

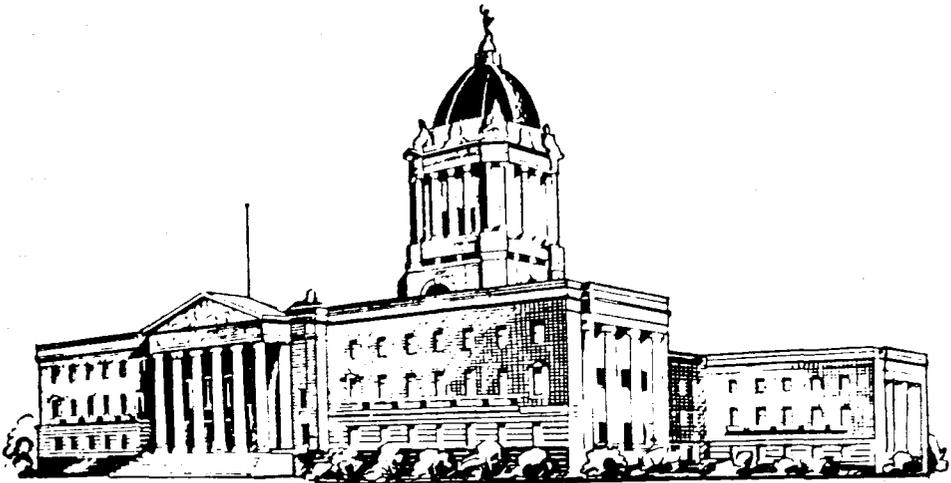


Legislative Assembly of Manitoba

DEBATES
and
PROCEEDINGS

Speaker

The Honourable Peter Fox



Vol. XX No. 118 8:00 p.m., Wednesday, May 23rd, 1973. Fifth Session, 29th Legislature.

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Electoral Division	Name	Political Affiliation	Address	Postal Code
ARTHUR	J. Douglas Watt	P.C.	Reston, Man.	ROM 1X0
ASSINIBOIA	Steve Patrick	Lib.	10 Red Robin Pl., Winnipeg	R3J 3L8
BIRTLE-RUSSELL	Harry E. Graham	P.C.	Binscarth, Man.	ROJ 0G0
BRANDON EAST	Hon. Leonard S. Evans	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
BRANDON WEST	Edward McGILL	P.C.	2228 Princess Ave., Brandon	R7B 0H9
BURROWS	Hon. Ben Hanuschak	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
CHARLESWOOD	Arthur Moug	P.C.	29 Willow Ridge Rd., Winnipeg	R3R 1L5
CHURCHILL	VACANT			
CRESCENTWOOD	Cy Gonick	NDP	1140 Grosvenor Ave., Winnipeg	R3M 0N8
DAUPHIN	Hon. Peter Burtniak	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
ELMWOOD	Hon. Russell J. Doern	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
EMERSON	Gabriel Girard	P.C.	25 Lomond Blvd., Winnipeg	R2J 1Y1
FLIN FLON	Thomas Barrow	NDP	Cranberry Portage, Man.	ROB 0H0
FORT GARRY	L.R. (Bud) Sherman	P.C.	86 Niagara St., Winnipeg	R3N 0T9
FORT ROUGE	Mrs. Inez Trueman	P.C.	179 Oxford St., Winnipeg	R3M 3H8
GIMLI	John C. Gottfried	NDP	44 - 3rd Ave., Gimli, Man.	ROC 1B0
GLADSTONE	James R. Ferguson	P.C.	Gladstone, Man.	ROJ 0T0
INKSTER	Hon. Sidney Green, Q.C.	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
KILDONAN	Hon. Peter Fox	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
LAC DU BONNET	Hon. Sam Uskiw	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
LAKESIDE	Harry J. Enns	P.C.	Woodlands, Man.	ROC 3H0
LA VERENDRYE	Leonard A. Barkman	Lib.	Box 130, Steinbach, Man.	ROA 2A0
LOGAN	William Jenkins	NDP	1294 Erin St., Winnipeg	R3E 2S6
MINNEDOSA	David Blake	P.C.	Minnedosa, Man.	ROJ 1E0
MORRIS	Warner H. Jorgenson	P.C.	Morris, Man.	ROG 1K0
OSBORNE	Ian Turnbull	NDP	284 Wildwood Pk., Winnipeg	R3T 0E5
PEMBINA	George Henderson	P.C.	Manitou, Man.	ROG 1G0
POINT DOUGLAS	Donald Malinowski	NDP	361 Burrows Ave., Winnipeg	R2W 1Z9
PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE	Gordon E. Johnston	Lib.	506 St. George Ave., Portage la Prairie, Man.	R1N 0T5
RADISSON	Harry Shafrensky	NDP	4 Maplehurst Rd., Winnipeg	R2J 1W8
RHINELAND	Jacob M. Froese	S.C.	Box 40, Winkler, Man.	ROG 2X0
RIEL	Donald W. Craik	P.C.	2 River Lane, Winnipeg	R2M 3Y8
RIVER HEIGHTS	Sidney Spivak, Q.C.	P.C.	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
ROBLIN	J. Wally McKenzie	P.C.	Inglis, Man.	ROJ 0X0
ROCK LAKE	Henry J. Einarson	P.C.	Glenboro, Man.	ROK 0X0
ROSSMERE	Hon. Ed. Schreyer	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
RUPERTSLAND	Jean Allard	Ind.	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
ST. BONIFACE	Hon. Laurent L. Desjardins	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
ST. GEORGE	Bill Uruski	NDP	Box 580, Arborg, Man.	ROC 0A0
ST. JAMES	Hon. A.H. Mackling, Q.C.	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
ST. JOHNS	Saul Chorniack, Q.C.	NDP	333 St. John's Ave., Winnipeg	R2W 1H2
ST. MATTHEWS	Wally Johansson	NDP	418 Home St., Winnipeg	R3G 1X4
ST. VITAL	D.J. Walding	NDP	31 Lochinvar Ave., Winnipeg	R2J 1R3
STE. ROSE	A.R. (Pete) Adam	NDP	Ste. Rose du Lac, Man.	ROL 1S0
SELKIRK	Hon. Howard Pawley	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
SEVEN OAKS	Hon. Saul A. Miller	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
SOURIS KILLARNEY	Earl McKellar	P.C.	Nesbitt, Man.	ROK 1P0
SPRINGFIELD	Hon. René E. Toupin	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
STURGEON CREEK	J. Frank Johnston	P.C.	310 Overdale St., Winnipeg	R3J 2G3
SWAN RIVER	James H. Bilton	P.C.	Swan River, Man.	ROL 1Z0
THE PAS	Hon. Ron McBryde	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
THOMPSON	Joseph P. Borowski	Ind. NDP	La Salle, Man.	ROG 1B0
TRANSCONA	Hon. Russell Paulley	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
VIRDEN	Morris McGregor	P.C.	Kenton, Man.	ROM 0Z0
WELLINGTON	Philip M. Petursson	NDP	681 Banning St., Winnipeg	R3G 2G3
WINNIPEG CENTRE	J.R. (Bud) Boyce	NDP	777 Winnipeg Ave., Winnipeg	R3E 0R5
WOLSELEY	I.H. Asper	Lib.	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA
8:00 o'clock, Wednesday, May 23, 1973

Opening Prayer by Mr. Speaker.

Presenting Petitions; Reading and Receiving Petitions; Presenting Reports by Standing and Special Committees. The Honourable Member for Logan.

REPORTS BY STANDING COMMITTEES

MR. WILLIAM JENKINS (Logan): Mr. Speaker, I beg to present the Third Report of the Standing Committee on Law Amendments.

MR. CLERK: Your Committee has considered Bills:

No. 32 - An Act to amend The Fires Prevention Act.

No. 49 - An Act to amend The Civil Service Superannuation Act.

No. 59 - An Act to amend The Social Allowances Act.

And has agreed to report the same without amendment.

Your Committee has also considered Bill:

No. 42 - An Act to amend The Child Welfare Act.

And has agreed to report the same with certain amendments.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Logan.

MR. JENKINS: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Point Douglas, that the report of the committee be received.

MOTION presented and carried.

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

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

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

MR. HARRY E. GRAHAM (Birtle-Russell): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Agriculture. Coming into the Chamber tonight I find two pieces of propaganda on my desk. I wonder if the Minister could indicate whether this was paid for by his Department or by the NDP Party as an election program?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Agriculture.

HON. SAMUEL USKIW (Minister of Agriculture) (Lac du Bonnet): Mr. Speaker, I think that I should take exception to the comments made by the Member for Birtle-Russell. It is not propaganda, it is information available to all Manitoba farmers, one of them having to do, Mr. Speaker, with the new Farm Machinery Act which was proclaimed, I believe, at the end of March. This is a buyer's guide that's going out to the farmers who might want to know what protection is provided for them under that particular piece of legislation. That, Mr. Speaker, is based on numerous inquiries as to what the law is with respect to farm machinery legislation.

The other document, Mr. Speaker, is one that is put into circulation for the benefit of people who are not fully aware of all programs, especially the new programs, and in particular the Federal-Provincial ARDA programs, where we have had numerous letters and phone calls with respect to information on the ARDA package.

MR. GRAHAM: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Will these pamphlets be available on an individual mailing basis or will they be available in the ag rep offices throughout the province?

MR. USKIW: No, I thought I said a moment ago, Mr. Speaker, that these are going out to all people who have an interest in agriculture, including the trade.

MR. GRAHAM: I have a further supplementary. Could the Minister indicate to the House the approximate cost of these two productions?

MR. USKIW: I'm not sure of the cost, Mr. Speaker. I know that there is some cost-sharing involved with respect to where federal programs are mentioned in this one document.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

MR. HARRY J. ENNS (Lakeside): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wonder, Mr. Speaker, if in the future the Minister would consider using a photograph in living colour. The black and white doesn't really do him justice.

ORAL QUESTIONS

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister.

MR. USKIW: Mr. Speaker, if the Honourable Member for Lakeside feels that that would enhance the brochure, I certainly will take that under advisement.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Roblin.

MR. J. WALLY MCKENZIE (Roblin): Mr. Speaker, I have another question of the Honourable Minister and I wonder how come he parted his hair on one side for the one picture and it's on the opposite side for the other one.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The Honourable Member for Roblin.

MR. MCKENZIE: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture and I wonder, now that he has the brochures on our desks, if he can tell me tonight how that the blacksmith in the Village of Inglis, where I reside, is going to have to provide himself with a bond and a licence to do blacksmithing in the Village of Inglis under this legislation.

MR. USKIW: Mr. Speaker, I would think that the blacksmith, if he is one that is subject to this legislation, will receive a copy of the brochure and will be able to acquaint himself with the meaning of the Act.

MR. MCKENZIE: Mr. Speaker, another question for the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture. I wonder if the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture can indicate to the members of the House what the bond is going to cost.

MR. USKIW: Mr. Speaker, I've had no reason to make that kind of inquiry. I am told that it's very nominal.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Roblin. Last question.

MR. MCKENZIE: Mr. Speaker, pursuing the question of the bond. I have pursued it at great length and I wonder if the Minister would take my question as notice and advise the dealers of this province what the bond is going to cost them.

MR. USKIW: Mr. Speaker, I think the honourable member should appreciate that the Farm Machinery Board has dealer representation on it and they have recommended the extent of bonding that would be required on themselves.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Arthur.

MR. J. DOUGLAS WATT (Arthur): Mr. Speaker, I wonder, since we haven't had time to peruse these two brochures, if the Minister could indicate somewhere in either one of them will be the answer to the recent and most recent increase by a Manitoba-based machine company that their prices of their machinery will be, as of now, to the dealers in Manitoba be increased by five percent.

MR. USKIW: Mr. Speaker, I have no knowledge of such a recent announcement on the part of any company. I think there were some announcements with respect . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Order please.

MR. USKIW: . . . to increase, but not in the area of five percent. Honourable members opposite should also appreciate that the three prairie provinces are taking the matter up as all three prairie governments were threatened with an increase in price. Manitoba's legislation having been first, we are the first ones that have had some change in the price.

MR. WATT: Mr. Speaker, then on a point of privilege . . .

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member state his point of privilege.

MR. WATT: I wonder if the Minister is sure that he's not aware that Versatile announced by letter last week to all . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. That is not a matter of privilege. Order please. The honourable member may ask another question. The honourable member may ask a question. That was not a point of privilege.

MR. WATT: I was on a point of privilege but then I'll rephrase--I'll ask a question then. Is the Minister not aware that Versatile Manufacturing Company based in Manitoba did, in writing, set out to all the dealers in the Province of Manitoba that the price of Versatile machinery would increase by five percent, and is there an answer to it included in these brochures?

MR. USKIW: Mr. Speaker, my recollection is that the price increases announced on the sale of machinery is somewhere in the order of one and a half to two percent depending on the company. Other than those areas where there is an option on the part of the buyer to choose or not to choose warranty provisions.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Attorney-General.

ORAL QUESTIONS

HON. A. H. MACKLING, Q.C. (Attorney-General) (St. James): Mr. Speaker, I was asked, I think, at one stage whether or not I would have notes in respect to the Statutes Law Amendment Act, and I have copies for every member outlining the specifics of the Law Amendment Act - Statute Law Amendment Act.

MR. SPEAKER: Orders of the Day. The Honourable House Leader.

HON. SIDNEY GREEN, Q.C. (Minister of Mines, Resources and Environmental Management and House Leader) (Inkster): Call Bill No. 50 please.

ORDERS OF THE DAY - GOVERNMENT BILLS - NO. 50

MR. SPEAKER: Proposed motion of the Honourable Minister of Education. The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. JACOB M. FROESE (Rhineland): Mr. Speaker, Bill No. 50 is an Act to amend The Teachers Pension Act and --(Interjection)-- Well, certainly it's an improvement over what we had before, quite a substantial improvement I would say. I did peruse most of it; however, I haven't checked some of the sections where we're probably amending and repealing the different sections. I haven't just had the time. And while I wasn't here this morning, I had a very bad headache - that's the reason I wasn't here so--But there are certain things in the bill that I don't know whether I should call it questioning it, but how can we justify making large payments to the Teachers Allowances Fund to increase their pensions when not doing it to some of the other organizations? Can we justify singling out the teachers in this case? And while there are a good number of teachers, I take it, on the government side of the Legislative Assembly here, I would like to hear from them, get up and hear from them as to what they have to say on this bill.

We're going to give very considerable moneys to that fund. There is one provision here where it says payment to the board of a sum of \$2, 213, 300.00. This is a very substantial amount that will be credited to the Account (a), and I know there is more than one account set up in that fund. I haven't got the statement of the fund before me but this is going to go toward the pension fund and for payment of the teachers' pensions. I don't know of any other group where we, as a Legislative Assembly, contributed funds to other than the Civil Service, and this is the reason, because we are not the employers of the teachers of this province. They are the employees of the school division, school districts, of which there are a few left, and therefore we are a third party and therefore I think at one time, when this agreement was reached, there was probably reasons for entering into such an agreement as this one. But whether those reasons are still valid and are still good that we should still continue with that, this is where I question it at this particular time.

I certainly would like to hear from the government on this very matter. Are we going to continue this type of a setup indefinitely? Is there any plan of changing this setup that there will only be two parties paying into the fund as such? I think these are valid questions that we should probably have some answers to. If those reasons are still valid, then certainly I think it's quite justified to proceed on the basis as we've done in the past and as outlined in this bill. I know there's increased pensions; there is the option of retiring at an earlier date. This is something that I've advocated in past sessions and I certainly go along with, especially now that we have a surplus of teachers, that this will enable some teachers to retire at an earlier age and it will give other teachers, who are coming out of our colleges, to get jobs which they otherwise would not get. And therefore I think it is commendable to provide for this. I think, as it is pointed out, as it's on a staggered rate that the penalty that was there before is lessened and this too will be to the liking and to the advantage of the teachers, and I think is good in itself. So, Mr. Speaker, if we can hear from the government side as to the justification of this and to the continuance of the plan, subject to that I approve of the bill.

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

HON. BEN HANUSCHAK (Minister of Education) (Burrows): Yes, Mr. Speaker. I believe if the honourable members have any questions related to any specific particular sections of the bill, that when the bill goes into committee that would be the most opportune moment to deal with those matters, but I just would wish to make a comment or two, Mr. Speaker. It's rather interesting--no, it's not interesting, it's amusing to hear the opposition members attempt to criticize our legislation, and in this particular instance this bill, without really putting forth any

BILL 50

(MR. HANUSCHAK cont'd) concrete proposals of their own as to how they would handle the matter if they were in a position to do so; neither has the Honourable Member for Rhineland, nor the spokesman for the Conservative Party, nor the spokesman for the Liberal Party; the spokesman for the Conservative Party, when he speaks of . . . legislation; the Honourable Member for Emerson, he speaks of the grand structure which was introduced by his Party when it was the government of this province, and he refers to it now as being outmoded and in need of revision, which we are in the process of doing. But at no time has he suggested any other way in which he would handle this particular matter to deal with anything related to education, be it a program of education or be it teachers or retired teachers. And then, Mr. Speaker, yesterday I had hoped that perhaps the Honourable Member for Assiniboia, a spokesman for the Liberal Party, would offer some proposals as to how his Party would handle this matter, and he did not come forth with anything either.

So tonight, Mr. Speaker, upon coming home for dinner I happened to come across a pamphlet which was delivered at my home, from Henry Froese --(Interjection)-- yes, from Henry Froese --(Interjection)-- the namesake of the Honourable Member for Rhineland--and it appeared to be a political document and I thought perhaps he would have something to say about how he would handle the matter of teachers' retirement, civil servants' retirement. After all, teachers number 12,000, civil servants somewhere in that order, so --(Interjection)-- that's true, that's true. Well, he is no relation to the Honourable Member for Rhineland, so we are told, Mr. Speaker.

Well, Mr. Speaker, the sender of the--now whether it was he or someone on his behalf, it says it's authorized by the Henry Froese Election Committee, and it reads as follows, it reads as follows: "We are pleased to be able to send you, on behalf of this Party, our 1973 report on the Legislature." And he said, you know, and this certainly sparked my interest--I thought, now surely he would deal with teachers' pensions. Then he goes on to say once again: "The Liberal MLAs have played an active role in putting forward constructive policy suggestions for the betterment of our citizens and our province. And during the Session," he says, "we have had the added advantage of working with our caucus of nominated candidates from across Manitoba." --(Interjection)-- Well, you know, first of all, before I come to that, Mr. Speaker, I pause at this sentence because it was quite evident to us this afternoon that the Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party does not caucus with his members because I know that he had--no doubt he had a valid reason for being absent from the House for the last day or so, but then he got up and asked questions of my colleague the Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs who answers for the Manitoba Housing and Renewal Corporation, which were answered by him yesterday or perhaps last Saturday, so it's quite evident that he does not caucus with the members of the House, never mind the candidates who have not been elected, --(Interjection)-- or those who have withdrawn.

Well, Mr. Speaker, so then I proceeded to look through this document, and here's, Mr. Speaker, and here is what the Liberal Party had to say about education and in particular about teachers, about retired teachers, and you know, Mr. Speaker, because I was quite certain that I would find something in here because I believe that this candidate is a member of the same profession of which I am a member, of the teaching profession, so surely he would have some influence on his caucus to see to it that there would be something in there about teachers and about the Teachers Retirement Fund. Well, Mr. Speaker, I will tell you what is in this pamphlet, and these are the 1973 legislative proposals of the Liberal caucus. Mr. Speaker, about education, about retired teachers, there is absolutely nothing, not a word. Not a word. Program of education affecting a quarter of a million children, 12,000 teachers--not a word. So, Mr. Speaker, I think it's quite apparent to you that the Liberal Party is not in the slightest bit concerned about anything related to education. Not a thing. Not a thing. So therefore there's nothing that I have to reply to the Liberal Party on matters related to this bill. --(Interjections)-- Not a thing. Not a thing, Mr. Speaker.

Well, Mr. Speaker, this is a bill that the teachers have been waiting for, for a long time. I simply wish to make one comment. I believe the Honourable Member for Emerson did make reference to offering some recognition to teachers with war service who may not have received credit for their service. Well, there's one group of those, Mr. Speaker, that have been taken care of in this bill.

BILL 50

(MR. HANUSCHAK)

Now, as I have indicated at the outset, any questions, any comment that the honourable members may have on particular sections of the bill, there'll be ample opportunity for it in committee, in Law Amendments Committee.

QUESTION put and carried.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable House Leader.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, would you call Bill 61, please.

BILL 61

MR. SPEAKER: Bill which? 60? 61. Proposed motion of the Honourable Minister of Finance. The Honourable Member for Arthur.

MR. WATT: Mr. Speaker, I just want to take a few minutes of the time of the House to make a few comments on Bill 61. First, I would like to refer back to --(Interjection)-- well, I promised three, but I didn't say on which end of my speech the three or the four would be.

I was most interested in the remarks of my honourable friend the Minister of Labour last night, when he took the bill back to the Budget Speech, and he took some time of the House to point out the whole operation that had taken place in the House when it came to a final vote on the budget. And he counted the ayes and the nays of those who spoke and then he went through the whole operation, which took some time, until we were all called to our feet and counted and we all supported the budget.

And it is right, Mr. Speaker, that we did stand and were counted and that we voted to pass the budget 100 percent which, says my colleague the Member for Morris, is not unprecedented, it has happened before. But I must say, Mr. Speaker, that we were put in a very awkward position, because in fact, Mr. Speaker, this House really is a court; it is the highest court in the Province of Manitoba, and in the case of the government and particularly in the case of the Provincial Treasurer who is not here tonight--the Minister of Finance, I'm sorry; I believe he's down in Ottawa with the First Minister, and about this time it's almost bedtime in Ottawa and I would imagine that the First Minister and the Minister of Finance and Mr. Davis, I think it is, the NDP Leader down there, and Mr. Trudeau, are probably--oh, Lewis, pardon me-- did I say --(Interjections)-- a bad mistake. They're probably, about bedtime they are now discussing whether they're going to send out a notice to the Acting Premier of the Province of Manitoba to announce whether there should be an election in June of this year, or in October, or whether there should be an election at all or not.

Now, it's too bad that the Minister of Finance is not here, but I have to say that he's with his colleagues down there, the Leader of the NDP Party in Ottawa and Mr. Trudeau, deciding what is going to happen in Manitoba, and I rather expect that some time tonight or early tomorrow that the Acting Premier will be announcing whether the people of Manitoba will become a jury in June or next fall, but I say a jury, a jury --(Interjection)-- Possibly tonight, it all depends on how well they sleep together, it all depends on what agreement they come together in Ottawa, but it could be tonight. But it will be tomorrow if not tonight, or not at all. --(Interjections)--

But anyway, Mr. Speaker, so much for that point. But I want to say that we did support the budget for one reason and for one reason only, that the government of the day have, by the use of our tax legislation, of our tax act in this province, by the misuse of our tax legislation and by the abuse of our tax legislation, that the people of the Province of Manitoba have been overtaxed for the past four years and that now they are in a position in an election year for ad hoc programs that have been going on through the past summer, through the past year, through the past two years, and we have a bill before us now for consideration tonight which is another ad hoc program, another ad hoc program, another ad hoc program, \$100.00 again to every property owner in the Province of Manitoba in the year of 1973. And if that is not an election gimmick, I have never seen one. But we did stand during the Budget Speech as a jury, with the government as the defendant and also the government as jurors defending their own defendant, voted in favour of the budget, and it has been indicated by my leader that this side of the House, that we the Conservative Party are really in a position that we have no alternative but to say that we will support this bill, because it is giving back again another 100 bucks for each property owner in the Province of Manitoba. And I'm not quite satisfied myself and in spite of what my leader has said, that I am going to support this bill --(Interjections)-- because,

BILL 61

(MR. WATT cont'd) Mr. Speaker, out in the province and out in the constituency of Arthur, the people are beginning to catch on to what is going on in government of Manitoba right now.

You know, there was a gentleman one time that spoke on the platform out at Melita. I think, if I recall correctly, his name was Jake Schulz. And after he had been booted off the platform he finally said, "I can see that you people out here are too well educated, that I can't put anything over on you," and he got up and left the meeting. And I say that the people are still as well educated out in that corner of the Province of Manitoba as they were the day that Jake Schulz spoke on the platform out there and told them that he could tell them what they should do.

Well, I simply say, Mr. Speaker, that I have some reservations of whether I will stand up and be counted in support of this bill. I had too many phone calls over the weekend telling me. --(Interjection)-- I don't know where the interjection came from but I don't think it meant anything anyway. But I had too many phone calls over the weekend telling me not to give anything further to that side of the House, that we've already caught on to what goes on and what they are going to do with ad hoc programs and buying votes.

Now, Mr. Speaker, the government has constantly talked about the need for those who need, and to take away from those who don't need and give to those who need. --(Interjection)-- That's right. And I would like to refer, Mr. Speaker, back some time ago, to 1969, to the Journals of 1969, a resolution proposed by the Member for St. John's, presently against the Minister of Finance, and it reads like this, Mr. Speaker: Whereas the provincial sales tax has imposed an unbearable burden on persons of income in the poverty level--in the poverty level--and at that time, Mr. Speaker, the Province of Manitoba had imposed under the Conservative government a 5 percent sales tax which, according to the Member for St. John's, and the resolution was supported by the honourable members sitting in the front bench at the moment--no, pardon me, not the Attorney-General, he wasn't here then, I don't believe. Maybe he was, but it was supported at that time, and after four years, Mr. Speaker, we still have a 5 percent sales tax imposed on the people at the poverty level, a sales tax that is now taking from the poverty level 75 percent more money out of the poverty level than it was in 1969, and it still remains.

The Minister of Labour last night talked about Duff Roblin speaking in the House that the sales tax is as dead as a dodo, and it has been dead for the last four years. There hasn't been a sound about it from that side of the House, except for the actual fact that it has constantly increased revenue, increased the revenue to the province, to that government, to wildly spend money to almost double what it was at that time. It has increased to the point where they can throw money around on this sort of thing, on the garbage that we receive on our desks every day that we move out and move out until our caucus room is loaded with junk that we will have to take out by the truckload. And I want to say, Mr. Speaker, that maybe it's a good thing, because it won't be very long until the pulpwood, until our natural resources up in the north are completely used up through Churchill Forest Industries by the Legislative Assembly and the government of the Province of Manitoba if that government are allowed to sit in office long enough.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I find myself in a very difficult position after having listened to my leader say that we have no alternative to support legislation that will give back to the people money that was stolen from them by the use or the misuse or the abuse of the laws, of the tax laws of our province. And so I simply say, Mr. Speaker, that it is my intention to let this bill go to second reading, but I have reservations about voting for the bill on third reading.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. MACKLING: Mr. Speaker, I rise at this time to make a response to the observations that have been made by the members . . .

MR. McKENZIE: Is the Honourable Attorney-General closing debate?

MR. MACKLING: As Acting Minister of Finance. --(Interjections)-- not in a position to close debate, Mr. Speaker, but on behalf of my colleague the Minister of Finance, who is presently in Ottawa dealing with the Federal Government, to make response to the observations that have been made and to present arguments as I believe he would have presented them if he were here tonight.

Now, from the outset I would like to say that the responses that have been made by the

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(MR. MACKLING cont'd) members of other than the official part of Opposition have been relatively positive, and I don't think that I want to spend the time of the House to refer to the specific contributions that have been made by several of the honourable members. I do, however, Mr. Speaker, feel it incumbent upon me to make some response to the Leader of the Opposition and to contrast what he has said and the action which he now clearly indicates that will be taken by his colleagues, with the arguments that have been addressed by his colleagues in this House on this bill.

I suggest, Mr. Speaker, the Progressive Conservative Party in Manitoba, as exemplified by the honourable members in this House under their present Leader is a study in contradiction. One need only look at the arguments that were addressed to Bill 61 by members of the Honourable Leader of the Opposition's front bench, if I can use that description, that were highly critical of the principle and the concepts of the educational tax rebate system that are the basic element of this bill. And yet, after the conclusion of all of the submissions, the Leader of the Opposition has indicated that his group will be supporting the bill.

I would like to point out that during the course of the submission the Honourable Member for Fort Garry indicated that there was no question about his criticism of the plan, it being, in his words, "expensive", "unnecessary", "inefficient" and so on, and he made it clear that it would be difficult, he appreciated, for the people of Manitoba to recognize or to understand their opposition, and he realized the difficulty that he was faced with in making the criticism that he did make. And well I can understand that position, because now or later on it is clear that if called upon he will stand and support the principles of this bill.

Similarly we find contradictions. For example, the Honourable Leader of the Opposition calls for universal exemption of senior citizens, for example, from educational taxes, and you know, that sounds like a very laudable aim, but I'll deal with that in a moment. But what does the Member from Souris-Killarney say? In his contribution he indicated that, you know, this \$100.00 advance in the educational tax rebate system, or credit system, was wrong because it was going to help, and he used the word "millionaires", it was going to help the rich people. And he was wrong. He was opposed to that kind of system. Well, I suggest that there's a basic contradiction that exists between the philosophic argument of the Member from Souris-Killarney and the Leader of his Party, because the Leader of his Party made a speech indicating there should be a universal system dealing with senior citizens and the honourable member's opposed to that. He's opposed to that.

Now, during the course of the debate, many of the honourable members indicated their vehement criticism to the provisions of this bill, but now apparently they have found some way in which they can support it, and, you know, I would like to point out that this plan was bitterly criticized by the Leader of the Opposition. He had called it in the past "the most serious blunder yet perpetrated in the Manitoba budget" and that was his statement in Hansard April 10, 1972. But now it merits support at this time. And that's a basic contradiction in his position.

Now his explanation, Mr. Speaker, I would like to deal with. His explanation is that, well now, the system is changed, the system is changed. There is now a universal tax credit of \$100.00 and that goes to everyone, and that's the kind of thing that he says he's in favour of and that's changed it. But does he deliberately ignore --(Interjection)-- Sure, go ahead.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition state his point of privilege?

MR. SIDNEY SPIVAK, Q.C. (Leader of the Opposition)(River Heights): Yes, the honourable member has stated that I made a statement, and if he is saying that that is the statement I made he is incorrect. I did not make that statement. If he thinks that this is an interpretation of some of the things I've said, that's different. I did not make that statement. I said that the \$100.00 change is a change because it is a direct payment to the municipalities and the cities to be applied as a credit towards the real estate taxes on education.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. MACKLING: Mr. Speaker, I certainly don't want to misquote the Honourable Leader of the Opposition because I think just his remarks by themselves without my embellishing them in any way are damaging enough to his position, and I certainly wouldn't want to assist him in eroding his position. Let me just say then that in the words he used, in my opinion his position was that the system had been changed and now instead of there being a rebate system on the basis of the ability-to-pay concept, there was a flat deduction principle involved.

Now that's --(Interjection)--

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MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, that is not what I said. The honourable member may interpret it that way if he so desires, but for the record, Mr. Speaker, I did not say that and I would ask the honourable member to examine Hansard and to be in a position to correct that because that was not said by me.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. MACKLING: Mr. Speaker, I made it quite clear that I was not attempting to quote the Honourable Leader of the Opposition verbatim. I said that what he said amounted to that, that what in essence he said was that the system had been changed and now it was possible for he and his Party to support this bill, because the concept had been changed by us, and that's in essence what he said, and I say to you, Mr. Speaker, that the concept has not been changed. What was argued by the New Democratic Party and what was articulated clearly as early as our first session in 1969, is that we believed there should be a tax shift away from real property taxation as a basis for the financing of educational cost on to a form of taxation which more clearly reflected the ability-to-pay concept. We said that right from the outset. And in order to carry out that undertaking we produced a tax shift, a tax shift as early as 1969, a tax shift that dealt with, first of all, the most regressive form of taxation in the Province of Manitoba, and that was the Medicare premium tax. (Hear. Hear.) In our first year we shifted \$28 million of regressive poll taxation on to an ability-to-pay tax, and that was opposed by the Leader of the Opposition. In 1971, we enriched the Foundation Program dealing with educational tax funding. We increased the basis of provincial contribution from 70 to 75 percent and that cost us an additional \$6 million.

In 1973 we've increased the contribution in respect to the Foundation Program an additional five percent, costing another \$6 million, and this is a fundamental shift in taxation away from the incidence of the burden on real property tax in respect to educational financing -- (Interjection)-- In respect to the educational tax credit plan, this as has been indicated earlier in our budget debate for which we had support by the Opposition parties, involves another shift of \$42 million away from the cost to the individual taxpayer and renter in respect to the cost of education on to an ability-to-pay tax --(Interjections)--

Now, in respect to premium tax, this year we have abolished premium tax and that at a cost of \$25 million. Senior citizens' premium waiver cost another \$4.8 million. All told, Mr. Speaker, this has amounted to a shift in taxation, a shift away from regressive forms of taxation to more progressive forms of taxation, of \$116.3 million. (Applause) Now that is indicative of an undertaking that this government made early, that we recognized the need for progressive taxation.

Now, Mr. Speaker, the Honourable Leader of the Opposition was critical, was critical of the fact and several of his members were critical of the fact that we were spending money, taxpayers' money, to communicate this program to the people of Manitoba and, you know, that is always appropriate for an opposition party to criticize the government for spending money to communicate to people, because after all, there's always an inclination to suggest that this is sheer political effort on the part of the one that's communicating. And that's fair criticism. But what they have said about the cost of this program, Mr. Speaker, is completely irresponsible. Mr. Speaker, they have indicated that the cost of the advertising was in the range of half a million dollars. Well, let the honourable members know. Let the honourable members know that the cost of the advertising component of this program is less than \$200,000, less than \$200,000, and that is not fiction. That is not fiction, Mr. Speaker, that is fact. The entire cost, the entire cost of the program, including the costs that are payable to the Federal Government for the administration of the program, is approximately half a million dollars. The entire cost of the program. And the advertising component is less than \$200,000. And so let the record be clear as to that.

But lest it be thought that, you know, I or my colleagues are supersensitive about advertising

SOME MEMBERS: Oh no; no. No, you're not.

MR. MACKLING: I want to indicate, I want to indicate to your Leader--well, the Leader of the Opposition is smiling now, I hope that he'll smile for a few minutes longer, because, Mr. Speaker, I have something to say about advertising.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.

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MR. MACKLING: You know, Mr. Speaker, the Honourable Leader of the Opposition is very critical about this plan, and his colleagues have been very critical. Well, a Progressive Conservative administration in both Alberta and Ontario has utilized the same, relatively the same concept. And, you know, lo and behold, the Province of Ontario is communicating to the people what this plan is about. And do you know how they do it, Mr. Speaker? They do it by way of advertisements. And do you know what the advertisements say? And I'd like to read, you know, some of the, a little bit from, the punch line at the end of the Ontario advertisement. It says: "The Ontario property tax credit plan: We thought of it, but we'd like you to get the credit." That's the message. "Many happy returns. Have you claimed your credit?"

You know, but I don't, Mr. Speaker, I don't fault the Ontario government from communicating a message, and as the Honourable Minister of Colleges and Universities pointed out, it's necessary to communicate to the people to make sure that the tax filers who ordinarily wouldn't have been in a position to take advantage of this program, would understand the necessity of filing a tax return to get the benefit of this plan.

But, you know, why should the Honourable Leader of the Opposition, of all people, be so highly critical of a government that advertises? You know, Mr. Speaker, I think that the record should show that when the honourable member--I think the Honourable Leader of the Opposition was elected in 1966--that in respect to the record of advertising of the government of Manitoba between 1966 and 1969, government department expenditures on advertising increased extremely rapidly, both in actual dollar terms and as a percentage of total spending. In fiscal 1966. . .

A MEMBER: Who was the Minister. . . ?

MR. MACKLING: . . . government departments' expenditures on advertising and exhibits totalled \$439,000. By fiscal 1969--and listen to this, Mr. Speaker--this had grown to \$1,275,000, an increase of 190 percent in four years after the Honourable Leader of the Opposition was elected to this House --(Interjections)-- But listen to this, Mr. Speaker. In fiscal 1969 the Department of Industry and Commerce alone was spending more money on advertising, \$459,000, than all of the departments together spent for the three years earlier. Now. Now. I wonder what the Honourable Leader of the Opposition has to say about advertising.

You know, earlier, Mr. Speaker, during the course of my estimates as Minister of Consumer Affairs, I filed a graphical illustration of the advertising cost to government, and one will see graphically illustrated the 190 percent increase in the advertising budget of the Province of Manitoba during the years in which the Honourable Leader of the Opposition became a member of this House and shortly became the Minister of Industry and Commerce. Now, Mr. Speaker, now, Mr. Speaker, he with tongue in cheek, tongue in cheek I'm sure, suggests that we should not spend upwards of \$200,000 communicating an entirely new tax program to the people of Manitoba. I really don't think that he really means to be so critical. After all, I think he understands that it is necessary to communicate new programs to the people.

Now, the Honourable Leader of the Opposition says that there has been a change in this program. Now, I don't want to rephrase or paraphrase or in any way attempt to quote the Honourable Leader of the Opposition. He said there's a change. The policy, the program has been changed, now we can support it. Well, what change--well, he's shaking his head. I guess he didn't say we could support it. All right. No? I'm so . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Order please. The Honourable Leader of the Opposition state his matter . . .

MR. SPIVAK: Yes, I said I would support it because any measure to give back to the people some of the money that has been taken away by taxation has to be supported.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. MACKLING: Mr. Speaker, the Honourable Leader of the Opposition is uncomfortable and I can appreciate his discomfort, but he did indicate--well, I feel no measure of discomfort at all. He did indicate that there had been a change and that was the reason now he could support it. Well now, let me just look at what this change would be, because when we introduced this program there was a 50-dollar, a 50-dollar tax credit at source at the municipality, and so that, there's no difference in the concept. The fact that the advance has been increased to \$100.00 underlines the commitment that this government made that we would make a tax shift away from real property taxation for the funding of education to an ability-to-pay tax. That's a tax shift. But in addition to that, we said that we would provide tax relief for people,

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(MR. MACKLING cont'd) particularly those people on limited incomes, senior citizens, those sections of our economy most affected by economic downturns, the farming community and so on. And the practical effect of this program was highlighted in the comments by the Minister of Finance when he pointed out the numbers of persons in those categories that would be able to take advantage of this program, would get maximum relief. He indicated that the calculations indicate that of all pensioners who normally file income tax returns and are eligible for property tax credits, some 81 percent will receive the maximum 200-dollar credit, and a full 92 percent will receive benefits in excess of \$180.00. All but .3 percent will be entitled to credit amounts above the standard \$100.00 minimum.

Now, in respect to the farm community, he pointed out that the expectation is that 83-84 percent of Manitoba farmers who normally file income tax returns, will enjoy the maximum credit amount of \$200.00, while a further 12.5% will have tax credits of between \$160.00 and \$200.00.

And I could go on, Mr. Speaker, but--the Honourable Leader of the Opposition said that his scheme, his plan would involve a complete absorption of educational tax in respect to senior citizens. Well, first of all, the plan that we have not only involves the acceptance or an ability to cover the educational tax itself, but in some instances, as I can show, goes beyond that to pick up a portion of municipal taxation, and in some instances of limited income covers the whole of the municipal tax bill itself, not merely the educational tax component but the municipal tax component as well. And the Honourable Leader of the Opposition hasn't apparently realized that fact.

In addition, Mr. Speaker, he talks about the relief of individual tax bills to senior citizens but he has nothing to say about the hundreds and hundreds of thousands--not hundreds of thousands but thousands of people, tens of thousands of people, who throughout Manitoba are renters, are tenants in rented premises. And for them he would provide apparently no relief. Under this program, Mr. Speaker, everyone who directly or indirectly pays real property taxation, the bulk or at least 50 percent of which is normally paid for educational tax, relief is granted. Now that's a program that takes into consideration the effective burden of educational tax in society. Now what the honourable member the Leader of the Opposition would do, and he and his colleagues have argued this consistently, is provide for flat rate income tax reduction, and we know what that would provide. It would provide a maximum relief to the person of high income, and let's look at tables that would indicate that.

Perhaps I could take the example of a family unit with an income of \$5,000 - a family unit of four with an income of \$5,000. And, Mr. Speaker, there are many many thousands of family units in Manitoba whose income is in that category. Let's say that we had taken a 10 percent income tax cut suggested by the Honourable Leader of the Opposition. Do you know what it would mean for that family? It would mean \$8.00 per year for a family of four. At the same time it would mean a savings of \$670.00 a year for the same sized family with an income of \$50,000, and about \$1,600 for a family with \$100,000. But, you know, that's the kind of program that they advocate.

Instead, what we did, Mr. Speaker, is eliminate all Medicare premiums, saving all families in Manitoba \$100.00 per year - \$99.60 to be exact - and saving single people \$50.00 a year. Thus, instead of a low income family receiving only \$8.00 while those on the highest incomes received over \$1,600, all families receive \$100.00. The Conservative approach would be to take all the tax credits, benefits available to our family of four with \$5,000, and instead of getting \$189.00 as under our plan, do you know what they would get, Mr. Speaker? Eight dollars. Now that's the Conservative approach to tax shift and tax relief.

Now, you know, they have argued, Mr. Speaker, and we've heard it ad nauseam. We've heard it ad nauseam that Manitoba is the highest taxed province, and really, Mr. Speaker, it troubles one to contain themselves and speak very coolly and unimpassionately about this kind of argument. Because when one looks at tables that compare province by province the incidence of taxation and the relative standing of provinces throughout Canada in respect to the various tax burdens that are felt, one cannot help but blush to think that the Leader of an Opposition Party continues to characterize the position of taxpayers in Manitoba as being one of the highest taxed. It just is not so.

For example, I would like to refer to a comparison of annual personal income taxes and health insurance premium taxes: Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British

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(MR. MACKLING cont'd) Columbia. This comparison is based on 1973 tax rates. Let's take a family, a spouse and two children under 16. In Manitoba, prior to the 1973 budget, a family with a gross income of \$4,000, their total taxes was \$111.00. After our budget and the rebate scheme that we have set up, their total tax is \$11.00. In Ontario that same family pays taxes of \$140 - \$140 compared to \$11 in Manitoba; in Saskatchewan - \$83; in Alberta - \$82; in British Columbia - \$83.00. Now where is this argument? Where is this argument that we are the highest taxed?

But let's go up the scale to a higher income category, \$10,000. Remember it's a family of four - a man, his wife, and two children under 16, the family gross income of \$10,000. In Manitoba prior to our budget the total tax was \$627; in Manitoba after the budget - \$527; in Ontario - \$642; in Saskatchewan - \$568; in Alberta - \$584; and in British Columbia - \$528 - one dollar, one dollar higher than Manitoba. Manitoba was \$527 - \$527.00. Now it's astonishing, and I could go on to read the tables indicating that the situation of a tax filer, a married couple with no children and a dependent spouse, and the same story is told, the same relative standings and the same picture throughout. And what about the comparison in respect to those jurisdictions that still have a premium tax, and I'd like to characterize those. Let's take a family of four, a married tax filer, a spouse and two children under 16, and just dealing with those jurisdictions that still have a Medicare or health insurance premium . . .

A MEMBER: Conservative Ontario.

MR. MACKLING: . . . yearly gross income of \$4,000, taxes under the former government of Manitoba in 1969, the total taxation was \$250 - the total taxation --(Interjection)-- That's right. Now, under the present government for the 1973 budget, the total taxation will be \$187 - \$187. Now, Mr. Speaker, you can see the kind of saving that's involved there. Now--I'm sorry, the total taxation would be a net credit of \$187; that's a \$441 saving.

Now let's go up the tax income category. At \$10,000 the same family unit in Manitoba. Personal income tax of \$459; health insurance premium taxes in 1969 of \$204; total \$663.00. Under this administration in 1973, after the tax credit has been paid, the total taxation is \$388, a net saving of \$275 contrasted to what was available in 1969.

Even at \$15,000, Mr. Speaker, even at \$15,000 there is a net saving of \$219 and, Mr. Speaker, even at an income, even at a yearly gross income--and here's where some of the honourable members of the Opposition should be alerted because maybe some of them are in that category, I don't know--even at a yearly gross income of \$50,000, there is a saving contrasted to 1969 under our tax proposals of \$203.00. Now, how can the Honourable Leader of the Opposition, in all integrity, stump this province or articulate in this Chamber arguments that this is the highest taxed province. It just does not make sense. It's not credible, Mr. Speaker.

I would like to refer to an article, Mr. Speaker, that was published in the Globe and Mail, and it in turn quotes the Canadian Press Survey of Major Budgets of the various provinces. And, you know, these are round figures and it says: "The following table reflects provincial expenditures as shown by the Canadian Press together with a 1971 population census per capita provincial expenditures and partisan labels of the provincial governments." And this is a table that, true, provides for rough comparisons because there are some changes when you introduce capital as against current expenditure, but by and large upon analysis they reflect the kind of spending that takes place across the country.

And the other argument that the Honourable Leader of the Opposition has been articulating is that this government is spending so much money, it's so expensive, it's so wasteful, that you're creating inflation which in turn creates greater tax revenues. But what are the facts? What are the facts, Mr. Speaker? A provincial comparison of expenditures in millions of dollars as against population, and the per capita expenditures in Manitoba by the Manitoba government is the lowest of all the provinces in Canada. Now this is fact, not fiction. And the Honourable Leader of the Opposition, his consistent argument, Mr. Speaker, his consistent argument, Mr. Speaker, is that, you know, if we were once to get back into power, why, we would eliminate waste and gross expenditure. Well, really one has to look at performance. You know, when you look at the Department of Industry and Commerce and as reflected on the advertising budget, when the Honourable Leader of the Opposition was the Minister of Industry and Commerce they were spending money in quantities that had never been spent by the Department of Industry and Commerce before. And yet he says that, you know, there is waste and inefficiency and so on.

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(MR. MACKLING cont'd)

From time to time I, as a Minister responsible in this government, have called upon him to document what area of government there is fad, what area of government there is waste, and we'll be first, we'll be the first to stand up and prune that waste, and he has failed consistently to come forward and reveal where that so-called waste or extra spending takes place. And that is fact, that's not fiction, Mr. Speaker.

Well, Mr. Speaker, he apparently would rather emulate, he criticizes this government for its position as being, moderately speaking or qualitatively speaking, marginally higher in the income tax. We make no apology for that because we have said that in respect to taxation we feel that we subscribe, we must subscribe to the ability-to-pay concept. And we're not ashamed of that at all. But what about the ability-to-pay concept in Ontario, and you know, the Progressive Conservative Party in that province not only maintains regressive premium taxes which don't take into account the ability of the individual person to pay, the kind of impost that is necessary, in addition to that they introduced some tax changes and what did they do? They increased sales taxes by 2 percent. They even increased sales taxes against heating fuel, and only after violent opposition have they beat a withdrawal from that field. Now is that the kind, is that the kind of program that we would see if--and heaven forbid--the Honourable Leader of the Official Opposition were once again to have some say in producing a budget in this province? --(Interjection)-- That's indeed right.

When it went from 5 to 7 percent, that's an increase of 2 percent. Now maybe that's the kind of program that the Honourable Leader of the Opposition would bring in, because in order to shift, in order to shift away from the incidence of educational tax in Ontario, they have added on a sales tax. Now sales taxes, comparatively speaking, aren't the most regressive tax in the world. As compared to premium taxes, certainly they are less regressive. But within a certain margin, taxation on real property does reflect, in a measure, an ability to pay, because after all, beyond a certain basic standard of dwelling accommodation, the more valuable and the more sophisticated and more elaborate housing accommodation is reflected in assessment or rent and the taxes or the rents paid reflect that.

But what we undertook, as I repeat, Mr. Speaker, from the outset, is an across-the-board shift in respect to educational tax away from real property tax, and we have done that. There has been no change. But in addition to that, the kind of additional tax relief based on the ability-to-pay concept that is based upon the income tax filing of an individual property owner or renter, takes into consideration his or her ability to pay, and in addition to dealing with educational tax, goes in some instances beyond that to pick up either in large part or in some cases in full measure, the municipal tax itself. Now that is progressive taxation.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I think that the people of Manitoba will recognize that the Official Opposition have continued to exercise their old stale, sterile tax arguments that are no longer acceptable to an enlightened electorate of this province. Now, Mr. Speaker, I think it is clear that the performance of this government has been consistent with our undertakings and in no way, shape or form is it possible now for the Official Opposition to in any way denigrate this program, because it has been consistent with our undertakings from the start. We have not changed this program. The fact that the Official Opposition now is faced with an embarrassing position in having to vote in favour of this tax bill, underlines, underlines the bankruptcy of their position in respect to taxation in this province. They know, Mr. Speaker, that the kind of tax program that they have articulated in the past is no longer acceptable. They would like, Mr. Speaker, to turn a new face to the electorate of Manitoba in a forthcoming election, and say "Let's forget the past." But the past is still too near. The fact that there was a government that--yes, begrudgingly produced a Medicare program but forced upon the people of Manitoba Medicare premium tax that was almost unconscionable, Mr. Speaker, and that has continued, continued to resist the change that we have brought about in shifting to progressive forms of taxation. Because they go about this province decrying the level of taxation in this province, and they do so knowing full well that on a comparison of all of the tax systems in Manitoba they are absolutely false in their assertion. Mr. Speaker, it is therefore without hesitation that I suggest that the honourable members of the Opposition stand up and vote in favour of this bill as I know they will.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Roblin.

MR. MCKENZIE: Mr. Speaker, in speaking to this Bill No. 61, the . . .

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MR. SPEAKER: Order please.

MR. McKENZIE: . . . the eulogy that we just received from the Honourable the Attorney-General reminds me about the story of the absent-minded farmer who found himself in the middle of a field with a piece of rope in his hand, and he couldn't remember whether he'd lost the horse or whether he'd found a piece of rope. Mr. Speaker, the difference between a tax collector and a taxidermist is at least the taxidermist leaves you with your hide, and if we leave these guys in office, Mr. Speaker, for another four years, I think there's going to be a lot of people in this province won't have their hide left with this ability-to-pay principle. Because, Mr. Speaker, I've listened to this eulogy and this philosophy for four years and show me where you have eliminated any of the problems of the poor in my constituency. The poor are still there today as they were four years ago. They dream and scream about this ability-to-pay principle, and all the good things that they're doing. Mr. Speaker . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.

MR. McKENZIE: Just let me eulogize very briefly about some of the things that these dreamers over here have done for Manitoba.

Mr. Speaker, if I as a private storekeeper overcharged my customers, and when the overcharge was discovered by my customers and I tried to give them back the money, what kind of customers would I have in my store? They'd be unhappy. They wouldn't trust me; they wouldn't trust nobody that was doing that kind of business, and that's why I don't trust this government, Mr. Speaker. They're expensive, they're overtaxing the people of this province, and they're trying to bribe them today with their own money. And just let's look at some of the things that's happened in this province the four years that these boys have been in government, Mr. Speaker. Let's look at the--well, individual income tax, for example, Mr. Speaker, is an interesting subject.

In 1968 there was \$53 million of income tax collected in this province. What is it today? A hundred and nineteen million. Over double; over double income tax that the people in this province are paying with this government with this ability-to-pay principle, with this philosophy about shifting tax dollars.

Mr. Speaker, let's take a look at some of the other programs, Mr. Speaker. Here is one, an interesting one under the Revenue Tax, Mr. Speaker. Thirty-nine million in 1968, 73 million in 1972.

A MEMBER: It's only money.

MR. McKENZIE: Now they must have a guilty conscience, Mr. Speaker, because how can they stand up and justify that they're not overtaxing the people of this province. Because if you were overtaxing the people of this province and doing something with the dollars, I would have the poor people looked after in my constituency. But you've overtaxed us for four years and continually overtaxed us and I still have the poor in Roblin constituency, Mr. Speaker. And don't let these guys stand up and tell me that they're the saviours of the world and they're the new dreamers out shifting taxes and shifting it. Why don't you shift it to the poor? Why don't you shift it to the poor and help the poor people of this province who need that kind of help? Mr. Speaker, it makes me sick, these guys. They advertise free Medicare for all Manitobans to start June 1st. That's not true, Mr. Speaker. There's nothing free in this province, nothing free for the people of this province. Free Medicare? That's false advertising. That's not true to the people of this--the people of this province don't deserve that kind of an accolade that things are free Medicare.

Mr. Speaker, senior citizens get free Medicare June 1st. Free? Are you kidding, Mr. Speaker? Who's kidding who? Who is going to pay? Me? You, Mr. Speaker? The Attorney-General? Who's going to pay for all these programs and all these things that are now, all of a sudden they're free. Mr. Speaker, who is going to pay for some of these vast advertising programs that the people of this province are having rammed down their throats every day? Here's one from the Liquor Commission. "When in doubt, don't." Isn't that a wonderful thing to tell the people of this province? You know, when in doubt, don't. Is that bribing the people of this province, Mr. Speaker? Is that bribing them with their own money, Mr. Speaker? I suspect, Mr. Speaker, that's bribing the people of this province with their own money. "Follow the blue." "Follow the blue."

You remember this great document came out telling the people how to get through that reams and reams of tax returns, bribing the people, Mr. Speaker, with their own money?

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(MR. McKENZIE cont'd) Bribing the people looking after the poor in Roblin constituency? Mr. Speaker, no. They haven't looked after the poor in Roblin constituency, no way. They're still out there four years after these guys have had all the chances in the world to look after the problems in my constituency. But they come out, Mr. Speaker, with this type of a eulogy. "Follow the blue with Fred Davis." Now where is that going to take you, Mr. Speaker? That's going to take you into the most difficult tax jungle you ever saw in your life before, a tax form that the average citizen of this province can't file by himself, he's got to go and get a chartered accountant. So who's making the bucks? The chartered accountant. Chartered accountants are happy.

Mr. Speaker, here's another. "Your response gratifying - Manitoba Liquor Commission!" Isn't that wonderful for the people? Again bribing them with their own money. Here's another one: "Reduced Premiums for 1973 - Manitoba Crop Insurance, Crown Corporation." Bribing, Mr. Speaker, bribing the people with their own money. And the Minister of Agriculture tonight comes out with his big bit that we had the Premier's letter now a couple of weeks ago through using the Minister of Health's stationery and his envelopes and very skillfully sending notices out to the people of this province, again bribing them with their own money, their own tax dollars, right out of their own hip pockets, and what for, Mr. Speaker? Telling the people of this province something they already know. And the Attorney-General has the guff to stand up in this House tonight and tell me about this new Manitoba, this new philosophy, this new tax shift, this new way that they're going to look after the people of this province by bribing them with their own money.

Mr. Speaker, I think it's very unfair for the Attorney-General, a man of his calibre and his ability, to stand up and make a speech like he did in the House tonight. Mr. Speaker, here the Minister--and, Mr. Speaker, they're artists at bribing the people with their own money. The Minister of Agriculture, now he's got this new one tonight and this picture was a real gem. I got a bang out of that, Mr. Speaker, where he's got these two documents tonight and he parts his hair on the one side with the one picture and on the other one his hair's parted on the other side. The same Minister. Now, Mr. Speaker, if that isn't bribing the people of this province with their own money, I don't know what is. At least he should let his hair be parted on the same side in both pictures, Mr. Speaker.

But, Mr. Speaker, the results, the evidence is all around us. Here's a little document-- Mr. Speaker, here's a little document. The City of Winnipeg Fifth in Price Jumps Across Canada. It's got to go up. Winnipeg was the fifth highest in a recent press release about price jumps. Last year Manitobans paid what? Some \$174 million in property taxes. This year it's going to be more. Certainly, Mr. Speaker. Education taxes haven't been shifted in this province, Mr. Speaker, because they've gone up by special levies and by municipal taxation. And, Mr. Speaker, I don't know whether this government recognizes or not but I recognize a growing dissatisfaction across this province by our people, and it stems--Mr. Speaker, that concern stems from the continual encouragement by government in the people's back pockets and into their every day personal lives and overtaxing them. And overtaxing them, Mr. Speaker, and trying to justify giving it back to them with a bill such as we have before us here tonight.

And I would cite as an example, Mr. Speaker, many of the things, the new income tax forms, all the advertising I've been talking about, the Up Close. Do you remember that one, what was it? Up Close the 1972 Income Tax Forms are Easier Than They Seem. Wasn't that the theme? Yeah. Up close -- that was it. Up close the new 1972 income tax--my gosh, there's nobody likes to pay taxes, Mr. Speaker. There's nobody likes to pay more taxes than he's supposed to pay, Mr. Speaker, but there's a heck of a lot of people hate to have the government overtax them and then try and give it back to them by dreaming and ways and means such as we have before us in this Legislature, Mr. Speaker.

And, Mr. Speaker, I don't know. The school tax rebate plan I think is another example of a bungling misguided government that insists on giving the little man on the street the full treatment of this great big government. You know, blowing him up on a television screen, blowing him up on the newspapers, the big government treatment to the little guy down on the corner of the street and they've already taken his five bucks and he's only got two and a half left. Then they give him the treatment such as we got from the Attorney-General tonight. Blaring T.V. commercials, radio jingles, Mr. Speaker, newspaper ads, brochures such as I've showed here tonight, the Premier's letters, Mr. Speaker, going across this province

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(MR. McKENZIE cont'd) when in fact, Mr. Speaker, all that they're basically doing is returning to the taxpayers some of their own money which this government took by its over-taxation policies and now they're trying to make certain that the NDP political machine will receive its full reward and get credit for paying some of the money back.

Mr. Speaker, I don't know how long this province--I don't know, Mr. Speaker, how long this province can afford the luxury of this kind of a government. I'm sure it's only a pilot project and they're going to be gone within 12 months. I hope they are. Mr. Speaker, I hope for the benefit of the people of this province, because we can't afford this government that has these type of taxation measures. Overtax the people, overtax them and try to pay it back next week after they've taken out their 50 cents, or their dollars, or their million dollars, or their two million dollars, by paying off their friends and their political appointees, and that's trying to tell the people of the province that they're doing a good job, that they're not bungling, that they're not mismanaging their tax dollars, Mr. Speaker.

And of course, Mr. Speaker, we have many new programs that the government has brought and I support many of these programs. Some of them have done a lot of good. There's certainly been some good come from this government as there comes from every government that's been in this province, and I hope that will always continue, Mr. Speaker. And we've had some problems with some of the boards and commissions. We had a harangue in the House last night about the man from Swan River who doesn't understand that he's not supposed to do certain things, such as taking some of my letters out of the Minister of Health's office and using them in a political arena. That's not fair. And I'm sure there's a lot of people don't like their tax dollars paying that kind of a man as the head of a board or commission. Everybody likes a man at the head of a board or commission who is fair and square, but for people to have their tax dollars go into the pockets of those kind of people, Mr. Speaker, is unfair to the people of this province.

A MEMBER: It's an outrage.

MR. McKENZIE: But, Mr. Speaker, we certainly, if this government comes back and I don't see how they can, Mr. Speaker, because I'm sure I'm going to win in my constituency. These people tell me I'll have it easier than I've ever had it. Mr. Speaker, I will assure you that when the government changes that we can't live with the luxury of some of the things that this government has done, more civil servants, more regulations, more laws, more control, more taxes, more fees. My little farm machinery dealer in the Village of Inglis now is getting lopped for \$10.00 to run a blacksmith shop and now he's got to come out with a hundred or two hundred dollars to pay a bond to sell cultivator shovels in that small community.

A MEMBER: No! No!

MR. McKENZIE: Yes sir. Well, Mr. Speaker, we'll find out. But, Mr. Speaker, those are some of the freedoms that the people of this province have lost with the luxury of this government and that's why, Mr. Speaker, they have overlooked the fact in some of their programs that they have overtaxed the people. The freedom of the individual on the altar of state supremacy no doubt will be some of the things that we'll be debating in the coming hustings, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, it's an absurdity to talk of the so-called rights of the state and of the common good in a province such as Manitoba where its people are truly free. But when, Mr. Speaker, putting the rights of a group above the rights of the people in the group, is to accede to some of the principles of dictatorship which I don't accept, and that becomes very irrational, Mr. Speaker, and people don't like that kind of control in this province. They're not acquainted with it, they're not familiar with it, and I don't think we deserve that type of government. Because, Mr. Speaker, it's quite evident if nine out of ten people, Mr. Speaker, in a group decide to steal money of the tenth person, we'd all agree, wouldn't we, Mr. Speaker, that that's basically wrong. The fact that the majority agreed to do it, Mr. Speaker, doesn't change the fact that what they were doing was wrong in the first place. And, Mr. Speaker, that is one of the principles that we're dealing with in this Bill 61, that same basic principle where some group of people have decided to steal the money of the tenth person. And, Mr. Speaker, because property is the means by which we can all insure the continuation of our lives, I cannot for the love of me see why governments continually want to tax property and tax property and take it away from people. With property we can bargain, Mr. Speaker, with property we can accumulate food, with property, Mr. Speaker, we can accumulate clothing and shelter and

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(MR. McKENZIE cont'd) some of the comforts and other essentials of life. And, Mr. Speaker, if government's going to continue to overtax those basic essentials of life, what's worth living, Mr. Speaker, if you can't have something for yourself.

A MEMBER: Hear, hear.

MR. McKENZIE: Mr. Speaker, I recall as I stand before you here tonight, a statement of Bernard Baruch when he said - and if I recall it correctly, Mr. Speaker, and I'm just quoting from the top of my head, that increased wages, higher pensions, more unemployment insurance, more taxes, Mr. Speaker, are of no avail if the purchasing power of the money falls faster. And it's got to happen. You cannot continually take money away from people without them losing their purchasing power, Mr. Speaker. That's what happened in the dirty Thirties. That's what happened in the dirty Thirties, Mr. Speaker, and my memory of the mass unemployment of the 1930's, the great depression and that time of our history, and the full employment that came on right after the Second World War, Mr. Speaker, stands very vividly before my eyes as I stand here tonight. And I'm also reminded, Mr. Speaker, in some of those years, of the economists, the government economists with their leftist philosophies setting out some 25 years ago to build this better society in Canada with this ability-to-pay principle, this new world, this new dream that the Attorney-General has so very skillfully laid before us tonight, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, my memory goes back to some four years ago at the same time when this government came to office some four years ago, talking about all the things that they were going to do. The stable prices, the universal social justice that we would have through the ability-to-pay principle, and the wide range of measures, Mr. Speaker, of measures of welfare state variety that they were going to bring before this Legislature and we were going to debate it, deal with it, and we would end up that I wouldn't have the problems of the low income group in my constituency, Mr. Speaker. And, Mr. Speaker, these grand objectives have been spelled out by the members opposite day after day, week after week, but what has happened? What has basically happened?

The poor, as I say, Mr. Speaker, are with us but Cass-Beggs, Cass-Beggs gets paid off. Cass-Beggs gets a \$2,184 pension. He's not going to be poor --(Interjection)-- Yes. Thirty months of service. Prices have risen almost continuously, Mr. Speaker, whereby today we had a boycott not so long ago of the farm primary products in our province. I am a storekeeper, Mr. Speaker, and I'm ashamed to go into my store on the weekend and mark up the prices of some of the things that's happening in my store. Mr. Speaker, do you know as I stand before you here tonight I have had a directive from one of the leading leather companies of Canada that they will not guarantee the price of leather delivered to me in my store, nor will the woollen people guarantee me the price of woollen garments in my store. Is that the best we've got for the people of this province today, Mr. Speaker?

Mr. Speaker, there is an extreme shortage of farm labour, skilled farm labour in rural Manitoba today. We're screaming out there for skilled farm labour to come out and help the rural people put in their crops and do a good job with the farming industry. One of the leading industries of our province, Mr. Speaker, and we can't find them. So, Mr. Speaker, I'm driven to conclude after reading this bill and in looking back over the four years' history of this government, that these so-called experts--and the Attorney-General was the one that I considered to be the one that I'm speaking of--that they are clear only about the past, Mr. Speaker, they are very very cloudy about the present, Mr. Speaker, and they are downright foggy and uncertain about the future in this province.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Will the House adopt the motion before the House. (Agreed.)
The Honourable House Leader.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, would you call the Concurrence motion please.

CONCURRENCE - LABOUR

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Resolved there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$2,011,800 for Labour. Passed? The Honourable Member for Roblin.

MR. MCKENZIE: I can't find -- but Mr. Speaker, I have some brief remarks I'd like to read into the record.

A MEMBER: Put it in next year.

MR. MCKENZIE: Mr. Speaker, next year, some of these problems cannot wait until next year. Mr. Speaker, I refer very briefly to a letter that came in my mail tonight from one of my constituencies, and I'll read it into the record, regarding some of the problems that we've had with the Workmen's Compensation Board, and Mr. Speaker, I want to deal very briefly in the Concurrence motion with some of the problems that I have had in my constituency pertaining to the workmen.

And here's a letter from a man, Mr. Speaker, who says, "I have written a few letters to the Board," and he's referring to the Workmen's Compensation Board," and I also attended a certain doctor in a certain village and nothing has been done. Now I have to move off the farm as I am living with my mother and I cannot work due to the accident. My back gets so sore, and my leg, that I can hardly walk, I am getting \$60.72 a month and I can't see how I can live, pay rent and board myself and clothes. The Welfare nurse came to see me but I was not home and since then she has never returned. I need clothes, also please let me know what can I do to get help."

Now, Mr. Speaker, those are some of the problems of some of the injured workmen in this province and I am sure that the Honourable the Minister of Labour is familiar with many of them, but Mr. Speaker, there seems to be some problems in the jurisdiction of the Workmen's Compensation where the Board somehow is given exclusive jurisdiction over all matters pertaining to compensation claims, and it's sort of rendered unaccountable to any other body, and I think the Honourable Minister of Labour is familiar with what I am talking about, I will not go into it in any great depth, but I hope that he will take a look at it at the earliest possible date because I think I have seven or eight people in my constituency that certainly have some problems and they are not able to get through to the board to get some satisfaction at least, so that they can carry on and survive with the benefits that they are getting.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motion before the House passed? The Honourable Minister of Labour.

HON. RUSSELL PAULLEY (Minister of Labour)(Transcona): One brief comment. I don't want to get into any full-fledged debate but I appreciate that the honourable member has raised a matter that is of deep concern to us, that there are a number of people who feel aggrieved as to the contents of the Workmen's Compensation Act, and I have announced previously and I want to reiterate on the concurrence of the estimates of the Department of Labour, it is my intention that as quickly as possible, to have another complete review of the provisions of pensions in the Workmen's Compensation Act and also to consider many of the matters that have been referred to me by the Injured Workmen's Association and others.

I think that members will agree that we did make some changes last year and I want to assure the House that upon return, if indeed we are returned, it would be our intention to have another complete survey made of Workmen's Compensation in Manitoba. I don't want to provoke an argument, Mr. Speaker, but I thought that it would only be fair and proper, in answer to my honourable friend from Roblin, to make that statement once again.

MR. SPEAKER: Resolution passed? The Honourable Member for Emerson.

MR. GABRIEL GIRARD (Emerson): Mr. Speaker, just before we pass the Concurrence of the Department of Labour, might I just add a few words with regard to matters within the Department, and if you will forgive me, Mr. Speaker, I would also like to say a few words about the administration of the Workmen's Compensation and much of it might not be new because some of it was discussed in the House previously. However, I since 1969 have been advocating an updating, and either an updating of the Workmen's Compensation system or else an abolishment of the system, one or the other, and the reason I say this is that we are now at a stage where we are busy improving the lot for those people in Manitoba who are unemployed. We bend over backwards with make-work programs in order to see that they are provided with employment. We also, Mr. Speaker, we also make very strong efforts to compensate those

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(MR. GIRARD cont'd) who are unable to find work and do not qualify for Unemployment Insurance. We do help those people through the Social Insurance scheme, we help those people within the work force that earn too little when employed, and we therefore through the social services compensate them as well, so that their revenue is one that is sufficient that they can live on, and all the while, all the while, Mr. Speaker, that man who suffers from an injury does not get fair recognition in Manitoba. What that man is forced to do is to join the welfare ranks in order to get a subsistence on which to live, and I think that we should look at this matter very seriously because I feel that we should not put the injured worker in the same category as the unemployed employable, and I feel for a long while now, Mr. Speaker, that we have short-changed those people. The Injured Workmen's Association has on numerous occasions made presentations to bring this before the attention of the Minister, and yet we see that really nothing has been done.

It is, I suppose, something that the future will remedy. If you look at the grandiose scales of minimum income or if we continue in the area of social assistance, we might as well admit, Mr. Speaker, that we are carrying an administration and a whole lot of expenditure that is really redundant, because the injured workman of Manitoba who has to resort to Social Assistance anyway, receives very little benefit from the Workmen's Compensation, and if he does receive any benefits he only receives that much less from Social Assistance; and therefore I think the onus is upon the Minister to either see that we have modernization within that particular branch or else we abolish it altogether.

Mr. Speaker, I don't wish to belabour the Minister or his department for very long. I know that he has been labouring. I can't think of a department that's more fitting to the Minister and I hope that as it applies to that particular Minister, that the Member from Thompson doesn't have his way because he looks so well in his present position.

I would like to mention a few words about the labour relations that we have in Manitoba, and maybe it is a little premature in discussing this particular field because I am under the impression that a good number of contracts, labour negotiations, are yet to come in the very near future in Manitoba. So far we see one or two groups that have been on strike. One persists now. I think that, Mr. Speaker, we ought to be again looking, maybe in an academic or a scientific way, for a solution in solving labour disputes - that is in the improvement over what we have today; and when we introduce a resolution suggesting that the government should look into the possibility of selecting a particular field within labour, and experimenting or studying or using it as a pilot project or whatever they will, but seek to find a better way at arriving to a solution in labour disputes than by resorting to the means of the strike.

I would also suggest to the Minister that he would do well to, while working with labour executives that have been very helpful to him in the past few years, not only helpful, maybe to some extent have led the way, I would suggest that he be conscious that those labour executives on whom he relies, if not totally, at least very heavily, that he remembers that those people are representatives or supposedly representing the rank and file, and that he should recall that his responsibilities lie primarily, I suggest, with the rank and file and not with the executives of labour unions, and that he be prepared, when the time comes, to question whether or not labour union executives are truly the representatives of those people they say they represent.

I think it would be a wise move for the Minister to assure himself that labour unions in Manitoba are truly democratic, that the people who go on strike really know why they are going on strike and have had a fair and an equitable opportunity to voice their opinion if it means by a government supervised vote, whatever, but that we don't have the kind of thing that we do have now where people are on strike and some are questioning now, "I really don't know what we are striking about." Yes, it might sound like Grade 2 to the Minister of Public Works but I am sorry that I am not well versed in the area of washrooms and therefore I have to stay in labour.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I would like to suggest just once more that it would be, I think, of service to the labour force of Manitoba if, during the negotiations, that there was a mechanism by which the proposals made by either side be brought back to the labour force and the employees, before a decision to go on strike occurs, because I feel that sometimes it is possible that union executives could well refrain from divulging all the information that the labourers or the employees should have, and while they are short of that kind of information they still request that those people vote for the strike, and I think a classic example might well be the strike that we are suffering right now in Manitoba.

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(MR. GIRARD cont'd)

Mr. Speaker, I don't wish to belabour the Minister as I suggested a little while ago, but I can in all fairness suggest to you that there is room for improvement in the administration of that particular department.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. L. R. (Bud) SHERMAN (Fort Garry): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I don't intend to be long at this stage of deliberations but I do want to raise the question once again with the Minister of Labour as to whether or not the National Building Code has been violated by the method with which the public washroom facilities in Memorial Park have been approved and proceeded with, and this is the only place at this stage of the session where I can debate the issue with the Minister, Mr. Speaker, and I would like to do so briefly.

I raise the point because it has come up again from persons who belong to organizations for the handicapped, and I ask the Minister whether, with the kind of support and endorsement that he has given the provisions in the National Building Code in the last little while, he has not in effect contravened his own philosophy and his own policy and his own principles on this particular subject. I wish the Minister would terminate his conversation with the Minister of Highways at the moment and pay attention to what I am saying on this subject because it's a critical -- well he may have heard it before, but it obviously hasn't had much effect. It is of critical importance -- Well, that's fine. This is the attitude of the Minister of Labour that has so endeared him to all on this side of the House and generally to the public of Manitoba, Mr. Speaker, an attitude of sheer arrogance, and it has endeared him to all of us, but we must -- (Interjection)-- Well, I raise the question again because I don't believe the questions have been effectively answered. The Minister may have attempted to answer them, Mr. Speaker, but I asked him the other day whether there had been any violation of the National Building Code and he said no. I asked him whether there had been any submissions, or if I didn't ask him whether there had been any submissions from handicapped persons he indicated to me that he had had no approaches or submissions from the handicapped.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. Order, please.

MR. SHERMAN: It's my understanding, Sir, that there have been specific entreaties made, specific approaches made, if not to the Minister of Labour then at least to some of his colleagues in the Cabinet, at least to some of his colleagues in the administration. And I would assume that the entreaties and the approaches made to his colleagues on a subject for which he is responsible would find their way to his ear and his attention. The Minister tells me that because this is a structure that goes down, that goes underground instead of going up above the ground it doesn't have to meet the kinds of requirements, the kinds of specifications, prescribed in the National Building Code. Well, Mr. Speaker, that's an unacceptable kind of rationalization, a totally unacceptable rationalization. After all surely there is a spirit to this code, as there is a spirit to any regulation and to any law. And there is a spirit that is being violated here in the attitude taken by the Minister of Labour. The spirit of the National Building Code is a spirit that takes into account the difficulties faced by handicapped persons. --(Interjection)--

Mr. Speaker, I'm not challenging the Minister of Labour on what he has done for handicapped persons in the past; I'm not challenging in his record in the field of assistance to handicapped persons. I'm asking him whether in the present context of a public facility whether or not the spirit of the National Building Code is just as important as the letter of the code. For him to hide behind the fact that the structure is going up instead of down is the most ridiculous and absurd escapism that one could conceive of, Mr. Speaker. The fact is that it is a public structure; the fact is that the manner in which it's being constructed has meant that there's really been no review process of the plans at all by any inspectors in the City of Winnipeg, and the spirit which says that the difficulties encountered by handicapped persons should be taken into account, and should be eliminated insofar as is possible, that spirit, Sir, remains regardless of what the letter of the law, or the letter of the code, or the letter of the plans, for that particular structure has to say.

Now the Minister in his petulance, the Minister in his petulance has decided to leave the Chamber, he's decided to leave the Chamber, Mr. Speaker. It's all right with him if he's standing over there berating us; it's all right with him if he's distorting the kinds of positions that we take; it's all right with him if he is misrepresenting things that we raise and say in this Chamber, but if somebody gets up on this side and tries to ask him to answer for honouring the

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(MR. SHERMAN cont'd) spirit of a code and a law, he gets mad, petulant, arrogant, he doesn't like it, and he decides to leave the Chamber.

A MEMBER: I have always had a great admiration for you . . . but it's dissipated now.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Speaker, the way the province proceeded on this particular structure means, Sir, that the plans for that facility were never subjected to plan study, or review, in the normal sense of those terms. It means, Sir, that the persons, the inspectors who would normally at City Hall review and pass on those plans and specifications, never had a chance really to investigate and examine the existence, or the lack of existence, of hand rails, ramps, facilities of that kind for the handicapped. The review process, Sir, I'm informed, I'm told the review process would have insured that there wouldn't have been that kind of omission, but that that review process did not take place.

Now the Minister, the Minister, Sir, himself has taken great pride, great pride, and quite rightly, in endorsing and supporting the National Building Code. He has said, whether in this Chamber or outside it he certainly has said and is on record as favoring whatever kind of assistance can be incorporated into building codes to aid handicapped persons, and I give him full credit for that. All I'm asking is why is that sort of thing being overlooked in the present instance. He told me the other day that it's because this building, this facility, doesn't have to comply with the National Building Code because it's going down instead of up. Well, Mr. Speaker, we'll wait until the Minister and his colleagues have the courage to go to the people of this province and ask for a renewed mandate, and we'll see then who's going down and who's going up; and doubtless those of us will abide by the decision, that's the nature of the exercise. --(Interjection)-- But let him not sit there and assume at this point in time that we, or that I, am necessarily going down and he is necessarily going up. But I think that decision will be made by the people of Manitoba when he and his colleagues, when he and his colleagues decide that the polls are right, and the goodies are sufficient, and the propaganda is intensive enough that they can afford to go and put their so-called record on the line. --(Interjection)-- So we'll wait for that exercise, Mr. Speaker.

The Minister - what? Challenges me to a debate with the Paraplegic Association on this question? Well, Mr. Speaker, I'd be interested in debating the question with the Minister on behalf of, or within the context of a meeting with the Paraplegic Association and I'd be happy - I will abide by the decision of the Paraplegic Association. --(Interjection)-- Well perhaps some of them should have been passed on to me or tabled in the House.

A MEMBER: I'll table them.

MR. SHERMAN: Well I wish the Minister would, Mr. Speaker. All I know that is in the past the Minister has endorsed the provisions to which I refer in the National Building Code. He said that he is in favor of that kind of provision being made for the handicapped, and all I'm asking him is, why was it not included in the present structure, and I don't think the answers we've had up to this point in time are satisfactory. And in fact, Sir, there has been an exchange of correspondence between members of the City Council, between representatives of the Committee on Environment and other members of City Council, on this very subject and in those exchanges of correspondence the same points have been raised. So I'm not the only one in the dark as to the rationalization and the justification of the lack of facilities for the handicapped in that public structure.

Now, Mr. Speaker, if I wronged or maligned the Minister of Labour I stand to be corrected, but I think that I raised a legitimate--I stand to be corrected and if I've wronged or maligned him, I apologize to him. But I think, Sir, that . . .

A MEMBER: I'm sure you will.

MR. SHERMAN: I think, Sir, that this is a question that has merit and that deserves more than an escapist kind of answer, and deserves more than the kind of answer that we've had up to this point, and I raise it here on Concurrences in the Estimates for the Minister's department because it's the only place where we can have a meaningful discussion of that subject. --(Interjection)-- What do you mean you can't answer me.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. The Honourable Member for Sturgeon Creek.

MR. J. FRANK JOHNSTON (Sturgeon Creek): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just have a few brief words to say about two items, and one of them is the building code. I can remember in this House back in 1969 and in 1970, the Minister of Labour and being very very much within the spirit, as my colleague says, of the National Building Code being applied to, and being used

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(MR. F. JOHNSTON cont'd) and applied in Manitoba. There were different arguments at that time as to whether there should be some special sections of the code that we might have to have in it to take care of problems in Manitoba. There was also some discussion, I believe, that the inspection system of the building code throughout Manitoba was very lax except in one or two areas in the province, and the Minister at that time - and I seem to recall that he had set up a study group to study the whole area of inspection of building codes in this province. Now although, as my colleague says, he believes he has the spirit of the code he really doesn't have any great hurry to get the code put into practice in a proper way in the Province of Manitoba. . . . the legislation at the present time, and what is being done at the present time in Manitoba, is basically the, you know, most of the health units across this province are the plumbing inspectors in the rural areas. There should be designated areas such as Dauphin, Flin Flon, Thompson, Brandon, Winnipeg, where you'd have an engineering staff to do inspection on mechanical building codes in this province. That same area, that same group of people should take care of inspection of the building codes throughout this province, but the building code inspection in the rural areas in this province is disgusting, and the Minister has not done a thing about it. So although he says he has the spirit of the code we haven't got a report from this great committee, or study, nothing has been put before it in this House and I don't know, Mr. Speaker, it will probably be another four years before we hear from him on the subject, if indeed we ever hear from him on the subject.

Mr. Speaker, the other point that I'd like to bring up is very close to me in my constituency and that is CAE, Canadian Electronics Aviation. --(Interjection)-- Well we all know what it is. The Minister knows what it is, and he certainly hasn't been able to solve the problem in any way, shape, or form, to help keep people employed in this province. Most of the people that have been employed in that particular organization come from my constituency, or the Attorney-General's, or the Honourable Member from Assiniboia.

Mr. Speaker, let me say that I was in Ottawa with the Minister, on a flight with the Minister of Industry and Commerce and the Minister of Labour. I at that time was representing the City of St. James, and we went down, as they have done many times to talk to Ottawa about employment and keeping that organization going with work so that many people in Manitoba wouldn't be unemployed. The Federal Government at that time they said the aerospace industry was in its worst possible condition that it had ever been in Canada. I remember the Minister of Transport at that time, the Honourable Mr. Jamieson, I believe, he said he was having a terrible time trying to find us work, trying to find, well, agreements or getting contracts for the larger corporations that had been involved in Canada for many years, and he would do everything in his power—he didn't promise that much—but they would do everything in his power to keep the people employed in Manitoba. We not only have people still being laid off by this corporation but we don't see anything getting any better. And the Minister of Industry and Commerce stood up in this House about a month ago and he told this House that there was going to be a meeting held within seven days with the Provincial Government regarding this subject. To date there has been no meeting held. There has been some communication between Mr. Marchand's office and the Minister in Manitoba, but to date there has been nothing done to keep the CAE problems from getting worse and worse, and that is more unemployed people in Manitoba.

Mr. Speaker, it's surprising that the Minister of Labour has not entered into this, that he has not pressured the Minister of Industry and Commerce to do something about it, but he has obviously taken the attitude that it's Federal Government and there's nothing he can do. Yet of course this province turns around and goes into a building of airplane's program in Gimli. They now blame the Federal Government because they aren't getting money to put into it, yet the Minister of Labour was down in Ottawa and he was told by a Minister that the aerospace industry was at its lowest ebb, and yet they come back to Manitoba and open up Saunders Aircraft. Then four years later they say to the Federal Government, you should be helping us out. They went into it when it was at its lowest ebb; they put \$8 million or better into that program, and they are still laying people off at Canadian Aviation Electronics in Winnipeg. Now that is really sensible and the Minister of Labour stands by and watches this happen in Manitoba. And certainly, Mr. Speaker, something is going to have to be done or it will close up, it will close up. Oh yes, free enterprise my friend from across the way says. Yes, poor free enterprise. That free enterprise was invited here by the Federal Government and Provincial Government and told that they would have work to replace Air Canada when Air Canada moved. Nobody went

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(MR. F. JOHNSTON cont'd) out and did that except government but what happens? - \$8 million is spent in an aircraft industry, Saunders Aircraft in Manitoba, by this government and you've got a depressed aerospace industry that's laying off people in this province, and it was doing that when you fellows went in and spent \$8 million. Boy and they grin, Mr. Speaker. The Minister of Labour doesn't even listen. He has given up on Canadian Aviation Electronics. He obviously doesn't care; he says that it's really not his problem; it's going to happen anyway, while there sure hasn't been anything done.

So, Mr. Speaker, the Minister should take seriously, take seriously what the Minister of Industry and Commerce said that he was planning to hold a meeting with Ottawa, and it hasn't been held yet, to try and do something about it, and I wish he would pressure the Minister of Industry and Commerce because it's really not--the problem is not being solved. The Minister keeps carrying on, and he gets very indignant--he's the only man I know who never makes the same mistake twice; he's just too busy making new ones, and he just really won't realize the problems in Manitoba.

MR. SPEAKER: Resolution passed.

CONCURRENCE - MINES, RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

MR. SPEAKER: Resolved there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$25,144,400.00 for Mines, Resources and Environmental Management. Resolution 82 to 88. The Honourable Member for Morris.

MR. WARNER H. JORGENSEN (Morris): Mr. Speaker, I realize that during the course of the consideration of the Estimates of the Department of Mines and Resources that we had a very thorough examination of that department, something like 25 hours. However during the course of that examination we never had the opportunity to raise a question that, in my view, is an extremely important one, and one in which we are getting very little information, and I'm referring to the Clean Environment Commission. The Act was set up by statute in 1972 and, I believe, proclaimed in November of last year, November 1st I believe it was, and so it has not been in operation for all that long. The Act does state that a report should be tabled at the beginning of the session, however, since the promulgation of the Act, since a year has not elapsed I can only presume that a report has not yet been tabled. --(Interjection)-- Well the Minister now says that the Act will be tabled tomorrow. Then I suppose what we're going to have to do is to continue to debate the Department of Mines and Resources till we get that report, because I would like to see it and have it debated.

MR. GREEN: . . . permit me, I received it today. I received the report today.

MR. JORGENSEN: Yes, well I'm not--as I was saying, I'm not criticizing that because I'm looking over the Act itself and note that the Act was proclaimed in force as of the first day of November, 1972, and since the year hasn't elapsed, one would hardly expect that there'd be a yearly report, and so I was mentioning that just as the Minister came in.

However, there are a few matters dealing with the Clean Environment Commission that are of concern to some members on this side of the House, and I know of concern to a good many farmers. Let me say at the outset, Sir, that I don't think there is anyone that is going to argue against the need for some environmental control measures--I want to make that clear - whether it be noise pollution, water pollution, air pollution or whatever the case may be. But it seems to me that one of the areas in which the Clean Environmental Commission has been zeroing in on, is one that from my point of view at least is the least offensive of all the pollutants, and that's the one of odour, and particularly as it applies to the operators of hog farms. The Minister knows I'm interested in this subject because I placed a question on the Order Paper some time ago asking, seeking information in connection with the particular subject, and to this day the number of farmers that have come to me, who know they're under the axe as it were, who know that they've already been ordered that they're going to close down, and upon appeal to the Minister, to the First Minister, were given, as it were, a stay of execution. The difficulty with that position--and I can say that they appreciate that, they appreciate the opportunity of remaining in business for a short while longer, but the difficulty of that position is that it's like the water treatment. They never know when the axe is going to fall. They never know when they're going to be ordered to close down for good. And when the farmer has an investment of some hundred thousand dollars or so in an operation, a fairly large-sized operation, that to him represents not only the loss of that investment, the capital investment,

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(MR. JORGENSEN cont'd) but it represents a loss of his means of earning a livelihood, and it was for that reason that I was seeking some information as to whether or not the government had decided upon a method whereby they could close down those hog operations in areas where they were becoming offensive to the people living in the area, and at the same time enable those people to either move to another location or to be compensated to the extent where they could set up an operation in another area.

Now in many cases since the Clean Environment Commission has come into being one can, I hope, safely assume that the granting of licences to operate such facilities as hog operations will not interfere with future planned developments in that area. In other words, what I'm saying is that they will be granted a licence with the complete assurance that somebody's not going to move in within a quarter mile of that establishment and put up a home and then complain because the odours from that operation are offensive. I think that - and I'm only assuming this, but it would seem so reasonable to me that even this government, I would presume, would have thought of it, that they would protect that kind of a farmer, so I won't go into any discussion on that subject. But the farmer that does give me some concern is the one that at one time was isolated, set up his operation, was granted a licence to operate by the rural municipality or by the City of Winnipeg, because there are some areas that are--or some of these operations that do come into the area of the City of Winnipeg and under their jurisdiction - who were granted the licence and at that time there was nobody living near the area. Since that time people have moved in and now they complain because the odors are offensive and they have been ordered to close down by the Clean Environment Commission.

Now, Sir, if the Clean Environment Commission feels that because of the complaints that are coming from the people living in the area, who have moved into the area, or for whatever reason they believe that such an operation should be closed down, then I am the last one to take objection to that. But I don't think that there are so many of those operations in the Province of Manitoba, so many of those that will be forced to close down after having been established for a number of years, that the government could not have established some criteria some basis upon which they could go to that operator and say, look, we have a problem in that there are many residences now in this area; it is becoming a built up area; we deem it advisable that this operation be moved to another location and so we're going to order you to be closed down. But we'll give you the option of buying out your complete operation so you will not lose at least the capital cost, or we'll pick your operation up lock, stock and barrel and move it to a new location for you. Now it seems to me that if - and I see the Minister is shaking his head in agreement, and I'm not sure whether that is in agreement or whether he is just . . .

A MEMBER: Any time he agrees with you you should be worried Warner.

MR. GREEN: I would just ask the honourable member not to assume anything. We are presently considering an appeal in just such a case, have been considering it for some time, and perhaps could be accused of being dilatory, but it's been a very vexing subject as the honourable member has pointed out. So the shaking of the head could merely be acknowledged by the honourable member as appreciation of the problem.

MR. JORGENSEN: Well then at least we've made some progress. If the Minister - and I've never assumed otherwise than that the matter has been given some consideration - but I choose this occasion to rise simply because I know that the people in question also have a problem in determining what their future is going to be, and how they are going to earn a living, if at some future date hitherto unknown the Clean Environment Commission and the government decide that this will be the end of the operation as of the end of this month, or next month, or the following month. It seems to me that the people who are involved should be given some leeway, some advance notice of what the intentions of the government are so that they can start making plans. I know that the two or three people that have brought these problems to my attention do have alternate plans, but the alternate plans are conditioned upon the decisions of the government, and in order for them to begin to put those plans into operation and to earn their livelihood perhaps some other way, or maybe start up anew in another location, they would like to have some idea just what the government's intentions are. And I don't think that it's asking too much, Sir, to ask the Minister at this time if a statement can be made, or if some assurance can be given that these people before they are ordered closed down they will be given sufficient time in advance, and knowledge of the precise criteria that will be applied

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(MR. JORGENSEN cont'd) in their case, so that they will know then what their future will be. As I say, Sir, I don't think there are that many of them. There may be a half a dozen, if that many, that fall into this particular category, and I would hope that the Minister would choose an early occasion to make a statement on behalf of the government so that these people will not be left hanging in midair not knowing what their future is going to be and then having the constant worry about how they're going to earn a livelihood in the years to come, and I hope . . .

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

MR. SPEAKER: Before we proceed I should like to direct the attention of the Honourable Member to the loge to my right where we have a visitor, a guest, a former MLA, Mr. Gordon Fines. On behalf of the Honourable Members I welcome you here tonight.

CONCURRENCE - MINES AND RESOURCES (Cont'd)

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rock Lake.

MR. HENRY J. EINARSON (Rock Lake): Mr. Speaker, I would like to make a few comments along the lines and just add to what my colleague from Morris has been talking about. I think the story that he conveyed to the Minister in regards to the Clean Environment Commission is probably one of the most important parts of his department. We could stand up here and espouse again on the mining industry, and what have you, but I think we've made our position pretty clear, at least I have in my case, as far as that is concerned.

I would like to suggest to the Minister that there are some cases that have come before the Clean Environment Commission that have been in the way of a court case, and I want to say to the Minister that those who have had this experience feel that this is anything but democracy in Manitoba when they see the way they've been treated. And I want to explain it in this manner, that when a farmer has been in business for maybe 15 years, has been operating with no problems insofar as the environment is concerned, and all of a sudden someone puts in a complaint about his operation, whether it be polluting of the air or of the water, he is taken to court by the Clean Environment Commission. And a complaint that has been passed on to me, Mr. Speaker, and I want to convey to the Minister is this: that when that person is brought to court by the Clean Commission he has to secure a lawyer to defend himself and then it's a cost to that individual while the person who is laying the charge has the protection of the Commission. I suggest, Mr. Speaker, that the Minister should look into this aspect of it because I think it's anything but fair.

There's also a case at the present time, Mr. Speaker, where farmers are living along Oak Creek which flows from my area into the Member for Souris-Killarney, in recent days he has had - a member from the Minister's Department has been out there, and from what I am given to understand that farmers living along that creek this gentleman, the civil servant from that department, has told them because the stream flows through some of their pasture land they have to put up fences 50 feet away from the flow of that water. In other words, they do not have access to that water for their cattle and it's creating a real hardship.

And so, Mr. Speaker, I just want to convey these few thoughts to the Minister to indicate to him the importance of how that Commission is going, and I have also stated on more than one occasion in the House, even last year I tried to impress upon the Minister of Industry and Commerce of how some of the members of his department are going out throughout the country and indicating to farmers, who even were in the cattle business for ten or fifteen years and even longer, saying that they have authority to close them up if they thought they were creating some kind of pollution, and I suggest, Mr. Speaker, that this is an abuse of the kind of legislation that I see in this, and I hope that it will not come to that.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

MR. ENNS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, while concurring in the passage of the Estimates of the Minister I do, however, regret having to once again bring to his attention a matter that has been of persistent concern to me in the direction that the Honourable Minister is taking with respect to mineral development, mineral exploration, in the Province of Manitoba.

Mr. Speaker, I recognize that at this stage, at this stage of the program that the government and the Minister is on, it is being taken in my judgment far too lightly. It has been taking

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(MR. ENNS cont'd) with, in fact, a degree of humour as we've witnessed when the political cartoonists of the day depict the Minister with his arm around a fellow citizen and pointing out the big hole in front of him and saying, that while there's nothing in it but it's all his. And, Mr. Speaker, that's fine and dandy, we can treat it in this rather light way because, of course, the disastrous effects of the policy that the Minister and this government is on have yet to take effect, the implications of those policies have yet to be realized by most Manitobans. Mr. Speaker, for the benefit of the Minister, whose mind I have little hope of changing but then through you, Sir, to the people of Manitoba that at least the Progressive Conservative Party state its position and its concern in this very important area.

I have told the Minister on previous occasions that quite aside from the ideological differing positions that we present in this House, or between himself and myself on this matter, I am really more concerned about the practical, the practical end result of the policy that he's embarked upon. Mr. Speaker, I don't have to remind you, nor this Minister, that here in the Province of Manitoba, indeed throughout most of the country of Canada, we are in any kind of a scorekeeping of nationhood a very young country, a very young province, with a great deal of expansion and a great deal of development yet to be undertaken. Mr. Speaker, I have suggested with the kind of very understandable, indeed desirable pressures that are on all governments of any political stripe, whether they are in this province or in any other province of this country, to provide the very basic and fundamental kind of social services, line departmental services, highways, agricultural programs, industrial development programs, and so forth, that this Minister, nor this government, will not find the necessary funds, Mr. Speaker, to take over the exploration and to develop in a manner and a way which would be acceptable to most Manitobans the natural resources that we have. Mr. Speaker, I suspect that that figure that is currently in the Estimates for his exploration company, the government exploration company, will grow and will grow and will grow but that he will find it increasingly difficult to hold onto that money when he attempts to convince his Cabinet colleagues that they should give up hard sought for money for programs they think of urgent priority, so that Mr. Minister of Mines and Natural Resources can dig a deeper and ever-widening hole somewhere in the Precambrian Shield in this province in the hope, Mr. Speaker, that he may one day find something.

Mr. Speaker, I am suggesting, and I suggest it in all seriousness, that the history, the history is such that it substantially supports what I am telling the Minister. Mr. Speaker, if we were to transport this situation to some countries in this world, some totalitarian socialist countries in this world, where all means of public opinion have been effectively stifled and muzzled, it is quite possible to pursue the course that the Minister is on. It was quite possible, Mr. Speaker, for the government of the USSR to make the firm decision that a No. One priority of that country was the development of heavy industry, and whether that meant denial of consumer goods, indeed, Mr. Speaker, whether that meant starvation of millions of its citizens, that did not deter that government from pursuing a course that they felt was of utmost importance to the development of that country, and so they did, and so they developed a heavy industry in record time in near miraculous time, Mr. Speaker, by any standard of measurements.

Mr. Speaker, I suggest that if you look however to any of the open society countries, countries in the free world under various forms of government, in some cases quasi dictatorships, military juntas, democracies, socialists, that that has not been possible to pursue that kind of a course because of the constant and ever-present public opinion and public pressure that had to be taken into account for the very survival of these countries and these governments. That kind of check and balance of course isn't upon those countries where opposition has been completely stifled, where there is no need for a government to worry about public opinion being expressed or being exercised against them.

Mr. Speaker, I am suggesting - I suggest to you in all seriousness that the Minister, and this government, in what I at first was prepared to accept as being small steps, they have now become very large steps with the obviously serious consideration that they are giving to the Kierans Report, the admission, Mr. Speaker, that they are already carrying out some of the recommendations, even prior to the fact that a task force is going to be set up to study whether or not any of those recommendations are worthwhile. Mr. Speaker, with the attitude and the active involvement of the government in a competitive way with all the odds on their side - they decide who is going to explore what, they decide who gets what information, and they decide who, if anybody, Mr. Speaker, is going to get a lease. Indeed it would appear that within ten

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(MR. ENNS cont'd) years there will be nobody other than the government that holds any lease.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I have told the Minister once before that if I had any confidence, if I had any confidence that he could hustle out of his cabinet colleagues the necessary 55, 60, 70, 80, 90 millions of dollars to do the same job the private sector now is doing, I would still disagree with him but I would at least give him credit for saying that, yes, it is possible to develop our resources in that way to the greater benefit of our citizens in Manitoba.

What I am telling the Minister now, Mr. Speaker, is that those resources are not going to be development, that current levels of activity in that field are going to shrivel and dry up, and that within a relatively short period of time should this Minister, and should this government, be permitted to stay in office that what was once one of our greatest potentials in terms of providing necessary funds, necessary employment, necessary growth, is going to literally shrivel up and literally disappear, Mr. Speaker. Because, Mr. Speaker, just sitting in this chamber and listening, listening to the suggestions emanating from the backbench of that group of socialists on the other side, who every day have another way, have another scheme, have another plan, of how to spend the taxpayers' dollar, more of it, more often, on more programs, and I say to you, Mr. Speaker, that with that kind of pressure it only emphasizes the point that I am trying to make, that it's going to get increasingly more difficult, increasingly more difficult to get the kind of moneys to dedicate to the development of mineral resources under the government sponsored company, under the government auspices. Now, Mr. Speaker, the choice is very simple then; the choice is really not that difficult to make. Can we not agree that a certain amount of this development should take place.

Mr. Speaker, perhaps even in a more restrained manner than it has been heretofore, perhaps in a more regulated manner with respect to concern about depletion of nonrenewable resources, perhaps in a way that it will return more if that's our common assessment, more in terms of royalties, more in terms of actual benefits to the owners of that resource, namely the people of Manitoba. Mr. Speaker, those are all subjects for fair debate and for serious consideration. But what the people of Manitoba aren't aware of is that the course that this government is on is it will foreclose all those options open to us, that it not only intends to take the egg that's laid by the goose but shrink or wring the neck of the goose itself, and then who is the winner Mr. Speaker? Then who is the winner Mr. Speaker? Certainly not those future Manitobans that hope to have employment in this province; certainly not even such model communities as this government is so proud to remind us of every once in awhile, such as Leaf Rapids that is in a position to pay its full share, full and fair share of taxation to help maintain those communities. And, Mr. Speaker, while these resources are renewable I have suggested in the House before, or are not renewable in so many cases, are not renewable, I have also suggested to the House before that sometimes technology has a way of by-passing what is now or presently considered to be a valuable resource, and the suggestion that we can just bank it forever and at all times be assured that that's going to be an appreciating resource, is really not founded out by fact in all instances.

Mr. Speaker, my biggest concern, my biggest concern as I come back to it again, is that as long as we have a reasonably open society in this province, and I'm not sure how long that will be, but as long as that is the case, and as long as the Minister of Health wants to do these things for the people of Manitoba, and the Minister of Agriculture wants to do other things for the people of Manitoba, and the Minister of Municipal Affairs wants to do or carry out his programs for the people of Manitoba, then the Minister of Mines and Natural Resources, whose estimates we are now considering, will not at any time get his hands on sufficient funds, public funds, to replace the investment, to replace the exploration millions of dollars that are being carried out by the private sector at this time.

Now, Mr. Speaker, let's put that in more graphic terms. We are talking about spending maybe a million dollars now. Well if he wants to come anywhere near to doing what the private sector is now doing, he has to talk about a hundred millions of dollars, and this government hasn't got it. Mr. Speaker, even more so while this government is all too happy and all too prone to sending out letters at public expense to remind the people of the occasional largesse that they have received from the government, such as reduction in Medicare premiums, I would hardly suspect that even they have the nerve to send out a letter, say every year, and say, well folks we've spent \$50 million of your taxpayers' money looking for ore somewhere

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(MR. ENNS cont'd) up north; we didn't find any but bear with us and give us another 50 million for next year, and we'll go out prospecting some more. We'll dig another hole.

I am suggesting, Mr. Speaker, that this government, subject to the same kind of public pressures that any other government in an open society is, will take the easy way out. No minister in this House will want to get up and defend a loss of 40 or 50 million dollars and have nothing to show for it. So, Mr. Speaker, the obvious course is that they won't spend the money. They'll find some other very worthwhile areas to spend the money on. They'll build better roads; they'll build better hospitals; they'll build better schools, and these things are all necessary, these things are all the kinds of things that governments are expected to do, and will have to do.

But I'm suggesting to you, Mr. Speaker, that you can't have it both ways, and, Mr. Speaker, the history of the 20 years of socialism in our immediate sister province to the west of us in this particular area certainly demonstrates it, certainly demonstrates it, Mr. Speaker. Nobody suggests, Mr. Speaker, that the potash was not under that soil during all the years of socialist rule in Saskatchewan. I am sure the government of the day knew it was there but, Mr. Speaker, they were so busy introducing hospital schemes and medicare schemes, and compulsory automobile insurance schemes, that the last thing they could do, the last money, the last dollars they could afford to start sinking shafts through the ground and looking for potash, and maybe having to spend 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 110 million dollars looking for something which they weren't sure they were going to find in the first place, so, Mr. Speaker, they took what I'm suggesting this government and this Minister will eventually take, is the easy and the logical way out, they simply didn't look, and the potash was not developed and thousands of jobs were not created and Saskatchewan became increasingly a poorer and poorer province.

Mr. Speaker, that's the future that we face in Manitoba under the leadership of this particular Minister of Mines and Natural Resources, under the leadership of the present government, as it affects this particular field. I challenge the Honourable Minister to indicate to me where he is going to find the necessary funds to carry out the exploration. I really don't think that he is prepared to give me an honest answer to that because I know he has of course a fund tap--I think Mr. Kierans also identified that particular source--we'll take over the mining companies, and that the 60 million or 50 million dollars profits that they make, that's the money, that's the money, Mr. Speaker, that we're going to use. But I don't really think the Minister is really quite prepared to tell me that's what he's going to do because then, of course, it makes a total farce out of the establishment of any kind of a task force to study the recommendations of the Kierans Report. It also makes a total liar out of his Premier, the First Minister, when he travels through the north country and indicates that the Kierans Report at this point is just another study document, just another study document, and that the government has no fixed positions, no firm concepts and ideas with respect to either accepting or not accepting the major recommendations of the Kierans Report.

So, Mr. Speaker, where are we left at this particular time? We have a government that is rapidly frightening away exploration and development in this important field. We have the structure of a government company getting into the mining business. Off in the wings we have the nationalization report of Professor Kierans that says that within ten years we will wipe out the mining industry in this province, and, Mr. Speaker, all that, as much as I oppose it, I would be prepared to argue in a different vein if this Minister, if this government, indicates to me where they are going to come up with the necessary capital to replace that which they are moving out, that which they are shunting aside. Mr. Speaker, we are not talking about \$600,000 worth a year to the mineral exploration companies, we are not talking about a million dollars, we are talking about massive amounts of money. Mr. Speaker, I suggest the only way that this government, as has been proven any other government has been able to set such rigid priorities for itself, in defiance of public opinion, happens only in those countries such as the USSR, or other totalitarian socialist states where the government doesn't have to worry about public opinion, where the government can, where the government can make its decision to do and pursue a certain policy.

If that's the course, Mr. Speaker, that my honourable friend the Minister of Mines and Natural Resources is suggesting for Manitoba, why then, of course, we're all in deep trouble. I only see, Mr. Speaker, a dismal future for the resource developmental policies of our province. I see a continuing decline in job creation, a continuing decline no matter what they wish to do with their present royalty structure, or what have you, and, of course, that only hastens

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(MR. ENNS cont'd) the ultimate end. As the new development doesn't take place, as the new exploration doesn't yield any returns, then you put that much more pressure on the existing companies that are there, because we all want more. They particularly need more, because they spend more. And that, Mr. Speaker, will only serve to bring this important aspect of development in our province to a standstill that much faster.

Mr. Speaker, I think that it's an important matter. I think that it's a serious matter. I think it's one that this government is not at all sure of, where they are heading for or its impact. Oh, I think they know what they want to do all right, Mr. Speaker, but perhaps what's even more important, I don't think that the people of Manitoba, and particularly the northern communities of Manitoba, fully realize the end result of the pursuit of these policies.

. . . . continued on next page

CONCURRENCE

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Arthur.

MR. WATT: Mr. Speaker, I would just like to say a few words on the concurrence on the Minister's Estimates. I'll be brief; I'll make it three words at the end of my speech, and it'll be a short speech, but I want to just talk about water conservation for a few minutes, something that I have brought up in the House constantly over the past four years, Mr. Speaker, to the Minister of Mines and Natural Resources who is responsible for water conservation and control in the province. And after four years I was very disappointed to see the Water Commission's report and recommendation, which has been accepted apparently by the Minister, that we have about 40 projects of water drainage in the province and no indication of water conservation. And when you take a look at the map, Mr. Speaker, and see what the Province of Manitoba is made up of, if you look at it from top to bottom the tremendous water resources that we have in the Province of Manitoba, and this doesn't show the top of the Province of Manitoba, this only shows part of it, but it shows a large area of water that is a potential in the Province of Manitoba that is the envy of the whole world. If they had something like this in India, even in socialist India, that they could develop to produce what they could produce there with water development, there would be no concern about 600 million people. They could develop a food source actually and a development that would support a billion people without any question.

But here we have the water resources here, Mr. Speaker, to develop hydro electric power that has been at a standstill for the last four years, and that we are now coming to the point that India is in right now where we are going to be in a semi-blackout. And this has been established by the Minister of Industry and Commerce when he spoke at the International Inn the other night, and when he warned industry that they could come to the day, and it would not be too far ahead of now, that they would have to restrict use of electric power because of the lack of development of hydro power in the Province of Manitoba. And here we are in the North American continent with the greatest potential of hydro electric power through hydraulic electric water systems that there is any place in the world, and for four years, Mr. Speaker, it has been at a standstill. It has been at a standstill.

Now I'm not an engineer in hydraulics. I'm a very common layman, but I see the picture of the Province of Manitoba and the potential in the north under the--and surrounding the permafrost that could be developed into--and should be by now after four years since 1969, should have been developed--and could have been developed into a power source that there would be no problem for the next 50 years in the Province of Manitoba, and we would be selling electric power now. We would be selling electric power now. And we are now talking about importing electric power from - Bienfiet Coal Mines in Saskatchewan, possibly from Ontario. Even more - no I shouldn't say more important - but even as important is the lack of the development of the conservation and the control and the development of our water resources in the north, for four years there has been nothing done insofar as water conservation is concerned in the southern part of the province. And I refer specifically to the western part of the province and to the southwest, where there is no indication that there is going to be any water conservation there, because the Minister has indicated that it is now referred to the Qu'Appelle Valley Water Commission, or the Qu'Appelle Valley watershed, which has got nothing to do whatsoever with the Souris Valley watershed, that the whole thing is dependent on a report from that commission.

Now when that report will come I don't know. But it is clearly indicated by the Minister that there will be no move made on water conservation in the southwest area of the province in what is normally considered to be a semi-arid area where we need water conservation; we need dams. We need water control in that southwest area where the potential of agriculture could be doubled, and probably tripled, if we had the conservation which was in effect planned and set out by the Conservative Government over a period of 10 or 12 years which I sat in this House before the NDP Government took over. And since that time, over the past four years, the Minister has constantly given me an answer that we are making a cost-benefit study through the Qu'Appelle Valley Water Commission.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I suggest to you, I say to you, that there has been studies made on the southwest area, on the Souris Valley watershed for a period of at least the last 20 years by PFRA and by water control in the Province of Manitoba. Cost-benefit studies have been done, have been completed, and it has been established, it has been established the cost-benefit

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(MR. WATT cont'd) for downstream recreation and for upstream recreation, and for agricultural purposes; there has been a cost-benefit study done between the Federal and Provincial Governments that should have now been put into completion, that at least we should have some evidence that there is going to be water control and conservation in that southwest area. And up to this point the Minister simply has given me answers constantly that the matter is under study; no indication that there will be a dam built; no indication that there will be water conservation in any area in the southwest. And I ask him now, and I do not ask this or suggest that he has deliberately ignored the southwest, probably those who were advising him probably have given him the advice that what I am saying tonight is not correct. Maybe they have, and I want to appeal to the Minister tonight that he seriously look at water conservation in the Province of Manitoba.

Now he may say, since I have suggested that the program for 1973 is simply about 40 - well I haven't got the program here now but he did distribute it - I think about 42 drainage projects in the Province of Manitoba, and the Minister may well say that while the Conservatives were in power that--and we were called at one time a drainage government--that what we were doing actually was draining the water out of the province, specifically referring to the Winnipeg Floodway, or the Portage Diversion, which the government today has indicated has been a meaningless ditch that, you know, we wasted \$20 million. That was said in the House, I believe by the First Minister. If it wasn't then I'll retract, but I believe that it was said.

But in any case there is no reason why in four years with a budget that has increased by \$200 million since 1969, that if the Portage Diversion was a loss to the province, and if the Pembina Dam should have been built in its place, then why I ask the Minister has the Pembina Dam and the Holland Dam not been built in the four years. Now I realize of course, and the Member from Morris and from the south can of course speak for themselves in this area, but I'm talking now particularly about the south central and the southwest; I'm talking about the Holland Dam; I'm talking about the Patterson Dam, about the possibility of the Coulter Dam, and I'm talking, as I've mentioned in the House in the question period, I believe, this morning and yesterday, the Snider Dam, and I'm asking the Minister when there is going to be some action on water conservation and water control not only for hydro electric power, which we apparently need now and which our rates are going to go up because of the lack of electric power in the Province of Manitoba, a province that has a potential of more electric power through our water system from the Rocky Mountains into the Hudson Bay, than any other part of the world. So I ask the Minister if he will take into consideration if they are in government after June 28th, which will probably be announced tomorrow, if he will do something about it, and maybe the Minister will be announcing, or the Deputy Premier will be announcing some time later tonight, or tomorrow, if there will be an election. And if the day will be the 28th of June. --(Interjection)-- No, no, it's not bothering me at all. I can go an election whether the grass is green or whether it's brown, or whether it is socialist, or whether it is communist, or whether it is Nazi communist socialist, I could go to the people whether it's green or whether it is brown, and I will be happy to have my honourable friend come out to the constituency of Arthur and speak, because if there is any possibility that I should not be elected, if he would just come out and spend a couple of days there that would insure my election.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Roblin.

MR. McKENZIE: Mr. Speaker, I will be very brief but I want to draw to the Honourable the Minister - but it was our privilege to meet with the wilderness area for people of Manitoba today, and I'm sure the Honourable the Minister is familiar with it and the studies that are going on, the ongoing studies, and I wonder maybe in his remarks if he does speak that he could somehow by public announcement advise this group what the meetings with the Abitibi Pulp and Paper Company have brought to light, and if in fact the proposed wilderness area will be in the works of the department?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition. Order please.

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, I rise on the Departmental Estimates on Concurrences to deal with a number of matters, some of which have been discussed in the session, some of which have not. The first matter I would like to deal with deals with the Water Commission and deals with the possibility - and I think we should discuss that possibility - of the government losing the case, the case of the injunction on Hydro. Mr. Chairman . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The Honourable House Leader have a point of order?

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MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. This is a matter which is presently pending before the courts, and the honourable member is going to talk about the possibilities of losing it or winning it? I suggest, Mr. Speaker, that the merits or demerits of the case should not be discussed by the honourable member. If he is talking about something else entirely then of course I'm not entitled to rise. But the merits or demerits of the case before the court are surely not in order and the honourable member can't discuss them.

Furthermore, Mr. Speaker, the matter before the courts is a matter which relates to a licence which has been applied - which has been awarded to Manitoba Hydro.

MR. SPEAKER: The point of order is well taken. If the matter is subjudice I hope the Honourable Leader of the Opposition will take cognizance of our rules. The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, the point is well taken but the problem is that the Honourable Minister of Mines and Natural Resources and you, yourself, Sir, have anticipated in advance what I am going to say, and I think that I should at least be given the opportunity to be able. . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.

MR. SPIVAK: . . . to express myself and then the honourable members can jump up at any given time and discuss it.

Mr. Speaker, I am not going to discuss the question of the merits of the case, that's not my purpose. My purpose is to discuss the Water Commission; my purpose, Mr. Speaker, is to discuss the powers; my purpose is to discuss the way in which it operates; my purpose is to discuss the possibility that does exist that the government maybe faced with a new application having to be made by Hydro for a licence. And, Mr. Speaker . . .

MR. GREEN: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.

MR. GREEN: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. The honourable member now indicates he's not going to discuss the merits or demerits, may I suggest to him that the Water Commission has nothing to do with the licence. The Water Commission is not involved with the licence, has had no role to play in the licence.

A MEMBER: But he wouldn't know that.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. SPIVAK: Well, Mr. Speaker, maybe the Water Commission should have a role to play. And maybe, Mr. Speaker, that there should in fact. . .

A MEMBER: What a twister.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, the person who is twisting is the Honourable Minister of Labour who around 11:00 o'clock every night twists and turns and bellows and shouts and belches throughout the whole proceedings. --(Interjection)-- Yes it's unfortunate you sit right next to him too.

A MEMBER: I never saw a twister like you.

MR. SPIVAK: Well, Mr. Speaker, the fact of the matter is that if the government loses the case it would seem to me, Mr. Speaker, there is going to be an obligation for some kind of proper hearing to in fact take place with respect to a Hydro application for a licence. And, Mr. Speaker, it's my belief that that would require the kind of hearing in which the evidence to be presented would be under oath, and the credibility of the witnesses could be challenged by counsel as to their expertise, so that in effect a decision and determination could be made which would satisfy some, if not all, of those who have been concerned about the procedures that have been followed in this connection. And, Mr. Speaker, I think the point has to be made now that that possibility exists. It may be remote, but as the Honourable Minister of Mines and Natural Resources said today in Committee, he can't determine, nor can anybody determine, what a court will do, and he's been experienced enough to know that it's impossible to do that, so therefore one can wait for the decision but recognize that there may very well have to be alternative courses of action, one of which, Mr. Speaker, may very well be the consideration by the Water Commission in a proper hearing of any new application that may have to be made by Hydro if the court so decides.

Mr. Speaker, I want to deal if I may with other matters with respect to Mines and Natural Resources, and then deal with the Manitoba Development Fund.

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(MR. SPIVAK cont'd)

The government saw fit to produce the Kierans Report after the session had opened and after the Speech from the Throne had been presented. In the initial stages the government indicated while it was not committed to the position, that in effect, Mr. Speaker, the report presented a position of Mr. Kierans who had been commissioned for a particular study of the natural resource policy in Manitoba. Now, Mr. Speaker, we know that there have been consultants hired by the government in a variety of different departments whose reports have not been published and tabled in this House, but the government, for reasons that's known to itself, decided that this particular report should be presented for discussion purposes. At the same time they did not until recently, and this was only on the case of the First Minister, disassociate themselves realistically from the proposals but rather were prepared for a debate and discussion on the merits of this proposal to take place, essentially saying that it wasn't government policy but at the same time indicating that they did in fact commission it and that some parts of it were already in operation. And it's interesting to note, Mr. Speaker, that the First Minister took approximately a month before he publicly stood up and said that he was not for the particular fundamental aim of the policies described by Mr. Kierans, which would be the repatriation by the Crown of all existing resources leased to the private sector that should be done or should be completed within the period of ten years.

Now, Mr. Speaker, we deal with a document prepared for the government under no obligation on the part of the government for production in this House but the government themselves determine--(Interjection)-- Mr. Speaker, if we are going to be continually interrupted by the member or, you know, our Deputy Premier, I would ask that possibly you ask that he be removed from the House so at least we can debate this in an intelligent way.

MR. PAULLEY: Why don't you make a motion that I be removed?

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, I don't want to waste my breath but I would hope that maybe he would take you know some action on your part. You know, we've had this intolerable situation of having to more or less discuss the matters of this House in the evening with the Honourable Deputy House Leader or Deputy Premier in a belligerent mood.

Mr. Speaker, it's my belief that the Premier altered the original intent of the government in producing this document as a result of the political reaction that they could not anticipate would occur, and that is that the people of the north were essentially appalled at a policy which in fact would result in the mines being taken over by the government. The takeover by the government, which is what Mr. Kierans had suggested, is not in the interests of the men who work in the mines in northern Manitoba. Mr. Speaker, with all due respect to the government the men in the north are prepared to negotiate, to deal, and to bargain, with the mining companies. They are not prepared to deal with the government. They do not want the government as owners; they don't want to negotiate with the government; they don't want to be put in the impossible position that they, if they find themselves in dispute with one mining company, as they can now, are not going to be in a position of moving to another area. Because once the government has control of the mining interests in this province, then any miner who has a dispute with the government will find himself in a position of having to leave Manitoba. And they know, Mr. Speaker, and they know, Mr. Speaker, that the doctors in Manitoba are not able to deal with the government, The doctors find that they are in constant confrontation and they do not want to be put in that position. So the First Minister has found that for political purposes he now has had to stand up and basically suggest that this is not government policy and that he disassociates himself from that position.

But the honourable members opposite really haven't said that and we are faced with the, we are faced, Mr. Speaker. . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please.

MR. SPEAKER: We are faced with the position, Mr. Speaker, that while this is not policy, if the New Democratic Party is elected they are . . .

A MEMBER: Order.

A MEMBER: That will be in order.

MR. SPIVAK: They will have the opportunity of saying to the people of Manitoba that we did produce a document, that we did table it in the House, and that we are capable of implementing any of the things that this document suggested because we did give notice.

Now Mr. Speaker, this is in effect what happened with the Pawley Commission Report

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(MR. SPIVAK cont'd) on Auto Insurance. The intent of the government was clear. The ultimate result was determined way in advance of any documentation, any documentation that was to be placed before the people. And, Mr. Speaker, I say that a government that was prepared to produce the Kierans Report and to publish it as a government document, has given a clear indication of what their intent is, and notwithstanding the statements of the First Minister made at a pre-election period, made with the recognition that he in fact, he does not need the support of the men in the north, has put himself in the position of for now temporarily dis-associating from a policy position that the government ultimately will be committed to.

Now, Mr. Speaker, you know, what are the alternatives to what we have now? The Honourable Minister of Mines and Natural Resources stands up and says that we welcome the private investment of the mining industry in future opportunities. The only thing is that we are going to make it so hard that they're not going to be able to come in here, but nevertheless we welcome it. And because they're not going to be coming in here because we're going to make it so tough on them, then we're going to have to do it, and because we're going to have to do it then the people of Manitoba will benefit more. Now that really is the basic position in the logic of his presentation.

The result, Mr. Speaker, has presented, as they have in so many other areas, an unstable condition insofar as economy is concerned; confusion and contradiction on the part of the Minister, the First Minister's statements, and the statements of the others; difficulty in anyone knowing for sure what the future will hold and therefore a general reluctance on the part of anyone to really foresee with the government, or to really be sure of what will take place. And instead of basically enunciating a policy which would be clear, which would be specific, which in fact would spell out what their intentions would be, the government has seen fit to produce, or allow to be produced - and I have to give them the responsibility of producing, notwithstanding the fact that Mr. Kierans presented these ideas, because they did not have to publish this document. They produced a document which contains an extreme position and in doing this, knowing full well, Mr. Speaker, the consequences of that action, the consequences of the impact, Mr. Speaker. . .

A MEMBER: Would the honourable member permit a question?

MR. SPIVAK: At the end. The impact this would have . . .

A MEMBER: You're at your end.

MR. SPIVAK: . . . on mining activity in this province. We on this side would have preferred, Mr. Speaker, that the government would have followed what would have been normal practice to have taken a consultant's report, to have digested this and to have taken out from it the things that they considered to be important, and to have indicated that as a result of the report that they were prepared to enunciate their policy, and to in fact stated what their policy would be. Instead, Mr. Speaker, they produced it, they published it, and they'll now have a task force which will cover a period of time until after the election, and then they can implement whatever they want to. --(Interjection)-- I have to tell the Honourable, you know, Deputy Premier of this province that . . .

A MEMBER: That we shall be back.

MR. SPIVAK: . . . I am not so sure that you will be back collectively, but I'm quite sure that the Honourable Minister of Labour will not be back. I told him this privately, and I must tell him that if he continues in the way, if he continues in the way, the Group for Good Government aren't going to have to do a thing. He's going to be defeated on his own.

Now, Mr. Speaker, there is a need for a policy statement, and there is a need for a policy position on the part of the government, and there is need for some declaration, and the statements, of course, have to be made by the members of the government who have some intelligence to be able to make the statements and not the Honourable Member from Radisson.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, Order. The Honourable Leader of the Conservative Party.

MR. SPIVAK: Well, Mr. Speaker, we have a policy position which we are going to state in the House today, that I stated elsewhere, which will be our policy and essentially our answer to the Kierans Reports. We believe, Mr. Speaker, that there should be a variable royalty policy which at first blush may appear to be a simplistic answer and is not intended to be, which in fact would take into consideration the input and the benefit to occur from future money developments, and would take into consideration in the variation of the present royalty structure in Manitoba the input and the contribution in terms of job, permanent job formation that is now

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(MR. SPIVAK cont'd) being undertaken by the existing companies. What we are suggesting, Mr. Speaker, is that not all mining companies will be paying the same royalty.

Mr. Speaker, it's our belief that the more that the company does for Manitoba the less royalty it ought to pay, and it is something that is capable of being understood clearly by those who would invest in Manitoba. It is something that would be clear to those who are prepared to come here and simply dig up the ore and then ship it out of the province. It will be something that will be clear for those who are going to be prepared to dig up the ore and to refine it. It will be clear to those who are prepared to build smelters and to create the extra jobs in northern Manitoba. In this way, Mr. Speaker, it is our belief that we can vary the present royalty structure so that there will be a fair return on the resources and that the mining companies will have an incentive to build integrated developments in Manitoba. And, Mr. Speaker we believe in doing this we will create the kind of climate which will allow the present existing mining companies to operate with a fairer and greater return being given back to the people and at the same time not discourage the new mining ventures from taking place.

Mr. Speaker, we believe that that variable royalty policy is an answer to the Kierans Report and to the suggested takeover by Mr. Kierans over a ten year period of the present mining companies. We believe as well that policy can be defined in specific terms and understood by everyone so that there can be a degree of stability, and there can be an understanding by those who would invest in Manitoba of what the consequences would be of their action, and there would be no confusion as to what the ultimate policy would be. And the one failure of the people on the other side is that they do not seem to understand - and the Minister of Industry and Commerce is not in his seat, and he suggests that as a professor he does - they do not seem to understand that the thing that business really wants in terms of the investment capital that must be put in any project, is a degree of stability to know what the rules of the game will be, whatever they will be. It may be that the rules will be so hard that they will not perform or participate in a particular province, but at least they want to know that. What they do not want to have is a situation where year by year there can be alterations and changes, and there can be adjustments made which make it impossible for them to be in a position to know what kind of investment security they have for the kind of capital that must be invested and for the risk-taking that has to occur.

And this, Mr. Speaker, takes into consideration those new ventures. It does not take into consideration the existing structure, and there has to be some kind of variation in that, and I don't think that the mining companies are foolish enough not to believe that that is not going to be forthcoming. The honourable members opposite have talked about it for four years but have done nothing about it, realistically they've done nothing about it. And they really, you know, when you really listen to them, and when you see the ridiculous stupid statements of the Premier when he talks about the new relationship that has been made with, you know, Sherritt Gordon in the new development that took place in Leaf Rapids, and when you realize that the same multi-national corporations that would have been working for the company are now working for the government, in effect building the same site that they would have been building for the company with essentially the same kind of results, because the government always had the power and always had the right to control the developments that occurred, then you realize how, you know, really shallow the arguments are and how much really--to what extent they have only given lip service essentially to the rhetoric that they have talked about so much in opposition. And I say that, Mr. Speaker, because that really is the fact of the matter; the fact of the matter is that nothing much really has changed; the fact of the matter is that at this point they really haven't done anything. The fact of the matter is that they never had the courage of the Member for Crescentwood, they've now produced this to cause confusion and given a majority, depending on who is elected in that caucus and who will be dominating that caucus, they then can implement this plan. And they seem to think there's nothing wrong with this. They seem to think that this, is you know satisfactory. The fact of the matter is that what they really are doing is affecting the lives of many many people through what is essentially foolish acts on their part, foolish statements, foolish statements on their part, and failure to sort of recognize the degree of responsibility that they have to exercise in connection with their responsibility.

So, Mr. Speaker, we deal with that item, and I'd now like to deal with the Manitoba Development Corporation. The Honourable Minister has attempted to try in this session to

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(MR. SPIVAK cont'd) see to it that the Standing Committee on Economic Development handled itself in such a way that there would be a greater openness, a greater participation by the members of the Manitoba Development Corporation before the Standing Committee. I think there's been a legitimate attempt on his part to see to it that more information was supplied than before. And to this extent I think a certain degree of credit has to be given to him. But our difficulty, Mr. Speaker, and the difficulty we have at this point is that we have not completed the work of the Standing Committee; we are now asked to approve concurrence. I'm not sure that the Standing Committee will even meet again before the session is completed, and even if it does, Mr. Speaker, and concurrence is over and the bills approving it have passed, we are not going to be in a position to complete the work that we originally started.

Mr. Speaker, we did have two sessions and there were certain questions that were asked, certain information was supplied, but we have not completed their work, and Mr. Speaker there is something wrong with our basic structure which would put us in this sort of silly position of being asked to approve by way of concurrence the Manitoba Development Corporation when we have not approved it in committee. There is no way in which we are going to be able to debate the report if we do get a report, and I suggest at this time that the government seriously is considering not calling the committee because of the probability, or the possibility, because the committee has so approved, the hearings would then be asked and requested, as they are entitled to be asked, on the question of the cost of living in Manitoba as they were approved by that committee.

So, Mr. Speaker, we have to now deal with the limited information that was supplied and we have to deal with the form in which we were given the information this year. Mr. Speaker, we were given the information and the balance sheets and the information on the companies that we have equity in, the day essentially that--the first day of the Standing Committee meeting. And we obviously required time to peruse that. Some of them were more detailed than others and as we proceed in years to come, assuming the present government was to remain and the procedures were not to change --(Interjection)-- there will be more and more information that will be furnished on the balance sheets to be forwarded and documents to be forwarded to the committee, and they will require further and further study, and the difficulty we have on this side, Mr. Speaker, is the fact that we require, and I think are entitled to receive, the information, the annual statements, the balance sheets at an appropriate time in advance of the Standing Committee meetings so that there can be perusal, and if the government is going to adopt the position that in effect, you know, we are not going to answer the questions in the House but they will be dealt with by the Standing Committee, the fact that this information is released in advance does not prejudice their position but really gives us the opportunity for some intelligent evaluation.

Now, Mr. Speaker, the Manitoba Development Fund has played an important role in the economic development of this province. The Statistical Data that is furnished in the annual report indicates in a direct way how many jobs have been created, permanent jobs have been created as a result of the loan investment that has taken place and there are, there is no question it has had its impact in the manufacturing sector, and it has had its impact in the development of tourism or tourism facilities. We face a situation though, Mr. Speaker, we have talked about this, where the economic situation in Manitoba vis-a-vis the development of permanent jobs is not occurring at a good enough rate for Manitoba, In fact, if anything the government has to be concerned about the permanent jobs that are being created, and the question arises as whether you continue the kind of operation that we now have, whether you continue the kind of developments in terms of Crown Corporations, or whether you alter the present Manitoba Development Corporation so that there can be some new impetus given for the development of permanent job creation. Mr. Speaker, if we examine what has taken place based on the information furnished to us, there have been nine companies in which - Mr. Speaker, if the Honourable Minister of Labour is so tired, I would suggest that he retire to his room. It would do him a great deal of good and I think it would save us the embarrassment of having to listen to him.

MR. PAULLEY: Oh I'll be here until 4:00 o'clock while you continue your oration.

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, the taxpayers of this province have put in \$38 million into nine companies and all nine companies lost money in the past period of time, Mr. Speaker, every time the New Democratic Party has taken over a business the taxpayer has lost his shirt.

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(MR. SPIVAK cont'd) If we look at the examination of what was lost in the past two years, we find that the NDP lost in terms of Crown Corporations, \$24 million, and that is at the rate of one million dollars a month, and that is at the rate of \$30,000 a day --(Interjection)-- yeah, well these are the direct losses in terms - that we now know. And, Mr. Speaker, you know, we have a combination at this point of losses of \$30,000 a day, plus new investments, which are not losses at this point, required to be able to sustain those nine companies, and my guess is, Mr. Speaker, that we're probably talking of \$100,000 a day, and that's a great deal of money. The problem at this point is, where is it going to end, and how much will it be when it does end, and what additional new companies are going to be added to it, and how much additional pressure there will be, and in effect, what is the total net gain, you know, to the people of Manitoba?

Now some of the corporations, Mr. Speaker, came about as a result of failures and the necessity of the government to take action, and no one is quarrelling on the realization of assets on the part of the government. But, Mr. Speaker, --(Interjection)-- well let's understand the 24 million - we're not talking about CFI - we're not talking about CFI. We are not talking --(Interjection)-- well, Mr. Speaker, if we want to talk about CFI we can talk about \$26 million, which is a lot different than the figures that I'm talking --(Interjection)-- Mr. Speaker, you know, the friends in Rodel were given a gift by the New Democratic Party, they were given a gift in release, Mr. Speaker, of an obligation that they had under contract through the generosity, Mr. Speaker, and the stupidity of the New Democratic Party. --(Interjections)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order. Order. The Honourable Leader of the Official Opposition.

MR. SPIVAK: You know, Mr. Speaker, the gift that was given in this particular case was given either through a lack of knowledge or with the understanding of the government, was given by the chairman of the MDC who basically waived the rights that the government had. Well the Honourable Minister of Mines and Natural Resources shakes his head but that's what the court held. Oh yes, that's what the court held. Oh yes, that's what the court held . . . --(Interjection)--

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order please.

MR. SPIVAK: What the court held, Mr. Speaker, what the court held, Mr. Speaker . . .

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: A point of privilege has been raised. The Honourable . . .

MR. SPIVAK: There's no point of privilege. The court held that . . .

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order. Order please. I'm waiting to hear the point of privilege. The Chair will decide whether there's a point of privilege.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, the honourable member says that the Court held and the Court's judgment is available, that we waived \$500,000, we were suing for \$500,000 because Mr. Speaker, the court held that we wrote a contract under which we had to give them money every time they put out their hand and Mr. Spivak wrote that contract.

A MEMBER: That's right.

MR. PAULLEY: And he knows he wrote it.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order please. The Honourable Leader of the Opposition. Order.

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, just so we will get this little point resolved, I didn't write a contract. I didn't write a contract, Mr. Speaker, but the members opposite waived the obligation for \$500,000 or so. Oh it's junk. That's not junk. That's what the court held. Oh yes it is, you know and it's an interesting situation. . .

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order. Order please. Order. Order please. Now there can only be one person on the floor at one time. Either it is the member that's speaking or it happens to be the Speaker. When I'm trying to call for order in this House I would appreciate if honourable members would keep quiet. If you want me to yell like a Sergeant-Major I can do that. The Honourable Leader of the Official Opposition.

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, the nincompoop in this case was the Chairman of the Manitoba Development Corporation appointed by the New Democratic Party. He's not a scapegoat. He wrote the letter. He was a very smart person. He wrote a letter in which he released them of the obligation. That's right. And Mr. Speaker, my point before we started on this little digression was to point out the fact that the government . . .

CONCURRENCE

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order please. The Honourable Member for Thompson.

MR. JOSEPH P. BOROWSKI (Thompson): Yes, Mr. Speaker, my point of order is that we are, on this side, trying to listen to the Leader of the Opposition. You have admonished the front bench to keep quiet, they refuse to obey your rulings. I suggest that you take action.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order please. Order please. I thank the Honourable Member. I think his point is well taken. The Chair will decide when he can no longer tolerate what's going on. The Honourable Leader of the Official Opposition.

MR. SPIVAK: Well, Mr. Speaker, the government had certain opportunities with respect to the situations in which they have had to take over, and their options were to run the businesses, their options were to sell them, their options were to try and realize on the assets. Now the government's propensity is to become involved, because their basic belief is that there is some way in which the government in the public sector through Crown corporations, through public sector activity, will be able to realize profits for the people, but the problem with the government is the fact that they not only have the problem of realizing profits - and they have to be able to do that - they have the problem that they also have to pay debts, and the difference between the government, Mr. Speaker, and a private concern is that the government has unlimited resources.

Mr. Speaker, they have a \$700 million treasury which they can dip into, they have 300 or 400 million dollars worth of borrowing that they can dip into, and the kind of restraints that apply to private business do not apply to them. And we have people who are at this point, are in the enviable position of being able to run businesses with really no accounting necessary except to the procedural way in which we deal with their information supplied in the House, because what we are doing, Mr. Speaker, is talking in aggregate sums of \$38 million of nine companies, and we are talking about companies that have some impact in the community, Mr. Speaker, there is no question, without naming some of the specific industries, that they do have an impact in the community. They in fact create jobs, they in fact pay payrolls, they in fact have a multiplying effect. We know that. But the problem is at this particular time the viability and the profitability of the operation in its strict sense cannot be measured because, if you look at that, then you would have to say that it's an uneconomical act on the part of the government. On the other hand, if it's to be examined as job formation, then you must weigh out whether it wouldn't have been better in the first place to give the \$38 million to the people by way of \$10,000 salaries, and to be able to pay it out annually, because that would have accomplished probably as much good.

So the difficulty we have at this point, Mr. Speaker, is that the government who . . . believe that in our mixed economy there should be a greater public presence, are attempting to prove that in some way they are as good managers as the private sector, and so far, Mr. Speaker, they have not been able to prove that. The other difficulty, Mr. Speaker, is that because of the kind of action that the government had taken with respect to the general investment community, and because of the attitude that it has taken very foolishly, and because the private sector has not acted in the same way as it has in other areas of Canada, there has been a greater demand and a greater need for public sector involvement.

Now that satisfies some on the other side who would take that as a means of an advantage for them, who would believe that that would give them an opportunity for a greater public presence because of that demand, but Mr. Speaker, the members on the opposite side have really not thought their position out realistically. They really do not have any kind of economic development plan. They have attempted to try and operate on an ad hoc basis as best they can and meet each crisis situation, and have stumbled and fumbled through the last four years, and the result is, Mr. Speaker, that they do not have anything that would indicate that they have a capability of public sector involvement in Crown corporations that would have the kind of meaningful catalytic effect to develop and stimulate the economy to create the necessary job formation that's required in this province to hold our people. And that's why, Mr. Speaker, the MDC as it now exists has to be taken out of the hands of this government and out of any government because, Mr. Speaker, if in fact there is going to be a public sector involvement by way of major loans, by way of equity participation, by way of joint operation or by way entirely of public funds, then I think Mr. Speaker, there now is the obligation to bring that into the Legislature with all the details and with all the information, and I ask for the statute to be passed to ask for the capital authority to be passed, and to be accountable in each and every respect.

CONCURRENCE

(MR. SPIVAK cont'd)

The structure that now exists is no good. The structure that now exists prevents the kind of openness that is necessary for this kind of development, and the structure itself is no good because, Mr. Speaker, we really at this point do not know how they are operating except the general feeling that there is nothing wrong with public sector involvement and they will essentially take whatever they can or do whatever they may want to do when they want to have that power.

Well, I don't think we can operate this way and I don't think that the economic development in this province is really, you know, occurring in a very meaningful way. There is no way in which the Honourable Minister of Industry and Commerce can stand up in this House and produce any meaningful statistics on permanent job formation. Whatever they may say about unemployment, to a large extent that has been made up of make-work situations which are not permanent in their nature, which in effect, if there is a government withdrawal of the make-work programs, would find a substantial rise in unemployment. They do not take into consideration the needs and the forecast that should have been made for the development.

Mr. Speaker, that's going to occur by the private sector; it's not going to occur by the public sector; and the performance of the government is dismal, the prospects are dismal, and in effect the MDC's ability to be able to generate that is dismal. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, we feel and we have suggested that the MDC be wound up and wound down. We have suggested that there are other ways, and we believe that those ways are significant, one of which is to give the regional development corporations funding. We believe this, Mr. Speaker, because we think that the regional development corporations are structured in a way that they have some local understanding of the kinds of developments that can occur in their area, both in the commercial, industrial and tourist sectors, in such a way that there will be a stimulation a permanent job creation, and the side benefits to the region. And, Mr. Speaker, if in those regional development areas a consensus can be reached by the people involved, if they can come to the decision that it would be important to loan or to grant money in relation to certain developments in their own area, having reached that consensus because they know that what will occur in one part of the region will in fact develop and help the others, if they can reach that and they can be given the funding, we will see in what will be essentially small ventures the kind of development of job formation that the province requires, and we will see this in the West-Man area, we will see that in the Pembina area, we will see that in the Parklands area, we will see that in the East-Man area, and we will see that in the Nor-Man in the North area. And, Mr. Speaker, we would include the City of Winnipeg as a regional development corporation, and allow that to be given the same opportunities as the other areas in Manitoba.

We have talked, Mr. Speaker, well I want the Honourable Minister to say when he says anything for a vote, anything to try and create permanent jobs in Manitoba, and you know, Mr. Speaker, that is a worthwhile objective. And if the Honourable Minister does not believe - if the Minister of Labour does not think so, then he's sadly mistaken about what the prospects in this province are.

Mr. Speaker, we believe and we've talked about a Manitoba Growth Fund, and I don't think that I have to elaborate on that again, as an alternative to the Manitoba Development Corporation. We believe that there will be, in fact there could be activities in which the government will take equity and become involved. And Mr. Speaker, I am one who had never said that there may not be a need for Crown corporations or for public sector involvement. The Honourable Minister of Industry and Commerce talked about Morden Fine Foods and he talked about Canadian Cannery and the attitude that was taken, and he should be aware that when I was Minister of Industry and Commerce I dealt with that. And the ultimate decision that was made, the ultimate decision that was made was a decision that we were prepared to make. We tried to get the company to remain for a year and to try and assist it in its sales, but we negotiated with them as well for the purchase of their assets, because with that purchase we would have done exactly what the Honourable Minister of Industry and Commerce did, which was in fact to create a Crown corporation. Well the only difference between myself and the Honourable Minister of Industry and Commerce is that we were going to pay \$50,000 for the assets and he paid \$250,000.00. Yes. We were going to pay \$50,000 for the assets and he paid \$250,000, because he is a better bargainer, Mr. Speaker, and he paid a couple of hundred thousand dollars more.

CONCURRENCE

(MR. SPIVAK cont'd)

But, Mr. Speaker, in that sort of classic example where I would indicate that we would have taken that course of action, it would appear to me that it would have been wiser and better for that course of action not to be taken by a board or commission or corporation independent of the Legislature, but by way of a specific act in the Legislature, by way of a capital authority approved in the Legislature. In this way, Mr. Speaker, then the fact that would --(Interjection)-- No, Mr. Speaker, that was not the way we built CFI, but I suggest, Mr. Speaker, that's the way CFI should have been built. And I suggest if anything -- I suggest, Mr. Speaker . . . --(Interjections)--

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Order please. The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. SPIVAK: Now, Mr. Speaker, when the Honourable Minister of Mines and Natural Resources talks about CFI, I think of what a great lawyer he is. You know, he is always admonishing me and the members on this side of the years that he spent in court. You know, Mr. Speaker, he is always talking about how great a legal counsel he was. Mr. Speaker, he sat as a member of a cabinet with the development authority having a specific clause, that stated that at any time if the board, the Manitoba Development Board, thought there was any risk on the security of any venture, action could be taken immediately to realize on the security, and, Mr. Speaker, he allowed the \$92 million to be paid out. And so when he starts talking about others, I look at him and say what a great lawyer he is. Well I want to tell you, he's not a very good lawyer, Mr. Speaker, because any junior clerk would have been able to realize by looking at that Act, that there was an ability on the part of the government once they knew they were ahead of the mortgage, to have stopped payment. And, Mr. Speaker, we know --(Interjection)-- Yeah. Well that isn't ridiculous, Mr. Speaker, that is not ridiculous. Mr. Speaker, that is not ridiculous. Mr. Speaker, the fact of the matter is that we now know that in December of 1969 or early January of 1970, the government knew that the principals of the CFI were ahead of the mortgage and were in breach of the mortgage. They knew that. That came in the Commonwealth lien case and the Honourable Minister of Mines and Natural Resources knows that. And once he knew that, the Honourable Minister of Mines and Natural Resources, who prides himself on being such a great lawyer and who admonishes everybody else because they haven't practiced, apparently fell asleep for a whole solid year. Or, Mr. Speaker, or, Mr. Speaker, was prepared to . . . and fling it out because the Premier had lied when he said he altered the contract in July of 1969.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable House Leader.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, on a point of privilege. The Premier got up in this House in the spring of 1970, indicated with a statement that the deal that he thought that he was able to have made in the summer of 1970 was not one which in fact was available. He made a House statement to that effect. The honourable member says that the Premier lied in September of 1970. I ask the honourable member to withdraw that remark. A lie implies saying something knowing it to be false. The Premier perfectly explained that in the spring of 1970 and the honourable member knows it.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, in July of 1969 the Honourable --

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.

MATTER OF PRIVILEGE

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, on a point of privilege. We know that remarks were made. The honourable member says that the Premier lied in July of 1970 --in August of 1970. The Premier got up in the spring of 1970, explained those remarks. Mr. Speaker, I was in the House, the honourable member was in the House. He explained that he thought that he had a deal in the summer of 1970, that that deal did not in fact materialize. The honourable member knows that, the Premier has explained it, and I ask him to withdraw the suggestion that the Premier lied.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, on the point of privilege. Now the Commission of Inquiry has taken place; proceedings are not over. We now have evidence that we did not have before. Mr. Speaker, there is no evidence whatsoever in writing that the Premier in any way gave

MATTER OF PRIVILEGE

(MR. SPIVAK cont'd) instructions to a lawyer that an Order-in-Council was passed or any such situation which in any effect verified the statement that he altered the contract. Nothing whatsoever.

MR. GREEN: I ask the honourable member to withdraw the remark--the Commission of Inquiry no doubt will report and then all of the matters that my honourable friend will have referred to will be impartially adjudicated on by the Commission, although the Member for Riel has already said that the Commission are NDP-oriented. I don't know how C. Rhodes Smith gets that kind of a character but nevertheless the honourable member got up and said that the Premier lied in July of 1969; and whatever he thinks about what was said, the Premier explained that position in the spring of 1970 and I ask the honourable member to withdraw the remark.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. I would request the co-operation of the honourable member. I do think that our rules are pretty clear, if it is not attributable to a person, that one should not call another person a liar. It is contrary to the rules of parliament. The honourable member may rephrase his thoughts but not a direct accusation. The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, in his first speech in this session, the Honourable First Minister referred to the Opposition and used the word "liar" several times. Mr. Speaker, I'm speaking at this time on the point of privilege.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. ORDER, PLEASE.

MR. SPIVAK: He did not . . . No.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. I would hope that the honourable members would give the Chair an opportunity to have a little discretion in how we operate our rules. I am entitled to hear at least a partial reason of what the Honourable Leader of the Opposition wishes to say and then I will adjudicate whether he is going to withdraw or not. I'm not going to have a conversation with individual members across the floor of this House, not anyone. I think the rules apply to everyone. I would hope to have the co-operation of all the honourable members. Now I'm going to ask again of the Honourable Leader of the Opposition to reconsider his position, reconsider his statement, to remember the rules of this House and to try to abide by them. The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, again to you, Sir, and I'd like to, if I may, be given the opportunity of explaining my position. The use of the word "lie" has been used by the First Minister.

A MEMBER: Liar.

MR. SPIVAK: "Liar" was used by the First Minister several times in his opening speech in this Legislature. Mr. Speaker, he used that terminology in applying his understanding of a certain situation. Now the Honourable House Leader has indicated that the Premier made a statement in July of--spring of 1970 --(Interjection)-- No, no. No, no. Let's understand very . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. Let us get one thing straight. There's a difference to an inference and to a straight charge. The Honourable Leader of the Opposition has made a straight charge. I ask him to withdraw. Order, please.

CONCURRENCE Cont'd - MINES AND RESOURCES

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, I will withdraw the word "liar" but I suggest that the Honourable First Minister misled the people of Manitoba. He misled the people of Manitoba, Mr. Speaker, because he suggested that he had altered a contract. Mr. Speaker, there is no evidence whatsoever that that contract was altered. The letters that took place between the Minister and the principals of CFI following the initial meeting of four hours in which he then published a report saying that he'd changed the contract, do not in any way indicate any changes in the financial structure. There is no correspondence, Mr. Speaker, between the First Minister and the principals. There was no directive given to any solicitor that there should be a change of an agreement. There is no Order-in-Council. There is no evidence whatsoever, and now we are faced with an understanding, Mr. Speaker, of why the Honourable Minister of Mines and Natural Resources, who prides himself on being such a great lawyer, faced with the situation and knowledge that the principals were ahead of the mortgage, was not prepared to act at that time and not prepared to advise the government that they should stop further payment realized in the security. Had he done that, Mr. Speaker, that would have been \$40 million paid

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(MR. SPIVAK cont'd) out more or less. We now know it's \$136 million.

So \$100 million later we are discussing this, Mr. Speaker, and there has to be some question raised as to why the government was prepared to continue to pay out money. And, Mr. Speaker, the only conclusion one can draw is that the people of Manitoba were misled and the Premier was trapped because they were misled, and had to try and wring out that contract in the hope, Mr. Speaker, that they would carry through, because otherwise he would have had to admit, Mr. Speaker, he would have had to admit to the people that the information supplied by press statement that he had altered the contract, by public statement on the platform, following that in both Lac du Bonnet and at other NDP meetings, that he had changed the contract, was not accurate. And so, Mr. Speaker, when the honourable members opposite talk about CFI to me, or talk about the Progressive Conservative Party, I talk to them about their competence, about their management, about their capability and, Mr. Speaker, you know, about their integrity. Because, Mr. Speaker, they were faced with a situation in which they had to place either the public interest or their Party interest, and they chose their Party interest, Mr. Speaker, and that is why the fiasco of CFI attaches to them, Mr. Speaker, and that is why CFI is going to be their legacy and not the legacy of the Conservative Party. They had the power not to pay the money. Just as they have been inefficient in the handling of the Crown corporations, just as they have allowed, as they did in the case of Columbia Forest Products, the principals to be relieved of an obligation through great generosity on their part because of their inefficiency and incompetence, so, Mr. Speaker, have they in fact--so, Mr. Speaker, have they been responsible with respect to CFI.

So, Mr. Speaker, the lesson of CFI - and this is the point that I tried to make - is the fact that the government if it is going to loan substantial moneys, if it's going to become involved, should, Mr. Speaker, be in a position and, Mr. Speaker, should be in that position to be able to come to the Legislature, present all its facts and, Mr. Speaker, be in a position to ask for a private bill.

Now, Mr. Speaker, there's one other factor that becomes important in the consideration of what took place with CFI. The government had a choice at the time that they found that the people were ahead of the mortgage, of doing several things. Acting on the security, as The Manitoba Development Fund Act provided, or, Mr. Speaker, investigating the matter and in some way determining what was taking place. And as you know, Mr. Speaker, the government selected Mr. Alistair Stewart as the person to do the investigation for them into the companies. Now one is not too sure at this point what Mr. Alistair Stewart found. One can't be in a position to really deal with the documents that he found because so far those documents don't appear to be of a public nature. And it will be interesting, Mr. Speaker, in the months and in the years to come, to find out what information he really was able to find. --(Interjection)-- Well, Mr. Speaker, if he found enough to crucify us it would be interesting because I don't think that information yet has been furnished to the Commission and certainly that information has not been forthcoming in the Commission documents that I have been able to examine.

But, Mr. Speaker, the interesting thing about Mr. Alistair Stewart's work was the conclusions that he reached, and of course this again goes to the basic thesis, that the actions of the government, once they knew that the principals were ahead of the mortgage, was more concerned with the political reality of their own position rather than of the protecting of the interests of the people of Manitoba. And we know, Mr. Speaker, that Mr. Stewart produced a memo and that memo indicated

MR. SPEAKER: Does the Honourable Minister have a point of order?

MR. GREEN: Yes, Mr. Speaker. From time to time we have broached the CFI subject in the House and there has been a general understanding that we were going to be able certainly to debate the philosophy of the transaction, but that we would not debate the internal arrangements or whether money should have been paid or whether money could have been paid, or whether the law required money to be paid, as the honourable member says, and which I believe is erroneous, but the question of the debate on that subject was precluded from taking place. Now I see from the honourable member's remarks, who is in a terrible situation and is having difficulty in extricating himself, that he is intending to encroach upon that rule and debate something which is now in the hands of a Commission of Inquiry, which is going to make a report dealing with the culpability of various people. And the honourable member has appeared before the Commission and he's said what he's done; I appeared before the Commission,

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(MR. GREEN cont'd) and I assumed that if I was the bad lawyer that the honourable member refers to, that the Commission will say that. And therefore, Mr. Speaker, I am suggesting that those remarks--and the honourable member knows it-- are not subject to debate in this House. And I would ask him to try to limit the debate to what the Speaker previously indicated was acceptable. Now I have really very little confidence that that is going to happen but I am going to ask that it happen, and of course since it's opened up, then, Mr. Speaker, we're not going to be able to on this side not deal with their part in that particular transaction, and who was the good negotiator and who was the bad lawyer who registered and mortgaged, lawyer hired by that firm, the only debenture in history which gave the people who wanted it security next to the unsecured creditors.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. The honourable member has made his point. The Honourable Member for Rhineland have a point of order?

POINT OF ORDER

MR. FROESE: Mr. Speaker, on that same point of order, the First Minister--was it last year or the year before-- got up and stated that rearrangements had been made that the principals would be putting in more money, more funds into the CFI. Surely we're able to discuss it when the First Minister has

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. I thank the Honourable Member for Inkster, the Minister of Mines and Resources, for reminding me, but that point is correct. I have already made it in respect to the details of the Inquiry that is taking place and I would hope the Honourable Leader of the Opposition would co-operate.

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, you know, I appreciate what the Honourable House Leader has said. I recall the statements of the First Minister who essentially said that he was going to debate the matter and

A MEMBER: At the proper time.

MR. SPIVAK: Oh, when is the proper time? He didn't say that. He said that he was going to debate the matter and he gave --(Interjection)-- No, he said whether or not the report was

A MEMBER: No, he did not.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister.

MR. GREEN: Regardless of what the Honourable the First Minister said or did not say, and I don't accept the fact that the Honourable Leader of the Opposition is putting, the fact is that this House is governed by the Rules of Order of the House, and if the Honourable the First Minister wanted to make a statement in this House which was contrary to the rules, the member would be able to get up and stop him, and then it would be subject to a ruling by the Speaker, and then subject to a ruling of the House.

A MEMBER: That's right.

MR. GREEN: That did not happen to my recollection. It did happen that we discussed this question before, and believe me, Mr. Speaker, it is very difficult to hold myself back from moving in on that area, but I know that to be contrary to the rules and I ask my honourable friends to follow the rules.

MR. SPEAKER: On the point of order, let me indicate that this is what has taken place on a number of occasions I have requested the co-operation of all the honourable members. Occasionally they encroach as to the details of the Inquiry that is taking place, and naturally the Chair is not always totally aware when we are getting into that particular area. I have not been following the Inquiry and I think the last time when I broached this subject I appealed to the honourable members who were involved, who were following it closely, to be put on their honour and to utilize their better judgment. I appeal the same way again tonight. The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

CONCURRENCE Cont'd

MR. SPIVAK: . . . enter this phase of discussion realistically because I suggested that there was something to learn from CFI as there was something to be learned from the experience of the members opposite. And the point is, Mr. Speaker, that government, if it is to be involved in a major undertaking, whether it be by way of loan or equity, in my opinion now must come before this Legislature and deal with this by way of special act and deal with it by way

CONCURRENCE

(MR. SPIVAK cont'd) of an application for specific borrowing authority for that project. And I think if anything, Mr. Speaker, the events related to CFI and other events, warrant that kind of decision.

Now as to the statistical, the chronological order of what took place, as to the right or wrong, as to the specifics, I'm prepared, Mr. Speaker, to leave that open at this time and to await the Commission's decision. But I am not prepared, Mr. Speaker, to stand by and see it argued by any, without responding in kind, and I think I served notice that, Mr. Speaker, in this particular area we as the Progressive Conservative Party are not as vulnerable as some would suggest, if one can--and it's very hard for the members opposite--examine objectively and chronologically the events that occurred.

Now leave that on that basis, Mr. Speaker, and indicate that we on this side are quite prepared, and at any time, on any platform, at any occasion, to argue what has taken place and to deal with this and to develop positions. But, Mr. Speaker, --(Interjection)-- Well, Mr. Speaker, the only other significant thing that has to be mentioned, is the portion of the Guidelines Report that deals with the question of a public presence in certain Crown corporations. This section deals with economic enterprise, this section indicates a greater use of the Manitoba Development Corporation. This section, Mr. Speaker, essentially indicates that in effect, given another four years of NDP administration, the Manitoba Development Corporation would be allowed to continue in its present way with the development of equity participation or complete, that is partial equity or complete equity participation, in undertaking, then it has identified certain undertakings, I believe it's identified: fire insurance, life insurance, pharmaceutical and food processing.

Now, Mr. Speaker, it does not indicate that the government would come to us by way of a private bill or public bill, by way of a private act, it indicates that that presence could in fact take place and the structure that is now set up could in fact be used for that purpose. So in effect, Mr. Speaker, they would be able to accomplish their social objective through the means of the structure that now exists, and this is why, Mr. Speaker, we believe that there are certain changes that should occur.

Now we have gone through one major confrontation in this province dealing with auto insurance. We saw the industry taken over by the government. --(Interjection)-- Oh, it has a great deal to do with the Manitoba Development Corporation. It has to do with the question of life insurance and as to whether, Mr. Speaker, --(Interjection)--

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please.

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, the question arises as whether the corporation should be used as, you know, as a vehicle, as a vehicle for such government action to take place, and assuming again the government was in power and they were intending to implement that portion of the guidelines--and I want to sort of follow this; we don't know whether they will be in power, we don't even know whether they will implement that part--but assuming they will, Mr. Speaker, they are capable now, Mr. Speaker, of entering into those fields by way of the structure that now exists through the Manitoba Development Corporation. And I don't believe that government should be given that kind of unchecked power at this point.

Government is now committed to enter the private sector in several distinct areas of economic activity who essentially are indicating that a greater public presence is needed, who have indicated publicly, some of whom have indicated publicly that there should be even a more extreme position taken than the Guidelines did, should be given the position or should have the ability to be able to exercise that authority at this time, because again the whole question of accountability arises. There is an accountability after the fact; there is an accountability in the sense that the moneys that will be paid out will in fact be determined. But there is no accountability, Mr. Speaker, for the actions and we are now talking in the development, in the sense, in areas of activity in which government generally has not been involved.

And so, Mr. Speaker, this is one reason why we believe the MDC should be wound up and this is one reason why we believe that there should be support for our position. And, Mr. Speaker, when we form government we will wind up the MDC; when we form government we will undertake projects if there is going to be major financing, and provided by way of private acts in this Legislature, and we will ask for that authority in the Legislature so that in effect our proposals will be known, it will be open, it will be determined, the prospects can be judged and evaluated and we will be in a position, Mr. Speaker, to present to the people all the facts ,

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(MR. SPIVAK cont'd) something which did not exist before which has to be changed, and surely that experience must have indicated to us when we were government something which I think comes as a result of the experience of the present government, all of which would lead to a better kind of system, a more difficult one maybe for the legislators who will have to work a little bit harder, but certainly better in the long run in terms of protecting the public's interest.

MR. SPEAKER: Resolution passed?

MR. ASPER: Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party.

MR. I. H. (Izzy) ASPER (Leader of the Liberal Party)(Wolseley): Mr. Speaker, this department represents three thrusts of this government which require adverse comment. Mr. Speaker, I hear groans, as I rise to speak on the concurrence motion, from the opposite side, yet, Mr. Speaker, I so distinctly recall, so vividly recall members opposite admonishing members on this side when we cried out against the stifling and the muzzling of debate of how ridiculous we were when we could speak on concurrence, when we could speak on . . .

MR. GREEN: On a point of privilege, Mr. Speaker. The honourable member suggests he is being stifled. The rules permit him to debate; the rules cannot prevent members from groaning if they don't like what is going on.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. I don't recall at any time when I was in the Chair that the honourable member was stifled, and I can assure him freedom of speech is the right of every member in this Chamber, and as long as I'm in the Chair, as long as the member stays within the rules he'll have freedom of speech. The Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party.

MR. ASPER: Mr. Speaker, as usual the House Leader interjects, knowing full well that what he's interjecting about is a fiction of his imagination. If he will consult Hansard tomorrow he will find that I did not say that we were in fact stifled, I said that when we cried out and criticized his government for attempting to stifle and muzzle debate. Those were my words. That was the substance of what I said, and he knew it. But as is his wont, as is the Clarence Darrow 1973 NDP theoretician (perhaps 1933 style's more accurate, Mr. Speaker), it is his function to interject, interrupt and prevent, as if he could, something from going on the record. And, Mr. Speaker, I recall vividly him in his protestations, and other members of government, indicating that those indefensible complaints by the Opposition that we were concerned about the lack of debate on estimates and - correction, stifling of debate, as the House Leader reminds me - we were told that "well, there's committee, and there's all sorts of places including concurrence," so we take our opportunity now in concurrence to conclude those comments that ought to have been made had we had enough time in Estimates.

Mr. Speaker, the issue is that on three fronts this department that we're required to vote concurrence on, demonstrates the unacceptability and the trend of this government. This is not a trend, I misuse the word; it's a gallop, a gallop towards something which the public of Manitoba and we as their representatives must identify as nothing short of a gallop toward state control. Now, Mr. Speaker, there are many societies in this world that are governed through a state control system. There are other societies that are governed through an individual, or a more democratized system. This government and this department symbolically moves us inch by inch, foot by foot daily, toward a system, with the only thing on the horizon that's of any encouragement at all, that in some time soon this government will be required to face its own jury and receive a verdict. And the issue being fundamentally; do the people of Manitoba want the kind of state control, the kind of, in my judgment, tyranny, represented by the most Honourable Minister, the Minister in charge of Mines, etc. ? And I wish to demonstrate in what specific areas the charge that I make is founded.

We find in his department the most clear, unmistakable and difficult to rebut repudiation of the basic principle of open government. It's been debated many times in this House. His department, his demeanour, his conduct and the operation of his department is the epitome of the negation and denial, and in my judgment the subversion of the principle of open government which was so loudly embraced by this government in 1969.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I won't reopen the Hydro debate except to say, except to say that when we cried out against the manner in which--and not only we but the Environmental Council, when the Manitoba Metis Federation, when the Manitoba Naturalists, when the Northern Presbytery of the United Church, when every group that had an interest, except his government, in the Hydro development, not because they were opposed necessarily to the flooding or the project, but because they felt that democracy was being thwarted, that the concept of open government

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(MR. ASPER cont'd) militated against the manner in which the government was proceeding, virtually shriek for public hearings--as the only manner in which they could have an opportunity to make their views known and to communicate, they were repudiated, first directly, and second, they were then repudiated indirectly. They were then soothed by that Minister's assurance that the representatives of the people certainly could debate, discuss, dialogue in Public Utilities Committee. And so we went to Public Utilities Committee.

MR. GREEN: I never said that the debate takes place in Public Utilities Committee. In all the statements when I referred to debate, and the honourable member will be able to go through Hansard, I never said that the debate takes place in Public Utilities Committee. I said that the examination of the Hydro people takes place in Public Utilities but I never said that the debate takes place in Public Utilities.

MR. ASPER: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. The Minister of Mines indicated in this House on many occasions that the Public Utilities Committee was the appropriate forum in which to discuss many of the matters we tried to raise in the House. I am not subdividing those between debate and dialogue and discussion. I am simply saying that the process that requires--this is not a debatable issue, Mr. Speaker. The Mines Minister . . .

MR. GREEN: . . . the member's last question, the Honourable Member once got me making a statement on the basis of watching a television broadcast. The man said that the honourable member said something. He told me he never said it. I immediately retracted it. I have never been able to get him to retract a false statement. He said that I said that the debate takes place in Public Utilities Committee. I tell the honourable member that I never soothed anybody by telling them a debate takes place in Public Utilities Committee. The rest of what he says I accept. If he is not man enough to withdraw the statement that I said that the debate takes place in Public Utilities Committee, then it will be singularly characteristic of the honourable member.

MR. ASPER: Mr. Speaker, we went to Public Utilities Committee and we spent several sessions in that committee, hearing the report of Hydro and the comment of Hydro, as a report which is highly controversial which people of goodwill, of no political motive, of no partisan position, disagree and offer alternatives and offer suggestions that should be heard and considered, and offer contradiction to what is put before the members of the House. And so a resolution was put to that committee, an innocent resolution that not only should the author of the report be heard, but that the members be allowed to hear other interested parties who had a contribution to make.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I concede that I was assuaged, I was naive enough to believe, even though longer term counsel in this House told me that it was the height of foolishness to believe that that committee would complete its hearings, that that committee would indeed have the opportunity to hear other witnesses. And so, Mr. Speaker, we stand here, nearing the end of a session, having several times asked: When will the Public Utilities meeting take place? When will we have an opportunity to debate, to vote on the motion to hold a hearing in Public Utilities? And the essence of what we get from the Minister of Mines, that pillar of the democratic process, is "You have no assurances." Maybe I'm not quoting him directly but certainly that is the essence of what he's been saying. We have no assurances. And sure as we stand here tonight, that committee may not ever meet again, and that committee, if it does meet, I am predicting that the government majority will be used to vote down the resolution to hear those people who have evinced an interest and a concern and have a skill which should be considered. That's why in the one department that we stand here discussing Concurrence on, we have symbolized the antithesis of the open society, the open democratic process, responsive, sensitive government.

Then it gets worse, Mr. Speaker. The second, we have a subtle though unannounced trend toward state control of the very industry which this Minister and his department are set up to govern, to regulate, to develop. Mr. Speaker, I'm speaking of the ludicrous farce that the people of Manitoba are being treated to in the knock-em-down set-em-up Kierans Report, Yes-No-Maybe situation which even the First Minister is engaging in. We begin with a statement that the Kierans Report, commissioned by government, is to be published. The Commission comes in, the report comes in. The response--it is well known that the report advocates in effect de facto takeover the mining industry by the state. As in . . . I'm sure Sweden has done it perhaps; I'm sure other--the House Leader volunteers Ainb. . . There are others.

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(MR. ASPER cont'd)

There are others and, well there's Mosidyck, there's Mosidyck in Iran. There are other banana belt dictators who have done it and it's the policy of this government to emulate that kind of government. That's fine, if you think that's the route you want to go, and if that's what the people of Manitoba want that's fine too, it's their choice; but it's a trend towards state control. Let's clearly identify it.

Now, Mr. Kierans is then in the wake of a hostile response from the public, rejected by the Premier -- not by the Mines Minister but rejected by the Premier, and my understanding of the Mines Minister's position is that some things we like, some things we don't like. We have a task force and in due course we'll announce our policy. And it seems rather strange that the First Minister finds it necessary to travel throughout the north on every occasion, that he seems to be in the north, or on frequent occasions that he seems to be in the north travelling I might say in a rather comfortable style to travelling nominating conventions in public transit -- I mean publicly paid for transit, Mr. Speaker. Well, Mr. Speaker, denouncing the very Kierans report but de facto; in fact, the policy of this department unannounced, unvoted on, is the elimination of the private sector in the future development of the mining industry.

The Minister of Mines, he makes no bones about it. He's several times volunteered in answer to questions in this house, in effect good. If the mining companies leave, there'll be more for the public. Those are in essence his words. That is the policy, Mr. Speaker. That is why this government, through this department, moves in an area toward more and more and more and more state takeover, state control.

Now I'm not saying Socialism. You will notice I'm very--because I don't regard this as Socialism. I regard this as state control, no more no less, and it's an issue, it's an issue that divides us, but let's identify it and let's acknowledge that it exists, and let the people of Manitoba who are blessed by the good fortune that within months they will have an opportunity to render a verdict, then, Mr. Speaker, let them say yes. When the President of Sherritt Gordon Mining announces that an \$800,000 mining exploration program has been diverted from Manitoba, and when asked about that--well Mr. Speaker, the Mines Minister is shaking his head. I'm simply referring to what was printed in the report of the annual meeting of the Sherritt Gordon, and Mr. Speaker, unless the Mines Minister was there then he has no point of order to offer in contradiction.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister state his point of order or matter of privilege.

MR. GREEN: Well, Mr. Speaker, the honourable member says that unless I was there I can't say what was in the report. Was he there? Because he is now saying what was in the report. I think I read the report the same as him; therefore if he can say what was in the report, I can say, Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, that that is not what the report said.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party.

MR. ASPER: I'm not speaking of the annual financial report, I'm speaking of the newspaper reports of the annual meeting in which it was clearly and --(Interjection)-- Yes, Mr. Speaker, he can do anything he likes in his time in rebuttal.

MR. GREEN: . . . say that that is not what the report said, and he said, "Read the report." If he is quoting a report, he should quote the report.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party.

MR. ASPER: Mr. Speaker, when the president of the Canadian Mining Association in Churchill, in the presence of the Honourable Minister of Northern Affairs, says that if Manitoba pursues the policy that the Minister of Northern Affairs advocated at the Great Plains conference two or three weekends ago, that development will by-pass Manitoba, that is a fairly direct quote as to what he said. Mr. Speaker, this is not a partisan, this is not a politician speaking; this is a man who rendered advice to the people of Manitoba and to the Minister who was there, and again, the policy of this government is to permit nominal--and I repeat nominal -- new exploration by the private sector on Crown lands where control still exists, and not to encourage new entrepreneurial mining exploration and as those leases come up--and I will be happy to be contradicted on this point, I'll be happy for the Mines Minister to stand in his place and say, "You're all wet; that anyone in this province who is responsible, experienced and physically capable, can explore on Crown lands, estate claims, and this government will encourage, stimulate that private sector development." The Mines Minister shakes his head. No they can't. And that's the point, Mr. Speaker, that it is a slow, subtle and I suggest to you

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(MR. ASPER cont'd) insidious process of state control which will take a few years to accomplish, just as Guidelines 2 suggests, very casually, Mr. Speaker, that if any of the farmers want to sell their land and can't find a buyer, we'll buy the land. And, Mr. Speaker, let no one be fooled; let no one be fooled as to where we are going.

The Honourable Minister of Agriculture says I endorse that. That's absolute nonsense, Mr. Speaker. My position, so that he understands it, land banking--well you're making reference to land banking. Mr. Speaker, that is not what Guidelines 2 says, or 3 -- I'm not sure in which of these fairytales it exists.

MR. SPEAKER: Order.

MR. ASPER: Mr. Speaker, I'm suggesting that the refusal to encourage, and I suggest, although I'm unable to prove categorically that the Mines Minister is actively discouraging private exploration on Crown lands, but I am willing to suggest that it is my opinion that, based on the number of people that I've spoken to who are in the field, that this is in fact the policy, and that in approximately 15 years, one generation, the Crown, the state, will control the mining and the state will control the farmland. and there's where we're going, and this department symbolizes, epitomizes it.

Then there's the third thrust that this department represents--the squandering and the irresponsible waste of taxpayer dollars, plus the development of a hostility and an environmental attitude that is so sensitively felt by capital and by talented people who are frightened out of Manitoba or frightened from coming into Manitoba. And Mr. Speaker, I don't know what effect the Guidelines or the oft-stated position of this government about its hankering--it's got a propensity to get into the life insurance industry--I don't know what effect that might have had on the inability of the brokers to sell shares in a new Manitoba life insurance company, New Generation Life, which in effect has folded. I can't, I can't--all I can tell you, Sir, is that I have spoken with many brokers, many of the people who tried to sell the shares in that company, and they reported to me voluntarily, as opposed to my seeking them out, that their concern, their inability, one of the factors that negated the possibility of the sale of the shares to start this new life insurance company was the oft repeated, I say threat, that this government had a real penchant, why not get into the life insurance business, why not the fire insurance business, and until this issue of state control is disposed of by the jury, by the electorate, there will be a freeze. There won't be a new life insurance company development and there won't be a new fire insurance company that will move in, or a multiple line insurance company, and there won't be much mineral exploration in the private sector, because there is no assurance, there is no stability, there is nothing but a feeling of hostility and fear.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I don't denigrate the many accomplishments of this government, and there are many. It would be myopic for me to deny that there has been major social progress in this four years, social progress. But economic progress - nil. Mr. Speaker, the legacy of this government will be known as the wasted years - the self-congratulatory speeches made in this House day after day by the administration are so pompously . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. I do realize that there has to be some latitude in respect to relevancy, but it was hoped the honourable member would realize that we are on Mines, Resources and Development, and he's straying a little bit beyond those terms.

MR. ASPER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I went into the economics because the Minister responds for the Manitoba Development Corporation which is charged with the financial stimulation of new industry. Mr. Speaker, let us now turn to that.

I will ignore the state-run corporations. My honourable friend the Leader of the Opposition has already commented on it. But Mr. Speaker, let no one be mistaken, let no one be mistaken that the economic condition of this province, the jobs, and let's translate it into what it means. It means this. You should not be forced to leave Manitoba in order to find a challenging career, and yet you have heard in this House that 26,000 Manitobans have found it necessary to absent themselves from this province in the four years of this administration, and this government took over--it is his department, never mind the shifts in portfolio, but the Manitoba Development Corporation has been the most acceptable vehicle for reversing those kinds of trends, and it has failed. Not failed through a conceptual issue, as my honourable friend the Leader of the Opposition suggests, because I don't buy his arguments. There is a rule there is a position for the Manitoba Development Corporation under competent, under management that has a direction, that has a skill, and that has a philosophy that is consistent with the

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(MR. ASPER cont'd) real world; not the ethereal ivory tower theoretical world, but the real world.

Mr. Speaker, I'm not afraid nor do I condemn governments which lose money per se if the social result and the economic result outweighs the loss. Nobody does that. In the real world of government it's obvious that profit-making is one facet--and I concur with the Honourable Mines Minister on that sentiment. And let's look at what we've produced in four years. When the government took office in 1969 there were 10,000 unemployed; today with the squandering, if I may use the word, Sir, of millions, tens of millions of dollars in Manitoba through the Manitoba Development Corporation, the population has grown by 1.3 percent, but unemployment is on balance approximately 70 percent higher. And, Mr. Speaker, I won't go into the figures because in my judgment the unemployment rate in Manitoba is not four percent, or 4.5 percent or 4.1 percent, it is in fact closer to eight or nine percent; if you recalculate on the basis of reality.

Mr. Speaker, unemployment rise, 70 percent. We've got it so good, this Minister who answers for the Manitoba Development Corporation, which he, I assume is saying to this House, "Sure we lose a lot of money", I think once he said, "You'll see a lot of red ink, but that's the price we have to pay." Well, the price for what, Mr. Speaker? The price for raising the number of welfare cases with a nominal population rise from 18,000 in his first year of office, 1969, to 29,000? We're doing so well with his skillful management and stimulation of the economy by this Minister in the Manitoba Development Corporation, having lost the tens of millions of dollars, we've increased welfare spending by 173 percent in four years; and no change in rates until this year.

So it can't be --(Interjection)-- ah, the free ride Minister of Health and Welfare says "rubbish" --(Interjection)-- Mr. Speaker, if he wishes to enter the debate I'll be happy to join him at any time on the issue. Mr. Speaker, the Manitoba Development Corporation has been so effective that it was able to provide, I suppose, in conjunction with the great stimulation given to our economy by the Minister of Industry, approximately 15,000 new jobs in four years, when 45,000 were required. And how many of the jobs were real? How many of them are make-work? How many are private sector and how many are government?

We know this, that the Civil Service has grown by 32 percent in four years; that's the jobs that have been created. So, Mr. Speaker, and I don't know how much - maybe the Manitoba Development Corporation is financing the government, I'm not sure, or vice versa.

Mr. Speaker, our population grew by 1.3 percent. It is well-known that while we seek no major urban metropolis, the depopulation in rural Manitoba is a very profound problem. Canada grew with 4.7 percent we grew at 1.3 or 1.4 percent. No one can be proud of that; no one who goes through rural Manitoba to see the closed theatres, the closed schools, the closed restaurants, the closed towns. Mr. Speaker, this government speaks of stay options; talks of its discovered, after four years of being in office, it's finally discovered and isolated and identified the problems that existed the day it came into office; it's finally discovered the problems that it has aggravated by inaction in its four years of office. This is the Minister responsible for the Manitoba Development Corporation, that great stimulator of the private sector, that great creator of jobs.

Mr. Speaker, we've gone through four years where we've had an endless parade, seemingly, of bankruptcies, receiverships and losses. Mr. Speaker, there could be some justification but it's never been offered to this House; it's never been shown to us that the investment in King Choy produced any jobs. When we heard the outraged cry of the Premier that this was the only company that his government had ever financed through the Manitoba Development Corporation that had gone sour, he'll wish he hadn't said that, because after that came an endless parade, whether it was Unicraft Enterprises, whether it was Symbionics, or rather Phoenix Data, we could go on all night listing 20 maybe 30 companies, and Mr. Speaker --(Interjection)-- I'm trying --(Interjection)-- yeah, have you got one? Come over. Mr. Speaker, I want it to be made clear that if he crosses the floor no notice should be taken of him.

Mr. Speaker, the Manitoba Development Corporation has a role, but it has a role which has no connection with reality at the present. The insidiousness of this kind of thing is that the taxpayer never gets an accounting; we still haven't got an accounting. --(Interjection)-- Mr. Speaker, the old adage of "Beware of Greeks bearing gifts" may not apply but --(Interjection)-- no, that's the gift, but I will respond in kind.

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(MR. ASPER cont'd)

Mr. Speaker, the Manitoba Development Corporation has become the joke; the joke of the business community; the joke of the private sector; the joke of the financial world; the people who view Manitoba and look at its management; this corporation managed by the Mines Minister, or reported by the Mines Minister, has such a spectacular rate of failure and a spectacular failure rate in its social and economic terms as well as its fiscal terms, that I think, Mr. Speaker, the most appropriate description I've ever heard was, by one group of business people who said: "Look, if you've got no management; if you've got a record of failure; if you have no feasibility studies that indicate success; and if you have no prognosis for future profitability, you qualify for Manitoba Development Corporation assistance." And that's been the pattern.

Mr. Speaker, we don't agree with the Leader of the Opposition that the thing should be wound up and wound down and disappear. That's like burying one's own failure. Manitoba Development Corporation does have a distinct role to play, but, as a specialist, as a company which will advance funds where there is indeed a true capital shortage. Those areas are rural and northern communities; that's where its most precious possibility lies. Mr. Speaker, the Manitoba Development Corporation runs aimlessly, directionless; the public gets no real accounting. To insult the intelligence of any trained people by telling us that we are being given an accounting is the most cruel and ludicrous insult to the intelligence of anyone who knows what accountability is. I suggest to you, Sir, that if Manitoba's public corporations accounted in the manner in which the Manitoba Development Corporation accounts, and its subsidiaries' account, those directors would be liable to face charges under the Manitoba Companies Act and under the Old Securities' legislation. --(Interjection)-- The Mines Minister says, "Don't worry, you'll get the same kind of . . ." - Sorry, the Mines Minister says you'll get the better quality of accounting than the private sector gives. Well, Mr. Speaker, if you had to look at a financial statement of a company that is cold, that is more than six months old, that doesn't contain notes as to what occurred in the preceding six months, that doesn't give a forecast of what's going to happen in the next six months, that doesn't permit the directors to be examined -- then, Mr. Speaker, that is not accountability, there's another word for it; it's "evasion", it's evasion.

Mr. Speaker, all we can say is that these matters must be put on the record, these sentiments must be put on the record; this dismay over the symbolism by that department against its anti-openness; its state takeover philosophy and its ineptitude in the handling of the public purse. Mr. Speaker, those are an abbreviated description of what we are being asked to give concurrence to; and Mr. Speaker, it makes one ill to think of it.

HON. LEONARD S. EVANS (Minister of Industry and Commerce)(Brandon East): Would the honourable member permit a question? --(Interjection)-- Just a question. The question is: The honourable member is very concerned about accountability in revealing of details of loans made by the MDC and the MDF, but would the honourable member be agreeable to the government opening the books of the MDF for a period of five years prior to us revealing the accounts of the MDC as we did, beginning in 1970?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party.

MR. ASPER: Mr. Speaker, no; the reason being, the reason being that the people who made loans in the five years preceding 1969 or 70 made their loans with statutory protection, and because the Liberal Party decries retroactive legislation. And this is what the Minister of Industry and Commerce is suggesting, that we retroactively wipe out the privacy of people who borrowed in good faith on the premise that their privacy would be respected. No, that would be a heinous thing to do. But I will say this, Mr. Speaker, it is something which the NDP is very susceptible to doing, and it's something which I can tell you, Sir, that members of your government, have in fact, or members of the staff of your government, have in fact done--and the reason I'm able to make that comment, Sir, is that there are people who have come to us and disclosed material and information that could only have come from MDC files of the period preceding NDP government. So, Mr. Speaker, the answer is "no". A bargain is a bargain.

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

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, the - (Applause)- I can tell the honourable member that several of us over on this side here made a solemn vow that we would not be baited into a debate which we know is purposely being extended, which is legitimate and nobody is suggesting that honourable members cannot do it; that is being probably perpetrated on the basis of baiting us

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(MR. GREEN cont'd) into debate, and therefore that when we respond we are really self-defeating ourselves, because the whole House knows that we should have been through with concurrence motions some time ago and the fact is that eventually we will get through, and the only, the only . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.

MR. GREEN: . . . the only effect of me getting up is to possibly -- and I know that the Minister of Labour would be the first to admonish me--is to sort of depart from the game planned, and I will therefore concede, Mr. Speaker, that this is a departure from the game planned, and it really is - I admit in advance it's a kind of silly departure because really nothing has been said which hasn't been said before, which has not already been responded to, and which merely is going to be repeated I suppose tonight; it probably will be repeated tomorrow, and it will be repeated I suspect for day after day during the ensuing months or weeks, what ever anybody wants to guess, for the people of Manitoba to make a judgment with respect to these matters.

It's interesting that the Leader of the Liberal Party has really extended ministerial responsibility--by the way, I'm really not annoyed at this--by saying that this Minister who's in charge of the Fund, who's the great economic stimulator in the Province of Manitoba, that this Minister has done all of these things. And of course the honourable member knows that I became Minister in charge of the Fund maybe ten days before the session started. The honourable member is obviously hurting; he has some reason I suppose over the past eight weeks to feel that there must be some way I can get even with that S. O. B. --(Interjection)-- and the way I can do it is to somehow, is to somehow--Mr. Speaker, I'm talking introspectively, Mr. Speaker --(Interjection)--

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party state his matter of privilege.

MR. ASPER: Yes, Mr. Speaker. The Mines Minister who so diligently protects his own privilege has just violated mine by ascribing a motive to me which is to attach to him a profane description. Mr. Speaker, there's nothing that's been said that . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Order please. Order please. "Some ordinary boy" as I interpret it.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I'm talking introspectively and I'm almost talking with tongue in cheek, but I think that the honourable member--and we are entitled here to speculate on how people think and I don't think I'm ascribing to the honourable member a bad motive unless after everything that he has called me, you know, heinous, tyranny, that S. O. B. comes out worse than those things. I'll tell you if, Mr. Speaker, if it wasn't a reflection on my parents really, the fact is that of all the other things and the common term S. O. B., I would choose the latter. But in any event, in any event, Mr. Speaker, the honourable member wants to somehow identify my person with the Manitoba Development Fund because he feels that some how it will be easier to get him if he does that.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I make no apology for either my own participation with the Manitoba Development Corporation, which came I repeat approximately ten days--but I go further than that. I say that the Minister who preceded me, who preceded me, has had a very good record with the Manitoba Development Corporation, one which I am quite happy to defend, and one which he can defend for himself. But I only question, Mr. Speaker, why the honourable member feels that he personally would like to set up this Minister as being the one who claims to be a champion of stimulating the economy through his stewardship of the Manitoba Development Corporation.

I hope, Mr. Speaker, that as a person that I will have some role in doing this in the future and I hope that I will do a better job than obviously the honourable member gives me confidence in doing. But the fact is, I did take over the responsibility for this corporation approximately ten days before the session opened, therefore if the honourable member has to resort to trying to identify me personally with that, then I suggest Mr. Speaker, then I suggest that he feels that somehow he's got to, he's got to get even for past problems.

Now, Mr. Speaker, let's get to some of the more important criticisms, and I think that the last thing that he did indicates just really what his criticisms were. He says that the Manitoba Development Corporation, Mr. Speaker, has become the butt of jokes in business circles, that if you can't get a feasibility study, that if you can't get anything else, you go to

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(MR. GREEN cont'd) the Manitoba Development Corporation. Well, Mr. Speaker, I didn't hear business circles in the Province of Manitoba regard the MDC as a joke five years ago, and five years ago, Mr. Speaker, the Manitoba Development Corporation had all the attributes which the honourable member is referring to, plus one. The government took the position that they are not entitled to find out what the Manitoba Development Corporation is doing with their money.

MR. PAULLEY: That's right. That's right.

MR. GREEN: And at that time, Mr. Speaker, the business community and the Leader of the Liberal Party didn't think it was a joke. They thought it was elegant.

MR. PAULLEY: You're damn right they did.

MR. GREEN: . . . because then, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Simplot could get \$23 million from the Manitoba Development Corporation, an additional \$5 million from the Federal Government as a grant, and the Federal Government, Mr. Speaker, when they gave them that \$5 million, they don't show red ink, they show black ink, and nobody can say that the Federal Government is running at a loss. They gave it \$28 million to build a plant which I say was worth--and I'm merely going by my experience in this community--I say that it was worth less than \$28 million, it was built for less than \$28 million, but what was elegant about it, Mr. Speaker, to the business community, and the reason the Leader of the Liberal Party didn't complain at that time, is that they owned the plant. And Mr. Simplot said in Fortune magazine, "When I build a plant, I don't build it with my money; I build it with other people's money, but I own it." Now, Mr. Speaker, when that was happening, it wasn't a joke; the Leader of the Liberal Party wasn't joking about it; the business community wasn't joking about it. They thought it was just dandy. Rod McIsaac thought it was just dandy because the present Leader of the Opposition when he was steward of the Manitoba Development Corporation, wrote a contract, Mr. Speaker, which said that they will provide management and we will provide you with operating capital.

MR. PAULLEY: Right.

MR. GREEN: And operating capital, Mr. Speaker, meant that whenever Rod McIsaac came to the Manitoba Development Corporation with his hand out, the Development Corporation had to put money in his hand or they were in breach of the contract. That was elegant. The business community loved that.

Now, Mr. Speaker, the honourable member said that we have refused to account. What has happened, Mr. Speaker, is he has not been there when we have been accounting. The fact is that the Manitoba Development Corporation gave the people of Manitoba a statement; it did more than give it a statement, Mr. Speaker, and I hold shares in various financial corporations in the country. I hold shares in two mutual funds and the Royal Bank of Canada. They do not send me the statements, the profit and loss statements of the companies which they have shares invested in. And when you go to a financial meeting of any of these companies and you ask a question that the majority of the board of directors don't want to answer, they will say that that question will not be answered and they will be supported by the majority of the shareholders. Mr. Speaker, the fact is that my mutual fund tells me that we hold shares in various corporations. They do not send me a copy of the statements of the corporations in which we own shares.

MR. PAULLEY: That's right.

MR. GREEN: Nor does the Royal wholly own subsidiaries. Well, Mr. Speaker, the fact is that the Royal Bank has investments in other agencies. They do not send me copies of the statements that they have in those other agencies. But the Manitoba Development Corporation, Mr. Speaker, gave all of these statements to the honourable members, and they did one thing more; they said, Mr. Speaker, that they were prepared . . .

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order please. A point of order that the honourable . . .

MR. ASPER: Yes, Mr. Speaker, to the same point of order that the Mines Minister raised earlier. He is misinforming, or he is incorrect in his statement of the facts in the law, the law being that the Royal Bank of Canada or any other corporation consolidates any wholly-owned or controlled subsidiary with the financial statement of the parent company, and thereby is excused under the Corporations Act of this province from having to issue separate statements for subsidiaries, and that--and that is the only reason, the only reason that a corporation in this country can get away with not issuing the statements of subsidiaries.

MR. GREEN: I did not talk about a wholly-owned subsidiary. I said that they have shares

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(MR. GREEN cont'd) in these companies, they have equities in these, and they have majority equities perhaps in some of them, Mr. Speaker, but they have not sent me the statements of the equities that they hold in those companies. And the fact is that I've got the statement, they have not sent me the statements that they have in those companies. The Manitoba Development Corporation, Mr. Speaker, gave all of these statements and furthermore, Mr. Speaker, furthermore, had the officials of the board there to answer questions on all of these issues, and Mr. Speaker, he asked when we will meet again. I assure him that the Manitoba Legislature will meet again and that the Committee on Economic Development will meet again, and there will be public representatives at those meetings; I'm not sure who they will be and I'm not sure when those meetings will take place. But at all times the people of Manitoba will have the right to account as long as they want and as much as they want in those corporations. But the people of Manitoba can speak in the majority just like the shareholders of any corporation, and we have done that, Mr. Speaker, and for the honourable member to suggest that that has not been done is merely to try to do one thing, Mr. Speaker, and this is where I think that the problem lies.

I read a statement, Mr. Speaker, and I'm sorry I don't have it with me in the House, of a computer company in Toronto, which in its first two years showed losses of millions of dollars. In its next three years, Mr. Speaker, it showed tremendous profits and then sold the operation at a huge capital gain. Now, Mr. Speaker, the honourable member knows that, but he will take any one of these corporations and say that it's showing a terrible loss, it proves that the government is a failure, it proves that the public can't do these things. Why is he saying that? I'll tell you why he's saying it. There was another group in this House, Mr. Speaker, in approximately 1930, a group which the members of the Conservative Party are really the descendants of, who purposely went out to break a bank. They came into this House and the history shows, Mr. Speaker, and I believe that it was Errick Willis who led them--who went out to break the bank because they did not want that bank to exist.

MR. PAULLEY: The Provincial Bank of Manitoba.

MR. GREEN: The Leader of the Liberal Party is not worried that these companies will fail. If these companies fail, Mr. Speaker, in the long run, he would know that the people of Manitoba are not going to move in that direction, that they will elect the government that will not let companies fail. What he knows is that these companies have a chance of success, and that's what he wants to stop, because if they're a success, Mr. Speaker, then neither he nor his colleagues nor anybody else will ever be able to stop the people of Manitoba from going into that kind of operation.

Now let's look at what his counterpart--he's pointed to some company, he's pointed to some red ink, and dealt with the red ink. You know, I know that when this government spent \$14 million on Public Works in one year, \$14 million, Mr. Speaker, on Winter Works Programs that I can't get terribly excited, although I wish it weren't so, that we will have, let us say \$6 million in losses in companies which our business advisors--and yes, didn't have to ask us, you could ask Mr. Parsons who is head of the fund, have the projections justified what you are doing. Did you get politically told to do those things? And in each case, Mr. Speaker, with every company that was being dealt with, by Mr. Parsons, the Chairman, not Sid Green--he said "yes, the viability studies justify what we are doing; there is hope for this, it is a worthwhile program." In each case that is what was said.

Now, Mr. Speaker, when I know that we're going to spend \$14 million in Public Works to stimulate the economy, and there is an opportunity of doing something which provides, not a digging up willows job such as somebody referred to, but of providing stable steady enterprise in this company in a place like Morris, in a place like Morden, in a place like Gimli . . . --(Interjection)-- Right. Mr. Speaker, you know, we have told the members of the House, that Morris will only be sold on condition that there will be more jobs there after we sell it. There's no intention of not having Morris exist.

But the member talks about regional selection of these places. Well, Mr. Speaker, I know that they--you know, even under the old fund there's a place in the Pas--I would have done it differently and I said I would have done it differently in '66, because I said what the former Leader of the Liberal Party said, and he was no socialist. Gil Molgat got up in the seat that's now occupied by the Member for Portage la Prairie, and what did he say about the CFI deal? --(Interjection)-- Well, the honourable member wasn't here, I was. He said,

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(MR. GREEN cont'd) "Mr. Speaker, I'm no socialist but if the people put up the money then the people should get the profit," That's what he said. Well, Mr. Speaker, the people did put up the money . . .

A MEMBER: They did put up the money.

MR. GREEN: They did put up the money for Simplot Chemicals; they did put up the money for many many -- they did put up the money for Columbia Forest Products; they put up more money than in many cases the places were worth; and if the things made a success it belonged to the rugged individualist, the free enterpriser, the self-control that the Honourable the Leader of the Liberal Party is talking about, that's who owned it. We put up the money, but self-control owns it. Well, when I put up the money, I want to own it, that's the kind of businessman I am. (Applause.)

But, Mr. Speaker, let's look at what his cohorts on the Federal scene consider the sophisticated enterprise. People of this country have owned for approximately 25-30 years a synthetic producing corporation called the Polymer Corporation of Canada. It was one of the most efficient, continuously profit-making corporations that the Crown has ever owned, and it was not a Crown monopoly, it was a Crown entrepreneurial industry; made money every year, it was a terrific industry.

A MEMBER: Right. Right.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, the Federal Liberal Party set up a Canadian Development Corporation - this is sophisticated industry, the kind that the Leader of the Liberal Party would like us to walk into to give us this self-control. They set up a Canadian Development Corporation, and they said, they took Polymer Corporation which is now owned by the Honourable Member for Wolseley, myself, we are all equal shareholders. We each own, let us say, one share in 22 million shares. They took that corporation and they set up another corporation; so we have Polymer Corporation over here, then they set up the Canadian Development Corporation. Then the directors of Polymer Corporation who were directed by the Federal Government, were told to enter into an arrangement to sell Polymer Company A to the Canadian Development Corporation B. Company A is worth \$120 million, but they are urged to sell it to Company B for \$60 million. That's sophisticated business.

Now, Mr. Speaker, as long as the two groups, Company A and Company B are owned by the same shareholders nothing has happened. The honourable member will agree with that, nothing has happened. You take the company who are all the same shareholders in one, transfer it to another, it doesn't matter what figure you use, they still own the same asset and everything is fine. But then the directors of Company B announced, Mr. Speaker, that they are going to sell 90 percent of the shares of Company B to the public, to the public. Now who is that public?

A MEMBER: Izzy Asper.

MR. GREEN: You know who that public is? That public is eventually--and I say eventually because it'll take a little while to get there--it is the same five percent of the people who now own all the other securities in this country. So instead of being an equal shareholder in Polymer Corporation, I am now a shareholder of 10 percent of the corporation which I used to be an equal shareholder of.

MR. PAULLEY: That's right.

MR. GREEN: Now, Mr. Speaker, if that was done by a private corporation, by the directors of a private corporation, if they set up another corporation and transferred the assets to the second one and then distributed it to the 90 percent other people, they would all go to jail.

MR. PAULLEY: That's right.

MR. GREEN: That is the sophisticated type of business that the Leader of the Liberal Party is associated with with his Federal counterparts in Ottawa. That is great. That is elegant. That is self-control. But the Manitoba Development Corporation --(Interjection)-- Mr. Speaker, the Honourable Member for Lakeside hits me in a very very weak point, because it's rather publicly well-known that although the New Democratic Party federally is taking that position, I have never been in favour of that position, I have always been against it--and my Party is doing that just as your Party will sometimes do things that you don't want; and even the Liberal Party will sometimes do things possibly that the Leader of the Liberal Party doesn't want. But the fact is that that is a sore point with me, and the fact is

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(MR. GREEN cont'd) that that's the kind of self-control that the Honourable the Leader of the Liberal Party is talking about; because when he talks about state control, what he is really saying is that the public of this province through its elected representatives is incapable, inefficient, unwilling and really incompetent to manage its own affairs and that what we really need is people like the Leader of the Liberal Party and his close circle of aristocrats who can do it better and should not be troubled by any public interference. That's what he means by self-control; and that's what he means, Mr. Speaker, when he takes that red ink which he knows, because he is a man who has had financial affairs, which he knows can exist--as a matter of fact to give a perfect example of it, if the Leader of the Liberal Party would have taken the Manitoba Development Corporation's statement on CFI for the first year when they put out \$42 million and received nothing, in order to serve his purpose he would have said, look the CFI operation experienced a \$42 million loss. That's what he would have said, because that's what he has said with regard to the others

MR. PAULLEY: That's right.

MR. GREEN: . . . even though he knows that there is no way that the corporation in its development stages is in a position to show revenue as against expenditure when a mill is being formulated. He would take these figures, as he did, and I've seen him do it and he tried to even make fun of it, moneys expended, money come in; moneys expended 40 million, money come in zero, 40 million-dollar loss. That's his style of accounting, and that's the style of accounting that he would like to use with the people of Manitoba when he was dealing with their enterprise, but which he would never use in dealing with private enterprise.

A MEMBER: We won't let him get away with it.

MR. GREEN: Well, Mr. Speaker, it's not we who won't let him get away with it. . . .

A MEMBER: But the people.

MR. GREEN: . . . it's the people of Manitoba

MR. PAULLEY: That's what I mean

MR. GREEN: . . . who will not let him get away with it. (Applause) because the people of Manitoba (Applause) -- Mr. Speaker, the people of Manitoba are not that stupid

MR. PAULLEY: That's right. That's right.

MR. GREEN: . . . and they will not be fooled by the Honourable Member for Wolseley. (Hear, hear) Mr. Speaker, the Honourable Member for Wolseley went around Wolseley constituency in the last election and he begged for his election; and do you know what he said amongst other things? He said, look, elect me, I won't hurt the government; I can't hurt the government, I'm one member, they've got a majority; give me a chance to get in there, I'm really on the side of the government in many cases. That's how he got elected, yes.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party.

MR. ASPER: Mr. Speaker, the statement made by the Mines Minister is false and I would ask him to withdraw it. It is false.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Mines.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I will do nothing more than to say that I am paraphrasing the type of campaign that the Leader of the Liberal Party conducted, and I will not withdraw that. Mr. Speaker, I will not withdraw that.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party.

MR. ASPER: Mr. Speaker, the thought is so insidious that I must ask that he file some sort of evidence or withdraw that that is a fair paraphrase. Mr. Speaker, the suggestion is so odious that I would campaign on a platform that would help that tyrant stay in office is not fittable, nor is it acceptable, and I say that either the Mines Minister file some campaign literature, file some newspaper report, file some document which one could possibly interpret in that manner, or withdraw; because that's the kind of garbage we're getting from him.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Mines.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I have no intention of filing anything. I tell the honourable member that that is the way I paraphrase his election campaign; he will paraphrase ours in much worse terms without filing election literature, without proof, without doing anything of the kind and that is perfectly legitimate.

MR. PAULLEY: That's right.

MR. GREEN: And I paraphrase that, Mr. Speaker, as being the nature of his election campaign. And many people, Mr. Speaker, in Wolseley constituency, of which by the way,

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(MR. GREEN cont'd) Mr. Speaker, the honourable member--I'm rather in a difficult position in this connection--he is my member, he is my member; Mr. Speaker, last week he sent me a report from the Legislature. Now, Mr. Speaker, the beginning of the Legislative Session what would people have characterized the Honourable Member for Wolseley, just about the beginning of the session or January? What was the Leader of the Liberal Party's theme during those two months? It was something like "Stop, Look and Listen, that we're going to have a new diagnosis; that they shouldn't flood South Indian Lake, that they're doing terrible things to the environment," Mr. Speaker, the whole thrust was based on this government's bad managing of the hydro-electric program. Mr. Speaker, the honourable member sent me . . .

MR. PAULLEY: Oh, you're not going to read all that.

MR. GREEN: . . . a report from the Legislature. Would you believe, Mr. Speaker . . .

MR. PAULLEY: Oh no.

MR. GREEN: . . . that there isn't a word about Nelson River Development. There isn't a word about the Churchill River; there isn't a word about South Indian Lake, it is not mentioned. . .

MR. PAULLEY: Oh, no.

MR. GREEN: You know what it says about Hydro? The word "hydro" I believe is mentioned once; that they're going to reduce hydro rates to make them comparable to those in southern Manitoba; that's what they're going to do with regard to hydro.

Now, Mr. Speaker, would anybody believe that from the beginning of the session to the last that on the campaign literature of the Leader of the Liberal Party, my MLA--Mr. Speaker, that is one thing, that is one thing that we are both ashamed of--the fact is that my MLA doesn't say one word about the Churchill River diversion . . .

MR. PAULLEY: Oh, no.

MR. GREEN: Not one word about the Nelson River; not one word about hydro in his report from the--Mr. Speaker, what a difference has occurred in this champion of the friends of the Churchill who appeared before the Environmental Committee. By the way, Mr. Speaker, you know, here is what puts lie to the tyrant. The Environmental Committee, a committee which is set up for the purpose of providing citizen in-put, citizen in-put into the Environmental Department, is provided with staff, is told that they are free to go into our Environmental Department, have meetings with every section of it, to discuss what they are doing; are completely on their own; are financed by the government; are selected from a group of people who said that they are interested in environment; are free to make any public statements that they want. Does that sound like an organization that is set up by a tyrant?

Well Mr. Speaker, does the honourable member suggest, does the honourable member really suggest that when he is in government, and he sets up a . . .

MR. PAULLEY: He'll never be in government. Now come on, retract that.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.

MR. GREEN: Obviously--that if he was in government, that when he set up a citizen agency, that if he did not take their advice on every question that was put to him, that that would mean that he would be ignoring them? Or does he in advance say that he will take the advice of what those people say? Mr. Speaker, he knows that he won't; and he knows that every single one of these advisory bodies are meant to provide a citizen in-put; that seeing it is seen that it is the Minister and the government who are ultimately responsible, that they must make the final decision. He knows that. And where, Mr. Speaker, with regard to this, Mr. Speaker, the only advice I got from this Environmental Council, which is by the way composed of Lloyd Axworthy, President . . .

A MEMBER: Who's he?

MR. GREEN: . . . candidate for the Liberal Party in Winnipeg Centre --(Interjection)-- Mr. Speaker, he says "only after". I can tell the honourable member that Lloyd Axworthy was a candidate for the Liberal Party before he was appointed on the Environmental Council. He was a candidate before, he was a candidate in '66 and he was an executive assistant to the Minister of Housing in Ottawa. That did not prevent him from getting elected the President of the Environmental Council, and good luck to him. --(Interjection)-- Well now, Mr. Speaker, the honourable member says "You didn't elect him, they elected him." How come I let them elect him if I'm the tyrant? Sure they elected him. That's the way we set up the Environmental Council; you fool!

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(MR. GREEN cont'd)

Mr. Speaker, you can ask in any department that I've ever been in; ask the medical profession what kind of in-put they had when I was Minister of Health; ask the Mining Association. Do you know that this Minister meets with the Mining Association at least once every four months, and has done so since I've been Minister of Mines; and there is nobody, Mr. Speaker, who has done more to set up groups of citizens--and I did it in northern Manitoba when I was Minister of Northern Affairs. Who set up the Community Council system and said, you will elect your own governments, we will no longer appoint councils, and you will be given direct funds from your snow grants to spend as you like. And you can yell at the Minister, which by the way they did; and there was no retribution for anybody yelling at the Minister, neither in that department nor in the Health Department or in the Department of Mines. --(Interjection)--

Well, Mr. Speaker--I don't know what the honourable member is talking about. There was no rules changed except rules changed to provide for more citizen in-put, that's what we did in every area that I have been involved. And not only, Mr. Speaker, not only as a Minister of the Crown, but in the work that I did before I was a Minister of the Crown, in every single public organization that I was involved in. That is a fact, and the honourable member knows it. --(Interjection)--

Mr. Speaker, the honourable member says that there is a fear that this government is going into life insurance, fire insurance, and there won't be a life company in Manitoba, that this is a state controlled government. What Party is he a member of? --The Liberal Party. What government went into life insurance, without compensation, completely appropriate a certain field of life insurance without compensation to the companies who were involved - what government? The Liberal Government of Canada. --(Interjection)-- Mr. Speaker, the Canada Pension Plan is not a life insurance program. --(Interjection)-- Well, Mr. Speaker, the honourable member doesn't like to hear about it. I ask the honourable member - that the Canada Pension Plan is a life insurance program which said to the people of Canada on a compulsory basis, you must buy a certain amount of life insurance which is underwritten by the people of Canada. If the honourable member doesn't know that, he doesn't know what life insurance is.

MR. PAULLEY: He doesn't know anything about it.

MR. GREEN: And it was done, Mr. Speaker, and by the way, to prove that it was a life insurance program, if it needs any more proof that it is a life insurance program . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.

MR. GREEN: . . . who do you think opposed it. The life insurance companies. Why did they oppose it? And they said so. Because it was a government state-controlled interference in an area which they controlled, which was previously--yes, Mr. Speaker, let's adopt a slogan --it was state-control in an area where they previously had self-control. That is the basis upon which they opposed it. That's the government.

MR. PAULLEY: Unemployment insurance?

MR. GREEN: Well, Mr. Speaker, --he was talking about life insurance. They did it with regard to Workmen's Compensation which was an insurance program. Now if the member doesn't think it was an insurance program I'll tell you how I know it was an insurance program. You know who opposed it? The insurance companies. They said that Workmen's Compensation was a state control in an area where they previously had self-control. That's what they said. And that's what happened with regard to medical insurance. And that's what happened with regard to hospital insurance. They said it was state-control where they previously had self-control.

And if that's the issue, Mr. Speaker, then I repeat what I said three weeks ago; if what the honourable member is talking of when he says state-control - I'll put it in other terms. If he is saying that there is going to be a contest in an unknown period of time as between those who say that the people collectively through the democratic process and through their elected representative are able to co-operate to produce more wealth than is presently being produced under the existing system and to equitably distribute that wealth, against the concept that it's every man for himself, as the elephant said when he danced amongst the chickens, which is the concept of self-control that the honourable member is talking about, then I say, by all means let's have that contest, only it'll be put in different terms than the honourable

(MR. GREEN cont'd) member puts it.

Mr. Speaker, I want to say with regard to the Manitoba Development Corporation - yes, there will be red ink, there has got to be red ink. If they didn't have need of the Manitoba Development Corporation, if they didn't come to it as a last resort it would be because it was something that was a cinch. There is one essential difference, and the Leader of the Opposition knows very well what that difference is and was. That the difference is that now every time government advances money it knows that it's going to have to come to this House at least once a year; that it's going to be subjected to attack by the Leader of the Liberal Party, this year anyway, whether it'll be next year . . . that it's going to be attacked by the Leader of the Official Opposition, whoever that may be; that from time to time there will be from 30-1 members of the opposition who are going to ask that those funds be opened up to scrutiny; that the basis upon which they were invested in be investigated; that there be accountability. And, Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition is right; that will make for a much better investing program. And we are prepared to do that. But I suggest that that is what scares the members on the other side, not that it will fail; what they are scared of, Mr. Speaker, is not that it will fail, they are afraid that it will succeed. And if it succeeds, Mr. Speaker, it's going to mean that the people are going to be willing to take other risks with regard to their future. --(Interjection)-- Well, Mr. Speaker, the role of government as I understand it--the honourable member says the role of government is to go into business. The role of government as I understand it is to give the people an opportunity to do for themselves through their elected representative what has not been done for them by the elite in our society who claim that they have the right to rule and the people have no involvement in it. (Applause) That is the role of government. And, Mr. Speaker, I say that that role is chosen selectively; it's not something you go into business. We have had now in the past six years, you know, we've passed you by, we've passed you by. We used to have that debate, is it all the state or not all the state, I'm very happy to hear now from the Member for River Heights who now says, yes, there's an opportunity, sometimes we'll set up a Crown --(Interjection)-- The Honourable member never --(Interjection)-- Mr. Speaker, I remember . . .

MR. PAULLEY: Quiet punk.

MR. GREEN: Does the honourable member say that we didn't have that kind of debate? We did have that kind of debate.

MR. PAULLEY: Of course we had.

MR. GREEN: I remember saying one day, Mr. Speaker, that the provinces should get together to see whether they could so frame their mineral laws -- it was an idea of the Minister of Agriculture -- so frame their mineral laws that we do not give a company the chance to blackmail us by getting cheaper rates in one province as against the other. The Member for Rock Lake got up and said that that's doctrinaire socialism, that's doctrinaire socialism. Mr. Speaker, I spoke in this House from 1966 to '69 on numerous occasions, and I repeat what I said to the Member for Rhineland. If I said, let's go to City Park, the former Attorney-General would say he's a doctrinaire socialist, that's a socialist idea. And I never mentioned socialist. But we're coming around, we're coming around to talking about practical things. And I say, Mr. Speaker, I'm not interested in state control; I am not interested in my honourable friend's notion what he calls self-control; yes, I am as much an individualist or more than the honourable member has ever been, but I know that my greatest opportunity for individual enhancement is through the democratic process, not through relying on some divinely inspired people who are the only ones who can control our economy. That's the way I choose to operate my individualism.

I say, Mr. Speaker, that I am not interested in either of those two concepts. I am interested in an effective society. I'm interested in a society whereby the people can both best provide for their needs as individuals; best provide an atmosphere whereby they as individuals can realize their greatest potential. And I say that that doesn't exist within the concepts that you have expressed or the concepts that have been expressed by the Leader of the Opposition; that the only way that that exists is for the people to make fullest use of the democratic process in whatever areas which it'll prove to be effective. (Hear, hear) (Applause)

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: Mr. Speaker, some of the members on the government side wish to pass the motion at this time. However, I don't think we should leave the motion with the last

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(MR. FROESE cont'd) speaker's tone, I certainly think there's things that we should be reminding ourselves of and especially the government as to what has taken place in this province and in some of the other provinces that have a similar administration.

Some clippings came to me the other day and I would like to briefly comment on these. There's one here: "Firms Fleeing NDP Policies." "Business Flood Into Alberta Hurting Saskatchewan and Manitoba." And the statement reads this way. It comes from Regina, from where these people herald their previous administration and their comrades, and I'm quoting: "The NDP government here is married to certain policies and philosophies that are forcing business out of Saskatchewan and into Alberta." says the Executive Director of the Employers' Association of Saskatchewan, Ralph J. Purdy, painted a gloomy picture when asked in an interview for a comment on the business climate in Saskatchewan, after nearly two years of Premier . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.

MR. FROESE: . . . Blakeney's administration.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. I wonder if the honourable member would like to discuss Manitoba and the Mines and Natural Resources of Manitoba.

MR. FROESE: Well, Mr. Speaker, I just mentioned that business is leaving Saskatchewan it's going into Alberta, and as the article says it's hurting Saskatchewan and Manitoba, it's combining the two, and this is exactly what it said when we have a similar administration here and we're following the same paths as the Saskatchewan Government is doing. It goes on to say, "We're losing companies," he said, "businesses are being forced out because of high cost of operation. Meanwhile business is flooding into Alberta." Purdy singled out four areas in which he said he feels the Blakeney government is working to the detriment of the economic progress of the province. "1. Legislation that is not business oriented. The new Provincial Occupational Health Act for example. Secondly, the province's land bank scheme. Thirdly, the Saskatchewan Succession Duty." I think these are some things that have certainly been talked about by honourable members and some of them are certainly in effect here. But the last one. "The government's negative approach to resource development." And what are we discussing, Mr. Speaker? We're discussing resource development under the Department of Mines and Resources.

There is another paragraph here which I would like to quote: "Our present system encourages rather too much reliance on state regulation and rather too little on personal responsibility and voluntary self-generating effort. This imbalance must be reduced. A start should be made by reducing the sheer weight of legislation." Apparently the House, the Minister of Labour is quite familiar with this Mr. Purdy who is the director of Employers Association of Saskatchewan. He goes on to say: "Other instances of business stifling measures introduced by Mr. Blakeney's government cited by Purdy where the hikes and provincial rates of personal income tax and corporation taxes. The income tax was increased by 8.1 percent and the corporation tax boosted by 9.09 percent. The Saskatchewan land bank scheme is among NDP government measures beginning to spark a rebellion in rural areas of the province, Purdy continued. It is reported that between 4 and 5 percent of the arable land in the province has been acquired by the government in 1972/73. He said, 'This is nothing short of quiet nationalization of agriculture.'" So this is what is happening in Saskatchewan under a NDP administration.

And the final paragraph in the article reads this way: "Not least of the major irritants, concluded Purdy, is that industry and commerce forced out of or discouraged from locating in Saskatchewan is locating, not in far away B. C. or Ontario, but in the neighboring province of Alberta as it were only a few miles away." --(Interjection)-- Well I just wonder --I'm going to leave Mr. Purdy's address now.

I would like to quote from another article. This one involves the mining controversy that we have been discussing here in this House. And this is entitled, "Government intervention threatens many jobs." This comes from Vancouver where we also now have a NDP administration. And I'm quoting now: "The new NDP government will deprive thousand of people in the mining and allied industries of their jobs. Investment capital will be scared away. Many mining companies will be driven out of the province and development which would otherwise take place will not occur if legislation now proposed is implemented. Thomas Elliott, Manager of the B. C. and Yukon Chamber of Mines gave this warning and said that the

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(MR. FROESE cont'd) main concern of the whole mining industry, be it the small operator or the very large mining corporation is Bill 44, an Act to amend the Mineral Act and give sweeping discretionary power to the Provincial Government." This is what they're proposing in British Columbia.

He goes on to say: "Under the proposed legislation the government will have the discretionary power as to whether or not they will grant a production lease. Furthermore if the lease is granted, the government can introduce any conditions they may wish. Under these circumstances situations may develop where companies spend millions of dollars on exploration and development work and then are refused a production lease. It's this uncertainty and the conditions surrounding the lease that are causing such great concern in the industry. The conditions of the lease are not spelled out in the proposed legislation. Under the old law it was automatic that a company would get a production lease once large sums of risk money had been spent on exploration and development. We are urging the government to amend the act so that there is a guarantee of title as this is vital to the financing of large mining operations. If it is not done we feel that it will seriously affect the flow of capital. We already heard of companies planning to pull out of the province because of these uncertainties and many more will follow unless this law is amended, Elliott warned." This is what this representative from the Yukon told the people of British Columbia at a meeting. And the final --(Interjection)-- Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Education is peddling newspapers in this House when they shouldn't even be read here.

The final paragraphs read this way. "It is our firm opinion that the proposed legislation with its obvious threat of government involvement in mine operations can only result in a severe reduction in the availability of private capital that is essential to the future growth of this industry. It is common knowledge throughout the free world that involvement by government in mine operation with its obvious political overtones has proved a failure." This is the comment now of two people . . .

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, please. I believe an honourable member is reading a newspaper in the Chamber; would he please desist please. The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: Yes, we'll get there, I thought I'd first put a few things on the record before I did say something. There's one final quote that I was going to use. This comes from Bill Fletcher.

A MEMBER: Who?

MR. FROESE: Bill Fletcher, and this is from British Columbia, he's involved in finances, and he says: "So Premier Dave Barrett is thinking of buying into Sukunka Coal and Columbia Cellulose. It's not just that I enjoy being perverse but I would put a big wet blanket on both ideas," is what he said. "If he is seriously considering such a move then I say he should publish a prospectus covering both deals. Since the public's money is going to be used, this is only right. Barrett nor anybody else has any right to by-pass the B.C. Securities Commission. Such prospectus should spell out all the details including the prospects of profitability of the projects." I think he has a good point there, that we are going into development here in Manitoba. What do we as members on this side know whether we're attempting something that is utterly foolish; whether there is any prospect in the mining development that we're going into, whether there is any prospects there for a profit for the people of this province. I think we should be given information on this, whether or not we are spending that money wisely or not because we've already spent a considerable amount and we're going to spend much more if they're going to continue with the development and the corporation as is proposed. I think there should be some information given to members that would at least indicate whether there were possibilities and what possibilities there are.

The Canada Pension Plan was mentioned before in connection with the insurance companies. --(Interjection)-- Well I didn't bring it up, it was brought up by the Minister of Mines and Resources. I think the Canada Pension Plan has just proved to be a big slush fund for governments in Canada. Well every cent that has been paid in by the people of this country into that fund, especially in Manitoba, has been borrowed by the government and not a cent repaid. Every last penny has been borrowed and we're owing this money now. This will have to be repaid some day, so this is why I'm saying that this kind of a fund has proved to be a slush fund for governments. And I don't think that Manitoba is the only government that is doing it; I'm sure other governments are doing it likewise, and when I blame this government surely the

CONCURRENCE

(MR. FROESE cont'd) same blame can be attached to other governments doing the same thing.

The Leader of the Opposition is requesting that not only Part 2 of the Development Corporation Act but the whole Act be repealed. I am rather amused at that because they were the ones that brought in the legislation originally and they all voted for it, everyone in the House voted for it except myself. I didn't because of Part 2 of that Act.

The Member for Burrows at that time, who's now running a candidate for the Liberals in the next election in Emerson - is it Emerson? --(Interjection)-- Yes. So he spoke very strongly against it but when it came to voting he voted for it like all his other partners did in the Liberal Party, so that all of them are part and parcel to the legislation when it was passed in 1965/66 I think. I would go along with repealing Part 2 of the Act, I would certainly go along with dissolving Part 2 of the Act, repealing Part 2 of the Act which is just creating a lot of difficulty for this government, and not only at the present time but will continue to do so in the future.

The Minister of Mines and Resources made a statement to the effect that -- I forget, I'll be paraphrasing again here, but that we're supposed to develop for the benefit of the people. Well we in Social Credit have a statement to that. We should bring about legislation so that the people of the province would benefit most, but I think there is a limit as to what government should do and a limit to the extent that we should go into business as an administration. I feel we should provide a climate that would be healthy for industry to flourish and would come into, because from the statements that I read here apparently industry is having second thoughts, not only second thoughts, they just pull out of certain other provinces because of the administration that they have in there at the present time. --(Interjection)-- Yes.

MR. DEPTY SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Industry and Commerce.

HON. LEONARD S. EVANS (Minister of Industry and Commerce)(Brandon East): Well the honourable member in his dissertation has made great reference to what goes on in B.C. and elsewhere. I wonder if he could give his opinion on whether he approves of the Social Credit takeover of the British Columbia Electric Company, the railway known as Pacific Great Eastern which is now owned by the British Columbia government and the Blackball Ferries which was bought out by Wacky Bennett and became the B.C. Ferries. Now there's three examples of takeover by a Social Credit government. I'd like to know whether our Social Credit member is in agreement with the socialization of those industries by the Social Credit Government.

MR. DEPTY SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: Yes, I recall the time that this was done, but the government of the day at that time wanted certain developments to take place and the private companies wouldn't go ahead, they wouldn't do what the government wanted them to do so there was no alternative for them but to take that action and they did it. You know there is different angles to this. This private corporation had to pay a lot of money to the Federal Government in taxes when the takeover came about. This money was being saved, they no longer had to pay it and as a result the rates in B.C. were reduced. As far as the ferries were concerned the same thing, they had an old dilapidated ferry system which didn't amount to - a row of peanuts I almost said. But anyway we had a big development take place as a result.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I wonder if the honourable member would get back off the ferry and back on to dry land and into Manitoba please.

MR. FROESE: Well I was asked a question by the Honourable Minister and now I'm not supposed to reply. So certainly there were reasons for doing that. And as far as the railway was concerned, this wasn't started by the B.C. government, they made something out of it; it was a white elephant prior to that and it has proved much more beneficial since. And if they want to have development in the north it will have to be extended much further yet to be of use to the mining industries up in that country. --(Interjection)-- Oh, it wasn't doing too bad for some years. I don't know, the recent, the last statements, I haven't got the last financial statements of the corporation. But certainly I would like to see development here in this province and have greater resource development and I'm not sure whether we're going to get it. What action is the government planning in connection with the survey or the report that was presented to us - I forget the title of it - by Mr. Kierans? Certainly I had hoped that we would have had a more extensive statement by the government in connection with that report before the session would be finalized so that we would not be falsely accusing them of certain things, and yet not one precise statement on that report or the policy of this government as to actions in regard to the report.

CONCURRENCE

(MR. FROESE cont'd)

In connection with the Guidelines, I looked into that report but again we have no statement by the government as to whether the Guidelines will be followed or whether that is going to be government policy. Again, I think we should have had official statements by the government in connection with those reports that have been brought in.

So, Mr. Speaker, I don't want to delay the discussions on the Concurrence Motion any longer than need be but I think when the Minister spoke before that it looked so one-sided, as though we were all on the wrong track on this side and I certainly didn't feel that way, I took exception to certain things. So with these few words, I know the Minister cannot reply but we'll let the thing go.

MR. SPEAKER: Resolution pass? Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$21,817,400 for Municipal Affairs. Resolution 89 to 96, pass? The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Lakeside the House do now adjourn.

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

MR. SPIVAK: Ayes and Nays, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Call in the Members.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. Motion before the House is to adjourn.

A STANDING VOTE was taken the result being as follows:

YEAS

Messrs. Asper	Johnston (P. la P.)
Blake	Johnston (Stur. Cr.)
Einarson	McGill
Enns	McKellar
Ferguson	McKenzie
Froese	Sherman
Girard	Spivak
Henderson	Watt

NAYS

Messrs: Adam	Mackling
Barrow	Malinowski
Boyce	Paulley (Trans.)
Burtniak	Pawley (Selkirk)
Doern	Petursson
Evans	Shafransky
Gottfried	Toupin
Green	Turnbull
Hanuschak	Uruski
Jenkins	Uskiw
Johannson	Walding
McBryde	

MR. CLERK: Yeas 16; Nays 23.

MR. SPEAKER: In my opinion the nays have it, declare the motion lost.

Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$21,817,400 for Municipal Affairs. The Honourable Member from Minnedosa.

MR. DAVID R. BLAKE (Minnedosa): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we didn't have a chance to examine the Municipal Estimates in the time allotted for debate on the estimates so in Concurrence I would just like to add a few words and maybe have the Minister clarify one or two points in my mind in connection with the Manitoba Housing and Renewal Corporation. I don't intend to criticize the public housing program in a blanket way and certainly no one will criticize the good things that have been done, especially the improvement in the housing for the elderly. I think everyone is anxious to see improvements in this area and to remove the slum areas but there certainly are priorities. I think these are important and I am not just too sure that they have always been duly considered.

I don't think, Mr. Speaker, there is much progress in moving people from one apartment

CONCURRENCE

(MR. BLAKE cont'd) to another. I think there's areas here where some better way of subsidizing the rentals maybe could have been brought into play and it would have been probably less costly, a lesser subsidy in some existing apartments on rentals or maybe leaving some of the people in the areas where they have been for some years rather than subsidizing them at a much higher rate and moving them into another apartment.

I think the assisted home ownership is another area that is certainly worthy of consideration and I realize that there has been many changes and the changes are coming continually, but I think the pride of ownership is something that really has to have top priority because where there is just a rental set-up the maintenance costs and the operation of these housing units is going to be extremely costly, because it's long-term mortgage money and it's going to be extremely costly to maintain these housing units as the years go by.

I think the location of much of the public housing certainly could be criticized; many of the group locations haven't been satisfactory. They've lumped a number of people together and I think they could have taken lessons from other areas where this has proven to be unsatisfactory. I think the high rise apartments certainly have many favourable aspects but I'm not just convinced that the older people are happy with 20 and 21 storey buildings. I don't think the high rise apartments are something that they like to live in although they are very plush and I have been through several of them and the accommodations are certainly quite good.

The remote housing that the Corporation has undertaken has provided some assistance in the remote areas but I think this could be enlarged on to a greater degree. I assume that the local people are brought into the remote housing programs to a large degree but their advice and their experience in living in the areas is certainly going to be extremely useful to any program of remote housing. I think they are well aware of the type of housing they want and I'm sure that they have ideas on construction that will probably provide a better accommodation and an easier type of accommodation to maintain.

I am not a construction person but I would assume that if they had had competitive bids that this would be a more favourable aspect to the public housing rather than receiving just propositions, but I think with the long-term mortgage money being provided by the Federal Government, I think if there were long-term mortgage money provided at a reasonable rate of interest I think the private builders or the private contractors would have provided a great number of the housing units that are necessary to renew and upgrade many of the areas. I think individual units on an assisted purchase and assisted home-ownership plan would certainly be more worthwhile than the straight subsidized rental in the low rental areas. But the funds that have been provided to date, 90 percent coming from the Federal agency, and I notice that the NDP seem to be taking all the credit for their program, and I would just like to say to the Minister that we are well aware of this. He doesn't have to lecture us on what was done or what wasn't done in '69 or prior to '69 because I certainly wasn't here, I had nothing to do with it. But I think if he looks over the programs he will find that prior to this time the programs were slanted to urban renewal.

I know the Minister and I looked at several programs in a town not too far north of here where urban renewal in the 60's was the big thing and these funds weren't available in the amounts that have become available lately. I think the Federal Government has been well aware that there was a need in the housing area and they have been changing and revamping and updating their program continually as they receive pressure from the provinces and additional requests from the people. They have been continually upgrading the type of funding and the amount of funds that they are providing to the provinces. So it's a completely new ball game now than was the case back probably ten years ago.

So as I say, Mr. Speaker, we are not criticizing in a blanket way but there are areas that can certainly be improved in the housing field, and I think the number of housing starts now is indicative that the thing is slowing down and possibly something must be maybe done to revamp it again. That's all I would have to mention on this department at the present time, Mr. Speaker, and I would welcome the comments of the Minister on the points that we have made.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party.

MR. ASPER: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Rhineland that the House do now adjourn.

POINT OF ORDER

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. I believe that the rules call that some procedure has to be concluded between a motion to adjourn and a second motion to adjourn has been concluded. And I'm sorry, Mr. Speaker, at the present time I haven't the precise citation to indicate to you. We did have a motion to adjourn which was defeated a moment or two ago. In accordance with our own rules of the House, apart from Beauchesne, it indicates that no motion to adjourn shall be entertained until such time as some procedure has taken place and concluded in between that motion, and I believe, Mr. Speaker, that is contained within our own rules. So therefore I suggest that the motion of the Honourable Leader of the --(Interjection)-- Page 73, I'm informed of Beauchesne, at the bottom. I suggest in all due respect to my honourable friend the Leader of the Liberal Party, he's anxious to get out of here; so far as I'm concerned he is not going to until we have concluded concurrences, and I have been informed that at the bottom of Page 73, that no motion to adjourn until some intermediary consideration has been concluded, that a second motion--and my honourable friend the Leader of the Liberal Party says to me that I am right. So therefore, Mr. Speaker, I say - of course I'm right and we're going to bloody well stay here until you're finished concurrences.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party.

MR. ASPER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The point made by the Honourable Minister of Labour is totally irrelevant to the proceedings before the House. There has been antecedent to the moment we're at; a resolution debated and the question put and the resolution passed. There had then been an intervening step; a new resolution has now been introduced for debate. That resolution is on the floor, Sir, and I have risen in my place, as is in accordance with the rules of this House, and moved - not for any spurious reason but because I wish to speak to this resolution and I wish time to prepare it; and I therefore make, within the rules of this House, the resolution, the motion to adjourn, and the motion is perfectly in order.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. May I refer you, Sir, to Page 74 of Beauchesne, which says, "No second motion to the same effect, that is a motion of adjournment, shall be made until after some intermediate proceeding has been had." The interpretation - I'm not knowledgeable of the law, I am somewhat knowledgeable of the rules of procedure, Mr. Speaker, - that there has not been, there has not been, Mr. Speaker - some intermediate proceeding because we are dealing with a resolution, dealing with Municipal Affairs.

We had passed Mines, the next motion, Mr. Speaker, the next motion before this House is the matter of consideration of Concurrence of Municipal Affairs. If Mr. Speaker, if Mr. Speaker, we had concluded the motion on Municipal Affairs then my honourable friend the Leader of the Liberal Party, who wants to get out of here, if he had then proposed the motion of adjournment it would have been in order, but that is an intermediate proceeding.

I want to say to my honourable friend as far as I am concerned, apart from the point of order, Mr. Speaker, that I am raising, as far as I am concerned, I would suggest to my colleagues that he be denied that privilege of the adjournment of the House.

But notwithstanding that, Mr. Speaker, I say that the motion proposed by the Honourable the Leader of the Liberal Party is in conflict. --(Interjection)-- I am not debating it, I am rising on a point of order. There is no question--and that friend of mine from Fort Garry is so right. But, Mr. Speaker, I am not debating the motion proposed by the Leader of the Liberal Party, I am raising, Mr. Speaker, a point of order as to the acceptability of the motion as proposed, and there is a difference may I suggest in all due deference as to whether I am debating - and I can't debate the motion to adjourn - but I do raise the question, Mr. Speaker, for your consideration as to the acceptability. That's all.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, on the question of the point of order, on the question of acceptability, I refer you again to Page 73 of Beauchesne and to Citation No. 25. I would like to read it into the record for your consideration, Mr. Speaker: "A motion to adjourn except when made for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance shall always be in order. But no second motion to the same effect shall be made until after some intermediate proceeding has been had."

MR. PAULLEY: That's right, that's my point . . .

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, the precedents of this House have provided that a motion for adjournment can follow the procedure in which . . .

MR. PAULLEY: No.

POINT OF ORDER

MR. SPIVAK: I suggest, Mr. Speaker, that the precedents of this House have in fact allowed a second motion for adjournment to take place. --(Interjection)-- Well I suggest, Mr. Speaker, that as in many other cases the former House Leader is wrong, that there have been instances during the period of time that I have been in this House, Sir, and I believe while you have been in the Chair, where in fact a second motion has in fact been allowed. And, Mr. Speaker, if after a speech has been given . . .

MR. PAULLEY: No. Never.

MR. SPIVAK: Well, Mr. Speaker, I suggest that we are in this position: we are being, you know, badgered literally by the Deputy Premier who is attempting at this time to force a decision on you, Sir, . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. Order, please. ORDER. There is no one going to force a decision on the Chair. Let me make that clear. Let me also indicate that if errors have been made in the past that's not necessarily the reason why we should make another error. The Honourable Leader wish to continue the point of order? But only the point of order no other debate.

MR. SPIVAK: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I would suggest that if the interpretation was to be given by you, Sir, that the speech in concurrence is not an intermediate proceeding that that would be a great error on your part in breaking the precedents that have been established, and in effect at this point allowing this House to develop into the kind of chaos that it will if the interpretation is given to that particular section the way in which the Deputy Premier has asked.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Speaker, on the point of order. The Deputy Premier has said that he is not debating the motion but only the acceptability of the motion to adjourn, Mr. Speaker. Well I submit, Sir, that that is a totally illogical kind of statement to make. What kind of vote, Sir, could there be, what kind of decision could there be cast on a motion to adjourn if it didn't pertain to the acceptability of the motion. When one is confronted with the question of adjournment or a motion to adjourn there is only one question - whether that motion is acceptable or not. Therefore by debating the acceptability of the motion the House Leader, the Deputy Premier is debating the motion, and I submit, Sir, that such a motion is not debatable.

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

MR. FROESE: On that same point of order. I . . .

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

MR. FROESE: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I may say that certainly action has been taken or proceeded since the last motion was made and I'm sure that Votes and Proceedings when they'll come out tomorrow will indicate that to you, that something did transpire between the previous motion and the one that is being put now.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party.

MR. ASPER: Thank you, Sir. My observation is made because it is my motion before the House. As the Leader of the Opposition has said, this is a very important decision, because there is no doubt, there is no doubt that the rule has been complied with in the strict sense, in the interpretative sense of that rule. It says that no second motion can be put that has the same substance unless there has been an intervening step since the preceding motion to adjourn. Now, Sir, what occurred after the motion to adjourn by the Opposition Leader? After his motion a vote took place in this House. The second intervening step, Sir, was the introduction--the second intervening step, Sir, was the introduction of a totally new resolution; and the third intervening step, Sir, was the making of a presentation by the Member for Minnedosa. And the fourth intervening step is the motion to adjourn.

Mr. Speaker, there is no doubt that the rule has been complied with, no doubt whatsoever.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. Order, please. In respect to the point of order raised in regard to the second motion to adjourn. Since our rules do not have an explicit ruling, we fall back upon usages and customs of the House of Commons and their rules are interpreted through Beauchesne. Beauchesne indicates Rule 25 which the honourable member has already referred to. Further to Rule 25, the interpretation on it that an intermediate proceeding used in Standing Order 25 means a proceeding that can properly be entered on the Journals. The true test is that if any parliamentary proceeding takes place the second motion is regular and the Clerk ought to enter the proceedings. Now we've only had one motion which was regular which was the adjournment. Since then we've had no other motion that could be entered as a total entry

POINT OF ORDER

(MR. SPEAKER cont'd) in the Journals. The speech is not a total entry in the Journals so therefore there has been no intermediate proceeding and the motion is out of order.

The Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party.

MR. ASPER: Mr. Speaker, with great respect I find it necessary to challenge your ruling.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member have support? Call in the members.

Order, please. The motion before the House is, shall the ruling of the Chair be sustained?

A STANDING VOTE WAS TAKEN, the result being as follows:

YEAS

- | | |
|--------------|------------------|
| Messrs. Adam | Mackling |
| Barrow | Malinowski |
| Boyce | Paulley (Trans) |
| Burtniak | Pawley (Selkirk) |
| Doern | Petursson |
| Evans | Shafransky |
| Gottfried | Toupin |
| Green | Turnbull |
| Hanuschak | Uruski |
| Jenkins | Uskiw |
| Johannson | Walding |
| McBryde | |

NAYS

- | | |
|---------------|----------------------|
| Messrs. Asper | Johnston (P. la P.) |
| Blake | Johnston (Stur. Cr.) |
| Einarson | McGill |
| Enns | McKellar |
| Ferguson | McKenzie |
| Froese | Sherman |
| Girard | Spivak |
| Henderson | Watt |

MR. CLERK: Yeas 23; Nays 16.

MR. SPEAKER: In my opinion the ayes have it, declare the motion carried.

. . . continued on next page

CONCURRENCE - MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

(MR. SPEAKER cont'd)

Resolution 89 to 96, Municipal Affairs. The Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party.

MR. ASPER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. May I begin by expressing my deeply felt regret that we are required - and I want the record to show - at two minutes to three in the morning to vote on Concurrence on a department which influences the lives of Manitobans more so than many other departments. I'm talking about in the real human sense.

Mr. Speaker, let me touch briefly on some of the aspects of this department which deserve comment. In 1969 this government was elected and . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.

MR. ASPER: This government was elected amidst a hope and a promise of new things to come. One of the things that we had been led to believe - and I speak as one who in 1969 was not in public life - but one of the things that we the public had been led to believe was that the pressing problems of home ownership, of shelter, of decent dignified humane shelter for those who-- call them casualties of the system, call them senior citizens, call them young people searching for their first home, call them the 62 percent of the Manitoban population that earn \$5,000 or less--one of the things recognized by this NDP Party as it stood before the people in 1969 was that there was no hope, no hope for approximately 60,000 to 80,000 Manitobans, 8 percent of our population to ever aspire to home ownership in the sense that is comparable to the standard we set for ourselves in this country. And in the preceding years studies, analyses of the National Building Code, a national task force on housing, all sorts of investigations of the problem had been undertaken and a national consensus had emerged amongst those who regarded themselves as progressive; and that consensus was that it is the responsibility of the state to make home ownership, decent accommodation accessible to all Canadians. Now every province took a look at it and there's no question whatsoever that there had been a situation of neglect, or indifference, or failure in this province to wrestle with this problem and to meet it face on at that time.

So we who observed, we who were concerned watched this government take office and begin to solve the problem. And what was the solution? State controlled home ownership. State home ownership. Mr. Speaker, the Liberal Party proceeds on a premise in this province that people should own homes, government shouldn't own homes. Governments make lousy landlords. Mr. Speaker, how do you achieve that result? Well you have the classic gulf again between ourselves and the NDP Government. The government, right aim, wrong bullet as usual. The government sees a problem and its immediate response is state control. That will solve everything. And that's what we got into in this province. So in the early days of the administration there was an announcement that they would build 21,000 homes. These would be made available to people on low income, couldn't afford down payments, they would become tenants. They would become wards of the state. They wouldn't be given the money to go out and get their own home; they wouldn't be financed in any manner which would allow them to choose the location of where they're going to live, but the Government of Manitoba chose to build what turned out to be ghettos.

Mr. Speaker, there were two approaches that were available to this government. One, in which the government would build the houses, build the units and on some basis or other, presumably on the basis of income and need people would be allowed to go into those homes and would live at low rent. But these very people who are the victims of inflation in this country who can't get ahead, who have no chance to own a piece of the action of this province, would be denied the chance to be protected from their worst enemy - inflation, because it has become an economic fact in this western world that home ownership has proved to be one of the most effective devices in combatting inflation, and so the most tragic juxtaposition, a government claiming to be dedicated to helping those who were casualties of a system, and a commendable objective, would be deprived of the opportunity to soften the impact of inflation by home ownership.

Mr. Speaker, the man who can find \$500.00 and \$140.00 a month principal, interest and taxes, or whatever the current principal, interest and tax costs on a \$17,000 home might be, that man because he happens to have \$500.00 and the earning capacity of \$140.00 of disposal income, or \$150.00 that he can pay his mortgage interest with, that man is hedged; that man is covered; because for \$500.00 he can get into a \$20,000 home and 30 years later or 25 years later, depending on the amortization of his mortgage, if we follow the same trend, he has a home worth \$30,000 or \$40,000. He has beaten inflation to that extent.

CONCURRENCE

(MR. ASPER cont'd)

But the real victim of inflation, the person who earns \$5,000, \$6,000, who can't save, who can't build capital, who can't aspire, much less to home ownership, to many of the other amenities of North American living, nothing. Nothing for him. So this government, full of pious promise, said the housing of this province will be state-owned, state-controlled, and so we began a series of building two and a half storey walk-ups, three storey places, some higher, some spread out; and what happened? Yeah. I guess about 5,000 or 6,000 Manitobans got into state housing and I commend that result because nobody ever did it before. But it isn't good enough. It isn't acceptable. Because for the same objective we could have readily accomplished it if we had gone into a home ownership plan as opposed to a home leasing plan, because the person who lives in a state house--and which reminds me, by the way, of the Charles Dickens concept of 300 years ago, the poorhouse. No chance to own.

And you go to the countries that have followed the kind of doctrinaire state control view that this government implements: Great Britain - very big on state-owned houses; Sweden - very big on state-owned houses. Look at the social results. Read the Hellyer Task Force Report. Read any study. And you come to one conclusion, that being a ward of the state denigrates the dignity of each individual, and it's this that we, every opportunity we are given, it's this message we'll hammer home to this government until--and I know the day will come. There was hope, there was inkling today, that the Minister of Municipal Affairs, whom I know to be a concerned, dedicated public servant, who really believes that people should own homes, not governments - I think he believes that.

I don't know where the hang-up is, Mr. Speaker. I don't know why we haven't done it in Manitoba, but what have we done socially to these people, the 5,000 or 6,000 that have managed so far to get in? Yes, we've relieved them of the indignity of poor shelter and substandard living conditions, and for that I express compliments and gratitude to this government. But go interview them, go talk to them as I have, as I'm sure honourable friends opposite have, and what will they tell you? They'll tell you that they have been ostracized; they'll tell you that they have been shunted aside, they have been socially segregated. That's the stigma. That's what we have done to these people and we could have so easily avoided, and because we can avoid it for the future, that's why at 3:00 o'clock in the morning I again appeal to this government to review its policy.

Mr. Speaker, every time there's a break-in at a grocery store in the neighbourhood in which one of our state-owned ghettos exists, the police don't start a search of the neighbourhood, they start at the state home and the kids in the schools refer to the others as being from the development. Ask them. That's the indignity. We have taken these people who are victims of an economic system that isn't perfect and, instead of curing the imbalance, we perpetuate the imbalance. We say, "We'll give you a place with a fridge and a stove, maybe carpeting on one or two of the floors, just like other people have got, just like real people have got, but of course you've got to be stigmatized; you have to live in this thing that everybody points to and says, 'You know what that is?' " With any kind of imagination whatever we could have had an individual home ownership policy, and still can.

Mr. Speaker, during the few moments break we had, I attempted to get into my office and found that I had left my key in another jacket. I wanted to bring the research that we've done to the attention of the House on this very subject. I wanted to quote from several passages of the Hellyer Report. I wanted to quote to you from some of the, I think, revealing passages of reports done by the Institute of Urban Studies at the University of Winnipeg, because there is a unanimity developing in this country and that unanimity of progressive thinking is that people, not state, not government, people, individuals, families, should have the dignity, the pride of owning their own homes.

Now there are going to be government-owned homes, no question. There are going to be government-owned homes because there are people who don't fit the category of individual home ownership - I'm speaking of people who may need care, senior citizen homes and so on; the question of who should own those, whether they should be volunteer groups--I won't go into now; that's more for the Department of Social Development. Certainly the last person who should be owning and being landlord for the nation is the government.

Mr. Speaker, let's look at what Ontario does, let's look at what Alberta does, and let's look at what British Columbia does. Let's talk about in Manitoba something akin to the HOME

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(MR. ASPER cont'd) plan - Home Ownership Made Easy, which is the sub-title of I think two or three of the plans, and under those plans we say to those people who require assistance in housing, "Here is your money. Go find your own home. That's your down payment." When we've said that to them we say, "Your principal, interest, tax and upkeep cost is X dollars a month." And so it may become necessary and much healthier, socially and economically, that we make income subsidization grants to low income people, but the result is that they own their own home.

Now I remember a few weeks ago in this House the Minister of Finance questioned that ethic, and that's his right. He questioned whether we are promoting a false value. I don't think so, Mr. Speaker. Certainly the right of a Minister of Finance to make that, I find it a disturbing suggestion, not that it's radical, but that we've learned so much in the past thirty years, forty years since that depression, we've learned so much about our psyche, about our human reactions to our environment, and one of the things I think we learned was that rob a man, take away or deny him the right to call some place on this earth his, and you rob him of the essence of his self respect.

Mr. Speaker, those aren't my views alone, those are the views of people who gratefully, yes, gratefully live in a government housing project, because but for it I can see their lot would be much worse, but what we could do, what we could do within our fiscal capacity, the capacity being there anyway, we are spending the money anyway, federal assistance is there anyway, I can only conclude that it's the mania for state control that has prevented us from implementing such a program, because similar programs first home owner grants, these are not unknown in this country. They are working well; and I promise you this. I don't have the bravado that my honourable friend the Leader of the Opposition has to imply that within weeks he will be the First Minister of this province--perhaps that will happen, perhaps it won't. But I promise you this, that unless this government--and I hope it will in the interim--reverses this policy and implements an individual home ownership plan, then when we do form a government it will be a very high order of priority on our agenda.

Mr. Speaker, on the housing, the housing situation generally, we are moving into a new crisis. I say, Guidelines says, that there are 60,000 people who will not achieve home ownership. Those are the little people--I hate the expression; I think it's a vile expression. It's an expression the Premier likes to use. He likes to refer to people as the little people, that we're for the little people. Well, Mr. Speaker, I don't think there are little people. I think it is an insult to suggest that there are people who have higher stature than others. But if it's meant in its most kindly sense, ignoring the insulting paternalism of the phrase, those people should be aided to own their own homes and we have the capacity to do it. If you simply take the sales tax that governments charge, some federal, some provincial, on the average home, three bedrooms, on the materials that go into the home, the sales tax and of course if you throw in some of the land registration costs that governments charge, the mortgage registration costs that governments charge, and legal fees--yeah, and legal fees, because I think we've surely come to the point where it is relevant to re-examine that whole issue, and real estate fees, yes, because the component costs of that down payment, the cost of a \$17,000 house, will include maybe \$500 or \$600 real estate commission, at least \$400 of legal fees to the first mortgagee, to the second mortgagee, to the purchaser's lawyer, to the vendor's lawyer --(Interjection)-- I'm coming to that. (The Honourable Minister of Agriculture says what about the speculator's fees? A valid point) - what has this government done about it?

Mr. Speaker, those sales taxes exceed the down payment, so when we say we are going to give grants, as the Liberal government will, home owner grants to enable people to achieve individual home ownership, whether it's in a condominium, whether it's in a high rise, or whether it's on a separate piece of land, we have the fiscal capacity to do it because we are collecting sales tax from these people in excess, or charging land registration fees in excess of the down payment, and so it's a free throw - it costs us nothing. So we are not humane generous people by simply standing up for the principle of individual home ownership. We're simply exempting low income people from the government fees and taxes that make home ownership prohibitive for them.

Now, as a result of no policy we have a situation in which the government of Manitoba, the NDP party, makes funny noises from time to time about not only owning the houses, but building them, going into the housing business, and it's true that the NDP party ran in the

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(MR. ASPER cont'd) Unicity elections where at least sixty percent of the housing is required, and the NDP in the civic elections said, as I recall it, that one of their policies was going to be to go into the housing business, to build houses. And so the private sector said, "Well wait a minute - maybe that's a field we had better leave." So a couple of things happened. There was a slowdown in the development of serviced land. I don't know how and why but there has definitely occurred a slowdown. Secondly, the cost of housing has risen again astronomically by approximately 15--and we use this expression alarmingly, by 15 to 20 percent this year, putting individual home ownership that much further out of reach for those perhaps sixty percent of Manitobans who can't who don't have an inflationary income rise equal to the cost rise for housing.

Now, current land costs because of the shortage are anywhere from 20 to 50 percent higher. I've heard 60 percent, but the fact is that there's no dispute that land prices have skyrocketed this year because of the shortage. And housing starts, we tried to discuss this this afternoon in the House in the question period, housing starts are off. Now there's only one official source where you can go and tabulate all kinds of building permits. The Federal Mortgage and Housing Corporation has issued its quarterly report and for the first three months of this year new housing starts, and I'm afraid I don't have the research in front of me because it is in my office, but new housing starts are approximately off from 3,500 in Manitoba to 750. That's no minor, modest drop. That's a massive drop. Without calculating it, perhaps we're talking about a 70 percent drop. Somebody has got to explain that. The Minister responsible for housing hasn't explained it. We call on him in this debate to explain it to us and to the people of Manitoba. Why is the cost of a house 15 to 20 percent higher this year? Why are land prices higher this year by as much as 50 and 60 percent? Why is the stock of new housing down and what is the government going to do about it?

Mr. Speaker, during the debate on estimates we touched on a number of subjects. One was a very interesting point that should have been discussed, and I thought there was some assurance in this House that we were going to get it. There was a suggestion under the Manitoba Housing and Renewal Corporation that a potential conflict of interest had been discovered. We had made our point that we could not make any observation on propriety or impropriety but that a conflict of interest was suggested, or a potential, which required new rules and new guidance. We asked perhaps we might have this come to the Legislature, perhaps we might have this come to a committee, because that's the worst kind of thing when there is even the slightest suggestion that there may be something wrong; and we never got it. We never had that debate, we never had the opportunity to make the examinations that we, as opposition responsible members, want to make. And during the year there was a major set of resignations from the Board of Manitoba Housing and Renewal, and we didn't have that opportunity to examine and discuss with those people who had resigned why they resigned, and why one member, as I recall it, only one member continued to serve. And we ought to have had the opportunity--well I would have thought that in the debate in the estimates or in the committee, which is a Standing Committee of this House, we would have had an opportunity to go through it. And that committee met, I understand, once for a few minutes, and that's it. And as in the economic situation, in the Public Utilities situation and in every other situation, the rules of the House, the intent of those rules anyway, Sir, is being thwarted because the Municipal Committee is not going to meet. I make that prediction praying that the government will deliberately, because I've thrown out the challenge, that they will hold a series of meetings. And let us talk to these people. Let us do our job. Let us examine them.

Mr. Speaker, there are several things that are self-evident about what is missing. No. 1--a home ownership for individual plan is needed now. The excuses offered by the government that they're waiting for some federal CMHC, NHA law amendments to make it possible, absolute--I'm trying to find a word, Sir, that isn't offensive but that is, to be very kind, a most inadequate explanation because there are three provinces now doing exactly that in the absence of any special enabling legislation from Ottawa. We could do it. We don't need a single change in a single piece of legislation or a single regulation anywhere if we believe that people should own houses, not the government. That's the flaw; that's where we separate; because that is not a commitment of the governing party, the NDP.

Mr. Speaker, somebody--and I tell you if this government doesn't do it a Liberal government will do it--somebody is going to have to stop land speculation, period. Government is the

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(MR. ASPER cont'd) only agency. There are times when it is legitimate for government to say that this area of commerce is not in the public interest. Mr. Speaker, that is the difference between perhaps the New Democratic Party and the Liberal Party, that we concede that there is a role for the state, a very clear, powerful role for the state, but that is no substitute for the individual ownership that we seek, the right of individuals to control their own destinies; the right of individuals to look forward, to hope that they too will own a piece of the action, will have a chance to get ahead on their own and not be treated like wards of the state.

Mr. Speaker, let us resolve then that land speculation is no longer a legitimate or socially desirable economic pursuit, period. Okay? Now we've got an agreement, Mr. Speaker. Now let's do something. Let's do it now, Sir, at this session of the House. Because, Mr. Speaker, there is no business, and I speak from some experience in the financial world, there is no business of land speculation contrary to a popular view. There is land merchandising, there is land improvement, land development, but that isn't our speculative problem. It remains for government and it's drastic; it's not the ordinary kind of Asper government, but let us make a commitment, let us tonight have this House agree, subject to the techniques, subject to the method adopted, that land speculation will be stopped. And that will cut, that will cut your cost of housing; that will remove one of the major barriers; and I make no bones about it again, Mr. Speaker, if this government won't do it, we'll do it. I don't want to start using slobans "land banks" or "assembly projects" because then we characterize what we're doing and that provokes a yes or no attitude from some people by virtue of the shorthand description rather than the objective. Where but from an NDP government could we more likely hope for this kind of legislation?

Now, Mr. Speaker, there's so much lacking in our housing policy. The home ownership plan for individuals is not there; the elimination of land speculation is not there; the elimination of one of the biggest costs and one of the biggest barriers to home ownership for individuals is the taxes, sales taxes, the land registration costs. They're not being removed and those are the things that have to be done one way or the other, through an incentive grant system, individual grant system--which is the way a Liberal Government would do it--or an elimination of the tax or a tax rebate to allow those people to make their down payments and get into their homes.

Even in this House we've tried to present legislation or resolutions that would see home ownership retention more accessible, more possible. One small change we asked in the law, a radical change. We said, when a person repairs his home - not his new home, his old home - then for the next five years he will not face a property tax reassessment of the value of those home repairs provided they don't exceed \$2,500 - a modest sum. Ontario, I believe, exempts the first three or four or five thousand, again I'm not sure tonight. Mr. Speaker, such an elementary step. To be able to say to the senior citizen in his home, or to the young couple who buy their first home and it happens to be an older home, that you can build a rec room, that you can put a new roof on, that you can throw out the wooden windows and if you've got the financing put on your steel windows, and you will not face a real property reassessment, you will not face a tax increase because you happen to have pride in your home.

Now we didn't do that; we couldn't get that through the House. Two years running we've tried that. This government hoots it, says there are more effective ways. Well I don't know any more effective way and this great radical idea has already been in effect in several provinces in Canada and has led to economic stimulation, more home improvement, because there is no tax penalty for maintaining your home. Even this we couldn't get, because there is no commitment on the part of the NDP government to individual home ownership. So there'll be no programs unless we are able to focus the public's attention and focus the public's desire for individual home ownership on this government. Because I have a great respect for the Minister of Municipal Affairs. I think he is one of the most able, competent Ministers this government, this House has ever had. As a human being I'm confident he must accept the principle of individual home ownership as opposed to state ownership, and I can't understand why we're where we are - why we hear this flimsy excuse that some changes are required in the federal law. Absolute nonsense! I know the law. I've done development work - over \$30 million of it. I know it can be done.

Mr. Speaker, we tried--and I'm not sure whether I have enough time in my allotment, Mr. Speaker--we tried earlier to focus debate on the subject of municipal finance which also

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(MR. ASPER cont'd) comes under this department. We have in Manitoba a situation which is being tinkered with but not repaired. We have given constitutional responsibility to the municipalities to achieve certain objectives, which they are constitutionally required to do, and everyone knows they are not equipped in fiscal terms to discharge those responsibilities, and here we come to the centralism of this government. Again, central control. In municipalities you have handouts, there's officious tinkering with the fiscal system, emergency loan funds and grant funds are set up, but not the capacity of the municipalities to discharge their responsibilities without having to come, cap in hand, to the Provincial Government of Manitoba. But that's the way I think this government wants it. One has to conclude that. Why haven't we, in four years of this administration, passed law to give the municipalities the fiscal capacity in one of two ways, either taxing capacity or revenue-sharing agreements, as we do with the Government of Canada as a province? We've not seen fit to do that.

We've even gone further. We've insisted that each municipality carry out a new responsibility in the cases of those municipalities where they weren't carrying it on. That is to have a welfare by-law. Now I see no problem with requiring or transferring the constitutional and the jurisdictional authority to the municipalities, but not without giving them the fiscal authority and not without giving them the option, the legislative option to enact the kind of welfare by-laws that they want. Let me give you an example. The Liberal Party starts on the premise in Manitoba that those who need help should get help and that that help should be fair and more than generous. But those who don't, those who have the capacity to work, must work. There is no free ride. And our welfare system under the municipal by-laws does not permit the municipalities to enact that kind of law. And so we have universal welfare, we have the universal free ride system for anybody who wants to get it. And let me give you an example.

This actually happened recently. I was in a small--and I'll not name the place but it's typical of what we see--I was in a small town and there was a town council meeting and a man came to the council and asked for welfare. The Mayor of the town said - or the Reeve rather - said, "But your wife is already on welfare." And he said, "Yes, I know, but I'm separated from my wife. I'm entitled to separate welfare and that's the case." Well the Mayor said, "Listen, will you take a job? We have a job. We need a man to do some labour and we'll pay you in excess of what you'd get under the welfare by-law." Whereupon the welfare applicant said, "I don't have to work. I've consulted my lawyer. I don't have to accept a job; you have to give me welfare, you have no option." And that was the legal opinion that that Town Council got, and they had to give him welfare.

I'm not suggesting that it's rampant through the system, I'm suggesting that a work-for-welfare system is the right of every municipality to enact. If this Government of Manitoba doesn't want to enact a work-for-welfare system, that's its judgment, that's something the people will judge it on. But to deny the municipalities the constitutional power to be able to say that, is centralism at its worst because that is the value, that is the current value that Manitobans adhere to. We are a work ethic society. I have no shame in saying that. There are no free rides nor do we want to sponsor free rides. There's enough freeloading going on now.

Mr. Speaker, not only must the system work but it must be respected, and if you wish, Mr. Speaker, since this government has a propensity to use public funds for political purposes like writing letters to the electorate, like flying around to nominating conventions, let it do one more thing. Let the Manitoba Bureau of Statistics, which has so far produced nothing having spent a quarter of a million dollars or better, so we must assume that the Manitoba Bureau of Statistics has become the political research arm of the NDP, let it do one more research project for the NDP. Let it go to the people of Manitoba and ask whether the welfare system is in contempt, and it will find, and I don't have any data of public opinion, I only have the experience of travelling through this province and talking to men and women of goodwill, men and women who are not niggardly, who are not ungenerous, who want the disadvantaged to be elevated and who are prepared to pay taxes to see a fair welfare system, but a work-for-welfare system. Not a state farm operation which the Guidelines suggest we may go to, the Guidelines for the Seventies, making the Province of Manitoba employer of last resort. There are certain circumstances under which that's acceptable - job banking is a good idea, very acceptable, but how about a private sector thrust? How about creating real jobs, not lifting a shovel and taking it from one place to another place and putting it down and saying you're working. That is the dehumanizing, the soul-destroying process of the welfare system. That's the Department of

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(MR. ASPER cont'd) Municipal Affairs that ought to have passed the appropriate legislation to allow those municipalities who wish to, to enact work-for-welfare bylaws.

Mr. Speaker, in the Department of Municipal Affairs we find the responsibility for Local Government Districts. Mr. Speaker, there are several thousand people in a town called Gillam; another few thousand people in a town called Lynn Lake; another few thousand people in an area called the Port and Town of Churchill; there's another group of people, several thousand more to come, in a place called Leaf Rapids, and so on. And the paternalism again, the state control artists, the centralists, the people who are afraid to delegate power, will not pass the most elementary piece of legislation giving those communities self-government. And so I say, if we form a government, or when we form a government, if it hasn't occurred already by the public pressure we intend to bring on this government, we will give self-government to Gillam --(Interjection)-- Well I hear the . . .

A MEMBER: Deputy Premier.

MR. ASPER: I'm not sure what title, Sir, but say 40 years--you know, you may have heard that Moses spent 40 years in the desert and you may also have heard that at the appropriate time he came and he said to the Children of Israel --(Interjection)-- Yeah, he said, "Get on your camels, load up your asses and I will lead you to the promised land." Well, the NDP came with the same Messianic vision, except theirs was different. Theirs was, "Line up your camels, sit back on your asses, and I'll take you to the promised land, and we haven't got the promised land." And, Mr. Speaker, we have a state-controlled society at every turn of the wheel, whether it's in the Municipal Affairs Department, the Mining Department, the Agriculture Department--I'm sorry Sir, I woke up the Minister. I'll try to control myself.

Mr. Speaker, the people of Gillam are quite capable of governing themselves, quite capable, just like the people of Carberry, just like the people of Selkirk, just like the people of any other community. And so we have a government that says, "Well, we'll keep centralized power; we'll keep local government districts." Oh, we'll have some citizens' advisory councils--that fits in with the Minister of Mines and Natural Resources. He's got lots of councils all over the place and he likes it when they criticize him. But they want their own self government and they need to be protected and they need to have the constitutional power to deal with a powerful employer, not a paternalistic state 500 miles south. Those people speak to me about the "Province" of Winnipeg. That's their contempt for the centralized system. Mr. Speaker, we've had statements of principle from this government that when we raise it - when we drew graphically the problems for them in Gillam, which they denied existed until a few people had the courage to go on television cameras and say it was true. I returned from one trip from Gillam; I reported to this House the very next day and questioned the Minister, questioned the Premier, that if people in that town felt terror, felt a claustrophobia, felt an unrepresentative corporate boss. . .

A MEMBER: Big brother.

MR. ASPER: . . . czar, in Hydro leaning on them, then it was the function of the state to step in and give them self-government. They took a petition. They're not going to foist self-government on anybody. They took a petition, and that petition clearly indicated a massive majority in support of local self-government. So the government had its own opportunities and said, well you know we got stuck with a bad Conservative deal. They set up Gillam. --(Interjection)-- We haven't seen the bill. I hope the Minister of Municipal Affairs says there's a bill on the Order Paper and I hope the bill is to give Gillam self-government. Will it give Churchill self-government? Will it give Lynn Lake self-government? Will it give Leaf Rapids self-government? Because, Mr. Speaker, I hate company towns. I've lived in them; I've worked in them. But I'll tell you something that's worse than a company town, a state town. That's where we are in Leaf . . . We, the enlightened, the NDP Government of Manitoba, says we're not going to have no foreign-owned mining companies lording it over our citizens. No siree. We're going to have Big Brother.

Well, Mr. Speaker, ask the steelworkers, ask the miners, who they'd rather bargain with, somebody who needs them, like an employer who's got to say a dividend, who's going to make a profit, or somebody who is totally impervious to the power of the people? Somebody totally omnipotent - government. Well, Mr. Speaker, I've talked to the workers, I've talked to the steelworkers and the miners, and they unmistakably say, take your state control out. That's what they're going to say to this government in the election. The astonishment that this

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(MR. ASPER cont'd) government will feel when Thompson, Flin Flon, Churchill, The Pas, and Rupertsland, the five northern ridings tell this government what they think of state control, tell this government what they think of the muscle, the centralization, the refusal to have local autonomy on anything but the most modest issues. Mr. Speaker, it is for these reasons, and because I know that others wish to enter the debate, that I conclude by again appealing to this government to bring in self-government, bring in work for welfare, bring in individual home ownership programs, and you will have the gratitude of the Liberal Party and the support.

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MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order please. The Honourable Member for Sturgeon Creek.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was hoping like the Leader of the Liberal Party that we wouldn't have—or I wouldn't have to speak tonight but the motion that was defeated obviously said that we can't adjourn this House until we finish Municipal Affairs. It's fairly obvious that the speech by the Honourable Member from Minnedosa wasn't a step, so I guess all the speeches are not progression and we have to finish Municipal Affairs, therefore at a quarter to four in the morning we have to be dealing, as the Leader of the Liberal Party, said with a very important, very important section of this government, of this province. But the obvious foolishness and damn foolishness of the House Leader proving that he's a little man not in size or stature, but just a little man, is continuing to use the whip around this House the minute Speed-up comes in you can almost see his eyes gleam, so actually we will get down to the business of Municipal Affairs at quarter to four in the morning.

Mr. Speaker, the local government districts that the Leader of the Liberal Party speaks of are not quite as easy, not quite as easy as he puts it about self-government, and I'm sure the Minister realizes that. I'm sure the Minister knows that on the municipal affairs trips through the local government districts we've had members of the Liberal Party with us and they saw through their own eyes what was going on, we all did. And I'm sure that they realize there's a taxing problem when self-government is brought into a local government district, or self-government is given completely to any district certainly they have to start to become on a parallel with other cities and municipalities in this province where taxing is concerned, and there is a reason for having, not state control but some government supervision, I would rather call it, over these districts because they are not in a position to bring in enough tax dollars to maintain themselves.

We've studied very carefully the Local Governments District Act and there is provision to have local councils; there is provisions to move forward, and it can be done within the Act, and I know that there is an amendment to the Local Government Districts Act which will give me the opportunity to speak on that later, so I won't dwell on that tonight.

Municipal assessment also, Mr. Speaker, has not had anything done with it in this province for four years. It hasn't had anything done previously but when this government came in that this was going to be a first priority that we examine assessment very thoroughly in this province and try to have it come up in a more sensible situation than we have at the present time. Mr. Speaker, the assessment problems that are throughout rural Manitoba are crucial, and certainly the rural members of the Legislature know them better than I, but those problems have to be solved and I assure you that it should be done very soon. The Minister should account tonight, he should account tonight for the reasons that it has not been done as we did not get to his Estimates during the time allotted for Estimates.

Mr. Speaker, I too, would like to speak a little bit on public housing. I want to also speak on senior citizens' housing in this province. I . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Will the Honourable Minister state his point of order?

HON. HOWARD R. PAWLEY (Minister of Municipal Affairs) (Selkirk): Mr. Speaker, I think it would be only correct for me to point out to the Honourable Member from Sturgeon Creek that there was a Committee of Municipal Affairs dealing with the entire question of assessment in 1970.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Sturgeon Creek.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: That's quite true. But there has not been anything meaningful done about assessment and it's still a major problem in the rural areas today.

Mr. Speaker, the public housing, you know, the Honourable the Member for Wolseley, the Leader of the Liberal Party, he spoke about control. I haven't got the confidence that he has in the Minister when we start talking public housing. I haven't got the confidence that he has that the Minister really does not want to have controlled public housing, or public ownership of housing in this province. Mr. Speaker, the proof of it is that there's no kidding about the fact that the government under the Minister of Municipal Affairs firmly decided that they couldn't control rents but the way they would control housing and housing projects and housing rents was to go into a massive public housing program. And you know it's just proving the opposite. What they don't realize is that everybody that moves into public housing, not everybody, but most people that move into public housing strive to get out of it. That's the reason why your housing costs are high. That's the reason why rentals are high because they want to

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(MR. F. JOHNSTON cont'd) move from it. They want to strive to own their own piece of land, to own their own home. And there has been no move whatsoever by this government to have the home ownership program that was discussed earlier tonight.

Mr. Speaker, if private developers were to have money at 7 percent over a 50-year period they would build better houses and better districts, individual homes with lawns around them, low priced, easy payments, if they had that kind of money available to them. And yet the government goes ahead with a shotgun attitude towards housing, putting as many houses as they can possibly get on this piece of land, crowding people into public housing when it's absolutely the wrong thing to do. It's been proven wrong. There is no area in the world, no area in the world that has not had it proven that crowding people together is the wrong thing, and crowding people together gives everybody a desire to want to have their own little niche and place to live, Mr. Speaker, and this government has not moved in any way, shape or form. The shotgun approach I speak of is to go into a district and not care about what the schooling is, not care about what the recreation is, not care about anything. They don't have to abide by the rules or the regulations of the community that they're in; they just move merrily ahead because they've got a bunch of money poured in their hands. It's a nice political thing to be able to say, we're building a lot of public housing. And I have seen, I have seen some good ones. The one that I believe is in the wrong spot is in my constituency, and I have said it before, because the recreation is not there, it wasn't the right place to put a crowded public housing. It's well built, it's bad, but you're crowding people. In Assiniboia you're crowding people. The lady on television from that area says it's a nice place to live but there's so many of us, she said. I believe she was on the program with the Minister or a program on public housing. But all crowded together.

Mr. Speaker, there is one in St. Vital which is a disgust. I have pictures of it that I intend to keep for the right time. Mud, dirt, badly taken care of, which is an absolute disgust. Probably a half a mile from a bus, it's just not worth talking about. It's worse, and will become worse, than those people probably ever lived in before, and yet this government says the right thing to do is just build on any piece of land and crowd people in. People don't want to live like that. The attitude of saying, we've got all this money and take the shotgun approach, we've got to spend it, we've got to do it or we won't get the money from the Federal Government, and if the other provinces don't use it, we'll take it, we'll use it. That's the attitude that this government has. Do anything, not necessarily do it right but do anything. And you know some of those buildings that are put up at the present time they won't last 50 years.

A MEMBER: You won't either.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Well, Mr. Speaker, as I told you the other day I don't give a damn what that Minister says.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker, the public housing has been wrong the way this government has approached it. They criticized that the previous governments never did it. The previous governments were involved in some urban renewal schemes; there was not as much money available for public housing before. There was some. Ontario used some, but not as much. Mr. Andras changed from the Urban Renewal to put his drive onto housing. They have ignored a program that I saw and helped work on as a matter of fact for the Brooklands area--it was probably one of the best schemes there ever was--it was a \$10 million scheme, costing the city a certain amount each year, which could be handled by the city working with the Federal and Provincial Governments. It was an upgrading scheme. It was an upgrading of roads, it was an upgrading of the houses, and it was an upgrading of the whole district generally, and it did have some public housing and low rental housing spread through the district, spread through the district. Do you know the amount of money the government has blown on public housing, the amount of wasted money that they've put on public housing, in the Minister's own area, you know, in the Federal election it was made pretty well-known that it was done wrong there.

Mr. Speaker, all of this money that they have just blown you know there are places in this city where you would have been well advised to buy two or three old houses and take them down and put up the proper type of housing, and spread people around the district, spread people around the city. But no. The only reason that they went ahead with their shotgun manner is to say, well I want to try and control the rents; I want to try and control housing, and they're not accomplishing it. They want to try and control housing prices. They couldn't do it with controls. They tried it this way, and what's happening? People move into your housing

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(MR. F. JOHNSTON cont'd) and they want to move out. Ask any real estate man. People strive to move out of them; they strive to own their own piece of property. So they've gone about it the wrong way. And for the Member from Wolseley to get up and say that he believes the Minister wants to see everybody own their own house and their own piece of land and their own garden, I have my doubts. I sincerely have my doubts that he does because he hasn't move that way in any way, shape, or form.

Mr. Speaker, I said that I would mention senior citizens' housing that's going on in this province. First of all you will never get me to agree, and many people to agree that a senior citizen should live in ten, twelve storey buildings to begin with. It's the wrong type of construction for senior citizens. It's the wrong type. --(Interjection)--He may say it's the most popular request but he says--I tell you it's the wrong type. It's probably requested more because it's downtown, that's where you put it. But the thing that's--(Interjection)--Yes, let the older people decide for themselves, that's the next thing I was coming to. I visited a lady in an apartment where she'd lived for 40 years; 40 years she'd lived in that apartment. She qualified to live in senior citizens' housing at a rental of \$35.00 a month. She didn't want to move, she had a three-room suite which she enjoyed. She enjoyed living there. The only way that she could come to qualify for senior citizens' housing was to move out of there into a suite that she wasn't looking forward to at all, it was one room. They're nice rooms but this lady had lived where she was for 40 years. Now if you take the price of the building that they've built there is no way that there isn't a cost of at least \$135 a suite on those buildings, so you are subsidizing her from 35 to 135 dollars a month to move into that new building, and if you had let her stay where she was, you could have subsidized her from \$35 to \$85.

I was in a suite right across from the new senior citizens housing--and I'll mention something about that housing a little later--two ladies living in a four-room suite paying a total of \$118 per month in a beautiful suite--brick building, well kept everything. Those two ladies in order to have the privilege of having \$35.00 a month that they qualified for had to move in two separate rooms in the new public housing, or have to live in two separate rooms in the public housing. Your subsidy in that particular area would probably be in the neighbourhood of \$200 and if you had left them where they were your subsidy would have been the difference between \$70.00 and 118. But they wanted to live where they have lived, that's what we are making so wrong - the senior citizens in order to take advantage, to take advantage of the \$35.00, or whatever they qualify for, have to move into the senior citizens--why not let them live where they are.

The other thing, Mr. Speaker, I've seen a letter. I saw a letter, you know, after the Minister had his discussions with the Kiwanis people and all the other people, and they were saying that, you know, you are taking our people that are living here, and I saw a letter come back to one person living in one of the courts, it said that you already have good accommodation at reasonable rent and we--because of that you really, because of the reasonable rent, etc., you don't qualify but--I can't give the letter word for word, but at the bottom it said, but if there is any other reason you feel you would like to move, contact us.

The Minister would like to take over all those places. You know all he'd have to do to let those people stay there is lower their interest rate that they are paying to the province; that's one of the reasons that they have to pay such high rent. If they could make some arrangement, make some arrangement with the Federal Government--they are always talking about arrangements with the Federal Government--make some arrangement with the Federal Government where the interest rate could be lowered to those people that own those housing, and you'd have a better situation. You would have lower rents and you wouldn't have any problems. The Minister smiles, laughs, he's the best desk pounder in this House you know. Boy we can all take a lesson from him when he hits that desk but I tell you, he hasn't really done his homework or his job. He's just let a bunch of philosophical people around him with an ideology push this upon him, and I must say that he must agree with it. So he keeps going on into a system that is costly, not only costly but is going to cost, even the Premier's father-in-law says it is going to cost with the report he put out, and he keeps going on continually knowing all these things, knowing all these things, so it has to be the reason, it has to be is that he wants control. That's why I don't agree with the Member from Wolseley that this Minister wants to have it differently because he hasn't proven that he does. He has blindly disregarded anybody else.

Mr. Speaker, I asked a question in this house one day, I asked if there was some department, or the public housing, or the Manitoba Housing and Renewal Corporation inspected the

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(MR. F. JOHNSTON cont'd) plans of senior citizens homes, and I asked him if he thought that a 5 foot hallway was the proper thing, or did they approve five foot hallways. The Minister of Mines and Natural Resources threw up his hands, he thought it was a crazy question - how would the Minister know. Well the Minister should damn well know that when you build 18 storeys or 15 storeys and you put a five foot hall in it for senior citizens, you are really not being very considerate and you are going to take three inches off each side of that hall for a rail, you are going to cut that hall right down to 54 inches or 54 inches. You know, Mr. Speaker, two wheel chairs couldn't pass in that hall, the average wheel chair is 27 inches, but I know it's not a place where you'll find many wheel chairs but you will find people with canes. You will find people that move very slowly, and quite frankly on Osborne Street as far as I am concerned, you have built what is close to a dungeon for those senior citizens as far as those halls are concerned, and anybody that would approve, anyone who would approve--they are not all like that I must say. I have seen others where they aren't like that--but anybody that would approve that kind of construction for senior citizens is not really getting down to business and doing his job. You are wasting your money; you are spending it wrong; you are spending it on their behalf, but you are spending it wrong.

So, Mr. Speaker, I say that the shotgun approach, the wasteful approach, and the irresponsible approach that this Minister, and this government, has taken towards their public housing should be changed. They should be looking to having people own their own homes. They should be looking to--okay have your land bank nobody is going to argue with that. Saskatoon has proved very successful with that. Have your land bank, but have your land available and if you can give people money at 7 percent for 50 years, you'll have better than this government will ever build. And if it's properly planned and done right it can be very much better than the crowding that you are putting people into today.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Roblin.

MR. MCKENZIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I have a few comments I would like to have put in the record re my constituency and some of the problems that I would hope to bring to the attention of the Minister in this resolution of concurrence. Mr. Speaker, I'm sure that you will join my sentiments, it is very difficult for one to express himself, or let alone collect his thoughts at five after four in the morning in trying to deal with some of the problems at the municipal level that have been related to me. Mr. Speaker, were it not due to the fact that we had now, it's what? One, two, three, four parties and two opposition members in debating the estimates I daresay that we wouldn't have to be sitting here at four o'clock in the morning trying to get on the record some of the problems that we have in Municipal Affairs. I am sure, Mr. Speaker, you must have recognized, like I do, that with the number of people that are sitting on the opposition benches and all wanting to speak on the estimates, the hours that are allocated to the estimates in this session were certainly not adequate to deal with the matters that were before us.

So, Mr. Speaker, I would like to draw to the attention of the Honourable the Minister some of the problems we have had with the municipal planning scheme as related to your Assiniboine Reservoir. The planners have been on the job there for close to four years, as near as I can make out, and that park is not open; the lots are not surveyed, and nothing basically has happened. Many, many meetings have been held, and it is almost, Mr. Speaker, by a directive from on high that some of the local people had to go to one of the meetings last winter and insist that they give some ground to some of these church camps who have been waiting for three years to move in to put their cottages and their church camps along the Assiniboine River. The reservoir's been there, the water is there, the park is there, and, Mr. Speaker, I for the love of me cannot figure why it takes a bunch of municipal planners that long to develop the both sides of a river to let people put their cottages in there. I have had many inquiries from people as far away as Regina for the last three years, wondering why or what is the holdup with this municipal planning scheme, and why we cannot let people come in there and build their cottages on both sides of the Assiniboine River.

No doubt, Mr. Speaker, the Minister will have his reasons and I hope that he will reply and tell the people of my constituency why we have to put up with this red tape and bureaucracy at that level, which is almost at the disgusting stage. Mr. Speaker, there was a plan; the land was given back to the municipality and to the planning people from Canada Land Inventory, and that was a most acceptable plan. I saw the plan, and many people reviewed it and thought

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(MR. MCKENZIE cont'd) that it was perfect. Canada Land Inventory had spent a lot of money preparing that plan, and I can't see--and even today some of the municipal people that I have talked to can't find any reason why we couldn't have accepted that plan in its present form and then amended it and let the people come in and build on those sites. But, Mr. Speaker, it certainly is one that has many people in that area uptight and they just can't understand why it takes so long for a municipal planning scheme to come in and sort out both banks of the Assiniboine River and let somebody come in and build one cottage or lease some ground.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to again draw to the attention of the Honourable the Minister some of the problems that we are having with taxation, on some of the public buildings in my constituency, and I'll speak basically on the matter of the fraternal lodge halls that are situated through Roblin constituency. In my remarks last year I drew the matter to the attention of the Honourable Minister, but it appears that nothing is going to change, and those buildings will likely have to go up for tax sale because I don't see how any fraternal group today in say the Town of Roblin, or the Town of Russell, or the Town of Grandview, can possibly pay the taxes that are being charged to that property.

Who would want to be a member of that fraternal group because once you join, the member, you are faced with a 50 dollar bill to pay the taxes on the property, and why there isn't some way that these people, groups of people who only meet once a month, maybe twelve times a year, are faced with those enormous tax bills, that--they are charitable groups--every time they make a buck they give it to charity. But how can you give anything to charity when it's all going to taxes, and I can speak for the Masonic Hall in Russell, which I happen to belong to that order, the taxes are about 800 bucks on that place, and with 50 members can you imagine the upkeep, what spirit, or what goodwill, is expressed when we go to the meetings there. The meeting is to deal basically with how are we going to meet that annual tax bill, and it's one I am certain that the Minister knows about, and I hope that he will in his reply in Concurrence, hopefully give us some answers.

Mr. Speaker, there has been some committees in my area do some studies on some of the municipal problems, and the first group to report regarding the area and their analysis of it was what is known as the Regional Analysis Community Committee, that was chaired by one of the municipal secretaries in the area, to deal with the government and municipal policies and how they affect the people of rural Manitoba. And, Mr. Speaker, this information I think is relevant. I think it's very important and with your permission, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to read it into the record for the Minister's benefit and for his department to review, in the hope that they will gain some information from these remarks and hopefully will establish policies that will maybe meet some of the challenges that I am prepared to offer. But in this report that was given, Mr. Speaker, this committee said that many of the towns, villages and rural municipalities are having problems in keeping up with change, and the demand for improved and new services. And this constitutes a threat to the future of municipal government in Manitoba.

The committee went on to say, Mr. Speaker, it's apparent that the municipalities are no longer structured and organized in such a way as to cope with the changes being experienced in the rural parts of Manitoba. The municipality at one time it says, Mr. Speaker, used to be the principal unit having complete jurisdiction within its boundaries. Now with the formation of hospital districts, with health units, with weed control districts, with veterinary districts, with library districts, with planning districts, and the municipality has become the unit of a local government and any given area of community interest.

It goes on, Mr. Speaker, to say this committee said that the municipal governments have problems in meeting the needs of educational authorities, both in respect to the operating costs and the demand for improved roads.

Mr. Speaker, it further goes on to say that the municipality governments in rural Manitoba have problems meeting the needs and the desires of the community for recreation facilities. It also spells out, Mr. Speaker, and it says here that the reliance upon the availability of expertise of the provincial Civil Service; the difficulty in establishing with the province the priorities for certain programs to be co-ordinated with local work considered necessary by the municipal authority, and the constant need to petition for provincial or federal assistance in the conduct of certain municipal programs.

Mr. Speaker, the committee further go on to say that all these needs and difficulties

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(MR. McKENZIE cont'd) indicate that the people of the municipal--that the position of the municipal government is being weakened considerably.

It goes on further to say that review problems in light of the fact that social changes, economic changes, and population shifts, have made municipalities unable to keep up with the changes and the demand for improved and new services. Local authorities becoming aware of these problems have entered into a number of joint inter-municipal agreements and cost-sharing programs with senior governments in which the municipal governments become less significant, and less capable of controlling the program for general locality. The formation of new units of local government such as the weed control district, the health unit, the hospital districts, the library districts, the planning districts, and so on, have no common area for definition of a single authority.

Of course, Mr. Speaker, this has caused citizens of the community to become confused as to what is their local authority, and there is all kinds of examples of that, Mr. Speaker, where one town your health district, if that's the head of it, moves down to the next town, and that's the second, the weed control district, the next one over may be to the centre of the veterinary district. Mr. Speaker, it says that this has caused citizens of the community to become confused as to what their local authority is. The structure of local government must be changed to have one local authority for all areas of community interest. The community is no longer those lands contained within the legal limits of a town or village but rather some different size of an area which, of course, includes the smaller villages in the rural areas within reasonable travelling time of a community centre.

Mr. Speaker, it is quite a lengthy article, and I'd certainly like to put it all on the record with your permission, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. I must inform the honourable member that the rules of the House are a member should use his own words for debate not someone else's.

MR. McKENZIE: Well, Mr. Speaker, on a point of order I would like to get it into record as the way the committee gave it to me, but if you so wish I'll try and paraphrase it myself.

Well, Mr. Speaker, the debate is an ensuing one that has taken place all over the rural parts of Manitoba and I'm sure, Mr. Speaker, that it's not the only area that's facing these problems of the various municipal districts, health districts, school districts, with no central boundaries, and I think that the structure of the local government has got to be changed in order to accommodate the phenomena of rural development, and I don't see how until government makes up their minds where are they going to put the centre, the health centre - is it going to be in Birtle or is it going to be in Roblin? Is the veterinary clinic going to be in Roblin, or is it going to be in Birtle, or are you going to have them both in one place? And, Mr. Speaker, those are some of the real serious problems that are facing the people in rural Manitoba.

And, Mr. Speaker, the article goes on to say that there must be a restructuring to allow the total community to pay its hare of the costs of providing for such services and facilities as recreation and the library and the cultural and the social services which benefit the population within what might be an area of common interest to a large number of people. The small villages, and the small towns shall be dis-incorporated, Mr. Speaker, and operate as local improvement districts or unincorporated village districts within the larger unit of the municipality. And I think that structure works to many advantages, Mr. Speaker, and has proven itself in some of the jurisdictions of the rural parts.

And of course, Mr. Speaker, the professional services which, with this rural shift that we find continually taking place, are slowly but surely leaving the rural, especially the smaller parts of Manitoba. And I think the elected representatives, it says here, Mr. Speaker, tend to undertake many administrative tasks to the detriment of their true role as policymakers. Mr. Speaker, I think they were referring to this government when that article was framed. But, Mr. Speaker, it goes on to say that there are lots of problems in the rural parts of our province and I hope that the Minister in his wisdom will take the time to deal with these things. It's certainly a matter of more big government control exercising their rights on little people out in the country with the bureaucracy moving in and telling them they can do this and you can do that, you've got to get a licence for this and you have to have a licence for that, taking their tax dollars, as I mentioned to the fraternity that I happen to belong to, and basically it's

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(MR. McKENZIE cont'd) . . . something that has to be dealt with and something that deserves the concern of this government. And, Mr. Speaker, I hope that the next time I speak you will permit me the honour of having the Deputy Premier keep his mouth shut until I'm finished talking so at least I can put my remarks into the record in a favourable climate.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Fort Garry, that debate be adjourned, or that the House do now adjourn.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. ORDER PLEASE. First of all, I would like to know which motion the honourable member is proposing. He said two motions. I'm not certain which one he meant.

MR. FROESE: I move that the House do now adjourn.

MR. SPEAKER: That motion is out of order, I've already ruled on it once, since we have not completed the business before us.

MR. FROESE: Well on a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: ORDER. Let me complete what I am saying. I believe I ruled on that motion once already. The House has also agreed with the ruling and since we have nothing to enter in the Journals as having completed any intermediary business, speeches are not intermediary business according to the interpretation, so therefore we still have to carry on and the motion is still out of order.

The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. Certainly this House is master of its own rules and under the ruling that you've just made there's no way of adjourning the House by any of us unless we finish the Estimates or the Concurrence on this particular department, and certainly this is not acceptable and therefore I will challenge your ruling.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The ruling has already been upheld once, let me indicate to the honourable member, and the assumption he goes by is false. He is not correct in the assumption that the House cannot adjourn in another fashion than to finish this particular item of business. But that's his problem. ORDER PLEASE. I am not debating the motion. The floor is open. The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, on the point of order. Mr. Speaker, on the point of order and with all due respect, Sir, in order to correct a potential error that was made in connection with a ruling already --(Interjection)-- Yes, Sir. Yes to you, Sir. I wonder if the realization has now taken place that as a result of the ruling it would mean that the House Leader is not in a position to adjourn the House.

MR. SPEAKER: I am perfectly aware of that. That's beside the point.

MR. SPIVAK: Well again, Mr. Speaker, on the point of order. If one examines the precedents in this Legislature, the precedents in the session, the House Leader has in fact adjourned the House and has adjourned the House on many occasions in which the intermediate step has not taken place, and in effect, Mr. Speaker, by this ruling you are in fact invalidating a course of action that has been conducted, as far as I know, from the very time that I've been in the House and from the very time that the House Leader entered . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. I will not debate the ruling. I shall not debate the point with the honourable member. I will only indicate one thing: that he is in error when he says the House Leader has adjourned the House after a motion of adjournment has been made. That has not occurred during concurrences or during any other time, to my knowledge.

MR. GREEN: . . . why should there be a problem now about a ruling which you have made and which the House has accepted and based, by the way - and I don't know that I should be speaking - based on a false assumption that has been put by both honourable members?

MR. SPEAKER: Resolution passed? The Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party has already spoken on the resolution.

MR. ASPER: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.

MR. ASPER: On a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member state his point of order.

MR. ASPER: There are two points of order, Sir. The first is that there is a motion before the House challenging your ruling, as I understand it, by the Member from Rhineland, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker, there are two points of order. The first is that the Member from

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(MR. ASPER cont'd) Rhineland rose and made a motion. You, Sir, ruled it out of order. He then challenged your ruling. That is the motion before the House, challenging the ruling.

The second point of order, Mr. Speaker . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. ORDER PLEASE. May I clarify for the honourable member? A ruling that was challenged and has been affirmed by the House cannot be challenged again. The House has made that ruling this sitting and therefore it's invalid to challenge that again. The Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party.

MR. ASPER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On the second point of order, may I ask for a ruling indicating that there is a circumstance prior to the voting on this bill under which any member of this House can adjourn, under which any resolution to adjourn will be accepted by the Chair. Mr. Speaker, my point being that if we follow the course that has been laid down, my point of order is that there is no way other than the voting on this resolution where you have indicated you will accept a motion to adjourn.

MR. SPEAKER: That assumption is based falsely.

MR. ASPER: Well, Mr. Speaker, then on a point of order . . .

MR. SPEAKER: I will not rule in advance. The honourable member will have to learn the rules on his own. The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: Mr. Speaker, on the same point of order. I have challenged your ruling. Are you not going to abide by the challenge?

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The Leader of the Opposition.

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, I rise neither on a point of privilege nor a point of order. Mr. Speaker, it is four-thirty this evening--in the morning. Mr. Speaker, we have tolerated in this House an unnecessary abuse on the part of the Deputy Premier of the New Democratic Party. Mr. Speaker, he has been allowed a certain leeway that is beyond the bounds at this particular time. There is business to be conducted in the House; your rulings have been made. We can proceed with it, Mr. Speaker, but there is no reason that we have to be subjected to the kind of abuse that we are now taking. There is just no justification for it, Mr. Speaker, and there is a course of action that is open to you and I would hope that you would exercise it so at least we can deal with this in some reasonable manner and not be put into the impossible position of having him interrupt and basically attempt to browbeat the other side because this is not to his particular liking.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Resolution passed? The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: Mr. Speaker, speaking on the Concurrence motion, certainly the Municipal Affairs Department Estimates for the current year are \$21 million, which is roughly an increase of a million and a half over the previous year, and I think we cannot just let the item pass without making some comments. I for one would like to bring to the attention of the Minister the matter of assessment. I feel that the present method and formula being used for assessment purposes, especially of farm land, are very unfair and unjust and certainly do not take into recognition certain basic facts that should be taken into consideration when a formula of that kind is used for the purposes of assessment. As a result, we are facing extreme difficulties in that a large number of farm parcels, parcels of farm land, are assessed unduly highly, and this in turn increases the tax rate and the amount of taxes to be paid on farm lands of this type unbearably high. We find that this is the case in certain rural areas, and at the same time it is also the case in the perimeter area around Winnipeg. Not too long ago the additional zone committee called a meeting where they invited representatives of the various parties to sit in and discuss with them the problem. I recall the meeting that we had and the Minister of Agriculture was present at that meeting, where he heard the complaints made by the various representatives of the various municipalities, and certainly indicated that where possible to bring about changes, that whatever he could do would be done and it would also be brought to the attention of the Minister. I do hope that the matter has been brought to the attention of the Minister by the Minister of Agriculture of the proceedings of that meeting. And the complaints that we did hear were very valid ones.

We find that people who have resided in that area for years and years and who now have reached the age probably of 65, 70, 75 and --(Interjection)-- No, I don't think it was 80. The Minister of Labour should have attended that meeting so he would have heard it and he would

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(MR. FROESE cont'd) recognize that it's a more serious matter than he thinks. These people have land, own that land, and because of certain restrictions placed on their properties through the legislation that is on the statutes here in this province, they are unable to subdivide and sell their properties. The only way they can sell it is to sell it so that the purchaser will use it for the same purpose that it was used heretofore. As a result, those people that have larger holdings are unable to dispose of their land because of the higher assessment and the high taxes that are on this farm land, and the returns from that farm land, if you pay the expenses of operating the farm, of paying the taxes, there is nothing left as a return on the money that people if they bought it wouldn't get. There's no return. And therefore they are unable to sell.

At the same time, these people thought that they had an investment here that they would be able to use as a reserve when they came to their old age. They had this land in place of a pension, and I'm sure that this is the case with many farmers in this province, that when they get to a certain age they hope to dispose of their land and use the cash that they will get through the sale of that land as a fallback for use in their old age. Now we find these people are stuck. They cannot sell their land because no one will take it because there's no return on it for the purchaser. And this is what we have at the present time. And I have indicated to the Minister before, and also privately, that the assessment of farm lands should have a maximum that we could place on it so that the taxes wouldn't become unbearable and that there would be some relation to the return on farm land and the taxes that have to be paid. Certainly these things should be taken into consideration and I don't feel that farm land in Manitoba should be assessed more than \$75.00 an acre. And this is very high, Mr. Speaker, \$75.00 an acre for farm land. Certainly most of the farm land is assessed at a much lower rate, probably half that, or less than half that. So when I say \$75.00 an acre as the maximum, this is indeed a high rate. And I'm not only speaking of lands in our area that are subject to this, but I mentioned the additional zone and I know of other areas in this province where the same thing applies, and I feel that it's very unfair to have this type of assessment take place on farm lands in this province. Certainly the Act provides for other areas, The Municipal Act, for other areas where farm lands that have four acres or more - there are other sections in the Act that apply to this, and I think we could use that four acre stipulation for the purposes of assessment and so that farm land, the parcels with four acres or more would not be assessed more than a certain figure. And I would strongly recommend to the Minister of Municipal Affairs that such amendments, or legislation, be brought in to this House for consideration and for passing, because if it is not done it will eventually mean that farmers will lose their land as a result of the high taxes. They will be unable to pay them and as a result they will go for sale because there is no purchasers, and this way they lose their life savings in their investment and there's no way out, there's nothing that they can do. And I think this is a sorry state of affairs that we have; that, in other words, means that we are confiscating their property, and also we have, in other words, frozen the reserves that these people have. --(Interjection)--

The Minister of Education says "pass". Well if he doesn't have any more concern for these people than just to call "pass", I think that too is a sorry state of affairs in this province. Because he's one that should know the tax in this province because he's in charge of schools, and schools are one of the big factors causing the high rate of taxation; and certainly this will continue the way things are going in this province that annually we have large increases taken place in the cost of education. --(Interjection)-- I'm talking about the overall costs for education, and certainly these are increasing year by year. I haven't seen them go down once during the time that I've been in the House.

The Minister, I think, announced some time ago that there would--well we heard that in the Budget Speech, that there would be an increase in the unconditional grants to municipalities. Certainly this is good news; certainly this is help that will be appreciated by the municipal people but are we to understand that we are going to give the same treatment to rural municipalities as we give to the cities. Is the City of Winnipeg going to have the two dollar unconditional grant, plus some additional millions of dollars again in grants this year? I certainly would like to hear from him on this because I notice that we are allocating - in the Supplementary Estimates of Current Expenditure there is Unconditional Grants Act Municipalities, Local Government Districts - \$2 million. And then Urban Affairs - \$2 million. I certainly would like to hear from the Minister on this whether they come in at both levels and that they will be

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(MR. FROESE cont'd) cashing in on these grants twice whereas the municipalities will only be getting it once. --(Interjection)-- Thank you, Mr. Deputy Premier.

On the matter of Housing and Renewal, which has already been mentioned by other members speaking in the debate on Municipal Affairs, I notice from the Capital Estimates that we have allocated \$25 million toward a program. I feel that this government should make an effort to get this capital money from the Federal Government through the Bank of Canada, interest free. Why can't we do it? Have you tried? Have you made any effort whatever to secure that money from the Bank of Canada? Well I think the government should make some effort, and when we see that the Bank of Canada through the Government of Canada is making interest-free loans to other countries, I think that our people who are in need of housing should have the same privileges, are entitled to the same privileges, and not to have to pay those immense amounts of interest over those many years, and I notice from the report that moneys are amortized over a 43 or 44 year period. This means that housing will have to be paid for four and five times over before it's finally paid, and certainly this is something that if I were the government I'd really go into and check and do the utmost to get interest-free loans.

The other matter is, we have on the books I notice from the report, 1971-72 Annual Report, that there is housing for sale - remote housing completed and under construction - \$889,000 worth; urban housing and construction - \$2,044,000. Now what efforts are being made for people to acquire these homes, or these houses, and what effort does the government make to sell them? Apparently they are for sale and we don't hear of them being sold. How many are sold and how many were sold? I certainly would like to hear what efforts are being made to sell these homes because the Leader of the Liberal Party certainly spoke at length on the matter of owning versus renting, or ownership of housing, and I too feel that this is very important, and certainly ownership versus housing when you pay rent you don't acquire any equity whatever, and if you purchase and make your monthly payments you at least get an equity in that property. And if you should take sick, and so on, at least you are in your own home and no one can drive you out, whereas those that when you are renting, you take sick and unless you have some insurance you're completely at the mercy of the landlord, or you have to fall back on social allowances or welfare from the government.

So I feel that we should be encouraging people to acquire their own homes and their own houses, housing, and follow a program such as they have in British Columbia and which is now supported by the NDP government out there. The Social Credit Government there brought, implemented a program whereby they give outright grants to people who acquired their home for the first time, be it young people or older people who for the first time bought their own home. And they could get a thousand dollar grant, or in lieu of that, if they preferred, they could get a second mortgage at low interest costs, and the repayment of those second mortgages would only take place after the first mortgage was paid off, and I felt that this was a real worthwhile program. And the NDP government that is there now certainly must feel the same way otherwise they wouldn't continue with the program. In fact they put in \$50 million this year into that very program, so that people in British Columbia certainly will be able to purchase their homes and be assisted by the government in this program in this type of way.

We have in this report the various types of programs outlined and also the various types of units that have been constructed. The Minister mentioned that moneys had been spent in my riding. Sure, and I notice that under the Elderly Persons Housing the town of Winkler had twelve projects, Gretna 17, Altona 18, for a total of 47. And under the Housing for Families, I find that Winkler had 15 detached, and Altona also 15 detached, for a total of 30 projects under that program. So that the area, or the people in this area have been making use of the program that was made available through the Housing and Renewal Program.

Mr. Speaker, these were some of the points that I wanted to raise, and I really do hope that the Minister takes this matter of assessment to heart and that he will make some proposals to the House and bring about some changes, because in the long run we can't afford to carry on that way. Because in the last assessment, assessments were raised by 400 percent on farm lands and this means that the taxes --(Interjection)-- Well I can tell him on the one parcel that I have, which also comes under this very item, the assessment was increased on 125 acres to \$25,000, and this means that we now have a tax bill of between 1,700 and 1,800 dollars on a 125 acres. Well this is I think unheard of in other parts of rural Manitoba that it went that high, and the land just across the road where you have a full quarter section assessed at 10,800

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(MR. FROESE cont'd) compared to the 125 acres at 25,000. So I feel that this is very very wrong indeed, and I know there are other areas where we have that happen too and these people in the additional zone complained of that very same fact right here in the outskirts of Winnipeg. --(Interjection)-- No, it isn't in town; these properties here aren't in town either. Look, the people here told us where their properties were and the Minister should have come to that meeting and heard for himself. --(Interjection)--Pardon? --(Interjection)-- You weren't told about it? Then you people must have poor communications among the Ministers of the various departments when the Minister of Municipal Affairs is not told of a meeting of the Additional Zone Committee, and I can hardly believe that, that the Minister did not get an invitation in writing, or by phone, to attend that meeting. How else would the Minister of Agriculture get a notice when he is not involved in assessment? This is a puzzle to me, and surely enough there must be some very poor communication, or the Additional Zone people must have lost all confidence in the Minister that he didn't pay attention to their problems and their needs. Maybe that is the reason they invited the Minister of Agriculture. I thought there was some connection somewhere that whether the agriculture was the - the Minister of Agriculture was the Acting Minister of Municipal Affairs and that because of this he might be invited to that meeting. I don't know who the Acting Minister is in this House, and if the Minister of Municipal Affairs cannot attend.

Mr. Speaker, it is ten to five roughly, and I think there's some other honourable members that have a contribution to make and would like to speak on the Minister's Concurrence Motion. Once more I do appeal to the Ministers to really take note of these situations and that he do something about it.

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

MR. EARL MCKELLAR (Souris-Killarney): Mr. Speaker, I've just come to life, I just feel like as if I've had about ten hours sleep, a big beef steak, and just raring to go. So you're not going to eat till 5:30 because I'm going to keep you here till 5:30. I understand I've got 40 minutes so I've got a lot of wonderful magazines to read here during that 40 minutes. "The Land in the Middle." I've got another insurance book here, "Canadian Insurance," I've got the famous "Housing Corporation" here, so I'm going to read them all. You might as well sit and listen. And if I run short I've got Automobiles Regulations here that I can figure . . .

Mr. Speaker, I remember so well 1959, and I don't like to go back over the years.

A MEMBER: Go back to '59, Earl, that's a good place to start.

MR. MCKELLAR: We had a wind-up that evening, we wound up the session about 10:00 o'clock; we had a party, and it so ended up about 3:00 o'clock in the morning, and about 15 people ended up in my room. You know, Mr. Speaker, six weeks later three men were dead, three men were dead, and I'll tell you what happened. Two of them died from heart attacks, and as sure as we're standing around here there will be some of us wouldn't be around the next time we meet in this House, at the next session of the Legislature. The human body won't bend, the human body will not bend, it's as simple as that. Three of them dead, one man was 40 years of age, the other man was 50 years of age, one was Jack Cobb, the Member for Arthur, the other one was Marcel Boulic the Member for Cypress at that time. The Honourable Minister of Labour knows all about it. The third member that passed on was Wally Miller, former Minister of Education, the Member for Rhineland. Three of them dead within six weeks. So, Mr. Speaker, I'm just warning everybody here that you're not a machine, you're not a machine, not a machine at all and I think it's very foolish for us to think it. But I realize that if I speak now I won't be up here, along here till 2:30 tomorrow afternoon, and I'm going to make my speech now then go back to bed, and I'm going to enjoy my sleep.

Mr. Speaker, we did not --(Interjection)-- I wish you would go to sleep. Mr. Speaker, it was unfortunate that during the Estimates we did not get to deal with Municipal Affairs Department because I think to all of us in the rural areas this is one of the more important departments, one of the more important departments. It affects more people's lives than any other department, and I think it's too bad but I guess the government's not to blame over that, it's ourselves to blame maybe. We can take responsibility. This is one of the reasons I was going to stay here if I had to stay here all night and see the sun come up, because the sun will be coming up in about 20 minutes, with daylight coming through that upper bracket up above us, and I think it is important, it is important. The other day in the committee meeting in there the Mayor of Brandon got up and said the mill rate was going up 6.6 mills on residential

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(MR. McKELLAR cont'd) and farm in the City of Brandon and 15 mills, 15 mills on commercial. I hope the honourable members realize what the mill rate was before, because it was over 85 mills for residential and around 110 mills for commercial, so you add 36.6 that's about 92 mills at least, and another 15 is 125 mills. Now, Mr. Speaker, that's not a tax, that's a takeover; that's a takeover; and I don't know whether this was caused by the taking in larger boundaries in Brandon the other year or not, but they've had troubles ever since on mill rates. They had troubles before but not to the extent they have had now, and I'm concerned, I'm concerned - I'm concerned for the people of Brandon, I'm concerned for the people of Winnipeg, because when the government of the day stops subsidizing the \$2 million they're pouring in to hold down the mill rate in a given area around Winnipeg, the suburbs, then in one more year we'll find out the true mill rate in the Greater Winnipeg area, and I can see things happening in the Greater Winnipeg area. It is going to make it impossible for really big expansion to take place because you're going to be up to 75, 85 mill rate on residential and farm within the City of Winnipeg. And there are lots of farms in the Greater Winnipeg area and they are the people, they are going to have a difficult time trying to pay their taxes.

Mr. Speaker, these are some of the problems as I see it. You cannot pay up around 100 mills. It's impossible to pay it because I said it's just a matter of time before it catches up. Now, Mr. Speaker, there are other problems that are affecting, and I was hoping the government of the day would come up with a new assessment policy, something that would be more realistic, and I'm not saying that they are the only ones that tried it, never came up with it. We tried it. We tried it. We tried to convince our ministers of the day that there had to be a new assessment policy, but somehow we never got around to it. I am only hoping that the government will come up with a new assessment policy because I think it's important. Too often where it's related to sale values within a given area.

And I'll tell you, Mr. Speaker, what's taking place in the Province of Manitoba presently today. Last Saturday there was a farm changed hands in the municipality of Grandview, I understand, around \$160.00 an acre. That land a year ago was selling for around \$100 an acre. Now somehow that doesn't look realistic and one of the problems is that a certain given man in Brandon, a machine agent, is going around buying land. Now what happens is the Assessment Branch, and this is what I always argued when I was on the government side. Some of these land sales are not realistic. Given people go out and they make an investment on moneys they had on land, because land is one of the best investments you can have. So you go out and you outbid everybody, but the Assessment Branch goes to the Land Titles Office and use these land values, land prices that were purchased at high prices to arrive at the assessment value. Now all I'm asking is that the Assessment Branch take the real value, not the inflated prices that are happening, and they're happening all over right now, by businessmen in the cities going out and buying land at high prices, and they'll outbid because they can do it to their advantage.

Now I'm not saying that's wrong, because if you pass an Act like Saskatchewan did, to stop anybody buying from outside the boundaries of Saskatchewan, that's wrong too, and I don't think we can stop the people in the cities, but what it's doing it's making it impossible for young farmers to start up farming because they cannot compete at those prices.

Now, Mr. Speaker, there are other problems too in the municipalities. One of the problems is that--and I think it's a problem that's true to farmers too--where you used to buy a D7 Cat for around \$30,000, now they are more than double that, or a D8 Cat to do the work of maintaining the roads, or like they're building roads within the municipalities. The cost of their machinery have more than doubled in the last five, well not in the last eight years, about the last eight years, there's a tremendous increase in machinery for construction of roads within the municipalities. Many of them are finding out now that it's just about as cheap to hire the work done by contractors rather than to have the high-priced machinery sitting around there about eight or nine months of the year. This is one of the, I think, the biggest problems that most municipalities are having now, that when they replace machinery because of the high cost it is impossible to put that much money in the reserve to take care of machinery purchases.

Mr. Speaker, we talked about mention made here tonight about Local Government Districts, and I was fortunate to be on that committee and go about the province with the Minister of Municipal Affairs and other members of the Legislature here, and I had a great experience because I was one of those who really didn't know the difference between unorganized,

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(MR. McKELLAR cont'd) disorganized or name it. I was not aware of the type of government that they had, and I think it was an education to most of us in the organized municipalities of the Province of Manitoba, and we came to realize, I think, most of us, that it was a division of opinion. Some areas preferred to have responsible government; others wanted to retain the administrator type of government. And I see in the Act that is presently before us, I don't know if it's got second reading or not, that the government are going to handle it through Order-in-Council.

Now I think this is proper all right, providing the local people have the say by vote, and I imagine this is what the government are going to do, because without giving the local people a vote or an option, maybe a couple of options, then it wouldn't be really right and proper for a government to go in and say, "You have responsible government." But I think a good instance would be the Town of Gillam, and while I can see Gillam having plenty of people, responsible people to take over the responsibility of operating, I can see the problem is that the Manitoba Hydro have a large investment there to the point where I understand that they are subsidizing the taxes. I think it's about \$40.00 a house, \$35.00 to \$40.00 a house that they are paying as their share of the taxes. The rest is subsidized by Manitoba Hydro.

Now one of the problems I see also is the recreation centre there, and this is one of the best recreation centres that you'll find in any of Manitoba. I only wish we had more of them across the province. Now I am told that the deficit for that recreation centre at Gillam is around \$150,000 - that's the deficit; and this makes it an impossibility for any municipality to pick up that deficit in a town like that, because I am acquainted with towns of a similar size like Killarney, Boissevain and Souris, and I would think that this is one of their greatest problems that they would have to face if they had responsible government. I don't know how they would face it because the governments could not go in and handle this like they did with Keystone. It's a different situation altogether, and I am just wondering and I was talking to many of them that were in Gillam that night, just wondering how they'd face this problem if they did have responsible government.

Now I'm not acquainted with what discussions have gone on since then, whether they are in favour of it yet or whether they want--but there was some that night, I know, that were in favour of responsible government and other ones willing to leave things as they are for the present time. Now I would imagine that when Long Spruce gets completed and Lower Limestone, Upper Limestone, the two projects, the two big Hydro plants to the east of Long Spruce, that it might be possible for their community to expand to the point where they could have responsible government, but it's really interesting, going into a community like that and seeing the development that has taken place over the years.

Now one of the communities that I admired for the changes and I congratulate both the federal and provincial government. I was there in 1962, in Churchill at that time, and saw eleven years ago. I went back this year again and it was my first time back in Churchill and I found a tremendous change taking place there and a change which I imagine the people there will appreciate. But one of the problems there, they are so isolated that it takes a good strong person, I mean, and a contented person, to live in a situation like that, and I imagine there's a very heavy turnover of people there. It would be difficult to keep a community going in a manner which it should, because of the isolated position.

Another community which I enjoyed seeing was the community of Leaf Rapids. There, too, I talked to many people during our interval before our meeting there, and I was impressed with the development, but one of the problems, as I see it in Leaf Rapids, that the people will have there, and I'm told that they make around \$4.00 an hour in the mine, they work 40 hours a week, and the problem they're going to have is making payments on their homes and also paying their taxes. And we all realize there is no assessment here, no taxes on their homes yet, but this is one of the problems that a couple of men that I met said that they are going to have to face. They came from other places where they had subsidized housing like Lynn Lake. The company subsidized their housing and they are going to have to face this problem, but I imagine as time goes along that they will meet this, but it will be one of the most serious problems. There is no way, Mr. Speaker, in my opinion, that any man can get along and live in a \$30,000 house and make \$160.00 a week. There's no way. I would imagine that same man would have to make at least \$250.00 a week to live in that house, and we were told that these houses are running around \$25,000 to \$30,000, just a two-bedroom home, just a basic home.

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(MR. McKELLAR cont'd)

Now one of the other problems we found out there was the fact that being isolated too in a sense that there's no railroad in there, that there was a heavy turnover too, heavy turnover of people, going from moving in and moving out, and this is creating a problem too in trying to keep good reliable help in the mine and also keep the community alive because communities can only exist if they get people to come in there and live there for a long while.

Mr. Speaker, I think it would be only right if I said a word about insurance because I have listened to the Honourable Minister on television and I have heard him on radio. I have heard him, I have seen his picture in the newspapers, I've seen him in every media possible, and he's telling the people how good the plan is. The plan, in his opinion, is the most perfect plan ever devised.

Well we all know, we all know how this got off the rails, and if he hadn't pulled in a certain man from Regina from the government of Saskatchewan the plan never would have got off the rails. His name is Mr. Dutton, and I'm just wondering how long he is going to keep him here in Manitoba, and I just wondered if this man has gone to B. C. in the last little while to assist them, or any other man in Autopac Incorporation. I am just wondering how many trips they have made up there to B. C. And I admire Mr. Dutton because he's had a lot--he got his insurance back--you know, his education, in the private enterprise field. We got it there, we got real good training, real good training, and he adopted the government system of insurance and he was the one that really kept the SGIO on the rails over the years.

But I see SGIO are having a little trouble this year, and I don't know how, but I want to read you a little article about SGIO. Yeah, I'll just read you a little article about SGIO here. It's in a magazine named Canadian Insurance, January 1973, and it is on page 6. "Premier Allan Blakeney of Saskatchewan," I guess the government members all know that gentleman. I happened to be at the Conference, Parliamentary Conference with Mr. Blakeney, and also that year Mr. Reagan, the present Premier of Nova Scotia was there at that time sitting right behind me too, so I got acquainted with them both. Little did we think that they would both be premiers today but one never knows in this day and age, and who's to say that the Member for Rhineland mightn't be the Premier some day if he stays in the Legislature. Well there's always hope - there's always hope.

Mr. Speaker, there's only one other McKellar that I ever heard of, there's only one other McKellar, a man named McKellar that was ever in a Legislature, and that happened to be Senator McKellar from Tennessee, and he was a promoter of The Tennessee Valley Authority, and for all those that know the Tennessee Valley Authority it was one of the greatest programs that has ever caught up in the United States, and I tell you I don't have to repeat to most of you, you read the newspaper, actually know or have travelled, but he was really a man, and he lived in the United States Congress in the Senate until after 80 years of age. So I've got a few years yet, Mr. Speaker, to maybe--maybe there is an opportunity yet. At least, Mr. Speaker, I came from the third row, spent eight years back in the third row, I spent three years in the second row, and I've been four years in this row, and all I've got to do is move across to the front row on the other side, so it's not very long.

So, Mr. Speaker, I want to read this story about SGIO. "Premier Allan Blakeney of Saskatchewan announced recently it may be necessary to increase auto insurance premiums in 1973 due to the high accident rate in 1972. The Auto Accident Insurance Fund has been paying out about 98 cents of every premium dollar, and the top rate at which the fund can operate at a feasible basis is 85 cents on the dollar. The SGIO recorded 222 persons died in traffic accidents during the first ten months of the year, compared with 165 in 1971. Injuries totalled 7,561 for the same period compared with 6,832 in 1971. Accident frequency increased by 20 percent. Increases for the package insurance policies will range from \$3.00 to \$8.00. Compulsory insurance with \$200.00 deductible and \$35,000 public liability, carries \$95.00 annual premium for a 1972 model Sedan with wheelbase between 100 and 120 inches, in addition to the registration fee of \$22.00."

So, Mr. Speaker, accidents have been going up and I don't have to tell the Minister of Municipal Affairs. He knows. But the Minister of Municipal Affairs must have gone to church every Sunday last year because there was no snow last winter, and they had the best experience of good roads during that whole winter season that we have ever had in the history of Manitoba. No ice, no snow, no wind - nothing; just summer weather in February and March. So I

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(MR. McKELLAR cont'd) suppose, Mr. Speaker, we won't know for another year and a half because it takes about--it took six months to get our annual report in this year after the end of the year Oct. 31, 1972, and it will be a long while before we know it. In fact, we'll never know. We'll never know for the simple reason there is nothing in here. All they did was praise the government up, they praised them up, and we should all sit down and bow; we should have sat down and bowed. Heaven help us--we should have sat down and bowed and said Amen to Howard Pawley. Amen to Howard Pawley. But I don't suppose everybody in Manitoba would say Amen because there are some of them had to move out of the province, and we are all finding it out now what's happening in B. C. The other day, I think it was, up to six companies had left the province of B. C. Every day there's another company pulling out, just one by one they're heading out. There's nowhere to go now actually--there's no sense in stopping in Alberta, they might as well head east to Toronto. So everybody wonders why the companies set up in Toronto --(Interjection)-- where are they going to be --(Interjection)-- They haven't passed the bill yet, they haven't passed the bill yet, they haven't passed the bill. They're free enterprisers. They're free enterprisers. They're free enterprisers. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker, all the publicity, all the publicity, all the publicity you hear in this here annual report about how much they're saving money, how much they're saving money, the people are saving. Well I've yet to see one person in rural parts save any money. It's quite true maybe the odd young person saved it who owned a car. But where the father owned the car and the young boy driving, well there's really not much saving. Mr. Speaker, there never was any increase for girls, there never was in the past. There was never any surcharge. No they liberated it off. No. No. No. They always let them go through on the standard rate, it was just the boys. Mr. Speaker, there's not that much saving. All the figures that were put in here--the propaganda sheet as I call it--15 percent saving.

Mr. Speaker, I sell extension insurance and at the Annual Meeting of the Portage Mutual Insurance Company Mr. Brown, the General Manager, made a statement to the effect that they have more cars insured under the extension program, Portage Mutual has, than they had before insured, and they had around 10 percent before, 10 percent before. Wawanesa always had about 15 to 20 percent of the total market before. I don't know what their rate works out because I never heard. But I know Portage Mutual have more cars insured under the extension. Do you know why they have them insured? Because the rates are cheaper than yours under extension. They are cheaper. You know, on a '73 car I can save anybody \$10.00 or more. --(Interjection)-- What's that? No, it isn't. You don't know. You don't know how many because half the cars, maybe your trucks, you don't have it. So you never will know. You never have.

Mr. Speaker, I want to say a few other things here too, about the untruths that are in here, about the auditing, because I think this is right. You cannot compare--you're trying to compare apples and oranges. If you would let the auditors audit this under the Insurance Act of Canada then you could compare, you could compare with Wawanesa and all the other companies that do business in this. But you can't compare it. You can't compare it when you're auditing under two different standards. Did you ever check what your underwriting loss was, your true underwriting loss? Well you want to figure it out. It's 800,000 loss. But it's not recorded here, because you don't do it that way. The Insurance Act says you bring in interest after you take your underwriting loss, and this is the way it's always done.

I think it would be a good idea if I read these off because I've got another 15 minutes. I've got to have something to read. I want to give you figures here. I want to just tell you how important that company is that I - The Wawanesa Mutual Insurance Company. I want to tell you how important it is, how much taxes they pay. You know, you folks don't pay any taxes. You pay premium tax, 2 percent premium tax. You don't pay income tax. What contribution is your company making to the Province of Manitoba? What province? --(Interjection)-- You're not making any contribution--you're not making any contribution at all. I want to tell you how much income tax that Wawanesa Mutual has paid to your coffers, to pay your salaries. And this insurance is done all over Canada, it's done all over Canada.

The Wawanesa Mutual Insurance Company is the largest mutual insurance company in Canada, the largest mutual insurance company in Canada, and I'm talking about mutuals for those of you who are not--my goodness, here they condemn the mutual insurance companies. The mutual insurance company is a company of policyholders. One policyholder, one vote, the same as your system, the same as your system. You can't condemn mutual companies.

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(MR. McKELLAR cont'd) They're not a share company like Lloyd's of London, like Royal Insurance, like all the other companies that operate in the insurance industry under the Board. This is a mutual company setting their own rates, and I tell you they've accomplished something, and they did it--they've done it since 1896 when their company was formed. Formed by a bunch of farmers trying to insure their threshing machines in the Wawanesa district. Mr. Speaker, I have known most of those directors over the years. I knew the first manager, Mr. Kenton, the man that actually set up this famous company.

A MEMBER: Is Don Craik one of them?

MR. McKELLAR: Yes, Mr. Craik is one of them, and a good man too, free enterpriser, free enterpriser, doing his part for Canada and Manitoba. And I want to tell you how much - how much their investments are here and how much - and I'll tell you what their --(Interjection)-- Mr. Speaker, their investments here are--their assets are 96 million, \$96 million. That's a lot of assets, an increase of 10 million over the last year. Most of the business increase was done in Ontario and Quebec. Now their premiums written over the last year \$54 million, \$54 million, business was done all over Canada. Head office in Wawanesa. An increase of \$3 million over the year previous. Now their losses, 36 million compared to 35 million the year before; and expenses were 15 million, compared to 14 million the year before. They had an underwriting loss of \$149,000, and that's on \$54 million of premiums. Their surplus is \$23 million compared to 21 million the year before, their actual surplus. Their taxes that they paid--where is it here?--income tax 1.6 million, 1.6 million. And this is the difference. You don't operate the same as other companies. One point six million dollars out of \$54 million was paid in tax to the Government of Canada and the Province of Manitoba, and what's the advantage - what's the advantage of having a company like this in Manitoba? I'll tell you what the advantage is. Corporation taxes come to the Province of Manitoba. But if you have a corporation in Toronto it doesn't help you other than through equalization payments. That's the only time you get a little of advantage, you know, a little advantage. It's worth something to have these companies in Manitoba. Mutual companies established by farmers, run by Manitobans, and doing a very good job over the last 75 or 80 years for the people of the Province of Manitoba. And they've done it through competition. Freedom of choice, individual freedom of choice to purchase it where he wants to, and when he wants to, and not told by any government that he had to purchase it through a Crown corporation.

Mr. Speaker, I want to talk about first--I got another book here. This is one of the finest books here that was ever put out. And I was amazed at the quality of the paper here, but the third page here, I don't know where the Minister - how much he paid for the first page to get that picture of his in here, and all the story here congratulating the Board, but it is a fine edition, an excellent edition --(Interjection)-- an excellent edition on the land in the middle. The Land in the Middle, Manitoba's Interlake. Now I want to know what - I see there's a Manitoba advertisement here telling you all about South Indian Lake, and all about the electricity that's going to flow down from the north to feed the people in southern Manitoba. But I tell you, I tell you, unless we get some water into that Nelson River we won't have any hydro. I can tell you that right now.

On the next page - I want to read the car insurance . . .

MR. USKIW: Point of order, Mr. Speaker. The member is referring to an item in a document that is not a government document.

MR. McKELLAR: I know it isn't.

MR. USKIW: No, but the member suggested that the public paid a certain sum of money for the picture of the Minister. The document was produced by the Interlake Development Corporation at their own expense, Mr. Speaker.

MR. McKELLAR: I never said--Mr. Speaker, if the honourable member will sit down-- I never said that. I said it was a fine picture. But I was getting to the back. You can't read that--I just want to know what that's worth. But I want to read to you car rates here. There again they're advertising all the increase in rates in the other eight provinces, but not in Manitoba. Not in Manitoba. Mr. Speaker, I want to come to that. I want to come to that. Six million dollars in this statement here that the accountants brought out, six million dollars, and not one cent of it taken off as an expense in the year 1972, 1972. Where did that money come from? I want to know who paid the increase. I don't want to know what account it came from, because I tell you an organizational expense; it is not an asset, it's a liability. And not one

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(MR. McKELLAR cont'd) cent of that six million dollars was paid. Can you say that you had a surplus this year when you still have a six million dollars . . . ? I'll tell you what they're going to do. They'll put it right under the table here, that six million. We'll never hear of that six million again. It was paid to the Department of Highways, a lot of it, and the other three million must have come from the treasury itself through the Minister of Finance as a loan, a non-interest-bearing loan as far as I'm concerned. And I tell you the people of Manitoba will not pay for that kind of accounting. They will not stand for that. You cannot go six million dollars underneath this debt and forget about it. That's a debt, it's got to be paid. And I tell you it should, a part of it, I'm not saying all of it, but 10 percent of that should have been paid this year, and 10 percent the next year for ten years, and let's pay it off. It's not right and proper that the Minister should go around the province saying we've saved you 15 percent when the true fact is that it cost the people more money than it ever did before to buy their insurance. But you'll never hear that from the Minister because he's got that same old story. He's going to say you people saved - we saved you 15 percent. We saved. And they'll all get down on their knees and bow and they'll say, hail hallelujah Howard Pawley. But I don't think they're going to say that in Wawanesa because they know him too well. They know him too well. They know you can't believe him, and I tell you, Mr. Speaker, already I hear in this building that there's work going on just waiting for the day after the election, if they're elected, that fire insurance and life insurance is on the way.

And we don't have to be told. Mr. Barrett told us what was going to happen in Manitoba. He told us - Mr. Barrett from B.C. - he told us what was going to happen because he had his plans. You're going to have a plan similar. And it's only a matter of time too when the insurance agents won't be needed. You won't be needed because he doesn't need them there; he's got a monopoly on automobile insurance. He doesn't need agents. The public got to go and buy it wherever they can find it. This is what'll happen. Sure he'll have them for a year or two up there but he won't need them very long. They'll all be civil servants, they'll all be civil servants selling crop insurance, car insurance, you name it. They got no hospital premiums to collect, so that's one job they won't have to do. But this is what will happen as sure as I am--but I tell you I think the public are smart enough that they'll put a halt to that, and they'll put a halt to it whether it's June 28th, September 17th, or whenever it may be. --(Interjection)-- I don't care what day it is, I'm ready. You can call it right now, I am ready to go walking. I'm just raring to go.

Now I've got to get down to some housing here; I've got some more material here somewhere here if I can find it here. Oh here it is. I just admire this housing book here. This is really something you know. The only trouble with a lot of this is we didn't get a chance to look at it early enough in the session. I was wondering you know, was curious to know why about three days before the session the Minister of Municipal Affairs, who is chairman of the board of the Housing Corporation, threw his hands up and turns it over to Mr. Andy Currie, the Deputy Minister of Urban Affairs. Now there's something strange when that happens --(Interjection)-- I don't know what you'd call it --(Interjection)-- there's something happening here, something happening. Wheeling and dealing. Because I remember another man who was chairman and after the last session the Minister of Municipal Affairs took over, about two days after the session. So two days before the session he threw it up. No more of that, no more housing, we got to run the Autopac, so we can't have any time for housing, so he threw it all on Mr. Andy Currie and he's the man that's got to look after the public business in housing. Public business.

Well one of the things I think --(Interjection)-- I don't know where all this money's coming from, this 90 percent, but I guess as long as the Federal Government are operating on a deficit of about two or three billion dollars, there'll always be housing because they'll try to--the money . . . up in the Bank of Canada a little more and put some more out. But I think we got to take a second look at all this. It is creating a little problem in the cities as I see it. It's creating a problem that it's a fact that the private builders don't know how much to build for because they don't even know how much the government are going to build, and it's just a vicious circle.

Now the life insurance companies used to be great financiers of housing. Now I don't know if they've pulled out or not--maybe the Minister can tell me whether they've pulled out of the financing of housing construction or not. But another problem regarding housing, I was

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(MR. McKELLAR cont'd) told, is that the City of Winnipeg have not passed one new development plan since last year. I don't know whether that's true or not. And they tell me that's increasing the price of land that's already for sale-- in fact there's very little for sale right now. It's putting the squeeze on everything. So I'd just like to ask the Minister if that is true or not?

Now I'm living in a sixty-year-old house. I kept it fixed up, and I don't know why a lot more of these houses, older homes, can't be repaired. I think that many of them could be brought up to the point with a lot less money than going into new homes. But getting back to the rental, I would like to see - I'm wondering why it wouldn't be better to subsidize rentals in the homes and apartments where the people are presently living rather than to have to put them in a new apartment like the one down here a block or two blocks from the St. Regis, the new home there across from Louis Riel--that's a new apartment. But I was just wondering why--there's a lot of older apartments--if it wouldn't be better to subsidize them in the private housing rather than they have to wait for the new housing. Now we haven't got the money in Manitoba to build a house for everybody, and it's not possible, somewhere along the line we're going to have to have a little of each, I would think, to counterbalance.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rock Lake.

MR. EINARSON: I beg to move, seconded by the Member from Minnedosa, that the debate be adjourned.

MOTION presented and lost.

MR. EINARSON: Ayes and Nays, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Call in the members.

A STANDING VOTE was taken the result being as follows:

YEAS

Messrs. ASPER

BLAKE

EINARSON

ENNS

FROESE

GIRARD

G. JOHNSTON

F. JOHNSTON

McKELLAR

McKENZIE

SHERMAN

SPIVAK

WATT

NAYS

Messrs. ADAM

BARROW

BOYCE

BURTNIAK

DOERN

EVANS

GOTTFRIED

GREEN

HANUSCHAK

JENKINS

JOHANNSON

McBRYDE

MACKLING

MALINOWSKI

PAULLEY

PAWLEY

PETURSSON

SHAFRANSKY

TOUPIN

TURNBULL

URUSKI

USKIW

WALDING

MR. CLERK: Yeas 13; Nays 23.

MR. SPEAKER: In my opinion the nays have it. I declare the motion lost.

Resolution pass? The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Member for Lakeside, the House do now adjourn.

MOTION presented.

MR. GREEN: . . . There has been no proceeding taken, Mr. Speaker. The debate has been not continued and there has been no proceeding taken and therefore I --(Interjection)--

A MEMBER: Go ahead if you want another vote.

MR. GREEN: It's all right, I'm not going to make a point of it.

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MR. SPEAKER: One moment, we're having a bit of tape problem. All done?

In respect of the intermediate - oh, what's the word again? - proceedings, there has been one motion which is a different motion of adjournment than the adjournment of the House, therefore the motion is now in order.

A MEMBER: All right. Call the motion.

MR. SPEAKER: Moved by the Honourable Leader of the Opposition, seconded by the Honourable Member for Lakeside, the House do now adjourn.

MOTION presented and lost.

MR. SPIVAK: Ayes and Nays, Mr. Speaker. --(Interjection)-- No, ayes and nays, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please.

MR. GREEN: . . . a question of a reasonable time for the bells to be--all of the members are in the House and I would ask that the recorded vote be taken. We're not here to play games, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. One member at a time. The Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party.

POINT OF PRIVILEGE

MR. ASPER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, on a point of privilege of the House. I regard, as I'm sure you do, Sir, and I think all responsible members, that there has been a warping and there has been an undue distortion of the Rules of this House. The Rules of this House being the fundamental rule, unwritten and enshrined in the precedents of parliamentary democracy . . .

A MEMBER: Point of order . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. Would the honourable member sit down? Let me indicate to the House there is no way I can tell whether there's a matter of privilege or a point of order if people keep interjecting and distorting my hearing. And if I have to stand here for an hour to try and hear what the point of order is or the matter of privilege I shall do so; but I can only do so if I get the co-operation of the honourable members. Now the Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party explain his matter of privilege.

MR. ASPER: Yes, Mr. Speaker. The point of privilege of the House is that this House is being made into a laughingstock; this House is being made into a disgrace of the tradition, a disgrace of the tradition of British-Canadian Parliamentary democracy. Mr. Speaker, . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. Would the honourable member state his matter of privilege. So far all he's doing is debating an issue.

MR. ASPER: Well, Mr. Speaker, I am stating that the conduct of the House Leader is such as to belittle the parliamentary process and that is a matter of the highest privilege.

MR. SPEAKER: That is not a matter of privilege. That is not a matter of privilege. The rules have not been contravened, consequently there is no matter of privilege.

MOTION presented and lost.

MR. SPIVAK: Ayes and Nays, Mr. Speaker. --(Interjection)--

A MEMBER: Mr. Speaker, we're on a point of order . . . requested that the bell be rung . . .

MR. GREEN: Not necessarily.

MR. SPIVAK: Yes, Sir, Mr. Speaker, that has always occurred in every situation since the House Leader has become a member of this House, and either we're going to abide by the rules or we're not.

MR. SPEAKER: Call in the members.

A MEMBER: What a bunch of kids.

MR. GREEN: . . . just as occurred several years ago, the Whips cannot agree that there is waiting for members to appear; as a matter of fact members have left and therefore, Mr. Speaker, I would ask that in accordance with the previous practice you call the question within a reasonable time.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. Motion before the House is to adjourn.

A STANDING VOTE was taken, the result being as follows:

YEAS

Messrs: Asper	F. Johnston
Blake	G. Johnston
Einarson	McKellar
Enns	McKenzie
Ferguson	Sherman
Froese	Spivak
Girard	Watt
Henderson	

NAYS

Messrs: Adam	Mackling
Barrow	Malinowski
Boyce	Paulley
Burtniak	Pawley
Doern	Petursson
Evans	Shafransky
Gottfried	Toupin
Green	Turnbull
Hanuschak	Uruski
Jenkins	Uskiw
Johansson	Walding
McBryde	

MR. CLERK: Yeas 15; Nays 23.

MR. SPEAKER: In my opinion the noes have it, I declare the motion lost.
Resolution--pass?

The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

CONCURRENCE - Cont'd

MR. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, it's now my long awaited privilege to contribute to the concurrence motions before us on the Department of Municipal Affairs; and, Mr. Speaker, while I appreciate the fact that perhaps not everybody will be listening with rapt attention, I know you, Sir, will. So I will direct my remarks to you.

And I would like to, Mr. Speaker, what I've been waiting for some time to bring to your attention, Mr. Speaker, and through you to the people of Manitoba a document, one of those documents, one of those famous study pieces of work that was done I believe by one of those committees that they establish, which has been commonly referred to as the NDP Manifesto.

I think it's fair to say, Mr. Speaker, that it was possibly too rough a version in its original form but very easily identifiable in the new form dressed up somewhat in the Guidelines of the Seventies reports that have been distributed in this Chamber, and I'd like to refer specifically to a section that was contained in the initial NDP Manifesto for Manitoba having to do with this particular Minister and this particular department that we are now regretfully concurring in the passage of his Estimates.

And I would like to quote briefly, Mr. Speaker, some of the guidelines or suggestions contained in the Manifesto for what they felt this government should be doing with respect to the municipal bodies, municipal organizations, as we now find them in the Province of Manitoba. And of course they have the problem, and they recognize the problem that in all too many of them there's a degree of conservatism and retrenchment elements. And the following quotation indicates the second purpose of the municipal Crown corporations which was envisaged in this study group that this government wants to proceed with, which has, of course as one of its principal aims and goals disruption of the existing power structures in the smaller communities and the replacement of those presently elected by more activist groups; more activist, Mr. Speaker, as far as they're concerned because they are really not quite prepared to work with the duly elected members of council throughout Manitoba because of what, in their opinion, they feel then have in too many instances a conservative nature representing a degree of retrenchment. And let's actually take a quotation out of the NDP Manifesto so that we are not dealing in generalities but can be more specific and I quote as follows: "Because the boards of directors"

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(MR. ENNS cont'd) - and this is relative to their concept of setting up the municipal Crown corporations, and in many instances the directors of these Crown corporations would of course have to be drawn from the local leaders, if it is in fact to be a truly municipal Crown corporation, but this is the problem as astutely recognized by the planners. And they go on to say: "Because the boards of directors will be composed of local elected representatives the institutions will to some extent reflect the political preference of the area they serve. Thus if a local council that tended toward conservatism and retrenchment were replaced by a more activist body this would be mirrored in changes in the economic structures of the community." In other words, Mr. Speaker, the astute planners that do all these wonderful things for this government, that write up all these wonderful reports and studies and documents, some of which the First Minister of this province, of course, spent a great deal of time denying their importance, however we've come to learn, and come to expect them to surface in all sorts of wonderful ways either as actual pieces of legislation or rewrapped, redesigned, as we have seen in the case of the NDP Manifesto for Manitoba in three rather attractive volumes of the Guidelines of the Seventies, and in this case these same planners recognize that if they are to bring about their particular imprint in the local areas, local government structures that something will have to be done about getting some more activist groups into the municipal structures as we now know them.

It is to be noted that the directors appointed by the Minister may also be fired by the Minister at any time. And they would presumably be people selected by the Minister as the most likely to persuade the communities of Manitoba to change from their conservative and retrenchment ways.

Well, Mr. Speaker, I suggest to you that witnessing as we are a very pretty unforgettable demonstration of government tyranny, that we can anticipate, and certainly the rural councils, the rural people of Manitoba, can anticipate a degree of government tyranny that they have yet to experience if suggestions, recommendations made by the group that produced the document, the NDP Manitoba Manifesto, latterly refined and redesigned to become the Guidelines for the Seventies, I suggest that the municipal structures in our province will experience the full brunt of how this government intends to impose its particular brand of tyranny on them.

Now, Mr. Speaker, let me deal with the insidiousness of this suggestion for a moment. "Because the boards of directors will be composed of local elected representatives" - now that in itself leaves a pretty untasteful implication in my mouth. There is something wrong, there is something wrong with locally elected representatives on a board that this government has a mind, or on a corporation that this government has intentions of setting up. Now, Mr. Speaker, --and they're astute enough to recognize that nonetheless somehow or other they have to be elected officials. So their job will have to be to somehow induce that the more activist groups, the more preferable in their light, preferable to their policies, preferable to their thinking, somehow become the elected members in our municipal infrastructure throughout this province, so that when these municipal Crown corporations are set up that there will be no hindrance, Mr. Speaker, no possible obstacles put in their way by people of a more conservative nature--and I use that word not in its political context, Mr. Speaker,--but people who happen to believe that their job and that their responsibility is to, to the degree that they're best capable of, reflect the attitudes, the feelings of the people who chose them in the first place. But it's interesting, Mr. Speaker, to note that this government, that this government finds it difficult to accept that that kind of representation is indeed a proper one, or at least a good enough one for what their motives care. And thus, Mr. Speaker, the suggestion, the implied suggestion that we can expect the long arm of the Minister to be making the appointments in order to initially get the more desirable activist element into these structures, and once in place and serving at the mercy of the Minister they would then hope, they would then hope that it would be likely for these kinds of appointed boards to persuade the communities of Manitoba to change from their conservative and retrenchment ways.

Well, Mr. Speaker, I suggest and I suppose maybe I shouldn't be too hard on the Minister of Municipal Affairs if that is his intention for proceeding in this course, because there is of course - and I have had no difficulty in recognizing in my honourable friends opposite that kind of missionary zeal to convert; that kind of evangelical zeal to bring to those who have not seen the light, to those who have failed to understand--(Interjection)-- Well as my friend the Member for Fort Garry says, the great masses of unwashed, the true and honest gospel as practised by

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(MR. ENNS cont'd) members opposite. Well, now, Mr. Speaker, the only difficulty with that is, the only difficulty with that is, the only difficulty with that course of action, of course, Mr. Speaker, is it affronts and it abuses some very fundamental and basic concepts of what most of us would like to take for granted in our society. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker, surely, surely it's a sad state of affairs when a senior government of this province adopts that attitude towards, as they have often been described, a creature of their own making, namely, our municipal governments, and towards a level of government whom I have had at no time any difficulty in recognizing the performance, the demands, often without any of the accompanying credits or acknowledgments, the service that the local councillor pays to his immediate community is one in my judgment that in far too many cases goes by unnoticed sufficiently by the very people that they serve. And certainly, Mr. Speaker, does not deserve this kind of condemnation by its parent or senior level of government.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I can understand why the NDP Manifesto for Manitoba did not receive the wide distribution that the Guidelines for the Seventies received. Because as I said at the outset this is again one of those initial rough drafts, planners' copies of government intent with respect to future programming, something like the kind of document that was produced by another planning body for the Department of Education, I'm sure, Mr. Speaker, that by the time that we see a more formalized or a more refined version of, that that will have been tidied up somewhat too. But, Mr. Speaker, don't let the embellishments of the actual form that this document now is in, namely in the Guidelines of the Seventies, fool you or anybody in Manitoba. It certainly is not fooling members in the opposition. It's taken a little while to, it's taken a little while to be able to catch on to the semantics of this government, to catch on to their style. We usually have this kind of a document prepared, it is then, Mr. Speaker, not in any way, it does not in any - it does not fall into our hands by accident, or into the hands of the public by accident. No, Mr. Speaker, it is given limited circulation.

And then there is the position that the government then like to take of retrenchment, if I may use that term in describing that government, of making the original proposal somewhat more palatable by using more refined language. Not by outright accusations of the kind that I've just mentioned with respect to municipal councils, no, I suspect that this same chapter, this same subject matter dealt with in the Guidelines for the Seventies report, will be couched in considerably more acceptable language. It will have the broad and sweeping in nature, it'll talk about the necessity of the local governments, of the necessity of bringing new blood into local government structures. They will refrain from using the term more activist groups because most of us understand what is meant by that phrase. So that if you read this same passage, Mr. Speaker, in the Guidelines of the Seventies volume, it becomes much more acceptable to the innocent reader, Mr. Speaker. But then, Mr. Speaker, we're no longer innocent readers those of us in opposition. We have had the occasion to watch this particular process take place in far too many instances, in far too many instances. We have been able to, and were, Mr. Speaker, in that first instance, genuinely prepared to accept the fact that when the subject matter of auto insurance was first brought before the attention of the people of Manitoba, and the intentions of this government were made known that an establishment of a municipal board, or establishment of an inquiry board, would be set up to investigate how the government should best proceed with its well announced and planned entry into the auto insurance field--there was still a rather naive feeling on the part of many of us that perhaps this was precisely what that board was set up to do.

Indeed, Mr. Speaker, at that time earlier on in the career of the First Minister, and the career of this government, when the First Minister addressed a rather large gathering of all people directly involved and directly--that were about to be directly affected by the takeover of the auto insurance industry that when he told them that nationalization for nationalization's sake was the last thing from the First Minister's mind, and that the private auto insurer, the independent auto insurance agents, should not, should not, Mr. Speaker, I repeat, conclude that because this government, this government and this Party was committed and is committed to bringing about some major reforms in auto insurance, that that automatically meant taking over the auto insurance business as such. Mr. Speaker, I don't have the actual words that the First Minister used on that occasion but I can at least relate to you the kind of genuine, genuine feeling on the part of many independent insurers who, subsequent to that meeting, spoke to me and felt that the First Minister of this province at least was certainly prepared to have an open mind

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(MR. ENNS cont'd) on this particular subject matter and were to some extent lulled into believing that there would be, that there would be a genuine attempt on the part of the government to bring in the necessary reforms that they felt were necessary in auto insurance but not necessarily take over their business. Well, Mr. Speaker, it's experiences such as that, and subsequent ones, that have educated us in the opposition to recognize by now, somewhat belatedly I admit, that the various documents such as the one that I am referring to now, the NDP Manifesto for Manitoba, as I suspect the Kierans Report and others, that despite what the First Minister has to say about them at first flush, and despite his backing off from the positions initially taken by some of these documents, that is merely drawing a little bit of velvet over the iron fist, over the heavy hand that will sooner or later make itself apparent in actual legislation and actual government policy.

Mr. Speaker, I think that I would want to charge the Municipal Affairs Minister to state categorically, to tell us precisely what he means, or to what extent is he committed to the bringing in of more activist groups into our municipal structures, to combatting the conservative element of our municipal officials, to express--either support, Mr. Speaker, an acknowledgment of the fundamental right of our people in Manitoba to elect those officials whom they think best serve them at this important level of government, this first level of government, our municipal councils, and not to sit in judgment on them as to their progressiveness or lack of progressiveness or particular political hues. That, Mr. Speaker, suggests a pretty subtle degree of government tyranny that is even more vicious and more harmful to the future of our province, to the future of our freedoms in this province than the kind of tyranny that we've exercised and that we've been exposed to here during this sitting of this long session.

Mr. Speaker, I think that the Minister of Municipal Affairs should accept a major responsibility for telling us precisely what he intends to do and what he has in mind with respect to the kind of changes that he wants to bring about to our municipal structures. I think he should tell us before the next election, Mr. Speaker, and not left in the vague terms of the Guidelines of the Seventies volumes about what kind of boundary changes he plans for our municipal boundaries; of what, Mr. Speaker, the role of the municipal Crown corporations will actually be, will actually be, Mr. Speaker. We have every indication to believe that the people that are advising him are not going to be satisfied with having the direction of those municipal Crown corporations be left in the hands of the locally elected people, or locally elected representatives, because after all they're too conservative for him and they represent retrenchment elements. So the Minister, the Minister intends to appoint the more activist groups to these Crown corporations in the hopes that in a short time, in a short time or in a longer time that they can then persuade the population in that particular area to more readily adopt what they believe to be is the divine right.

Well, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker, I don't know whether the Minister intends to respond or not. I would certainly hope that he would not let the earliness of the hour deter him from responding. I want to assure the Honourable Minister, Mr. Speaker, that we did not have an opportunity to discuss the Estimates of his Department and we certainly don't begrudge the time that we're taking with respect to discussing his estimates at this particular stage of the session. I would hope that there will be other members wishing to pursue this or other subjects that I know are of considerable interest to us; and not only to us of course but indeed to the people of Manitoba.

Mr. Speaker, those are my remarks on the concurrence motions now before us. I suggest, Mr. Speaker, that the Minister has a great deal to answer for in how he intends to bring about some of the avowed reforms the Guidelines for the Seventies anticipates. I, Mr. Speaker, have a feeling that I know, but as usual most of those persons most directly affected will be the last to find out, will be the last to find out. That, Sir, has become the style of this particular government; that, Sir, has become the tyranny of this particular government.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable House Leader.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, in accordance with Rule 63(1) I move that this question be now put.

A MEMBER: What are you up to? Is it getting close? We're finally--okay. He want you to speak?

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I'm referring to the House Rules, not Beauchesne. Seconded by the Minister of Labour. I refer you to Rule 59.

CONCURRENCE

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. Moved by the Honourable Minister of Mines and Resources, seconded by the Honourable Minister--Order, please. I didn't have my tape on. Moved by the Honourable Minister of Mines and Resources, seconded by the Honourable Minister of Labour, the question now be put.

All those in favour, please --(Interjection)-- Order, please. --(Interjection)-- Order, please. The question is not debatable. --(Interjection)-- Order, please.

MR. SPIVAK: . . . either you remove the Deputy Premier of this province or you at least try to maintain some order in this House. That man has been allowed to break the rules in every which way.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. --(Interjection)-- Order, please. --(Interjection)-- All I can do is call for order. Many people don't listen to me.

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

MR. SPEAKER: The question before the House is the resolution before us.

MR. SPIVAK: Ayes and nays, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Call in the members. Order, please. The motion before the House is that this question be now put.

A STANDING VOTE was taken, the results being as follows:

YEAS

Messrs. Adam	Mackling
Barrow	Malinowski
Boyce	Paulley
Burtniak	Pawley
Doern	Petursson
Evans	Shafransky
Gottfried	Toupin
Green	Turnbull
Hanuschak	Uruski
Jenkins	Uskiw
Johannson	Walding
McBryde	

NAYS

Messrs. Asper	G. Johnston
Bilton	F. Johnston
Blake	McGregor
Einarson	McKellar
Enns	McKenzie
Ferguson	Sherman
Froese	Spivak
Girard	Watt
Henderson	

MR. CLERK: Yeas 23; Nays 17.

MOTION carried.

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

MR. SPIVAK: Ayes and nays, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Call in the members, Same division? Agreed? So ordered. The Honourable House Leader.

MR. GREEN: I move, seconded by the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture, that the House do now adjourn.

MOTION presented and carried, and the House adjourned until 10:00 a.m. Thursday morning.