

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA
8:00 o'clock, Tuesday, June 13, 1972

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution 72 . . . The Honourable Minister of Highways.

MR. BURTONIAK: Mr. Chairman, getting back to some of the comments that were made prior to the adjournment for the supper hour, I was quite interested to hear some of the remarks that were made by some of the members on the Opposition, and my colleague the Member for Thompson, in regard to the speed limits. And I must say that I for one would agree with the honourable member, my colleague, for Thompson, in regards to the increase of speed limits. You know there's one thing I've noticed in the -- not only in recent times but over the past number of years, and I have to say that I agree with my colleague the Honourable Member for Thompson because when you look at the accident reports in our newspapers, and what have you, we'll find, particularly insofar as single car accidents are concerned, you'll find that most of these do occur because of excessive speeds. Now on the -- (Interjection) -- Well that's -- somebody said liquor. That's quite correct. Maybe that's true to a point. But by increasing the speed limit from 60 to 70 on some of our highways, particularly the two-lane highways, I do believe that it is a step in the wrong direction. We have a by-pass for example not very far from here at Portage where we did have a 60-mile speed zone at the by-pass there which has been increased to 70 recently, and I agree that it perhaps was necessary because of the fact that traffic is going in one direction, so maybe we should not be too sticky there. But where we have only a two-lane highway where you are meeting oncoming traffic I don't think it is in the best interests of the public, and the best interest of safety.

I will also agree with the -- although he's not here in his seat -- the Honourable Member for Churchill who said that because of the recommendations, or the comments that have been made, or resolutions, presented by the Chamber of Commerce, I am one of those who is prepared to listen to anyone, whether it's Chamber of Commerce or anybody else, if they feel that they have something that they want to propose, we'll certainly listen to them and review the whole situation, but I don't think that at this point in time that we should increase our speed limits to 70 miles.

And I think somebody else mentioned before the supper hour the fact that maybe everyone is not really sticking to the speed laws, and I know for a fact that that is the case because I do travel -- (Interjection) -- You just sit there and be quiet. I know for a fact because I travel a lot on the highways, and I know what exactly happens. When you have a 60 mile speed zone on a certain highway a lot of people seem to take it for granted that they can go at 65, or even over. Now the minute you increase that speed limit from 60 to 70 there is nothing to stop them from going 75 or even 80 as long as they can get away with it. And so I say that on a two-lane highway I think that we'd be much better off in sticking to the present laws as we have them and no doubt we will save many a life.

On the question of the Member from Assiniboia, I do recall that a few days ago when we were dealing with the Estimates of this department I think that the Honourable Member from Assiniboia pretty well made the same speech as he made here this afternoon in regard to the particular road just west -- in the west end of the City of Winnipeg. But I want to say again, as I said at that time, that insofar as this particular road is concerned that this road was designed - by Metro; the province does cost-share on these particular roads, and if there is any improvements to be made this is going to be done by the City of Winnipeg, as it is known at the present time, on a cost-share basis with the Province of Manitoba, and they will set the priorities if this is a particular road that you want to improve, or pave, or whatever, we have a certain amount of money that we do contribute on the cost-share basis to the City of Winnipeg and if it's in their plan to do this now, then of course we have no say as far as whether they should proceed with it or not. So therefore I say to the Honourable Member for Assiniboia, although he's not here in his seat, but this is one of those things that the City of Winnipeg has to look into and set their priority rather than the Province of Manitoba.

I believe that the Honourable Member for Charleswood -- I'm not sure whether I heard him correctly or not because there appeared to be a bit of noise in the House when he did speak, but I think that he did say, or ask a question as to whether or not there is any regulation to use lights during daylight. Well if I'm incorrect I would, Mr. Chairman, certainly like to have the Honourable Member for Charleswood repeat the question so that I can hopefully answer it correctly.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Charleswood.

MR. MOUG: I just asked, Mr. Chairman, if the government has given any consideration in their safety programs to make demands of people travelling on highways to travel with lights on during the day so that the front of the car can be more easily recognized than that of one going in the same direction.

MR. BURTNIAK: Well, Mr. Chairman, maybe I didn't explain properly but I thought that's what the honourable member had said. I think as common practice - I know I do it, and I'm sure that many of the members of this Legislature do it, and not only members of this Legislature but many other people that travel the highways and the byways of the Province of Manitoba, have sort of out of habit have put their lights on when they're travelling in the daytime, and I think that it's a good practice, and I don't know whether it should really mean that we ought to pass any legislation to that effect, I think it's a matter of practice, and good practice, that people do sort of come about in doing this kind of thing and I believe it is a good practice to have and, as I said, many of us do this kind of thing whether we're travelling in the daytime or not and I have noticed many many cars, hundreds of cars on the highways, that do keep their lights on as they travel on the highways during the daytime. And I don't know if it's -- as I say I don't think it's necessary to have legislation passed, I believe we can just probably do this in our brochures and remind the people that it might be of interest and good practice to have the lights on when they're travelling during the day.

Insofar as the Honourable Member for Roblin, he was asking about the yellow markings on the highway. But it seems to me that there was only one or two members here that I'm answering to, the rest are not in the House at the present time. But the yellow markings on the highways to me I don't really care whether they're yellow, or white, or green, or whatever, as long as they are seen that is the important thing. And I believe the former Minister of Highways my colleague from Thompson indicated to me that this is sort of established by international agreement between the provinces that this ought to be done, and I don't think it's really all that important as to whether the markings are white, yellow, or green or whatever, as long as they can be clearly identified I think that is the important thing, and if it's got to be yellow I think that maybe we should continue with that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution 72 (c)(1) --passed; (2)--passed; Reolution (d)(1)--passed ... The Honourable Member for Brandon West.

MR. MCGILL: Mr. Chairman, I just want to add a few remarks before you pass the Resolution 72 in total. It doesn't apply particularly to (d)(1) or (2) but to the resolution. Mr. Chairman, I would like to make a few remarks at this time about the Manitoba Licence plates that we're using at the moment, recognizing immediately that it is not the responsibility of the present Minister but was introduced a year or two ago by the former Minister, and I can't resist the temptation to make these remarks while we have the former and the present Ministers sitting side by side ready to field any question. There were some things about this plate when we first received it, Mr. Chairman, that didn't quite -- I couldn't quite put my finger on what I felt was wrong with it but after two years I'm beginning to have some clearer ideas about this sunny Manitoba licence plate. During the past winter I had an opportunity to carry this advertising for Manitoba to some of the southern states and I experienced something that perhaps other members here have also run into, the rather upsetting experience of having somebody pull up behind you on a 75-mile-an-hour freeway and just park in behind you a few feet to your rear, and you wonder just what their purpose is, and after watching them in the rear view mirror you realize that what they're trying to do is read the licence plate. And there's a conversation goes on in the automobile for a while as they both confer as to what state this vehicle is from, then they change their formation position and come up to align abreast position and the man in the right hand seat cranes around and looks at the front licence plate, and the conversation proceeds. I imagine, although I can't hear it that it goes something like this: "Well it must be Minnesota because it says something about lakes on the bottom." And then the other person in the seat says, "Well no, it's got two words so it must be South Dakota, that's what it is." But they shake their heads and drive on not having established where this car is from.

Now I think we're missing a very important advertising tool when we put on our cars a licence plate that is not clearly identifiable and easily read as Manitoba. Mr. Chairman, what they've done in fact here is change the name of the province. It's no longer Manitoba, it's Sunny Manitoba, and you can't find Sunny Manitoba on the map. You can find South Dakota but you can't find Sunny Manitoba. Now I think, Sir, that the Minister of Labour supports this kin

MR. MCGILL cont'd) of design. I think he would be probably agreeable to say simply on the top Manitoba because that's the name of the province, and put on the bottom, the Sunshine Province. Now I know that there is a state that calls it the Sunshine State but for anyone who has taken this 100,000 lakes slogan I don't think it would bother them in the least to use down here the Sunshine Province.

But really as a tourist attraction it should be possible to identify a car from Manitoba, to say that it's sunny if you wish but not to change the name of the province. Now the 100,000 lakes business on the bottom is clearly borrowed from another state. I don't know whether this gets more people into the Province of Manitoba or not. They probably say 100,000 lakes well there isn't any point in going there without a wetsuit or an amphibious vehicle because it would take you all your time getting around all these lakes to go anywhere. --(Interjection)-- Good, I'm glad to hear that and I hope that -- (Interjection) -- the advertising that we're getting is helping to bring tourists to Manitoba. And that's why I'm talking here, I'm anxious to get more tourists into Manitoba. And I'd like to know when I go out of the province that I'm from Manitoba, so I think it's important some place on the license to say Manitoba. And some place else to say the lakes, the sunshine, or whatever. And these, Mr. Chairman, are merely comments that I offer to the present Minister, if he's still in the House, and hope that when this plate is redesigned, certainly we'll do it when we're in government, but if you should happen to have the opportunity make sure that the next license plate looks like its from Manitoba and not from South Dakota. Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution (d)(1)--passed. The Honourable Member for Highways.

MR. BURTNIAK: Mr. Chairman, I'd just like to make one or two comments on the comment that was made by the Member for Brandon West. First of all I want to assure the Honourable Member for Brandon West that I will be in the House for a long time, and secondly, I want to say too that I am not quarrelling with the comments that the honourable member made. Perhaps the House Leader will take me to the back somewhere, and after the Estimates are completed, and give me a tongue-lashing, or something, but I've had that happen before and I think I can hold my own with the House Leader. But I will say one thing, as I said, that I agree with the Member for Brandon West on his comments insofar as our license plates in Manitoba are concerned. I've said this, not in this House, but I have said this when I was Minister of Tourism and Recreation and Cultural Affairs, just last summer, that I don't think that we ought to have too many slogans. I don't think that every department should have a slogan for that particular department. I think we should adopt one particular slogan and not - and I'm not saying this because of the fact that it happened when I was I was the Minister of Tourism and Recreation, that we came up with the slogan that I feel, rightly or wrongly, that says an awful lot in just two words, and that is Friendly Manitoba. I think that, you know, as I've said before, and I'm sure that my colleague the Honourable Member for Thompson, I may get a rise from him on this because I think that the 100,000 lakes is a bit of a steal from another province, and I don't think, and here again I presume that after I'm finished, after I'm finished, that the Honourable the Minister of Industry and Commerce will be on next to finish off his Estimates, that the Department of Industry and Commerce came up with the slogan "Manitoba Canada's Number One Son". I'm not so sure that that is such a great slogan and all due respect to the Honourable Minister but I think that we ought to have, we ought to have one slogan, and I don't care what government is in power, but I think we ought to have one slogan, and as I said not because of the fact that I was in the department at the time when we came up with the slogan of "Friendly Manitoba". It's a catchy thing. It says an awful lot in just two words. We have done this in the last two years where we had these little tabs on the travel briefcases and suitcases, and also on our cars, and I think that we received more good comments on that than any other slogan. So therefore I would agree with the Honourable Member from Brandon West that maybe we ought to have some creativity here from the Province of Manitoba and do our own little slogan rather than try and copy somebody else's, so therefore on that point I will agree with him, but on the other point I hope that I'll be around to change that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution 72 (d)(1) -- The Honourable Member for Birtle-Russell.

MR. GRAHAM: On the item of 72 (d), I want to again, as I have in the question period from time to time in this session, ask the Minister of Highways when this province is going to have a chairman for the Highway Traffic and Motor Transport Board. We find a substantial increase here in the amount of money that is allocated for salaries and yet we find a Board that is headless with an acting chairman, and I would suggest to you, Mr. Chairman, that this

(MR. GRAHAM cont'd) is not in the best interests of the people of Manitoba. That the people in this province who are concerned with highway traffic, with the movements of goods, and the provision of services, in this province require a positive Highway Traffic and Motor Transport Board with a permanent chairman rather than an acting chairman, and the direction that has been provided in the many years in the past by the Chairman of that Commission, or Board, is lacking in the province at the present time and I would now again ask the Minister when he intends to give the people of Manitoba the name of the person whom this government intends to make the full-time Chairman of this Highway Traffic and Motor Transport Board?

I spoke briefly before, Mr. Chairman, on the question of safety and the suggestion made by the Trucking Association that an increased levy and the use of the compensation, or the Workmen's Compensation Board for highway safety but . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order. The honourable member has started to stray on to a topic that we've already passed. Resolution 72(d)(1).

MR. GRAHAM: But we find, Mr. Chairman, that we have a lame duck acting chairman at the present time, and this is not enough in the Province of Manitoba at this time and I would ask the Minister when he intends to appoint a full-time Chairman to this Board?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister of Highways.

MR. BURTNIAK: Mr. Chairman, I don't wish to pursue this too much longer but I don't think it was a fair comment by the honourable member to make, that the present acting chairman is a lame duck. I think it's rather unfair to the individual involved. I think that the present acting chairman is doing as good a job as any chairman in the past has done and as I refer it back to the honourable member who has stated that on one or two occasions he had asked me in the House here as to when the permanent chairman is going to be appointed, I want to say that I don't know just what exactly the honourable member means by a permanent chairman. I don't think that this government, or any government, wants to make this appointment for ten, twenty years. I don't think that is correct either. As I told the honourable member on one or two occasions in the past, and I repeat again now, that this will be done in a short time. I'm not at liberty to say at this point in time as to who the person is going to be but if the honourable member is concerned about a chairman of the Board I can assure him that in due course, or in a short period of time, this will be done and all the honourable members of the House will be notified.

MR. GRAHAM: Well, Mr. Chairman, I want to thank the Minister for his assurance that this will be done, and I would ask the Minister if he can also assure us that the question of interprovincial movement of goods and services across this province, and we know that Manitoba is actually the hub of Canada, and the differences that occur between this province and neighbouring provinces and the problems that this entails with the transcontinental movement of goods, I would ask him if he will give us the assurance that these problems will also be handled as speedily as possible.

MR. BURTNIAK: Well, Mr. Chairman, I don't think that really I can, on that point, I can stand in my place here and say okay I'm going to give you certain assurances. I know of the problems that exist on the points that the honourable member has mentioned and as I said I cannot give any assurances, but as I said earlier this afternoon before the adjournment for the supper hour that we've had numerous meetings with the people concerned and we are now in the process of trying to do something but I am not at liberty at this time to reveal it to the House until, within the next few weeks or so.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution 72(d)(1). The Honourable Member for Souris-Killarney.

MR. EARL McKELLAR (Souris-Killarney): Mr. Chairman, just one question I would like to ask. How many drivers were suspended under the Highway Traffic Act, or under various -- well all offences during last year? How many drivers were suspended?

MR. BURTNIAK: Mr. Chairman, perhaps the Honourable Member for Souris-Killarney can ask that question and I could perhaps take this as notice because I don't have the information at hand at this point in time and I'll try to find the answer for him and relate it to you at some later date.

MR. CHAIRMAN: (Resolution 72 was read and passed)

Resolution 73 -- The Honourable Member for Birtle-Russell.

MR. GRAHAM: Mr. Chairman, so far under the Department of Highways Estimates I have refrained from involving myself in any petitions or pleas to the Minister regarding the

(MR. GRAHAM cont'd) condition of the roads and the construction of roads in my own constituency, but I feel I would be remiss, Mr. Chairman, if I did not at this time make some reference and some propositions to the Minister regarding the condition of the provincial roads and the construction and renovation of provincial trunk highways as it pertains to my constituency. The present program that is an ongoing process with regard to Provincial Trunk Highway No. 4 which I prefer to call the Yellowhead Highway, which is a highway which is recognized in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia. I would like to thank the Minister for the work that is presently going on there and sincerely hope that with a minimum of delay and inconvenience to the travelling public that this project will be completed shortly.

The program that he has announced for Provincial Trunk Highway 45, I have some misgivings. He has announced that he intends to do part of the unfinished portion of that road when they are going to put a surface on 45 from Rossburn to Oakburn, but that still leaves a portion from Oakburn to Glenforsa which is long overdue in completion, and I was hoping that the Minister would announce it as one project but apparently in his wisdom he has seen fit to divide it into two projects. The people of Elphinstone and the eastern end of my constituency are very concerned about this piece of road and I would commend the Minister, or commend this project to the Minister's urgent attention that if he has, towards the end of the year, established sufficient savings in some of the contracts that have been let, or proposed to be let, and he finds a few extra dollars left, I would urge him to look at this particular project.

At the same time, I'm not entirely selfish and I know that the Minister in his own constituency has some road problems there with Provincial Trunk Highway No. 20 and some of the other roads, and I know that the road to Camperville for instance is not in the best of conditions and I'm sure I don't have to tell the Minister how bad the road is in that area, and I'm sure that he is just as familiar with the entire motoring public of the Province of Manitoba as well as he is with the problems in his own constituency and neighbouring constituencies around.

I think that the program that was announced with great fanfare by the former Minister where he said that they would call advanced tenders, and they were the first people in the province to announce a policy of this, I think, has to be challenged. There are many members in this House, and there are many people in the Province of Manitoba, Mr. Chairman, that know that that is not the first time that contracts have been let and advanced tender notice has been given in the Province of Manitoba of intention to call tenders the following year. So when the former Minister made those statements I would question whether or not they were exactly correct. I believe it is a good program to give advance notice to those people who are in the business of building roads because a programming which would dovetail existing construction projects together with oncoming projects certainly works to the interest of the Province of Manitoba, and it may very well mean a substantial saving to a contractor to know that there is additional work, or additional proposed work forthcoming in that area and thereby he can save considerable expense of his own in the movement of equipment onto the site for construction.

I think that the program we have in Manitoba of building roads is one that is going to be with us for many many years, Mr. Chairman. Road construction has been a major program in the province for many many years and I see no end to the ongoing upgrading of our existing highway system and the extension into new highways for the Province of Manitoba.

There's one thing that does concern me and this is the fact that we now find, and I must admit that the previous government on occasion also used the process rather questionably where we find that the construction of trunk highways and provincial roads in the province has been transferred to a capital account. Mr. Chairman, I question the wisdom of such a financial move because I don't think the Minister of Finance is fooling anyone. We know that road construction is going to be with us for many many years to come and I personally feel, Mr. Chairman, that any money expended in the construction of roads in the Province of Manitoba should come out of current Estimates rather than be transferred to Capital Accounts.

Mr. Chairman, if we are going to maintain a sound financial picture of the Province of Manitoba, I feel that this is one of the aspects that has to be presented in current Estimates just as the financing of any projects which is not revenue bearing should be so. We find that - and I question whether I should get any further into that field under this particular item, Mr. Chairman, so I won't say any more about it at this time. But the financing of roads is going

(MR. GRAHAM cont'd) to be something that this province is going to have from year to year to year and it's going to be a factor that we will never have sufficient funds that would satisfy the needs of the Minister of Highways because I know that every Minister of Highways both in this administration and previous administrations would like to do far more work than he has capital available. So I fail to see the wisdom of the transfer of construction of highways from current Estimates into Capital Account.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister of Highways.

MR. BURTONIAK: Mr. Chairman, I realize some of the problems that the Honourable Member for Birtle-Russell has in his constituency and I also understand that he has been informed that I have certain problems in my constituency on certain roads and I realize that we all have problems as far as certain roads are concerned in the various areas throughout the province, be they PTHs or PRs. However, I don't think that I better comment too much on that point except to say that I also know that insofar as funds that have been transferred to capital for the construction and repair of roads is not a new thing. The Honourable Member for Birtle-Russell has been in this House for a longer period of time than I have; he had been the member of the government and I'm sure that he is well aware, or he ought to be well aware of the fact that the previous administration had followed pretty much the same type of practice as we're doing now.

Now I don't know just what the honourable member is trying to tell me; perhaps he's saying that we're doing it wrong and at the same time he is admitting that the previous administration was doing the wrong thing by following that practice. I am not going to argue this point at this time, perhaps he is right, perhaps he is wrong but this is something that we'll have to pursue in the coming years.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable House Leader.

MR. PAULLEY: The Honourable Member for Birtle-Russell has raised a very interesting point when he says that we should pay as we go. I've been in this Legislature since 1953 when we had a Premier by the name of D. L. Campbell who -- (Interjection) -- yes, it's too long I know for my honourable friend from Emerson who still persists in talking in other than his own seat. But, I recall well, I recall well -- (Interjection) -- don't be rough on him, no he's just an innocent little babe as far as politics are concerned. He may teach babes in schools, I only hope he gives them some decent direction.

But the point raised by the Honourable Member for Birtle-Russell, Mr. Chairman, is a most interesting one for he says that we should pay as we go. I refer back to the administration prior to the administration of Duff Roblin. And the then Conservative Party criticized the previous Liberal administration for doing what the Honourable Member for Birtle-Russell is suggesting now - pay as you go. In essence what the honourable member has said, is that we should build a mile of road today and then maybe next year we'll build another mile and we will not have a progressive building program insofar as roads are concerned unless it is within the ability of those who happen to be living today to pay. No vision for the future, no acceptance of a fact that it is a responsibility of future generations as well as present generations to pay for the extension of our services here in the Province of Manitoba, be it in the area of roads or schooling or education and the construction of schools. If the same philosophy as suggested by the Honourable the Member for Birtle-Russell in respect to the building of roads were applied to the construction of schools there would be no real construction of schools in the Province of Manitoba. I say in all due respect, Mr. Chairman, that philosophy went out when the Conservative administration got rid of the Liberal administration here in the Province of Manitoba. And I'm sure that Conservatives who fought for years against that "pay as you go" policy - it was not progressive, but regressive. Some of them who have passed to the great beyond would turn over in their graves.

So I suggest, I suggest, Mr. Chairman, that the Honourable Member for Birtle-Russell should really reflect on the type of progress that would be made if the philosophy that he has enunciated this evening in this House in regards to construction of roads, was policy. Because you can't accept that policy, we're building for the future and we can't straddle the present generation with the cost of providing for the future. And too, Mr. Chairman, one of the criticisms that the Honourable Member for Birtle-Russell has of this administration when we get down to the question of taxation is we recognize that it is necessary to increase taxes today in order to provide facilities for generations that are coming.

So, Mr. Chairman, I just did, I couldn't remain seated knowing after listening to the

(MR. PAULLEY cont'd) Honourable Member for Birtle-Russell without attempting to recall -- and now there's an interjection from the Honourable Member from Swan River, who was one of the inner members of the previous Conservative administration that did change the policy that is now being advocated by the Honourable Member for Birtle-Russell. --(Interjection) -- And chortle as much as you like, my honourable friend -- (Interjection) -- Pardon? They're doing it in Swan River. Well my honourable friend - talking about Swan River - I wonder if my honourable friend from Swan River ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please.

MR. PAULLEY: I wonder if my honourable friend the Member for Swan River would have agreed that the building that was constructed in Swan River should have been paid for in one year. -- (Interjection) -- The new Government Services Building that was built there.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order. Would the Honourable Minister come back to Resolution 73.

MR. PAULLEY: Past is right -- the past has gone, but the Honourable Member for Birtle-Russell wants to get us back into the past -- and I say it's a bunch of nonsense.

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

MR. GRAHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Chairman, you know - I have attempted in this House to what I thought was speak clearly and slowly so that everyone in this House could comprehend. But again we find that the House Leader has that inability to comprehend, because what he was talking about I never said, and he has the remarkable ability to try and interpret incorrectly the statements of other members in this House. Mr. Chairman, when I mentioned the fact that I had some concern about the transfer of the construction of highways - which is an ongoing thing to capital accounts, I stated that it did not present a true picture to the people of Manitoba. And when the Minister of Finance has stated numerously that he has presented a balanced budget, in fact he is not presenting a balanced budget; he has transferred some of the current expenditure to capital accounts which in my estimation is not a correct procedure.

MR. CHAIRMAN: (Resolution 73 to 77 were read section by section and passed).
78 (a) - - - - . The Honourable Member for Brandon West.

MR. MCGILL: Mr. Chairman, with respect to the item on the Manitoba Development Corporation, we have been provided up to December 31/71 with quarterly reports of the loan positions and the equity positions of the Manitoba Development Corporation. We're now two and a half months past the first quarter of '72 and I think it would be very helpful indeed to our consideration of the operations in the Manitoba Development Corporation if this report could be provided. I don't suggest that the Minister is withholding this information because we happen to be in session and because this might be useful to us at this time in the debates in respect to the operations of the department. But I do think that two and a half months is rather longer than the period and lapse of time that has occurred previously in the publishing in the Manitoba Gazette of these quarterly reports.

We have had one or two opportunities in the Economic Development Committee to question the Chairman of the Corporation in respect to the operations, but again it is some time since that committee last met. We had been provided with financial statements, the latest one for a number of the corporations in which the equity positions are now held - not all of them, but we were told that those were the statements that were available and while we have received these we have not had a complete opportunity to ask questions on them with the Chairman of the Board. One full meeting of the Economic Development Committee did provide us with that opportunity; but it was by no means completed and I'm hoping that the Minister will be able to indicate when the Economic Development Committee will again be convened, and also when the quarterly report for the first quarter of '72 on the activities of the Development Corporation will be available to the members of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister of Industry and Commerce.

MR. EVANS: Well, Mr. Chairman, very briefly, it is my understanding that the first quarter, if it has not been published has gone to the printers or has gone to the officials at the Manitoba Gazette. And if this is not the case, then someone has run into some difficulty along the way. But I distinctly recall that the first quarter of this year that is for the period January 1 to March 31, 1972 has either been - has gone over my desk to the printers and should either have been printed by now or in the process of printing. I can advise members that as a rule of thumb, we are hoping to publish a given quarterly report prior to the end of the following quarter - so that ideally we would hope to publish the first quarterly report let us say

(MR. EVANS cont'd) of 1972 before the end of the second quarter of 1972. And likewise we would publish the second quarter of 1972 before the end of the third quarter of '72 -- so that there will be a pattern developing, in fact it should have already developed. With regard to the Economic Development Committee of the Legislature, as far as I'm concerned, Mr. Chairman, it can be convened at any time. But as I've said many a time it is not my privilege to dictate when it shall be convened. I believe the House Leader has many committee meetings lined up and I'm sure he will be convening the Economic Development Committee as soon as is conveniently possible.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution 78 (a) - - - . The Honourable Member for Brandon West.

MR. MCGILL: Mr. Chairman, before we leave the Development Corporation, the Minister did make some announcements about Saunders Aircraft Corporation the other day, and said that there would be a meeting of the Board within a short period of time - at which time they would take up the possibility of a new policy which would involve the production of new types of aircraft. There was also a question and a statement by the Minister that Federal aid would be sought for the purpose of developing a short take-off and landing configuration that would be capable of meeting some of the qualifications that were now being met by other corporations in the aircraft industry - notably the DeHavilland and Boeing.

I wonder if the Minister could tell us now whether the Corporation of Saunders Aircraft has met, whether they've decided to go in this new direction. And could he say specifically what types of new aircraft - and I think he used the plural - what types they have in mind as possibly production types for Saunders Aircraft. Would this mean too that the present conversion of the DeHavilland Heron would be terminated, this program of Heron conversions, if they do in fact go into the production of a new model of aeroplane? It may be a little early for the Minister to report on whether or not he's been successful in Ottawa on Federal aid for Saunders Aircraft, but I would hope that he would be able at this time to indicate some more specific information on the kinds of production models that he has on the boards for Saunders Aircraft Corporation and their Management Board to consider.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Thompson.

MR. BOROWSKI: Mr. Chairman, I just have a couple of questions to the Minister -- If he'd indicate to the House how much money the government is going to sink into Saunders Aircraft; is there a limit, or is it a bottomless pit? And what kind of a future does he see for this particular type of aircraft? The other question has to do with Columbia Forest Industries. Could he indicate what the situation is now. Is the government going to put more money in it and keep it running, even though it's obvious by feasibility studies that you could not operate it and make a profit? Has the government made a decision on it? And also the question of the Manager - I understand that he has hired a lawyer to fight the government and I think that we're entitled to know whether he is using MDC funds, or the plant funds, which in effect now are public funds, in order to fight the case against the receivership.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister of Industry and Commerce.

MR. EVANS: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I'm sorry, Mr. Chairman. With regard to Saunders I have not yet been advised of the outcome of the Board of Directors meeting of Saunders. I don't believe it has yet been held, has yet been held. However, I know there are informal meetings going on. I can simply say that the company has a long-term program, five year program, of development which will take it through the current phase of what is referred to as the ST-27 which the Member for Brandon refers to correctly as a modified version of the old British Heron Aircraft. Although I understand that this is not an unusual procedure, that it is not unusual in aviation history for one generation of aircraft to lead to another generation of aircraft and for modification to take place and that aircraft seem to grow from one model to another. At any rate what we do have is, with modifying the Heron we have really, virtually a brand new aircraft, with brand new engines, very distinct modifications, so that it is certified as a new aircraft, it is certified as a new aircraft.

There will be a modification, the ST-27-A will be a similar aircraft with minor modifications but built completely from scratch, if I may use that expression, in other words they will not be dependent upon the Heron frame. They will be built with all new materials. Then from this we would go on to a Jet version where you would have twin engines mounted on the tail, and this we would hope to arrive at within four or five years.

Now I'm really running out of time at this point, Mr. Chairman, and I could give more

(MR. EVANS cont'd) details as I understand it of the Saunders development but as the Member from Thompson indicated development of an aircraft industry does involve a considerable amount of money. All I can say - and any investment involves a risk - all I can say, Mr. Chairman, is that the monies that are going in through the Manitoba Development Corporation are monies that are being spent in a very legitimate way because as the MDC takes a greater risk, so it takes a greater percentage of the equity, and today it has a large percentage of the equity; it has the majority equity; it controls the Board of Directors; and as further funds are provided it is likely that it will take an even greater control of the company. However, if other private investors wish to put in further funds, and there has been in excess of, I know initially there was an input of in excess of one million dollars put in by private investors in the early developmental stages of this aircraft. At any rate I can advise that I have spoken to Mr. Pepin and Mr. Richardson in Ottawa, and have reminded them that the Federal Government has a very imaginative program and a very rich program to help DeHavilland and Canadair. And I am in continual contact with two Ministers, plus the Honourable Don Jamieson, Minister of Transport - we hope that he will be in Manitoba in three or four weeks time, at which time we hope to take him to Gimli to see the aircraft at firsthand. And we feel that the Federal Government has an obligation to Manitoba to help the aerospace industry in Manitoba, as it is helping the DeHavilland Corporation or the Canadair Corporation, both of whom are owned by foreign companies and located in eastern Canada. I might add that for example the Federal Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce are actually purchasing 30 Twin Otter aircraft which is the competitor of the Saunders. They're purchasing 30 aircraft. This has never been done before by that particular department and they in turn are going to sell it to other federal departments, and elsewhere in the world presumably. And we think that we in Manitoba are entitled to some purchases by the Federal Government, plus other special aids over and above the ordinary programs of the Federal Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce.

Very briefly, in the last 30 seconds, I could say more about Saunders, and I will if I have an opportunity next day. About Columbia: it's under receivership. The Receiver has certain responsibilities to the Court which he must exercise, but I can advise that there is a technical committee set up by the Manitoba Development Corporation involving members of the Mines and Resources Department, and Industry and Commerce Department, and the MDC staff, reviewing the economic feasibility of this operation.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hour being 9 o'clock the last hour of every day being Private Members' Hour, Committee rise and report. Committee rise. Call in the Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, the Committee of Supply has considered certain Resolutions and has directed me to report the same and asks leave to sit again.

IN SESSION

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Logan.

MR. WILLIAM JENKINS (Logan): Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Member for St. Matthews, that the report of the Committee be received.

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

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PRIVATE MEMBERS' HOUR

MR. SPEAKER: The first item on Private Members' Hour of Tuesday night is Private Bills. Second reading of Private Bills. Proposed motion of the Honourable Member for Inkster. Bill No. 26. Matter stand.

Proposed motion of the Honourable Member for Crescentwood. Bill No. 74. The Honourable Member for Crescentwood.

MR. CY GONICK (Crescentwood): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I want to . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Would the Honourable Member introduce the Resolution.

MR. GONICK presented Bill No. 74, an Act to Incorporate The Native Alcoholism Council of Manitoba, for second reading.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Crescentwood.

MR. GONICK: Mr. Speaker, I want to give a brief explanation of the origins and purpose of this Private Members' Bill. I was approached some few months ago by a number of gentlemen requesting that I move a bill to establish a Native Alcoholics Foundation. The origins of this request came out of a conference held in the fall by a large number of native peoples all through the Province of Manitoba dealing with the subject of native alcoholism. The conference was sponsored by the Manitoba Indian Brotherhood, the Metis Federation, the Indian and Metis Friendship Centre, and a number of individuals. Out of this conference came a resolution in which the delegates to the conference decided they would want to have a foundation, a program, an organization which would have a continuing program to deal with the problems of alcoholism for native people.

And the people who spoke to me about this wanted in particular for me to say that they now feel it is necessary for them to face up to the fact that alcoholism is a very serious problem, in particular for native people. This is something that they will now recognize and publicly admit and want to deal with in an effective way. They wanted me to say that they recognize that alcoholism for the native people has crippled individuals and groups and families. It has literally killed hundreds of native people over a short period of time. It involves enormous waste of talent, of educated, of skilled, and generally of native people all through the province. It has involved the province in hundreds of thousands of dollars, if not millions, over the years in welfare expenditures, in expenditures to maintain native people who find themselves in jails because of what they do under the influence of alcohol. This they want it to be known that they recognize, and they want to deal with it in an effective way.

They also insist that the existing agencies which now deal with this problem have not been effective, have not come up with the kind of effort and the approach which is necessary they feel to deal effectively with the problems of alcoholism among native people. Not for want of trying, there has been, they admit, some effort to deal with the question but they feel that it is difficult for white men to deal with effect with the alcoholism problems of native people, and it is interesting, Mr. Speaker, that they conducted a survey, this group, a survey sponsored by the Federal Government, under an ILP Grant, in which a random sample of native people, in which one of the questions that was asked was whether or not they preferred the question as worded in the following way, Mr. Speaker. Would you prefer a program which is set up by Indian people, a program dealing with alcoholism? And the result of that survey showed that 91 percent of a fairly large number of people surveyed at random of native people, said they preferred an organization composed of native people dealing with the alcoholism problems of native people.

The main purpose of the organization and of course the group, that is, that will be involved will intend to come to the committee to give as much detail as committee members wish to hear. Their purpose is not so much the treatment of alcoholism as the prevention of alcoholism through an outreach program which would take them into the reserves, take them into the jails, take them into the communities, with films, with meetings, with discussions, with seminars, with various approaches to educate the population as to the effects of alcoholism and what can be done to counter it.

The board which would control this organization consists of native people from all through the province. They intend not to be particularly centred in Winnipeg but to have field workers all through the province. These people were the originators of this conference that I mentioned, and are named as board members of this group. Many of them, I suspect all of

(MR. GONICK cont'd) them, have been alcoholics in the past and have an understanding of, of course, the consequences but also the possibilities of escape and dealing with the problem, since each of them have dealt with it very effectively.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I wish to say on their behalf that this concept is supported by all the agencies and organizations of native people in the province. That in Saskatchewan a similar program has been established recently with some effect. And finally that they have every intention to work with other organizations and agencies dealing with alcoholism, particularly in the treatment end where they recognize they do not have the facilities, and are not primarily concerned with the treatment but rather wish to get involved in the prevention and the education end. And they of course have, many of them, substantial contact with the established organizations that are in this field. So, Mr. Speaker, I would hope that we could pass this Bill and have it come before committee where members of this organization would be glad to attend and would be presenting briefs on their behalf.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Swan River.

MR. BILTON: Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the Honourable Member for Crescentwood in bringing forward this important piece of legislation. Mr. Speaker, I feel that it is long overdue and I'm sure my colleagues join me in congratulating the people themselves in approaching the Honourable Member for Crescentwood and that he has followed through in carrying out their wishes. He has commented quite broadly on the reasons for the bringing forward of Bill 74, and we all know, Mr. Speaker, that this has been a problem not only with the native people but with the white people alike. But unfortunately with those native people they have been plagued, plagued for generations with this problem of alcoholism.

And I would hope that this is only the beginning of a major effort to stamp it out in the remote areas, particularly the remote areas, where it is so important that life must go on in a reasonable, sensible way where alcoholism and its abuses is so evident. Many of us, Mr. Speaker, that has been associated with the native people over the years know only too well what families have suffered from this source. But I would hope in following through that if this bill becomes law that the field workers will be drawn from the native people themselves and that they will be not talked down to by others, as well intentioned as they may be. I hope and trust that the field workers will come forward and that the government in itself will spare no efforts to assist them to get on with this council and give them every assistance. The Honourable Member for Crescentwood said that he felt that the agencies that are interested in this problem elsewhere throughout the province are anxious and willing to help. I'm sure this is true. Without any further adieu, Mr. Speaker, may I say that my colleagues and myself have no objection to this bill going forward with all haste and it becomes law as soon as possible.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Inkster.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I have no intention of voting against this bill -- on the bill that is now presented. However, before we all get carried away, I want to indicate that I am voting for the bill because any organization has a right to come in and ask for an act incorporating an association. If it happened to be the Mohammedan organization who wanted to pass a bill of that kind they would have a right to it; I don't think that anybody has ever been refused a right in the passing of a bill in chartering themselves as an organization -- and therefore I see no reason for avoiding this one.

However, if one wants to start talking about what kind of a glorious bill this is, then I would have to, Mr. Speaker, exercise a great deal of caution in making that type of statement. I believe that there is in Manitoba an organization called the Alcoholism Foundation of Manitoba, I believe that that organization should be responsive and should be made available to help the needs of all the citizens of this province; and I believe that the government has funded that organization on that basis, and if that organization isn't doing a proper job with regard to one sector of our population, then I think that the government should see to it that it does do a proper job with regard to that sector. But if one asks me whether it is a good idea to start breaking up our alcoholics on the basis of Jewish alcoholics or Indian alcoholics or Polish alcoholics or Ukrainian alcoholics, Mr. Speaker, I have to say that I don't think that that's a very good idea. However, in doing so, Mr. Speaker, I don't agree that it is a fact that the problem of native alcoholism has to be separated from the problem of alcoholism. And I believe that any steps in those directions will not do a good job in the area in which they seek to deal with. I believe that what is sought here or what eventually will be sought, is that we establish another bureaucracy in terms of alcoholism. And I believe that before we know it that

(MR. GREEN cont'd) there will be this group asking to be funded separately from the funding that is now being done towards the Alcohol Foundation. And I have no objection, Mr. Speaker -- I want to make it clear that I don't say that the Alcoholism Foundation is doing a good job; I don't say that they are perfect but I say that if they are not doing the job in a certain area then it's up to us which funds that organization to deal with it in that way. So in voting for it -- because I believe that they are entitled to it, then I would not withhold it from them. I say that I don't want the government in making this vote to be in any way impliedly committing themselves to provide funds for this organization.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for . . . -- (Interjection) --

MR. GREEN: . . . there should be -- yes -- I don't think that there should be any misunderstanding in that connection. I don't think that there should be any misunderstanding that voting -- giving the right for an organization to obtain a legislative charter which they can do by going to the Companies Act if they wish to -- that that vote in no way implies the now funding of a separate native organization on the basis of dealing with alcoholism. Mr. Speaker, if I were to use stronger words, I find the idea repugnant. But I do not wish to vote against the bill, because the charter should definitely flow -- as to how then the province deals with it, I think that there should be no one except the understanding. I know that the government doesn't make that kind of an undertaking, that the passing of this bill doesn't mean that funds immediately have to start flowing to a separate native organization to deal with alcoholism. I believe that the native people are citizens of Manitoba -- and if the Alcoholism Foundation is not now presently directing its activities towards certain citizens of Manitoba, then the government should do something about that and not set up different organizations for all of the different groups that happen to be affected by this problem.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Winnipeg Centre.

MR. BOYCE: Well, Mr. Chairman, just a couple of points in addition to what the Member for Inkster said. If I can have it demonstrated to me at Committee by the proponents of this bill that they can make a contribution to the problem of alcoholism among native people, then I will support it subsequent to hearing it in Committee. But nevertheless, as pointed out by the Member of Inkster, the regrettable part of it is that the situation is that passage by the House becomes tantamount to approval, and it will be reasonable for these people to assume that because we have supported the passage of the bill that we will support the funding of it in the future. I would ask members to perhaps recall that the Alcoholism Foundation of Manitoba was set up as an outcropping of the Bracken Commission Report and initially was funded rather in a token way. I think the initial budget was in the area of 100 and some odd thousand dollars, 100,000 plus, and now we're up in the area -- just so happens that I was reading it here a moment ago -- we're upwards of 592,000.00. It has been announced recently that there's going to be a detoxification component fitted in somewhere along the line.

And another thing, Mr. Speaker -- I just happened to be reading the report of the LeDain Commission. Now all these things are tied together. If this is just another sop to be thrown to the Indian people that we're really interested; that we are going to help them solve their problems and solve their problems in this particular way, then I will oppose it, because I think there has been too darn much tokenism around; that if the approach to this problem is through the existing facilities, then this is what we should have the intestinal fortitude to ensure occurs. Because if we fragment and we just dissipate our resources, then nothing will be accomplished.

When I say that we increased our budget from \$100,000 to better than a half a million dollars this year, the past three years, I must confess have seen little movement in this particular area. Now one of the reasons that there hasn't been much movement in this particular area has been strictly budgetary, because all of the members in this House realize that we have had enough difficulty maintaining social programs within the economic limits of the province as it is. Let me just share with you a personal experience in this regard. One of the first things this government did when it came into office was to reduce the age of majority and also the Intoxicated Persons Act. And my position initially was in opposition to those changes, opposition to those changes unless the government was going to do something about the education of younger people that they didn't have to anaesthetize themselves to put up with this like -- and also if they would increase their monetary inputs into facilities such as the one that is being discussed at the present time.

I had an undertaking, a sincere undertaking on the part of my colleagues to make some meaningful changes in the first year that we were in session. Everyone in this House will recall the events of the winter of 1969/70 because of the unemployment situation and the demands

(MR. BOYCE cont'd) on the welfare budget -- it was difficult enough to keep those programs that we had on the books going. You will remember, surely members will remember the Member for Fort Rouge hammering our Minister legitimately in opposition; hammering the Minister of Health and Social Development about the 25 million-dollar -- I think she used the term, the 25 million-dollar deficit in Health and Social Development, which could be directly attributed to the unemployment situation at the time. But one of the side effects of it was that there was no Detoxification Centre set up because there just were not the funds to do it at the time. There was no expansion of the Alcoholism Foundation budget at the time because there were just no funds available. So I would ask honourable members, I'm speaking -- in case people wonder, I am going to support the reading of the bill a second time. But I would ask members to seriously consider how this has a component in a total delivery system in the field of alcoholism; not only alcoholism but in the total abuse of chemical comforts in our society. When this comes before the committee I would ask you to consider this and to see if this agency can have a meaningful role in our community.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

MR. ENNS: Well, Mr. Chairman, I've listened with interest to the immediate two speakers on Bill 74. I regret that I was not present to hear the introduction of the bill -- I understand by the Member for Crescentwood. However, Mr. Chairman, I find myself even with the limited time that I have had to pursue the bill and to listen to the two very good speeches made with respect to the bill, to have absolutely no difficulty in my mind to reject and refuse to support the bill mainly because I am open to logical arguments. Logical arguments were put forward by the Member for Inkster

MR. GREEN: If the honourable member would permit me to interrupt him

MR. ENNS: Certainly.

MR. GREEN: . . . to just make my position clear because he wasn't in the House. I indicated that I would support the bill because every organization is entitled to this bill.

MR. ENNS: I was quite aware of the Member for Inkster's position, that he indicated his support for the bill. I am only somewhat surprised that he can do so because I do normally credit the Honourable Member for Inkster for having -- with some exceptions, such as when it comes to Cabinet appointments or future Cabinet appointments -- concern for principles. And certainly, I am not prepared for one moment, Mr. Speaker, to set aside any Manitoban as a separate group that requires a separate mechanism for the problems of alcoholism to which we can all be addicted to and to which we all have problems with -- to which we all have problems with. And I rather suspect that to some extent that was at least in part and portion the gist of the argument just advanced by some speakers in this Assembly -- to indicate Mr. Speaker -- this House, that by the establishment of this group that there is any possibility whatsoever that they will not be making demands on the public purse, demands in conflict with and not necessarily in concert with the concerns just expressed by the Member from Winnipeg Centre, is ludicrous.

You read the bill, Mr. Speaker. The purposes of the bill are to provide assistance or arrange for provision of adequate counselling; educational material in native schools; dissemination of information, all of this -- certainly most legitimate claims for demands on the public purse, for demands for public grants. And I say, why divide the already -- as has been mentioned by the speaker that has just spoken -- the somewhat niggardly and reluctant funds that have been provided for this very worthwhile purpose.

Mr. Speaker, I suggest to you that supporting this kind of legislation has a tendency to further and to carry on prejudices that we have in our folklore about problems that various ethnic groups may have or may not have. The suggestion that the native person cannot handle alcohol as compared to the white person is denied every day by the number of white people that can't handle alcohol. And all in all, I find it repugnant to divide Manitobans in this manner and in this way. I support sincerely the request, the calls for the Member for Winnipeg Centre when he says and when he recognizes that this is a major social problem in our society and that there should be no division in our forces and our efforts to overcome this problem. And perhaps I'm reading the bill wrong, Mr. Speaker. But I find myself not prepared to accept the fact that a fellow Manitoban has that problem any more severe than I have or my fellowman has, that I need a separate organization specifically built to solve that particular problem that I may have or my neighbour may have or my other neighbour may have. We have

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Inkster.

MR. GREEN: I wonder if the honourable member would permit a question at this point. Is the honourable member aware that the organization could incorporate itself merely by making an application to the Companies Act, that there is nothing that anybody could stop them from doing that; that they have a right to this charter whether they through the Provincial Secretary or through the Legislature, it's not anything that they could be prevented from getting.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

MR. ENNS: Mr. Chairman, I think the Member for Inkster raised an interesting point. And really, the point that I am raising in fact I would not be raising had he not raised it in his speech, because in the back of the Member for Inkster's mind was precisely what is in the back of my mind -- that while what he says is perfectly true that they could incorporate themselves in that manner; they need not come to this Legislature, they can do that. But what is concerning the Member for Inkster when he spoke just a few moments ago, that by the mere virtue of coming to this Legislature and setting up this bill; that the next step is to make, the next step is -- precisely the fears of the Member of Inkster is to make the demands on the public purse, which in fact would be perhaps -- or should be not necessarily but could surely be, particularly if you listen to the last speaker from Winnipeg Centre who has already mentioned his concerns about the inability of persuading his colleagues. And quite frankly my colleagues when we were in office -- you know, let's make this universal in that way, but the universal concern for not providing adequate funds. Now we are quite happy to derive the 30 or 40 millions of dollars of profit that the liquor trade provides for the coffers of any government of Manitoba that members feel compelled, such as the Member for Winnipeg Centre, to voice his concerns for adequate attention, adequate concern, adequate priorities, for the Alcoholic Foundation Fund that we now have existing in the Province of Manitoba. I see the Honourable Member for Crescentwood wishes to interrupt me.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Crescentwood.

MR. GONICK: . . . if the member would permit a question. Is it not the opinion of the Member for Lakeside that with respect to the education of Mennonites and other ethnic and religious groups, that their particular needs in education and religion and culture are not being met through the public school system, and therefore they require separate facilities controlled by their local communities which would directly answer to the specific needs of those groups. And is not this a similar parallel situation?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

MR. ENNS: I'm very happy to answer that question. Let me make it perfectly clear, I don't believe that any religious group, ethnic group, or otherwise, has any claim whatsoever on the public purse for the education of their particular beliefs, religious, ethnic, or otherwise in any public school system, or a school system such as that. But to the extent, to the extent that the Mennonite community, or the Catholic community, or the Ukrainian, or Anglican communities, or something like that, undertakes to provide the education as set down by this Legislature, and determined by this Legislature, as set forward by the Fathers of this Legislature, to that extent they are entitled to some consideration. -- (Interjection) -- Absolutely none. Absolutely none. We're not talking about the same thing. -- (Interjection) --

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please.

MR. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, I'm sure right about now you should be interrupting either me or the Honourable Member for Crescentwood for departing from the debate. No, not at all. I'm quite prepared to debate the question further. I'm quite prepared to debate the question further. We are now discussing the problem of alcoholism. Alcoholism as it applies to all mankind. And I am not prepared to make that statement that alcoholism applies differently to me than to my Indian brothers. And that is what the Member from Crescentwood is implying in this Bill, and it's repugnant, Mr. Speaker. -- (Interjection) -- Education? Education when it comes down to laying down to what you decide and I decide what all our children should teach. I say that's what we should teach, and everybody should teach that, and everybody should be guaranteed that. Now if I want to teach my children something additional then I should pay for it. Then I should pay for it. That's all I say.

MR. SPEAKER: Does the Honourable Member for Crescentwood have another question?

MR. GONICK: If this proposed organization carries through a program of education in the field of alcoholism which is consistent with and in no way contradictory to the laws and the approach of the government of the land with regard to alcoholism, and does the work similar to other agencies supported by . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. Order, please. I do believe the honourable member is aware that questions of clarification may be asked on the speech that has been made but not a further topic opened up. If the honourable member has a specific question in regards to the speech that was made he is welcome. The Honourable Member for Crescentwood.

MR. GONICK: Mr. Speaker, the Member for Lakeside in his remarks claimed that when an organization was carrying through the law of the land, then it would be permissible for that organization to be funded publicly, otherwise not. And I am suggesting in this particular case that if this organization does similar work to work that is being done by other agencies, funded by the public, is this not then a parallel situation with respect to the educational principles of education that he is now espousing?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

MR. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, I think I will, you know, not wishing to avoid debate in an area that is obviously going beyond the bounds of the question under consideration -- you know me, Sir, that I would be more than happy to debate any particular question any time. But his attempt -- I thought I tried fairly straightforwardly to answer -- to bring in the aid to private parochial school question into this matter, I believe is out of order, Mr. Speaker, and I don't wish to run into your admonition and your wrath, you know, by replying to the question asked. I think I've already tried that.

Mr. Speaker, what I've tried to say, and I think if I search out I could probably get some support from it, maybe even from the Member for Thompson. I don't think that we can have it both ways in this province, and both ways for our native people, and our Indian brothers and Metis brothers. I don't believe that we can on the one hand set up special Acts, special legislation, special this, and special that, and at the same time have them say we're not being treated like all the rest of us. I believe, Mr. Speaker, that they have to work in our environment; they have to use the vehicles of our government, and correct grievances; that they have the same problems, the same social problems that we have, and that we have to as legislators, that we have to as legislators not look upon our people as being Mennonite, as being Indian, as being Catholic, or as being United Church, or as being Jewish, or as being that. And I suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, that basically, intrinsically the concept that an Act to incorporate a Native Alcoholism Council of Manitoba does only one thing. It reinforces the myth that has been perpetuated by western movies, and by all kinds of other nonsense, that it is the Indian alone that can't handle alcohol and booze, and that we're going back to the frontier days of firewater distribution, and so forth, and we are now as the Great White Fathers going to set up a special Act, special dispensation of the benign benevolence that's going to look after that particular problem that those unfortunate people, our native brothers, have so much difficulty in handling, namely alcohol. And I say that that is not correct . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please.

MR. ENNS: I find myself, Mr. Speaker . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. Order, please. Order, please. A point of order has been raised by Honourable Member for Crescentwood. Would he state it.

MR. GONICK: Mr. Speaker, I think the Member for Lakeside must know before he goes on any further that this bill was asked to be introduced by native people, by the agencies of native people in the Province of Manitoba. It was not an invention of mine, or any member of this side.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

MR. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, then let me be the first to tell those honourable gentlemen that though maybe well-meaning they were in error for asking this bill to be introduced in this way. -- (Interjection) -- No! I'm saying that as a legislator. I'm saying that as a legislator that is responsible for passing legislation for the some 990,000, no matter what the Minister of Labour's current figures of population are as being my responsibility. Well, Mr. Speaker, I did not mean to make a cause célèbre of this particular Bill. I find myself, you know, after my friend and colleague on the front bench here had assured the House of his colleagues' immediate concurrence in this bill that I was not quite concurring with the bill. I feel, Mr. Speaker, that I've made the gist of my feelings known to you, Sir, and I don't think I should hold up the House any longer. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Thompson.

MR. BOROWSKI: Mr. Speaker, one would never believe that an innocent bill like this would create such great debate. I'm not sure how I'm going to vote on it -- probably I'll vote

(MR. BOROWSKI cont'd) in favour to get it to go into committee as the Member for Inkster has said, but after that I really wonder because I feel as the last two speakers — I know it's not an easy item to speak on because somebody could say you hate Indians, or I recall when I took the position against Courchene I was called by one of my backbench colleagues as a racist because I happened to criticize an Indian. So I'm always leery to say I'm against something when there's Indian or Metis involved. But, Mr. Speaker, the trend has been and is, not just under this government, under the Liberal Government in Ottawa, is to bring the Indian people into this twentieth century and make him, treat him as white people. We're trying to undo a hundred years of injustice, and I ask you, and I ask the mover of the bill to really seriously consider what he's doing. Is it going to accomplish the objective or is it going to create a further division? Are we going to have to put up special detoxification centres for Indians, and another one for Metis, and another one for white man. And perhaps we'll have to do the same thing on political basis, we'll have drunk tanks for Conservatives, and drunk tanks for Liberals and New Democrats. The New Democrats probably could outdrink the two opposition parties. But, Mr. Speaker, -- (Interjection) --

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please.

MR. BOROWSKI: Mr. Speaker, the Member for Winnipeg Centre was talking about a certain budget. I was not aware that there was so much money being spent in this area. I agree whatever it is, it's not enough, but I simply wasn't aware that it was that large a sum. -- (Interjection) -- That's true. That's true and I question whether I'm going to learn very much if I listen and read the bills put out by the Member for Crescentwood. If it's going to cause, and obviously it's going to cause this splitting up of funds, then certainly I think I'm going to be opposed to such a system that's going to take funds away.

And the other thing that it's doing, Mr. Speaker, is it's saying, without really putting it into words, that the present-day system is not doing a good job. Either they're doing a lousy job, or they're racists. In other words they're not really giving a damn about the Indian and Metis. And if that's true, Mr. Chairman, then we are responsible here just as much as that group because we are giving them the funds. We raise public funds and we give it to them and we are responsible for it. And, Mr. Chairman, I cannot see a Legislature, and I know that the Member for Inkster said they could get it through some other technique, and that's fine they can go ahead and do it, but when they bring it in here and ask us to bless it or canonize it, then I think that we are entitled to ask certain questions and if we don't like the answers, we can say we will turn it down.

Mr. Chairman, recently in the last few months we have had Indian Brotherhood approach the government about setting up special Indian hiring offices. I rejected that idea when I was Minister and I said to the Indian and Metis at that time, we have no intention of having Indian manpower, or Metis manpower, and white manpower, and I thought that that issue was buried but now I see it rising up again in the form of this bill, and I ask the members of the House to seriously consider before they give their blessing to this bill.

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

MR. G. JOHNSTON: Mr. Speaker, I'm sure every Member of the House agrees with the aims of the bill. Although there obviously is many differences of opinion as to how the aims can be accomplished. But if I may point out to the members the purposes of the bill, which I think is dealing with the principle of Bill 74, the purposes of the bill are to provide adequate counselling to the native alcoholic; education material in the native schools; dissemination of information respecting the recognition, prevention, and treatment of the native alcoholic; a provincewide program that will endeavour to control and prevent alcoholism, or problem drinking among Indian and Metis communities. Well, Mr. Speaker, let us list the number of agencies who are trying to do this already. The Department of Health and Social Development I'm sure is working towards this. Our school system is encouraging the same line of thought. We have the AAs, Alcoholics Anonymous, who are all over the province, although perhaps not in every community that they should be in. We have the Alcoholic Foundation. All of these groups are supported either directly or indirectly in some way, or some method, by the taxpayers of the province.

Now the question really that we have to ask ourselves is, should we set up now another organization to deal with this special group. I can recall when I was a member of the Northern Task Force, the Member for Swan River, the Member for Inkster who was then a Minister, I believe the three of us took the stand when we dealt with the peoples of the north, whether they were Indian, Metis, white, or whatever, that the form of government as we know

(MR. G. JOHNSTON cont'd) it in Manitoba, and in Canada, has nothing to do with race. Has nothing to do with race whatsoever. It has to do with being a Manitoban or being a Canadian. So I suggest to you, Sir, that while the bill is well-intentioned, to me it smacks of Uncle Tomism. Somebody is going to be telling a special group of people, and perhaps this somebody will be on salary I don't know, but what I'm suggesting is that we have the tools to do this kind of a job, perhaps it's slow and perhaps it's cumbersome, but we have the machinery in place now, perhaps it needs some improvement in some areas, but surely this is not the way to attack this special problem that has been pointed up by Bill 74, which I know was introduced with all good intentions by the Member for Crescentwood. So my suggestion is that the bill as such be defeated.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Inkster.

MR. GREEN: The Honourable Member was not in the House during the entire debate and I would just like to ask him whether it is not so that despite all of his arguments, which I agree with, that any group, ethnic or otherwise, has in the past come to the Legislature for a Charter and have never been declined one, in the same way as they could to the Provincial Secretary. So despite his arguments, would he not agree that the group that asked for it, which was the MMF and the Indian Brotherhood, have a right to ask to be incorporated whether you or I agree with it.

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

MR. G. JOHNSTON: In answer to the Member for Inkster, I would agree with him but I don't agree with the present form and method as proposed by the Member for Crescentwood. If they wish to under the Companies Act incorporate, an incorporation, there's nothing wrong with that. But I don't agree with the approach that has been taken by way of Bill 74. I think it is another step in separating the Indian and Metis people from the rest of the community of Manitoba as Bill 74 is constituted, and for that reason I oppose the bill.

MR. SPEAKER: Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion? The Honourable Member for Radisson.

MR. SHAFRANSKY: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Flin Flon that debate be adjourned.

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

MR. SPEAKER: Proposed motion of the Honourable Member for Rupertsland. The Honourable Member for Radisson. Bill No. 41.

MR. SHAFRANSKY: Mr. Speaker -- stand?

MR. SPEAKER: (Agreed) Proposed motion of the Honourable Member -- the Honourable Member for Lakeside wish to speak on the motion?

MR. ENNS: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I understand there'd be no objection if I choose to speak on this bill.

MR. SPEAKER: Agreed the honourable member speak? The Honourable Member from Lakeside.

MR. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, I may have spoken on this bill already -- I would just perhaps ask the Clerk to check the number of speakers. 41. I am rather embarrassed, Mr. Speaker, because as you well know whatever I have said were obviously pearls of wisdom that should not be forgotten, but nonetheless the Clerk seems to have forgotten but -- (Interjection) -- I spoke on Bill 41? Yes.

MR. SPEAKER: On the proposed motion of the Honourable Member for Assiniboia. The Honourable Member for Morris -- Bill No. 64.

MR. JORGENSON: Well, Mr. Speaker, with the limited time that is left to me, I would like to at least make a few remarks on the proposal of the Leader of the Liberal Party. And I say that advisedly, because although it was introduced in this House by the Member for Assiniboia, I recall that not too long ago the Leader of the Liberal Party -- as reported on October 15 -- appeared before the Human Rights Commission in an effort to get a similar bill accepted by the Human Rights Commission. But I recall also on a previous occasion last year the Member for Assiniboia introduced a similar piece of legislation and I spoke on it at that time, and perhaps to a large extent my remarks on this occasion will be somewhat of a repetition of what I said at that time, although perhaps not entirely.

The introduction of the Human Rights legislation in the House of Commons on July 1st, 1960 was followed by a considerable number of speeches from members from all sides of the House -- and a great variety of opinions were expressed as to the acceptability and the need

(MR. JORGENSEN cont'd) for a Bill of Rights at that time. I have been going over some of those speeches to refresh my memory. One thing that strikes me -- after twelve years now of the Canadian Bill of Rights -- is that after the introduction of that bill and the benefits that were supposed to accrue therefrom, I cannot help but recall -- (Interjection) -- In 1960. I cannot help but recall that in India and in Ireland they have Bills of Rights incorporated into their constitutions. And if the Bill of Rights are to provide the securities and the guarantees that one ascribes to them, then one would have thought that there are two fairly good examples of where it could have been applied and where it could have worked to the advantage of people in those countries.

But I don't think that there is any basic objection. I think that when the Prime Minister at that time in 1960 introduced the Bill of Rights, he recognized the limitations of a Bill of Rights and pretty well limited to those four fundamental freedoms that -- and it was an expression of a feeling more than it was a guarantee of anything. But in this monstrosity that we have before us now, Sir, we find everything in there but the kitchen sink. If the Leader -- (Interjection) -- if the Leader of the Liberal Party were to be serious in the introduction of this legislation as a guarantee of rights; and if it could be accepted as a guarantee of rights in this country, well then, Sir, there would be no more need for legislatures to exist. There would be -- and one can't help but wonder what the Leader of the Liberal Party had in mind when he introduced it in front of the Human Rights Commission and there was some controversy on that occasion. And he said he brought it forward to the Human Rights Commission because the majority of MLAs had turned it down during the last session of the Legislature. He went on to say that the lack of a Bill of Rights in this province inhibits our citizens from attaining their full and complete rights and freedom. I find that a pretty difficult statement to accept. At that time the bill contained 38 clauses; I notice that the new one -- he has added -- he's found some more things to throw in it; he now has 53. One wonders what he could possibly have had in mind in the introduction of this kind of legislation.

Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition has frequently expressed -- and I now begin to wonder -- he's frequently expressed his opinions on this Legislature and for one who has not even been in the Legislature, he has some pretty strong views. He says the Legislature should be like the American system, in which there are free votes in all bills without the life of the government hanging in the balance. Sir, -- (Interjection) -- Sir -- (Interjection) -- the whole system under which we operate -- and I have reiterated this point several times, and I want to make the point once more -- (Interjection) -- I'm sorry, the Leader of the Liberal Party. I want to make this point once more. Our whole system is dependent upon somebody who has been given responsibility, assuming that responsibility -- and if we don't have a system of responsible government, you have nothing but a municipal council. And Sir, for many years this Legislature was run pretty much as a municipal council, and that was the reason why there was such great difficulty in achieving things for this province; why we were so far behind -- because there was no effective voice in the opposition. And there was nobody taking the real responsibility for those things which had to be done in this province -- and pursuing those objectives. And the only way that that responsibility can be kept and held is if the government at every occasion they bring in legislation to this Chamber, their life is at stake. And unless they can do that, Sir, we don't have a responsible system of government. And if what the Leader of the Liberal Party is advocating is an adoption of the American system in this country, Sir, he can have it. That is what the Prime Minister is advocating and, Sir, he can have it. The American system has proven within its own country to be incapable of dealing with the problems, and the more the problems arise the less capable they are of dealing with them.

Our system is in every respect more superior to what the Americans have in their system of government, and if what this bill advocates -- a changeover to that system -- then Sir, I don't want any part of it. Sir, I see it's 10:00 o'clock.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member will have an opportunity to continue for the remainder of his time. The hour of adjournment having arrived, the House is accordingly adjourned and stands adjourned until 2:30 tomorrow afternoon.