

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA
2:30 o'clock Thursday, February 7, 1974

Opening Prayer by Mr. Speaker.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

MR. SPEAKER: Before we proceed I should like to direct the attention of the honourable members to the gallery where we have 25 students of Grade 5 standing of the Lakewood School. These students are under the direction of Miss L. Taylor. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

We also have thirty students of the Seventh Day Adventists Junior Academy. These students are under the direction of Mr. Nepjuk and Mr. Choban. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Elmwood, the Minister of Public Works.

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

Presenting Petitions; Reading and Receiving Petitions; Presenting Reports by Standing and Special Committees; Ministerial Statements and Tabling of Reports. The Honourable House Leader.

TABLING OF REPORTS

HON. SIDNEY GREEN, Q. C. (Minister of Mines, Resources & Environmental Management) (Inkster): Mr. Speaker, I'd like to table the 15th annual report of the Manitoba Development Corporation. I would also like to table the annual report of the Watershed Conservation Districts of Manitoba.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Agriculture.

HON. SAMUEL USKIW (Minister of Agriculture) (Lac du Bonnet): Mr. Speaker, I wish to table the 2nd annual report of the Co-operative Loans and Loans Guarantee Board, and the 47th annual report of the Co-operative Promotion Board.

MR. SPEAKER: Any other reports or ministerial statements? Notices of Motion; Introduction of Bills; Questions. The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

ORAL QUESTIONS

MR. SIDNEY SPIVAK, Q. C. (Leader of the Official Opposition) (River Heights): Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day my question is to the Minister of Health. I wonder if he can inform the House whether the government will be represented this afternoon at a meeting of the Winnipeg regional hospitals, which will deal with the question of the critical bed shortage in Winnipeg.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Health.

HON. SAUL A. MILLER (Minister of Health and Social Development) (Seven Oaks): Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of the meeting of the Winnipeg regional hospitals.

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I can pose another question to the Minister. I wonder if he can inform the House how many beds will be withdrawn as a result of the closure of the St. Vital Hospital and the Tache Ward.

MR. MILLER: Mr. Speaker, the St. Boniface Hospital will have the 200 beds, extended care beds, which are now under construction. They should be coming on stream some time in April or May. The intention at that time was to convert the beds at St. Vital, St. Amant for Retarded Children. I am not sure of the timetable as to when that is supposed to take place but this spring 200 beds will come on stream. The actual reconversion of the other hospital beds, I don't know the target date.

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I can direct a question again to the Minister. I wonder if he could indicate how many beds will be withdrawn as a result of the closure of the St. Vital Hospital and the Tache Ward?

MR. MILLER: Well, I believe there are 125 beds at the St. Vital Tache but there are 200 beds coming on stream at St. Boniface, so if he's deducting one from the other it's a net gain of 75 if there is a closure and a conversion, rather, of the St. Vital, St. Amant at whatever point in time it may take place.

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary. I wonder if the Minister of Health would undertake to inform the Chairman of the Manitoba Health Services Commission that the net gain in construction will be 75 and not as represented this morning by him.

MR. MILLER: Mr. Speaker I wasn't aware that the Chairman of the Commission had

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(MR. MILLER cont'd) made any statement. As I just indicated, there would be a net gain of 75 if the conversion takes place; if no conversion takes place, the net gain will be 200.

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the First Minister. I wonder if he can inform the House whether he has replied to the letter forwarded to him by the Manitoba Health Organization Incorporated.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

HON. EDWARD SCHREYER (Premier) (Rossmere): Mr. Speaker, as is common in the circumstances, the letter has been referred to the appropriate department minister for consideration and the preparation of a reply.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Health.

MR. MILLER: Mr. Speaker, if I might on the same subject, a reply has been sent.

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

MR. I. H. ASPER (Leader of the Liberal Party) (Wolseley): Mr. Speaker . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. A supplementary by the Honourable Leader of the Opposition?

MR. SPIVAK: I wonder if the Minister can indicate when the reply was sent?

MR. MILLER: I can't give you the date, about two or three days before this House met, I believe, but I can't recall the exact date.

MR. SPIVAK: A supplementary. I wonder then if the Minister of Health would undertake to table that letter in the House?

MR. MILLER: I would have to consider that, Mr. Speaker.

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

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MR. ASPER: Mr. Speaker, I wish to move, seconded by the Honourable Member from Portage la Prairie that the House do now adjourn to consider a matter of definite public urgency, namely the critical shortage of hospital beds in Winnipeg as evidenced by, among other things, the closing of the Health Sciences Centre to all elective admissions to hospital.

MR. SPEAKER: As is our custom and procedure in this House when a motion of this kind is proposed, I shall allow five minutes for each of the parties to make their presentation on the urgency of the motion. Not on the subject matter - I shall rule that out of order - just on the urgency of having that motion debated. The Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party.

MR. ASPER: Mr. Speaker, the reason that I make the motion in this form is that, having spoken on the Speech from the Throne, I am not entitled to speak at this time on the subject. Mr. Speaker, what prompted the urgency, which is what our rule provides, Mr. Speaker, in 27 (1), it began last Friday when, as Hansard reports on page 14, in response to a question in this House, the Minister of Health said, "I deny that there is a critical shortage" referring to the hospital beds, Mr. Speaker. Now under more questioning, Mr. Speaker, he conceded in the days ahead that there was a problem.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The honourable member is now getting into the matter of the motion. I said urgency is the item that is before the House.

MR. ASPER: Well, Mr. Speaker, the point of urgency is that we were unable to get the information by questioning the Minister and we now make the point that urgent public business is being interrupted as a result of a problem in that department. Mr. Speaker, the Minister then said that the answer wasn't to slap up more beds but he failed to give us the answer or the public of Manitoba the answer. He now tells us yesterday that the matter is under investigation and that it will be weeks. . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Again I must remind the honourable member he is debating the substance of the motion and not the urgency of debate.

MR. ASPER: Well, Mr. Speaker, what is a matter of urgent public importance? Number one, health care, the care of the ill, is of public importance and when it becomes urgent, or when does it become urgent, is solely the question before the House - the motion.

When our leading hospital institution announces to its doctors and to the public that it has closed its doors because of the critical shortage of beds, and its doors are closed to elective surgery and elective admission to the hospital, Sir that is urgent. On February 5th that notice was posted and at the very moment we sit here that is the situation at the hospital - that our chief leading institution has closed its doors. Sir, that is urgent. Sir, it is also urgent as it's

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(MR. ASPER cont'd) come before this House that there are emergency cases being checked at hospital doors and being sent home; that when I reported to this House yesterday that there were 19 people lying in stretchers in a given hospital waiting for admission, that number has climbed today to 21. What is urgent, Mr. Speaker, is that when a hospital administrator, as was said to us today, tells us that the situation is desperate, that is urgent, Sir. Mr. Speaker, only a few moments ago in my office . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The Honourable House Leader state his point of order.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, you quite properly advised the honourable member when he commenced his remarks, and I admit that this should be removed from the five minutes so he's not in any way penalized, that the urgency that is referred to the motion is urgency of debate. No one will disagree that a person who is in dire need and needs a hospital bed is in an urgent situation, but whether it is urgent that it be debated, Mr. Speaker, is what is now before Your Honour, and if that were not the case, when the motion was passed, if presuming that after the three speakers spoke the motion was passed, that is when we would debate the things that my honourable friend is referring to. You've already pointed that out to him but I feel constrained to again rise because he is discussing the urgent nature of the subject of his motion, not the urgent nature of debate.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The point is well taken. I would again appeal to the Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party to stick within the confines of our procedures and to debate the urgency of debate, not the subject matter.

MR. ASPER: Mr. Speaker, the motion before the House refers to the urgent matter, that matter being that there has been a notice published, or posted, saying that this institution's doors are closed.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. That is subject matter and that is not the debate before the House. If the honourable member persists, I shall have to rule him out of order. I have cautioned him three times; I ask him again to consider what he's saying. The Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party.

MR. ASPER: Mr. Speaker, the alternative to this debate is to wait until the departmental estimates come in or debate it in the Speech from the Throne, and, as I say, Mr. Speaker, I have used my time in that debate. Having but a few hours ago had new information that indicates the urgency of the situation, Sir, I submit to you that this is what is urgent, that a doctor who has practised for some 30 years in this city, a matter of moments ago said to me, he told me that he had a patient who had a malignancy, who wished to move into a hospital because time is of the essence in such cases, but because of an absence of a bed could not get into the hospital and whose life . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Again the honourable member is discussing the meat of the matter and not the urgency of debate. I don't know how else I can get through to him. The honourable member has one minute.

MR. ASPER: Mr. Speaker, we have a situation which is of concern to the members of this House, is of concern to the public, is of concern to the doctors of this province, and we have a cavalier attitude by the Minister, we have an attitude of evasion of answering, and the only manner in which the public can be told what the situation is and what the solutions are is through emergency urgent debate now. Surely it's sufficiently urgent when we have medical people telling us that injuries are being compounded, that lives are being endangered, and that people are lying like cattle in our hospitals; that that is urgent, Sir. If the health of the people of Manitoba isn't a matter of urgent public importance, Mr. Speaker, I don't know what is. We have not in four years ever been able to achieve a ruling in this House that a matter was of urgent public importance. Now, Sir, before somebody is injured, somebody is . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Even though the member's time has expired, I would like to indicate to him that I do believe he should choose his words carefully; he should not cast reflections upon rulings of this Chair or this House as to why urgent motions were not accepted previously. I certainly hope that was not his intent. If no one else wishes to debate-- the Honourable Liberal Leader has had his time; his time is up. The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, to begin with, the question of urgency, which is the issue before us, I must state at the outset that I do not consider there is an urgency of debate because the Liberal Leader can't speak. As a matter of fact that's welcome in many cases. But I do

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(MR. SPIVAK cont'd) consider that there is a need for an urgency of debate on this particular matter because there is a critical situation in Winnipeg. There is the need for an urgency of debate because the information supplied to the House at best is misleading with respect to the situation vis-a-vis the government, the hospital administration, and those who are involved in the health care field, and there is an emergency debate required now because we do face the possibility that if any epidemic occurred of even the slightest nature whatsoever, there are not sufficient hospital beds available to take care of the situation.

Now my examination, like the Liberal Leader's examination will report statistical data which indicates that for some time this backlog that has now occurred, and this bottleneck, was apparent to those in the field. They requested, Sir, meetings with the appropriate officials; those meetings were delayed, and as a matter of fact have only been held in the last couple of weeks. There is a meeting today of the Winnipeg regional hospitals where this matter will be discussed, and insofar as I know the Minister isn't aware of it and I say there is an emergency debate required to determine why the government doesn't know what is happening in an area of responsibility that is theirs. The new chairman, the former Minister of Tourism and Cultural Affairs, is reported to have made a statement today that with the hospital construction taking place there are going to be no problems, and in the course of it he did not suggest that there will be at the same time as new hospital beds coming on stream, withdrawal of hospital beds which in fact means a very slight net gain.

Mr. Speaker, there is a need for an emergency debate if only as a result of the debate we will shake the government of the lethargy it has been in the last seven months, which culminated only in the change of ministers, in the imposing of the person who was the "super-minister", who should have known about this when the cabinet sub-committee ended the position of Minister, and who now unfortunately in his position he can't admit what he should be admitting to this House that the matter has been in a helluva mess for the last six months.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, under the rules I have five minutes in which to respond to the argument that there is urgency that the matter be debated now. It seems rather strange, Mr. Speaker, that there should be the kind of vain posturing we have just seen on a subject which can be debated to honourable members' heart's content within a matter of minutes later this afternoon, and the irony, Mr. Speaker, is that by virtue of presenting the kind of motion he has, the Leader of the Liberal Party has used the rules in order to delay debate on the substance of the subject matter under consideration, because as soon as we are through with Questions before Orders of the Day we go into consideration of His Honour's address, at which time the full sum and substance of the alleged problem can be debated at length and my honourable friends then can have the opportunity to do then what they are now vainly striving to do.

Let me say, Mr. Speaker, although my understanding of the rules is that any comment I may make with respect to the validity of the allegations in a sense is going into the substance, and as such is not really permitted under the rules. However, Sir, I hope that you would give me a moment or two of the same latitude as was extended to honourable members opposite. If honourable members wish to contend that there is a problem, we would admit that there is a problem of degree but we certainly cannot accept that there is an emergency or crisis of the magnitude or order that my honourable friends are pretending. Let it be known that in this province and in this city we have a ratio of hospital beds to population that is among the highest of sister provinces in Canada, and therefore I cannot see why people would come to the conclusion that there is something different about Manitobans that causes them to need a much different ratio of hospital beds to population. What kind of nonsense is that?

So, Mr. Speaker, let me say in conclusion on the matter of urgency that there is no urgency that it be debated before Orders of the Day inasmuch as the Throne Speech Debate resumes later this day, this afternoon.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Portage la Prairie state his point.

MR. GORDON E. JOHNSTON (Portage la Prairie): Mr. Speaker, I know the First Minister didn't intend purposely to misinform the House but I think he gave some misleading information.

MR. SPEAKER: Point of order?

MR. JOHNSTON: Well, the point or order is that he said that in a very few minutes we can move into the Throne Speech Debate, which is true, but about ten or twelve members have

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(MR. JOHNSTON cont'd) spoken on that debate and will not be able to rise and debate this matter.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. I thank the honourable members for their contribution in respect to this matter of urgent debate. I should like to point out that in adjudicating it is not essential that every member have the opportunity, because the rules are silent in that regard; the opportunity is only that there be debate - and that opportunity exists.

Secondly, let me also inform the honourable members that Beauchesne's Citation 100 subsection (1) indicates that it must involve the administrative responsibility of the government. My information is that there is a Manitoba Hospital Services Commission which operates the administrative areas of the hospital, and not the government itself. Consequently I must rule the motion of the Honourable Member for Wolseley, the Leader of the Liberal Party, out of order.

ORAL QUESTIONS (Cont'd)

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

MR. ASPER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Health. It relates to the information he gave to the House to the effect that an investigation was being conducted by his department into the number of hospital beds available in Winnipeg. Could he tell us who is conducting that investigation and is the Manitoba Medical Association being consulted in conjunction with it?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Health.

MR. MILLER: Mr. Speaker, if I used the word "investigation" I'm sorry. It's inventory rather than investigation. It's being conducted through the Manitoba Health Services Commission, the body that really deals with the hospitals.

MR. ASPER: May we have an undertaking from the Minister, Sir, to the effect that the information that that inventory yields will be made available to the House when it's put together?

MR. MILLER: I'll take that into consideration, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Education.

HON. BEN HANUSCHAK (Minister of Education) (Burrows): Mr. Speaker, in replying to a question put to me by the Honourable Member for Brandon West, I wish to make a correction. I described James Campbell as having served as secretary of the Task Force on Post Secondary Education. He served as Research Director and the Secretary was Diane Tyler.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge.

MR. LLOYD AXWORTHY (Fort Rouge): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Labour. Could he inform the House what steps are being taken by the Office of the Fire Commissioner to review the present regulations relating to the safety in fire protection, particularly in apartment buildings and other buildings in the City of Winnipeg.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

HON. RUSSELL PAULLEY (Minister of Labour) (Transcona): Yes, Mr. Speaker, I can inform my honourable friend and if it takes me a little while, Mr. Speaker, I hope that I have the indulgence of the House because of the importance of the question directed to me by the Member for Fort Rouge.

Unfortunately, we have had a series of losses of life in fires in the Province of Manitoba and within the City of Winnipeg, in particular the unfortunate situation prevailing with the Hazelmere Block. I want to tell my honourable friend, Mr. Speaker, and the House, that a thorough investigation is being taken into all aspects of fire protection and the provision for safety devices in our apartment blocks and other public buildings in the whole of the province of Manitoba, but the prime responsibility insofar as the City of Winnipeg rests with the Fire Department and the City Council of Winnipeg, and we are in a very intense consultation, Mr. Speaker, with the authority in Winnipeg insofar as the situation prevailing regarding apartment blocks.

It is most unfortunate, Mr. Speaker, in some respects, that when by-laws are passed regarding fire protection they are not retroactive. In the particular case of the Hazelmere block, which was constructed in 1910, at that particular time all of the then prevailing requirements were adhered to in the construction of the block. Since then many changes have been made in the by-laws of the City of Winnipeg building codes elsewhere, and they have not-- (Interjection)-- well, you might not be interested in the lives of people who live in apartment

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(MR. PAULLEY cont'd) blocks but I am. Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, the new provisions in by-laws are not retroactive for old construction. This is a matter that's under serious consideration, not only by the Fire Chief and his clientele within the City of Winnipeg, but the Fire Commissioner and those of us who have the responsibility for the province as a whole.

MR. AXWORTHY: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker, will the Minister of Labour undertake to this House to provide it with, or table the report of the Fire Commissioner, particularly in relation to the steps necessary to upgrade fire protection in older buildings and high rise apartment blocks?

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, I would be glad so to do when I am in a position to do. At the present time, at the present time I am sure, as my honourable friend is aware, despite the chortling of some members of the House, that the fact of the matter is that the case is under investigation by the coroner's department and they will, I understand, be making subsequent recommendations to the Minister of Labour for action.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Minnedosa.

MR. DAVID BLAKE (Minnedosa): Mr. Speaker, my question will be directed to the Honourable Minister of Highways, responsible for the Motor Vehicle Branch. I wonder if he could inform the House or confirm that consideration is being given to compulsory driver training prior to the issuance of driver's licenses in the province of Manitoba?

HON. PETER BURTONIAK (Minister of Highways) (Dauphin): Mr. Speaker, some time ago, a few months ago, when the Ministers responsible for Motor Vehicle Branches across Canada for each province met in Charlottetown, this was the discussion that took place with respect to that idea. It has not been finalized but I think that I can safely say that most of the ministers responsible for the Motor Vehicle Branch in their respective provinces agreed that this should be done some time in the near future.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member from Minnedosa, a supplementary?

MR. BLAKE: Mr. Speaker, could the Minister advise the House if this will be conducted through the school system or would it be placed in the hands of those people conducting driver training at the present time?

MR. BURTONIAK: At this time I cannot inform exactly the honourable member as to how it would be done; this is now in the workings and whenever that is possible to be announced we will certainly do so.

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

MR. HARRY E. GRAHAM (Birtle-Russell): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Agriculture and I would like to ask him, in view of the result of the AI Poll that was taken where 19 farmers agreed with the Provincial Government program, is he now considering enlarging the board of the AI program to 19 members?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister.

MR. USKIW: Well, Mr. Speaker, I have no knowledge of any poll. Perhaps the honourable member has been conducting the poll himself and, of course, I have to take it for what it's worth.

MR. SPEAKER: Orders of the Day. The Honourable Member for Portage la Prairie.

MR. G. JOHNSTON: Mr. Speaker, I direct a question to the Minister of Agriculture. It has to do with the present price freeze on oil and gas products, and my question is, when the freeze comes off at the end of March and farmers will be paying an increased price for this product, does the government have any contingency plan to do anything about the high price that farmers will then be paying?

MR. USKIW: Mr. Speaker, the government has a very good insurance policy, namely that we have David Lewis trying to keep the Federal Government on track.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Ste. Rose.

MR. A. R. ADAM (Ste. Rose): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Consumer Affairs. I would like to ask him if he could advise the House if the anti-freeze that's presently being marketed between \$4.00 and \$8.00 a gallon was manufactured last year at approximately \$1.00 a gallon.

HON. IAN TURNBULL (Minister of Consumer, Corporate and Internal Services) (Osborne): Mr. Speaker, I did deal the other day with the problem with anti-freeze prices. I am not familiar with the industrial processes for manufacturing anti-freeze but I must assume that if

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(MR. TURNBULL cont'd) there was inventory on hand at the beginning of the winter that it must have been manufactured some months previously and presumably at a price lower than the manufacturer would have to pay for the glycol.

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

MR. J. PAUL MARION (St. Boniface): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Labour who's in good voice today. Was the former Attorney-General . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. I didn't hear who the question is directed to.

MR. MARION: For the Minister of Labour, Mr. Speaker, who was in good form. Was the former Attorney-General the government representative on the conciliation board between the government and the Manitoba Government Employee Association?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, may I indicate to my honourable friend that the former Attorney-General was a member of the arbitration board, not conciliation board, and this is public knowledge and of course I'm sure my friend realizes that the award of the arbitration board was unanimous.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for LaVerendrye.

MR. BOB BANMAN (LaVerendrye): To the Honourable the Minister in charge of Autopac. I would like to know if he could tell us how many adjusters Autopac is losing to the new-formed British Columbia Autopac Corporation?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister.

HON. BILLIE URUSKI (Minister responsible for Manitoba Public Insurance Corporation) (St. George): I cannot inform the member whether we are losing any adjusters to any other corporation. They may be leaving. If there are any adjusters leaving, they are leaving of their own will - if they are going.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

MR. STEVE PATRICK (Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Tourism and Recreation. Is the Minister conducting any special tourist campaign in the United States similar to what other provinces are doing, Ontario and some other provinces?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister.

HON. RENE E. TOUPIN (Minister of Tourism, Recreation and Cultural Affairs) (Springfield): Well, Mr. Speaker, the previous Minister of Tourism, Recreation and Cultural Affairs had several meetings dealing with the possibility of getting more tourists from the United States. There's according to the information that I get from my officials in the department, meetings suggested for the very near future in regard to what can be done. Pamphlets are to be distributed, hopefully that in the next few days that you'll have before you a booklet that is intended for Manitobans and for other Canadians and Americans, showing them what Manitoba offers and inviting them to visit us here.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge.

MR. AXWORTHY: Mr. Speaker, I would like to address a question to the Minister of Industry and Commerce. In an answer to a question in this House yesterday concerning the manpower problems of the garment industry in the city of Winnipeg, you indicated that you felt the needs of the unemployed in Manitoba should be considered first. Does this indicate that the government is generally discouraging immigration into the province of Manitoba until all unemployment is over in the province?

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

HON. LEONARD S. EVANS (Minister of Industry and Commerce) (Brandon East): If I heard the question fully, he referred to all types of immigration and therefore the answer is no.

MR. AXWORTHY: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary. Does that mean then that we are discriminating in one sector of immigration and one group of people for that one trade?

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, first of all the matter of immigration is in the hands of the Federal Government, but I think it's incumbent upon this government, or any government, to insure that adequate manpower is made available for industries but particularly high wage industries, so that we can eventually work to higher income levels for the people of Manitoba.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge. Last supplementary.

MR. AXWORTHY: Mr. Speaker, does that mean then in point of fact that this government is not in any way assisting the fashion or garment industry to engage new workers for working in that industry in this province?

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MR. EVANS: Yes.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Virden.

MR. MORRIS MCGREGOR (Virden): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct this to the Minister of Highways. Would he consider instructing his department to apply some common sense in the rigid enforcement of the Highway Traffic Act with respect to overweight, particularly now with the roads in such frozen condition and when the Canadian Wheat Board is urgently requesting farmers to deliver more grain?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Highways.

MR. BURTNIAK: Well, Mr. Speaker, that perhaps, according to the member that asked the question, may sound all right but I don't understand just what he is trying to say to me because I don't think that the farmers are in any position right now to carry any overloads whether the roads are frozen or not.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. L. R. SHERMAN (Fort Garry): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Industry and Commerce. Can he tell the House who is negotiating for Columbia Forest Products in the contract dispute with mill and bush workers. Is it the MDC who is negotiating for Columbia Forest Products?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable House Leader.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, the negotiations would be conducted by a Receiver appointed by the Manitoba Development Corporation, so ultimately the Corporation is involved and of course ultimately the government is responsible, but I tell you that the negotiations are being conducted by a Receiver or Manager appointed by the Manitoba Development Corporation.

MR. SHERMAN: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker, to the Minister of Mines and Resources. Have those contractual negotiations, contract negotiations, broken down completely or are they still continuing?

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker that's a subtle question. I have heard in the case of many negotiations that there is a breakdown and, you know, some magical osmosis from time to time takes place on either side, somehow what was previously an impassable position has been passed with little notice, so I'm not saying that this, as in any other contract dispute, that there will result in a collective agreement. I'm not saying that it can't result in a collective agreement.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge.

MR. AXWORTHY: Mr. Speaker, I would like to address a question to the Minister responsible for Housing. I notice he is not in the House at present. Would the First Minister be prepared to answer?

In light of the statistics released yesterday by Central Mortgage and Housing, showing that Manitoba is one of the few provinces which had a serious decline in housing starts, is the government presently considering any immediate and urgent action to increase the number of housing starts for this building season, particularly by making larger numbers of building lots available in the City of Winnipeg?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: Well, Mr. Speaker, there are really two parts in reply to that question. The first is that a percentage increase or decline is by definition calculated from the previous year's base, and in the previous year there was a high level of construction activity in housing in the province in relation to the province's population, and therefore the last year would, in percentage terms, not show up as favorably.

The second part is, of course, that the Manitoba Housing and Renewal Corporation was delayed to some extent in housing starts in the City of Winnipeg because of certain decisions and procedures required to be followed by the City of Winnipeg Municipal Government. I can report to my honourable friend that all signs at the moment would appear to indicate that co-operation between the city and the province with respect to housing starts look very positive, and that 1974 should see an increase in housing starts within the Metropolitan Winnipeg area.

MR. AXWORTHY: Mr. Speaker, would the First Minister care to elaborate more specifically what those positive signs are so we can expect . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. That's a very vague question and it may get a vague answer but it cannot have a lengthy answer. The Honourable House Leader.

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MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, in answer to a previous question relative to Columbia Forest Products, the Minister of Labour would like me to indicate that there is a conciliation officer working with the parties in connection with that dispute.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. SHERMAN: A supplementary to that earlier series of questions, Mr. Speaker. Is the present situation such that the mill and bush workers, though, have served notice that they are intending to stop work on the 18th of this month?

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I read to that effect in the newspapers.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Brandon West.

MR. EDWARD MCGILL (Brandon West): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Honourable the Minister of Education. I wonder if he could tell the House whether his department has under consideration at this time any plans to re-draw the boundaries of the school divisions within the Greater Winnipeg area?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Education.

MR. HANUSCHAK: No, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Orders of the Day. The Honourable Minister of Consumer Affairs.

MR. TURNBULL: On a matter of privilege. During the question period the other day in response to a question from the Member for Roblin, I did indicate that the government would consider investigation of the sugar industry if that was to be done for purposes of seeing what kinds of controls could be imposed. As a result of that rather general answer to a question, I am quoted in the Free Press as saying that I am in favour of establishing sugar as a public utility. I would just like to point out, Mr. Speaker, that although I have become accustomed to such reporting I did not at all mention public utility in my answer to the member.

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

MR. ASPER: Mr. Speaker, to the First Minister, in view of the fact that the Minister of Health was absent from the Chamber for most of the question period, I wonder if he could give us an undertaking to exercise his best efforts to have the Minister here tomorrow morning for the question period.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, ignoring the snideness of the question I'll merely advise my honourable friend that the Minister of Health and Social Development is holding a meeting right now with officials that are involved in the health field in this province.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

MR. HARRY J. ENNS (Lakeside): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I direct a question to the Honourable the Minister of Municipal Affairs. It's my understanding that the City of Winnipeg is requesting from the Provincial Government additional authority to extend the additional zone for planning purposes to 25 miles. Is the government entertaining granting that authority to the City of Winnipeg?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister.

HON. HOWARD PAWLEY (Attorney-General and Minister of Municipal Affairs) (Selkirk): Mr. Speaker, there has been absolutely no indication, contrary to what the honourable member has suggested, by the City of Winnipeg that it desires to extend the radius to 25 miles in and about the City of Winnipeg. It is my understanding that there was a misquoting as to some statements that were made by city representatives, which I understand since they have denied.

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

MR. J. DOUGLAS WATT (Arthur): Mr. Speaker, I direct a question to the Minister of Agriculture. I wonder if the Minister of Agriculture could tell us when we might receive the details of the proposed continuation of the PEP program?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Agriculture.

MR. USKIW: Mr. Speaker, the PEP program for the current year, I would gather would be practically completed. If so I'm not sure what the honourable member's alluding to.

MR. WATT: I'm referring to the PEP program as of last year, which I understand is being continued in 1973. Correct?

MR. USKIW: Mr. Speaker, as I recall it, the applications for PEP closed on December 15 or somewhere thereabouts, and all have been considered, or if not all they are in the process of being finalized, and that the program is practically completed for this winter.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Arthur, his last supplementary.

ORAL QUESTIONS

MR. WATT: May I ask the Minister, were the applications considered on the basis of need, economic need, or of political need? No, strike that from the record. That's snide. On the basis of need.

MR. USKIW: Mr. Speaker, I'm sure that the honourable member is aware of the criteria that has been established for applicants, and that all people in all parts of the province who met that criteria were eligible and were so considered. There's no question that the criteria was narrow in scope due to the limitation of funds and people seeking employment in those various regions of the province.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

MR. PAULLEY: I understand, Mr. Speaker, that yesterday a question was directed by the Honourable Member for Portage la Prairie in respect of certain employees, housekeeping aides, at the Manitoba School for Retardates. The question was taken as notice I understand by the Premier, and I would like in reply to the question to indicate to the Honourable Member for Portage la Prairie that there was a petition forwarded by personnel at the Manitoba School and that in reply on December 11th I replied to the Minister of Health and Social Development as follows: "A submission dated November 19th and signed by a number of housekeeping aides at the Manitoba School has been referred to me. During discussions with the Manitoba Government Employees Association, the government negotiator has undertaken in writing with the Association to ensure that a review of the housekeeping aide and institutional service men series is conducted as soon as possible. The staff of the Manitoba School for Retardates will be aware that an arbitration board is sitting at the moment in connection with re-negotiation of the Civil Service agreement. I am hopeful that the results of the review of these series will be known as soon as the arbitration board has announced its award. Would you be kind enough to ensure that the foregoing comments are passed on to the concerned staff members of your department."

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

MR. G. JOHNSTON: Mr. Speaker, I thank the Minister for his prompt reply. Would he also give an undertaking that there would be an inquiry or some sort of an investigation into all classes of the civil service where ladies, or women, and men are doing the same type of work. For example, the institution of the Portage Women's Jail, the ladies there are doing exactly the same kind of work as the men are who are called Custodial Officers, I believe, at Headingley, yet the differential in pay is 20 to 30 percent if not more. Could the Minister give some sort of an undertaking in that regard?

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, under the conditions of the Equal Pay Act, the Minister has stated on a number of occasions that he is determined that where equal work is established, equal pay will be provided in the same institution.

MR. G. JOHNSTON: Well, a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. I understood the Minister to say "in the same institutions", meaning the same buildings. Well, that is not the intent of the Equal Pay Act. I am asking him if he would look into the matter of people doing the same work in different buildings.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister.

MR. PAULLEY: Yes, Mr. Speaker, and in accordance with that general approach and theme there was caused to be established an "In House Task Force" to look into the whole matter of equal opportunities of employment, not only in regards to women but in regards to the handicapped and other people in the civil service, and the matter's under active consideration at the present time. And I would be more than pleased to give to my honourable friend from Portage la Prairie a copy of the Task Force Report so that he is fully aware of the endeavours that the present Minister and the government are making into the whole area of employment opportunities within the civil service.

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

MR. MARION: Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Honourable the Minister responsible for Autopac. Will the Minister be tabling in this House copies of the new rate schedules for Autopac for all types of motor vehicles insured in the province and all categories of insurance, including the new category for business coverage?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister.

MR. URUSKI: Mr. Speaker, the new rates have appeared, or are appearing in the Manitoba Gazette in the regulations.

ORAL QUESTIONS

MR. SPEAKER: Orders of the Day. The Honourable First Minister.

CONDOLENCES

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I might, by leave, use this occasion to ask the respective leaders opposite if there would be any objection to proceed with one of the long-standing customs of this House, namely the bringing forward of condolence motions, if there would be any objection to doing so on Tuesday next and Thursday next inasmuch as there are a number, and I will provide particulars to honourable members that would be asked to second the motion. I'm merely asking for concurrence now as to the two dates.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. SPIVAK: Well, Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the First Minister would agree to alter that to Wednesday and Thursday and to leave Tuesday, which would still be the Throne Speech debate, open so as to not take part of that time. Otherwise there would be no objection on our part for Wednesday and Thursday of next week if that would be agreeable.

MR. SCHREYER: That's fine, Mr. Speaker, it will be Wednesday-Thursday, or Thursday-Friday; that's fine.

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

MR. ASPER: That's satisfactory to the Liberal Party.

MR. SPEAKER: Before I proceed to Orders of the Day, I should just like a little co-operation, or ask for a little co-operation. I do believe the question period has become one of the more vexatious periods and I do not wish to continually be asking members to stay within bounds. I think that they are quite capable of doing that if they would just refer to the citations in Beauchesne 171 and refresh their memories. I know the new members that joined, at least some of them this morning got a briefing in that regard and some of them have copies of them. Now if they would pass them around or else if it's desirable I could pass them around to all the members again, and that would help us all in order to expedite the procedures of this House.

ORDERS OF THE DAY - THRONE SPEECH DEBATE

MR. SPEAKER: On the proposed motion of the Honourable Member for Rupertsland, amended thereto by the Leader of the Opposition, and amended thereto again by the Leader of the Liberal Party. The Honourable Member for Morris. The honourable member has 30 minutes; I shall allow him a couple of minutes latitude because of the break.

MR. WARNER H. JORGENSEN (Morris): Mr. Speaker, we are beginning to witness something new in responsible government. In the last couple of days I have noted that honourable members opposite, in replying to questions from this side of the House - and that's particularly true of the House Leader, the Minister of Mines and Resources, who when he's asked a question of one of the departments that falls within his jurisdiction like the Manitoba Development Corporation or something like that, his reply is, you know, "There's nobody here but us chickens. I don't know anything about it. It is not my responsibility. These people answer for themselves." Sir, we're beginning . . .

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, on a point of privilege, I never made those remarks and I said the opposite. I said that ultimately the government is responsible for everything that the Manitoba Development Corporation does.

MR. JORGENSEN: The Clean Environment Commission, he said he had nothing to do with the Clean Environment Commission. Well now, that is a reverse. That is the reverse of the position that this government took at the outset, because when they came to power they told us that they were going to direct these people, that they were going to be responsible to the government, and that they were not going to be allowed to do as they pleased. Now we find that when they get themselves into difficulty, when the questions become difficult to answer because of the mess that they've made of governing, now, now, Sir, they're trying to sluff off that responsibility onto somebody else and say, "We had nothing to do with it; we weren't even here."

That's true of the Minister of Finance when he rose the other day to try to defend his incredible position on the question of the Mineral Acreage Tax Act. The Minister said at that time, he said, you know, like a child, when he was accused of misleading the House, he said, "You pushed me. You pushed me. It was the opposition's fault. It was the opposition." And can you imagine anything so incredible as this opposition convincing the Minister of

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(MR. JORGENSEN cont'd) Finance not to tax corporations, but that's what he said. He said, "You demanded that the corporations not be taxed." The opposition asked for an amendment to the Act so that they wouldn't tax certain corporations. Now he says, "You pushed me." What an incredible caricature of lack of responsibility on the part of the Minister. Did he not even know the kind of legislation he was passing through this House? I don't think he did. The kindest thing that can be said about the Minister--and it's not my intention to say the kindest thing--is that he was ignorant about the contents of the bill that he passed before this House. He didn't know what the bill contained.

Now then, so much for responsible government, but we get an idea, Sir, of the mentality of the Minister. In response to a statement that was made by the Member for Gladstone when he indicated that certain people like to own mineral rights, farmers when selling their land often pass the mineral rights over to their spouses, and what was his reply? "Why," he said, "Why? Why does anyone want to own anything?" This government is not opposed to lotteries. --(Interjection)-- No, as long as he can get his sticky fingers into it that's all right. His mentality on this legislation and insofar as the people of this province is concerned, is he'll rob them Mary and Paul to give to Saul.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please.

MR. CHERNIACK: Mr. Speaker, I believe that the honourable member has just used words which, according to a recent court decision, would be sufficient to justify an action for libel. I think that's the kind of words he used. I am not demanding that he withdraw, I just point out the kind of language he uses.

MR. JORGENSEN: Well, the Minister . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. Let me indicate that I realize we want to keep some humour in this Chamber and some degree of reality, but let us not continually indicate a matter of privilege which may be a matter of explanation or a personal item. I do believe we should be a little more cautious with the use of privilege in this Chamber and therefore not get into these continual hassles. I believe we trust each other and all honourable members--(Interjections)--Those are your rules; you have agreed to abide by them; and I wish to carry them out to the best of my ability for your purpose.

The Honourable Member for Morris.

MR. JORGENSEN: Though, Mr. Speaker, the . . .

MR. CHERNIACK: . . . for clarification, did you indicate that I should not have risen on a question of the honourable member referring to a crime and attributing it to me?

MR. SPEAKER: No, I did not. I indicated we should not use a matter of privilege as a matter of explanation.

MR. JORGENSEN: I've never known so many people wanting to get into my act. Mr. Speaker, I'm going to--you know, I don't want to say anything offensive about the Minister. I simply want to call the shots as I see them, so I'm going to change the word. I didn't--you know, it's not a question of robbing Mary and Paul, it's a rip-off. I'll use the word that they understand very well, and this is the real rip-off as far as I'm concerned and for the purpose, for one purpose only. That purpose is revealed in the information bulletin that went out under the Mineral Acreage Tax Act. Let me read that section dealing with penalties--this comes from the Minister's department and the Mines and Revenues Tax Branch, Norquay Building, I assume--I wonder now who was assuming responsibility of anybody over there, but it comes from a department of government and may not be that anybody opposite is responsible or wants to entertain responsibility, which is now becoming a habit on that side of the House.

But here is what the penalties say; "Where the tax payable is not paid when due, interest of 9 percent compounded annually shall be calculated from the due date until the date of payment. And where the tax is one year in arrears the Minister may notify the owner," and that's real generous of them. "Unless all taxes and interest are paid within the next year the ownership of the minerals will become vested in the Crown." And here's the real clincher. This shows you how kind they are; it shows you the generosity of this government. "When these minerals become vested in the Crown, all liability for tax and interest will be cancelled." Sir, they're not even going to take them to court. They'll just take away the mineral rights. And then he goes on to say a person can voluntarily vest the minerals in the Crown. Now isn't that sweet? And if he does, all liability for tax and interest will be cancelled. Such generosity. Sir, they'll even send the forms out. Forms for this purpose will be supplied upon request.

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(MR. JORGENSEN cont'd)

Well, Mr. Speaker. . .

A MEMBER: There hasn't been a big demand though, has there?

MR. JORGENSEN: . . . the Minister when he spoke the other day mentioned two little old ladies in Rock Lake who came up to him and said they don't think, they don't believe. They found it incredible that the NDP would take away their churches from them. Well, those little old ladies perhaps knew more than the Minister thought they knew.

A MEMBER: Do you believe that too?

MR. JORGENSEN: Well, let me read something and maybe that will help to explain the situation. Here is a resolution that was brought before the NDP convention . . .

A MEMBER: He'll wish he'd never been to Rock Lake.

MR. JORGENSEN: . . . and it gives an idea of what the thinking is on the part of honourable gentlemen opposite. Well, the very nature of the resolution that was brought before that convention is an indication of the thinking of the people who come there. And they tell us that they're influenced by the delegates that come to their convention. They say this is the people's party and they accept their policies.

Here's what the resolution says: "WHEREAS farm communities are dying." This is a startling revelation; "and (b) the quality of life in rural areas is lower than that in major urban centres. THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that (a) one town in each 20 miles square be designated as a concentration area." I'm surprised he didn't add, "This is a concentrate to what."

"(b) This area be fully provided with an adequate level of utilities and public services and recreational facilities." And I again must congratulate them for their generosity.

But then comes this one which will be of interest to the Minister of Finance: "All other towns within the 20 miles square be closed and the land re-developed for agricultural or industrial purposes." Now, if you're going to close all those towns, naturally the churches are going to disappear, will they not? And he says, "All land in the 20 mile square be taken over by the town and farmed corporately on a share and contract basis," and here again their generosity comes to the fore. "All property taxes on the farm land be abolished." Well, why not? Nobody will own it.

Well, Sir, that's an indication, that's an indication, Sir, of the kind of thinking that goes on in the ranks of honourable gentlemen opposite.

Another resolution that was brought before that convention, and this one has to be one of the most serious types, I suppose, that came before that convention, says, "BE IT RESOLVED that Section 16 (1)--and the Member for Fort Rouge may want to take that into consideration in proposing his amendment to the Election Act--it says, "BE IT RESOLVED that Section 16 (1) of the Elections Act be amended so that criminals, mentally retarded patients, and judges be given the right to vote. You note, Sir, the order in which they appear.--(Interjection)--But, Sir, out of the mouth of babes comes the truth and the Member for Thompson yesterday, when he rose in his place, gave us an indication of the thinking and the sort of thing that goes on in the ranks of the Socialist party. He said something with which I wholeheartedly agree, when he said that insofar as the Indians of this country are concerned, governments in the past have placed them on reservations, given them welfare and said, "That's good enough for the Indians." That, Sir, is a policy that has made the Indian population what it is and created the difficulties.

But, Sir, I want to point out to the Honourable Member for Thompson that that is Socialism. The Indian reservation today is a manifestation of the evils of Socialism if ever you saw it. And now, now what he is advocating and what his party is advocating, is a socialization of everybody. Now, he can't have it both ways. If he is opposed to that kind of socialism, then what's he supporting this party for? Why does he give such support to a policy that he condemns and to a policy that has proven itself to be disastrous in this country and which he admitted himself was disastrous.

But he went a little further, Sir. He talked about the difficulties that the unions had, and admittedly they had problems in the early stages of organization, in the early stages of negotiating with the mining companies. Admittedly. But he said it was the year that the Conservatives were in power that this sort of thing happened. Is he implying that because the Conservative government was in power that that happened? Is he implying then that what the Conservatives should have done was interfered in negotiations between labour and management? Ah! Ah, yes.

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(MR. JORGENSEN cont'd) . . . Now we have it. That is certainly contrary to the position taken by the party opposite. They say, stay out of these negotiations. Which way do they want it? Now you may be able to spread that stuff around your rose bushes in Thompson but you're not going to be able to do it here.

Now then, Sir, he also dealt with the problems in Britain as if it was the government's fault there, or as if it was the companies' fault there, the corporations. Does he know the problem in Great Britain with the workers there and with three Crown corporations, with the mining companies which are Crown owned, with the railways which are Crown owned and with the electrical companies which are Crown owned. Now, if he's got any quarrel with those people, then it must come against the government and not against private enterprise. I see the honourable member is on his feet. I presume, Sir, that he has a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Thompson have a . . . ?

MR. KEN DILLEN (Thompson): Yes, Mr. Speaker, I would like to correct the Member for Morris that at no time during my discussions yesterday did I mention Great Britain.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Morris.

MR. JORGENSEN: Well then--(Interjection)--well, if I've erred in listening to the two speakers that came from that corner and mixed them, then of course it was the Member for Logan who made the statement and I apologize to the honourable member then for that error. But the Minister of Mines or the Minister of Finance, in dealing with the Mineral Acreage Tax Act, you know, he went through a great deal of trouble to read excerpts from Hansard on the third and the committee stage reading of the bill. He glossed over his statements on second reading and I'm going to put them on the record again, because this is what he said: "Type of bill, we propose to bring proposals to insure that mineral rights which may be held for speculative purposes by corporations cannot be retained without some reasonable return to the people of Manitoba." He mentions specifically the word "corporations". Then he goes on to say, "and tax would be on mineral rights held by corporations, not by individuals. An internal study made by government has shown that about three quarters of the mineral rights, some 9.1 million acres, are held by individuals and it is not proposed to tax those at all.

A MEMBER: Underline the word not.

MR. CHERNIACK: Well where were you?

MR. JORGENSEN: Where were you? You were piloting the bill through the House. Are you so incredibly stupid that you don't know what kind of legislation you're piloting through the House?--(Interjection)--Well, Sir, the Minister, the Minister--yes, he comes back with his same argument. We are the ones that are responsible. "You pushed me. You pushed me." The little old ladies were right.

Now then, it's a characteristic habit of this government to have people make statements, ridiculous statements, test them so that the public can judge and then when the reaction comes in the Premier comes forth, and he comes forth in his white steed and shining armour and pretends to be the moderator, pretends to be the moderate type of premier who is not so radical as that bunch that surround him. Sir, people are being fooled by the actions of this Premier. People have been fooled for four years into believing that the moderation exists there. It does not at all. It's a well calculated plan to move in that direction. Well, Sir, . . .

A MEMBER: The shining light is fading out. The shining light is fading out.

MR. JORGENSEN: That's pretty well manifested by a statement that the Premier himself made on October 29, 1969 at an NDP Convention right here in the City of Winnipeg when he said, "The Manitoba Premier just back in Winnipeg after his three week trip to Japan told a thousand delegates that their prime objective should be winning elections, even if it meant bending their principles a little." Well the Premier has been bending principles . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. The Honourable First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: On a point of privilege, Mr. Speaker, that same quotation was raised, was quoted here in this Chamber on a previous occasion a year or two ago. At that time I rose on a point of privilege to indicate that that quotation allegedly, that alleged quotation is not in fact accurate; that the total context in which it was stated is other than what my honourable friend is attempting to quote on the record now.

A MEMBER: And he will keep repeating . . .

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Morris.

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MR. JORGENSEN: . . . no alternative but to accept the explanation by the Minister. But that is a characteristic that is being used so often that I am inclined to think that it is not just coincidental. Every time they make a statement outside this House and are reported, and the reaction comes in, they stand up in this House and deny that they made the statement. They've done it time after time. The Minister of Agriculture is a master at this sort of thing.

Sir, we know what they're doing because the First Minister uses as his guiding light the quotations from Pierre Elliott Trudeau, because he said some words of socialistic wisdom in his book "Federalism and the French Canadians". Here's what he said. "The experience of that superb strategist Mao Tse-tung" - and he quotes him very frequently in his book, "might lead us to conclude that in a vast and heterogeneous country the possibility of establishing socialist strongholds in certain regions is the very best thing." It goes on to say, "Federalism must be welcomed as a valuable tool which permits dynamic parties to plant socialist governments in certain provinces from which the seeds of radicalism can slowly spread."

And then he goes on to say this; "It is urgent that socialist politicians", and these are socialist politicians, Sir, "give wider recognition to the fact that different regions or ethnic groups in Canada are at vastly different stages of their political development, and that it is folly to endorse strategies that are devised to swing the whole country at the same time and in the same way in the path of socialism." Well they're following the book. They're following the book, Sir. And they continue to deceive, to mislead and to prevent this House from getting the information that is necessary for the people of this province to make a judgment as to their activities.

Sir, the Minister of Finance in dealing with my remarks during the course of that debate --first I must explain that prior to the House opening when I had made the charge against the Minister, that he replied that I either was not in the House or I was sleeping. Well he read the record that found out that it was in the House.--(Interjection)--

A MEMBER: You were sleeping mentally.

MR. JORGENSEN: Well, if I was sleeping mentally, then the Minister, who has a greater responsibility in this place, was absolutely numb-struck because he didn't know the kind of legislation that he was passing through the House otherwise he would have not made that statement on second reading. Now he's either got to admit one of two things. Either he was lying to this House or he's ignorant, and I'll let him take the choice. I'll let him take the choice. Well, Sir, he said when he read of my honourable friend the Member for Riel asking that the debate be left over for a day so that he could look at the amendments, he read an excerpt in that Hansard in which I'm quoted saying I had made an agreement that we would deal with the legislation. He tried to create the impression that I had agreed with the legislation, which I had not. All I said, all I said was that we would be prepared to deal with the legislation.

MR. CHERNIACK: He said to refute it.

MR. JORGENSEN: And do you know the reason why, Sir? The Minister probably won't recall that incident, but the reason why I agreed to deal with it was because the Minister came to me and asked me. "I have to leave tomorrow," he said. "Would you be prepared to deal with the legislation tonight so I can get it off my hands?" In deference to a request made by him I agreed to have the legislation looked at that night, and he has the lack of integrity, the perfidious nature of this man in attempting to create the impression that I had agreed with the legislation when in fact I had agreed only to deal with the legislation at the request of the Minister who was leaving the following day. Sir, how can we have any confidence, how can we have any trust in a Minister with that little integrity? Sir, it's an example of the conduct of members opposite ever since they took power. Sir, the people of this country, of this province, are going to learn how little they can trust them, and they certainly have a perfect example in this legislation. The Minister lied to the House.--(Interjection)--I'm waiting for him to rise.

A MEMBER: Say it. Say it. Say it again. Say it again.

MR. JORGENSEN: Well, I'll read your words back to you. I'll read your words right back to you. Here's what the Minister said: "Tax would be on mineral rights held by corporations, not by individuals. An internal study made by government has shown that about three quarters of the mineral rights, some 9.1 million acres, are held by individuals and it is not proposed to tax them at all." Now what . . .

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MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. The Honourable Minister of Finance.

MR. CHERNIACK: The honourable member has accused me of lying. I do not ask him to withdraw that. The fact is that at the time that bill was introduced, anybody reading the bill would see that the statement that I made was absolutely correct. So his accusation is false, misleading and ignorant, especially when one reads further and sees that the debate developed and the bill changed and everyone present who was aware of what was going on could see the change that took place. But as of the time when the statement was made it was accurate, correct, and no one can challenge it except someone who wants to lower himself, like his Leader, in the level of debate here.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Morris.

MR. JORGENSON: We now come back to square one, what the Minister is saying again, "You pushed me." As if, as if at any time, that the members of the opposition can have any influence in this government if their minds are made up to tax people. Now everybody knows that. When they decide to take money - extract money out of the pockets of the people they will do it, regardless of what the members of the opposition say, but simply because this thing is very unpopular and the Minister knows it, because he is getting an awful lot of phone calls, and an awful lot of letters--and incidentally, from a lot of little old ladies who now know the true nature of this Minister--now he is attempting to say, you push me. What a dismal caricature of a Minister; what a lack of responsibility! Are these people going to accept the responsibility for the offices that have been assigned to them once and for all or are they going to continue to slough off that responsibility on other people. Now they say the opposition caused the problems. What nonsense! What nonsense!

Mr. Speaker, finally he used with a great flourish and with great effect, the statement that was made by my colleague, the Member for Lakeside, who has, admittedly, an unfortunate political characteristic, one that I have warned him about repeatedly. From time to time the Member for Lakeside exhibits charity and generosity which is something that I have warned him he must not do in this Chamber, and he failed to heed my advice, and the passage of that legislation he got up and made some kind remarks about the Minister, which the Minister used against him. Now I can tell you now, Sir, and I'll tell the House, that the Member for Lakeside has clothed himself in sackcloth and ashes and come before me and has vowed never to make that mistake again. Because it's a mistake to show charity and generosity to a bunch of people that you can't trust, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Winnipeg Centre.

MR. J. R. BOYCE (Winnipeg Centre): Mr. Speaker, I had not intended to enter this debate but once again the Member for Morris has provoked and I'm afraid I jumped up here quicker than perhaps I should. But I stood in this House on opening day and heard the Member for Morris in a pompous way, perhaps, but in a manner in which I agreed that he would defend the parliamentary system and all its institutions. Now I don't know how many people in this Chamber realize after the lengthy diatribe that he presented to us, that implicit in what he said is no one in this House should change their minds - no one in this House should change their minds. What the Minister of Finance said on second reading, quoted from Hansard, was an exact recap of what transpired in this House. In committee it was agreed, as pointed out by the Member for Lakeside, that perhaps we would be wise to change this Bill, and we did. It just so happens that one of the people from the Press called me in and they had for some reason or other a piece of paper up there with a quotation of one of my earlier speeches that I said oft times I feel like a piece of the furniture in the back bench or something. Well that's what this member is implying we should be. That we should come into this House, present the Bill, no debate, go home. Now surely to heaven, Mr. Speaker, if this is to be a parliamentary system, that this member over here insists upon --(Interjection)-- the Member for Morris, insists upon a parliamentary procedure, that debates take place and opinions change; we go into committee and we hear representation, we hear other opinions and we modify our bills. If this is not the case then let him stand up in his constituency and tell the people that he's out to destroy our system, along with the Member for Wolseley, that wants to superimpose the Congressional system on this House.

Mr. Speaker, there's no one that I hold higher in regard as far as their parliamentarism their experience and everything else than the Member of Morris. Here between sessions we were down in Ottawa at a Commonwealth Parliamentary Association meeting and as members

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(MR. BOYCE cont'd) of the association we agree that it may be a lousy system on occasion but it's the best system that we have, and he stands up and he'll defend it anywhere. But the former Member for Thompson had an expression. He says, when you get the needle in through the fat and you hit the lard, they squeal. Now this is the first time that I have really heard the Member for Morris squeal, because he was squealing. The manner in which he made his decision, whether it was because out of courtesy to the Minister of Finance or anyone else, is irrelevant to debate in this House. Let everybody be apprised of this fact, that what's implicit in what he's saying is a debate should not take place, we should have preconceived ideas, stick to them. Abraham Lincoln said, "Yes I changed my mind, because if I don't change my mind I'm as stupid as I was yesterday."

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

MR. GEORGE MINAKER (St. James): Mr. Speaker, I rise for the first time in this House after observing for a week the rules of the House and the tone of debate, which I might say has varied from time to time; but I would like to say, Mr. Speaker, that should I abuse the rules of the House, it will not be intentional and I hope you will bear with me.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate you on your election to the position of the Chair. I would also like to congratulate the Member from Logan as a Deputy Speaker appointment. I would also like to thank you for the briefing that you gave the new members today. I found it personally very valuable and very beneficial. I would also like to congratulate the Ministers on their new appointments and I would also at this time publicly like to thank the people of St. James constituency for supporting me and I will do everything that's in my power to be their best representative.

I would like to take a few minutes for the new members of the House to describe the constituency which I represent. Its boundaries are the Assiniboine River on the south and on the north, Notre Dame Avenue by the Red River College. To the East it is the former provincial trunk highway boundary road which divided the former City of Winnipeg and the City of St. James. On the west, we have a road called Mount Royal, and if anybody has taken off in an airplane recently from the Winnipeg International Airport and landed or took off on the north south runway, you flew down the boundary, the west boundary of the constituency of St. James.

Mr. Speaker, St. James constituency has a history that maybe the members are not aware of. In the early days of Winnipeg when we had extreme flood conditions, the populace of Winnipeg fled to what was known as Silver Heights, and Silver Heights is in the St. James constituency. As well, if any of the members have had an opportunity to read in the Winnipeg Centennial souvenir that the first visit by a Governor-General from out east to the west, that the Governor-General the Earl of Dufferin and Lady Dufferin stayed in the summer cottage of the Lord Strathcona, which was located in the St. James constituency.

It also has history that was not always a successful community. As the municipality of St. James, the St. James constituency formed the major portion of it and in the late thirties and early forties the municipality of St. James was bankrupt. At that time one might say the citizens of St. James tightened their belts, pulled up their boots and went to work and through effort, through self-initiative and foresight and intestinal fortitude, the citizens of St. James were able to turn this around and to make it a model community and city by the early 60's, and they did so co-operating in a free enterprise system. They turned it around from bankruptcy into a model city; one of the most successful cities in the North American continent. Later on the St. James constituency became a part of the City of St. James-Assiniboia in the late 60's through a mutual amalgamation of these two cities at that time. It also through the years developed from bankruptcy, it had saved through the years wisely, planned wisely - again the citizens of St. James doing this - and it developed a \$9 million revolving fund that was owned by the citizens of St. James. At least the citizens of St. James felt they owned the \$9 million.

Then in 1972 the City of St. James was destroyed with the passing of the legislation of the new City of Winnipeg Act. However, the heritage of the citizens of St. James was not destroyed at that time and it carries on. Yes, the citizens of St. James do have a heritage which might sound different for an urban centre or an urban constituency but we have a unique urban constituency. We have a very large stable population in our community, long-term residents - it's not uncommon to find third and fourth generation families living in the same area, not uncommon indeed. And why has St. James got this heritage, this family of closeness or this small town closeness? It's because the people of St. James experienced difficulties, they

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(MR. MINAKER cont'd) worked hard and developed the community and they feel that they are part of that development. They feel that they are part of that success and that is why they have this heritage.

Also in our community we have the Winnipeg airport which is the, you might say the crossroads of the nations, and we also have the Deer Lodge Hospital, the Veteran's Hospital and we have two legions, the Deer Lodge Legion and the St. James Legion. We also have many veterans in our constituency, many veterans who have fought in two world wars, like my father, and these veterans fought for our freedom. They fought for our freedom to speak out and they fought for our freedom to choose, Mr. Speaker, and these are the principles that the people of St. James constituency stand for; and these are the principles that I stand for, and these are the principles that the Progressive Conservative Party stands for.

The Honourable Member from Crescentwood mentioned the other day in his speech his concern about the Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce, not really his concern, but he stated that they had in the past appeared to be a reactionary group but seemed to be changing. I was quite surprised at these remarks for the experience in the St. James constituency with the St. James Chamber of Commerce is anything but reactionary. The citizens of St. James who formed the Chamber of Commerce through the years have done a marvellous amount of progressive thinking in that community. They spearheaded the development of the industrial area in the north-west corner of the City of Winnipeg which I believe everybody is well aware of; they spearheaded it with the Council of that time and we all know the many thousands of jobs that particular area creates for the working people.

They also worked to develop and maintain the aircraft industry in Winnipeg, and again we know that there are many people employed in the aircraft industry in our constituency and it is a major topic of concern at this time.

The St. James Chamber of Commerce also instituted a transit service into the industrial area so that our workers could come to and from work, would have transportation, and they also developed the Manitoba Winter Carnival; so you can see that the Chamber of Commerce in our area was not reactionary but progressive.

Mr. Speaker, my political experience to date primarily has been in municipal governments and I have had the fortunate chance to sit on three city councils. City of St. James, City of St. James-Assiniboia and the new City of Winnipeg Council. I have learned from that experience. I have learned that there is one thing that we must appreciate - the importance of local government. The very important service of providing the every day needs of a community. We have also learned that bigness is not best, that bigness is not more efficient. We have found that bigness is less efficient; we have found that one loses the touch of the people in the community with bigness.

Mr. Speaker, the Throne Speech indicates that the government will be presenting amendments to the City of Winnipeg Act and I would ask that the government consider the reorganization of the City of Winnipeg such as to provide more autonomy, more responsibility for the local community and the local people.

I will have more to say on the operation of local matters when that particular subject is debated, but I think it's important that we bring back that small town feeling, that local community feeling that one has when you have responsibility by local people.

Mr. Speaker, the Throne Speech has indicated the government will bring in legislation providing grants for first-time homeowners and also continuing subsidies, or they will bring in legislation to consider providing grants for first-time homeowners. We wait with anticipation for this legislation, with interest, because we have always supported individual ownership. However, Mr. Speaker, if the government recognizes the needs of first-time homeowners, surely should they not realize the difficulties of people who presently own homes and particularly the homeowners that are facing continuing ever increasing municipal taxes, the increasing taxes which are caused by inflation.

One of the major problems that the urban governments, whether it be the City of Winnipeg, City of Brandon, Killarney, Morris, any of the towns, Thompson, are faced with is that approximately 80 percent of their operating budget goes towards salaries of the personnel who provide the services that we have become used to having in our urban areas, for services which are enjoyed by all Manitobans, not just the people who live in the town but also the rural people

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(MR. MINAKER cont'd) who visit the town, who carry on their business there. We are dependent on the rural people for their basic materials which they supply from agriculture they are dependent on the towns and the cities to provide the facilities where commerce is carried on and where material, etc., can be bought. These wage increases are directly passed on to the homeowner in terms of property tax for the cities or the towns really only have two major sources of taxes, and one is the property tax and a small portion of business tax and government grants. And it's surprising the government grants in the City of Winnipeg last year amounted to approximately ten percent of the overall budget.

The other part of this whole problem is the very things which are causing the rising taxes in the urban area are increasing the revenues of the provincial coffers. Whenever there is a salary increase to a municipal employee the income tax revenue immediately goes up so on the one hand we have deficits occurring in the major population areas of our province and on the other hand those that are causing the deficit are increasing the revenue of the Provincial Government.

Mr. Speaker, the long-range solution is not year by year grants or one-time grants, like a centennial grant, no this isn't the long-term solution, it's a short-term solution and we're only fooling ourselves if we think that it is. An example of the rising costs in our community St. James, it will experience approximately a double increase in municipal taxes in a three year period, and this is not uncommon just to St. James but also other towns are experiencing similar difficulties, not to the same magnitude but they are experiencing the difficulties.

Mr. Speaker, we need strong local urban governments and by taking away the responsibilities of the urban governments when one gives them a grant or the say of urban governments is not the answer. Becoming the puppets of an urban affairs department is not the answer. I suggest, Mr. Speaker, a more probable solution is a sharing of the growth taxes which the government inherit from this inflationary time that we live in. I'm talking about such growth taxes as income tax, tobacco tax, liquor tax, gasoline tax, whose revenue automatically increases and grows during inflation. I hope, Mr. Speaker, that the government will give consideration to this important item during its estimates.

Also, Mr. Speaker, I would hope that the government gives consideration to rent subsidies for senior citizens living in private homes or living in their own apartment blocks. At one time I believe the City of St. James was recognized as the apartment block city and there are a number of apartment dwellers in my particular constituency of the senior citizen age group and they live there because they want to live where their friends are; they live there because they want to choose where they live and not necessarily be displaced into a public-owned apartment dwelling. And I suggest that a subsidy of this nature is not an ongoing one similar to that which one is committed to with a public housing or a public apartment dwelling.

Mr. Speaker, I'm looking forward with interest when the government brings forward its policies and legislations with the development of mineral resources, and we look forward to public participation in the development of mineral resources provided that the ultimate aim is not - and I repeat that - provided, that the ultimate aim is not complete government control which can only lead to complete government control of our northern region and our northern people.

Mr. Speaker, we look forward to that part of the session when we deal with the Manitoba Development Corporation and we deal with the annual report. I have had just a few minutes to look at the report that we received today and I was very interested in the second last paragraph with the Provincial Auditor and his comments, and I'm looking forward to discussing that when it is debated in the House. I was also interested in the colour of the paper of the report. Whether it has any indication, I'm not too sure.--(Interjection)--I think it's green unless I'm colour blind.

I'm also looking forward to that particular debate because the Honourable Minister of Mines and Natural Resources has indicated that there will be open and frank discussions in that debate, that we will get our answers, that the government will open up and give the answers, and we have many questions that have to be answered and the people of St. James constituency have many questions that they have asked me to raise.

With those opening remarks, Mr. Speaker, I thank you for your attentiveness.

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MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Emerson.

MR. STEVE DEREWIANCHUK (Emerson): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As a new member may I express my congratulations on your re-election as Speaker of the House and may I express my best wishes for a fruitful session.

I wish to speak today on behalf of my constituency. The constituency of Emerson which I have the honour to represent as of the election on June 28th of last year is special and unique in its nature and its needs. It is situated in the southeastern region of the province running east of the Red River to the Ontario border, parallel along the American border. It covers a distance of approximately 25 miles north and south and approximately 120 miles east and west making a total area of approximately 3,000 square miles.

The major industries of the Emerson constituency are: farming - mixed, feed and some grain throughout the constituency; forestry - in the Sprague, Woodridge and Vassar area; small industry; such as clothing factories and dairy products at Grunthal, St. Malo and St. Pierre; tourism - some development of recreation areas at St. Malo, Gardenton, Vassar and Moose Lake.

The largest concentration of population is in the Town of St. Pierre which is the largest centre in the constituency. The population is a mosaic of various ethnic groups, the largest being French, Ukrainian and Mennonite, with smaller groups of Anglo Saxons, Indian people and Icelandic people - in other words we have a wealth of cultural heritage on which to draw for the betterment of our constituency.

There are four major school complexes for grades one through twelve to service the children of the constituency, some of whom have to bus a distance of 64 miles in one school day. This situation of course makes the development, improvement and maintenance of good roads imperative for the safety of the school children of the constituency.

The constituency of Emerson is governed at the local level through the Local Government Districts of Stuartburn, Piney and Reynolds and two municipalities of Franklin and De Salaberry.

From 1958 to 1968 the Emerson constituency has had the misfortune to be represented by various Liberals and Conservative members and some, however, managed to be with the government in power at that particular time.

As I mentioned earlier the Emerson constituency is unique in its needs. It was largely ignored during the decade 1958 to 1968 and totally ignored prior to that. It was not until the New Democratic Party came into power in 1969 that Emerson was even recognized as a constituency. However 50 years of regression cannot be overcome in four short years and there is still much to be done in the Emerson constituency to bring it up to the standards of the other areas of Manitoba.

One area of deep concern to the people of my constituency is that of health facilities. In the whole area of 3,000 square miles there is only one hospital which performs surgery and it is situated at a distance of more than 90 miles from some of the more remote areas of the constituency. The two other hospitals located at Emerson and Vita provide primarily examination, diagnosis and referral. There is some public health nurse services in some areas but the total situation leaves a great deal to be desired. The unfortunate result is that many of the people of Emerson constituency are forced to go to Steinbach, Morris, Winnipeg or the United States for medical services.

Another aspect of health services and facilities which requires government consideration and assistance is that of personal care homes specifically in the towns of Emerson and Vita. It is a sad state of affairs indeed when an elderly citizen is forced to spend his few remaining years in a home staffed by nurses, doctors and attendants who are unable to converse with the patient in his own language.

It is obvious to anyone who has travelled through the Emerson constituency that it contains some of the most attractive areas of forest, rivers and lakes. I fail to understand why this fact has not been recognized and why little has been done towards developing this vast natural resource which is possibly one of the most valuable assets of the Emerson constituency if not the most valuable. Development in this area can do a great deal towards increasing the per capita income of the constituency. One specific area of potential development is Gardenton where the citizens of the area are ready and willing to turn over to the government approximately 50 acres of land bordering on the Roseau River for the

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(MR. DEREWIANCHUK cont'd) purpose of creating a man-made lake, park and camping grounds. This land has already been partially developed through the Gardenton Museum Organization and additional land is available for purchase bordering the museum site.

In the Piney, Woodridge, Vassar, Marchand, Sundown area there is a great potential for developing a man-made lake and provincial park. Two areas which have been developed and are quite successful are Moose Lake and the man-made lake at St. Malo. Unfortunately however both are burdened with the inconvenience of poor access roads, in one case 20 miles and in the other approximately one mile.

Probably the most important single industry in the Emerson constituency is Columbia Forest Products at Sprague. This industry has been experiencing rather major financial problems and the people of the area who depend upon this industry for their livelihood are very concerned about its future. They would like the government to do everything in its power to see that this industry continues to operate effectively and insofar as it's feasible to have it manned and operated by local residents.

There is a great deal of land, particularly in the southeastern portion of the Emerson constituency, which lies idle and unproductive due to poor drainage. Surely it would be wise to invest tax dollars in the construction of drainages in these areas in order to increase production in what is presently a depressed area.

The consolidation of the small school districts into large division has not successfully solved the problem of inequalities in education. Children living in sparsely populated areas such as those that exist in parts of the Emerson constituency find themselves being bussed long distances to receive an education. Far too frequently children in the Emerson constituency must travel miles over substandard roads. This is a particularly grave concern considering the fact that school buses are constructed largely of metal material with little protected padding and no safety belts. This has also always struck me as extremely ironic in view of the fact that the general public is cautioned not to venture out on the roads at even moderate speeds without the protection of safety belts. The combination of long distances, substandard roads and ill-equipped buses is a very dangerous one indeed. It is extremely urgent the roads be improved and the safety features of school buses be improved as well.

Provincial Highway 201 was one of the first main roads to be built in the Emerson constituency and it's seemingly one of the last to be paved. This road is vital to the constituency and its present deplorable condition creates an unnatural barrier between the east and the west.

Another highway of importance to the constituency is Provincial Highway 200. Proper improvements on this highway would shorten the distance from Emerson to Winnipeg by 15 miles. This highway leads directly to a port of entry and would provide trucking and bus services to many communities now without these services. The Community of Arnot located on Highway 200 has at present no transfer service, no bus service, and no passenger train. Obviously the improvement of this highway would be extremely beneficial to this community and others like it.

Other highways particularly in need of attention are Provincial Highway 23 and 308. Road construction in the Emerson constituency had been so badly neglected in the years prior to 1969 that the contrast between roads in the Emerson constituency and other constituencies is startling.

In summary then it would appear that prior to 1969 the Emerson constituency was a poor cousin, ignored, deprived, neglected, the unfortunate foster child of Manitoba. However, since 1969 and the advent of the New Democratic government through grants, incentive programs, some road improvements, the construction of schools and other facilities, the Emerson constituency is slowly closing the gap. Older people are experiencing for the first time in a long hard life the comfort and convenience of central heating, indoor plumbing and better health care. There has even been a noticeable reversal of the exodus of younger people to the city to the extent that our population in some areas has actually increased. I implore my New Democratic colleagues and their honourable members of the opposition parties to co-operate in working together helping the Emerson constituency close the gap and join the rest of the province in enjoying the best that Manitoba

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(MR. DEREWIANCHUK cont'd) has to offer. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Pembina.

MR. GEORGE HENDERSON (Pembina): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to begin my remarks by congratulating you also in your appointment as Speaker again. I'd also like to congratulate all the MLAs who were re-elected because it is an honour to be chosen to represent your constituency no matter which party you belong to. I believe that you will be putting forth sincere efforts which should be appreciated. However, every member comes from different types of a constituency and it's up to that member from that area to properly represent the people of his constituency.

For this reason I want to describe my area somewhat. It takes in the south central part of Manitoba going right down to the border. The main towns are Carman, Morden and Manitou, and there's many other small areas. It's a very densely populated farming area with very rich soil and it's very productive and suitable to special crops and old crops. The people in this area are very hard working and thrifty and they're private enterprisers. They like to run their own show and I say whether I represent them or anybody else that this will be one of the last areas in Manitoba that would ever bow to socialism or to the government running the country. And I'm sure, I see the Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs smiling over there, and maybe I shouldn't tell it but at one time he ran in my area and he --(Interjection)-- not in that. And he got a terrible thumping. I should -- (Interjection) -- yes him, yes that man right there.

I should also state that I have many ethnic groups in my area but I haven't got any Indian reservations at all. There are many ethnic groups but there's no Indian reserves. They believe that government should have the powers to regulate and control any industry but they don't believe in government takeover or monopolies in any business. This is the kind of people I represent and I am going to try continually to keep expressing their view in this House.

The Throne Speech to me didn't seem to contain anything new at all. It was just more and more of the same old stuff with the government wanting to take over more and more of the people's business. It said nothing about inflation, the cost of living, the types of programs that promote initiative and thrift. The removal of the sales tax on second hand articles. They didn't say anything about more support for law enforcement officers, which is something that I think should be mentioned, and I think I must say that many people as they pick up the press and read different articles about how people get off when they're tried. Some say it's a law for the rich and a law for the poor. I don't believe everything that they tell me about free legal aid. To a large extent I believe it's a slush fund for no-good lawyers. . .

A MEMBER: Hit him hard George.

MR. HENDERSON: But I want to read an article from the Tribune on December 26th. It says, "A suspended driver drove in his sleep." So he wins his case. And it goes on to say that he pleaded that he was driving in his sleep so the Judge -- and I won't name any of these people mentioned in here because I -- so the Judge dismissed the case and he wasn't charged. Now somewhere in here the law society or the press has done a poor job because when the average person picks up that sort of a clipping and reads it they wonder what type of a law reform society we have or what type of work the lawyers and the judges are doing.

In my area we aren't happy at all about all of the government grants that there is these days. Some of you people are so overjoyed to get grants. The only reason we talk about accepting them is because we're paying them to everybody else so we think we may as well accept some of them too. There's more grants these days than Carter has pills. You even can go to your ag rep and you'll say, "well what about this grant?", and he'll say, "what's that one, I'm not familiar with that." Yet you're bringing them out faster than the people know about. I'm tired of picking up news releases put out by the government which are actually to a large extent propaganda sheets, which are always stating that Premier Schreyer is giving so many more jobs which is going to mean so many more months of work. I will yield to a question.

MR. PAWLEY: No just a question if the honourable member would mind answering it. I was wondering if the honourable member might be aware, would he confirm the fact that the constituency of Pembina rates among the top ten constituencies in the province in its submission of application for PEP grants.

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MR. HENDERSON: Thanks very much. I did tell you that they were a smart class of people. You've got the program there. So they may as well get on the gravy train, and I'll bet you probably they're paying in more than most constituencies too. Probably if you would research that, you would find out they were paying in more proportionately. So don't ever downgrade the people of Pembina.

I don't know whether he made me miss a few of my remarks or not but it seems to me in the other types of government grants that are going out these days if you can mention ethnic groups, culture, or Indians, that you've got it made. It just seems to be, you know, this is what the news releases are full of. Naturally we wonder sometimes if there isn't some politics mixed up in this.

We don't like the government's land lease policy in my constituency. We don't like the government becoming the biggest landlord in the province. We have no use for that at all. And I'll be saying lots more about that when we get into the Minister of Agriculture's Estimates.

And we don't like the government taking over our mineral rights, and I would like to dwell on that but my fellow member here from Morris done such a terrific job on it this afternoon that I think I'm going to skip it because I couldn't begin to touch it, but I'll say Amen to everything he said.

But I do believe that this Act has got so many - - it hasn't considered all the different types of situations that will develop; and I don't believe that we should even go through with it because I'm sure that we - - I know I was on this side, I wasn't aware really after accepting the Minister's statement, and I had faith in him, I took his opening remarks on second reading as the gospel truth and I didn't worry any more about that bill, and I'm sorry now that I didn't. And I think that this Act you just can't go ahead with it. If you were going ahead with it would I ever be fortunate if there was an election next year because you people wouldn't have a chance.

And another thing I don't like the way the Minister of Mines and Resources is handling this problem of jacklighting of deer at night. He passes it off all the time as a federal responsibility and they can do nothing about it; but everything else they're blaming it on the Provincial Government and they're going down there and making submissions, but they don't seem to do anything about this. I wonder if the Minister would report to us sometime just what he has done about trying to get it stopped. I agree with the Member from Gladstone here and his remarks.

We don't like the AI Program that the government forced upon the farmers in this province, and if you don't believe that we don't like it I just would like you to recall the meeting that was held at Portage. - - (Interjection) - - And you can't blame them. But we did have a meeting in Portage. We had a meeting in Portage and it was attended by an awful lot of people, and the Premier and the Minister of Agriculture were asked there but neither one of them showed. Neither one of them showed.

A MEMBER: How come?

MR. HENDERSON: That's what I'd like to know. How come? They were afraid to face that group of farmers. They've gotta watch where they're going or they're going to be in real trouble. I think they're in it now. And we didn't like what the Minister of Agriculture did in the Hog Marketing Board. And I was at the Municipal Convention and he was asked to speak there and he was talking about the vote on rapeseed. And we do have to admit that that ballot was somewhat of a peculiar type because if you said undecided you were counted as being in favour of the present system.

A MEMBER: That's real democracy.

MR. HENDERSON: That's real democracy the Minister of Municipal Affairs said. Mr. Uskiw when he was speaking to that convention, the Minister of Agriculture, began his remarks about this and talked about the ballot and he said, "What the hell has become of democracy in our country?" What did Mr. Uskiw do when he had the Hog Marketing Board? Did he have a vote at all?

A MEMBER: No.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, please. Order. I think the honourable member realized that you can not refer to members in this Chamber by name. I'd just like to call that to the honourable member's attention.

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MR. HENDERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I'll accept the correction. I meant the Minister of Agriculture when he was speaking at the Municipal Convention in Winnipeg here. And he said, "What the hell has become of democracy?" -- (Interjection) -- This is his words. This was his words. As if we had such a country where they recognize democracy. But what did he do on the Hog Marketing Board when the hog producers didn't even want it. He put it through without a vote. He never gave them a chance to vote. He didn't want 60 percent or 70 percent, he didn't even want a vote. Then when people were being elected who he didn't like, he didn't want to recognize some of them. When he saw that the people, the hog producers were going to put in people that he didn't like he wanted to stop their power. So what did he say? He said we're going to appoint a provincial board, three members from Manitoba and three from Saskatchewan, and they are going to have the power to veto anything that the local boards in the provinces say. Now where is democracy, where is that elected board controlling the fate of hog producers? This is the man that said, "What the hell has become of democracy?" You've got to be consistent if you believe in democracy; you can't get up and make that statement and then do the other thing yourself.

I'm also opposed to the Minister of Agriculture going to public meetings and trying to state the view of all Manitobans when he doesn't know it. And I'm referring to the vote on rapeseed. And I'm opposed to him spending my money and other people's money to promote his, his philosophy to the people. And I don't believe that he should have been spending the province's money in a national issue so as he could talk and present his side of it. This is the man that was talking about democracy at the municipal meeting. It looks as if he's trying to set himself up as a small dictator. -- (Interjection) -- Yes, and we in our area don't believe that the doctors were negotiated in good faith because we have a fine bunch of doctors down there and they were doing their own talking.

And I don't believe that the Minister of Health at that time was being honest because he was making statements such as saying that the doctors from Ontario were going to come in and look after the people of Manitoba if the doctors went on strike. Why would a Minister of the Crown make a statement like that when he hadn't even contacted the doctors in Ontario? Why would he do that? That's got to be -- I don't know, a double standard, or what would you call it? -- (Interjection) -- Well I would call it lies.

We don't like the way this government is treating our civil servants either because we know there's an awful lot of people getting shifted or shafted. We believe there's political patronage going on. You're going to ask us to name them. It's a wonder somebody hasn't yelled. You can easily understand that many of these people that are around 55 or so don't want to have their names mentioned because they're hoping -- they don't know how they can adjust to another job so they don't want to be let out.

And now I want to -- I'm sorry that the Premier wasn't in because I had something that I want to say to him. Because this Premier of this province has cost this province more than any man I have ever known in Manitoba. He talks about what the Conservatives may have cost Manitoba at CFI, but him and his government have cost this province between 254 million to 400 million in delaying the Manitoba Hydro project. Because of the energy crisis now he tries to get on the bandwagon and he's got some people that don't follow it much thinking that he was in favour of this all the time. He doesn't state that he delayed the project and that he didn't go ahead with the most economical form and that it's costing the province so much. He's trying to get on the bandwagon but he's not saying that in 1969 that they campaigned on the basis of not going ahead with this.

He's trying to blame the Conservatives for the whole thing in CFI like as if it was a terrible bad deal. But now he admits that it wasn't such a bad idea at all and it's proven out not too badly. It may have been that they were dealing with crooks but if they outsmarted the Conservatives they've certainly outsmarted the NDPs in a far bigger way. -- (Interjection) -- You'll never regain what you've lost.

I also say that the Premier of this province, who's the Premier, who is supposed to be more knowledgeable, who is supposed to make responsible statements misled the public last year before the election when he stated there'd be no increase in automobile rates and insurance rates until 1975. Now how can you say that before the election and then have an election come on after it and then they'd be raising the rates. -- (Interjection) -- I've been watching the Premier and I've been sizing him up. He's not, he's not the golden

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(MR. HENDERSON cont'd) boy on the white horse or whatever you want to call it. He's been saying things that's been bordered on deceptions for a long time. I wonder if he hasn't been saying things that bordered on deception in the returning officer in his constituency. Time will tell -- pleading that he didn't know.

Now to sum it up I believe that this government by the use of weasel words, or manipulation of words, or some of these things, have actually been deceiving the people. They've been doing things that's on the borderline of deception; And I refer to the Minister of Health, and I quoted; I told you what I thought; I'm referring to the Mineral Tax Act; I'm referring to what's been said in this House on this. I'm referring to the Minister of Agriculture in his statements about what the hell has become of democracy, and what he's doing, and the different things he's done. I'm referring to the Premier himself in the way he handled Hydro, CFI, Autopac rates, and the election in his constituency.

A MEMBER: What about the Minister of Labour?

MR. HENDERSON: I've missed him. The Minister of Labour is going to get himself in enough trouble. That government has tried to put all the blame on the Conservatives. This is how they got in power, they downgraded the Conservatives on account of CFI, now it's not too bad -- CFI and on Manitoba Hydro. Now both of these things are really things that could be looked at as if the Conservatives were aggressive and were doing the right things.

We have also had ministers on that side saying that we will tell the people what they know and we had ministers over there saying that the government should control the Press, so as they can print what they think the people ought to read.

In closing I think I could say this. That when this government was elected to power in 1969 they were elected under the name of the New Democratic Party. I think possibly now the way they are acting they shouldn't be called the New Democratic Party any more, but be called the New Deception Party. Thank you.

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

MR. MARION: (French will be in later Hansard)

Mr. Speaker, it is without hesitation that I convey to you my sincere best wishes on your re-election to this most important position of the House. I pledge as evidence of my sincerity my fullest cooperation during this session. I appreciated the inaugural session on how to conduct one's self this morning. The same congratulations and best wishes are extended to the Deputy Speaker. To the mover and seconder of the Speech from the Throne, the Honourable Members from Rupertsland and Crescentwood, I also offer my congratulations. I like the description of the northern constituency, it made me feel as though I was touring this beautiful northern country, I hesitate to agree with the honourable member on his political options in satisfying the aspirations of his constituents, however, but our varying points of view have a whole session in which to manifest themselves and I do not propose to explore them at this time.

The Honourable Member for Crescenwood who like myself is a landslide winner, demonstrated he is both gifted and witty and I certainly enjoyed his presentation. A word of caution though on new and miraculous cures which qualities he seems to attribute to acupuncture: It is sometimes if not always better to proceed with the utmost caution, lest one might become disillusioned. Thalidomide you will remember, was also considered a wonder treatment and look at the untold heartaches it eventually caused.

My congratulations and best wishes are also extended to all of the new members in this House. I have listened to their maiden speeches and have appreciated the discourses as well as those from the senior members of the House.

The Honourable Member for LaVerendrye congratulated his predecessor and I thought that was a noble gesture, one that I am pleased to emulate when I offer my vote of appreciation to Larry Desjardins who represented St. Boniface for 14 years.

I cannot conclude this part of my discourse without congratulating the First Minister. The electorate gave him a new mandate and I accept that mandate. I hear that prior to the election he had some good things to say about me in this House when I was deputy mayor of the City of Winnipeg . . .

A MEMBER: A slip of the tongue.

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MR. MARION: . . . slip of the tongue. And I hope that he will be able to praise me as a worthy opponent at the end of this session.

The Constituency of St. Boniface basically comprises the older section of what was the former city of St. Boniface. Archibald Street is the eastern limit, the Red River is both the northern and western limit to Norwood Bridge where the east side of St. Marys Road to Enfield Crescent becomes the western limit. The north side of Enfield Crescent to Dubuc Street and along Dubuc Street always maintaining the northern side of those streets becomes the southern limit to Archibald Street.

No constituency could ask for a more historical and cultural background. The French Canadians make up about 75 percent of the population while the balance is made up of Belgians, Poles, Ukrainians, Scottish and British along with many other smaller ethnic groups far too numerous to mention. The site which became St. Boniface was first visited by LaVerendrye in 1738, settlers and Coeur du Bois are known to have lived on the banks of the Red between the forks and what is now Provencher Bridge in 1773. Jean Baptiste Lagimodier, and Marion Gaboury the first white woman in Western Canada settled St. Boniface in 1806.

When the Selkirk Settlers arrived in Kildonan in 1812 there were already 200 odd inhabitants in what is now St. Boniface. In 1818 Lord Selkirk requested missionaries from Montreal and when his quest was answered by Fathers Provencher, Dumoulin and Seminarist William Inge the settlement never looked back.

The first St. Boniface Cathedral rose in 1819 on just about the same site as the present cathedral now stands. There are many interesting historical facts that I could relate to you about St. Boniface but I will dampen my enthusiasm and conclude my historical rendition with an invitation to all of you - come and visit St. Boniface during the Festival du Voyageur, it will give you an opportunity to relive the exciting times of the Voyageurs and I am sure you will make many friends.

At this point I would like to tackle the business at hand - the Throne Speech. But before I do that, Mr. Speaker, I would like to emphasize the reason for my being in this House as a member of the First Session of the 30th Legislature. The city which bore the same name as the constituency I represent was written out of existence by this government with the proclamation of Bill 36 in the summer of 1971. I will not conceal the bitterness which the vast majority of citizens in St. Boniface and I felt when this happened. A perfectly viable entity, rich in culture and history was abolished without any meaningful consultation. A new form of government was created. Why? Because of some theoreticians's dream. A conflict existed between the Metropolitan government of the day and the City of Winnipeg and it seemed that the only way the on-going harangue could be settled was by total amalgamation. I also weighed that term "total amalgamation" before using it. I realize full well the thirteen community committee concept was included in this legislation, but concepts are of little importance, it's the results that matter.

At the first election of the new municipal government I was asked to seek office; I did, and once elected very soon found out how ill-conceived the new legislation was. Great hopes were held for the success of resident advisory groups; a concept which I entirely subscribe to because I felt that it would preserve in some form the affinities of the former communities that had disappeared. Yet this concept was stacked to unbelievable dimensions with obstacles which will no doubt eventually destroy the community concept unless very major changes are brought in to eradicate the paradoxical fact that decision making is vested in a central council, highly influenced by centralizing standing committees, and a powerful if not only potent board of commissioners.

Professor Myer Brownstone at an initial seminar held in Gimli repeated over and over again that the new concept would permit community committees to develop their own specific characteristics, yet exist within the new legislation. By the way, that might have been the intention, but it certainly was not the result. Professor Brownstone was one of the principal architects, as a way of explanation to Bill 36. I think he is also disillusioned with the way things are working out, because in late November when he visited our city on a speaking engagement, he is reported to have said to the Press that the gestation period of Bill 36 was far too short and it would have been a great deal wiser to hold off this legislation for at least a couple of years.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Churchill.

MR. LES OSLAND (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, I wish to add my voice to the many words that have been spoken in the debate on the Speech from the Throne. I would like to also add my congratulations to yourself and to the Deputy Speaker for the House.

Churchill constituency is completely the opposite end of Manitoba from where I've been - to whom I've been listening to this afternoon. We in the north have got the largest, I guess what you'd say the most ungainly, but I feel that it has the most potential too for our province. To describe it shortly, the physical layout of it, from the Saskatchewan border we have the community of Brochet going completely across to the opposite side of Manitoba on to the -- bordering on Ontario where the community of Shamattawa is. This is a reserve, an Indian reserve, and our most isolated community of any of the communities in Manitoba. On the southern point of our constituency we drop right down into the boot of the Churchill constituency where the most beautiful parkland that I've ever seen in my life exists and this is in the Island Lake area. From the southern point going north again we go right up to the area bordering on the Northwest Territories and up at this end we have a community called Taduli Lake competing with the community of Churchill, Manitoba, for being the furthest north.

Within this constituency we have 20 communities which form the human network of it, the human fabric of this area. We have four LGD communities, namely, Churchill, Gillam, Leaf Rapids and Lynn Lake. Also we have four remote communities under the Department of Northern Affairs, and these are Brochet, on the Saskatchewan border once again, South Indian Lake, Granville Lake, and Ilford. On top of this conglomeration of bureaucratic structure we have then ten Indian reserves which come under the treaty Indian section of Indian Affairs federally.

I would like to stop at that point and just draw one point here that out of the last election I campaigned on, was that I would endeavour to tie this gangling community, gangling constituency, pardon me, together with some form of communication system where there would be some feeling for one another's problems, and possibly with the gathering together of the 20 communities we could speak with one voice and possibly get a little more co-ordinated direction to in which we are travelling.

The second point that I had campaigned on was the feeling that I would not speak until I had tested and felt the pulse of all those communities, and of course I gave myself three months to do all this thing in and by November I had gone broke; it was just hopeless, I had got eleven communities visited, I had another nine to go, all the reserves down the eastern side I have not been to yet, so I am going to have to today on my opening address speak for the eleven communities I've been to and possibly speak on the basis on the information I gathered during the campaign for the other nine.

With this gangling great community, or constituency, that we have here there is so many tentacles to it, so many problems involving transportation, health--everything that's been discussed in this Chamber so far since the beginning of this session; only take the same situation and when you come to your health program take the same community and drop it 90 to 100, 200 miles from the nearest medical centre and you start to get the magnitude of the problems that lie in the Churchill constituency.

Running water - the only time they have running water in about over half the communities in my area is when the ladies fill their buckets and start to run back up the hill. Pure water is something that over 50 percent of our communities have not got. They are taking the water out of lakes, out of rivers, that are already contaminated and the babies in our community-- according to statistics we lose five of these children in the north compared to one of your children in the south of the same age group up to the age of two.

I feel that with the Throne Speech I have no compunction of supporting this one hundred percent. I'd like to read it to you because one of the things that we have been coming across, and it has been coming across strong to me, is that for goodness sakes slow things down, wait for the people. We've slapped in in the last four years, I understand, some \$60 million in to the north and we are, I feel, ahead of our people, and our people are telling me this. I don't say to stop the thing, I say to slow it up and to try and co-ordinate, to gather our people with it, so that we can enter into this new era as our people should be entering it. Not just programs but people.

I'd like to quote from the Throne Speech, and to me this represents a blank cheque. "In

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(MR. MARION cont'd) . . . been critically sick people brought in by ambulance to a hospital of their choice and they have not been able to be accepted and have to be removed, agonizing still on the stretcher, to a hospital that perhaps was alien to them, before they could be taken care of. And I think, Sir, that is a critical situation and one that the government should take stock of at once and certainly bring recommendations for remedies to this House at the earliest possible moment. I am not the government, I would not make any suggestions, it would be presumptuous on my part. All of the brains I am told are on the side opposite.

A few days ago during the question period--(Interjection)-- No. I asked the Honourable Minister responsible for the Manitoba Public Insurance Corporation if the new business class had been formed because of a high incidence of accidents in that category and the answer was no. A supplementary question, whether or not the new autopac business class still showed favored costs over private insurers in other provinces, was asked and again the answer was yes. I realize now that the question should have been, can MPIC realize most of its losses from the new classification because after comparing two specific cases I am now aware that the newspaper stories which claimed there was an increase between 30 and 40 percent were minimized. The actual increase in the two cases that I am aware of show increases ranging between 33 in one case and 44 percent in the other case, also in both cases insurance would have been cheaper for the same category in Edmonton, Alberta; in one case by \$3.00; in another case by \$6.00. I will give to the Minister those figures.

I was pleased to hear the same Minister respond to a question on lineups at the claims centres by saying the situation was under scrutiny. It's only fair I feel that the government being in the service industry, as it is in this case, that it should give the same excellence of service that a private company would give and being in line for two or three hours to get into a claims centre is not in my considered opinion service.

The state ownership thirst of this government reached the ultimate when a program was announced whereby farmers with substantial debts could sell their farms to the government and then lease them back at reasonable cost. The other happy side to this farm banking project, so the honourable gentlemen on the other side claim, is that young farmers, or those operating smaller scale farms, can start to enlarge their farming operations with rented land without having to incur large capital costs. That has to be a smokescreen if I've ever seen one. Mr. Speaker, really this plan is nothing short of introducing the feudal system in Manitoba. Thousands of people have died, revolutions have occurred because little people couldn't earn land. Surely if this government wants to help the little farmer it can devise a farm credit system, it can devise a farm credit system that will far better serve the natural desires of our farmers. But I suppose then that no one has explained to the honourable gentlemen across that deeply entrenched traits of entrepreneurship inherent in the Manitoba farmer.

The tremendous successes of MDC must surely, Mr. Speaker, be the reason which prompts this government to entertaining establishing treasury branches. There is no doubt, there is no doubt the expertise that it has taken to lose \$8 million in autopac, 28-odd million dollars in the Manitoba Development Corporation will undoubtedly quailfy the honourable gentlemen across to lose many more millions in this new found little gadget. It seems to me, Mr. Speaker, that there are a host of human betterment programs which can have beneficial effect on Manitobans and should be given priority over programs which really have no reason of being. Might I suggest to the honourable gentlemen opposite that the Liberal Party resolutions are as good a starting point as any.

The credit unions, our banks and the trust companies amply provide Manitobans with a choice in financial institutions, or were you, gentlemen, aware of this?

Vocational rehabilitation services by the province have met with success and it would be my hope that the Honourable Minister of Health and Welfare will encourage this program and add to it with both the financial and human resources that are required. The satisfaction of seeing citizens become active and vibrant contributors instead of disappointed, unhappy and disillusioned members of society is a most rewarding one. Mr. Speaker, --(Interjection)-- I don't care Honourable Minister if it is or not, it's still intended to attract attention.

Mr. Speaker, in closing I would like to quote from a speech given almost two hundred years ago by a very noted American and while I read this speech, this extract, I formulate the hope that the honourable gentlemen opposite retain the essence of the message from this great humanitarian. "You cannot bring about prosperity by discouraging thrift; you cannot . .

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(MR. MARION cont'd) . . . strengthen the weak by weakening the strong; you cannot help the wage-earner by pulling down the wage payer; you cannot further brotherhood of man by encouraging class hatred; you cannot help the poor by destroying the rich; you cannot keep out of trouble by spending more than you earn; you cannot build character and courage by taking away man's initiative and independence; you cannot help man permanently by doing for them what they could and should be doing for themselves." Thank you Mr. Speaker.

. . . continued on next page

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(MR. MARION cont'd)

When I mentioned that there was not any meaningful consultation, Mr. Speaker, I was alluding to the fact that many capable and competent municipal elected representatives along with their administrators presented a number of briefs at the hearings that were held, and it's a fact that although many of these briefs contained immeasurable good recommendations, few if any of them were implemented because the White Paper was almost identical to the legislation that was then proclaimed in Bill 36.

Because of the necessary amendment ceded to the City of Winnipeg Act, so that it will live up to the intentions of this legislation, I agreed to run as a member of the Liberal Party for this Legislature. Now that I am here, I intend doing all that I can in my power to make sure that the amendments are meaningful and will restore the intent which is a base I think of the new legislation, and that is the resident advisory groups and the community committee concept.

I suppose that we will have our opportunity to talk on this when the Unicity Boundary Review Commission reports or when the amendments are brought into the House by the members opposite. One area which can benefit the St. Boniface constituency immensely is a sound urban renewal program. That section north of Provencher Boulevard between the Red and Seine Rivers has had more reports made on it than I am sure any other section in Canada. The City of Winnipeg has now given this area top priority. But without belittling this fact it must be readily understood that the participation of this government and the Federal Government as well is required for any meaningful results to happen. The area in question requires, upgrading, infilling, relocation of a number of industrial plants and warehouses after which it can become one of the most beautiful areas of Winnipeg because it is richly endowed with natural beauty.

The Government of Manitoba in co-operation with the Federal Government has over the past couple of years carried out a senior citizens' housing program which is commendable, and which should be pursued with vigor as long as the federal funding is available. Alternatives to high density projects however should also be considered. It's a fact that not all of our silver haired residents want to reside in skyscrapers.

With respect to low rental public housing, I am afraid that my enthusiasm wanes. Something was said about that by the Honourable Member from La Verendrye with respect to wooden fences. The social impact of a large concentration of this type of housing on an established community is desirable from neither those who reside in them or their neighbors. Much greater emphasis should be given to subsidized personal home-ownership programs. The need which would be filled is certainly as great and the cost of filling that demand would be a great deal less, I am convinced. Low rental public housing programs when carried should certainly have a built-in social rehabilitation factor that I find is lacking presently.

Mr. Speaker, the first time homeowners' grant of \$300 falls far short of the Liberal Party's proposal, and I fail to see how this minimum sum can have beneficial consequences on those young families where every penny counts. I need not reiterate the tremendous amount of dollars required today to purchase a home; \$300 is a mere pittance.

(Mr. Marion spoke in French. Will appear in a later Hansard.)

In the area of health, Mr. Speaker, may I also preface my remarks by saying how relieved I am that cooler heads prevailed and medical services to Manitobans were not curtailed. I am not willing, however, to accept that we will not suffer some consequences because of the confrontation between the MMA and the government. It will be interesting to watch how many new graduate doctors remain in Manitoba in the future years; and it will also be interesting to note how the older established practitioner reacts in the months to come. If the consultative process advocated by the First Minister when he said, and I quote: "This government wishes to provide access by all groups in society, including doctors, and we hope to improve this process of mutual consultation," is aggressively pursued then perhaps the damage will be minimized.

During the question periods in the past three days we have heard much with respect to the shortage of hospital beds. It is a fact, Mr. Speaker, that the Liberal caucus has made an in-depth study of the critical bed situation in the hospitals of the Winnipeg area; and it is a fact, and it is a fact that there is an acute shortage. It is a further fact, Sir, that there have

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(MR. OSLAND cont'd) . . . northern Manitoba my Government will continue its aggressive development policy." There's no doubt about it that in our first four years the door--I won't say the door was opened, the key was put in the lock. I think it's up to us to turn that key and open that door. "Emphasis will be placed on employment and training; efforts to bring about a greater degree of equalization in the cost of living; increased participation in local government; and improved community services facilities. It is expected that assistance for local economic development and improvements in transportation and modern communications will reduce the isolation of northern communities and increase the living standards of the northern residents." End of the quote in the Throne Speech.

Breaking that down it represents to me and to the people that I represent the possibilities for the next four years for us. This is when we can get on the bandwagon. We have been kind of awe-struck and the things that have happened, have really happened very quickly. Take for instance in Churchill alone, in the town that I come from, the acceptance, the buying, the signing of the provincial-federal agreement between the Federal Government and our Provincial Government took the town of Churchill and lifted it right out of where we had been for 40 years of frustration, and if the honourable member the Leader of the Opposition gets frustrated and dumps three feet of books all over the Legislature imagine the frustration of our people up there waiting for 40 years for something to happen. And even at that point, even at this point we had accepted a deal that was actually not as well to the provincial advantage as previous ones that had been offered; 55-45 we took it at, and from there this was just the beginning we are now seeing new houses, streets are now being laid out, the potential of Churchill is just at the beginning stage and now the people are starting to feel that they want to get into it now they want to get a part of the action. And they're starting to form committees and to become animated about where they're going and how they're going to produce something.

It isn't just a case of throwing money into the place. The redevelopment of Churchill at the end of the development period surely to God is not going to come back to a case of stalemate. It's summertime now; we have trucks roaring up and down, people going every direction; all our people are working. At Christmas for the first time since 1964 when I first went to Churchill I saw people out shopping; our children are better dressed than they have ever been before.

Three little girls expressed the whole thing, someone told it to my wife. They said that they now have a swimming pool in their house and every night they have a half hour swim. It's called a bathtub in Winnipeg by the way.

Maybe I can just take you back, a step back to how I came to be in Churchill. I happen to come from B. C. I was in the navy and I got an ultimatum and I got a draft. They call it a "posting" now in the new navy. You don't speak of drafts anymore; we're all gentlemen. --(Interjection)-- No . . . either. And I was posted to Churchill, H. M. C. S. Churchill it was called. I was sent up there to open a sick bay and to give medical support to the navy, navy fashion, due to the fact that the army was pulling out. I got off the train - no, maybe I'd better step back further than that - getting on the train and going up "Toonerville Trolley" all the way to Churchill is an experience. It still is. But things are getting a little better now. You can look out the windows and actually look at the different communities such as Ilford and Gillam, places along the line that are starting to take on a statutory new look. But in '64 I got off the train in Churchill and saw for the first time the Churchill River flats. I had for 20 years been around this world, this globe of ours, on different cruises and three or four of my buddies and I would take on as a sort of a project as we went into each country, and at each port, we'd go to the downtown area the first day; the second day we would go to what I would call the more deprived areas; and then on the third day we would go to the residential areas and kind of see the spread, the difference between the three sections. We have studied it in all the western world, in all the different countries but the one place we'd forgot to study was right here. And I started my study of that on that "Toonerville Trolley" on the way to Churchill. I had found that when we got off the train in Churchill things that existed in other countries that I had been looking down my nose at - and I was so proud, my halo was screwed on so tight as a Canadian I was getting migraine headaches, you know. And all of a sudden I got off the train and there it is staring me right in the face, people eating out of the back of a garbage truck, and their right and the pay that they received for picking up the garbage was the right to sort it out and eat it.

I saw for the first time Camp 10 where Indian Affairs brought the Churchill Chippewayan

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(MR. OSLAND cont'd) . . . people into Churchill and placed them in a - well I suppose you might call it a concentration camp in an area, anyway. This went on through the time that I was there in the navy, for the four years, and I guess is to a large degree the reason why I'm back there. I took my final time out of the navy in '70 and six months later my wife and family and packed a camper and away we went back up where we came from.

The challenge is in the north. My home in Victoria when I went back, it offered me nothing really. I was living you know in a very nice area; we've got a nice little farm there, and I take nothing away from B. C., especially now that they've got a new government in there. I'll tell you you should have been there during the days of smiling W. A. C. Bennett --(Interjection)-- I won't go into that because that's another five minutes. Sorry, Mr. Speaker, I'll get back to the point .

Really I've heard a lot of complaints about the Throne Speech, about the problems that lay in the area down in the southern end here and I sympathize, I suppose, with the situations that exist. I would ask you to be sympathetic with mine. But don't waste your sympathy because I'll tell you something; we've got something going in the north now. The government from '69 to '73 put the key in the door, as I said before, really are now about to turn it and walk through. We're coming on strong; the future is ours. Money - yes we'll need some assistance in that line. But we've got lots of resources. But our biggest and best resource we've got in Churchill Constituency is our people, and slowly but surely on the reserves, in the remote communities, the chairmen, the small councils, the chief and his council on the reserves, in the LGD areas where now in the future legislation we are going to see a change-over from the old colonial business of having a government civil servant looking after all those poor people up there, we're going to switch back and the advisory councils are going to be taking on power. And I feel that the next three to four years is going to be ours and whatever is ours, believe me, it will be yours because we are all Manitobans, not Indian, not Metis, not white people, not Ukrainians, or any other breakdown. All I know is that we're Canadians and let me impress upon you that when a child dies in our Manitoba because of having poor drinking water, or for whatever other question, the sympathies of all our people must be with it regardless of race, colour or creed. And I don't want --(Applause)--

I'd like to close on that note, Mr. Speaker; our time is just about out and I wish everyone the very best. I'd like to say in closing thank you to everyone that has welcomed me as a new member and all the remainder of the new members. I'm sure we're going to enjoy ourselves. Some of the statements that have been coming across I'm scared silly but we'll have a ball.

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

MR. J. WALLY MCKENZIE (Roblin): Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Brandon West, debate be adjourned.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, the honourable member could be recognized and then take the floor at 8:00 o'clock tonight, but don't adjourn debate.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes. I recognize the Honourable Member for Roblin. The hour being 5:30 I am now leaving the Chair to return at 8:00.