

**THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA**  
**10:00 o'clock, Friday, March 14, 1969**

Opening Prayer by Mr. Speaker

MR. SPEAKER: Presenting Petitions

Reading and Receiving Petitions

Presenting Reports by Standing and Special Committees

Notices of Motion

Introduction of Bills

The Honourable Member for St. Boniface

MR. LAURENT DESJARDINS (St. Boniface). introduced (by leave) An Act respecting Société-Franco Manitobaine. (Second reading Monday next)

MR. SPEAKER: Moved by the Honourable Member for St. Boniface, seconded by the Honourable Member for St. Boniface, that leave be given to introduce a Bill ...

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Speaker, I only moved the resolution; the seconder was my honourable friend from Gladstone.

MR. SPEAKER: There seems to be another error, too - there's no Bill number mentioned. There's no bill number mentioned. Could I have the Bill number?

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

MR. SPEAKER: I'd like to take time to introduce our guests this morning. On my right we have 26 students of Grade 11 standing from the West Kildonan Collegiate. These students are under the direction of Mr. Shultz and Mr. Katz. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Seven Oaks. On behalf of all the honourable members of the Legislative Assembly I welcome you all here today.

MR. SPEAKER: Orders of the Day. The Honourable Leader of the New Democratic Party.

MR. RUSSELL PAULLEY(Radisson)(Leader of the New Democratic Party): Mr. Speaker, I raised the question with the Honourable the Minister of Transportation regarding an alleged investigation into automobiles being parked at, I believe, 10 Midland Avenue and that the parties were concerned, the owners of the cars wondered what it was all about, as indeed I did. The Minister indicated that he would investigate the matter, was having the matter investigated. I wonder if the honourable gentleman can inform the House "what's it all about?"

HON. STEWART E. MCLEAN (Minister of Transportation)(Dauphin): Mr. Speaker the matter is under investigation and I have no report up to the present time.

MR. PAULLEY: Could the Honourable the Minister indicate when the investigation may be completed, because I'm sure there is widespread apprehension, not only at 10 Midland but all the rest of the Civil Service may be under investigation and scrutiny by the same methods apparently prevailing at this particular location.

HON. GURNEY EVANS (Minister of Finance)(Fort Rouge): Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the apprehension extends to the Honourable the Leader of the New Democratic Party with respect to the use of purple gasoline.

MR. PAULLEY: If I may answer that, Mr. Speaker, sometimes governments do take these methods and even Leaders of Opposition Parties in the Legislative Assembly come under scrutiny, and that is the reason that I am asking the question here. To me it is not a matter to take lightly, as apparently my honourable friend the Minister of Finance is taking.

MR. EVANS: I will try to relieve the honourable gentleman's anxiety at the earliest possible moment. My staff is investigating the matter. I haven't heard from them yet.

MR. PAULLEY: My apologies then, Mr. Speaker, to the Minister of Transportation. Apparently the Gestapo belongs to the Minister of Finance.

MR. ELMAN GUTTORMSON (St. George): Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct a question to the Minister of Municipal Affairs. Now that he's had an opportunity to consider the ruling of the Public Utilities Board whose ruling was against reduced fares for pensioners because of the present wording of the Public Utilities Act, is he contemplating legislation which would make it possible for pensioners to get this reduction in fares?

HON. OBIE BAIZLEY (Minister of Municipal Affairs)(Osborne): I'm sure, Mr. Speaker, my honourable friend knows that this matter will be given serious consideration.

MR. GUTTORMSON: At this session of the Legislature?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the New Democratic Party.

MR. PAULLEY: I'd like to direct a question to the Honourable Minister of Industry and

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(MR. PAULLEY cont'd.) .... Commerce. Has there been any further word from Ottawa in respect of the possible loss of contracts or loss of work at CAE and whether or not any arrangements have been made for the delegation which leaves on Sunday to meet with the Minister of Defence Production in respect of this, as I requested?

HON. SIDNEY SPIVAK, Q. C. (Minister of Industry and Commerce)(River Heights): Mr. Speaker, I spoke with the Honourable James Richardson around midnight our time last night. I was informed that no decision had been made and the matter was still being considered by the Department of Defence Production. I indicated that there was a suggestion by the Leader of the New Democratic Party that the group who will be attending on the Minister of Regional Development and the Minister of National Defence, meet also with the appropriate Ministers in connection with this matter. He indicated to me that if some decision was going to be made prior to our arrival, or some indication that a decision would likely be made in which representation would become important, he would convey that information to me.

MR. GUTTORMSON: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Attorney-General. Does he intend to act on the suggestion of Chief Magistrate Harold Gyles that the appointment of local lay magistrates be made to handle guilty pleas on summary convictions to avoid the backlog of cases in Magistrates' Courts?

HON. STERLING R. LYON, Q. C. (Attorney-General)(Fort Garry): We're giving a number of plans consideration at the present time, Mr. Speaker.

MR. GUTTORMSON: Is there any possibility that this suggestion might be implemented at this session?

MR. LYON: The plans that we are examining will not require any legislation.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Hamiota.

MR. EARL DAWSON (Hamiota): Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct my question to the Minister of Industry and Commerce. I'm sure, Sir, you're aware that Brandon Processing has closed down. Can you tell me is this a permanent close down, or a shutdown?

MR. SPIVAK: No, Mr. Speaker, I'm not in a position to answer yes or no on that. I do know that there have been some difficulties. I do know that the matter is now in the hands of the Manitoba Development Fund. I also know as well that there are other prospects who are being interviewed in connection with this matter.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, ....

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. I believe the Honourable Member for Hamiota has a supplementary..

MR. PAULLEY: Oh, that's fine.

MR. DAWSON: Is there a possibility that this plant will be doing the same type of processing as it has in the past. Is this what they are working on?

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, I'm not in a position to deal with this matter at this time except to indicate that this matter is being looked into and alternatives and prospects are being interviewed in connection with this.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the New Democratic Party.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, a question on the same subject matter. Did I understand the Honourable Minister of Industry and Commerce indicate that he knew what the situation was in respect of this plant and the Manitoba Development Fund?

MR. SPIVAK: No, Mr. Speaker, but I was fortunate enough to watch an interview in which the Honourable Member of Hamiota informed me that this matter was in the hands of the Manitoba Development Fund.

MR. PAULLEY: .... I'm assured that it came from the Honourable Member from Hamiota in an interview and not by way of a statement of knowledge of the operation of the Development Fund being in possession of the Minister in this instance. Is that correct? That's the question.

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Honourable Leader of the New Democratic Party would repeat the question.

MR. PAULLEY: My question then is, that the statement that the Honourable Minister of Industry and Commerce just made respecting the involvement of the Manitoba Development Fund in this instance, he obtained that knowledge not from the Development Fund but from the Member for Hamiota. Is that correct?

MR. SPIVAK: No, as a matter of fact, Mr. Speaker, my information was first obtained from a member of the New Democratic Party.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, I asked whether or not my honourable friend the Minister

(MR. PAULLEY cont'd.) ..... of Industry and Commerce -- our little owl is hooting again. I think this is a very important matter, Mr. Speaker, in view of discussions that have taken place as to the involvement of members opposite with the Manitoba Development Fund.

MR. SPEAKER: Orders of the Day. The Honourable Member for Hamiota.

MR. DAWSON: Mr. Speaker, maybe I can clear up the situation quickly. I searched the titles. It's \$385,000.00.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. JACOB FROESE (Rhineland): Mr. Speaker, I'd like to address a question to the Honourable Minister of Education. Is it the intention of the government to bring in legislation to increase the grants to multi-district divisions this year?

HON. DONALD W. CRAIK (Minister of Youth and Education) (St. Vital): Mr. Speaker, this is a matter of policy and if this were being contemplated any information would be presented at the time of the estimates introduction.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Burrows.

MR. BEN HANUSCHAK (Burrows): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct my question to the Honourable Minister of Agriculture. I had asked him a couple of days ago whether his department is studying population trends in rural Manitoba, at that time he'd taken my question as notice. Is he prepared to answer it now?

HON. J. DOUGLAS WATT (Minister of Agriculture) (Arthur): No, not this morning, Mr. Speaker. I'll try and answer that question further.

While I'm on my feet, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to report to members of the House a meeting that was held in my office this morning regarding the problem that we have with potatoes in the Province of Manitoba. I think I'll probably be repeating what I did say in the House yesterday, that the problem of course arises partly from harvesting conditions last fall and partly from the size of the potatoes harvested, that we are now left with mainly No. 2 potatoes in the province.

The figures that I got this morning indicate that we have about 193,000 75-pound bags of potatoes in store at the moment, as compared with 196,000 at this date last year but the difference of course is that our stocks this year are mainly or almost wholly No. 2 potatoes. And it is true that No. 1 potatoes have been imported, and are being, from the United States, mainly from United States. There are some coming in, that is netted gem, from Alberta. I'm not quite sure yet exactly what the percentage is but it's of no particular consequence right now. We're recognizing the problem.

I'd like to probably thank the trade, the wholesale and the retail people who came in this morning. I think the total trade were represented there at the office this morning and they unanimously agreed to cooperate in the promotion of the sale of Manitoba No. 2 potatoes. Now this does not say that there will be no No. 1 potatoes on the market for some time in Winnipeg or in Manitoba, because commitments have been made or agreements have been made for shipments from United States that must be honoured, but I think that our problem will be solved with the cooperation of the trade, and I want to thank them for their cooperation this morning and their attitude in respect to the problem the farmers are in now with an overstock of No. 2 potatoes. I don't think that I need to say anything further on it, Mr. Speaker, other than our department have agreed to cooperate with the trade insofar as advertising and the promotion to the consumers of No. 2 potatoes.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

MR. DOUGLAS CAMPBELL (Lakeside): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Honourable Minister a question, arising out of his statement. Is it not a fact that the reason that the Manitoba potatoes are relegated to Grade No. 2 is on the question of size, rather than quality?

MR. WATT: Well, I think I did mention that, Mr. Speaker. Maybe I didn't make it clear. It is related to the size. Not only the harvesting, but last year's crop - a very high percent of the potatoes were larger than the grade that is normally within the scope of No. 1 potatoes.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to ask a supplementary question. Would the Honourable the Minister not consider it in the definite interests of the local growers of potatoes if he would do as I believe the statement suggested, give added publicity to the fact that the quality of these potatoes is just as good as No. 1? In fact in many ways that they are better in that they meet the requirements of many households better than the No. 1's do. Would the Honourable member see that the publicity that's given makes that plain?

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MR. WATT: The honourable member has a good point, Mr. Speaker. This was discussed this morning and this will be included in the promotion of the sale of No. 2 potatoes.

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

MR. GUTTORMSON: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct a subsequent question to the Minister of Agriculture. Does he think it fair that the American potatoes can come into the Manitoba market direct to the wholesaler with going through the Commission while the local grower is compelled to go through the Commission?

MR. WATT: This is a regulation axiom - it's a law insofar as importing of potatoes is concerned. It does not only apply to potatoes coming in from the United States but it's importing from anywhere in the Province of Manitoba.

MR. GUTTORMSON: Doesn't it place the local grower at an unfair advantage where he has to pay certain charges at the Commission whereas the American potatoes go direct to the wholesaler and escape these charges?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: Mr. Speaker, along the same lines of the Minister's statement, would it not be advisable and has the government given consideration to relaxing the requirements for our Grade 1 potato. If the quality is there why not relax the requirement so that more of our product will be grading No. 1. Because we see so much of the potatoes coming in, why can't we make a little relaxation so that the farmers will not be suffering such a loss when they can benefit.

MR. WATT: Mr. Speaker, I think our grading system has put us on a competitive basis with imported products.

MR. SPEAKER: I must remind the honourable members that it seems to me that we are wandering away from the matter of questions and what the question period is all about. Statements are being made which I don't think add to this particular part of the operation of the Legislature.

The Honourable Member for Burrows.

MR. HANUSCHAK: Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct my question to the Honourable Minister of Education. Has he received a copy of the McKay Committee on Religious Education from Ontario?

MR. CRAIK: No, Mr. Speaker.

MR. HANUSCHAK: A subsequent question, Mr. Speaker. Is he aware of the study of the matter of religious education that is being conducted, or has been conducted in the Province of Ontario?

MR. CRAIK: No, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Seven Oaks.

MR. SAUL MILLER (Seven Oaks): Mr. Speaker, a question to the Minister of Health and Social Services. The announcement has been made that in addition to municipalities collecting premiums, arrangements are also to be made that drug stores and other collection agencies would be utilized. Could the Minister tell me whether the instructions have gone out to these various collection agencies so that they know what to do when people come in to pay their premiums?

HON. GEORGE JOHNSON (Minister of Health and Social Services) (Gimli): I'll take that last part as notice. I believe they have, but I would like to be sure.

MR. NELSON SHOEMAKER (Gladstone): Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day I would like to direct a question to my Honourable friend the Minister of Health and Welfare et al. Today's place mat news No. 1 item says that 383 doctors have now opted out of the Medicare plan. I don't know where they got their figures from but I am sure it is of some concern to my honourable friend. Now in consideration of this fact, when does my honourable friend intend to advise the public, as a matter of public information, the names and doctors that are in and out, because I am sure that the people of the province would like to know where they stand in this regard. At what time will the public get to know?

MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, I just want to say that I will know on April 1st and I will communicate to my honourable friend. I would also point out that the opt in, so-called opt out matter - I don't know how many will opt out at this point but I repeat what I said yesterday to the Honourable Member for Hamiota, that patients will undoubtedly continue to go to their doctors as they have in the past, say for example, an opted out physician who may well agree to accept the insured benefit as payment in full. So I just hope in implementing this plan, if I may say

(MR. JOHNSON cont'd.) ..... at this time, that this doesn't become a divisive force in the implementation of this program in Manitoba.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable the Leader of the New Democratic Party.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to my honourable friend the Minister of Health and Welfare. Have the regulations to the Medical Services Act been finalized? If not, when will they be; and if they have, when will they be available?

MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, in answering that question for the information of the honourable members, you can think of really three sets of regulations being required. The regulations re premium collection and billing have been approved by Order-in-Council and Gazetted and are available. Secondly, the regulations concerning the claims - you know the form of the claims and this sort of thing - some certain detail is still to be completed. This is in negotiation, that type of thing. The regulations re the insured benefit, which is a third group, which are the regulations attached to the schedule of benefits. These are largely completed and the Corporation informed me yesterday they intend to indicate to the medical profession, by circular letter, the nature of those benefits in round terms until such time as they get the actual schedule in front of them which should be next week. It's apparently at the printers. And the regulations thereto should be available within a week.

MR. PAULLEY: Then if I may, Mr. Speaker, do I understand the medical profession will know of the regulations by the circular letter before we members of the Legislature will; or let's put it another way - can I have the assurance from the Honourable the Minister that - and I can appreciate his problem, Mr. Speaker - can I have the assurance from the Minister that we will be advised of this information just as soon as those outside of the House?

MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, I'll try and get a copy of the letter that will go to the profession. It's going to reassure them that the schedule of benefits they'll be receiving almost any time will in fact be rounded out - an 85 percent schedule, I understand, rounded out to the nearest nickel, whatever it is - and they can indicate to them that certain regulations that were in force traditionally will continue and where there are variations they will try and indicate it. I'll try and get a copy of that circular letter which will probably precede the actual bulky regulations you get before you.

MR. HANUSCHAK: Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct my question to the Honourable the Attorney-General. The Indians of Manitoba are quite concerned about a lawsuit in British Columbia dealing with the question of Mineral Rights on Indian Reserve land. Who owns the mineral rights on Indian Reserve land in Manitoba?

MR. LYON: That's a legal question and not suitable for the Orders of the Day, even if I knew the answer.

MR. GORDON E. JOHNSTON (Portage la Prairie): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Mines and Natural Resources, but in his absence I'll direct the question to the Acting Minister.

Could the Minister advise the House whether the Director of Water Control has been instructed not to make a recommendation based on the Southern Indian Lake hearings now that the government has decided to proceed by special legislation?

MR. CRAIK: I think I could take that question as notice, Mr. Speaker. I don't have an answer for it offhand.

MR. JOHNSTON: I have a question for the Commissioner of Northern Affairs. Could he report what progress has been made by the special committee headed by himself which was to study the problems facing the people of Southern Indian Lake?

MR. BAIZLEY: Mr. Speaker, this committee has not been called. The committee has been named and will be called after the will and pleasure of the House has been expressed concerning the licensing.

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Honourable the Minister of Health. I'm satisfied that he can't give us too much information as to the doctors that will opt out. I agree with him that we can only wait until April 1st. But there is one thing that worries me and I think that the government maybe should be thinking about this. In a case where the specialists, certain branch or section of medicine, all opt out, is the government ready to meet this emergency? Because I can't see a plan if there is a specialist or a branch - that all the specialists, all the doctors opt out.

MR. JOHNSON: I recognize the question. I can only say it is probably anticipatory at this time.

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MR. DESJARDINS: .... in case it becomes a reality?

MR. SHOEMAKER: A further question to the Minister of Health and Welfare. Is there a limit to the extent that the doctors that elect to opt out can extra bill the patients? That is, it is limited to 15 percent or is there a ceiling or where do they ...

MR. JOHNSON: Is there an upper limit did you say? That's between the doctor and the patient. The profession have simply said that any extra billing will be done judiciously and reasonably, as they put it - and responsibly, I guess that's the word, and it's a doctor-patient relationship as I understand it. There is nothing official to say that it could not be beyond what is known as the schedule of benefits or the 100 percent of their fee schedule, but my understanding is and from what I have heard, it is very seldom that that occurs.

MR. SHOEMAKER: A further question, Mr. Speaker. Then does the Minister not feel that he has a responsibility, in those areas where every doctor has elected to opt out, to the residents because they have no choice, that is they have no say in what they are going to pay the doctor. To frame it this way: in towns where 50 percent of the doctors are in, 50 percent out, at least the populace has the privilege of going to a doctor that is within the plan, knowing full well that his bill will be paid in full. But in areas where all the doctors have opted out, the people have no choice. Then there should be some responsibility on the government to make certain that the people do not extra bill and extra bill - that is they should know where they stand. Well the question is, does the government not feel they have a responsibility in these areas?

MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, this just leads to the point, if I may make the observation, Sir, that the honourable member is not just sure what he passed in that Bill. The Medical Care Act of Canada and this particular Care Act of the Medical Insurance Act is simply a program which provides a service to the people of Manitoba and an insured benefit of such a size for services rendered. You have passed legislation which says when the corporation pays that money to a doctor who is elected to receive his money from the corporation, it is payment in full. You've directed that in the legislation. You have also directed that where he has the right to stay out, we have guaranteed that patient the same insured benefit as he would receive if he went to an opted out doctor, and you and I have no way of knowing if any of these patients going to opted out doctors will in fact, receive extra billing.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, may I address a question to my honourable friend in connection with Medicare. Can the people of Manitoba be assured, notwithstanding the threat of some doctors not to be participants in the whole plan, that the government will not withdraw from the plan?

MR. JOHNSON: This government will not withdraw but we don't get those same assurances from our Federal colleagues.

MR. PAULLEY: All I want from the government, that they will not withdraw, and it's not hypothetical.

MR. GUTTORMSON: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the First Minister. At the present time there is a program throughout the province to test school van drivers. Under what Minister is this program, I mean who are the employees, what department do they come under?

HON. WALTER WEIR (Premier)( Minnedosa): Mr. Speaker, that's a matter of some detail, I'm afraid I'd have to look up. I'm not sure, I would think the Department of Education or possibly the Department of Transportation but I would have to check definitely.

MR. HANUSCHAK: Mr. Speaker, if the House wishes to put a question to the Planning and Priorities Committee or the Management Committee, who is the chairman of each of those committees or who speaks for those committees?

MR. WEIR: The Minister of Labour is the Chairman of the Planning and Priority Committee and the Minister of Finance is the Chairman of the Management Committee.

MR. DAWSON: I would like to address a question to the Minister of Municipal Affairs. I wonder if the Minister could inform the House if it's true that a contract for several thousand dollars has been awarded to sculptor Leo Mol to erect a bust of Queen Elizabeth at the Centennial Building for 1970?

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

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Speaker, I rise to make what has become by now an annual affair, and that is to offer congratulations to the -- no, it's not pea soup night yet — I wish to congratulate the Circle Moliere. The well known troupe presented a play at the regional festival and

(MR. DESJARDINS cont'd.) ..... took six of the seven prizes.

(Mr. Desjardins spoke briefly in French. Translation will appear in a later Hansard.)

And I'm sure that every member here joins me in offering congratulations to the well-known troupe.

HON. J. B. CARROLL (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs)(The Pas): I was just rising to assure the Member for St. Boniface that we shared in his glowing tribute to Circle Moliere for their outstanding effort and we congratulate them for the success in their efforts at this event.

#### ORDERS OF THE DAY

MR. SPEAKER: Orders of the Day.

MR. SPEAKER: The adjourned debate of the proposed motion of the Honourable Member for Portage la Prairie, the Honourable Minister of Finance.

MR. LYON: No, Mr. Speaker, that item will be called at 2:30 this afternoon. The next item would be the Address for Papers standing in the name of the Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE,: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Portage la Prairie, THAT an humble address be voted to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor praying for copies of all correspondence between the Manitoba Government and the Government of Canada, the International Joint Commission and the Government of United States since April 1, 1961 with regard to the Co-operative Development of the Pembina River Basin.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion.

MR. LYON: We are prepared to accept this Order subject to the usual reservations with respect to obtaining the permission of the other authorities involved. I should also mention that I am advised that it will probably take some considerable time for this Order to be brought' together. It's quite comprehensive.

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

MR. SPEAKER: Orders for Return. The Honourable Member for Gladstone.

MR. SHOEMAKER: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by my honourable friend the Member for St. Boniface That an Order of the House do issue for a Return showing the following: (a) Location of liquor package outlet stores in the Province of Manitoba; (b) Name of each concessionaire and his main occupation; (c) Policy respecting remuneration of concessionaires for the sale of liquor; (d) Amounts paid to each concessionaire in the years since and including 1966; (e) Date on which each liquor package outlet was licensed.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion.

MR. LYON: We are prepared to accept this Order subject to paragraph (d) The amount paid to each concessionaire in the years since and including 1966. The information is available on a fiscal year basis, not on a calendar year basis.

MR. SHOEMAKER: That's quite in order then, Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. SHOEMAKER: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by my desk mate the Honourable Member for St. Boniface:

That an Order of the House do issue for a Return showing the following:

- (1) A description of all classes of appointments by the Civil Service Commission which must be approved by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council;
- (2) How many cases in 1967 and 1968 were so approved in each class;
- (3) In how many cases was the recommendation of the Civil Service Commission varied or not approved;
- (4) List of all appointments approved by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council showing name of Person Appointed, Position on the Establishment, Salary Range and Starting Salary.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion.

HON. THELMA FORBES (Minister of Government Services)(Cypress): Mr. Speaker, I'm prepared to accept this one. I'm not quite clear as to what the honourable member means in paragraph 1, by "description", and I wonder in paragraph 4, if he means for the years 1967/68?

MR. SHOEMAKER: Yes, in 4 that would be 1967 and '68 as in number 2. And'a description", well, the title I suppose, a description of the title.

MRS. FORBES: As we have them listed? Thank you. I am prepared to accept this. I hope that the honourable member will know that it will take a considerable length of time to

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(MRS. FORBES cont'd.) ..... compile this list, but I am prepared to accept it.

MR. SHOEMAKER: Well, I will have some assurance that the Order will be returned at this session?

MRS. FORBES: Not necessarily, Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. SPEAKER: The adjourned debate, the second reading of the proposed motion of the Honourable the Minister of Education. The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: Mr. Speaker, the Bill before us contemplates increasing the grants to the unitary divisions of this province, and we have already heard the Leader of the Opposition and the Leader of the New Democratic Party speaking on the item before us yesterday. In my opinion, there is no special hurry in this matter even though they probably lead us to believe, because two years ago we also had a referendum pending, and at that time all we had was the White Paper, no legislation had been brought forward. Now we have the legislation already on our books, all it means is - and a small amendment - and surely enough on the indication of that the government could well proceed without any hurrying in this part. Then, too, if it really was a matter of such urgency, why wasn't this session called much earlier. We know that all the other provinces in Western Canada started their sessions earlier, and some much earlier than we do, and I for one, would like to see our sessions start much sooner than they are presently doing. In my opinion, the urgency is probably there because of another reason, I think it's probably the adverse publicity they might get if it was prolonged. Secondly, I think it's a matter of a guilty conscience in bringing legislation of this type forward while not giving consideration to another group - the multi-district divisions. -- (Interjection) — I don't like to bring this matter forward every time the government is bringing in matters of this type. I don't think I have the nature that I just want to criticize the government, but when we see the injustice that is being done and put on a certain group of Manitobans, the like that will be done in this case, I think someone has to stand up for the rights of those minorities or those groups.

And, Mr. Speaker, in saying what I have to say this morning, I would also like to refer to what our First Minister said at a conference which took place in Ottawa on February, 1968. This was the Constitutional Conference that was held at that time. My friend the First Minister had something very severe to say to that conference at that time in connection with the disparities across Canada, in which he felt that Manitoba was not treated fairly, and I feel that the same thing is the case here in Manitoba with the multi-district divisions. I would like to read a paragraph, found on page 115, out of the address made by the First Minister, the Honourable Walter Weir at that time. And I'm reading: "Severe inter-regional disparities of income and other basic factors of life remain, in our view, a most serious divisive force in confederation. The problem is rendered more acute by the fact that the disparities are not diminishing as fast as the nation requires. We must reappraise our past efforts and we must re-examine the causes and the nature of the problem if we are to give reality and meaning to the ideal of quality of opportunity for every Canadian".

Mr. Speaker, I think the same holds true for the Manitoba people instead of the Canadian people here; that we are dividing the people of this province by bringing in measures of the type that is being brought before us at this particular time, where we're not going to give assistance to a minority group and just catering to the majority. I feel this is very improper, this is an injustice, this is not right. Instead of giving them equal treatment, we're down trodding the minority group here in Manitoba who have not subscribed to the government program in the referendum that was held in 1967. The principle, therefore, of the Bill, in my opinion, is that we are aggravating the situation here in Manitoba, that we are exercising greater discrimination against a certain group, which should not be done.

We note from the report that was put out by the Ukrainian Canadian Committee, Winnipeg, January 1968 - this was a White Paper on the final report of the Royal Commission on bilingualism and biculturalism, the first volume. And in their particular brochure, under the introductory part, we find the following quotation, and I would like to quote from it: "Whether a given change will prove to be good or bad will depend on whether or not the increased privileges to accommodate one group of Canadians will result in the restriction of basic rights and privileges of another group or groups". They take exception to certain matters in this White Paper, and I think the same principle holds true here in Manitoba on this matter of increasing the grants to the unitary divisions, and not giving any such further support to the multi-district divisions.

(MR. FROESE cont'd.) And where's the money going to come from? It is going to come from the group, the minority group just as well as the group that will be receiving it. The people that are not getting the additional grants will have to pay in and help support this additional grant that will be handed out to the unitary divisions, and I feel this is also very wrong.

We find then the program was first instituted in 1967, we also had a sales tax brought in - a 5 percent sales tax, which in one division will amount to \$250,000 a year that they're paying in sales tax to this province. And they were getting none of that back. The money was used to pay grants to unitary divisions as was pointed out by the Leader of the Opposition yesterday. Mind you, he stated that they were not nearly receiving the amount that they were collecting in taxes. I think he mentioned something like 33 million being collected and something like 12 to 13 million being paid out in grants to the unitary division. So that the people in these multi-district divisions and non-unitary have to provide funds to pay to the unitary divisions, to pay to the other system when they are already in a much worse position than this other group. I think this is very, very unfair and certainly not warranted at this particular time.

Then, too, when the matter was first introduced to this House two years ago the ratio was set, or the formula was set at 65-35 and this was supposed to indicate the better service, the better quality of education that the children in the unitary system would be getting. Now, we get an increase, now they're going to raise it to 70. Does this mean that they will be still getting a little better service in those schools? I think this is a lot of nonsense. Nonsense that that 65 percent support had anything to do with the type of service that the children were getting in their particular schools, and that this additional 5 percent certainly does not indicate now that they are going to get better service. Yet this was one of the principles that was raised at that time, that because they were giving superior service, that this increase was taking place.

I've already mentioned that we're now going to increase the grants to that particular group who are already receiving much more support here in Manitoba than the ones that are in the multi-district divisions. We are also told that this additional money is not to go to extra services. The government says that they want to hold the line, and they are giving this same information to the municipalities and to the school boards, not to bring in additional programs and so on; that this money is going in there to reduce taxes, to pay the costs of existing services and not bring in new ones. If that is the case, how much more is the need in the multi-district divisions for the same type of service? — Because they have been penalized these several years already in a very devastating way in my opinion.

I've already mentioned the matter of the sales tax and that these multi-district divisions, the people in those divisions, are bringing forth thousands and thousands of dollars to the coffers of this province, for which they're receiving nothing. And now we will find that this situation, too, is being aggravated because more of this money will be paid to the unitary divisions, whereas they are not receiving anything. How can members of the government face the people in these divisions when they are imposing a measure like this on the people of the multi-district divisions? I cannot for myself see how they can face these people. I'm not against supporting our school system, I'm not against giving greater financial support to the school system by reducing the amount of support to come from real estate taxation; I'm not opposed to that principle at all; but I'm opposed to the way, the injustice is being aggravated and is being increased here in Manitoba.

Mr. Speaker, I do not relish taking these strong stands against my friends across the room here, but certainly these matters have to be brought to their attention, these matters have to be brought out and people in the multi-district divisions have to have a spokesman, and have to have this matter brought forward. I do feel that this government has to come about and give more support to the schools in the multi-district divisions.

I do hope that some time at this session that an announcement will be made, although there is, I think very little likelihood, because why would they bring this measure forward and not also include a measure which would give assistance to the multi-district divisions. I think it just doesn't look that way, that any further support will be coming forward. But, Mr. Speaker, I do feel that when the First Minister goes to Ottawa and pleads our case, our case for Manitoba in connection with disparities, and then comes back and exercises the very thing that he is objecting to in Ottawa, I feel something is very, very wrong, and that he should take note of this, and that the people of Manitoba should know what is happening here in Manitoba when he goes crying to Ottawa. Mr. Speaker, I strongly plead that this matter be rectified and that the

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(MR. FROESE cont'd.) ..... multi-district divisions receive the same financial support for the operation of their schools that the unitary districts will now be receiving in increased grants.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Speaker, might I ask a question of the Honourable the Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: Yes, if I can answer it.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Speaker, because I recognize that the Honourable Member for Rhineland has been keeping closer to this matter than I have, I would like to ask him how many multi-division districts are there now in Manitoba.

MR. FROESE: From what I understand there are 8, and 4 are supposed to vote in the referendum in the coming - April 10th is it? - referendum.

MR. CAMPBELL: And the total number of divisions. I'm sure my honourable friend has at his finger tips, I haven't.

MR. FROESE: There are 48 divisions. They are always claiming there are 40 unitary, although one is not a unitary division, in my opinion, it's the Dauphin-Ochre one which did not approve the unitary system. So there's 39 unitary ones - I don't know what the official status of that particular division is - and then we have 8 multi-district divisions.

MR. CAMPBELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER put the question. The Honourable Member for Emerson.

MR. JOHN P. TANCHAK (Emerson): Mr. Speaker, I have a few words to say on this. The minister originally indicated to the House here, that there was a certain amount of urgency to push this Bill through, or ram it through the House, because there was a deadline to meet, namely that the budget should be ready by the 15th of March, which is tomorrow. But later on, on questioning, he did concede that it is quite possible that delay in passage of this Bill would not do too much harm since, through the news media, the people concerned would already know what additional grant the government intends to agree to, therefore they could probably adjust their budget to meet the new requirement. Therefore, if there isn't that much urgency, I would say that I wholeheartedly support the request of my Leader yesterday that this Bill should not go to third reading today and become law because I feel that there are many people who are involved in education, municipal people and so on, and they should be given a chance to express their opinions on a matter as great as this because it has quite deep involvement; its use involves public money - true, not to a very great amount, but it does involve it. Therefore I would plead with the Minister to permit this Bill to go to Law Amendments so that everyone would have a chance to discuss it, and I'm sure that after the discussions, even the Minister of Education - he is a new Minister; I'm sure he doesn't profess to know it all - I'm sure it will be enlightening even to the new Minister to hear from the trustees, from the municipal men and so. Maybe after the hearings he will see fit to increase the grants because, although the government is making so much ado about this extra grant that is providing for our educational system, I do not think, and I'm sure that the government isn't even redressing the wrong that it has committed last year, (the present Minister probably is not responsible, but he was a Minister of the Crown anyway at the time) namely, the increase in the basic mill last year of 4.1 mills, and if one stops to figure the increased grant, it isn't even sufficient to offset last year's increase in the mill rate. So I do not think that the government should pass this through.

I think that in view of the fact that the government was responsible, which is responsible for the skyrocketing costs of education, I think it is up to the government to relieve this pressure on the municipalities. It is fine to say to the municipalities, "We are giving you a little morsel now, we are giving you a little help, and you make sure that you hold the line." How ridiculous can we be! It has been proven yesterday that this extra grant that the government is providing for this year will not even take care of the additional salaries negotiated with the teachers throughout the Province of Manitoba. This will not even take care of that, and on top of that, special levies. Naturally the government will say it's up to the different districts but we know that any service that has been initiated, no matter what it is, to serve the public, has a tendency to keep mushrooming and growing and you've got to meet certain commitments. The local governments have to meet certain commitments, and how could they be expected to hold the line? The only way that they could be expected to hold the line would be if the present government took responsibility for a greater share, not just five percent but a greater share. And there are many instances where the local authorities are simply helpless,

(MR. TANCHAK cont'd.) ..... because we have been told that the government or the department has the power to manipulate, to change boundaries and so on, without giving the people another chance to vote. In other words, and I'm not saying that I'm against the principle of the unitary division, or the boundaries, but in other words the government has the power to change the boundaries of a certain division without going to the people again. Once they have accepted the principle of the unitary division, it's in the hands of the Department of Education or the man involved to change them. Sure, it is true, upon the recommendation of the Boundaries Commission, if they ever come to that time where they'll be ready to make any recommendations, they could recommend; but I've seen changes take place in an existing school division, in the boundaries of an existing school division, without the people being asked whether they agreed to it or not, and I think that it isn't fair to the people; I think it is dictatorial. The mere fact that a certain amount or a certain territory is added to a division, it is liable to increase the costs of that particular division, so how could the government, as they did before, say, "We hope the local people do hold the line." How could the government warn local authorities: "You people behave. We are trying to hold the line; we are giving you a little more grant; now you make sure that you do not start any new programs and hold the line."

Last night, and I have it before me, I read an article here or an editorial in the Winnipeg Free Press. I agree with most of it except the very last two or three sentences and this really I don't like and I do not agree with, and I'll quote it: "Today the property owner is just about at the limit of his patience, if he's not past it." Very true fact, he's past it. "But if he does not see concrete results in his tax bill next year as the result of the Provincial Government's additional grants, if he does not see results, the municipal men may have to start heading for the storm cellar." I don't think it's fair to say that, "The municipal men will have to head for the storm cellar," just because our government is so generous that they're giving such a great helping hand. It isn't true. This helping hand, or this extra grant, as I said before, has already been earmarked. Most of the municipalities, most of the school boards know exactly what their budget is now, and most of them were forced to increase their levy. We have a very good example in the City of Winnipeg. They had to increase it, and again I say that this extra grant is not going to offset the increased cost of education. It isn't fair; and to go ahead and immediately take the government off the hook and, if there's an increase, to give the people the impression that they should go after the local authorities, the municipal men, I do not think it is fair because I am sure that what the government is doing, a mere five percent is not sufficient, is not enough money to hold the line, especially in the field of education. As I said before there are so many items that are uncontrollable.

Now the government keeps saying that now we're taking up 70, we will be taking in the coming year 70 percent of the educational Foundation costs, and the local authorities or the districts or the school divisions are responsible for the 30 percent. Does it apply? Is that true? Does it apply throughout, maybe over all? The government can say that, or the Department of Education, but it doesn't apply even in the City of Winnipeg. I would say that in the City of Winnipeg just the reverse is true. I would say that the city probably carries a load of 70 percent and the government only 30 percent. True, it's the way we have our assessment, a balanced assessment and so on, and the assessments are high in the City of Winnipeg, but I would say it is just the reverse of that.

Again, if the government would have come up and given a helping hand, wanted to really help the school boards and municipal governments, I would say that it is high time that the basic salary schedule grants, teachers' salary schedule grants be changed and looked at because to me it seems that this schedule is very very stale now. It's unrealistic. I don't think — I haven't heard, at least, of any one school district who has not exceeded the salary schedule. Most of them have. And this hasn't been changed for many years. It is unrealistic. I think that the Department of Education or the government should again look at this with a view to help more. And again I will say that on the surface it seems that this extra grant is very, very good but before the people would really come out with bells and be happy, I'm sure once they have studied it very carefully they'll find that this extra help is niggardly.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. I realize the importance of this matter and I understand the feelings of the honourable members in wishing to give an opinion but I must again remind the House that it occurs to me that we are leaving the subject on occasion, and I would again appeal to the honourable members to deal with the matter before us, and that has to do with Bill No. 22. To supplement what I have said, I notice the matter of boundaries was discussed

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(MR. SPEAKER cont'd.) ..... and several things were discussed, and I have no intention of letting this debate go rambling along as has happened in the past during this session. I simply say this in order to appeal to the honourable members to assist me to expedite the business of the House as it ought to be.

The Honourable Leader of the New Democratic Party.

MR. PAULLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will not debate, of course, and cannot indeed debate with what you have just said, and I guess we understand each other pretty well after being together in this House for some considerable period of time, and I think I can be assured that you were not really addressing your remarks to me precisely but to all the members of the House. We understand each other quite well.

I do want to talk pretty restrictedly to Bill 22 and in the very few moments that I want to take dealing with Bill 22, I want the Minister of Education, the Government and all members of this House to realize it is not my desire at all to delay the passage of a bill which will give some pittance to the property taxpayer by way of a very minimal increase in the percentage grant that the government is going to make in respect of the Foundation Program that we have.

MR. LYON: Will my honourable friend permit a question?

MR. PAULLEY: Why certainly.

MR. LYON: My honourable friend, I know, has many of the attributes of the late C. D. Howe, but is he saying, "What's a million?" or is he saying that 5.8 million dollars is merely a pittance?

MR. PAULLEY: Yes, Mr. Speaker, on the comparative basis of the ability to pay between the provincial authority and the local taxpayer in our school boards, in my opinion it is a pittance.

MR. LYON: Five point eight.

MR. PAULLEY: Yes, 5.8. I think that if the Government of Manitoba were to assume its proper responsibility in the field of finance, contributions to education, we wouldn't be dealing with the question of a 5 point increase from 65 to 70, but the government would be making an announcement that they recognize their responsibility and would assume 100 percent of the Foundation Grant to education. So by comparison .... does my honourable friend want to ask another question? Is my honourable friend saying to us that he's prepared to support the taxes that would be necessary on the people of Manitoba to support a 100 percent program? Would he tell us the taxes now? Would he increase the sales tax to 15 percent or would it be 20 percent? Would he increase the price of liquor to double the price? Would he increase the income tax to a 25 percent surcharge? Would he tell us the tax that he's prepared to raise?

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, just before I spoke you gave an admonition to the members of this Assembly to stick to Bill No. 22. I feel very mellow this morning; I'm in one of my better moods; but if you will give me the permission, Mr. Speaker, to reply to my honourable friend and to repeat my Throne Speech, and also to repeat the Budget Speech that was made in this House by my colleague from St. John's last year, wherein we told the government where the money was, providing they stopped looking after their friends and fellow travellers insofar as financial contributions to the coffers of Manitoba, if my honourable friend would listen to what I had said in the Throne Speech of how it's necessary and how we would, as a government, expand the economic base of Manitoba in order to provide the funds, he would have his answer. But, so typical of my honourable friend and some of his colleagues opposite, when they're given good sound advice their eyes and their ears are closed. But if my honourable friend really wants me to continue and to answer his questions, Mr. Speaker, you will have to give me permission and take me from out from under your admonition.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member has done well so far but probably he could take just a moment or two.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, notwithstanding the cajoling of my honourable friend, I think you are in command of this House and I respect you for it. And I do feel that 1.8 is a pittance, a crumb being cast to the table of the local taxpayer by this government, who attempts from time to time to appear to be so benevolent, so kind. The money is in Manitoba if they will get it, which they don't. Back to the Bill.

There is a principle, Mr. Speaker, in a democracy that I think was enshrined in Magna Charta, back in the 1200's - 1215 is the exact date - and one of the parts that was enshrined in Magna Charta was: "Let the people be heard". And this government, by the methodology it's trying to put this Bill through, is going against the principle of letting the people be heard.

The Honourable Member for Emerson, who just took his seat, suggested that this Bill

(MR. PAULLEY cont'd.) ..... be referred to the Committee on Law Amendments. Now Mr. Speaker, we haven't got a Committee on Law Amendments because it hasn't been established as yet. We have got a Committee of the Whole, and the Honourable the House Leader, on I believe the motion of the Honourable the Minister of Education, indicated by motion that this Bill be referred to the Committee of the Whole House; in other words, depriving representatives of the people and in particular the school boards of Manitoba, depriving them of the opportunity of being heard. Now I realize the Honourable the House Leader may not be too well versed in Beauchesne even though he can lecture us from time to time - and does - but there is a methodology whereby we can let the people be heard in respect of Bill 22 and at the same time conform to the usages of this House and other Houses as well, even in the absence of us having selected respective committees.

This was done, Mr. Speaker - I'm sure that you have the knowledge available, or are aware of the point that I am attempting to make - this was done in the year 1953 when a special session of the House was called for the purpose of dealing with matters of the transfer of the assets and operation of the old Winnipeg Electric Company to the Province of Manitoba. A special session of the House called for that particular purpose - there were no committees set up. But the government of that day desired to let the people be heard, and this is my desire today. I think that it should, and I think it's worthy of consideration of the government that we follow the procedure established at that time due to the peculiar situation we find ourselves in today. Also, Mr. Speaker, Beauchesne makes provision for the establishment of a special committee comprising all members of the House to go outside of the House to hear representations, and if you will, Mr. Speaker, or desire, I refer to 4th Edition Citation 395 Subsection (3) and also to Citation 396, found on pages 281 and 282 respectively.

As I said at the offset, I have no desire at all to delay giving to the people some increase, the citizens of Manitoba and, in particular, the ratepayers - I have no desire, and let the government know now, lest they have any inclination to fault my group for the proposition that I am now making as being delay in giving to them this pittance, as I call it, of \$1.5 million. I said I would not be long, Mr. Speaker. I do want to give the opportunity to the government to be a democratic government. I do want to give the opportunity to our school boards in Manitoba, to give them opportunity to be heard respecting this matter. It was indicated in the Throne Speech that the government apparently is bent on a course of curtailment of the rights and powers of our local school boards until such time as we hear they are fully developed by the Minister of Education. I think, in this particular case, we should give to our school boards an opportunity to appear.

So therefore, Mr. Speaker, I am going to propose an amendment to Bill 22 which will accomplish this; and may I say, Mr. Speaker, lest anyone raise a point of order, that this may be a money bill. May I say that a precedent has been established historically over the years that any bill of this nature of Bill 22 has gone outside of the House for consideration, as indeed the Bill setting up the whole of the Foundation, so it's not a money bill that can only be amended by virtue of consideration of His Honour.

So I want to move, Mr. Speaker, seconded by the Honourable Member for Ethelbert Plains, that the motion, for second reading that is, of Bill 22 be amended by deleting the words "committee of the Whole" which you will recall, Mr. Speaker, is the tail end of the second reading motion, and substituting the words: "a special committee consisting of the entire membership of the House, and the House hereby appoints that committee". The net effect of this will be, of course Mr. Speaker, that instead of the Bill going to the Committee of the Whole, which is the members assembled here, we appoint a special committee of the House comprising all members of the House, which would meet outside, which would give to the school boards, to the citizens of the province concerned with this matter, their historic and democratic right to be heard.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion.

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, before the question is put, let me reiterate some of what I said when I introduced the Bill and add a little more. First of all, this Bill, which contains these three items in it, was part of a larger bill affecting the Public Schools Finance Board and the Foundation Program. It would not have been taken out and made a special bill had it not been for a section that exists in our statutes that says that the Public Schools Finance Board is required to notify the municipalities of the amount they must carry by way of the Foundation levy, and this is the only reason that this section of the Bill was taken out. Now,

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(MR. CRAIK cont'd.) .... the topics which have been discussed and would logically be discussed in the larger bill will be discussed again when the total bill is brought before the House. There is no reason why the total Foundation Program cannot be discussed when the next bill is brought in, in due course, and at Law Amendments we will be discussing exactly the same thing.

Now let me point out exactly what this Bill does. It changes the proportions. It does not deal with the Foundation Program itself. And the logical place for a discussion of the Foundation Program itself is when the larger bill, and the more important bill in terms of principle, is brought before the House and not at this time. However, if it is the desire and if the members of the Opposition feel that this is an infringement on democratic rights to do this at this time, let me also point out to them that the reason again that it is brought before the House now is to accommodate the many municipalities who must set their mill rate. It does not have anything to do with the establishment of the budgets of the school boards. These budgets are already made up and are ready to go, and they are presenting their information to the municipalities with the possible exception of the non-unitary divisions that are now getting prepared for a referendum. And so it is the Public Schools Finance Board indicating to the municipalities, along with the school boards indicating to the municipalities, the amounts of the special levies that will be required for school purposes. What we are talking about has nothing to do with the budgets of the school boards. It deals only with the Foundation levy mill rate.

So I would say that if the House feels that this is absolutely urgent that this go before a special committee at this time, I'm not going to stand in the way of it and I wouldn't ask my colleagues to either, but let me point out at the same time that I really think that the Opposition must know full well the reason for bringing this in at this time, and what they are doing by referring it to a special committee is just setting back this date. — (Interjections) —

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Are you ready for the question?

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

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. I believe the discussion had gone far enough and the House has dealt with the matter. May we proceed. The adjourned debate ...

MR. LYON: .... the main motion as amended now.

MR. SPEAKER: You got me there for a moment. We are now dealing with the main motion as amended. Are you ready for the question?

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

MR. LYON: ... we move to Committee of Supply, Sir, please?

MR. SPEAKER: The motion that the House resolve itself into Committee to consider of Supply to be granted to Her Majesty.

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable the Attorney-General, that Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair and the House resolve itself into a Committee to consider of the Supply to be granted to Her Majesty.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion and after a voice vote declared the motion carried and the House resolved itself into a Committee of Supply, with the Honourable Member for Souris-Lansdowne in the Chair.

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COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution No. 98 passed...

MR. MCLEAN: Mr. Chairman, just before we proceed, a comment or two about some of the points that were raised last night. The Honourable the Member for Assiniboia referred to grading or building up Saskatchewan Avenue from the perimeter to Headingley. I think that would be a matter that would be worth considering although it would obviously require a road inside the perimeter to be fully useful. He has suggested that the roads inside the metropolitan area be completed before considering what is commonly referred to as the inner perimeter or beltway. Again, that's a good suggestion. I am not aware of any move at the moment to construct what is known as the inner perimeter or beltway and that would be a matter which we could meet when the time comes.

The reference to the Transit System and the fuel tax, as has already been indicated there will be legislation introduced at this session to increase the Transit grant, and in the case of the Metropolitan Winnipeg Transit System, if it is the will and pleasure of the House, that amount will be \$500,000, half a million dollars. Now I recognize that he would say, and indeed has said, that that's not enough. Well, that's a matter of judgment and there is a considerable increase.

The Honourable Member for Seven Oaks referred particularly to the Transit System and dealt with much of the same matters. He made a reference, and I don't really mind it, to the fact that I was not personally at the Urban Transportation Conference. I am sure he knows very well where I was at that time and I would hardly flatter myself to think that anyone missed me at the meeting or that I would have made any contribution to it even if I had been there. It seems to me that the Member for Seven Oaks has to face up to a pretty important question, because he's in favour of very large sums of money for urban transit, for rapid transit in urban systems, and he's in favour of more money for schools and education, and he's in favour of not having any premiums for a medical health plan, supporting all of these things out of general taxation, but I do somehow or other recall that he is also opposed to taxation because when the sales tax was imposed he, and properly so, voiced his strong objection to it. So he has to face up, I suppose, or at least we have to face up to the problem of priorities and making a judgment about the allocation of funds from the monies that can be supported by taxation.

MR. MILLER: I wonder could the Minister permit a question?

MR. MCLEAN: Yes.

MR. MILLER: Does he not accept the fact that these things are now being paid for anyway? All these things that you just outlined are being paid for. The point I was making is the method through which they are being paid - the technique. I wasn't questioning the fact that they are being paid and I don't think you could either.

MR. MCLEAN: Well, Mr. Chairman, that's correct. That's a refined argument that I've never really been able quite to follow, but if... I'd just say this: if the honourable member indicated, for example, that he was prepared to support a sales tax of 10 or 15 percent and that the people of Manitoba were prepared to pay it, then perhaps there's a point worthy of discussion. I only mentioned it to -- it's not, I'm not a person in the finance business aspect and I'm not -- I just merely say that we have to use our funds as economically and as best we can.

He referred to the province providing training with respect to the breathalyzer. I think it's maybe just a little too soon to get into that. It's a matter worthy of consideration and I can assure him that we will consider it. I think we're just in the very initial stages and we will have to judge our further progress in this regard, depending on our resources and what seems to be useful under the circumstances.

He also suggested that the breathalyzer machines might be located in hospitals. We had some discussion since this matter was raised yesterday, and the advice that we receive from the medical people and from those most knowledgeable in this field is that it would not be particularly beneficial to have them in a hospital, that perhaps the present arrangements are satisfactory. And on that point, or at least when speaking of breathalyzers, someone asked, and I can now give the information, about the number of persons who may have been prosecuted as a result of the operation of the breathalyzer machines, and the information we have indicates that there have been seven convictions in which the breathalyzer machine was involved as part of the evidence, or as part of the procedure that was followed - seven convictions since the first of March, and one of those, the Honourable Member for Ethelbert Plains and my colleague the member for Roblin will be interested to know, was in the Grandview district. So I suppose

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(MR. MCLEAN cont'd) ..... that, fellows, we'd better keep in mind that there's a machine up there some place within hail.

The Honourable Member for St. George asked about the sharing on the FRED programs. They are 60 percent federal and 40 percent provincial. He also inquired about road No. 6, and inquired whether, for example, the portion from trunk highway 67 to St. Laurent - which is shown for grading and graveling -- and a part of that same road is shown as base and bituminous pavement, I can report to him that in the first item one contract has been let for the grading and graveling and there will be a spring tender on the balance of that, and then we expect to call a tender on the asphalt work in the fall. And it will follow just as quickly as they can do after the actual grading and graveling has been done.

He asked also as well about how we did the base and asphalt treatment, and in those cases the base work is generally let by tender, the asphalt work is done by the department with its own equipment.

The Honourable Member for Ethelbert Plains referred to the Dauphin by-pass, and I would like him to know that I've been very noble and have said that the money that might normally be spent on that can go on No. 20 highway north from Winnipegos, to get that surfaced. We couldn't do both and I thought that that would perhaps have a higher priority. The land has, it's quite true, the land has been acquired. That's in keeping with the plan, that we should acquire land so that it wouldn't become built on and thereby raise the cost of purchase.

The Honourable Member for Carillon asked about the entrance to Otterburne from No. 59, and I have to report to him that we don't have it in this year's program. We will make a note of it, however, and we will give it our best consideration for future programs. He spoke also of provincial trunk highway No. 12 needing to be upgraded. Again, we'll give that suggestion very good consideration.

He referred to the matter of the gas tax being used for roads and I'm going to say something about that just in a moment in another connection.

The Honourable Member for Burrows spoke about the timing of the flashing lights on the railway crossings. This matter is dealt with by the Board of Transport Commissioners and the timing is dependent upon where the switch is set back, the switch that triggers the lights set back from the crossing, and that of course becomes involved in the question of whether there are switches, that is for other lines, and I understand it's a relatively complicated matter, but in any event it is done by the Board of Transport Commissioners, my understanding being that they try and give as long a warning as is consistent with the physical features of the railway, not so much the highway.

He spoke about the markings on the perimeter road and I join with him, I have to confess that this metropolitan street numbering confuses me completely, and it would be nice to have the streets -- although I would remind him just of a problem that, for example, if one were turning off the perimeter onto Roblin, and presumably one could have a sign saying Roblin Boulevard, but some confusion might arise when you remember that Roblin of course splits off into Grant and Corydon later on, and what do you do? Do you put all the names on? It's a bit of a problem although we recognize the responsibility for doing our best. As a matter of fact, Mr. Chairman, it's got so now that to travel in Winnipeg, or even indeed for that matter around the province on our modern roads when we're generally travelling at a reasonable speed, you almost have to have a navigator with a map with you to make sure you don't miss your turn depending upon where you want to go.

He advocated, and I certainly thank him for it, that we should do something to surface the road through the Lake Manitoba Narrows, and he will note that there is a project on our program that is the beginning of that very laudable objective. My only complaint about it is, he had the traffic going the wrong way. He assumed they were going to come down this way, where of course I would suggest that they'll all be going the other way up to the Dauphin country.

The location of the CPR yards. We're discussing with the Metropolitan people matters pertaining to that, that are related to that, and I note what he has suggested. He asked also about the highway information services and I get his point that neither the map nor the telephone directory gives it in a concise way. There are places throughout the province where one may telephone for information in exactly the same manner as you may do here, but I would have to acknowledge that it doesn't seem to be readily available where the motorist can get it easily.

He spoke about the experimental work. That was with Styrofoam, as I understand it. The result of that experiment was that it was useful in some circumstances but was found to be

(MR. McLEAN cont'd) ....too expensive to be of assistance as general use. And he asked about other investigations. A rather extensive investigation or experiment is being carried out at the present time on the Trans Canada Highway and the area of Ste. Anne. This has to do with the various asphalt - that is to say, the effect of weather and such upon various kinds of asphalt.

The Honourable Member for Gladstone-Neepawa is in favour of us spending the revenue that we received from road user taxes on highways. He mentioned a figure of \$55 million, and if his figure is correct -- and I didn't check it -- I could only just point out to him that our budget is proposed at \$50 million, so that we're not really that too far off. I think, however, there's another much more fundamental matter and that is that, generally speaking, it's not considered advisable to have taxes from any particular source allocated to a particular function of government, and that's, I think, a pretty good principle that's followed, and ought to be followed. And, as a matter of fact, I think we would have to acknowledge that if you did, that is, if you took the money from road user taxes and spent it on roads and in such like, perhaps there might be some functions which need tax funds that would have to go short.

He wanted to know about how you get the provincial roads extended and asked whether or not municipalities could make applications. Well, I don't know who he's been talking to, but I can certainly assure him that lots of municipalities make applications and we have many requests to extend the provincial road system coming from individual people and from municipalities, Chambers of Commerce and such like. And I can further say, so that he won't rush back and suggest applications, that we're not proposing to extend the provincial road system at the present time, although I would think that in due course there will be extensions to it. But it's quite in order; any municipality may submit such a request if they wish to do so.

The honourable member -- and I'm sorry he's not in his place, but I want to just cover this off -- he asked about the government's attitude, or my attitude, towards the Yellowhead route and what we intended to do, and I'm prepared to give him a very clear unequivocal answer to that question, Mr. Chairman. I have some friends who believed that the Yellowhead route should go up No. 6 across the Lake Manitoba Narrows, miss Neepawa and Gladstone, and on up to Dauphin. I've other friends who believe it should go up through Portage la Prairie, up No. 4 to Portage and up on No. 5 to Dauphin and Roblin; and still other friends who think it ought to go up to Neepawa and that way, and then through Minnedosa, Birtle and Russell. And in this matter, Mr. Chairman, I intend to support my friends.

Being more serious about it, I really don't see any necessity for us having any position in this matter. There's no suggestion that the government of Canada is going to support a second Trans Canada Highway. If they were doing so we would naturally have to come to some conclusions in the matter. Our job is not the designation of any particular road as a route, but rather to make all our roads good so that those who come over what may be known as the Yellowhead route, if it is known as such, in Alberta and Saskatchewan, and come into Manitoba, we'll have a system of good roads no matter which way they wish to travel. And I can say very clearly that I have no intention whatever of becoming involved in any discussion or debate about where the Yellowhead route might, or should be, in Manitoba. I'll leave that to others if there are any views that they have.

MR. GUTTORMSON: Mr. Chairman, did the Minister reply to my question with respect to the percentage of money being paid by FRED funds and provincial funds on roads in the Interlake.

MR. McLEAN: Mr. Chairman, I said 60 federal, 40 provincial.

MR. GUTTORMSON: Mr. Chairman, in view of the fact that we now have a much-welcomed bridge across the Lake Manitoba Narrows, is it the intention of the government to declare provincial road 235, which extends from No. 6 highway, I believe to Ste. Rose, as a provincial trunk highway? Does the Minister know the road will be used to a much greater extent now that the bridge is there, and I would assume that the Minister himself will be using that road frequently himself when travelling between his constituency and Winnipeg. I wondered what the plans are for that road now that the traffic count will be increased.

MR. DAWSON: Mr. Chairman, I want to join with the others who have congratulated the Minister in his new portfolio. I particularly want to extend congratulations to Mr. Dygala and his staff, on Mr. Dygala's promotion, and in particular the co-operation that has been extended to me on behalf of the people in his department. And this brings up one point that has been of annoyance to me and I'm sure an annoyance to many people. I know that it really

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(MR. DAWSON cont'd) ..... comes under the Department of the Attorney-General, but it works in hand with the Motor Vehicle Branch. This is the many people that are involved in accidents where they're the only person involved in the accident. In many cases they're charged with undue care and attention, brought before a J.P., fined the customary \$10.00 and \$4.50 for costs. Within two or three weeks they receive a letter telling them to send in their registration and their plates.

Now, in many cases, there are two things here that are very annoying. First, that the person who has lost his licence needs his vehicle as part of his employment; and secondly, they're really innocent. The only reason why they plead guilty is to get the thing over with -- they figure \$14.50 is cheap -- and have it done with. Now I think that there should be more discretion in these and possibly the Minister should, through the Attorney-General, instruct the police to use a little more discretion because, as I said, in many cases - and I've had three - there was absolutely no one else involved in the accident, and of course the people in Mr. Dugala's department realized this and, through some means or other, they were able to hold up the sending in of the registration and the licence plates until this person did get a driver's test, and they weren't really inconvenienced. But they could be. This is the point I'm making.

Now I noticed, Mr. Chairman, that the Minister has produced a beautiful road map. I think it surpasses last year's, but I don't think the communication between the Tourism and Recreation Department and his department are at the best, for I think for the first time in the history of Canada we will have world hockey championships in Winnipeg, and I notice that throughout here, Mr. Chairman, there is not one picture of hockey. This could have been a tremendous opportunity to advertise the fact that the world championships will be held in Winnipeg in March 1970. I would like to recommend to the Minister, I'm sure there must be two or three printings, and possibly there could be one spot where an insert could be placed advertising the fact that world hockey will be held in Winnipeg in 1970. These maps, I don't know how many are distributed in a year but I'm sure that many of them go to the Americans and people from other provinces.

I have corresponded with the Minister on two occasions about driver testing. Now I know that we have had some conversation about this but I have nothing definite. I had hoped that while he was discussing driver testing he would announce that there would be driver testing one day a week in the Town of Rivers. As I pointed out to the Minister in my letter, the population is upwards of 4,000 people in that area and the closest spot to them for driver testing is Brandon, and Brandon is very busy. Sometimes these people have to wait upwards of three weeks. The majority of the people that enter Rivers are transients, more so probably than any other spot in Manitoba, and when they come in it's an inconvenience for them to obtain a new licence. Therefore, if we had it one day a week at Rivers like we have in other smaller centres, the inconvenience would not be there for these people. Space is available, as I pointed out to the Minister, in the town office for the driver testing people to have a headquarters, and I hope that he will be acting on this or inform me today or very soon that this will be taking place.

I note that the Minister said that he attended a demonstration of the breathalyzers this past week and I wondered if the Minister had heard the two stories about breathalyzers that I have heard. In my town, Rivers, I have heard from people who have had the occasion to be in England, where breathalyzers are very much in vogue, that there's a way of beating these. One way to me is not very practical and I was told that it was supposed to be a true story, where a Bobby flagged down a car with a husband and wife in it; they got the man to take the breathalyzer test and it went over the .8 mark up to about 11 and he said, "It can't be; I've only had one drink. Try it on my wife." So they proceeded to try it on his wife and they had the same results, and she said, "Well that's impossible; I've only had one drink too." So they said, "Well, try it on the kid in the back seat." They had their three-year-old son. So they put the breathalyzer on the three-year-old son and he blew into it with the same results. So the Bobby said, "Well, it must be broken." So the husband and wife drove away in their car. The old man said, "Well, it's a darn good idea that you had, to give the kid a couple of shots of gin."

Now I know this one is not a very practical one but they tell me that if you carry a bag of lemons with you in your car, and you have the occasion to be stopped by a policeman, you just chomp on a lemon very quickly and this has some effect on the alcohol fumes and doesn't register on the breathalyzer. Now maybe you could check this one out. So, as someone has pointed

(MR. DAWSON cont'd) ..... out, this could be a new industry for Manitoba. We could have lemon farms.

But in conclusion, Mr. Minister, I wanted to point out something regarding Highway 24. I think there has been a committee called "PTH 24 committee" for the past five years. The member for Virden serves on it as I do. Councillors and reeves from all along that route are on the committee, and for the past four or five years they've sent in resolutions, had delegations with your predecessors, to blacktop 24. Well, you know, Mr. Minister, it's the strangest thing in the world. I notice that there will be some blacktop done on Highway 24 and, Mr. Chairman, if you take your map you will note that in the constituency of Minnedosa, we start at Rapid City, we run to the edge of the constituency of Minnedosa and we enter the Hamiota constituency. Well, from Rapid City to the Hamiota constituency it will be black-topped. Then we drive through along 24 through Hamiota constituency to the edge of the Virden constituency, and then more work commences on Highway 24. Mr. Minister, I think this is purely pork barrelling - nothing else.

MR. D. MORRIS McGREGOR (Virden): Mr. Speaker, I would just like to speak in reply to the Honourable Member for Hamiota. It's true I've served on that committee and it's true none of us gets all the things, or a very small portion of them, but I do deeply appreciate what has been done and if there's any holding up of 24 I take a lot of blame for it. There was the very troublesome five miles in the general area of Quadra and I was one who stalled that grade and gravel, and I certainly told that committee the things that I believed; that the specifications weren't satisfactory to the people involved. It was taking up as originally in 1962 and '63 an awful lot of land that was not necessary, but finally we had to come to the realization that something had to be done. I see it is on the program. I'm not exactly sure of the specifications but I certainly do appreciate from the Minister and his Executive Council for going ahead with this program, and I think you don't start blacktopping until you have a through road. I think this is only reasonable, and I just say to the Minister I appreciate what is being done in Virden constituency. I know of some areas, nobody will be happy, but I do appreciate what's being done. Thank you.

MR. HARRY GRAHAM (Birtle -Russell): Mr. Chairman, I would like to congratulate the Minister on the job that has been done with regard to highway construction. Having been in the highway construction business myself and also having done considerable work in the Hamiota area, I realize the problems that the department has had in that particular area, and the question of blacktopping a road before the grade is thoroughly stabilized always is a problem, so I would say to my honourable friend from the Hamiota constituency that when such assurance is obtained by the department I feel sure that our Highway Minister will look after the problems that are in that constituency.

As far as my own constituency is concerned, we have a similar problem there with the crossing of the Assiniboine Valley west of Russell. It has been quite some time since the original grade was first put in. There have been problems of grade stabilization. Having worked in the Assiniboine Valley myself, I know that any time you cross the Assiniboine Valley you have serious problems with grade stabilization. It appears now that these problems had been solved on No. 4 highway west of Russell and I would congratulate our Minister of Transportation for proceeding now with the blacktopping of No. 4 west.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Hamiota.

MR. DAWSON: Mr. Chairman, I just want to clarify one thing. I don't blame the Member for Birtle-Russell for not listening to me. I'm not that good a speaker. The same applies to the Member for Virden. I'm sure that Highway 24 has been ready for blacktopping for the past two years. The point I made was that they start in Minnedosa constituency, stop on the edge of mine, go through Hamiota and then commence in Virden again. That was the point I was trying to make.

MR. FROESE: Mr. Chairman, I would like to bring out a few matters in general. First of all, I wonder if the Minister could tell us how the matter of dust-proofing the roads, or giving the roads a dust treatment. I know this has been done in some areas on some roads and the trouble seems to be that, if you do that, you have trouble with maintaining the road after. Once it's treated you get the holes and then you have that problem. The report deals with the previous year and does not include the experience gained in the year 1968. Mind you, 1968 was probably a wet year so that dust was not a big matter in some areas, but it is a serious problem in our particular area in the south because of the many uses that the provincial road

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(MR. FROESE cont'd) .... system is being used for, and having such industries as Co-op Vegetable Oils, which uses a lot of raw product, such as the canneries at Winkler and Morden where you have to deliver all the raw product too, and this is a considerable amount when you take the raw product of corn, and of peas, pea vines and so on, that a lot of travelling is done on these particular roads at a certain time of the year and you get a real dust problem. It also means that the raw product coming in to these canneries is full of dust and I think we should definitely look more into this area unless the government is willing to proceed and hard surface more of the provincial roads in that particular area.

The roads that I'm referring to are Roads 201, 243 and 421. These are roads going east and west. Then there is the road 248 going north and south. These roads are the principal ones in the area that are being used very heavily during the fall when these crops are garnered in and when they're delivered to the canneries for processing. Then, too, the production of these industries has been stepped up. I think production at the Winkler cannery is doubled because of the renovations that have been made and the new machinery that is being brought in and set up, the improvements that have been made, that they are able to process much more of the raw material. And I think this is something that we welcome and should welcome as a province, and because of this I feel that we need more improvements of these provincial roads, and dust treatment is one of them, if we are not prepared to proceed with hard surfacing. And I would like to know from the Minister how successful they have been in this past year in this matter and whether new products have been brought about as a result of research being done.

I think I mentioned yesterday the matter of Highway No. 30, and I'm very pleased that the government is going to make some improvements on that particular road because, again, the Co-op Vegetable Oils is importing by far the largest part of their beans which they process in the extraction of oil and these are brought in from the States and they have to come along this particular road, and usually in spring they have the road restrictions put on, and these trucks come to the border and then find themselves unable to proceed because of the severe restrictions placed on them at the Canadian border. I do hope, when the new improvements have been made, that these restrictions will not have to be as severe as in the past. And I do hope that they proceed with the improvement of this particular highway as soon as possible.

There's one other matter. I think the Minister has been made aware of this. It pertains to the signs in connection with the Village of Rosenort. It just so happens that you have two villages by the same name in Manitoba. One is north of Morris and we have another place just west of Gretna on Highway 243 by the same name, and this has caused some confusion. Also, when people come in from across the line they have been directed to this other place near Morris. The Village of Rosenort near Gretna has a seed cleaning plant and they do a considerable amount of work in exporting grain to the south, and I think the request has been made, and the Minister has received correspondence in this connection, and I do hope the necessary remedy is made and that the proper signs will be put up giving direction in this matter.

Mr. Chairman, these are a few of the points that I had thought I would raise at this particular time and I would be only too happy to hear from the Minister just what is being done in connection with dust-proofing.

MR. TANCHAK: Mr. Chairman, I've been up once before but then the Honourable Member for Rhineland does mention dust-proofing of roads. We like to pride ourselves on referring to our children as our greatest natural resource, and I agree with that, but I'm sorry to say that although this is our greatest natural resource, not too much attention is being paid to the conditions that the children have to undergo to acquire this education. In other words, those children cannot speak for themselves; they're at the mercy of their elders. That is us. And I'm sure the Minister does know what I am referring to because he wasn't always a Minister of the Crown. I think he did tell us once here in the House that years back he was a school teacher. I think he did mention in those days teaching on permit. I may be incorrect but I believe he was a school teacher, and he realizes that.

Now just to illustrate with this example; this is a practical experience, that I heard of in the first place. A little eight-year-old boy who had a distance of about 24 miles to travel to a school on dusty roads, one morning he hid himself behind a clump of bushes as the bus arrived. He refused to enter the bus. About half an hour later a neighbour was driving down the road and this little boy was carrying two books and a little bag. He was walking in the direction of the school. The neighbour stopped and asked him what he was doing, and he said, "I'm going to school." Twenty-three miles I think it was. "I'm going to school." He asked him, "Why?

(MR. TANCHAK cont'd) ..... Were you late for the bus?" "Oh no, I wasn't. I hid behind the bush." "Why didn't you enter it?" And his answer was this: "There's too much dust and the roads are too bumpy." He didn't have enough ability to organize a protest but this was a protest, a one-child protest against highways, dusty highways. Just an eight-year-old.

I followed it up. The next day I was at the school when the children were disembarking from the bus, and these children, especially the smaller ones who had to sit lower down, the smaller children, they were lower down, closer to the floor, they came out of that bus. Looking against the sun, you would think they were little angels. Practically every one of them had a little halo of dust on his hair. That's what they had to undergo. Some of them went 23 miles; some of them even more than that; and I would like to stress - I know that the Minister is aware, he made reference to that; I know that he's got a good heart, he'd like to improve the situation; but I don't think that any amount of stressing on this is too much. The children are our greatest natural resource and you should -- when we take them to school it is our responsibility to see that these roads are fit for travel, and most of these roads are not fit for travel.

I remember a former Minister of Highways -- he is presently the Premier of the Province of Manitoba -- when this was asked of him, "What about the school roads? They are not fit for modern day transportation." And the answer was to this effect, that they will be taken care of. But it's almost 10 years now since we've got the divisions and many of the roads -- I'm not only talking about my own division, but throughout the whole Province of Manitoba there's thousands of children who have to undergo this hardship. As the Minister of Health and Welfare not so long ago was talking about travelling on the roads, eat and breathe dust, he said in our modern days people and children should not be subjected to that, and I endorse that. They shouldn't be subjected to this discomfort of going to school and having to eat dust, breathe and eat dust. I think that no amount of stressing is too much when we say that we have to see that these roads are more in relation to our modern day transportation.

I mentioned 201 in my constituency which has not been dust-proofed or black-surfaced. True, there's some work being done on it but, besides that, every other school road -- and most of them are provincial roads. I can mention such roads as No. 200, No. 201 to Altona from 75, 208, 210, 218. All of these are provincial roads. That's besides the other school roads that we have and they are all dusty. Nothing has been done in ten years to improve the situation there. These children still have to go through all these inconveniences. And I would like the Minister to look into that and really make a special effort to see that, if these roads cannot be hard surfaced, at least, as the Member for Rhineland did say, at least the most important ones, especially the provincial roads, which are the total responsibility of the province, be dust-proofed in some manner or another. I know it can't be done in one year but we should make a special effort to see that these roads are improved.

Now there is one specific question I would like to ask the Minister. I know it was the policy of the government in the past to build access roads to towns and villages not more than five miles distant from a highway that goes by. I would like to know whether it is still the policy of the government to build these approaches about the same time as the highway or the provincial road is improved through that area. I would like the Minister to give us an answer to that.

MR. FROESE: Mr. Chairman, just before the Minister gets up to reply, I missed one particular point that had to do with the matter of marking pavement, the center strip. I think this is very important because, when you get into a snow storm in winter, the white center line has been a life saver to so many people in this province that have experienced it, and just what is the government's policy? How often are these center lines painted and what research has been done so that the paint will not wear off as soon as it presently is, because I find that this paint is wearing off rather fast, and whether something cannot be done that would be more of a lasting type? Then, too, how often does the department have these center lines painted because I think as far as getting them painted, it is a definite must in the late fall, so that these roads are prepared in that way for the winter months when you experience most difficulty because of snow.

MR. WARNER JORGENSEN (Morris): Mr. Chairman, I wonder if I could draw a matter to the Minister's attention that I am sure he has given some consideration to, and that is the ominous reports emanating from the Flood Forecasting Committee of the possibility of floods in the Red River Valley this year. Due to the volume of grain that is still on the farms and

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(MR. JORGENSON cont'd) ..... the need to move that grain off the farms, it doesn't seem possible that the Canadian Wheat Board are going to be able to spot enough box cars in the flooded area to take care of all the grain that will have to be moved, and it seems as though there might be a possibility that a lot of that grain will be moved during the time that the road restrictions will be applied, and I would hope that the Minister and his department is giving some consideration to this possibility and the need to waive restrictions for a temporary period to ensure that all grain that is in danger of being flooded will be able to be moved out of that area.

MR. McLEAN: Mr. Chairman, to the Honourable the Member for St. George, there is no present intention of giving a Provincial Trunk Highway number to Provincial Road 235. We will be watching it closely and working on it, of course, as I have indicated.

The Honourable the Member for Hamiota spoke about the conviction and losing the licence. This is always a serious problem and we are involved in this because we do have the responsibility for suspensions, that is to say, dealing with people who had their licences suspended. My information is that the courts have a discretion and may make an order that the licence or registration be not suspended where there are extenuating circumstances, and we always hope that circumstances are brought to the attention of the court at the time. I am aware, of course, of the great problem there is in this connection and I think that one of the things that will occur as a result of the extensions of more full-time magistrates, that will be perhaps a better method developed of dealing with these situations in court, and of course the best advice to anyone charged with a driving offense is to seek legal advice so that one knows before entering a plea of guilty what the consequences are.

He referred to a picture of hockey on the map - a good suggestion for consideration. There are, of course, many people, many groups and many communities that would like to be represented on the map, and we have to sort of pick and choose. We will take special note, however, of what he says about the World Hockey Tournament in 1970. I anticipate we may have another map before that time.

Driver testing -- and I've been remiss in not dealing with this matter. The honourable member had drawn it to my attention before and I have undertaken and I will indeed check that matter just as quickly as possible. I am rather sorry he thinks that there is a bit of pork barrelling going on because I thought we were being pretty fair about it. I think really the Honourable Member for Pembina and myself are the two persons who have no work going on in our constituencies this year, and I suppose the Member for Hamiota would say, well he's joined us, although I think there's some work on 354 that probably falls in his constituency.

The Honourable the Member for Rhineland and the Honourable Member for Emerson touched on the matter of dust and dust-proofing. I understand. I agree. I would have to say that I think I have the impression that the use of calcium has not really been that successful. It's very expensive. It's not that successful, but the department does use calcium for dust-proofing. But, as the Honourable Member for Rhineland points out, it creates difficulties in maintaining the roads and it's a serious difficulty. One of the things I have often said is that if we could develop some less expensive method of surfacing roads, I would indeed be very happy, because I agree and there is no question that we have to do whatever we can to surface, provide a dust-free surface on all the roads, that is the trunk highways and provincial roads, as quickly as we can.

The Honourable Member for Emerson asks about the access road policy. We don't have that policy at the present time. In many instances, I suppose in a great majority of cases, a provincial road runs to or through or into a town or village, but the access road policy as it was known in past time is not in force at the present time.

Center strips. I'm really not certain that I can say how often they are painted. I have the general impression that the Department endeavours to renew the painting once each year. Research. Yes - constant research is going on to develop a paint with a greater degree of permanence, because what the Honourable Member for Rhineland says is quite correct, the center strip is a very important part of the road.

The Honourable the Member for Morris with regard to moving grain. I have said to my colleagues the Minister of Mines and Natural Resources and the Minister of Agriculture that the Department of Transportation is prepared to join and put our full forces into any measures that are designed or developed with regard to the possible flood threat, and I would think that perhaps rather than raising restrictions we might very well cooperate with the group that will

(MR. McLEAN cont'd) ..... be looking after that problem in giving whatever assistance we can, if it means overloading during the restricted season or whatever the case might be, but certainly we are most anxious to be as helpful as we can in every regard and that would, of course, include the moving of grain during that period.

MR. FROESE: Mr. Chairman, in the matter of dust-proofing, just how much are we spending in research? Because I feel that when we spend \$50 million on roads in a year, this should certainly warrant a lot of research into getting something that we can use for dust-proofing our gravel roads, because either we have to hard surface them or dust-proofing is necessary, either one of the two, because we know when we travel along these gravel roads during the summer, especially on hot days, how irritating the dust is to the travelling public, and this also, I am sure, has a bearing on the people coming in as tourists into Manitoba. They prefer hard surface roads or roads that are not dusty. And I feel, therefore, that the matter of research into dust-proofing is a very good one, and that certainly warrants spending considerably more money at this particular time. And, too, when we have a program of \$50 million, surely we should be doing more research work into this matter. And how much are we spending on research in this particular instance on this very problem, on this very matter? I feel that this needs greater attention:

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Roblin.

MR. WALLY MCKENZIE (Roblin): I would like to congratulate the Minister for the initiative that he and the department have shown in the Roblin constituency. They have recognized that there is need for road construction between the town of Grandview and the Riding Mountain National Park and have shown that they are going to improve some five miles of that road. The other point, Mr. Chairman, I think I would like to draw to the Minister's attention is the road No. 482, which connects No. 5, comes down on the west side of the Assiniboine Valley, will cross the Shellmouth Dam and then connect up with Highway 83 right near the village of Inglis. I am wondering if it would not be possible to, when this road is completed and up to highway standards, if it could not be named 83A. It's a matter of some 20 miles but this would be one of the most interesting and scenic routes, I think, in our province where the tourists would have the opportunity of crossing the new dam and then seeing the Assiniboine Valley at its best.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution 98, (a) -- passed; (b) -- passed; (c) -- passed; (d) -- passed. Resolution 98 -- passed.

Resolution 99 \$4,447,006.00 (a) to (d) was read and passed.)  
(e) -- passed; .....

MR. FROESE: Mr. Chairman, on (e) we have a considerable increase here, (e) (iii). Could the Minister explain just what the additional monies are going to be used for and where they are going to be spent.

MR. McLEAN: New storage; new garage and storage facilities at Dauphin.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Committee rise and report. Call in the Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Committee of Supply has passed a certain resolution, has directed me to report same and asks leave to sit again.

#### IN SESSION

MR. M. E. MCKELLAR (Souris-Lansdowne): Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Member from Pembina, that the report of the Committee be received.

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

MR. LYON: Mr. Speaker, perhaps before you leave the Chair, Sir, I could make an announcement on behalf of my colleague the Minister of Education. He has requested that the special committee established this morning on the motion of the Honourable the Leader of the New Democratic Party to deal with Bill No. 22 will be convened at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday morning in Room 254, and I would hope that members of the press would get some notification of that out to the public.

MR. PAULLEY: I thank the Honourable the House Leader and the Minister of Education for their speed, and incidentally I believe it is the first motion I have ever had passed in this House.

MR. SPEAKER: It is now 12:30. I am leaving the Chair to return again at 2.30 this afternoon.