



Legislative Assembly of Manitoba

DEBATES
and
PROCEEDINGS

Speaker

The Honourable Peter Fox



Vol. XVIII No. 125 2:30 p.m., Tuesday, July 20th, 1971.

Third Session, 29th Legislature.

ELECTORAL DIVISION	NAME	ADDRESS
ARTHUR	J. Douglas Watt	Reston, Manitoba
ASSINIBOIA	Steve Patrick	10 Red Robin Place, Winnipeg 12
BIRTLE-RUSSELL	Harry E. Graham	Binscarth, Manitoba
BRANDON EAST	Hon. Leonard S. Evans	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg 1
BRANDON WEST	Edward McGill	2228 Princess Ave., Brandon, Man.
BURROWS	Hon. Ben Hanuschak	Legislative Building, Winnipeg 1
CHARLESWOOD	Arthur Moug	29 Willow Ridge Rd., Winnipeg 20
CHURCHILL	Gordon Wilbert Beard	148 Riverside Drive, Thompson, Man.
CRESCENTWOOD	Cy Gonick	115 Kingsway, Winnipeg 9
DAUPHIN	Hon. Peter Burtniak	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg 1
ELMWOOD	Hon. Russell J. Doern	Legislative Building, Winnipeg 1
EMERSON	Gabriel Girard	25 Lomond Blvd., St. Boniface 6
FLIN FLON	Thomas Barrow	Cranberry Portage, Manitoba
FORT GARRY	L. R. (Bud) Sherman	86 Niagara St., Winnipeg 9
FORT ROUGE	Mrs. Inez Trueman	179 Oxford St., Winnipeg 9
GIMLI	John C. Gottfried	44 - 3rd Ave., Gimli, Man.
GLADSTONE	James Robert Ferguson	Gladstone, Manitoba
INKSTER	Hon. Sidney Green, Q.C.	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg 1
KILDONAN	Hon. Peter Fox	627 Prince Rupert Ave., Winnipeg 15
LAC DU BONNET	Hon. Sam Uskiw	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg 1
LAKESIDE	Harry J. Enns	Woodlands, Manitoba
LA VERENDRYE	Leonard A. Barkman	Box 130, Steinbach, Man.
LOGAN	William Jenkins	1287 Alexander Ave., Winnipeg 3
MINNEDOSA	Walter Weir	Room 250, Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg 1
MORRIS	Warner H. Jorgenson	Box 185, Morris, Man.
OSBORNE	Ian Turnbull	284 Wildwood Park, Winnipeg 19
PEMBINA	George Henderson	Manitou, Manitoba
POINT DOUGLAS	Donald Malinowski	361 Burrows Ave., Winnipeg 4
PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE	Gordon E. Johnston	Room 248, Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg 1
RADISSON	Harry Shafransky	4 Maplehurst Rd., St. Boniface 6
RHINELAND	Jacob M. Froese	Box 40, Winkler, Manitoba
RIEL	Donald W. Craik	2 River Lane, Winnipeg 8
RIVER HEIGHTS	Sidney Spivak, Q.C.	1516 Mathers Bay, West, Winnipeg 9
ROBLIN	J. Wally McKenzie	Inglis, Manitoba
ROCK LAKE	Henry J. Einarson	Glenboro, Manitoba
ROSSMERE	Hon. Ed. Schreyer	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg 1
RUPERTSLAND	Jean Allard	602 - 245 Provencher Ave., St. Boniface 6
ST. BONIFACE	Laurent L. Desjardins	357 Des Meurons St., St. Boniface 6
ST. GEORGE	William Uruski	Box 580, Arborg, Manitoba
ST. JAMES	Hon. A. H. Mackling, Q.C.	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg 1
ST. JOHNS	Hon. Saul Cherniack, Q.C.	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg 1
ST. MATTHEWS	Wally Johannson	23 - 500 Burnell St., Winnipeg 10
ST. VITAL	D. J. Walding	31 Lochinvar Ave., Winnipeg 6
STE. ROSE	A. R. (Pete) Adam	Ste. Rose du Lac, Manitoba
SELKIRK	Hon. Howard Pawley	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg 1
SEVEN OAKS	Hon. Saul A. Miller	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg 1
SOURIS-KILLARNEY	Earl McKellar	Nesbitt, Manitoba
SPRINGFIELD	Hon. Rene E. Toupin	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg 1
STURGEON CREEK	Frank Johnston	310 Overdale St., Winnipeg 12
SWAN RIVER	James H. Bilton	Swan River, Manitoba
THE PAS	Ron McBryde	Box 1295, The Pas, Manitoba
THOMPSON	Hon. Joseph P. Borowski	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg 1
TRANSCONA	Hon. Russell Paulley	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg 1
VIRDEN	Morris McGregor	Kenton, Manitoba
WELLINGTON	Philip M. Petursson	681 Banning St., Winnipeg 10
WINNIPEG CENTRE	J. R. (Bud) Boyce	777 Winnipeg Ave., Winnipeg 3
WOLSELEY	Leonard H. Claydon	116½ Sherbrook St., Winnipeg 1

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

2:30 o'clock, Tuesday, July 20, 1971

Opening Prayer by Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Presenting Petitions; Reading and Receiving Petitions; Presenting Reports by Standing and Special Committees.

REPORTS BY STANDING COMMITTEES

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

MR. WILLIAM URUSKI (St. George): Mr. Speaker, I beg to present the First Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture.

MR. CLERK: Your Standing Committee on Agriculture begs leave to present the following as their First Report:

Your Committee met for organization and appointed Mr. Uruski as Chairman. Your Committee recommends that, for the remainder of this session, the quorum of the Committee shall consist of Ten (10) members.

Your Committee has considered BILLS:

No. 60 - An Act to amend The Crop Insurance Act.

No. 68 - An Act to amend The Wheat Board Money Trust Act.

No. 74 - An Act to amend The Veterinary Services Act.

No. 108 - An Act to amend The Milk and Dairy Products Control Act.

And has agreed to report the same with certain amendments, as agreed to by the Committee.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

MR. SPEAKER: Ministerial Statements; Tabling of Reports; Notices of Motion; Introduction of Bills.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge.

MRS. INEZ TRUEMAN (Fort Rouge): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Honourable Minister of Health and Social Development. Could he give the House any information concerning the young girl who escaped the proper diagnosis and died as a consequence, published in the newspaper on Saturday, I believe. It happened in the Children's Hospital.

HON. RENE E. TOUPIN (Minister of Health and Social Development) (Springfield): Mr. Speaker, I haven't got the details on the question posed by the Honourable Member for Fort Rouge. I'll take the question as notice.

ORDERS OF THE DAY - GOVERNMENT BILLS

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable the House Leader.

HON. SIDNEY GREEN, Q.C. (Minister of Mines, Resources and Environmental Management) (Inkster): Would you call Bill No. 103, Mr. Speaker?

MR. SPEAKER: On the proposed motion of the Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs. The Honourable Member for Birtle-Russell.

MR. HARRY E. GRAHAM (Birtle-Russell): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's with a great deal of anticipation that we have been waiting for the Minister to introduce Bill No. 103, Mr. Speaker, an Act to amend The Municipal Assessment Act. When we were debating the estimates of the Minister, the question of assessment was one that I'm sure was foremost on the minds of every rural member anyway, in the Chamber here, and we find that finally the Minister has brought forward the amendments to The Municipal Act.

To some, I'm sure the contents of the Act are quite enlightening and beneficial, but at the same time there are some aspects of it that leave some members with some apprehension. Basically, Mr. Speaker, the bill incorporates five or six changes of varying significance, and I have to say, Mr. Speaker, that the changes that the Minister has incorporated are by and large quite beneficial, and in fact desirable. The Minister indicated in his speech, I believe, that there were three or four significant points, but on close scrutiny you find that there are more than that. The rest of the bill, Mr. Speaker, is mainly housekeeping.

One of the most significant points incorporated in this bill, Mr. Speaker, is the action taken by the Minister in exempting Indian lease land - that is, farm leases of Indian land - from municipal taxation, and I want to commend the Minister for this move. The problem

(MR. GRAHAM cont'd.) existed in my area; I believe it was initiated by the Municipality of Harrison which just adjoins my constituency, where an actual case, an action was commenced, I believe, in court on this particular subject, and we find now that the Minister has brought in this exemption which the Indian people were quite alarmed about, because if this had not been done, Mr. Speaker, it meant that basically the amount of money that the Indian people could expect to get for a lease of their land for farming purposes would substantially be reduced, and indirectly it would have been an indirect tax on Indian bands, and we know by federal statute that it has been a long-standing tradition that Indian bands were to be exempt; they were classified as Crown lands and as such were exempt from basic taxation. So I want to commend the Minister for this particular move in removing the doubt that existed. While there was a legal loophole there in the Municipal Assessment Act, he has now closed it so that it is no longer possible to assess farm leases of Indian land.

One of the next points that came to my attention anyway, Mr. Speaker, with regard to this Act was the action by the Minister in removing from the authority of the Municipal Council the right to pass a by-law to grant tax concessions to new industry. Mr. Speaker, as a means of eliminating inter-municipal competition and the jockeying that has existed for a long time in trying to offer the most beneficial inducement to industry to locate in certain localities, I believe that this is a very good move in that respect. On the other hand, Mr. Speaker, unless the Manitoba Government, through an agency such as the Manitoba Development Corporation, is willing to offer industry inducement to come into this province, he has effectively closed the door to individual municipalities attempting to act in that manner.

So it will be interesting to see, Mr. Speaker, what activity this government will take through the Development Corporation and the various regional development corporations or economic councils to induce industry to come to the Province of Manitoba. It's a fact of life, Mr. Speaker, that tax inducements have always been used to entice industry and if other provinces are still using such inducements, then I think Manitoba would have to consider other alternatives so that we could at least be on a par with other provinces in our efforts to entice industry and development that we so necessarily need to come to this province.

I have some concern, Mr. Speaker, that this may be a means of in a way prohibiting foreign investment in the province; if that is the intention of the government, then I say that by doing this they can no doubt more effectively control the type of investment that comes into the province; and if that is their intention, then I think that by doing this they have eliminated one form of competition and they may very well now be in the position where they can control quite effectively any form of investment coming into the province. It certainly concentrates more power in the central government and I think that this causes some concern to those living in rural Manitoba.

Another point I wanted to raise, Mr. Speaker, was the move by the government to reduce the size of a farm holding which qualified for exemption of farm building, from 40 acres down to four acres, and I understand, Mr. Speaker, that this was a move which has been urged by the Municipality of East St. Paul and other areas surrounding the city where we have many market gardeners who are barely making a living on their small holdings, and any form of easing their tax burden should prove beneficial. However, also at the same time we find action by the Assessment Branch where there's a tendency to classify some of their land as being commercial and thereby increasing the value of that land even though it's being used for farm purposes, and the tax load that faces these people is quite severe. However, even the small action by the government here of exempting farm buildings on small holdings I'm sure is going to prove of some benefit to those people.

We all know, Mr. Speaker, that there is an increasing need for the tax dollar at the federal level, at the provincial level and at the municipal level. It wasn't too long ago we had the provincial Minister of Finance coming back from Ottawa expressing his concern that the province was not going to get its fair share of the tax dollar, and I see also here where the Minister has given some additional revenue to the local municipalities when he has made provision in this Act for the taxation of farm buildings on corporate farms, and I say at this time, Mr. Speaker, that everybody loves to see the rich corporate body get soaked and everyone's pleased to see that someone else is forced to pay more taxes as long as it's not themselves.

Another point that I felt was worthy of discussion, Mr. Speaker, and caused me some concern. This is where the Minister is attempting to change the six-year assessment system to a four-year assessment system, where basically every four years we will now have

(MR. GRAHAM cont'd.) assessors going around and doing a reassessment, and this is in essence a very good move; it keeps the assessment up to date. And I say it's a very good move, Mr. Speaker, with a qualification and that qualification is: if they use a fair and equitable system of assessing.

So far, Mr. Speaker, I have found nothing in this Act which changes the system of assessment. I think there's a crying need in the province for a change in the system of assessment. There are many in this House who have expressed their concern about the manner in which assessment has been done, and so far the Minister has skated around that problem and hasn't as yet come to grips with it. I believe this is a No. 1 requirement of any action in amending the Assessment Act, but I'm very sorry, Mr. Speaker, to see that it's not included at this time.

I think my last point, Mr. Speaker, has to deal with the changes in the Act which will allow a one percent business tax to be placed on cable television. I just wonder if the Minister had advance information on what the ruling of the CRTC would be, and it was rather incidental that the Minister should table this bill, or give second reading to this bill on the same day when the Canadian CRTC brought in their recommendations to the Federal Government, which in essence will impose taxes on cable television.

I was wondering if in light of that, if the Minister would consider the implications that this has. I was wondering if the Minister would possibly consider taking this particular section of the Act and referring it back to committee to study in light of the proposals put out by the CRTC.

These are my few comments on this bill, Mr. Speaker, and I look forward to seeing it going into Municipal Affairs Committee.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you ready for the question? The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. JACOB M. FROESE (Rhineland): Mr. Chairman, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Portage la Prairie, that debate be adjourned.

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

MR. SPEAKER: Are you ready for the question? The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. I forgot my glasses at the Hotel and I am unable to refer to my notes and this is why I adjourned the debate.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, the honourable member can speak or not speak; we can hardly hold up the House because he forgot his glasses at the Hotel.

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

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable the House Leader.

MR. GREEN: Just on a point of order. In the event that my honourable friend will have the same difficulty again this afternoon, I'm prepared to make arrangements to have his glasses picked up at the Hotel.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: On the same point of order. I intended to go back and get them right away. But in the meantime I didn't want to allow the bill to pass before I was able to make my contribution.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Mines.

MR. GREEN: No. 94.

MR. SPEAKER: I wonder if the Honourable Minister would give me the courtesy of telling me what page, because we have them on a number of pages, otherwise I have to keep looking down the list.

MR. GREEN: It's on Page 3, Mr. Speaker. Trying to accommodate my friend from Rhineland.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rock Lake.

MR. HENRY J. EINARSON (Rock Lake): Mr. Speaker, I'm going to speak briefly on this bill dealing with the principle of An Act to amend the Natural Products Marketing Act. While I don't have the comments made by the Minister of Agriculture last evening or the wee hours of this morning, I tried to derive what the basic reason for this amendment was. He did make some comments that didn't seem to relate to the important parts of the bill and one of the areas that we on this side are very concerned about, Mr. Speaker, and that is the amendment that it does extend to the Natural Products Marketing Act as it now stands.

I want to say, Mr. Speaker, I have wondered just who the Minister of Agriculture has contacted when he's dealing with a bill of this kind because I think it covers pretty well the

(MR. EINARSON cont'd.) complete waterfront insofar as agricultural produce is concerned. One of the areas that I can think of, and that is those farmers who are in the production of cattle; those farmers who are in the production of cattle are very concerned that the government doesn't become involved in their particular operation and I think that this is what this bill is doing, the very thing they don't want to see happen. This is one of the areas, Mr. Speaker, that concerns me very much insofar as the Natural Products Marketing Act is concerned.

The Minister didn't really indicate, if my memory serves me correctly, in regards to hogs. We did have in our Agricultural Committee meetings last winter, as we toured the province, our hog industry was one that was of real concern I think to all of us and of course I think the reason known is the fact that our wheat situation which has been a troublesome area for the last couple of years is a result of why our hog producers are in the dilemma that they are in and have been in the past - particularly the past 18 months. So I rather think that this is another reason why this amendment is coming in - is probably to allow the Minister to change the Hog Commission to a Hog Marketing Board. I have no quarrel with this, Mr. Speaker; if this is the wish of the hog producers, I think I can speak for my colleagues and myself that we'll go along with it and we're certainly not going to stand in their way. But the one area that I'm concerned about, Mr. Speaker, and that is the producers of cattle in the Province of Manitoba, and I am wondering whether the Minister is really listening to the right people when he listens to the different commodity groups.

I hope, Mr. Speaker, that this is one of the safeguards that we do have in this Legislature that we have the second reading of these bills, they are then allowed to go to committee where we can hear the views of outsiders as to how they feel about the various acts of legislation that we are bringing into this House. So, Mr. Speaker, with those few words, I am reserving my position insofar as this amendment is concerned because I am interested in knowing how the farmers of different commodity groups feel about this particular bill.

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

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable the House Leader.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, Bill No. 113, which is about three-quarters of the way down Page 3.

MR. SPEAKER: The proposed motion of the Honourable Minister of Agriculture, The Honourable Member for Rock Lake.

MR. EINARSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In dealing with Bill No. 113, The Farm Machinery and Equipment Act - I want to deal briefly with this. This, Mr. Speaker, is a bill I think that is one of real importance to not only the farmers of the Province of Manitoba, but it's also very important to the dealers who sell farm machinery, farm equipment to the agricultural producers of this province and it is also a concern to the manufacturers of farm machinery. Now, probably this is a bill of the nature of our automobile insurance where we are talking about the large corporation and we are coming maybe, possibly, someone might think to their defence.

First of all I want to say I think the manufacturers of farm machinery are quite capable of looking after themselves; but when I make that comment I want to be fair in my criticism that I think that when we're dealing with legislation that affects them as well as the dealers and the farmers, we should be fair in so doing. This is another area when we were dealing with our Agricultural Committee as we toured the province last winter, and has been for a number of years, farmers have had problems in dealing with their dealers, or through their dealers, through their particular company that they purchase machinery from. Some of them have had problems that have been greatly varied. They have bought new machines and possibly they haven't stood up and there's been a problem of warranty; possibly the kind of service they have had hasn't been as good as it might have been. And as a result of these two particular problems that I mention and a number of others, we have this bill before us.

I do want to commend the Minister of Agriculture for bringing the bill before us, but I do want to say, too, Mr. Speaker, that a bill of this kind being brought in at almost the dying moments of our session, is the one criticism that I have. I can't help but feel of all Ministers on the government side, when we talk about priorities the Minister of Agriculture is at the bottom of the totem pole. Now I do appreciate, too, that the Minister when he introduced the bill on second reading he had explanatory notes and I appreciate that. But I think, too, Mr. Speaker, that when we hear these explanatory notes, one can get different interpretations and

(MR. EINARSON cont'd,) when we are dealing with a bill of this importance we want to make sure that we understand even what the explanatory notes really mean.

I'm given to understand that the Dealers Association are aware of this bill, I'm given to understand that they had some idea before the bill was really drafted of what may be forthcoming. And since we were dealing with this in the wee hours of this morning, I want to say that in the very short time that I have had, tried to communicate out into the country, and I am given to understand that some of the dealers who are members of the Dealers Association knew nothing about what was going on in regards to this bill until they heard the news reported by the Press even at 1:00 o'clock this morning; it was given later on today by my colleague in the comments he made here last night, the Member for Lakeside, and if it hadn't been for that information, some of the dealers who are members of the Association would have known nothing about it. This is one of the reasons, Mr. Speaker, why I am being critical, for the very short time that we have to deal with a piece of legislation that to me is very very important. And while we can only deal with the principle of this bill, I am certain that there are a number of things in this bill that will require some amendments. This is another situation where I hope that there will be sufficient time, that this information will be put out to the machine companies, to the dealers and to the farmers - the individual farmers may want to express some views, or through farm organizations that want to express their views insofar as this bill is concerned. This is another area where I'm reserving my position because I don't think there's any doubt about it; I am very interested in hearing what these interested groups have to say and from this I feel certain that there are going to be amendments come out of this bill.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you ready for the question? The Honourable Member for La Verendrye.

MR. LEONARD A. BARKMAN (La Verendrye): Mr. Speaker, I want to be brief on this bill and I find myself torn between three parties, between the manufacturer and the dealer and of course the farmer, but in the meantime I think it has to be brought out very clearly that if the dealer's plight or destiny is not taken into consideration, we're certainly going to have problems as far as our farmers getting their parts or buying their machinery. I think this is very evident from what we've heard from the farmers over the meetings that we attended and I think we've got to keep this in mind because the only way we can help the farmer in this case I think is through the dealers and through improvement of the rules perhaps by the major companies.

I have to agree with the member that just spoke, that I think that from our hearings of last winter we heard enough complaints and remarks by mostly farmers that something had to be done, but I wish more time was allowed to this kind of a bill because I believe that — (Interjection) — Thank you very much, I think we'll perhaps need some time to. Speaking of time, it would be much nicer to speak on this bill around January 15th than it is around July 15th. However, coming back to this bill which is important and should be given some time; I have studied it fairly closely and I think those that drew up the bill must have also perhaps been in a hurry on some of the points and I realize that there are complications to this type of a bill. We're trying to help a person or a farmer that buys the machinery that is already in trouble with price wars and what have you and here he perhaps - and I don't know what percentage I'm talking when I say that - but we know there's some, have either been mistreated by the company or perhaps in the odd case by the dealer. But I don't know, Mr. Speaker, . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. I realize that there's some necessity for realignment and grouping and caucusing but I wish the groups that wish to caucus would take it out of the Assembly so that the member that does have the floor can debate in a little bit of quiet. I have a very difficult time trying to hear what is being said. The Honourable Member for La Verendrye.

MR. BARKMAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was just going to start touching on some of the points that are going to be very hard to govern as far as the main principle of this bill is concerned. I think that whoever is going to be appointed or elected to this Board are going to find out a lot of things that I'm sure they don't realize when they will be appointed or elected to this board. I am not sure that any members of this House would want to be on that kind of a board because some of the rules or stipulations put down will be nearly impossible to enforce. And I do not say this sarcastically, I fully realize that it was time that a bill of this nature had to come in and perhaps at this time we're not going to do that much to alleviate some of the problems but at least let it be known that there is concern toward some of these problems and

(MR. BARKMAN cont'd.) perhaps some of the bigger companies will take a closer look at what they really should be doing. I find some of the principles involved not exactly disturbing but very hard to live with. They come out quite strongly that a dealer, for example, will have to be open day and night or available day and night, Sundays and Holidays, in emergency cases and I doubt very much that there's any other segment of the population that has this kind of legislated privilege. I don't think that this can be enforced. I believe the intention is good but I think if a dealer, for example, has to have persons available day and night, Sundays and holidays, they'll find that these parts, the \$10,00 package deal that can be added to it is not going to be enough regardless of what the price of the part may be. I'm afraid that as far as the procedure for ordering emergency repair parts as stated in the bill, we'll have to be terribly careful that these numbers and models and what have you will have to be very clearly defined and you can't just have any type of a fellow stay at your implement shop.

Another principle that I'm very concerned about, I think our dealers, implement dealers, most of them, are perhaps in as bad a shape as our farmers are and I think this is going to lead to dealers either backing out or backing off, having to quit - not because of this bill so much but because they already were in trouble and they can't afford to have stocks of parts that perhaps is suggested indirectly in the bill. I'm very much afraid that we could see our dealers spread apart as far as 75 to 100 miles and this is certainly going to create problems for the small family farmer who wants a part, a small part for that matter, and has to go 50 to 100 miles.

I don't want to go into details of the bill but I must make known now that there are quite a few points that I will have to bring up during the committee stage. I thought perhaps as far as the principle is concerned another point that should be brought up is the 90-day trial basis. You can hardly imagine a farmer buying a combine, let's say around the 15th of September and let it be a \$12,000 combine or a \$14,000 combine and he gives a \$6,000 trade-in and for fear the farmer may not be buying the combine, must hang on to the \$6,000 trade-in three months later which could be pretty well in the middle of December. So we've got a problem there that will have to be -- (Interjection) -- Yes, but they're built by human hands and there could be trouble. This is going to be a real problem. I'm sure something will have to be worked out on this because you give certain people, even perhaps the nicest kind, the best people we have in Manitoba, the farmer, even the odd one there, you give him that opportunity, he might just be tempted to probably misuse it to some extent. But regardless, I think we should take a look at this because there can be so many different things happen to a machine - and I shouldn't only refer to a combine - I think some of the other machines perhaps much more fall into that line of default, but I've just mentioned, for the sake of an example, the combine.

Another thing, you take that same combine, and you go on further in the Act and one fellow will clean it, will put all the parts in in Fall when he quits; put it in a shed. The next one you'll see somewhere up in the hill; and naturally the depreciation is going to be different. And if you have a warranty of ten years, and the Act is quite strong in saying that parts, emergency parts must be available within 48 hours for the whole ten years - and this is a long time but I think it's good, and I think the farmer will gain by this.

As I said before, I intend to bring certain more problems, that I feel are problems, up in the committee stage, but I am very concerned that -- take like, we're perhaps thinking so much of some of our big lines such as the Massey, International, John Deere or the Case - the bigger lines - but I think we should also be concerned with some of our smaller lines such as . . . and motors. There's a number of machinery that use those motors and -- (Interjection) -- no, we're not selling them right now. But anyway, this, Mr. Speaker, I think is part of what we want to avoid. The intention is good here but we may be crowding out the small dealer or even the larger dealer because of not stipulating the improvements the way they ought to. I think there's nobody in this House that doesn't want to see improvements as far as service is concerned to the farmer, but I think in most of the sections of the bill the dealer is still being used -- not used as a culprit but will turn out to be the culprit in too many cases, and I think we've got to go further because I don't know, I can hardly see the dealer drawing up his own contract with the main company, and I think perhaps we should go a step further.

However, Mr. Speaker, I know the intention is good in this bill, but I think it's been drawn up, even if it took a long time I think it's been drawn up in too big a hurry, and I think we'll just have to make certain changes concerning some of the problems that I mentioned. At this time we're ready to let it go to second hearing and I'm sure that more will be heard during the committee stage.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Pembina.

MR. GEORGE HENDERSON (Pembina): Mr. Chairman, I feel that an overhaul of The Farm Machinery and Implement Act is long overdue. When we held hearings last winter, this was made abundantly clear and I feel sure that the farmers are looking forward to changes. Many dealers also appeared and told us their troubles that they had with the major companies. Having been at these different hearings and being a farmer myself, I'm able to realize the trouble these people experience.

What members of this committee and farmers both realized was that it was not necessarily the dealer's fault when we had trouble. We all know dealers who are being closed out and who are going broke, and this is not good to be happening in the rural areas these times, and really this is one time that you'll see that the major companies will work seven days a week and that they do quite a thorough job of cleaning up on a dealer.

I'm not aware of it as to whether dealers had been made aware of the bill as it now is drafted. There is not much time left in this session and I would not want to see a bill go through that does not give them time to express their views. Many of the clauses which look so good now may in truth add considerable to the price because the dealer, the company and others involved must also make a buck.

Some of the time limits and penalties make me wonder and I'm concerned about such clauses as emergency services 24 hours a day including Sundays and holiday; having to supply a man with another tractor in case of breakdown; all repairs and parts being practically available at all times; and the cost of repossession to a dealer. We all know that this costs a great deal of money and that to keep these parts it will add interest to it, and this has to be paid by someone. As you on that side well know, extra costs are always passed on to the consumer and this adds to the price. I don't want to make too much of this because it might give the companies a major, we'll say a reason to increase the price.

This Act has so many changes that it's really a new Act, and I'm wondering if we really have time to deal with it properly this session. Why were we really so long about getting around to this Act? The hearings were held last winter; the Opposition definitely cannot be blamed for this Act coming in now. If we are to deal with this Act now, I would like all possible consideration given to the farmers, the Farmers Union, the Farm Bureau, and dealers and companies, so as to really give them a chance; and even then, Mr. Speaker, I'm really in doubt as to whether we have the time to proceed with it now.

Having said this, I believe in many of the principles of this bill, and I believe it is good, but the extra warranty and service is really going to cost money and I'm wondering do the farmers really want to pay more for their machines and to have this extra warranty and service, because it is going to add to the cost of the machine. Prices are going up steadily now and the farmers are having enough trouble, and I wonder if we bring in this Act and the companies raise their prices soon, if we'll feel very happy about it. This is why I would like to see this bill go to committee so as the farmers, the farm organizations and the dealers could all be heard.

I believe the Minister and government deserve really very strong criticism for leaving this bill until now. There's just really no excuse that they can give that's good enough as far as I'm concerned. Then bringing it in at 11 a.m. this morning. This is important legislation to farmers and this is the way they handle it. It also shows that the group over on that side do not consider the farm people as they should, and I also believe that the Minister of Agriculture is getting pushed around.

When were our farm bills dealt with last year in committee? If I remember right, our farm bills were brought in at 12:45 on a Friday night, a night that the farm people usually go home, and this was the night they brought these into committee and wanted to deal with them. Look again what they done last night. This bill could have had second reading at around 8:00 o'clock. Instead of that they just went into the Law Amendments Committee without dealing with it. Now many of the farm people who are members are concerned about this bill and we had to hang around and wait until they came back in at one o'clock. Now it may have been an oversight on the part of the government. Do you know one of the reasons it's an oversight is really that they aren't concerned enough about the farmers and this to be thinking about them enough, so it naturally got to the back of their mind and they didn't do it. It shows that they really aren't concerned.

I want to say that this really is important legislation to the farm people, the dealers and

(MR. HENDERSON cont'd.) the companies, and this is really a fairly long bill, 24 pages, and I know that you on that side and us are both in a hurry to try and wind up legislation. I'd like to see this bill go to committee, but in doing this I'd like them to give all the possible time they could between now at the time that it receives its second reading and the time that they expect these people to appear, because we definitely must have representations from the farmers, the farm organizations and the dealers and the companies. All of these different groups are really worthy and deserve our consideration in this matter.

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

HON. SAMUEL USKIW (Minister of Agriculture) (La du Bonnet): Mr. Speaker, I'm not going to take more than five minutes. I simply want to remind honourable members opposite that the legislation that was introduced, Bill 113, is one which in my opinion has no philosophical lines and really appeals to all sides of the House wherever there is an appreciation for the need for that kind of legislation and wherever there are those people that understand the implications of the Act.

The Member for La Verendrye, I believe, was absent last night when I introduced the bill and at that point, for his benefit, Mr. Speaker, I would like to repeat what I stated at that point and that is that this was a bill that had very broad . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Repetition is one of the rules that we have about in this House.

MR. USKIW: Well, I just simply wanted to point out that it is not the intent of the government to be hard and fast on any section of the bill, that we would appreciate the kind of constructive amendments that may come forward either from that side or from without the House, so that there are no hangups as far as I am concerned with respect to improving the bill when it goes into committee. I would invite constructive suggestions at that point.

I simply want to remind the Member for Pembina that he is wrong when he suggests that the agricultural bills had been left to the wee hours of the night, because if I would remind my honourable friend, last night I believe the Committee in Law Amendments passed some 18 or 16 bills - 17 I'm told - that had nothing to do with agriculture and that went well into the wee hours of the morning; so that it is somewhat erroneous on his part to suggest that for some reason only this particular Act was considered at that time of night.

The question of why the bill was introduced at this late stage I think is a very reasonable one, but I think I want to remind members that we did have a committee of the Legislature touring the province wherein they held hearings, or at which time they had hearings at some 18 different points in agra Manitoba, where briefs were presented to the committee suggesting the kind of things that we have put into this bill, and that committee reported to the House on the 5th of May, and surely I think members opposite would have argued the reverse had I tried to bring in a measure such as this prior to receiving the report of the committee that did so much work throughout the last year. And I think, bearing in mind the length and depth of that piece of legislation, one can appreciate why it took the legislative process a number of weeks to prepare, and I would hope the members reflect on the sequence of events that took place which brought this bill into the House at this stage in this session. Thank you very much.

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

. continued on next page

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable the House Leader.

MR. GREEN: Bill No. 99, Mr. Speaker, the middle of Page 3.

MR. SPEAKER: The proposed motion of the Honourable Minister of Transportation. The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

MR. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, this particular bill is a bill that I understand has some fairly significant sections in it that the government requires passage of in order to facilitate the government auto insurance, Autopac program; or complement the program more fully that is due to be introduced or go into operation, that is the Autopac program, on November 1st, and the members of the Opposition approach this bill with two minds. There's no suggestion on our part that we needlessly delay or filibuster this particular bill, but the bill is a large bill and we cannot really accept the explanation that the Minister gave us on introduction of the bill when he complained that this was one particular bill that had been passed early in the caucusing sessions of the members of the government and couldn't explain why it only surfaced at this particular time.

I would have to indicate through you, Mr. Speaker, to the Minister that a bill of this nature has implications, ramifications, for a great number of Manitobans. It has implications for the farmers and the farm operators, not only of motor vehicles but of tractors and other motorized pieces of equipment. There are specific sections in the Act dealing with children driving tractors and sections that are laudable, certainly, in the prevention of having young, unlicensed and unregistered persons driving any kind of equipment on our public thoroughfares. I would suggest, Mr. Speaker, that even with the limited time that I've had to look at the bill, that many many portions of the bill are worthy of relatively speedy approval, but we're in a difficult position to give a blanket approval to the bill without having had the opportunity to have not only our own caucus pursue all aspects of this bill, but also have those persons that advise our caucus, experts within the field of highway traffic legislation and regulation, to give us the wisdom of their counsel to our group in suggesting the approach that we should take towards this bill.

There are aspects of the bill, Mr. Speaker, that I have some grave reservations about. For instance, I note that there is a portion or section in the bill that now calls for the re-registration every time you paint a vehicle. Now if you change the color of your car from green to blue, or blue to red, the Minister wants us to run down and register that change of color. Now that maybe doesn't seem all that important, Mr. Speaker, but that's just the whole point; how important is it? And I can assure you, Mr. Speaker, that again, particularly with reference to farm vehicles, there is a lot of, for instance, on the farm, painting to an old battered up half ton or other truck to make it look a little bit more presentable, and really, is it necessary for that person to come all the way into the city, register the change of color in his truck?

And we're asking him to register a lot of things. The gross vehicle weight of the truck, capacity of the truck. We're asking him to be licensed in a proper manner. We're asking him to make sure that all the safety features are on the truck, that he's got two big mirrors on either side of the truck. Do we have this further registration of painting of the truck in the bill? So all I'm trying to say, Mr. Speaker, I'm not even trying to create a cause or a case, but I'm suggesting to you that the bill is a lengthy bill; it deserves a considerable amount of study on our part.

We would like to suggest through you, Mr. Speaker, to the Minister, and have suggested indeed to other members opposite, and we do it in good faith, that if there are specific sections contained within this bill that are the absolute must for reasons already mentioned, then why not pull those sections out of this rather large bill, present them to us, and be assured of relatively expeditious passing? At this stage, Mr. Speaker, I am afraid that we would be irresponsible with respect to the motoring public to pass this bill without considerably more detailed scrutiny and debate on the various sections and the implications thereof to the motoring public in Manitoba.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you ready for the question? The Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

MR. STEVE PATRICK (Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, I wish to make some brief remarks on this bill at the present time. I have not had the opportunity to go into any detail on this bill because it is a very complex piece of legislation and one can be very critical of the government for bringing this piece of legislation this late in the session. However, I do

(MR. PATRICK cont'd) understand, and I listened quite carefully when the Minister did say that it took quite some time for the architects and the drafters to draft this legislation because it's the kind of legislation that is very difficult and takes a lot of time to draft, so I would agree that's why probably the bill didn't surface earlier in the session, not until very late, but I hope the Minister would also appreciate that it's just as difficult then for the members in opposition to be able to express their opinion and to raise or bring proper points to the attention of the government which we may agree or disagree, so the difficulty is on two sides, because I agree that it is a bill that requires very careful drafting.

There are a few points that I wish to raise, Mr. Speaker, and I know that I can't go section by section but I wish to point out a couple of principles that are involved, and one of the principles is in connection with insurance. I would hope that this bill will not ban working drivers, because it is my information and it has been brought to my attention on the Bill 52, I believe, that there are many people who are holding a chauffeur's license who have never had any conviction or demerits on their driver's license while driving in their work, driving a big truck, but they do when they get into their passenger car, they accumulate them under their passenger car when they're driving as pleasure, and it makes it quite difficult then when they accumulate the demerit system, when they're pleasure driving their own automobile and they're forced to pay extremely high prices or they're almost taken right off the road. I think this is probably what would happen on one of the sections in this bill. I believe it's subsection (1) of Section 6. So I hope that the Minister will give us, and I'm sure that it does require some explanation. The other point that I wish to bring to the attention of the House, Mr. Speaker, is that I understand this is the first time that the trailer section of the truck will have to buy or purchase a license plate and separate license, and I would wonder would they also have to buy a separate insurance policy as well. You have your tractor and the trailer part, and I understand the trailer will definitely have to purchase a different type of a license and if they do, then in my opinion I think it's only logical that they may have to buy insurance as well. So I think it's a deviation from the present system and the present legislation that we have and I hoped that the Minister would have taken some time, and will when he closes the debate, to explain this change in policy.

The other point that has been mentioned already and that is with the change in colour, I don't think it's a very significant point but I think it is probably invasion of people's rights to some extent that they have to register every time you have to paint or change colour on your car. On the other hand, it may have some merit. The Minister did not take much time to explain. It may have merit in the course if you have theft and many stolen cars, but I think this is so minor, at least in our province, and so insignificant that I don't know and I'm not so certain that this is warranted and required, because it appears to me almost foolish to require, you know, the general public to do something to curb just so few and so minute, that affects the activities of a very very small minority - and I'm talking about theft in this case because that's the only reason I see that the Minister would have in mind, or the government, to register every time that you want to paint your car a different colour. I think that we have to accept, everyone has to accept that a car is not a luxury any more. It certainly is a necessity to most people for their daily lives and their daily work, and many of them making their livelihood, so I think that we should appreciate the fact that every Manitoban has the right to drive on the Manitoba highways and the more complex legislation we bring in, it makes it to some extent more difficult for our driving public. Not only that, it seems to me that we're saying that you're guilty or you're not guilty until proven guilty, but the point is that when your highway legislation gets so complex and difficult to understand, every year it's getting more complex and our population, our public, general public, do not understand the complex legislation that affects even out of this one bill, and I think the Minister will have to do some publicity, some advertising, and we cannot assume any more that ignorance, you know, is no excuse for breaking the law. In many instances it will be the fact because the legislation now will be so complex that much of the driving public will not understand.

Mr. Speaker, another point that I wish to bring to your attention, where at the present time when a person pleads guilty to an offence, a speeding offence, if the report of the police officer as to the speed which the person is driving is refused, it will be taken as record. If I could draw an illustration. A driver could be driving 65 miles an hour and he could be breaking the speed by five miles because the speed limit may be 60 miles an hour, but if the police officer says that he was driving 70 miles an hour, there's no way that this person has a chance

(MR. PATRICK cont'd) to argue that point. I think it's a good point. Section 93.1 I wish that the Minister would take a look at that. So my point is that the driver is certainly in a dilemma. If he believes in justice, he would say that he did break the speed limit by driving maybe over the speed limit of 5 miles an hour. On the other, if the police officer says he was breaking the speed limit by 20 miles an hour, there's no way that he can correct that if he says that he did break the speed limit. So once pleading guilty to contest the speed that he is driving -- (Interjection) - There's quite a bit of interruptions here, Mr. Speaker.

I do have a couple of other points. The other principle embodied in this bill, Mr. Speaker, and I think it's a very important one, and that's the one changing the world from "may" to "shall", requiring medical practitioners and optometrists to report those people who they feel aren't fit to drive. Now surely this bill should have some guidelines, some area where your medical profession would know who they have to report and who they don't. Many of them would feel that they're snooping on their personal clients, but I'm sure if the Minister would draft some kind of guidelines that they would be much more inclined to report if he would say, well, somebody with a serious heart condition or somebody that has a certain condition or certain illness must report, but the bill is very general, just to say, he must report anyone who is sick or the doctor feels is unfit. Well, this is the reason, I feel, that the doctors have not been reporting before. I think there must be some kind of classification, some kind of guidelines that your medical profession can go by and especially the point that has been brought to my attention. You can't just make it a general blanket statement that the medical profession must report everyone who in their judgment -- maybe they don't want to exercise their judgment, so give them some guidelines to go by and I think that you'll get much better cooperation from your medical profession. But at the present time it's just a straight statement that they have to make a judgment and I don't think that they would want to do that.

So these are a few of the points that I wish to bring to the attention of the Minister at the present time. I was not able to go through the whole bill and I was not ready to actually speak on it today, but I thought perhaps we should speed up legislation, at least we'll have the benefit of the people appearing on this bill before the Law Amendments, so I'm sure there will be quite a bit of legislation. I would hope that the Minister will undertake an advertising campaign. I think it would be worthwhile and I think it would do justice to this type of legislation if he would do a proper advertising campaign to inform the general public what's involved in here.

So, Mr. Speaker, I hope that the Minister will be able to give some of the answers to the points that I've raised and I hope that there are no serious errors in this legislation because it's a very large bill and it's complex legislation. It has some good points, some good things, but on the other hand it has some bad things as well. So I hope that the Minister will do a good job when he closes the debate.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Birtle-Russell.

MR. GRAHAM: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Emerson, that debate be adjourned.

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

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable House Leader.

MR. GREEN: Would you call Bill No. 98, Mr. Speaker, which is at the top of Page 3 of the Order Paper.

MR. SPEAKER: The Attorney-General. The Honourable Member for Brandon West. The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: The Honourable Member for Birtle-Russell just made a motion to adjourn debate. The government allowed it. Why didn't they do so on the previous motion where I tried to adjourn the bill? This is pure discrimination.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Brandon West.

MR. EDWARD MCGILL (Brandon West): Mr. Speaker, with respect to Bill No. 98, it's the kind of legislation that doesn't really present any difficulties to the Opposition even under the present circumstances where there is somewhat restricted time in which to research the legislation and to provide critical comments. We've rather anticipated the presentation of this legislation. We understand the Minister's explanation. There are just perhaps one or two comments we can make very briefly in respect to the principles involved in the bill.

(MR. MCGILL cont'd.)

Mr. Speaker, there's a suggestion that the Bill would provide that any writing or record made of an act or transaction or occurrence could be admitted in court as evidence of the act. Now this is perhaps a rather radical departure from the position which is presently held and rather firmly protected that of presenting the admission in a court of any hearsay evidence. Records such as memos that might have been prepared are now admissible under this Act and it would seem that there is an opening of the door to the admission of evidence which would have been classified hitherto as hearsay evidence. So I would suggest that the Minister might consider this comment and to reply as to whether or not he agrees that there is an opening of the door here in legal matters relating to hearsay evidence.

There's also provision in the Act which provides for somewhat more leniency in the authenticating of medical records or in the presentation of medical reports that may be required in an action at law. I think it is suggested that by providing that the authenticity of medical records may be accepted without having to call a medical doctor into court to provide that necessary support, that we are going to have to facilitate actions in a sense. But, Mr. Speaker, I suggest that usually when medical documents are presented in court, it is not their authenticity that is questioned but rather their veracity, and that it is often necessary to have a medical doctor whose training and whose professional qualifications enable him to say whether he can verify that this kind of evidence is correct. Reports as presented, or copies of reports are, I would think, seldom questioned as to whether or not they're authentic when they are received from a medical institution or such other source. But I would suggest that, in general, what we're doing here is making it easier, overcoming a difficulty that often occurs where medical doctors are not readily available for actions to proceed, and we would not take any great objection to this section and, in general, the intention of the bill and its principles we would support.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you ready for the question? The Honourable the Attorney-General,

HON. A.H. MACKLING, Q.C. (Attorney-General) (St. James): Mr. Speaker, I would like to answer very briefly that what the honourable member has said is true in respect to the medical reports. As a matter of fact, this practice was adopted by our sister province of Ontario in 1968.

In respect to the use of other documents, we have leaned heavily upon some of the changes recently made in the Canada Evidence Act in respect to the use of documents, and we believe that the changes will not open the door too wide to great weaknesses in the court proceedings and they're in keeping with what is reasonable.

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

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable House Leader.

MR. GREEN: Bill No. 97, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The proposed motion of the Honourable Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. The Honourable Member for Sturgeon Creek.

MR. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, I wonder, in the absence of the Honourable Member from Sturgeon Creek, I can simply report to the House Leader that he adjourned this bill for further perusal and has no further objection to it.

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

MR. GREEN: Bill No. 97, Mr. Speaker. Excuse me, Bill No. 104.

MR. SPEAKER: The proposed motion of the Honourable Attorney-General. The Honourable Member for Morris. The Honourable Member for Brandon West.

MR. MCGILL: Mr. Speaker, the Honourable Member for Morris was kind enough to adjourn the bill on my behalf and again I can say that it was anticipated legislation, we feel in principle very acceptable. We have considered it; we find no serious shortcomings; we're prepared to accept the bill.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you ready for the question? The Honourable Member for Portage la Prairie.

MR. GORDON E. JOHNSTON (Portage la Prairie): Mr. Speaker, I'd like to say a few words about Bill 104. I think that no one in this Legislature and certainly no one in Canada can any longer object to the fact that all our citizens have a right to justice, and under the adversary system as we know it in Canada, the right to justice really means the right to good legal advice, and I'm happy to say that Bill 104 in principle does give this right to the citizens of Manitoba. After praising the bill in principle, there are perhaps two points I would like to make that should be examined and perhaps explained by the Minister when he closes second reading.

(MR. G. JOHNSTON cont'd.)

First of all, I think that the legal fraternity should make a contribution as many other professional groups do when they decide to help out those who haven't the full means to pay for their services, and that is, I would suggest, or I would like to see that the legal fraternity would accept something in the order of 75 percent of their fee schedule for this service. And also that there be some method whereby the odd person - and it happens in all professions, in all walks of life, that there's always some unscrupulous person who would try to take advantage of a given situation - that there be the machinery set up to review cases whereby a lawyer would recommend an appeal and carry on the appeal only for the sake of the fee and not because he believes that the client should be taking this course of action. So I would hope that there's something to make this safeguard.

The other point is that in the neighbourhood legal aid centres, that these be used not as a place to set up with cubicles where people come in and get a quick legal decision and go out again, but rather that they would be used as a method of contact between the legal fraternity and the people in the area who may think they need help. In other words, after the preliminary contact was made between the lawyer and the person in need of assistance, that the next step or the following steps to be taken to help that person would be done in a lawyer's office and not conducted in the neighbourhood centre.

So with those two suggestions I say, on behalf of our Party, we're in favour of this bill and we hope for a speedy passage and early proclamation of the bill.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you ready for the question? The Honourable the Attorney-General.

MR. MACKLING: I would just like to briefly indicate to the honourable member my appreciation for his remarks and indicate also that it is anticipated that the legal profession will continue, as they have in the past, to contribute largely to the success of the workings of legal aid by making their services available at reduced cost to the corporation. That has been their practice in the past in respect to legal aid and I see no reason why they won't pursue the same course in the future. His points made in respect to review of the cases, as he probably notes, the legislation does provide for administrative techniques which will hopefully provide for the necessary review and, as he's indicated, the neighbourhood centres will provide an imaginative approach to other techniques in respect to the provision of the services themselves.

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

MR. GREEN: Would you call Bill 109, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The proposed motion of the Honourable the Attorney-General, The Honourable Member for Brandon West.

MR. MCGILL: Mr. Speaker, on Bill 109 the legislation is amending the present Expropriation Act and the Minister, the Attorney-General has explained the reasons in general for this legislation. We find it acceptable in principle. There is one point that we would like perhaps to make a short comment on and it relates to the part of the bill which indicates that confirming authority is not to be delegated and refers to a certain other part of the present Act. It suggests that notwithstanding any other Act of the Legislature, a confirming authority shall not delegate to any person the duties or powers mentioned in the subsection. We would think perhaps this might be looked at again. It seems to us that there should never be a situation where there would be inability to confirm due to the absence or the default of the person who has the authority under the Act to be the confirming authority, and that perhaps they should consider this section and a possible change that would probably include "except the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council, who may act in the absence or default of a member of the Executive Council." I think this would, Mr. Speaker, probably eliminate any situation where there would be no confirming authority available to enable the proceedings to continue. And with that short comment, Mr. Speaker, we're prepared to let the bill proceed to committee for examination.

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

MR. SPEAKER: The House Leader.

MR. GREEN: Bill No. 111, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The proposed motion of the Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs, The Honourable Member for Souris-Killarney.

MR. EARL MCKELLAR (Souris-Killarney): Mr. Speaker, when I adjourned this bill I adjourned it for the Honourable Member for Sturgeon Creek; until he arrives I'll just say a word here to keep the debate going.

I never saw such a scattered bill in all my life. The only thing I could understand was

(MR. McKELLAR cont'd.) the National Building Code. That's about the only thing that I was really familiar with. When it comes to building standards, I do know a little about that because of my occupation, but for the life of me I don't know why the Department of Municipal Affairs brings three bills in in one session - four bills - when one bill would do. So I don't know, Mr. Speaker, what to say about this bill because I'm going to have a lot of questions to ask. The only good thing I like here is the fixing of . . . That sounds about the only interesting part of . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please.

MR. McKELLAR: Mr. Speaker, I think it's about time that I sat down. Everything that I might say from now on might be out of order so I'll let the Member for Sturgeon Creek carry on.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Sturgeon Creek.

MR. FRANK JOHNSTON (Sturgeon Creek): Mr. Speaker, I'd like to move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Brandon West, that debate be adjourned.

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

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to indicate to my honourable friend the Member for Sturgeon Creek that we'll be calling this bill again this evening at 8:00 o'clock.

Bill 107, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The proposed motion of the Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs. The Honourable Member for Brandon West.

MR. McGILL: Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased to have this bill in its written form in front of me at this time, and I'm also happy that the House Leader abandoned his clandestine approach to this legislation that was anticipated in the early hours this morning and that he decided to let the sun shine in all its glory on the splendour of this legislation and to reveal all of its wonderful good things for the City of Brandon. I don't think, after looking at the bill, that it was necessary at all to introduce it under cover of darkness and I'm glad that we're doing it in the daytime. I don't think it's really that bad. It's a bill that probably has much benefit for many of the people of the urban area of Brandon. There is an editorial comment on Bill 107 in last night's Brandon Sun and it ends with this paragraph: "There is much to discuss here and it is hoped that there will be ample time in the Legislature for such discussion. In a way, it is unfortunate that the bill is to be discussed at a time when MLAs have already been sitting too long and are impatient to get home."

Mr. Speaker, while I can concur generally with the feelings of the writer, I would object to his language and specifically where he says "It is unfortunate". I would say, Mr. Speaker, that it's unnecessary that this bill be brought before the Legislature, as it is now, when there is not sufficient time perhaps to provide for full debate of the clauses, because it is of major importance. It is one of the most important bills that has been presented, certainly during my time in the Legislature, which admittedly is not very long. It's one of the most important bills in respect to the 40,000 people who reside in the second largest urban community of Manitoba. It's unnecessary, I feel, that this bill did not reach the Legislature until Thursday or Friday of last week, and it's unreasonable that we should have at this time to deal with a bill of such importance to so many people in the Province of Manitoba.

Let me just relate the chronological order in which the recent events leading up to this bill occurred. In January of this year a commission was appointed to bring in a report on the need for boundaries adjustments surrounding the City of Brandon, and this commission was headed and the sole commissioner was Dr. Dulmage of Brandon. His report was presented - I believe he was asked to have the report completed by the end of March; I'm not absolutely certain of this but he was given an extension of two weeks and I believe the report must have been in perhaps in the second or third week of April, because I have a report in front of me and my copy was received on the 21st day of April, 1971. So the recommendations of the Brandon Boundaries Commission were in the hands of the government by at least April 21st.

But, Mr. Speaker, what has happened since that time? May has gone by, June, and we're in the latter stages of the month of July at a time when it's hoped that the proceedings of this Legislature will be shortly wound up and we will be able to depart to our respective homes.

I suggest, Mr. Speaker, again, that it is entirely unnecessary that this should have happened at this time and that it is completely unreasonable that we should be expected to give the careful attention, the scrutiny and the critical comment that this bill deserves. I would

(MR. MCGILL cont'd.) suggest, Mr. Speaker, that for the government to take this position and to introduce this legislation at this time is rather cavalier in respect to the rights of the people I represent and certainly the people in addition that the Member for Brandon East represents. I don't think I should be expected to return to Brandon and say, well, I'm sorry we didn't have time to really discuss this bill, to really bring out all the points, the obvious advantages perhaps for some, for many, the disadvantages for some, not so many, and the things in the bill that are not specifically spelled out.

For instance, Mr. Speaker, it's suggested in addition to changing the boundaries - and this is pretty clearly indicated what changes are to be made - the people of Brandon are asked to change their way of life and adopt a ward system in their municipal politics. They're asked to do this by October of this year so that an election can be held and all the present sitting aldermen and mayor can be replaced. They're asked to do this, to adopt the ward system in principle, without being in the position of being able to examine the boundaries of the proposed ten wards. I think, Mr. Speaker, this is a very difficult decision for the Brandon people to make. They may be able to decide philosophically whether they agree with the ward principle, and this is certainly one of the recommendations of the Dulmage report and one that I don't discard lightly, but I think it is unnecessary and unreasonable that they should have to make this decision without having seen the boundaries that are to be used for the proposed wards.

Mr. Speaker, I think that no matter what the hopes may be for the conclusion of the work of this Assembly, it is most important to give this full treatment, a full democratic examination, and that an opportunity be given to the people who have so far been only concerned with representations as to the philosophy, to examine the specifics of the bill and the legislation that is now proposed by this government. And to this end it would be my hope and it would be my firm position that whatever standing committee of this House is given the task of dealing with this bill clause by clause, it should take its hearings to the Brandon area so that people in the urban area of Brandon can freely and easily communicate with the standing committee, express their views, because this is a very important and a very real step and one that will affect certainly the political fortunes as well as the financial fortunes of a great number of people in western Manitoba.

Mr. Speaker, I must again say that I feel that it's important legislation. I feel that much of it is good obviously. I feel that there is much there to be explained, that details must be given, a full explanation before a final decision can be made. To that end, it's the democratic way to make sure that people who are concerned have an opportunity to stand up and say their piece. I think because there are so many people affected that we should take the legislative process to them. There will be no question, if this is done, that we're merely doing it as a travelling show. There is something to be said in earnest, something very serious to be said in connection with this bill. I think it's important that the people be heard. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you ready for the question? The Honourable Minister of Industry and Commerce.

HON. LEONARD S. EVANS (Minister of Industry and Commerce) (Brandon East): Mr. Speaker, unfortunately I didn't hear all the remarks of the Honourable Member from Brandon West. I gathered, however, in the last few moments, that he is expressing agreement in principle with the bill and I'm very pleased to hear this because it is a very carefully thought out document based upon a Royal Commission established by this government. Dr. Dulmage, President of the University of Brandon, held a series of meetings, received numerous briefs and had considerable dialogue with the people of Brandon and the surrounding municipalities, and I think everyone in the area -- it was very well reported and everyone in the area agreed that he has done an excellent job and that he left no stone unturned, that he heard everyone that there was to be heard, that he had a continual open door policy whereby anyone at any time could come and visit him or visit his secretary. So therefore I'm satisfied that this report is based upon representations made by all elements in that community and in the southwestern Manitoba area.

Let me very briefly refer, Mr. Speaker, to three important concerns that we must have in this particular piece of legislation. First of all, there is the principle of urban government for urban areas, and I believe that the Union of Manitoba Municipalities has gone on record some time ago that rural government is required for rural living and that urban government is the type of government that is needed for urban living. This is a very important element in the recommendations made by Dr. Dulmage. He has, in effect, proposed and this

(MR. EVANS cont'd.) legislation essentially incorporates his proposition, his proposal, that those areas that have become urbanized in the rural parts surrounding Brandon become part of the legal City of Brandon.

There's another important concern expressed in this bill, Mr. Speaker, and that is a concern relating to the economic development of the City of Brandon, and although I have often taken issue with the underlying philosophy of the TED Report, I've always said that the TED Report, the Targets for Economic Development, had a lot of good material within it on specific issues, and I'd like to refer to a recommendation made by the TED Report on Page 470 where they spend some time discussing the challenge of regional development and they have specific reference to the City of Brandon. And it says, and I'm quoting from Page 470: "In the last five years, Brandon has conducted an intensive industrial promotional program with a reasonable degree of success. However, the city still does not have a desirable balance between residential and non-residential taxation. This problem is intensified by the fact that the major part of industrial development attracted to Brandon has located outside the city boundaries and is therefore not contributing to city taxation. The city is not only a retailing and distributing centre for a large area of western Manitoba, but it is rapidly becoming an education and government centre for the surrounding region. In both of these fields, the taxes contributed are quite limited."

It goes on and refers to restrictive city boundaries. "A large portion" and I'm quoting again, Mr. Speaker, "A large portion of the remaining undeveloped area within the city is owned by the federal and provincial governments. It is under-utilized for urban purposes but it is not subject to normal direct taxation. Antiquated urban annexation procedures do not allow the city to take the necessary steps to have its boundaries extended. The city not only suffers by being unable to exercise adequate land usage control in the urban fringe, but also by being unable to take direct advantage of incoming industry through taxation. The city must, however, provide services to the increased population generated directly and indirectly by these industries."

The Dulmage Report also notes this phenomenon and on Page 14 of the report, Dr. Dulmage states, "It should be noted that the proximity of Cornwallis to the City of Brandon must be seriously taken as a reason for the location of much industry in that rural municipality. These industries have not located in other farther off rural municipalities where the relatively low-priced land is also available, and where the levels of land, property and business taxes are comparable. Firms producing products sold in national and international markets are, at least in part, attracted to Cornwallis by the close proximity of an urban labour force, of urban supplied specialized services, of urban intensive and urban quality transportation services, and of basic amenities normally found only in urban environments. Small manufacturing firms and many types of commercial and service establishments locate in the area because of the existence of the relatively large market in the City of Brandon." This, Mr. Speaker, I repeat, is from Pages 14 and 15 of the Dulmage Report on the Brandon boundaries.

This situation that I refer to, both in the TED Report and in the Royal Commission Report, has led to a relatively high debt load per capita on the citizens of Brandon, and the Department of Municipal Affairs has statistics showing the debt load per capita, which shows a significant increase in the debt load per capita in Brandon in recent years, and the surrounding rural municipality of Cornwallis, the surrounding municipality of Elton, have a debt per capita of zero whereas Brandon has gone up from \$282.00 per person in 1969 to \$325.00 in 1970. This figure is much higher than the average for all municipalities in Manitoba.

Well, why a rise in the debt load? Again I would briefly quote the Dulmage Report which says on Page 31, and I quote: "As pointed out earlier, one of the critical factors in the changing nature of the relationship between Cornwallis and Brandon has been the tendency for major industrial establishments and smaller commercial and service establishments to locate in the Municipality of Cornwallis. This affects Brandon in two ways. First, the city has been forced to reallocate its expenditures to accommodate changes in such things as traffic flow; and second, the location of industry in the rural Municipality of Cornwallis has contributed to a growth of city population with corresponding increases in the demand for services. This has been reflected in a shift in the composition of the real property tax base in Brandon. The industrial commercial real property assessment has declined relative to the residential real property assessment. The result has been an increase in the relative tax burden on the residential property in the City of Brandon and indeed on all property in the City of Brandon."

(MR. EVANS cont'd.)

Well, Mr. Speaker, I referred to important concerns underlying this legislation. First I referred to urban government for urban living; second I referred to the need to assist the economic growth of the city; and thirdly, I'd like to refer to the health problem which is perhaps in some ways more important than any other reason than I've thus far indicated.

On Page 54 - I read one paragraph here of the Dulmage Report - it states: "The commission has received a report from the Brandon Health Unit of the Department of Health and Welfare in which it is noted that at the time of its survey in 1969, slightly more than 50 percent of the wells in a certain area south of Richmond Avenue in the rural Municipality of Cornwallis were contaminated with coliform and that there was contamination also due to detergents, oil and nitrates. Moreover, the usual method of disinfection through the use of chlorine was almost totally ineffective. On the basis of these findings, the provincial Department of Health and Welfare through the Brandon Health Unit recommended that there be an alternate water supply to the present source and early introduction of sewer services to this area to arrest the already high pollution of soil and prevent this from being a vehicle for disease."

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, the point I'm making, that there is a potential health hazard, a serious health hazard in this urbanized area of the Rural Municipality of Cornwallis, and this bill before you will alleviate this in conjunction with an offer, an agreement already signed with the Federal Government, the Department of Regional Economic Expansion, which in effect gives Brandon a cash grant of \$1.2 million and a low rate interest loan of \$1.2 million for a total of 2.4, to extend water supply and sewage services in Brandon and, in particular, in this area which contains the health hazard. And I have a letter from Mr. Marchand dated December 15, 1970, in which he states: "As a final point, I believe that we both agree on the desirability of extending the boundaries of the City of Brandon to include the residential and industrial areas immediately adjacent to but outside the existing boundaries of the city." And then he goes on to refer to some correspondence on this matter and he says: "As I mentioned to you at our meeting in Ottawa, we are quite prepared to include in the project the extension of water and sewer services to these areas. I must, however," - and this is the important point - "I must, however, have your assurance that changes to the boundaries will be made in the near future." Really, the point I'm trying to make, Mr. Speaker, the point I'm trying to make, Mr. Speaker, is that . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: I would ask that the letter be tabled.

MR. EVANS: Did the honourable member ask for a copy of the letter? I'll be delighted to table it; in fact it can be tabled right now.

The fact of the matter is, Mr. Speaker, that the Federal Government has recognized this health hazard that exists because of the lack of water and sewage services in this urbanized area of the rural municipality and has therefore - this is a major concern - has therefore agreed to make this grant of money to that area. However, I don't want to belabour the point, but those are three very important concerns that we have in seeing that this bill gets through.

Just very briefly, Mr. Speaker, let me refer to the ward system which the bill will bring into Brandon for the first time. The Dulmage Report said that this would in effect increase democracy in Brandon; it would give the people of Brandon a more direct voice, the electors a greater voice in council affairs; it would bring the the council, the councillor, the individual alderman, closer to the people, and at the moment - and this is based upon statistical analysis - there are several areas of the city that are under-represented, in fact are not represented on council. As a matter of fact, the figures show that for many years between 60 and 70 percent of the people on the Brandon city council came from two areas of the city, so that areas such as the north end of Brandon, the east end of Brandon or the south end of Brandon were either under-represented or were not represented at all. As a matter of fact, this is the case today. There is no one, I believe, now on the Brandon city council who comes from the north end of Brandon.

So I say, Mr. Speaker, that the institution of a ward system will enhance the democratic process in the City of Brandon.

In conclusion, I would just refer to the various provisions for equities that the bill provides. Agricultural areas which will be incorporated in the legal limits of the city will continue to be taxed at an agricultural rate. Secondly, there are protections built into this bill to prevent any immediate tax increases of any residential properties that come within the city,

(MR. EVANS cont'd.) and this is referred to within the bill and I can discuss this in detail at committee stage if necessary. And I would also point out that it has a provision to share the tax revenues between the city and the rural municipality of Cornwallis. In other words, in future, when the bill comes into effect, that industrial and commercial revenues will be shared on a per capita basis between the two municipal authorities.

Mr. Speaker, this bill will undoubtedly assist in the economic and social development of Brandon as a strong regional centre. It will therefore, in my opinion, assist in improving the quality of life of the people in that part of the province, in southwestern Manitoba, because in my opinion a larger, stronger Brandon will provide more services that people require and need in this Twentieth Century. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, this will enhance the process of balanced economic development in Manitoba and I'm most certain, Mr. Speaker, that the ultimate result will be a better province of Manitoba. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Sturgeon Creek.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: I'd like to ask the Honourable Minister if he would permit a question, Mr. Speaker.

MR. EVANS: Yes.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Will the men running in the wards have to live in the wards they run in?

MR. EVANS: I don't know whether I'm really an expert on this but I believe, I've been advised by the Minister of Municipal Affairs that there is no provision for this in the bill but the Municipal Act of Manitoba states that any municipality which has a ward system requires the person to live in that particular ward.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Souris-Killarney.

MR. McKELLAR: . . . of the Honourable Minister if he would so accept. How many people have died by those unhealthy wells that you spoke of in the Cornwallis area?

MR. EVANS: Well, Mr. Speaker, I can't give him that information but I have talked to the Health Officer myself and I am assured that it does constitute a serious threat to health in the area, and I don't suggest that we wait until an epidemic breaks out and there are death occurring before we do something about it.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: I also have a question if the Minister would be prepared to answer it. What was the amount of the award given to Brandon by Cornwallis under the award of The Municipal Act?

MR. EVANS: I'm sorry, Mr. Speaker, I didn't hear the honourable member because of noise in the Chamber.

MR. FROESE: Whether the Minister could tell us how much the award was that the Municipal Board gave to Brandon and which is supposed to be paid by Cornwallis.

MR. EVANS: Well, Mr. Speaker, I'm not sure what the honourable member is speaking of. I have no knowledge of what he's speaking of. I'd be delighted to answer -- unless my colleague the Minister of Municipal Affairs knows the answer.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you ready for the question? The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: Mr. Speaker, I would like to make some comments in connection with the bill before us. I noted from the Globe and Mail this morning that there was an article in that particular paper on this very matter, and the caption is: "Bill Introduced Would Enlarge the City of Brandon." It goes on to say: "A bill to enlarge the City of Brandon to two and a half times its present size has been introduced in the Legislature. The change in the city's boundaries was urged in the report prepared by Andrew Dulmage, President of Brandon University, and tabled in the Legislature earlier this year." Then further on, the statement says: "The new boundaries would extend the area of Brandon about one mile to the north, one miles to the south, and five miles to the east. The northeast boundary would be the Assiniboine River. Also included in the legislation is a complicated tax-equalizing formula which would protect farm and residential property in the area to be annexed from experiencing a sudden rise in property tax." That's the conclusion of the article.

Mr. Speaker, in a way I am surprised to see the bill before us the way it is; in another way I'm not so surprised, because the Minister of Industry and Commerce comes from that particular area and we heard earlier in the session about certain matters in reference to the Attorney-General's Department where preferential treatment had taken place. This bill is no

(MR. FROESE cont'd.) exception to that matter because we see large, and very large handouts to the City of Brandon in this bill.

Earlier I was denied speaking on the Assessment Bill because they would not allow an adjournment and when I didn't have my glasses with me; afterwards the Minister allowed several bills to be adjourned. But this is the type of discrimination that is being practiced by the House Leader here in this province. I would have liked to make some comments in connection with the Assessment Act, because look what we have in this bill. Here the government gives preference to farm lands in relation to other farm lands and other towns and cities. There is a special section here which says that the farm land tax cannot be any greater than such and such, and that it has to be equalized among the average of the six municipalities and it can't increase above that. Yet we find that the Assessment Branch of this province in the Town of Winkler increased the assessment of farm land in that town by 400 percent, and I have a tax bill personally on 122 acres where the tax bill was \$425.00 the last couple of years. This is quite a heavy tax load as it is, but this year that bill, that tax bill has increased from \$425.00 to \$1,700. A \$1,700 tax bill on 122 acres. This is the type of assessment that we're getting from this Assessment Branch here in Manitoba, and we just had a bill here that came up for discussion . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. A point of order by the Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs.

HON. HOWARD R. PAWLEY (Minister of Municipal Affairs) (Selkirk): I fail to understand the relevancy of the general assessment policy practiced by the Assessment Branch of the Department of Municipal Affairs insofar as same relates to this bill before us.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. I fail to see that that is a point of order. The honourable member is entitled to make his debate as he wishes.

MR. FROESE: The matter is very relevant, Mr. Speaker, because we're dealing with assessment in this bill as well because of the amount of taxes that will be paid and there is a real handout to these people here; otherwise I would very strongly warn the people of Cornwallis, who are having their lands transferred into Brandon, because their land would otherwise be taken from them because of not being able to pay the taxes, because of the increased taxes that would result. And now I find that this bill has taken care of it; they have a special section in it that limits the amount of taxation that can take place in farm land in the City of Brandon once this land is annexed to that city, and I'm sure that the Minister of Industry and Commerce had a hand in this in order to have this land transferred, because, Mr. Speaker, we all know too well what took place a few years ago when the Municipal Affairs Committee went to several places in Manitoba and held hearings, and at that time when we held hearings in Brandon, Cornwallis came forward, and so did Brandon at that time, on this very issue, and Cornwallis took very strong exception on having the land annexed to Brandon; and now we see this very thing before us. Certainly the people whose land is being transferred are now being given special privilege, and how can we justify this? I would like to know from the government how they can justify this type of treatment to certain farmers in this province when other farmers are not being able to enjoy the same benefits when their lands are being transferred or annexed to other towns.

Then also there's another matter in here, because we find under another provision there is going to be made an award to the City of Brandon as well, in addition to this, so that Cornwallis will have to pay large amounts to pay the difference. When taxes will be reduced in the City of Brandon, the difference of that amount will have to come from Cornwallis and there will be an award made by the Municipal Board under the Municipal Act on these lands that are being transferred because Cornwallis is in a healthier state. As mentioned, they have no debts, in fact they have reserves, and Brandon has a very heavy debt load; they are in serious trouble and have been for some time. The government was going to take action - or I think did take action of some kind in connection with the City of Brandon. They are bankrupt and now Cornwallis is supposed to bail them out. Here the farmers of Cornwallis municipality have built up reserves and this government is going to confiscate those reserves and give them to Brandon to pay the deficits that the City of Brandon has. This is what this bill proposes and this is what the Minister of Industry and Commerce no doubt had a very strong hand in, in putting the bill together; and I for one do not, will not support such a measure, not at this time. Certainly I might be debarred from getting up again because the Minister of Mines and Resources is very skeptical about me when I . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The Honourable Minister of Industry and Commerce.

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, on a matter of privilege, the honourable member is imputing certain motives and actions on my part he has no evidence thereof, and he's standing up in front of us and stating that I've done such and such and that I've influenced such and such, and I would therefore suggest to him that he is treading on very thin ice and I suggest that he hasn't read the report because it's in the report.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. In respect to the matter of privilege, I would suggest that there is some indication that the Honourable Member for Rhineland is getting into the area. I am certain that he can pick and choose his words which will be more adequate to the topic before us, and debate the issue of the bill. The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: Yes. If the Minister would do the same thing for other areas in this province I would certainly not have said what I did. -- (Interjection) -- Well, I just mentioned Winkler where we had an increase of a tax bill of 400 percent on farm land and there's no building on that land; there's no improvements on that land; there's no subdivisions. Nothing. It's straight farm land, and to have your taxes increased from \$425.00 to \$1,700, this means that I won't be able to pay the taxes on that land from the revenues that I get, and this was done by this government through the assessment that they brought in. They increased the assessment by over 400 percent when the taxes already were as high as they were.

The Minister who just spoke mentioned the increased services that would be given to the new and additional areas. Are these services being wanted by the people? Do the people want them, or is this again an imposition that this government is forcing on these people whether they want it or not? I certainly would like to hear from them on this very point.

I feel that this bill should not be passed at this time. I think the people of Cornwallis should be given a chance to appear before a committee and to give us their views on this very legislation before it is passed, because it discriminates so much against the people in Cornwallis and it privileges the people of Brandon; in fact, it bails them out of the bankrupt situation that they're in now at the present time.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Souris-Killarney.

MR. McKELLAR: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Lakeside, that the debate be adjourned.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion and put the question.

MR. SPEAKER: I heard one "aye" and one "nay".

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

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable House Leader.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I'd just like to bring to the attention of the Member for Souris-Killarney that the bill will be called again at 8:00 o'clock this evening. Call Bill No. 115, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The proposed motion of the Honourable the Attorney-General. The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. MACKLING presented Bill No. 115, an Act to amend The Provincial Police Act, for second reading.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable the Minister.

MR. MACKLING: Mr. Speaker, this bill comes before you late in the session but it has been the subject of considerable discussion for a very lengthy period of time and I'm sure was anticipated by members of the House. As you will know, I have indicated from time to time my concern in respect to the development of higher proficiency and status on the part of the police forces in Manitoba, and the bill in part is a reflection of that concern and the concern also for techniques to properly facilitate the hearing of complaints in respect to both citizens' complaints charging error or improper treatment on the part of the police, and likewise a provision where police may complain in the event that there is inordinate or undue treatment, disciplinary treatment, taken by the employing authority.

The provisions of the bill are very comprehensive. They provide for the establishment of a Police Commission, a provincial Police Commission, given authority to enter into a wide-ranging concern in respect to many matters which affect the organization and development and training of police. I won't enumerate all of the details, Mr. Speaker, because in this instance the press, without my comments, did take the bill and have highlighted very particularly the various points involving the role of the Police Commission, and I think they did a very

(MR. MACKLING cont'd.) effective job. There are ancillary matters inasmuch as the bill would clear up the confusion that may have at times existed in respect to the technique to be followed in the event that there is an action to be brought against a municipality by reason of a charge or a claim arising out of the conduct of a police officer. Also, Mr. Speaker, the bill does provide for separate negotiation on the part of some police officers who have attained a senior rank.

In many ways the bill that is before you is contingent upon the passage of another bill which is an amendment to the Labour Relations Act, and I won't comment on that bill except to say that the understandings that I have had, and I have dialogued at some length with representatives of the Police Association particularly in the Metropolitan Winnipeg area, and the understandings are that the provisions, the amendments in the Labour Relations Act, will be entirely satisfactory to them; they have seen the proposed amendments and are quite in agreement with them.

I have received latterly some further suggestions for some technical improvements in the wording, in the drafting of the Act, and perhaps at the Law Amendments Committee there may be some things that I would be prepared to accept in the suggestions that have been made to me as further refinement of some of the wording in the bill; but essentially, Mr. Speaker, those are the main highlights of the bill. I won't go into the details about the wide-ranging view of the Police Commission because, as I've indicated, I think that the substantial publicity that has been given to the role of the Police Commission is by now thoroughly well-known to honourable members of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you ready for the question? The Honourable Member for Swan River.

MR. JAMES H. BILTON (Swan River): Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Minnedosa, that debate be adjourned.

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

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

HON. RUSSELL PAULLEY (Minister of Labour) (Transcona) presented Bill No. 116, an Act to amend The Labour Relations Act (2), for second reading and referral to Law Amendments Committee.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, the purport of this bill is to give accommodation to the bill that has just been introduced by the Honourable the Attorney-General. As honourable members undoubtedly are aware, under the Labour Relations Act at the present time there is a prohibition for members of police associations from striking, and it is deemed advisable that under our Labour Relations Acts of the Province of Manitoba that there should be general understanding that all workers or professionals in the Province of Manitoba should have equal rights. Indeed, Mr. Speaker, during the last couple of sessions or so, we have adopted in this Assembly a Human Rights Act, and other Acts, which makes provision for equal treatment to all.

I want to make it perfectly clear, Mr. Speaker, that in introducing the amendments to the Labour Relations Act, which, in part, will remove the prohibition from strike by the police in the Province of Manitoba, I am not asking them in their collective agreements to agree to going on strike. My understanding at the present time is that most of the collective agreements make provision, or can make provision, for compulsory and binding arbitration with the parties concerned.

It has been indicated to me, Mr. Speaker, by many, that this is the methodology in which it is desired to continue provisions within collective agreements, and I have no opposition to this at all, and knowing the responsibility of those concerned with our police associations, that they have no desire, because of any change in legislation, to go on strike.

But the main point, though, Mr. Speaker, in the amendments that I am proposing for the consideration of the Assembly and consideration of the committee, is that we should give equal treatment to all within our province. Therefore, as I say, Mr. Speaker, I am suggesting that the clause in the present Labour Relations Act which prohibits strike by police, should be removed. I might say too, Mr. Speaker, that as I indicated a few days ago, consideration is being given to a new Labour Code for Manitoba and consideration at that time I'm sure, Sir, will be given to eliminating any prohibition of the right to strike with our civil service, our firemen, and others as well.

(MR. PAULLEY cont'd.)

But when I say, Mr. Speaker, by way of introduction to this bill, removal of the prohibition against strike, under the suggested amendments to the Labour Relations Act we are proposing a methodology through which and by which the public's interest will be protected. I am sure as you're aware, Mr. Speaker, at the present time under the Labour Relations Act, there are certain Crown agencies which are subject to their actions respecting strikes, subject to a review by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council, whereby certain provisions of the present Labour Relations Act are set aside and that mediation proceedings become the order of the day; and that if the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council in his wisdom decides that it is an essential work, that there should be no cessation of hostilities, then the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council can declare so. — (Interjection) — Of work. I said "hostilities" and in this context, Mr. Speaker, I appreciate my colleague the Minister of Mines and Natural Resources for correcting it. It's not hostilities, it's a cessation of work rather than hostilities, because hostilities, I suppose, there will never be any ceasing of the same. But if, in the wisdom or otherwise of the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council, it is deemed in the public interest that there should be no walk-out, or lock-out, then the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council in his wisdom can so declare.

The effect of the amendments that are now being proposed, Mr. Speaker, go beyond that, so that this Assembly, or the Assembly of Manitoba, can become involved. And what is proposed, that where the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council declares that an interruption of work would be against the interests of the public, that that order of the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council will only be valid for 15 days, and unless there is a resolving of the matter within that period of time, then it will be a requirement that the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba be called into session to either support or reject the declaration of the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council.

I would like to point out, Mr. Speaker, that this is different than some of the legislation prevailing at the present time in some of our sister jurisdictions in Canada, because in some of the jurisdictions that have legislated for certain rights by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council they give to the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council the sole right, the sole jurisdiction without reference to the Assembly. And our objective is, Mr. Speaker, that were a Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council declares an essential service, that only holds valid for 15 days. If the matter under mediation is resolved, then there will not be the requirement for the calling into being of the Assembly. But if it is still a dispute, then this Assembly, or the Assembly of Manitoba, will be called upon to pass its judgment on the actions of the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council.

Now, Mr. Speaker, there are a number of amendments that are required in the Labour Relations Act to give support to the proposition that is being presented at this particular time, and I'm sure that honourable members had an opportunity of considering the bill before us priorly, and I would suggest that we adopt the proposition now being proposed and that this matter be referred to the Law Amendments Committee for consideration. And I want to make it clear, Mr. Speaker, that in suggesting Law Amendments Committee rather than the Industrial Relations Committee, I do so because this in essence is a companion bill to that just introduced by my colleague the Attorney-General.

I also want to say, Mr. Speaker, that it would be the intention to introduce another amendment, which is not contained within Bill 116, regarding the Labour Relations Act.

Members of the Industrial Relations Committee will recall the other day representations were made to the committee dealing with the effect of arbitration awards and also a case that was considered by the Supreme Court of Ontario dealing with changing of awards of an Arbitration Board. I will ask consideration be given at Law Amendments for the inclusion of a change in the Labour Relations Act to give effect to the recommendations that were made to the committee the other day, a recommendation, may I say too, Mr. Speaker, that comes from the Woods Committee, which committee of course is a committee comprised of both representatives of labour and management.

So with these few remarks, Mr. Speaker, I recommend these changes; I recommend that consideration be given in Law Amendments Committee, and again, Sir, I want to re-emphasize as strongly as I can, let there be no misunderstanding that in proposing this matter, these amendments, as the Minister of Labour in the Province of Manitoba, I am not suggesting to the police or any other association that they go out on strike, but I do believe sincerely that they should be in no different a category than any other segment of the labouring force within the

(MR. PAULLEY cont'd.) Province of Manitoba.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you ready for the question? The Honourable Member for Emerson.

MR. GABRIEL GIRARD (Emerson): Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct one question to the Minister. He mentioned twice that the bill was going to Law Amendments. Is this a fact? It's not going to the Industrial Relations Committee?

Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Member from Swan River, that the debate be adjourned.

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

. continued on next page

GOVERNMENT RESOLUTIONS

MR. SPEAKER: The House Leader.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I'd like you to call the resolution standing in my name on Page 5 on the Order Paper.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Mines and Natural Resources.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable, the Minister of Labour, that

WHEREAS it is deemed advisable to reconstitute the Special Committee of the Legislature reappointed at the Second Session of the 29th Legislature on Thursday, July 16, 1970, as a task force on Northern Affairs to consider and report upon requirements for the economic, cultural and industrial well-being, growth and development of Northern Manitoba;

AND WHEREAS it is also deemed advisable that this task force should include, in addition to representatives of various interested groups of citizens, certain members of this Assembly;

AND WHEREAS the task force on Northern Affairs, appointed on Thursday, July 16, 1970, recommended in its Report, which was tabled in the Legislature on Tuesday, May 25, 1971, and received on Thursday, June 3, 1971:

1. That the Committee be reconstituted to complete its work.

2. That the Government of Manitoba proceed as quickly as possible with a program of dissemination of information and material developed on Northern Manitoba through various kinds of discussions and meetings involving the different groups interested in or affected by northern development so that these people and groups can contribute to northern development planning;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a Special Committee of the Legislative Assembly comprised of Hon. Mr. Green, Messrs. Allard, Barrow, Beard, Bilton, Johnston (Portage la Prairie) and McBryde be reconstituted to consider and report upon the requirements and development of Northern Manitoba, including the recommendations of the Report received in the House, Thursday, June 3, 1971;

AND THAT the Committee hold such public hearings as it may deem advisable;

AND THAT the Committee have power to sit during this session, during recess or after prorogation, and report to the House at the next Session of the Legislature.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: Mr. Speaker, I think I should make a few comments before this resolution is passed. We have a report on file from this committee in past years and there were a lot of recommendations in that report on various matters - I think I have the report on my desk. It referred to education, it referred to health, to airstrips and whatnot, and I don't see the need for having the committee sitting further before we implement some of the requests that were made in that report. There were oodles of them and yet this government hasn't acted on them. Let them act on them and then I think we should have have further studies, but not until we see action by this government on the requests that were made and on the recommendations that were contained in the report.

I could name any number of them, and why doesn't the government act rather than just keep on setting up committees as though to have the people believe, well, this government is really acting. And yet they're not acting; they're just putting on window dressing through these various committees and the action is not forthcoming.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you ready for the question? The Honourable Minister of Mines and Natural Resources will be closing debate.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, the Honourable Member for Rhineland has on several occasions referred to the first Northern Task Force Report and referred to lack of action, and I think that the Honourable Member for Rhineland has studiously avoided directing his attention to just what has happened as a result of those Northern Task Force reports, because the very first year that the report came back from the Legislature, the whole section on community development, the whole section with regard to setting up community committees and the right of these committees to govern their own affairs, was incorporated in a bill which was brought to the Legislature and passed. And I challenge the Honourable Member for Rhineland to refer to a single extra legislative committee that was constituted, roughly, in the month of October, that met during the months of November, December and January, that reported to the

(MR. GREEN cont'd) Legislature before it opened the same year, and had legislation presented by the government and passed during the same time. I challenge the Honourable Member for Rhineland to show any other example of a single extra legislative committee that did that in that length of time.

The honourable member says that the Legislative Committee recommended various things and none of these things happened. Well, I know that it recommended certain things with regard to telephone, that those things occurred; that it recommended certain things with regard to education in the north, that those things occurred; that it recommended certain things with regard to communities being able to develop their resources and that agencies be set up whereby these resources could be developed by the community; these things have occurred. It recommended a native development fund. There is distributed to honourable members in the House Bill No. 114, which is being introduced at this session, which the honourable member knows about because he sat in the House and asked questions about it when it was being discussed during the Capital Estimates. Those things have happened. It recommended that the Task Force be reconstituted for the purpose of creating a global, social and economic development plan for Northern Manitoba; those things have happened. The task force this year was provided with - and I think that this is also unprecedented - provided with an administration to take its plan and put this into such form as could be utilized by the people of Manitoba. It asked that these plans be disseminated to the people of Manitoba so that they could engage in a discussion as to what is happening; these things have occurred. The entire program relative to a northern working group which has been set up by this government to look over all programs in northern Manitoba have been part and parcel of what is happening now in Leaf Rapids; have been part and parcel of what is now happening in Manibridge Mines whereby these developments are taking place in a manner that didn't take place before, and all pursuant to the type of recommendation that was provided by the Northern Task Force. It resulted in \$4 million being pledged by this government with an accompanying six million by the Federal Government to develop the Town of Churchill, something that governments have had plaguing them for years and years and years because they couldn't decide as to what would happen as between Federal and Provincial jurisdiction; that \$10 million is going into that community as the result of the proceedings of the Northern Task Force and directly in compliance with the kind of recommendations that they have made. Mr. Speaker, I'm talking from memory and I am sure that if I wanted to go into the details and get chapter and verse what has happened as the result of the Northern Task Force that I could even make a better pitch for the work that it has done.

It has set up the Northern Association of Community Committees, which is all of the mayors of all of the communities in Northern Manitoba, which has met twice a year since the Northern Task Force has been set up, which -- (Interjection) -- Pardon me? -- (Interjection) -- The Northern Association of Community Committees are saying that more things have to be done in Northern Manitoba. The Member for Rhineland who lives in a sophisticated community, who has possibly a great deal more than the people of Northern Manitoba, knows that when a community becomes sophisticated it sends a member such as the Member for Rhineland to the Legislature to ask for more things for Rhineland, for his constituency, for Winkler and the other locations in his constituency. Does it surprise him that a group of local politicians from Northern Manitoba would ask for more things for Northern Manitoba? It would surprise me. It indicates that they are not doing their job if we didn't get that kind of presentation from the Northern Association of Community Committees; and if the Honourable Member for Rhineland would have been careful to listen, he would have indicated that when we set up, when we brought in the first Act which was pursuant to the Northern Task Force, we said that we expect that as a result of bringing in this legislation we will not be stilling or quietening the criticism of the government from Northern Manitoba; that we will be inspiring the people of Northern Manitoba to make more and more criticism. So when he tells me that the Northern Association of Community Committees is criticizing the fact that they are not getting as much as they think they should get in Northern Manitoba, he indicates that we have been successful in doing this.

And as far as the airstrip policy is concerned, and I repeat, if I had to go through each one of them I could find much much more that was done in these areas, and I say that the Honourable Member for Rhineland when he says that we shouldn't be setting up this committee, that we should be performing the act that was recommended by various members of the Northern Task Force when it first met, he is studiously working very hard, and succeeding, in ignoring

(MR. GREEN cont'd) what this government has done with regard to those communities. Mr. Speaker, we will ignore his criticism and we will proceed to continue to follow vigorously the paths that we have set for ourselves with this Northern Task Force and continue to try to maintain and even accelerate the record of achievement that we have created in those communities.

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

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, would you call the resolution on the bottom of Page 5, standing in the name of the First Minister.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable the First Minister.

HON. EDWARD SCHREYER (Premier)(Rossmere): Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Minister of Labour that leave of absence be granted to Leonard H. Claydon, Esquire, member of the Electoral Division of Wolseley for the third session of the 29th Legislature of the Province of Manitoba and that his sessional indemnity and expense allowance be paid.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable the First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, it would be entirely appropriate to say a few words relative to this resolution which I have just moved. In the first place, I would say that all members are well aware that from time to time ill health overtakes some of us, at which time members always traditionally have shown great concern and solicitude for the health of colleague members of this Assembly; and fortunately more rarely it happens that some honourable member is stricken with severe illness of one kind or another and it is appropriate, in our view, to continue the tradition of Parliament to make special provision in cases like that.

I have, just on the basis of very very brief research that was done on the matter, just for information of honourable members, three examples of three previous occasions when a special motion of this kind was placed before honourable members and passed. Two of these go back to the mid 1950s; one on the occasion of the temporary but severe illness of the late J. S. McDiarmid, at which time the Premier of that time moved a motion identical in wording to that which is before us today; and slightly later in 1955 a motion similar in intent was passed by this House to arrange for the payment of the sessional indemnity to a member who had died during the session, leaving a widow and family; and there are examples that go back into the 40s and 30s and so on.

I would like to take this opportunity to express the regrets of honourable members to Mr. Claydon and his family that he should have had this unfortunate and lingering illness. We take this occasion to, in a sense, make some material provision for himself and his family.

If the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba had seen fit in years gone by, or even now, to arrange for the payment of the indemnity on a per month basis then a motion such as this would hardly be required, but where the entire year's indemnity is paid for on a sessional basis, then absence from the session results in no consideration or payment whatsoever for all those previous months that a member did attend to his duties other than sessional duties. However, that in itself may not be sufficient reason to change the method for payment of the indemnity, and accordingly this motion takes care of that shortcoming.

In conclusion then, Mr. Speaker, I say once again that we recommend this resolution to the House, and knowing the spirit with which honourable members react to news of illness of colleague members I'm sure it will have their unanimous support.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

MR. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, very briefly to this resolution, let me in the first instance express on behalf of all of us from our group and in particular of course for the absent member, Mr. Leonard Claydon, the Honourable Member from Wolseley, the sincere appreciation to the First Minister and to the government for introducing this resolution. I don't intend to belabour the remarks that have already been made, I think the Premier has in his usual efficient manner indicated to, particularly to some of the newer members of the House, by his history and research, that this in itself is not an unusual resolution, fortunate that it is that it comes up so seldom and hopefully less seldom in the future.

I don't have to say to you, Mr. Speaker, that Mr. Claydon quite aside from whatever one thought of his political positions -- I'm speaking to the members opposite -- I'm sure has gained the respect of all members in the Chamber insofar as his dedication to public office and it particularly has to be said that the honourable member worked hard in the committees

(MR. ENNS cont'd) right up until the start of the present session; indeed I should report to the honourable members, Mr. Speaker, that up until even a few weeks ago there was some suggestion that the honourable member may join us if even for a day or two, or an hour or two I should say, to make this resolution technically not necessary.

So, on behalf, Mr. Speaker, of the Honourable Member from Wolseley, his family and our group, the Conservative Party, let me express my appreciation to the government for putting forward this resolution and simply support the call of the First Minister that this resolution be unanimously supported in the House. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Portage la Prairie.

MR. G. JOHNSTON: Mr. Speaker, without being repetitious in repeating what the other two speakers have said, I might say that the Liberal group are in agreement with the measure proposed by the First Minister. It appears that it is unfortunate perhaps that a method like this has to be taken and perhaps a change should be considered in the Legislative Assembly Act whereby a member when elected would be compensated without having to bring in a special resolution for a special occasion.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: Mr. Speaker, I'm fully in support of the resolution before us. We all know what an energetic and hard worker Mr. Claydon was during the time that he was able to fulfill his duties. I think it was sheer determination that he was able to do them as long as he did, and I certainly feel that what we're trying to do here is fully warranted.

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

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Agriculture.

MR. USKIW: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Minister of Education, that:

WHEREAS the Standing Committee on Agriculture, appointed at the last Session of this Legislature, reported on its terms of reference as set out in a resolution of the House adopted Monday, July 10, 1970;

AND WHEREAS the Standing Committee on Agriculture tabled its Report in the House on Wednesday, May 5, 1971, and the Report was received on Friday, May 14, 1971;

AND WHEREAS this Committee recommended:

1. That a further study be made of rural areas development, low incomes and instability in agriculture, dwindling farm numbers, the decline of small communities and the uncertainty about the future of rural Manitoba.

2. That opportunities be provided for rural people to express their views on policies related to agriculture and rural development.

3. That the Standing Committee on Agriculture continue its public hearings.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Standing Committee on Agriculture consisting of Hon. Messrs. Burtniak, Pawley, Schreyer, Uskiw, Messrs. Adam, Barkman, Boyce, Einarson, Ferguson, Froese, Gottfried, Henderson, Jorgenson, McBryde, McGregor, Shafransky, Turnbull, Uruski and Watt study:

1. That a further study be made of rural areas development, low incomes and instability in agriculture, dwindling farm numbers, the decline of small communities and the uncertainty about the future of rural Manitoba.

2. That opportunities be provided for rural people to express their views on policies related to agriculture and rural development.

3. That the Committee have power to sit during the Session, during recess or after prorogation and to hold public hearings as it may deem advisable and to report to this House on matters referred to it at the next Session of the Legislature.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

MR. ENNS: Mr. Chairman, we will be supporting this resolution and hope for its speedy passage. We believe that the committee as constituted is agreeable to us. I've just checked with some of the members with respect to whether there should be a change in its personnel; there is a procedure, of course, which will allow us to change the personnel if we have some difficulty in filling this. Let me simply add to the remarks made by the resolution. I would have hoped that there would have perhaps been another clause in terms of what the committee intends to do during its sessions and during its hearings in Manitoba; that would be to have an occasion to study with the farm community the specific bills in their specific nature

(MR. ENNS cont'd) and their details that, for instance, are before us right now. I'm not suggesting this in a manner of way of delaying necessary legislation or not, but I would suggest to you that this kind of a committee could well use the mechanisms that are set up to have communities, to have individual farmers and so forth directly interested in the farming industry, have a look and be able to question committee members with respect to the implications of proposed legislation, the application of proposed legislation and indeed the desirability of some of this legislation.

I would strongly recommend, Mr. Speaker, to the Minister of Agriculture that some of the bills, particularly the late-appearing bills of significance, The Farm Machinery Act; I understand that there's another act that's yet to be printed dealing with a fairly important segment of the agricultural industry that will be appearing before us, that these among others, surely it would not be deemed in any way a holding-up performance, it would be a service to have the widest ranging possible discussion by the many farm groups to use the means of this committee to accomplish that. With those few remarks, Mr. Speaker, let me assure the Honourable Minister that we wish to support the setting up of this committee and wish the committee good work during its summer hearings.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: Mr. Speaker, I, too, wish to briefly comment. Some of the matters that this committee is to study such as low income, and dwindling farm numbers, and the decline of small communities, certainly these are matters of concern. However, some of them the matters certainly are in the hands of the Federal Government which we in Manitoba have very little control when it comes to farm income and especially in reference to cereal grains and grain crops, these are set by the Federal Government and there is very little that the province can do, and I'm just wondering whether there is too much purpose in that respect unless we bring in measures to do away, abolish the Wheat Board, and probably see whether we can get other machinery going so that we can get better prices for the commodity that the farmer sells. This is the only way I can see it. However, it certainly doesn't hurt to have this matter go to the committee and see what they can come up with. I certainly will not object to having the committee sit and bring in a report but I do not hold too much promise for some of the items that are to be studied.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Agriculture will be closing debate.

MR. USKIW: . . . Mr. Speaker, if I may make a small correction. This morning there was a change in the composition of this committee: the name Shafransky should not be in this resolution but it should read Gonick.

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

GOVERNMENT BILLS

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I would like you to go back to the first page of the Order Paper so that we can deal with third reading of bills which have no amendments to them. I wonder if members of the Conservative caucus who have third reading bills could come in - Mr. McGill has one. Bill No. 51, starting with Bill No. 51.

MR. SPEAKER: The proposed motion of the Honourable the Attorney-General.

MR. MACKLING: I'm aware of the fact that the Honourable Member for Brandon West wishes to move an amendment on this one, on Bill 51.

MR. GREEN: To this one? Oh, I'm sorry.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Lakeside. I'd like to know what procedure we're on . . .

MR. ENNS: On the point of clarification, Mr. Speaker, in compliance with the House Leader's request that on that particular Bill 51 there is an amendment that's been . . .

MR. GREEN: Yes, I'm sorry. I should not have called that one, Mr. Speaker, because there is an amendment there it appears. Call No. 8, please, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member isn't in the House.

A MEMBER: Here he is. Here he is.

GOVERNMENT RESOLUTION

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I'm sorry. Could you call the resolution starting on Page 7 first?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Minister of Transportation:

WHEREAS the Standing Committee on Municipal Affairs in its report on Thursday, the 15th day of July, 1971, recommended:

THAT the subject matter of Bill No. 78, an Act to amend The Municipal Act (2), be referred back to the Standing Committee on Municipal Affairs for further study during this session or during recess or after prorogation;

AND WHEREAS it is deemed advisable that the Standing Committee on Municipal Affairs be authorized to enquire into the functions, powers and role of the Local Government Districts and recommend any possible improvements with respect to the powers and role of the Local Government Districts;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Standing Committee of the Legislature on Municipal Affairs appointed on Wednesday, the 5th day of May, 1971 at the 3rd Session of the 29th Legislature and composed of Hon. Messrs. Cherniack, Green, Mackling, Miller, Pawley, Messrs. Boyce, Desjardins, Jenkins, Johannson, Johnston (Sturgeon Creek), McGill, McKellar, Moug, Patrick, Mrs. Trueman, Messrs. Turnbull and Uruski be authorized:

1. To consider for further study the subject matter of Bill No. 78, An Act to amend The Municipal Act (2), during recess or after prorogation and report at the next session of the Legislature.

2. To enquire into the functions, powers and role of the Local Government Districts and recommend any possible improvements with respect to the powers and role of the Local Government Districts at the next session of the Legislature.

3. To consider such other matters as may be referred, from time to time, by the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

4. To sit during recess or after prorogation.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Charleswood

MR. ARTHUR MOUG (Charleswood): Mr. Speaker, I just rise to say that we on this side support the resolution, particularly as it gives us an opportunity to pursue Bill 78, an Act to amend The Municipal Act, a little further during recess of the House.

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

GOVERNMENT BILLS

MR. GREEN: Bill No. 8 on Page 1, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Brandon West. The Honourable the First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, if I may with the indulgence of the Honourable Member for Brandon, if there is some sort of confusion as to the membership of the Municipal Affairs Committee. The intention is to have a motion of substitution of names on the last day of this session. Obviously a motion of substitution of names now would be technically improper since the other bills from this session still are before the Municipal Affairs Committee and we wish to have the same membership remain with it until the last day of the session.

THIRD READINGS

BILLS NOS. 8, 12, 19, 28 and 29 were each read a third time and passed.

MR. SPEAKER: The hour being 5:30 -- (Interjection) -- Very well. The Honourable Member for Logan.

MR. WILLIAM JENKINS (Logan): Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Gimli, that Bill No. 34, an Act to authorize The City of St. James - Assiniboia to pay the pension to Mary Hoban, be now read a third time and passed.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. The honourable member does not give consent. The hour being 5:30, the House is adjourned until 8:00 p.m. tonight (Tuesday).