

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

9:30 a.m. Thursday, May 16, 1968

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

I'd like to direct the honourable members of the Chamber to the gallery on my right where we have 53 students of Grade 8 standing of the David Thompson School. These students are under the direction of Mrs. Epp and Mr. Labun. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Elmwood.

On behalf of all the honourable members of the Legislative Assembly, I welcome you all here today.

Orders of the Day. The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. GILDAS MOLGAT (Leader of the Opposition)(Ste. Rose): Mr. Speaker, I'd like to address a question to the Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs. Could the Minister indicate when she might be making a decision, an announcement regarding the request from the City of Winnipeg regarding urban renewal plan No. 2?

HON. THELMA FORBES (Minister of Urban Development and Municipal Affairs)(Cypress): No, Mr. Speaker, we have it under consideration.

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Speaker, a subsequent question. Does the Minister intend to hold up the decision in this regard?

MRS. FORBES: No, Mr. Speaker, the city is quite able to go ahead on their own if they wish. The reason for consideration of this is the extra amount that we are requested to pay in the partnership, and for this reason we have it under consideration.

MR. MOLGAT: A subsequent question, Mr. Speaker. Does the Minister say that the city can proceed without the provincial approval?

MRS. FORBES: Yes, if the city wishes to pay the extra expenses on their own they may proceed.

MR. MOLGAT: That is without any sharing for the province?

MRS. FORBES: Yes.

MR. MOLGAT: But isn't the arrangement that the province is to share? Isn't that the normal federal arrangement?

MRS. FORBES: Mr. Speaker, not if we're not assured that it's right to share. We have to be, what the honourable member mentioned to me the other day, the watchdog of the purse of the province.

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

MR. ELMAN GUTTORMSON (St. George): Has the Minister of Industry and Commerce got an answer to the question I directed yesterday morning?

HON. SIDNEY SPIVAK, Q.C. (Minister of Industry and Commerce)(River Heights): No, Mr. Speaker.

MR. GUTTORMSON: Does the Minister intend to answer my question?

MR. SPIVAK: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

MR. STEVE PATRICK (Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the House Leader. I have an Order for Return that I handed in on April 1st, Order No. 30. When can I expect to get it?

HON. STERLING R. LYON, Q.C. (Attorney-General)(Fort Garry): Mr. Speaker, we'll have to check on it. I'm not familiar with which one it is, but we'll be checking on all of the Orders and make sure that those that are possible to bring in before the end of the session will be brought in; the others will fall under the new rule of the rules and they'll be brought in in due course. I'm still looking vainly for that one that was mentioned yesterday by the Member for Lakeside, but we'll find it.

MR. PATRICK: Mr. Speaker, there is an announcement I wish to make. I wish to extend to all the members of the House to attend a buffalo barbecue which will be held on Monday, May 20, in Assiniboia in the Westwood Shopping Centre, and there will be many activities for adults as well as youngsters. There will be horse shows, wagon races, pie-eating contests and many others. The purpose of the buffalo barbecues - we've had four,

(MR. PATRICK cont'd.) this is the fourth one - the purpose is for raising money and finances for a book, the history of Assiniboia, and the author is no other than Ed. Russenholt. I believe the chuckwagon will be before the buildings today some time and I do hope that the members will be able to attend. On Monday, May 20th.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. LYON: Mr. Speaker, just one small item on the business of the House. All of the government bills with the exception of two, Bill 109 and Bill 114, have now been distributed to the members, plus the three usual supply bills. Private members' bills are all in with the exception of Bill 110, 112 and 113.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MR. SPEAKER: Orders for Return. The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Speaker, I don't have the typewritten copy with me; I'll read it off the Orders of the Day.

Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable the Member for Lakeside, that an Order of the House do issue for a Return showing the following information:

- (1) On what date the Manitoba Government made the decision to join the federal medicare plan on July 1, 1968.
- (2) On what date it first announced this decision.
- (3) On what date the Manitoba Government changed its mind in this matter and decided not to join the federal medicare plan on July 1, 1968.
- (4) On what date the Manitoba Government first announced this decision.
- (5) What the figures were regarding medical coverage for Manitoba under the following headings (showing whether actual or estimated) at the date when the Manitoba Government made the decision to join the federal medicare plan on July 1, 1968:
 - (a) the percentage of Manitobans covered by MMS.
 - (b) the percentage of Manitobans covered by other privately operated plans.
 - (c) the percentage of Manitobans covered by programs of the provincial government.
 - (d) the percentage of Manitobans covered by any programs of the federal government.
 - (e) the total percentage of Manitoba's population covered by any of the above plans.
 - (f) the total annual cost to (1) Manitobans and (2) the Manitoba Government, (3) the Federal Government for the above coverage.
 - (g) the total estimated annual cost of the planned federal medicare program which was recommended to this House last session.
 - (h) the estimated amount which Manitoba would receive from the federal government under the proposed Federal Medicare Program.
 - (i) the amount that would have to be raised in Manitoba to finance this program.
 - (j) if Manitoba's share of the cost was to be raised through premiums, what was the estimated premium calculated by the Manitoba Government under the proposal recommended to the House at the last session for: (1) single persons, (2) families.
 - (k) how this compares with the average premium in each class paid by Manitobans covered by MMS.
- (6) Whether there were any changes from these figures at the date when the Manitoba Government changed its mind and made its decision not to proceed with the federal medicare plan on July 1, 1968.

If so, what the changes were.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion.

HON. CHARLES H. WITNEY (Minister of Health)(Flin Flon): Mr. Speaker, we are prepared to accept this Order subject to any material that might be considered confidential and subject to the information being within our knowledge and also to consent from any other parties that might be involved in obtaining the information, and of course if some of these questions are considered to be hypothetical, we would not answer them.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Gladstone.

MR. NELSON SHOEMAKER (Gladstone): Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Selkirk, that the debate be adjourned.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion and after a voice vote declared the motion carried.

MR. LYON: Mr. Speaker, we have now reached the stage in our proceedings where we would like to adjourn to the Law Amendments Committee. I wonder if it would be satisfactory,

(MR. LYON cont'd.) Sir, if we could ask you to leave the Chair until called, because we are not certain of the time that will be required in Law Amendments Committee this morning. Would that be agreeable to all sides of the House? In any case, we will reassemble at 12:30 to adjourn.

MR. MOLGAT: That procedure is acceptable to us, but the only question that I was going to ask was whether we would reassemble so that there will be a separate sitting at 2:30.

MR. SPEAKER: I now leave the Chair to return again at 12:30, or when called.

Resumed sitting at 12:30 p. m.

MR. LYON: Just before adjournment, I believe it's agreed that we will meet again at 2:30; the House will convene very shortly and then we'll retire into Law Amendments Committee again to consider the work that is going on in that Committee. I would move, seconded by the Honourable the Provincial Treasurer, that the House do now adjourn.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion and after a voice vote declared the motion carried, and the House adjourned until 2:30 Thursday afternoon.