhile ago he tried to make considerable mileage on behalf of the Liberal candidate for Provencher in respect to the federal government's attitude to tariffs on hay coming into Manitoba, and he tried to point out to this Assembly that the Member for Provencher — the present member for Provencher — had turned his back on the constituency because he didn't get this tariff rebate on hay. Now I want to tell the Honourable Member for Emerson what sort of tripe he was peddling to the public -- (Interjection) -- tripe. Just tripe. Do you know what would have happened and the reason that this tariff rebate wasn't given? There's a shortage of hay in Manitoba and we have to bring in hay from the U.S. There's a shortage of feed grain in eastern Canada, and they're bringing it in from the U.S. And if the farmers of Manitoba could expect a rebate on hay which was short here in Manitoba, then the farmers in Ontario and Quebec could well expect a rebate on the tariff on feed grain. Does the Honourable Member for Emerson really believe that he was espousing the best interests of his people, or the people of Manitoba, when he was suggesting that we should reduce the tariff on feed grains? Let him stand up and say that.

MR. ROBERTS: He said hay.

MR. HUTTON: Ah, hay. Yes. But how do you open the door on one and stop the flood-gates on the other?

MR. ROBERTS: It's a favorite trick of your friends.

MR. HUTTON: Oh no. Mr. Speaker, I suggest that the course of action that the Honourable Member for Emerson was advocating would have been extremely detrimental to the farmers of western Canada, and he was ready to trade off millions of dollars loss, millions of dollars loss -- he was expected to take loss that would run into millions in order to get a few thousand dollars in respect of hay. And this is the kind of a cause that he espouses and vilified the present member for Provencher because he didn't go along with it, and that's the reason why the present Member for Provencher didn't press the case for rebate of tariff on hay. The honourable members across the way, Mr. Speaker, had better sit down and do some serious thinking about agricultural policy so that they know what they're talking about when they stand up here or on the hustings.

MR. TANCHAK: Would the honourable member permit just one question? I didn't understand the Minister — he mentioned "lost". Lost millions of dollars. Lost to whom? The farmers or

MR. HUTTON: I said it resulted in a reduction of the price of feed grains here in western Canada.

MR. TANCHAK: Not just simply by reducing -- refunding the hay. Not that?

MR. HUTTON:

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Speaker, could I ask the Minister of Agriculture a question? Is it not a fact that the Honourable Minister of Agriculture added his voice to those who were asking for a reduction on that tariff on hay?

MR. HUTTON: Yes, I did put in a request. Yes, I did. But I didn't vilify the Government of Canada because they didn't accommodate us. And when I found out what was the reason, I left it there.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you ready for the question? -- (Interjection) -- I'm calling the question as amended.

MR. PAULLEY: But the Honourable Member for Fisher should be granted the opportunity of closing the debate on the resolution that he -- (Interjection) -- With all the confusion and shouting that's been going on here, Mr. Speaker, it's hard to know from time to time where we are actually at in the House this afternoon.

HON. GURNEY EVANS (Provincial Secretary) (Fort Rouge): On the point of order, Mr. Speaker, we would not want to deny the honourable member his opportunity to close the debate. It was his motion, and at this point I think I should consult the House as to their wishes about sitting. On this side of the House we are willing to continue now in the hope that we might be able to finish by 6:30 or 7:00 or even 7:30. There are other plans afoot for the evening. It would seem to me that the House could sit now for an hour and a half or two hours and be through at 7:30 for the evening. Otherwise we meet again at 8:00 o'clock and if we sit for two hours we will be through at 10:00 or 10:30, and I ask the other members whether they would be willing by unanimous consent to continue to sit now in the hope that we could finish our business.

MR. MOLGAT: Well, Mr. Speaker, having gone over the Order Paper, quite frankly I don't see that there's too much possibility of having it finished by continuing to sit now. I've tried to even take the minimum time on them. Some of the resolutions here have never been discussed so far in the House. There are two new ones; there are some that have barely had discussions, and I can't see that we could complete our work by continuing to sit now. We're willing to possibly make some arrangements on a shorter supper hour if need be, but I don't think we can complete this afternoon.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, I like the last sentence of the Honourable the Leader of the Liberal Party, as far as I'm concerned, and I'm sure this would meet with the approval of my group, that we would be prepared to go until 6:00 o'clock and then adjourn until 8:00 o'clock. Now I don't know if that would meet with the approval of the House or not. It doesn't seem to me that there's any likelihood of being able to continue. The Honourable the Leader of the Opposition has mentioned a certain number of hours on resolutions. This seems to me to be a proposition

MR. M. A. GRAY (Inkster): Mr. Speaker, speaking for myself, I would much prefer to go ahead because if they have us coming back, we'll have to again adjourn at 11:00 o'clock and come tomorrow. And the only settlement perhaps we can make is quit now and come back at 7:00 o'clock. But I personally prefer to carry on. I don't think there is three hours work here. It will be three hours if you come back.

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if this suggestion would meet with any acceptance -- that we continue now to hear the honourable member close his debate, and if a vote is called for to hold the vote. Then, in the hope that that would be through soon enough, we might agree to meet again at 7:00 o'clock and finish our business then.

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Speaker, I will have to caucus with my group for a moment to see what

MR. EVANS: slight delay.

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Speaker, I still can't get unanimity on the matter, and I'm afraid that we'll simply have to suggest standard hours.

MR. EVANS: Well then, if there is no consent then, Mr. Speaker, we must adjourn at 5:30 and now I would consult the wishes of the House as to whether we re-assemble at 7:00 or 8:00. In the circumstances

MR. MOLGAT: We'd be willing to meet earlier this evening than the standard 8:00 o'clock.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, I think 7:30 would be an agreeable time, as far as we

(Mr. Paulley, cont'd.) are concerned. The Leader of the Social Democratic Party agrees with 7:30.

MR. EVANS: Well, we have agreement to an earlier meeting and sitting at 7:30. Then, Mr. Speaker, I suggest that you now call it 5:30, we do not adjourn the House; we merely call it 5:30 and the House -- you will resume the Chair at 7:30 by unanimous consent.

MR. SPEAKER: Order! I call it 5:30 and I leave the Chair till 7:30 this evening.