

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA
Friday, 18 April, 1980

Time — 10:00 a.m.

OPENING PRAYER by Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER, Hon. Harry E. Graham (Birtle-Russell): Presenting Petitions . . .

READING AND RECEIVING PETITIONS

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for River Heights.

MR. CLERK: Petition of Victoria General Hospital, praying for the passing of an Act to amend an Act respecting Victoria General Hospital.

**PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING
AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Radisson.

MR. ABE KOVNATS: Mr. Speaker, the Committee of Supply has adopted a certain resolution directed me to report same and ask leave to sit again. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Dauphin, that report of Committee be received.

MOTION presented and carried.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

HON. STERLING R. LYON (Charleswood): Mr. Speaker, I have a statement to make to the House.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce to the House that a Letter of Intent has been signed between the province of Manitoba and International Minerals and Chemical Corporation (Canada) Limited, that permits the company to undertake detailed exploration and evaluation of known potash deposits in a prescribed area of western Manitoba.

The company is a Canadian subsidiary of International Minerals and Chemicals Corporation, a major fertilizer concern based in Chicago. The Canadian firm and its parent company currently operate Potash Mines in Saskatchewan and New Mexico.

The Letter of Intent which was signed by my colleague, the Minister of Energy and Mines, requires IMC Canada to undertake detailed seismic exploration and additional sub-surface drilling that is necessary to delineate fully the potash deposits and to permit a detailed pre-development study. It has the sole right to conduct a \$2 million exploration program which will begin this spring. The area involved, Mr. Speaker, is south and west of St. Lazare in western Manitoba and we estimate that the Crown-owned potash rights in the area represent nearly half the potash potential that might be contained in a viable mining operating area.

I might add that we are encouraged by the production and marketing expertise that IMC Canada has offered and we look forward to proceeding in partnership with them to develop the potash deposits.

Under the terms of the Letter of Intent, the province will retain a 25 percent right of participation in development of the deposits if mining is feasible and will

grant IMC Canada first right of refusal in event of future divestiture of interest. In either event, Mr. Speaker, the province will receive royalty payments in addition to any return on its equity.

We have named David S. Robertson & Associates of Toronto as our consultants in respect to our interest in the deposits.

Mr. Speaker, we are advised that the information generated in the 1980 Exploration Program will enable a decision concerning mining operations to be arrived at. While details as to the scale of any operation and investment are still to be determined, we firmly believe that if any development is proceeded with, it will make a significant contribution over the next two or three decades to Manitoba's economy, and particularly to the economy of southwest Manitoba.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Seven Oaks.

MR. SAUL MILLER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We, on this side, welcome this announcement. It is not quite as new as it may sound because it was being examined and looked at a number of years ago. Of course, with the market for potash growing as it is, it is becoming a very marketable commodity. It has always been known that although Saskatchewan might have the bulk of potash, just as Alberta has the oil, that on the other hand, there are potash deposits in Manitoba. The extent of it is not really well known. We hope, of course, that it is very extensive. We hope that there will be enough there to last 50 years at very intensive mining. What I find interesting, Mr. Speaker, is the fact that the province apparently will retain a 25 percent right of participation in the development of the potash. I find it interesting, intriguing, and slightly amusing. Because if have heard anything in this House, we have heard that the government has no right to be in the private sector, that the government has no right to involve itself in these things, that the government should stay out of business.

Well, here we have 25 percent. My only regret, Mr. Speaker, is that it isn't 50 percent. This should be a joint development so not only Manitoba gets jobs and some royalties, but that Manitoba really benefits, so the profits that accrue to the company, accrue to the province as shareholders, not simply as job holders which, eventually the mine is completed and the jobs disappear, or the profits are taken and invested somewhere else, and I wouldn't blame them. I notice they are in Saskatchewan and Mexico and I don't blame the company; they will make money here and they will invest it in Mexico, which is only proper. But Manitoba should be joint 50-50 partners with this firm.

Mr. Speaker, I welcome this announcement today and I welcome even more the fact that this government, for whatever its reasons, whatever they are, has seen the light to the extent of 25 percent; maybe they will now see the light for 50 percent.

MR. SPEAKER: Notices of Motion. Order please. Order please.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

MR. LAURENT L. DESJARDINS (St. Boniface) on behalf of Mr. Green, introduced Bill No. 44, an Act to amend The Medical Act.

ORAL QUESTIONS

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Seven Oaks.

MR. MILLER: Mr. Speaker, to the Minister of Urban Affairs, I gather he is going to Ottawa with the city of Winnipeg to make a joint submission to the federal government vis-a-vis the railway relocation. Is the provincial government prepared to participate to the same extent as the city in its share of the funds required to move the rails?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Urban Affairs.

HON. GERALD W.J. MERCIER (Osborne): Mr. Speaker, as I see the meeting with the federal minister next week, it will be basically to ascertain the intentions of the federal government and to obtain from them specific commitments from them with respect to whether or not they are prepared to deal with this question of relocation and what financial commitment they are prepared to make. So I see the resolution from the City of Winnipeg Council as a means of ascertaining from the federal government what commitments they are prepared to make, because I believe that's where it has to start, Mr. Speaker. There has to be a commitment from the federal government before the city or the province can really deal with this issue.

MR. MILLER: Mr. Speaker, I appreciate that a commitment from the federal government is required. I'm wondering, Mr. Speaker, the Minister doesn't agree, however, that just as Winnipeg has voted to commit themselves to a certain percentage that the province should at least, in going to Ottawa, make that same commitment, because unless all three parties commit themselves nothing is going to happen.

MR. MERCIER: Mr. Speaker, as the Member for Seven Oaks will be well aware, there has to be a commitment from the federal government. The federal government have delayed the construction of the Sherbrook-McGregor Overpass for some time now, and a specific commitment must be obtained from them as early as possible in order that the transportation problems of residents of his constituency, in the north end of this constituency, can be dealt with.

MR. MILLER: Mr. Speaker, precisely, there has to be commitments by the federal government. But surely, Mr. Speaker, to the Minister of Urban Affairs, doesn't he appreciate the fact that the provincial commitment must be there as well, otherwise we'll be going around the mulberry bush another five years. I'm wondering whether the province cannot at this point go to Ottawa, be able to say to the federal government, we are committed to such and such a percent. Now, on what basis will you participate and what is the extent of your participation? Isn't that going to elicit more information and we'll know where we stand rather than just this

constant bickering back and forth and no one knowing where they're going?

MR. MERCIER: Mr. Speaker, it is my view that before any commitments are made by either the city of Winnipeg or the province, the federal government is the key to rail allocation or relocation of the yards, and before we can really deal with this issue at the provincial level, we have to be assured of what the commitment is from the federal government.

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

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Speaker, to the same Minister. Surely the Minister realizes that this is something that's going to have to be financed and done and decided by the three levels of government. If the Minister is going there to negotiate, he must be empowered to make some commitments. If every level of government would say . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, order please. Order please. I suggest the honourable member is debating. If the member is seeking information, maybe he would like to rephrase his question.

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Speaker, to the Minister. If the Minister feels that they are ready to make a commitment at this time, can he tell me why he's going to Ottawa? Wouldn't it be advisable, I ask the Minister, to wait till he gets a letter from Ottawa to see if they are going to participate in this? And then doesn't the Minister believe that then he can go to Ottawa and negotiate and see what part the province will play?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Urban Affairs.

MR. MERCIER: Mr. Speaker, I am sure that the provincial government will be reasonable in its participation in rail relocation, if that is what is eventually agreed upon, but we have a situation here where the province has already made a commitment towards the construction of the Sherbrook-McGregor Overpass. I have already indicated to the city with respect to the UTAB funds that we were prepared to allocate those funds to rail relocation in the event that relocation is proceeded with and not the Sherbrook-McGregor Overpass. There already is a commitment in that manner, Mr. Speaker, but I think it's essential to relocation that the federal government make a commitment because relocation cannot proceed successfully unless there is a commitment by the federal government, firstly, Mr. Speaker, to order relocation, to make a specific financial commitment and to deal with the question of cost to all the parties, not just the three provincial governments but the railways, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Seven Oaks.

MR. MILLER: Mr. Speaker, further to the Minister of Urban Affairs, he refers to UTAB funds. Are those the funds that are channelled to Manitoba through the federal government?

MR. MERCIER: Yes, Mr. Speaker, those are the funds that are channelled to the provincial government and are allocated by the provincial government

MR. MILLER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Then in that case, Mr. Speaker, I am really wondering what the provincial ministry is going to offer to both the city and to the federal government since the money he is talking about is indeed federal money; it's not provincial money at all. Is the province not going to put up any money at all to assure that something happens with the railway tracks of the CPR?

MR. MERCIER: Mr. Speaker, the province, as I have indicated, will be reasonable but, again, the federal government has to indicate their commitment to this. As the Member for Seven Oaks will well remember, he and his government abandoned any concept of relocation of the lines or the yards and took the position that the Sherbrook-McGregor Overpass should be dealt with because of the delay at the federal government level with respect to this matter.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Brandon East.

MR. LEONARD S. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to address a question to the Minister of Economic Development respecting the F-18A fighter aircraft. Last week the Minister indicated publicly that a chain would be formed under Mr. Murray Armstrong to start Monday morning, which would have been five days ago, to see the McDonnell Douglas people, sub-contractors, and to quote the statement, and everybody. I wonder if the Minister could advise who else is on this team, and exactly what plan of action does the team have? I presume it's already working this week, today, this morning. What plan of action does that team have?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Economic Development.

HON. J. FRANK JOHNSTON (Sturgeon Creek): Mr. Speaker, the member is quite right that the group of people with Mr. Armstrong and the other people involved in the aerospace part of our department have already set up meetings with McDonnell Douglas. They have set up meetings with the federal government representative that has been appointed. They have already started to contact the subcontractors which they know will be supplying McDonnell Douglas and will have to make a commitment to do things in Canada. They are working with the people of our aerospace industry, also, to make representation.

The third point, Mr. Speaker, that the member brings forward. We have been working since November or December of 1977; we contacted the six people that made proposals and followed that up very closely; when it came to the short list, we followed that up very closely. I advise the House that the government, with great assistance from private industry in this province, have been exceptionally thorough and I assure the member that they know where to go and what to present to these people, hopefully to have them come here for the benefit of the people of Manitoba.

The member asked me a question the other day, asking if we were aware that the CF-100 would not be serviced — naturally when it is phased out that there would be problems with the servicing. I would like to report to

the member that we started to discuss this problem with the federal government as early as January 25, 1978, and we have had many meetings with them on that subject since.

MR. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Honourable Minister mentions the CF-100. I would like to ask the Honourable Minister a question with regard to what I believe is about 150 jobs that are now involved in either maintaining or artly maintaining this aircraft at the Bristol Aerospace Industry in Winnipeg.

Knowing that the new F-18 fighter aircraft will begin to be delivered, according to the schedule in late 1982, at the rate of two aircraft per month, can the Minister advise how long those 150 jobs will be safe at Bristol Aerospace, those jobs related to the CF-100.

MR. JOHNSTON: Mr. Speaker, the advice that has been communicated to me by the people in the industry in Manitoba who service the Voodoo aircraft, is that the jobs are now down to approximately 150 and they don't expect them to go any lower than 150 for this reason: The government of Canada does not intend to have those airplanes grounded before the others come onstream. I think the honourable members would be very surprised if the government of Canada did that. The Voodoo will be kept flying until the new airplanes are started to be delivered and the honourable member, if he would just think a little bit further about this, if they are being delivered at two a month I would suggest that the Voodoo would be phased out at two a month. So there is still going to be work on the Voodoo for quite some time. As I said, I have had communication from the industry that the jobs will not go down under 150. That's the information I have at the present time.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rupertsland.

MR. HARVEY BOSTROM: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Mines and is with respect to the statement that has been released this morning. I note that under the terms of the Letter of Intent, the province will retain a 25 percent right of participation, which is not necessarily that they will do it. So I ask the Minister under what conditions his government would consider exercising the 25 percent right of participation under this agreement?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Mines.

HON. DONALD W. CRAIK (Riel): Mr. Speaker, the intention of the government by this announcement is to indicate that the government will retain the 25 percent interest. There will be an option clause there that if, at some future point in time after that, the government wished to divest itself, that first right of refusal would go to IMC. But the intention of the announcement is to indicate that the government at the start, if the operation proves viable, will retain a 25 percent equity.

MR. BOSTROM: My second question to the Minister, in light of his statement, Mr. Speaker is, would the government be prepared to increase their participation to a level of perhaps 50 percent of participation within the development, and would this be possible under the

terms of the Letter of Intent and the agreement signed so far with this company?

MR. CRAIK: As the statement indicates, Mr. Speaker, the Letter of Intent spells out a 25 percent equity position for the government. To some extent the question is hypothetical, as also the announcement indicates that less than 50 percent of the potash mineral rights in the area are owned by the Crown. So if you wanted to expand your equity to 50 percent, you would be facing the proposition of either expropriating private rights or obtaining other private rights.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rupertsland with a final supplementary.

MR. BOSTROM: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I note that they have named David S. Robertson & Associates of Toronto as consultants to protect the interests of the province of Manitoba in this matter. I ask the Minister, would it not have been possible for the government of Manitoba to consider hiring people from Manitoba, a Manitoba firm, to undertake this task? I ask the Minister, are there not people in Manitoba with the necessary engineering and mining expertise to undertake this task and to protect the province's interests without having to go to Toronto for consultants?

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, this firm has been specifically pointed out at this point in time because they have a worldwide experience in this regard and they're probably the most knowledgeable consultants that we know of in this particular area. They have been recommended as well, of course, by the people in Mines Department, who themselves are probably as knowledgeable as anyone else in Manitoba with regard to this area of interest. It was the people in the department who recommended that we engage the Robertson firm for these purposes.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Transcona.

MR. WILSON PARASIUK (Transcona): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister responsible for Public Health. In view of the fact that a court in Ontario has ruled that the federal government does not have sufficient jurisdiction to enforce health inspections which showed levels of pork in what was advertised as beef and that this may be hazardous to health in that the pork and beef would have to be cooked longer than people might otherwise feel, is the Minister looking into this particular problem to ensure that the jurisdictional matter is cleared up and to ensure that the public, either through the federal government or through the provincial government, does have sufficient jurisdiction to enforce health standards especially now that we're entering a barbecuing season, especially with large public groups where you could have some very serious consequences if the health standards aren't maintained?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Health.

HON. L.R. (Bud) SHERMAN (Fort Garry): Mr. Speaker, I want to assure the honourable member that my department is looking into that anomaly. I have no

information I can give him at the time but I'll provide it as soon as possible.

MR. PARASIUK: My question is to the Minister of Mines. I would like to ask him if the government has taken any action to secure the mineral rights that are not held by the Crown right now, in order to ensure that the benefits of the development costs actually accrue to those people who are undertaking the development or is it the government's intention to be involved in something which may of benefit to those people holding peripheral rights but who are doing no development work whatsoever?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Mines.

MR. CRAIK: I have to admit I don't even know what the member is asking.

MR. PARASIUK: If I could clarify my question to the Minister, who possibly doesn't understand that there are freehold rights and Crown rights relating to mineral resources, is it the government's intention to acquire the freehold rights to insure that the development costs undertaken to determine whether in fact the potash mine is feasible will in fact result in benefits gaining to those people undertaking the development work or is it the intention of the government to do development work which will be of benefit to people who are not participating in the development work?

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, it is still not very much clearer. Naturally if there are small holdings that are in the area, it is quite conceivable that they would claim royalty rights.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Transcona with a final supplementary.

MR. PARASIUK: I would like to ask the Minister if he can confirm that one of the companies owning mineral rights in that area, which may be a great beneficiary of this joint effort by the government, is indeed Inco, and if Inco is in fact one of the holders of mineral rights that they should either be participating in the development or that the government should take out their interests so that the people of Manitoba will gain a greater benefit from this possible development?

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, there are any number of parties that may own mineral rights in the area. The member refers to Inco; there is a major company that owns at least as much as the Crown does in this general area and it was the former Prairie Potash Company that did the work in the 1960's in that area. So it goes without saying that without their involvement, not through the government but through the efforts of IMC, in putting this together that that will have to be a consideration.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Natural Resources.

HON. BRIAN RANSOM (Souris-Killarney): Mr. Speaker, I would like to respond to a question posed yesterday by the Member for Ste. Rose and advise him that the Mossey River Dam is open and that the flow through the Fairford Dam is 4,000 cubic feet per second.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Churchill.

MR. JAY COWAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Mines. While we welcome the government's announcement of detailed exploration and evaluation of previously known potash deposits, we are of course interested in the details of the program and would ask the Minister if he is prepared to table pertinent documents and correspondence and, in specific, the Letter of Intent between International Minerals and Chemical Corporation and the people of Manitoba.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Mines.

MR. CRAIK: Yes, Mr. Speaker, in due course there will be other Order-in-Council documents which, of course, will be public documents as well.

MR. COWAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, according to the announcement today, we are also informed that a two million dollar exploration program will begin this spring in regard to this known deposit. Can the Minister indicate over what period of time that exploration will be taking place? In other words, is it a one-year or a two-year, or a three or five-year exploration program?

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, I think it indicated in the statement. In case it didn't, the required additional exploration activity that appears to be necessary will be done entirely in 1980.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Churchill with a final supplementary.

MR. COWAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Well, it is interesting to note that the government is now flirting with socialism and I feel it is incumbent upon myself to warn them, like being a little bit pregnant, it is difficult to be just a little bit socialist, and we will welcome them over on this side eventually, I am certain. My question to the Minister is, can he indicate if this flirtation with socialism, this partnership, was brought about as a result of a request by the company or did the government force themselves upon the company in this regard?

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, I know the Member for Churchill probably would know a fair bit about socialism, I didn't know he knew that much about being pregnant.

With regards to his question, I would have to advise him that this came about by way of mutual agreement. It takes two to tango, and the two tangoed, and this is it.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Inkster.

MR. SIDNEY GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I would like to put a question to tvarish (comrade), the First Minister. I would like to ask the First Minister if, prior to entering into this arrangement, there was a review of the previous decision which was made by the government and Inco with respect to proven reserves in the area; that it was not opportune for the development of these reserves as indicated by the consultants to government and Inco, whether in view of this exploration for new reserves, it does not makes sense to see whether the development of the proven reserves which the govern-

ment and Inco, as comrades in arms, were considering proceeding with.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Mines.

MR. CRAIK: Perhaps, Mr. Speaker, I can answer on behalf of the First Minister in that regard. The same information, the same exploration information which of course is logged with the Department of Mines and with the co-operation of the former people — he refers to Inco; I think he more specifically means the Prairie Potash that did the work primarily in the 1960's when the heavy amount of exploration work was done that information was all supplied to IMC and the present decision is based on all of the available, and I think that means all of the test holes that have been done historically, they have been assessed by IMC and the present decision is based on that.

MR. GREEN: Well, Mr. Speaker, the fact that the Commissar of Finance has answered rather than the First Minister, may I ask the Commissar whether he is talking about exploring new reserves or whether he is talking about proven reserves that exist in St. Lazare at the present time and which were the subject of a joint feasibility study as between the International Nickel Company of Canada and the government of Manitoba and which determined that in view of the much higher content reserves in Saskatchewan that it was not feasible to proceed at that time? Can that be reviewed to see whether now there is a possibility of development on a 50-50 basis rather than 25-75?

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, the member is referring now, I think, then to the Crown area that at one time was leased by Inco. That information, of course, has been available, is available, it includes that same area. It includes the same area in this present area; it may not include all of it but it includes, I believe, most of the same area. There may be some area somewhat north of the present prescribed area that may not be included but primarily it would include most of it. That information has led, along with the information that was generated through Prairie Potash to the decision by IMC to proceed at this time.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Inkster with a final supplementary.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Minister whether it was a condition of concluding this exploration program that the public of Manitoba retain the right of 25 percent participation, including 25 percent investment? Was that a condition of the transaction being concluded?

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, I addressed that question earlier. The 25 percent position to be retained by the Crown came about through negotiation. It is of course a condition now.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rossmere.

MR. VIC SCHROEDER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A question to the Attorney-General. I had asked him about a month ago with respect to a certain breathalizer decision in a provincial judges court in which it was held that where there were two identical readings

there must have been something wrong with the machine. I had asked at that time whether the Crown was intending to appeal that case and if so what would be happening with other similar pending cases. I wonder if he could provide us with an update on that this morning?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. MERCIER: Mr. Speaker, I don't believe there is any intention to appeal that decision but I will get back to the member early next week with respect to this matter in greater detail.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Kildonan.

MR. PETER FOX: Yes, Mr. Speaker. On March 28th, the Honourable First Minister again promised to survey all departments and government agencies in respect to them having commissioned opinion polls the same as had been done in Ontario. Can he inform the House when we can expect an answer to that question?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

MR. LYON: Soon, Mr. Speaker.

MR. FOX: Yes, soon being a four letter word may not be acceptable.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, order please. I would hope that if individual members want to carry on a private conversation that they do it other than on the floor of the House. The Honourable Member for Kildonan.

MR. FOX: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Soon being a four letter word and sometimes not being acceptable and in view of the fact that the First Minister is going to be attending conferences, I wonder if he could delegate this matter to one of his other colleagues so that we can get an answer because I appreciate he has to leave the province next week?

MR. LYON: Mr. Speaker, at the rate of progress that my honourable friends are making in estimates I imagine that we may be here to hell freezes over and I imagine that we will have the information before then.

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

MR. WALDING: Mr. Speaker, my question is either to the Honourable First Minister or the Minister of Mines. I would like to ask whether this detailed exploration and evaluation which will be carried for \$2 million will be done by International Minerals and Chemical Corporation Canada Limited, or will it be done by a subsidiary of that company?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Mines.

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, I guess the answer is, I fail to see the significance of it but I suppose that is not important, I would assume that most of these companies sub-contract out their diamond drilling in these cases so I suppose that from that point of view it will probably be some sub-contracting.

MR. WALDING: Mr. Speaker, a question arises further to a previous announcement in this House some

15 years ago that a company was about to come to Manitoba and start and \$100 million worth of development and we found out afterwards that it was a separate Manitoba company and not the company that was originally anticipated. So I am asking the Minister whether this is to be a Manitoba subsidiary of IMC and that is the company of which the government will take a 25 percent position in it, or are they suggesting that they would take a 25 percent position in IMC Corporation Canada Limited?

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, I am not sure the member is serious but I have to assume he is. The exploration work is being undertaken by IMC. There is no involvement of the Crown or any of its agencies in the exploration work that is being done in 1980.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for St. Vital with a final supplementary.

MR. WALDING: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister whether the government of Manitoba has been requested to put up any of the \$2 million exploration funds?

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

MR. LYON: Mr. Speaker, perhaps I can attempt to answer some of the agonized questions we are hearing from across the way, to an announcement that I thought would find favour in the hearts of all Manitobans, including our socialist friends.

The short answer, Mr. Speaker, to the question is that the development companies are going to be paying the \$2 million for the seismic work to be done this summer; the spring, summer and fall. But my honourable friends I realize are terribly discomforted by all good news that comes to Manitoba and I suppose they really haven't made up their minds whether they are in favour of this because it isn't 100 percent owned or whether they're not.

IMC is well known, Mr. Speaker, to the Member for Inkster, because it is one of the major potash producing companies in Saskatchewan which was not expropriated by the government of Saskatchewan. If my honourable friend wishes to have further information about IMC, perhaps he should apply to his socialist friends in Saskatchewan who know their reputation.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Brandon East.

MR. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I would like to address a question to the Minister responsible for the Manitoba Development Corporation, otherwise known as the Commissar of bus building in Manitoba. Is the government continuing to seek a buyer for Flyer Industries Limited? Are you actively seeking a buyer for Flyer Industries Limited?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Fitness and Amateur Sport.

HON. ROBERT (Bob) BANMAN (La Verendrye): Mr. Speaker, I guess this particular company points out exactly one of the problems that we have. If we could find somebody with the type of marketing skills and expertise in the field of bus building that we found in

dealing in the field of potash, we would probably do much better and the Manitoba taxpayer would not only be not pumping additional funds into that but will also be having a proper industry out there with a sustained employment in Manitoba.

We are, Mr. Speaker, as mentioned a year ago, as was the course of action pursued by the former Minister in charge of the Manitoba Development Corporation, looking at possible potential buyers, as well as people who might be interested in partnership or equity position. That has been no secret, that has been an established policy and really, I might say, has been the same as was carried on by the previous Minister who was in charge of the Manitoba Development Corporation.

MR. EVANS: I understand, Mr. Speaker, that the company in question now has \$60 million worth of bus orders, which will keep it occupied totally up until 1981 or the end of 1981. In view of that, to clarify, I would like to ask the Minister whether they are actively in negotiations with any potential buyer. Is there any active negotiations or any active process of attempting to dispose of this company?

MR. BANMAN: Mr. Speaker, the company faces the same problem it faced a number of years ago when it looked like the company was going to close because of lack of orders, and then what happens is that the personnel in that particular organization, who feel that the company is closing because of lack of orders, then move on to find different jobs. We are now faced with the problem, Mr. Speaker, of trying to rebuild the production line staff and also rebuild the engineering, the assembly as well as the administrative side of the operation.

We are going through, I might add, the same throes that were gone through back in 1975 and 1976. What happens is that it is feast or famine out there and you can't run a business properly that way. The only way we are going to make that company run properly is to try and get a leveled-off production and sales, so that is what we are doing.

With regard to the other question, I know people have come through this province looking at some offsets on the Fighter Program. I know the people from Industry and Commerce have taken some people out there to look at the facility to see if it wouldn't work in with some of things that they want to do. All I can say to the member is that we are actively looking at ways and means of strengthening that operation out there and trying to make it a viable industry in the province of Manitoba.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Brandon East with a final supplementary.

MR. EVANS: A final supplementary to the commissar of bus building, to the Minister, can he advise us how many people, approximately, are now being employed by that plant in the Transcona area?

MR. BANMAN: Mr. Speaker, I will undertake to get the exact number. As the member knows, the Transcona operation is only a part of it. We also have some people employed in the Fort Garry Plant, so I can undertake to get that.

I might add that the order book is full for the first quarter in 1981 and some decisions will have to be made as far as where we proceed from there. As I indicated, the Board of the Directors, as well as myself, are concerned to try and get a level of production which is manageable within the marketplace. In other words, we are not going to try and build 600 buses one year and then scale back to 300 the next. I think what has to happen out there is to try and find a break-even point so that if it means 300 or 350 buses, that we produce that and then go ahead and market that particular amount of buses. What we are trying to do is streamline the operation so that we have a constant flow out there, which I might add has been difficult because of sagging markets and some of the other conditions that have existed.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Inkster.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I am rising on a point of order. By way of explanation, the Honourable Minister said that the previous Minister responsible for the Development Corporation was actively seeking people to buy and/or collaborate with the company. I can tell the Minister that, insofar as I was concerned, Mr. Speaker, the only approaches that I made were with regard to collaborators, people who would be joint-venturing in particular ways with the company. However, I did not restrict the Board in that respect, but told them that any suggestion that it would be outright sold would have to be dealt with by the government. I did not seek outright buyers for the company. I indicated in every case that I was seeking collaborators.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Fitness and Amateur Sport.

MR. BANMAN: Mr. Speaker, on the same point of order or point of privilege, let me just say that in 1976, I think Coopers & Lybrand, or somebody was hired to do a prospectus on the company and seek out a possible purchaser. All I was trying to attempt to say here before is that the policy that we are following with regard to that is precisely the same as the previous administration did in trying to . . . And this government is trying to strengthen the operations out there and if one of the means is that we have to go into a partnership or find somebody that can strengthen out there, bring in certain expertise in the bus building field or otherwise, we will be pursuing that. That has been a stated objective of the government and does not materially differ from what the previous administration did.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The time for question period having expired, we will proceed with Orders of the Day.

ORDERS OF THE DAY — ORDER FOR RETURN

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Brandon East.

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, I would move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Rupertsland, that an Order of the House do issue for a Return of the following information:

- (1)The salaries, wages, fees, other types of remuneration and out-of-pocket expenses paid to the Commissioner of Inquiry into Manitoba Hydro.
- (2)The salaries, wages, fees or other types of remuneration paid to support staff retained or contracted to work for the Commission itemized for each person.
- (3)The number of Provincial Government employees seconded from all departments to assist the Commission and the costs involved therein.
- (4)All payments to persons or firms retained by the Commission to engage in engineering, economic, technical or other research on its behalf itemized for each person or firm.
- (5)All payments to persons or firms retained by the Commission to provide legal services itemized for each person or firm.
- (6)Any other payments or costs incurred by the Commission.

MOTION presented.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Finance.

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, we will take the Order and provide the information. I might ask for one correction of the Member for Brandon East. I am sure that, as a former economics professor, he would want to spell remuneration as remuneration, not remuneration.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Government House Leader.

MR. MERCIER: Mr. Speaker, would you call the Adjourned Debates on Second Reading beginning with Bill No. 2 to Bill No. 27.

ADJOURNED DEBATES ON SECOND READING

MR. SPEAKER: Bill No. 2, on the proposed motion of the Honourable First Minister, an Act respecting the operation of Statute 23 of The Manitoba Act, the Honourable Member for Logan.

MR. WILLIAM JENKINS: Mr. Speaker, could we have this matter stand, but if any member wishes to speak . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Is that agreeable? (Agreed). Bill No. 5, An Act to amend The Public Trustee Act. The Honourable Member for Logan.

MR. JENKINS: Mr. Speaker, in order to save the time of the House could I have all these bills stand unless someone wishes to speak on these bills? We haven't cleared these bills yet, so I'm not in a position to speak on them at this time.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. MERCIER: In view of that Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Minister of Government Services, that Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair and the House resolve itself into a Committee to consider of the Supply to be granted to Her Majesty.

MOTION presented and carried and the House resolved itself into a Committee of Supply with the Honourable Member for Radisson in the Chair for the

Department of Health; and the Honourable Member for Roblin in the Chair for the Department of Cultural Affairs.

CONCURRENT COMMITTEES OF SUPPLY SUPPLY — CULTURAL AFFAIRS

MR. CHAIRMAN, Morris McGregor (Virden): I call the committee to order. We are on Resolution 45, 3. The Member for Elmwood.

MR. RUSSELL DOERN: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to ask the Minister for a breakdown of this item, as to what she intends to spend that \$800,000 on? This is up \$200,000 or about one-third; I'd like to know if we could get a breakdown?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

HON. NORMA L. PRICE: Yes, the Museum of Man and Nature, \$250,000; Multicultural Capital Grants, \$70,000.00.

MR. DOERN: Well could I also ask the Minister to, as she reads these items, to indicate the purpose of the expenditure, if she has that information?

MRS. PRICE: All right, Museum of Man and Nature is \$250,000 and that is for exhibit development. You know, they have the five-year plan, where they have the boreal exhibit, that is what it is for. The initial five-year period ended in 78-79 and it's now proposed that the maximum be raised to \$200,000.00. There's \$80,000 to complete the Boreal Forest Exhibit and \$170,000 to furnish the Museum and Planetarium Galleries and to replace some equipment.

The Multicultural Grants at \$70,000 and that's to preserve, renovate or construct projects, historically or culturally significant to the province, based on a formula of one-third of total capital cost to a maximum of \$50,000 for ethnic cultural grant; the Centennial Centre is \$100,000 and that is for stage and drapery replacement \$15,000, roof repairs \$35,000, changes to air handling system \$35,000; modifications to the Concert Hall lighting system \$15,000.00.

Miscellaneous Capital Grants is \$135,000 and that's for the Western Manitoba Centennial Auditorium \$10,000; the French Cultural Centre \$30,000; the Winnipeg Art Gallery \$55,000. Ukrainian Cultural Centre \$40,000 and those are to be upgrading some facilities and equipment in those areas.

In the Historical Resources, there is \$176,000 and that's for the two Franco-Manitoba Homes that we mentioned last night, the Maison Terrain and the Bohemier House and they are located both at the LaSalle and the Red River junctions. Both homes were threatened with destruction and we have taken it over and it is expected to be completed within the next three fiscal years.

The Regional Historic Sites is \$60,000 and speaking last night, during the last several years, it has become increasingly evident that there's many buildings that have significance to the community and region at large. Preserved or restored buildings provide a very interesting locale for a number of aspects of our rich variety of cultures of ethnic groups and in addition there are significant archaeological sites that are periodically

exposed to the elements and these require immediate salvage if they are to be preserved and understood. The Van Horne rail car is \$15,000 and I think you are aware of what it is, to preserve it. The museum doesn't have the skills necessary to restore the car so they will be restored elsewhere and the car has been enclosed and there are certain minor preventative measures that are being taken with that money.

The Building Stabilization — structures that have been declared provincial historic sites that have been vandalized and require some stabilization in order to prevent further vandalism; in particular we're referring to Nesbitt Hall, the first customs house and the goal at Emerson and St. Michael's Ukrainian Church near Gardenton. These all need some structural work and it is planned to carry this out in 1980-81, and that comes to a total of \$816,000.00.

MR. DOERN: Well, Mr. Chairman, I would commend the Minister for getting a substantial increase in that particular allocation. I wonder if she can indicate what is happening with the Countess of Dufferin. A few years ago it was taken from its site to be restored; there is a lot of erosion to the Countess. At one time it sat in front of the Royal Alex Hotel; children clambered all over it; o ts were removed from it. Eventually it was placed near the Disraeli Freeway in a wire fence cage and even there, with I guess car exhaust and other environmental factors, it was deteriorating so it was removed and I believe it was to be refurbished or better preserved and I was just wondering whether there has been any recent discussion about bringing the Countess out or locating one of the most famous engines in Canadian history somewhere where it could be seen by the public.

MRS. PRICE: I will have to get back to the Member for Elmwood with that information. I don't have it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister of Highways.

HON DON ORCHARD (Pembina): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On that subject that brings up a topic that is very near and dear to my heart. The thriving community of Miami from which I come has a very active railroad museum and should the Minister need storage for the Countess of Dufferin, I am quite sure the operators of that railroad museum in Miami would be very very interested in adding that to their railroad museum artifact list, and that's one of the only remaining railroad museums and railroad sites in the province and probably in western Canada where there is an actively maintained and operational water tower that dates back to the steamer days; any move to put more emphasis on that museum would certainly be welcomed and encouraged by the residents of the Pembina constituency, Mr. Chairman.

MRS. PRICE: I thank my colleague for his comments and we will keep it in our mind.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Elmwood.

MR. DOERN: Mr. Chairman, I have to note that the other MLAs on this Committee too, also date back to the steamer days, it wasn't all that long ago, and I know that the Minister of Highways and Transportation is only familiar with the beep of the diesel, but my col-

league from Logan, I guess not only saw those steamers but worked on them in his railroading days.

I want to ask the Minister, the land beside the Manitoba Museum of Man and Nature was expropriated by the Schreyer administration for an MPIC-MVB building. That was out intention, and the notorious Brunswick Hotel was bought and knocked down, which I think was a major accomplishment, to clean up part of Main Street, and the other properties were acquired. Now that area is used for surface parking and it is obvious in the hands of the Minister of Government Services, but I ask the Minister of Cultural Affairs whether she has had any overtures from the Museum of Man and Nature. I know that they have long wanted that land for expansion of the Museum and for the building of what they call a Transportation Museum. I was just wondering whether she had been approached or pressured by anyone with a view to further construction in relation to the Museum.

MRS. PRICE: No, Mr. Chairman, I haven't had any requests from anybody with regard to the land. It is still under the umbrella of the Government Services.

MR. DOERN: Mr. Chairman, MacDonald House, the home of Hugh John MacDonald, who sits across from us right in this room in painting, was, I think, one of the most successful of all undertakings. It was frightfully expensive. I think they estimated \$150,000 and it came in at almost half-a-million, but it is, I think, a great asset. I was just wondering whether any of these projects she has described of home restoration or whether there are any new ones or other ones that are on the drawing boards that would in any way compare to this kind of qualitative historical restoration.

MRS. PRICE: There are others being considered at the present time, but what we want to do is finish up the projects that we have that I have just mentioned.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 3.—pass. — the Member for Elmwood.

MR. DOERN: Mr. Chairman, the stretch of road, I forget the name of it, where St. Andrew's Church is on, along the river to Lockport . . .

MRS. PRICE: River Road.

MR. DOERN: The River Road, that is what I had written down. Are you involved in that development or is that under the Department of Tourism?

MRS. PRICE: I am advised that could be a part of the ARC Agreement that is just being studied at this time along the corridor of the Red River, but to date we haven't had any . . .

MR. DOERN: Is it likely to be under your department or is it more likely to be under Tourism?

MRS. PRICE: It would be under Tourism.

MR. DOERN: I am not sure what the Minister said; she said it was the something agreement?

MRS. PRICE: ARC.

MR. DOERN: ARC, what is that?

MRS. PRICE: A-R-C.

MR. DOERN: Does that stand for something?

MRS. PRICE: It is a federal-provincial agreement, I think it was initiated a year or so ago, and the city is in on it, too. It is under the jurisdiction of the Minister for Economic Development.

MR. DOERN: Mr. Chairman, the Centennial Concert Hall, I think what has been long overdue in regard to that very fine structure is a proper sign out front like a marquee that would be, say, comparable to a large motion picture theatre. When you look at the building as you whizz by, if you were a tourist, I don't know whether people would know what it was. I don't even know if there is a sign on it saying what it is. There is a small sign somewhere in the front, there are some glass signs that can contain posters at the front, but it strikes me that a real oversight or omission about that building and I am sure it is a matter of money is that there should be a marquee where a person could go by, look at the marquee, and see what is there. For example, the Convention Centre has a small such sign and you always know what is going on at the Convention Centre as you go by, and I think it generates business, and it generates interest. When you go by the Concert Hall, you don't know if it is Harry Belafonte or whether it is some theatre performance or the Ballet or the Symphony, it is just not good enough. I wonder whether there has ever been a study made here. I am sure that this has been looked at over the years and always ruled out on economic grounds. I just wondered if the Minister had looked into this or had been approached, or whether she would look into this, because I think it would enhance the Concert Hall.

MRS. PRICE: I agree wholeheartedly with the Member for Elmwood that there is signage definitely lacking and we have discussed it, not a great length, but I will give him my assurance that I will go into it more deeply.

MR. DOERN: Perhaps we could pass this and go on to the Minister's Salary.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 3.—pass.
Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$816,000 for Cultural Affairs and Historical Resources—pass.
Now we return to Resolution 43, 1.(a).
The Minister of Highways.

MR. ORCHARD: Mr. Chairman, I want to, at this time, when we are dealing with the Minister's Salary, to express on behalf of certainly libraries in my constituency, rural libraries in my constituency, and I know that I speak in this regard on behalf of libraries in all rural constituencies throughout the province; they have for some number of years, and I've been involved with them as the MLA representing a couple of quite active libraries in my constituency, those people in the library business or the library industry in rural Manitoba have had very many nagging concerns over the past several years as to funding and the availability of the service to rural Manitobans, I think the Minister is deserving of the highest commendation that we can give her for her efforts in providing additional funding to public libraries in rural Manitoba. It's a program which, as I've

said, has been needed and requested over a number of years and the Minister has addressed herself very well to this issue. It is something that has met with a lot of approval and is very very welcomed by the residents in my area, my constituency and many others in rural Manitoba. I'd like to, at this time, thank the Minister for her efforts on behalf of my constituents and my people who enjoy the library services that are presently available in rural Manitoba and, because of her initiatives in providing increased services to library users in rural Manitoba in the future, I want to thank her on their behalf for the anticipated better services that we're going to enjoy in rural Manitoba, library services.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN, Henry J. Einaron (Rock Lake): The Member for Virden.

MR. MCGREGOR: I would like to follow that up, Mr. Chairman, and I certainly had the pleasure of taking cheques out to the combined Elkhorn and Virden Regional Library last weekend, in which I presented to the chairperson, the Mayor of Elkhorn, and we know the problems there and I was always happy for him to take part in that joint Elkhorn Regional Library. Mrs. Kent, who is a secretary, made the remarks. It's the first time and we are just within 30 days of having to borrow money to keep going, and they really appreciated, on behalf of that board, having the money. Now they're set until things get . . . The change, whatever that change was, they very much appreciate it. Also to Rivers, who I took again, a cheque out last week and presented a councilman that also was Board Chairman of that Regional Library. Both of these contributions put their particular libraries on a more solid footing and it certainly stabilized them economically for the rest of the summer.

So I just say, along with my Minister of Highways, I certainly do appreciate the Minister's efforts in this regard.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Member for Logan.

MR. JENKINS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I apologize to the Minister if the question that I'm going to be asking was one that . . . I think it was being dealt with a bit when I —(Interjection)— Or lightly. What I would like to ask, through you to the Honourable Minister, is who at the present time is the owner of one of our most historic pieces of memorabilia, the old Countess of Dufferin. Is it the province that is the owner of this, or is it the Manitoba Museum of Man and Nature?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

MRS. PRICE: To the Member for Logan, I'm advised that the owner is the CPR and I can further elaborate for the question posed by the Member for Elmwood that: it's under shelter at the CPR Weston Shops.

MR. JENKINS: I know where it is; I can tell you where it is.

MRS. PRICE: He had asked me before you came in through and it will be restored and placed on exhibit by the Midwestern Rail Association and the restoration will be undertaken by the CPR.

MR. JENKINS: Where would this site be, through you, Mr. Chairman, to Madam Minister?

MRS. PRICE: They are looking for a home right now and it hasn't been determined just where they are going to be settling; I know they were looking at the old CPR Building. I think they've run into a couple of problems there, but it hasn't been determined just where it is going to be.

MR. JENKINS: Yes, Thank you Mr. Chairman. Since we have, in the Museum of Man and Nature, the set-up of an old railway station, in part of the set-up there, has there been any thought of placing the engine within the Museum of Man and Nature itself? The Minister, I'm sure, is familiar with the layout of the museum and I was wondering if perhaps that would be a solution; perhaps the CPR could be interested in putting it in? I don't know if the structure of the building is strong enough to hold that engine; that is something that perhaps there would have to be an engineering review on, but it would be much better if that historic piece of our memorabilia was indoors, because sitting outdoors, there's no doubt that it's going to, over a period of time, deteriorate like it did before. I just wonder if the Minister and her department had made any inquiries on behalf of that.

If there is a historic society that is setting up a museum, such as what she said, that is a good thing. There is a very good one just outside of Montreal — if the Minister has seen that one — where we have quite a few of our means of transport across this country in years gone by. But the Countess, I'd say, has a very dear spot, I imagine, to all Manitobans, since it was the first steam locomotive in this part of the country and I would not like to see it sit outdoors and deteriorate like it did before. It's unfortunate. There was a considerable amount of money spent refurbishing the Countess which was refurbished at the CPR Weston Shops and the Minister has said, yes, it is presently housed in what used to be the West Coach Shop in Weston Shops. I have seen it there.

I would just suggest to the Minister that if she hasn't taken this under advisement that she seriously consider it and I would like to see it in that area, unless there is going to be something extensive in this — What was it? Midwest . . . ?

MRS. PRICE: Midwestern Rail.

MR. JENKINS: Midwestern Rail. Because, there's no doubt, even sitting indoors where it is now, that a certain amount of deterioration is setting in on the locomotive and I would just hope . . . Well, if she hasn't thought about it, if her department would seriously consider thinking about asking the CPR if they would be prepared to have it housed at the Museum of Man and Nature.

MRS. PRICE: To the first part of your question, the thought had been entertained some time ago as to housing it in the Museum of Man and Nature, but it is now very seriously thought of that it would be a much more appropriate place to have it in the surroundings at the Midwestern Rail Association, and when they get their home that they are looking for now, which they are working on very hard and they certainly have a lot of interesting pieces to add to it, the Countess of Duf-

ferin will hopefully be housed with them and it will be under cover; it won't be exposed to the elements of the weather.

MR. JENKINS: I thank the Minister for that information. I am glad to hear that it will be under cover. I really don't know if this is the place or whether it's Tourism but I'll throw the idea out anyway. We are presently using another old locomotive and it's been operating. There's a society that it uses, the Prairie Dog Central, which is running I think on the old CNR line up to Gypsumville, I believe up to Warren, I think it's Warren or Woodlands or somewhere there were it turns around and comes back again. With the abandonment of certain rail lines there are old railway stations that are becoming available at a very nominal price, — that's not a pun, Madam Minister and there is a rail line running very close to Birds Hill Park.

Has there ever been any thought of putting, from the line that runs, I believe it is either the CPR or the CNR line that runs up to Grand Beach it runs fairly close to Birds Hill Park of putting a spur line in there, and putting up two or three of these old railway stations? It solves two problems; at one time, because then during the summer months, especially during Saturday and Sunday when they do run the Prairie Dog Central, the Prairie Dog Central could run out to what would be the Birds Hill Park with a couple of railway stations with the memorabilia and have it come out again and haul passengers out back and forth.

It would certainly be an added tourist attraction to the province of Manitoba — and I think we are all interested in Tourism — and it would give some meaning to this run. It would be a run of maybe 10 — 12 miles on a circular, and they could circle the park and come out again.

I just throw this out as a suggestion to the Minister. It may not be under her department. It may come under Government Services; it may come under Tourism; I don't know which, that's one of the problems when you deal with these.

But I think, rather than just running out to Warren and back, that thing could be running two or three times a day, taking people out there. It would be a great trip for kids. You know there are children — I have grandchildren, in fact I have a son-in-law who has never ridden on a train, period, never ridden on a train. There are many many children in our city that have never had the opportunity to ride on a train, especially an old steam locomotive with the . . . I think one of the things that I perhaps miss, most as far as the modernization and dieselization of the railways, has been the sound of that old steam whistle. It was really something.

MR. DOERN: Don't you like the beep of the diesel?

MR. JENKINS: My colleague the Member for Elmwood says, Don't you like the beep of the diesel? To me that doesn't sound like a train at all. If I might, as an aside, say that when the first diesel locomotives came on stream here in Canada, it had the . . . In fact, a friend of mine handled the financial affairs, a chap that took this certain sound out of the diesel engine whistle. It had a great attraction for bull moose, at the time, especially during rutting season, and what used to happen especially in the western part of Canada in the Rockies and in New Brunswick, they were having a devil of a time with these diesels because the bull

moose would get on the railway track. He figured it was another bull moose and they had a lot of derailments, and —(Interjection)— No.

But this chap that redesigned the beep of this diesel whistle got a considerable amount of money because he got the patent rights and everything for it. A friend of mine who is in the banking industry handled his affairs, but as I say, as an aside to my colleague from Elmwood, I am not enamoured by that peanut whistle that is on these diesel locomotives. I would much rather hear the old steam whistle.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

MRS. PRICE: To the Member for Logan, I sense a great deal of nostalgia in him, and I too share with him that the sound of the the old engine outweighs the beep of the diesel, but then our Member for Elmwood is considerably younger than us, or he hasn't got that same feeling. I would like to tell the Member for Logan that we give the Prairie Dog a \$2,000 a year grant, but we have had meetings with them and it is hoped that the city, the province, the feds, and the railway would each take on the task of refinishing a car. That is what is under discussion now and I know how popular the Prairie Dog is. I have seen it on a Sunday when I have been lucky enough to get out golfing at Breezy Bend and see it loaded with children and laughter and such and it is a great attraction. I will certainly pass on your suggestion about embracing some of the old railway stations and going out to Birds Hill because I think that they could get so many more people by doing that and it would be an attraction for Birds Hill too which is a very beautiful park. So it could be tie-in, and I will see that your suggestion is brought forth to them.

MR. JENKINS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 1.(a) the Member for Elmwood.

MR. DOERN: Mr. Chairman, after that speech, I think we are getting into a bit of a rut here. I wanted to ask the Minister if she's telling us that in the two-and-a-half years or three years since the Countess of Dufferin was removed from the entrance to the Disraeli Freeway that there has been no restoration? It sounded in her answers that the engine is stored in the Weston Shops but that the restoration had not begun yet.

MRS. PRICE: The restoration has not begun, as yet.

MR. DOERN: I was just wondering again whether this is now totally in the hands of the CPR or whether the Minister maybe should speak to them and encourage them to undertake the preservation. It strikes me that no good can come from the engine simply being stored and possibly further deterioration setting in.

MRS. PRICE: As I say, it is owned and stored by the CPR at present and I guess there could be a co-ordination of time when it will be moved. It could be restored prior to its being moved into the new Mid-West Rail Association home, which they are working at very sincerely right now. They want one very badly and they have all their pieces that they are wanting to display, and they are ready. All that's lacking is to get an okay on a home.

MR. DOERN: Mr. Chairman, I think that the people connected with that association have the right idea. There is one problem: I don't think they have five cents in the bank and this is one of things that has always bothered me is that there's big plans, big talk, and big ideas but no money and there's no question in my mind that all the money will come from the province. I just wonder how the Minister sees the situation. Is she prepared to ultimately turn over several million dollars to an association, or would she better off developing the project herself as a provincial undertaking?

MRS. PRICE: I don't think I am prepared. I will go further and say we haven't millions of dollars to put into a project such as this, and when it does reach its fruition it would be a tripartite type that all three levels of government would have an input into it.

MR. DOERN: Mr. Chairman, the Challoner murals, I know my colleague from Logan was interested in this item last night, and it was discussed briefly in Government Services. I suggested to the Minister of Government Services that in the construction of a new court building that the murals should be incorporated in the new addition to the Law Courts, because some \$40,000 was spent. The murals are probably in a box somewhere in a Government Services' warehouse, hopefully not deteriorating, and I just wondered whether the Minister could report on where they are and whether during the Lyon administration they have ever come out of those boxes. I know on a couple of occasions we set up exhibitions in Winnipeg at the Art Gallery and in Brandon in the Civic Centre, and they were very well received by the public. I just wondered whether the Minister had any plans to once again display them to the public or to draw them to the attention of her colleague from Government Services for permanent display in some government structure.

MRS. PRICE: At present these murals are being stored in the Art Gallery and they are in the process of restoring them. With regard to displaying them, they are so large that we have to find a suitable place where they can be displayed, and that is why they are — right now they are being restored anyway, they are not ready to be displayed.

MR. DOERN: I am not sure what the Minister means by that, they have been restored and . . .

MRS. PRICE: No, they are in the process of it.

MR. DOERN: I see. I assumed that they were fully restored and are now being stored. Is the Minister telling me they are now being worked on or that moneys are being . . .

MRS. PRICE: They are still being worked on. There is some of them still being worked on and they are in the storage in the Art Gallery.

MR. DOERN: Are the ones being worked on the main four, or there were some other additional ones? Which ones are being worked on?

MRS. PRICE: I have no idea. I could find out if you were interested.

MR. DOERN: Yes. And who is undertaking this restoration, what person or what agency?

MRS. PRICE: I will get that information for the Member for Elmwood.

MR. DOERN: Mr. Chairman, yesterday we had some discussion on the Film Classification Board, and I missed an opportunity to draw something to the attention of the Chairman, Mrs. Carroll, and just in short I wanted to say that one thing that has always disturbed me, as someone who comes from a German-Canadian family, is the manner in which Germans are portrayed in films and on television. If you were to look at films that are shown in the theatres or television productions all that one sees are the stereotype Nazis. Germans are only portrayed as cruel Nazis or idiotic Nazis, one way or the other, and I think this is very detrimental to people from that background and to people who live in that nation.

It is surprising that the sort of films we once saw about Japanese during the war, and I remember them clearly, I don't know if members of the Committee remember them but I remember them with crystal clarity from the 1940s. The Japanese in these films were portrayed as fanatics, they were portrayed as having large buck teeth, sinister expressions, sweaty faces, they either tortured the good guys or shot them in the back with airplanes. That is now history, that is gone, somewhere in the late 1940s those films stopped and even today on television or in the movie theatres you don't see those films any more, they are gone with the wind, and they are simply of historic propaganda value.

The films that are made today on television and for the theatre still portray the Germans as they portrayed them in the 1940s. I think this is sad in view of the fact that many people of German descent are offended by these films. Many people of German descent fought in the Second World War, I could give you a whole list of my family who were of German descent with German names who fought in Germany for the Canadian Army, and the only films one ever sees where Germans are portrayed as people are German films. In other words, if you saw one of the best contemporary films, which missed an Academy Award nomination, the something or other of Maria Braun, that film was a film I saw in Toronto; or a film called *Aguirre — Wrath of God*. In other words, contemporary German films portray Germans as people, which is what they are, as well as members of the NATO Alliance. The other films that are made in North America portray the Germans as Nazis, they are still living in the 1940s.

I just simply draw this to the attention of the Minister and I would hope that she would draw my remarks to the attention of the Chairman of the Classification Board.

What can be done? I don't know. What sort of effect people who complain can have, I don't know. I just think that it is deplorable that a stereotype from the war years is still continued 35 to 40 years after the outbreak of a war and I, for one, find these stereotypes offensive and degrading.

I don't know if the Minister has any comment, but if not, then I ask her to draw my remarks to the attention of the Chairman of the Classification Board. I know that when films today portray women in a certain light that some women's organizations get quite upset about it. I know that if films portray blacks in a certain light there

will be hell to pay. But some groups, for whatever reason, seem to suffer in silence and to take these insults. I don't know if this is a matter of human rights, I don't know if it is a case of public pressure. I don't know if it is a case of censorship, but it certainly is an unfortunate thing that war-time propaganda has just continued indefinitely into the future.

MRS. PRICE: I know that the Human Rights Commission has been disturbed by it, and they agree with the Member for Elmwood. It has been taken to the federal government nationally as well as the different provinces and I know that, as well as blacks and Germans and Indians, there's numbers of them that are cast in this unfavourable light. I would suggest that about the best think that people could do is have, say in the case of Germans, the German associations make it a point to boycott the movies and make it well known to their members. I think that if there was publicity to that effect maybe these people would quit producing films such as this.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Portage la Prairie.

MR. LLOYD G. HYDE: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I want to go on record as stating that myself, personally, that I realize the position of the statement that the Honourable Member for Elmwood stated. It is a sad thing that this progressive race and prosperous race of people have been labeled and I think will continue to be labeled by the fact that they had one very aggressive individual who took the entire world into warfare. It's going to be very difficult for that country, and the rest of the world for that matter, to live that down, and it's a shame. I have to admit it is a shame that they have been labeled as a group of aggressive people but only through the actions of one individual.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Logan, I believe, got my eye first.

MR. JENKINS: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have to agree that I think that it's unfortunate that we are here 35, 40 years later still fighting World War II. We seem to be fighting it on the movie screens, the television screens, and I can sympathize with the people of German ethnic origin. I agree with the Member for Portage la Prairie that it is unfortunate that one person took the German nation into what was known as the Second World War. I guess time, in itself, will only be the great healer. I imagine that for many years after the Napoleonic era people of French origin were not too well looked upon in Europe and the world at that time. It is regrettable.

Periodically you will see they will have these series of documentaries going on fighting World War II, over and over again. It will either be the Russian campaign, or the campaign all across North Africa, or in northwest Europe, the Far East, and it is something, I guess, that the only way that you can really stop it is if people just don't watch it. Then there is going to be no market for it.

I agree, I think the German Canadian Association . . . I have received letters from them at various times and not too long ago we all saw on television *The Holocaust* and there was some very terrible scenes and terrible happenings. I think that they have paid their price over the years and I realize that the Minister her-

self or even this government, or even the federal government, we don't turn out that many movie films or what not in Canada. The majority of them are cranked out elsewhere. We either have spaghetti westerns; we have others that are shot elsewhere; and it is only with time . . .

I remember my history teacher telling me that it is only when you can put something in its proper perspective; it is only 300 years hence that we will really put an historic happening or a current event into its proper perspective because by that time all the people who had any bias one way or the other will have passed on and then historians will look at it in its proper perspective. If that's the case, we are still looking at the French Revolution because we haven't gone 300 years since the French Revolution or the American Revolution. All I can say to my colleague is that I, too, deplore the continual barrage that we are faced with and I share his hopes and others that we will certainly get off this kick in a very short while.

I think we have been, as I said when I started, we've been fighting the second World War for the last 40 years. I took part in it and it is something that, as far as I'm concerned, is now in the past. You can look back at it with some nostalgia. There were some good things came out of it. One of them was that I met my wife and got married overseas. That was one of the good things, but there were many bad things.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Elmwood.

MR. DOERN: Mr. Chairman, I would just simply say, in conclusion — and I used to teach history — that in the early Forties Canadians and Americans described their gallant allies, the Russians, and fought the Germans and the Japanese, and it's somewhat ironic but nevertheless the fact is that today our allies are the Germans and the Japanese and the Russians are our potential enemy, so I am just saying that that's a complete reversal and if you had told someone that in the 1940's they would have said you are out of your mind. You just didn't know what you were talking about. But Churchill said it. What did he say? I have to ask my learned friend what he said in that regard. Oh, he said gallant allies. I thought you were referring to something in addition to that. So I am just saying that if it was once true that we had certain enemies and certain allies, it is now true that the reverse is true. But in the motion picture industry, and in television, it is still the old 40 years ago stuff.

I want to ask the Minister a couple of comments here. I guess this is basically under the Cultural Affairs branch, Cecil W. Semchyshyn, Director, and the grants that are given to major cultural organizations, just looking at this superficially, it looks like the overwhelming bulk of the grants and I might be wrong here but it looks like the overwhelming bulk of the grants are given to the Centre Culturel Franco-Manitobain, some \$100,000 per year, and then the Ukrainian Cultural and Educational Centre, some \$22,000 a year for the past few years, etc.

I am just wondering, and I am thinking now of Bill No. 2, Mr. Chairman, where we are making certain changes in the Legislature in regard to translation of statutes, bills, regulations, etc. When it comes to capital funding and operating grants, it strikes me that there's a great focus on French-Canadian culture and a very small focus on Ukrainian, German, Polish, etc. Yet when you

look at the figures, in terms of the so-called ethnic communities, the French-Canadian population is only a tenth of what the other European heritage groups are, yet they seem to get ten times the funding. So, I'm just saying, in general, when you consider all the multicultural organizations, why is it that there is such an overwhelming preponderance given to the Franco-Manitoban community? Is this history; is it because of federal funding; is it because of tradition, chance, why is it?

MRS. PRICE: We aren't meaningfully discriminating with the Ukrainian or the German. In addition to what I told you at the beginning of our meeting this morning, the \$30,000 that the Ukrainian Cultural Centre is getting, they're getting a . . .

A MEMBER: \$55,000.00.

MRS. PRICE: . . . \$55,000 rather; they're getting an extra \$40,000 from us this year. The French Cultural Centre is owned by the province and they had an increase of \$23,000 this year. With regard to the French and the translations and such, this is something that is compulsory for us, from the decision of the Supreme Court.

MR. DOERN: Mr. Chairman, the Cultural Centre in St. Boniface, I don't recall the cost-sharing, I assume there was federal funding for construction; what about operating grants? If you're making a contribution of \$100,000 a year, for the past three years and maybe more in the future, how much money comes from Ottawa to fund the Centre?

MRS. PRICE: They get the same amount of money; it's on a 50-50 cost sharing.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 1(a) the Member for Ste. Rose.

MR. A.R. (Pete) ADAM: Thank you. On the question of the offensive films; the major film market is in the United States and most of these offensive films are, by and large, produced in the United States and most of them are intended to be propaganda; that's the nature of these films, either espionage, war pictures. To try and show the Americans in a good light, as the good guys, you have films coming out that depict the German people as the bad guys and the Americans as the good guys; or the Americans as the good guys and the Japanese as the bad guys; or the Americans as the good guys and Russians as the bad guys and on and on and on and this is always the intent. And the thing is that it's primarily made for the American market, but these films spill over into other countries; they come into Canada and are probably dubbed in different languages all over the place. For the same purpose, maybe we should, after all these years — but the sad part of it is that we're still producing films. I don't think so much in Canada, but I think the Americans are still producing films that depict our native population in a bad light; they're still showing them attacking caravans with bows and arrows and burning and all kinds of things and Indians being knocked off horses and it's really disgusting. And maybe we should start looking at this and if they want to make that kind of junk, maybe that's the kind of stuff that we should be banning. Send it back; never mind the censor board; just say no-come-

in on the customs; we don't want that kind of stuff here showing people in a bad light.

So this is a sad situation, but I want to get back to the one question on the libraries and ask the Minister — in her comments yesterday she mentioned that there was an extra \$500,000 for libraries and that this appropriation was obtained by a warrant. I want to know if she could explain where this shows up in the Estimates; on what part? Is it on the left hand side or on the right hand side or is it in the reconciliation statement; where would they show up?

MRS. PRICE: It doesn't show up in the book here because the special warrant was done for in the last fiscal year, late in the last fiscal year; in fact, right at the end, so it isn't even in here.

MR. ADAM: So that means that the figure on the left side

MRS. PRICE: There's an extra \$500,000.00.

MR. ADAM: . . . the left hand side is not really the correct figure it should be . . .

MRS. PRICE: No, the right hand side has \$500,000 more. It's \$1,906,000.00.

MR. ADAM: It should really, in my opinion, be on the left hand side. But it should show up somewhere, otherwise how do we know where it is? It should show up somewhere, unless it lapsed. We were told that all unexpended fund, if they'd been expended before the end of the fiscal year, otherwise they would lapse, but it seems to me that the figure on the left hand side should be a half million dollars.

MRS. PRICE: Yes, to the Member for Ste. Rose; it will show up on next year's; it was just at the last minute, after these books were published, it was too late for it, but it will show up in next year's on the left hand side.

MR. ADAM: I see, it'll be added to the 1,825 and it'll show up on the left hand side.

MRS. PRICE: I would like to tell the members opposite that I am going to write to the Human Rights Commission in Ottawa, to Mr. Gordon Fairweather and express the concerns of people from both sides of the House with regard to the discrimination in the films. The point is well taken from the Member for Ste. Rose, that it should start at the customs at the border and I will get in touch with them and I will let you know.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 1. — the Member for Elmwood.

MR. DOERN: Mr. Chairman, I now want to make what may be my last main address here to the Minister and that really falls under the broad topic of the greater use of local talent. I'm not as informed about the case of the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, but I am told that it is difficult for a local musician to make the symphony; now I just say that I have heard that, I cannot substantiate that. But I can speak, I think, with some knowledge about the use of local actors and writers in relation to the local theatre scene and I am one of those who is the strongest supporter of the Theater Centre; I have had season tickets for at least 20 to 25 years

and the theater is my first love and I am therefore, most acquainted.

MRS. PRICE: I thought I was.

MR. DOERN: You — I was talking about an organization, not an individual and remember that saying, Mr. Chairman, hell hath no fury like a woman scorned; bear that in mind when you're smoking your cigar. — (Interjection)— I'm talking to the chairman there, who smokes those \$3.00 Cuban cigars and then he puts a Jamaican cigar band around them so he doesn't frighten the First Minister.

Mr. Chairman, I'm considering now the Manitoba Theatre Centre, which is the pre-eminent theatre in the province and I'm sure that the Minister was one of those who, in the early fifties, used to attend the Winnipeg Little Theatre and I remember seeing many of their productions and it was all done with local talent and the quality of acting in Manitoba was very high. In fact, when I see MTC productions — and I only go by memory — it strikes me that many of the lead roles could have been played by some of these people in the past and could be played by people in the present. Nevertheless, if you are a Manitoba writer, or a Manitoba actor, or even a Canadian actor, or a Canadian writer, you have little opportunity to display your wares at the MTC. I'm thinking primarily of the main theatre and I'm thinking secondly, of the Warehouse.

The question really is, Mr. Chairman, where can a local writer or actor obtain the experience; it's kind of a chicken and an egg situation. If a person goes for a tryout and is told they're not good enough, then what do they do; do they go to New York or Toronto for five years, acquire the experience and come home? Is that what you have to do to make it in Manitoba, because it's very difficult for people to get the necessary experience if they are almost barred from appearing with the main theatre?

I give you a couple of comments from the newspaper; a letter to the editor in the Tribune, March 4, 1980, by a Mr. William Horrocks, Chairman of the Manitoba Association of Playwrights. This is a new group and they are trying to ban together to get, I guess, their plays printed and their plays produced; maybe to get some government support and to get something called work-shopping, in which, I guess, playwrights produce material and a group of actors work on the material and rehearse the material before it's in final form. Unless you have that kind of opportunity apparently you really can't be a first-rate writer.

And I just quote a couple of paragraphs from what Mr. Horrocks said. He said, for example, Last summer's highly successful playwright search conducted by the Manitoba Theatre Workshop drew a total of 72 plays. If only a handful of these people have talent, is that talent not worth developing. And he also says, The concern of the Manitoba Association of Playwrights is that the individuals in this province who are devoting even a portion of their life's energies to the writing of plays, begin to seek out a recognition for their work and a source of encouragement to continue in it. Now I gather that playwright search had some funding from the department and I commend the department there, but I want to say that I would like to see the Minister take a forceful stance in regard to this matter and I think that she should get a hold of the Board and the artistic director, who was Arif Hasnain, and the new manager

Joe Conrad and to make it clear that there is substantial provincial funding and that we want to see a greater use of local actors. Now I know that the Canada Council, I think, has been on the backs of the Theatre Centre saying that they are not producing enough Canadian plays, and that they are not using enough Canadian actors. I mention, for example, that a couple of best actors in the business are Winnipeggers, Gordon Pinsett and Len Cariou. I happen to know Len Cariou very well, I have known him for over 20 years. He is a big star on Broadway; he, I think, got a Tony Award — I don't know what they call them — the Broadway awards for the musical that he is in. He starred with Lauren Bacall on the stage in Applause, Applause; he starred in the motion picture *A Little Night Music* with Elizabeth Taylor. He is a big name on Broadway and he got some of his experience at Rainbow Stage and at the Manitoba Theatre Centre.

I am told there are other people, not as well known, but in talking to actors — I was given the names of someone named Skid Storie, David Gillies, Jay Brazeau, Pat Hunter and Marilyn Boyle. We all know Marilyn Boyle. I am simply saying that when you at the plays and you look at the parts it is kind of shocking that when you look at the programs that a lot of the small parts in these productions are by people who are flown in from New York, from Toronto, from other parts of the United States. I don't like the use of the word quotas and I don't like the concept of quotas, but, you know, if it is necessary, sometimes maybe it should be done. I am saying to the Minister that I think she should do something here. I know that if I had the responsibility I would be pretty hard on this point. I would ask for figures and I would tell the people at the Theatre Centre and their Board that the grants by the province will be based on such and such minimum requirements, and one of the requirements will be the use of Canadian actors and some Manitoba and some Canadian plays. I am not saying that next season we are going to go there and watch six new Manitoba plays, one by Shakespeare and one comedy from the States, but I would like to see one Manitoba play at the main stage or at the workshop. I don't know if there has ever been any in the last few years. One Canadian play, my God, there is all sorts of Canadian writers who are writing for the States. There are Canadian writers in Hollywood; there are Canadian writers in New York, there are new productions. I noticed the other day the MTC sent out a flyer and I think there was one Canadian play mentioned there, Billy Bishop. I mean, is there any doubt that there should be at least one play, if not a couple, and, sure Shakespeare was the greatest writer in the English language, but that was a long time ago. Do contemporary Manitoba playwrights have to compete with Shakespeare? Are they going to be told that their play isn't as good as King Lear, therefore we can't put it on?

I mention again that there is a drama department in Winnipeg at the University of Winnipeg. There are all sorts of amateur theatres trying to make it. I am told that there are annual tryouts. I was talking to one actor, he told me whenever he contacts a theatre centre and they find out he is a local actor, the voice at the end of the line, whether it is the top or the bottom person answering the phone, is sort of sigh, oh good grief, it is some local yokel on the other end of the line. I am told that there is an annual tryout, where you are given an opportunity to come out and show, but I am also

told that John Hirsch used a lot of local talent and a lot of Canadian talent; and that Len Cariou used a lot of local and Canadian talent; and that Len Cariou used to go around and watch what was being done; but that the last Director, who is leaving now, and I don't have any particular quarrel with him, other than on this particular point, I'm told that he, as a matter of practice, did not go and look at the amateur productions and look for talent and so on.

I am also told, and this is sort of inside information, maybe sour grapes from an actor that some of the people are used from New York because this helps the career of certain directors in maybe going to New York, so there is kind of bit of back-scratching and lobbying going on here. I'll use these guys from New York, they will tell so-and-so, he will put in a word for me, then I'll go there and I will get a job there.

I simply say, Mr. Chairman, to the Minister, that the present attitude on the part of some people in the Theatre Centre, in terms of the Directors, the administration, the members of the Board is mistaken. I am sure these debates take place in their Board meetings. I am sure there are those people who say, hey, we have got to use more Canadian talent, and somebody else says, oh, yeh, but look, it is very interesting, but we have got to have the best, we have got to bring in these people from New York and Chicago and so on.

When it comes to lead roles, I would beg to differ. I would argue that there are local people who can take lead roles. When it comes to secondary roles and small roles, there is no question in my mind that we shouldn't go out of the province. I mean you have somebody playing a small role, what do we need some guy from New York for, who is learning his trade. There are people in Manitoba who have considerable experience and considerable ability.

So I am saying to the Minister, I am urging her, to investigate this situation in depth, right now, because the new season will start in the fall, and if she does some work, has one of her ace investigators go out, Mr. Semchyshyn with a moustache and dark glasses, and acquire the information, maybe he could talk in a higher voice, otherwise he would be easily recognized, and look into this situation, and then get hold of the theatre people, I would call them in. I would ask the Minister to look at the programs for the last year, get all the programs, look at where these people are from, meet with some of the local actors, meet with some of the local playwrights, the local directors and so on, and ask them what they think of the Theatre Centre vis-à-vis the use of local talent. Then, charged up with that information, lay down the law to the Board and tell them that we want more opportunities for local actors and writers. I think that that is a long overdue measure and I would like to see the Minister really lay down the law in that regard.

MRS. PRICE: I would tell the Member for Elmwood some of the things that my department does with regard to using local talent. We use only Manitoba talent in Music in the Park, there is 65 of them; Dancing in the Park, there is 100; Artists in Residence, there is 10; Level Courses Training, there is 30; the Manitoba Theatre Workshop uses almost solely Manitoba and Canadian talent.

I would also like to tell you that a couple of weeks ago I had some representatives of the Status of Women in my office, who you know is a very powerful large group,

and they are very upset by the lack of Manitoba women artists that are given any space to exhibit in the Art Gallery. I have written to the different people who could have an interest in this, the Arts Council and the Art Gallery, etc., expressing my disappointment that they are not giving a better shake to the women artists. This letter just went out about three or four days ago, so I am hoping that there will be some results from that with regard to using Manitoba talent.

I don't think that I can specifically go to the Theatre Centre, especially when we only contribute some nine or ten percent of their grants, and tell them who they can hire. That is one of the reasons why the Manitoba Arts Council was instituted so that the politics would be kept out of that arena. The best that I could do, I would suggest, is that I could contact the Manitoba Arts Council and again express what you have been saying here, because I feel, too, that Manitobans should be used as much as possible. I think that would be about the best that I could do, is to write to the Arts Council.

MR. DOERN: Mr. Chairman, my point is that this isn't a case of using incompetence. To me it is a case of these people have the ability, these people can stand up to most of the people who are brought in, and I believe that there has been discrimination against local talent. The Minister can use whatever tools she has available. There is one that economists talk about a great deal, it is called moral-suasion. I suppose you have the financial clout as well, but at the very minimum you have your own personality and I am sure that if this was your view strongly held, that you could certainly influence the policy of the Theatre Centre.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 1.(a)—pass; 1.(b)(1)—pass; 1.(b)(2)—pass.
Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$1,206,600 for Cultural Affairs and Historical Resources—pass.
Committee rise.

SUPPLY — HEALTH

MR. CHAIRMAN, Abe Kovnats (Radisson): This Committee will come to order. I would direct the honourable members' attention to page 59 of the Main Estimates, Resolution No. 76, Clause 2. Operation and Support Services, Item (b) Psychiatric Services for Children: (l) Salaries—pass.
The Honourable Member for Transcona.

MR. PARASIUK: I wonder if the Minister can give us just a brief explanation of this particular item?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, this is the service that provides support services to community-based mental health organizations and systems for children, as described in the brief Estimates explanation line. It includes a staff complement in total of 17, which includes nine medical officers who are psychiatrists, seven counsellors and an administrative secretary. In addition, two psychiatrists are employed on a sessional fee basis, each five half days per week. The psychiatrists are

based at the Child Guidance Clinic of Winnipeg, but they provide service to other areas on a monthly basis and the areas are divided among them as follows: NorMan and Thompson regions, Central region, Interlake, EastMan regions and the southern part of the province. Counsellors are deployed to and located in NorMan, Thompson, Interlake, Central and EastMan regions.

The rural component of Psychiatric Services for Children is in its fifth year of operation now, Mr. Chairman and it employs the personnel that I have made reference to, the seven community mental health workers and part-time psychiatrists. The program is charged with the responsibility for directing the assessment and management of severely disturbed children. It provides consultation and liaison with protection agencies in the community and with schools and health agencies and the primary thrust is on prevention of emotional disturbances and emotional breakdowns in families. We've had workers involved in increased number of workshops and seminars in the community in the past year to that effect, to that purpose. The branch assessed approximately 350 new families in 1979 in addition to its load carry-over from the previous year.

The urban component of the program operates from the Child Guidance Clinic in Winnipeg and the Community Services Building of the Children's Hospital here. Seven psychiatrists provide liaison consultation and direct service to the medical profession, the community and agency mental health professionals in Winnipeg. There's a close working relationship with the Children's Hospital maintained for purposes of in-patient treatment and assessment in those instances of seriously emotionally disturbed children and or their families.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Transcona.

MR. PARASIUK: Mr. Chairperson, I have received calls as an MLA from constituents and other people regarding this particular service and there are a couple of points I'd like to draw to the Minister's attention in this regard.

First, sometimes there's uncertainty as to how one should and could evaluate psychiatrists and there is a lot of idle gossip floating around the medical establishment as to who's a good one and who's a bad one. When you get calls from parents who are very concerned about their children, especially children suffering schizophrenia, saying that we have these problems; we don't know what to do; my child's been put in hospital for electric shock therapy. I ask the Minister how are psychiatrists selected to be part of this program; are they evaluated; who does the evaluation; and whether in fact that evaluation is updated from time to time. I believe there are some very elderly psychiatrists in this particular area, who may in fact be using some rather old fashioned techniques; that's one.

Secondly, I personally as a lay person am not at all enamoured with the technique of treatment whereby electric shock therapy is used to treat schizophrenia. I think that it is a system that probably in the long run where the cure is worse than the disease. I have dealt directly with a couple of young people who have in fact been forced to submit to electric shock therapy. I don't think it's been therapy. I think it's been quite destructive to these young people, and it really leaves them

in a semi-comatose stage; at least when I've dealt with them. I was really staggered; it was quite a shattering experience dealing with these people, especially since there are some alternatives like mega-vitamin therapy which is not allowed in Manitoba. It is allowed in other provinces and it strikes me that here the medical establishment and I think this would have to go through the MMA has decided that this is not an acceptable form of treatment, as they appear to have decided that holistic medicine is not an appropriate form of medicine as well.

So we find ourselves in a strange situation where horribly concerned parents wonder why they can't give their child access to a treatment or course of treatment which strikes them as being far more humane and which medical authorities, at least some medical authorities, say is a much more preferable form of treatment and one which produces at least better results than the electric shock therapy which really, as I said, leaves the patient often in worse stages than they were before treatment. I am wondering if the Minister has had this problem brought to his attention before and what he is doing about it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, I would have to tell the Honourable Member for Transcona that I have not had such a problem brought to my attention by any parents. My information and my understanding is that electric shock therapy is not used on children except in perhaps some exceptional cases where it is deemed by medical competence and psychiatric expertise to be the best form of treatment and therapy in that particular case.

With respect to mega-vitamins, there is no restriction on the use of mega-vitamins. The impression that the Honourable Member for Transcona has in this area is in error. Any psychiatrist who wants to use mega-vitamins can use them. I would agree that there is not a widespread wholesale enthusiasm in the medical profession for mega-vitamins as a form of treatment but there is no restriction against a practitioner using them if he or she wishes to do so.

On the question of the selection of the psychiatrists, I can only reassure the honourable member that they are professionals who have graduated in their specialties from recognized medical schools and hospitals and institutions, who have accumulated the necessary years of study and the necessary academic qualifications and who have been licensed by the College of Physicians and Surgeons on the special register to practise in Manitoba.

MR. PARASIUUK: I know of a specific direct experience where a young man who really had been president of his school and really shown tremendous as a young person was in fact subjected to electric shock therapy. I don't know whether in fact that has affected his IQ. He's not much older now. He's in quite desperate straights. He really has no future whatsoever. He is presently on provincial social assistance. That has been the case for about three or four years. This person has tried to have mega-vitamin therapy and has not been able to. This person has been under the counsel or the guidance of the provincial government case-workers. They have referred this person to a particular psychiatrist. I am wondering whether in fact in the provincial

stable of psychiatrists, whether there are any who in fact practise mega-vitamin therapy; whether in fact there is something that I'd call, freedom of choice, in this respect. I'd like to stop there and just see if I can get a response.

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

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, the Minister hesitated. I guess when he gets the information for my colleague I could ask him a few questions on that.

A few years ago, this is something that I think was recognized we should step up. There was a lot of work being done with the children. The Minister announced last year and this year again the construction of a 20 or 25-bed hospital for the adolescent, which was something that we had announced that was in the books anyway; we were still trying very hard to get a location for it.

But at one time what we see now as the item that we are on, Psychiatric Services for Children, and also on the next page, we'll come to that later, Psychiatric Services, were combined. And there was at the time a staff of 36 and I would think with the problems that we have that if anything that total staff would be increased, and I see by the total there is 17 under this item. The Minister covered that, and under the other item that I referred to there is a staff, according to the Minister's figure, of 16, which makes 33. So it seems that we are going down. Is that being replaced? Will there be a staff at this new hospital, or where do we find the staff at the new hospital? Is that something new that will be covered with the Health Science Centre, or where? Where will we find this new hospital that we can discuss this new hospital for our adolescents?

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, there is no reduction in staff in the children's psychiatric, or the psychiatric field referred to by the honourable member. There has been a re-deployment by virtue of the fact that the Winnipeg Psychiatric Institute now operates under the Health Sciences Centre, and there were 3 staff who previously showed as members of the departmental staff to whom the Member for St. Boniface refers. That service now operates under the Health Sciences Centre and they operate there, but the total complement in the field is still at the level of 36 . . .

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

MR. DESJARDINS: If the Minister would turn the page, on Page 60, (d) Psychiatric Services — provides support services to community-based mental health systems. Includes Forensic Services and staff support at the Winnipeg Psychiatric Institute. So it is there, and that is the staff that I am talking about. It is not a staff with personnel large enough for the hospital. It is just that staff and that is what I am talking about a reduction.

On that item, the last one that I referred, that was Forensic and Eden Mental Health, and that is a staff, according to the Minister's figure that he gave us, was a staff of 16. I don't necessarily want to discuss this at this time. I want to know in the total where we had the four, where there is a reduction. So, I see, under the item that we are dealing with now, a staff of 17,

and on Page 60, (d), another 16, for a total of 33. That is not necessarily much of a reduction over last year, but I am talking about two or three years ago, and it seems that then we had recognized, and that is where we announced that we would build a 20-bed hospital. We made the formal commitment and I think that the gentleman sitting in front of the Minister would remember how much pressure I put on. Practically every week I was calling in and saying this is something that has to go.

I want to know, it seems to me that if anything, and I am not criticizing certainly not at this point, I am trying to find out if there has been some change. I am sorry if I interrupted the Minister, but I tried to make it easier for him because I don't think he knew what I was talking about, he understood what I was saying.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, the fact is that there has been a phase-out of staff over to the Health Sciences Centre in the Winnipeg Psychiatric Institute. First there are considerable personnel on the staff of the Winnipeg Psychiatric Institute; two of them who are there are still paid by us, they wanted to remain as civil servants, they wanted to remain in the Civil Service and they are paid by us and that is why they are referred to specifically here. —(Interjection)— That's right.

The other question that the Honourable Member for St. Boniface asked me was regarding the adolescent psychiatric facility, which is a recognized need in the spectrum of psychiatric services. We have announced in the capital program, which will be undertaken this year, the establishment of an adolescent psychiatric facility of some 25 beds for chronic and acute adolescent psychiatric patients. We have under the new Director of Children's Psychiatric Services, Dr. Keith Sigmundson, in concert with my own Psychiatric Division personnel and other specialists in the field, a search team at work at the present time for a suitable site or location, either a location that is already in existence and can be renovated to accommodate this facility, or if that is not practical or possible, a site on which a new facility can be built. Those are definite departmental plans for this year.

While I am on my feet, Mr. Chairman, the Honourable Member for Transcona had asked whether in the stable of psychiatrists are there any who practice megavitamin therapy, do they have freedom of choice? I can't answer that question as to whether there are any who practice megavitamin therapy, Mr. Chairman, I can attempt to find that out for him, but as I said earlier there is no restriction on the use of megavitamins and a psychiatrist can use them if he wishes to do so.

The particular regrettable incident that he refers to is one that I am sure we all deplore, an incident in which electric shock therapy apparently was prescribed for a patient on the basis of medical expertise, and expertise that I would suggest and expect probably said, no other form of treatment is proving successful and electric shock therapy is necessary. Unfortunately, I gather from what the honourable member is saying, that electric shock therapy did not work either. There are obviously unfortunately situations in which medical therapy, of whatever kind, prescribed in the best interest of the patient, out of the responsibility undertaken by the specialist caring for that patient, fails to produce the desired results. It may have been that the patient's condition was deteriorating and destined to deteriorate to its present state regardless of what kind

of therapy had been tried. All I can say to the honourable member is that one regrets that therapy and treatment sometimes does not succeed in correcting the problem, but I think that it would be stretching the point irresponsibly to suggest that electric shock therapy is in any way a dangerous form of treatment. There is no scientific evidence, none, no scientific evidence available to indicate that electric shock therapy is damaging. It may not always be successful, but it is a proven form of treatment.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Transcona.

MR. PARASIUK: I don't want to get into a long debate in an area that I have no great technical expertise. I do want to point out to the Minister however that it isn't as cut and dried with respect to the after-effects of electric shock therapy; that there is dispute in the medical profession regarding the use of electric shock therapy. Personally, my value system is such that I would prefer that it be used, if at all, completely as a last resort and that other options be tried. My frustration is that despite what the Minister says, well, megavitamin therapy is available to schizophrenics, de facto it isn't. I have asked the Minister is it possible through the government program, he can't answer me. I have asked other people, well could I refer someone somewhere, and I don't get any answer. People won't tell you what other people do, you can't get a good referral with respect to medical services. You don't get a good referral with respect to legal services, but it is particularly bad with respect to medical services. Who does the prescription? You get not just one, you get other calls from people who have this frustration, who feel that somehow there is some type of closed system at work there. Obviously, by the time they phone an MLA they are incredibly frustrated. At that time you are dealing with the stage where the person is usually in hospital for some time.

A very simple question that is put to me is, well, why can't my child have access to this other form of treatment? And it's a valid question on their part. It's a valid question, when in fact, these other techniques haven't worked and where they see . . . It isn't quite as bad as the laetrite debate, because it is tried in other provinces. I think there's a Dr. Hoffer who first pioneered this in Saskatchewan who is now living in Victoria, who is somewhat respected. People get this material regarding mega-vitamin therapy and they say, we would like to have access to it. I think it is a valid point that they put forward. I think it is something that the Minister responsible for Health should indeed look into. I think it's something that he should investigate, not just leave it to the College of Physicians and Surgeons to, in a sense, look after, but rather that he should take some initiative in this area because, frankly, there is this tremendous wall that exists there, not only for the patient but the parents. It is probably the single greatest problem in their lives and it exists on a continuing basis with great uncertainty and they look at this other option, which strikes me as being relatively harmless as an option to try, certainly far less harmless as an option to try than something as drastic as electric shock therapy.

So I've asked the Minister on that. I find that the government, so far, I would assume, doesn't have any such program of therapy within its own Outreach Program.

The Minister has confirmed that mega-vitamin therapy supposedly is available in theory, to schizophrenics, but he hasn't confirmed that, in fact, there is any psychiatrist in Manitoba that prescribes mega-vitamin therapy. Is that a correct understanding?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Seven Oaks.

MR. MILLER: Mr. Chairman, I remember, in '78, I believe it was, at that time, there was a court. One of the judges expressed concern about the lack of facilities for emotionally disturbed children. At that time, I know the Minister indicated that they were seeking a solution, that they hoped for a fast solution on it and we're looking, perhaps, at the 20-bed facility, which was, I think, the same 20-bed facility that was announced or discussed by my colleague, the Member for St. Boniface, in '76 and '77.

It's now 1980 and although we're now talking about 25 beds instead of 20 beds, it's still on paper; I don't see anything concrete that's come out of the expressions of '78, '79. I believe in '79 the Minister indicated they were sort of shifting to preventative care but that really wasn't the response to the problem because the courts have, on a number of occasions, found that adolescents or children, who have to be taken into care, but the only care available is custodial care and that really doesn't resolve the problem and I'm sure the Minister recognizes that, they do need treatment.

So that we welcome the fact that he's again referring to a special facility, whether it's a new facility that's being built on a new site — I assume it's in the complex of the Health Science Centre — somewhere in that area; or whether it's an existing facility which will be renovated and remodelled so it will suit the kind of patients that it'll be handling.

But by and large, the concern is that nothing has really happened in an area where, I think, it's been recognized for a number of years now, there is a desperate need, that young people, children — even adults, but certainly children — can't be dealt with, as simply put into custodial care, when what they need is extensive and sometimes very deep treatment. I'm not going to get into the argument about the electric shock or therapy; that's my least area of expertise. My concern is that we really haven't moved in this direction, except for the announcements that keep coming forward.

The other question, the other matter that I wanted to ask and get clarified: This, I believe, was known as community psychiatric services for children last year and this is a new title of really the same appropriation, the same description, the wording is changed; so that if I'm right, the Child Guidance Clinic comes into this too. Now the Child Guidance Clinic is a facility or a service that is made available to the school boards of Winnipeg; it's an essential one as far as the preventative aspect is concerned. My concern is that the city of Winnipeg this year has announced that, due to budget restraints, they are going to be using the Child Guidance services less than they have in the past and it seems to me that there's got to be a greater combining of the efforts of the province and the school divisions, particularly the city of Winnipeg area, to use the Child Guidance services to the maximum possible use and not simply be in a position where we're dealing with children who have already got to the point where they must be taken into custody and must be treated.

If, indeed, the Minister is concerned about prevention, then the prevention has to be very early on; the early identification, the early referral through the Child Guidance Clinic, or to private psychiatrists, where people can afford them, but certainly to the Child Guidance Clinic, to come into the school and interview the teachers, look at the problem and then plan or introduce some treatment plan whereby the child can be reached before it becomes a major problem, before the child is so incapacitated that it requires the kind of facility where the child must be kept for its own protection and for treatment.

So, I'm looking at it and I see a 2.6 percent increase, which is really no increase at all; it's really a decrease if you think in terms of what the inflation rate is, 2.6 percent if peanuts. So I'm wondering what we're doing here, Mr. Chairman, is moving towards a facility for the extreme cases that already are so far gone that they require a treatment facility, where they're removed from society, where they're treated specially and we're easing up on the preventative component. And if we do that, it's a catch-22 situation; we're chasing ourselves around. Surely the answer lies in moving in both areas, in early identification, the prevention that can lead to, the early treatment and then the natural flow, if that fails, to the treatment facility. As far as the treatment facility is concerned, (a) I'm wondering why it's taking so long because it's been announced before. The other is the very meagre increase of 2.6 percent, which as I indicated, is really not an increase at all.

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

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, I also want to touch up on the 25-bed facility, because I'm very, very disappointed, very surprised and very disappointed; I didn't realize until the Minister spoke the last time, that we are no further ahead than we were six, seven years ago. I couldn't believe that I heard right and I had to check. I still hope that both my colleague right here and myself, did not hear right, or misunderstood the Minister, because I go back now to 1975, where the then government was chastised for not doing enough, for there were so many things missing in the treatment of these youngsters that facilities were needed; that was recognized in 1976.

I might say that if anything was emphasized as being important, as being a weakness of the department by the then opposition and the then critic, or one of the critics for the opposition in those days, who is now the Minister, and he was absolutely right and he made a point and he made long speeches to say how bad the situation was. I made a commitment in that year; I didn't have anything in that year and I said well definitely there'll be something in the . . . and then the following year, that made three years, the following year, I came in and we budgeted for that hospital. There was money there for that hospital, for that facility, I should say. I'll be very candid, I know it's not . . . I must say that I don't say this was done purposely. I'm not talking that this was a freeze or anything to try to save money, I know that's not the case, but that's not good enough. I'll be very candid, I can say that I — well, maybe that's not fair, we can't ask questions of staff, but you know that I, practically every week for a while, I instructed Dr. Tavener, I said, I'm not going to go back in the

House without having this thing tied down, we've got to do something.

The difficulty was exactly what the Minister is saying now. It wasn't the government; it wasn't the politicians; the order was, full speed ahead. There was no selection because they didn't know where it should be done. Is it something that would be exactly what the Minister said, that would be made acceptable, or a new facility if need be, but the thing is, that we had to have that facility.

In 1978 the Minister announced it again and I think that my colleague quoted some of the things that the Minister said at the time. I'm sure he was as sincere as I had been the two previous years. In 1979 the same thing, and I think that it was again included, new money was included in the capital project and this year again, we had it in the Throne Speech and so on.

Earlier I stood up and I said, well fine, I'm glad to see that this thing is going ahead and finally the thing that we had announced and we had budgeted for. I don't want anybody to say on the side, oh, sure, you were planning. There was money in 1977 for that amount. I don't remember if it was at the commission, but I know there was a certain amount of money and I remember vividly because there was a staff that tried to use that money and suggested to me to use that money somewhere else and I said no, this is the priority and I made it the priority of the department in '77. The Minister wants it. He was one of the ones that was criticizing before and he was absolutely right in 1976. So I think he'll understand our concern in 1980, because we are exactly at the same situation. We want it now, or the government wants it now, the same as we wanted it. They're announcing it — we announced it — but they haven't decided where it's going to be now and it seems to me that it's obvious that the kids can't wait anymore; the needs can't wait anymore. And if staff can't find a place . . . Now, I'm not blaming staff, I know they were doing their best, but I don't know what the problem is, but the main priority is this has to be done and it has to be done now. It's no use looking over the past. But this was something, one of the things that was wanting in 1976 and it's a lot worse now and that has to be done right now and it has to be priority No. 1; not one of the first priorities, the priority No. 1 of this Minister.

I would hope that he would give us this assurance now, that a time limit must be placed on staff to decide what they want to recommend and if that isn't done, the Minister will just have to take the bull by the horns and start this building, because I don't want him to come back — and there won't be any excuse next year if we come back and have the same announcement again for an eighth year in a row; that's not good enough, Mr. Chairman. There's no indication at all, there's no suspicion of wrong-doing by the Minister, or lack of sincerity by the Minister, but that's not going to help the kids, because he's sincere the same as I was sincere. I didn't help the kids by not building it fast enough and he's not doing any better and as I say, it's getting worse. So I would hope the Minister will stand up now and make the commitment that that darn building will be open and will be open this year.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, I want to assure the Honourable for St. Boniface that there won't have to

be any excuse next year and there is no excuse this year and there was no excuse last year, and there is no excuse that I think is owing or necessarily forthcoming from this Minister. I have said from Day One that there were 100 priorities in the health spectrum in Manitoba that my government colleagues and I had to address, and I, essentially as the person charged with the responsibility for this Minister had to address as quickly as we could. We can only move on so many at a time, and I think the Honourable Member for St. Boniface is one in this House who vividly appreciates that.

I have identified my priorities, and I have always included a psychiatric facility for adolescents among them, but I have also identified others that were equally important, I don't say that one is any more important than the other. But others that were equally important and that took the resources that were available to us as Manitobans at the time, and that had to be moved on first, the first thing that had to be done in this province, Mr. Chairman and I will defend this in debate, inside or outside this House with my honourable friend or anyone — in my view, the first thing that had to be done in this province was the Health Sciences Centre regeneration had to be got onstream and on track and under way, because as the Health Sciences Centre goes, Mr. Chairman, so goes health care in Manitoba. That is the linchpin; that is the foundation stone; that is costing you and me and every other Manitoban \$138 million over the next ten years; that had to be done first, and that is a big big challenge and a big big job to get that through for my colleagues and me, to put that mechanism for approval in motion and get it rolling. You can have all the adolescent psychiatric facilities you want, but if the major tertiary care centre, the major referral centre, the major teaching centre in this province, the biggest hospital in western Canada, and one of the biggest hospitals in North America, is allowed to degenerate, deteriorate and run downhill through neglect, then those adolescent psychiatric facilities aren't going to do us very much good. So that had to be priority No. 1.

There were other priorities alongside that, not the least of which was trying to improve the climate for medical practice in this province, trying to reach a happier accommodation and rapport with our medical practitioners, who equally constitute the foundation of health care in this province.

Now, I have said, since October 1977, that psychiatric beds are a priority of mine, and we have moved in that area to a significant degree. The Honourable Member for Seven Oaks says that we really haven't moved, we really have moved. We have indeed moved. We have, opening at the Health Sciences Centre within the next few days, a 20 to 24 bed emergency psychiatric unit, which has been desperately needed for some considerable time; we have got the McEwen residence under way in St. Boniface which will consist of 48 beds total, some eight of which are adolescent beds; we have, with our colleagues in community services, a redevelopment, or re-orientation taking place at Knowles School, which will provide ten beds for psychiatric treatment for adolescents; and we have announced, in our capital program for this year, or I have announced and committed myself in our capital program for this year, to that 25 bed adolescent psychiatric facility. And I dispute the inference in the remarks of my honourable friend from St. Boniface that I promised that it was

coming last year. I never promised that it was coming last year. I said that certainly is one of our priorities, but I have not stood in this House until this session, in this Throne Speech debate, and said that is one of our projects for this year. Other Ministers before me may have done so. All I said was, it was priority and it will come. But in February of this year I said, it will come this year, and we are moving on that.

The Honourable Member for Seven Oaks asked about early identification and the need to get out in the community and identify these potential cases before they develop, and I couldn't agree more with him on that; but he knows, from his experience in this same ministry, that early identification is a major and a difficult challenge, one moves on it as quickly and as responsibly as one can but there are no miracle solutions to problems of this kind, even if you have a whole army of people in the field pursuing the objective of early identification.

We have, under the new director of children's psychiatric services, to whom I referred earlier, Dr. Sigmundson, a program thrust under way in that area. He is meeting with the child welfare system, he is meeting with the education system, precisely to try to put together this kind of liaison involving those different disciplines, all of whom share a responsibility in this field. It can't be done by psychiatrists alone, it can't be done by doctors alone. The field of children with learning disabilities, which is very closely related to this, is another example of where, I think — and I don't dispute for a moment that a great deal needs to be done — but I think it's another example of where there is a tendency for some critics to suggest that the Department of Health can do it all. Well, the Department of Health can't do it all. And doctors can't do it all. It takes a liaison, a co-operation, a cohesive approach among several disciplines, including the whole child welfare system, including the whole education system, and including the community insofar as those parents who are out there in the community and who feel that these problems are developing in their environments, share in that responsibility for early identification.

It certainly is a responsibility, too, of doctors and of the Minister of Health, and I'm not ducking that responsibility. I suggest that both my honourable friends from Seven Oaks and St. Boniface, from their own experiences in this portfolio, know that it requires a multidisciplinary approach. If they're asking me, have you put that multidisciplinary approach together, I tell them that we certainly are making progress in that multidisciplinary approach and that Dr. Sigmundson is heading up precisely that kind of liaison team.

The Member for Seven Oaks is concerned about the budgetary increase. Well, overall, Mr. Chairman, looking at the total approach being made in the field of mental health and psychiatric services and psychiatric facilities, the amount of revenue, the component of the budget being directed to that, represents, I think, a significant amount of money, and I think that it also reflects a reasonable increase. The overall increase in health spending this year over last year was 12.6 percent, and psychiatry and psychiatric services are certainly not being neglected. The staffing and maintenance of the facilities to which I have referred, the McEwen residence and the emergency psychiatric unit at Health Sciences and the changeover at Knowles School will obviously impact on future operating budgets and those differences will be visible in the next set of es-

timates. But they don't show at the moment until those facilities are actually on full stream which they will be this year.

In the case of the unit at the Health Sciences Centre, it will be just a few days from now. The staffing of the adolescent psychiatric facility of 25 beds that we've referred to, when it comes, and it will be under way this year, will again produce that expansion of the operating budget that the Honourable Member for Seven Oaks regrets is not visible in front of us at the moment. I can assure him that it will be there, by implication, because of the physical steps that we are taking. We have to build the costs of those new facilities into next year's budget, and the budget for the year after that. He had to do the same thing when he was Minister. He had to look ahead two or three years.

In terms of the Child Guidance Clinic, I don't think that one should tend to be too hypercritical of the department's budget relative to that particular function, because we only pay the salaries of the psychiatrists at the Child Guidance Clinic; the other costs, as my honourable friends know, are paid by the Winnipeg School Board, so it's not responsible to simply look at what we have budgeted with respect to the Child Guidance Clinic and say that is all that we're doing with respect to children's psychiatric services, either there or elsewhere.

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

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, I want you to note that the Minister practically re-introduced the Minister's Salary. I was on one item, we were on one item and he chose to talk about the Health Sciences Centre, which comes under the commission, and make certain statements there, and also the MMA. So if it's fair game for him to do so, certainly it could be answered.

Now I'm more disappointed than ever because I was too charitable. The Minister said that he didn't say last year, or he hasn't said that was done, he said identified priorities. And now, finally it comes out exactly what this government and this Minister is doing. He's talking about everything as if it was something that he's going to do, and he, himself is saying, now, I'm just identifying the things that have to be done. And the way in which it was said today, that they invented a few things. That the Health Sciences Centre had to be straightened out first, and that this was the government that was going to do it. —(Interjection)— It sure wasn't. And it started — I can remind the Minister that it started a long time ago when I was in the House, and you weren't here — in the days of Duff Roblin. —(Interjection)— Just a minute, you had your say and you can talk again. In the days of Duff Roblin, what announcement did he make? The Health Sciences Centre was going to be the biggest hospital, the biggest research centre in all North America. You remember that? I think I could find some of the clippings that were said at this time.

And I suppose that we didn't work at the Health Sciences Centre. This is the trace of that, we had the difficulties, it wasn't, and we only took office then, the first NDP government, the only one in Manitoba, was from 1969 to 1977. And the problem existed before that. It was a national jungle and we all recognized that, it was a difficult thing. —(Interjection)— We had eight years, and you had 90 years. You had 90 years, and now you've had another three years, and you just went

along another step to increasing that, and I give you credit for that. —(Interjection)— 130. You know, that it's another big joke. Are you going to spend that in the life of this parliament, in this decade, you might not even be there, and Mr. Chairman, this is the same thing that Duff Roblin did; and I'm not saying it shouldn't be done, you have to plan ahead, which we did. If you do, then that's not an area of problem, that's not an area, if you agree in certain areas, and there's a lot in government, different parties, there's a lot of areas that you do agree with. We started that, we made an announcement on the Health Sciences Centre, and what better, they tell us that we don't co-operate. We had a board that was named, an overall board, that brought in all these different hospitals, and we put it to them to prioritize — and we were waiting for their decision, and that was done.

We brought the Clarkson-Vayda, Clarkson is not an NDP, Clarkson worked for a Conservative government for many years, and that is also being studied. All right, I'll grant that the Minister maybe went a step forward, but this 100 and something in the next decade doesn't mean a thing, because a government cannot compromise the next government, another government. I'm not saying that it shouldn't have been done, but don't start taking credit for that and saying this is something terrific because, as I said, we did the same thing, but we announced Phase One. And we planned for other phases, and this is all they're doing, but they cannot announce more than Phase One is when the money is committed when there's a formal commitment, and that is ridiculous to talk about the next decade. That is very wrong. The Minister talked about that, so they are just taking the thing a step forward to take credit for that. I don't want to criticize them on that but I'm not going to accept that this is something this Minister invented, this was something new. The way he's talking now, as if we didn't want to do anything about that at all. There was much more of the work done during the previous administration, and it wasn't that simple.

The Minister is saying himself again, in this announcement today, that they still don't know where they're going to build these facilities and I am going back to the item that we are looking at now after seven years, and he said that we had eight years to do it, after seven years. And it is very difficult because of the situation; you're trying to straighten out something; you're not building anew. When there's bad planning in any community, any construction, any housing project, it is the same thing, I'll grant that. But the Minister is not going to stand up on challenge and say here that he invented that and he was the only one that wanted to correct that. He's just taking it a step forward.

He's talking about the McEwen in St. Boniface, that also, that is one of the things; not necessarily McEwen, that was decided and full credit. But this is something that they just took another step, the St. Boniface Hospital who wanted to develop that, who first approached me on that. I told them to go ahead and present something and we were waiting for them. I think that maybe we got it just at the end and the commission was looking at it.

These are not things that we disagree with but the same Minister stood here and told us that it didn't matter what, the first priority was for the children. The same Minister that is going around this province, just with this PR, all the things that he's going to do. And even if I, as a former critic and still one of the critics of this

department, was under the impression like my colleagues were, that this one thing that they were going to do, because it was announced before, and now he is saying I never made this commitment. We're back to cost first and needs after. If the Minister can say that this is not one of the most important needs, when we are looking at the children of Manitoba that can't help themselves and we are trying to help them, and he can say well okay, but there was something else. There was not something else that was needed more. There was something else that was needed and what happened? The same Minister, well this Minister, he didn't even know about it when I asked him the question the last few years, they withdrew, they withheld funds from the federal government, lots of funds. He's talking about a pure budget on health. Well that's not the comparison you have to make. You have to make what the federal government was doing before, where they participated, and it was cost-share only on two or three things. That's all. Let's not mix the cards, let's compare apples and apples, and oranges and oranges. There was the Medicare that was brought in by the federal government, a universal program, a Canadian program, and there was hospitalization, and to a lesser degree through another Act, there was some money coming to the personal care homes that they inherited and I am sure that they are not too happy with.

Another thing, that same thing that they are going to bring in forever the question of you have to co-operate. This is not something new that you have to work together. We've tried that and he brought the question of the medical profession again. The medical profession in the last year, just before the controls came in, they were offered a 13 percent increase at that time, and that was in 1976, I think. There are more doctors that left during these last few years than there were during all our time in office, to go elsewhere. We talked about co-operation. We were getting together all the information to try to work on a committee of all health which was co-operation. They choose the people they want to co-operate with and then they try to divide the people of Manitoba and say you're against the doctors. There wasn't one bit of legislation changed in the relationship with doctors in Medicare than the one that was brought in by this government when we brought Medicare, not one.

The medical people that work for the department got a very very high increase and then the federal government brought this control. There was nothing we could do about it. The only complaint is that we felt if that was done, we're accused of always going just for labour, the leader at the time, our Premier at the time, stated and he was opposed by labour on that that he was accepting the controls. But he said everybody will be treated the same and if the professionals have a maximum set by Ottawa, not by the province, of \$2,500 a year for equal work — they were allowed to do more work and get more pay for equal work — well then that's what it's going to be, it's not going to be that you're going to have some people, already the highest paid people, that will make \$7,000 and the others maybe a couple of hundred. That was changed because it was recognized at the time that it was difficult, but you had to try. It was more than that. You had to treat everybody the same when you brought in controls. We're talking about an average, and you know we've gone through that before, when an average . . . Not an average, I mean a percentage, what a percentage

of 10 percent of \$100,000 and 10 percent of \$10,000, what it means.

The Minister knows better, but this is just political, that he wants to try to give the impression that we've been against the medical profession. He's talking about co-operation, he said, and I'll always remember, at a meeting that we called and the critic for the opposition then was the Member for Rhineland, and he said, What would you do?, he was asked by the nurses, when you get in office? Well we would have so much money and we would say here you, the doctors, the nurses, the chiropractors, the people working in the hospital, you decide what it is. You know they'd abdicate completely which is asinine and ridiculous and we haven't heard from him since. Another thing he said he felt there weren't enough personal care homes built, and there was a freeze on that, and then he was embarrassed by that also.

I'm not going to stand here and let the Minister stand here and start again trying to bring in this thing with the medical profession. What has he done to the nurses? The nurses finally were recognized and they were given the increase in pay that they wanted and from an area where we had a shortage of nurses we practically had too many nurses, when they took office. And where are they now? They were chased out of Manitoba and lo and behold now we are going to . . . Let's get men and that was another new invention, get a male to go into nursing. That's something else. When we have problems, I'm ready to work together and I wasn't hostile at all when I got up, I was just trying to emphasize, trying to repeat and not as forcefully, trying to repeat what this member, this Minister said in 1976 and 1977. Then he gets up, and I am chastised for that. I am chastised for that and he tells me that that was never done. That's all we hear from this government. They said it is cost first and then need. They panicked this year because there is an election next year, because they saw what happened in the federal field, in the last election in the federal field. They brought in things we would have had. We announced with pride the beds that they would have in personal care homes, practically to the very last one the same amount that we would have had operating now at a lesser cost.

I say that they were talking about they were so sorry there was a shortage of nurses. They're glad there's a shortage of nurses because that's the only way, with the budget that they are giving the hospital, that's the only way that they can stay near that hospital. He said that they stuck with what they did last year; that is not true. What they start playing the first year; I think it was 2.8 percent which wasn't even 2.9, but then they start fooling around with the base; 2.9 of what? They adjusted the base to satisfy themselves, and now all the problems . . . we told them that a few years ago. The problems of withholding proper funds, what an asinine statement to say how did you arrive at 2.9 percent? Well, we were promised that this would be answered. When it was finally time to answer it, well we had a choice. We can start at zero, not give any increase, I guess he could have. He could have said we are going to reduce 10 percent but they were very charitable, they said we can start at zero and go to 20 percent, as was requested by the hospital, and we decided 2.9. That was the answer. That was the rationale how they brought this in.

How can you be rational when you are talking about a hospital, Mr. Chairman? I make the statement and I'm not backing down and I'll never back down that they are happy that these beds are closed. Why do I say that? Because they made the statement and even this year, I think 8 percent increase on the budgets of the hospitals. Well 8 percent . . . What is the inflation rate? What is the cost of living? The Minister knows that the equipment that they need and some of the supplies they need have gone 20 — 25 percent. How? How can anybody in his right mind feel that they will be able to operate the hospital when they know they are locked in with a certain amount of money that they need for staff, and that's roughly 70 percent of the budget, which is more than 8 percent, if they are going to be fair. If they are going to be fair with everybody, if they are not just going to look at a certain privileged class in society and at least cover the rate of inflation if nothing else, it is physically impossible to remain with that kind of thing. So the only way it is possible is if you withhold services, or close wards and that is why I say they are not as shocked and they are not disappointed or unhappy when hospitals are closed. Because that is what they wanted, they created a climate here that the nurses couldn't live with.

The Minister is going to do it again. He stands up and makes some statement that doesn't make any sense, but what can you say? He says the morale of the nurses is better now than ever before, and that is a ridiculous statement.

They had to fight for what they had and they were finally recognized. They were scared when this new government took office, and when they cut down on staff and they said you've got too many staff, too many nurses, and cut down on nurses aids, where the nurses had to run around with a bedpan and do some of things while she was being trained to do something else. That has to be done, but you don't take a doctor to do that and you shouldn't take a nurse to do that. The law was that if somebody is going to have a child, if they were pregnant and so on, they had leave. They weren't replaced. But the nurses couldn't do anything because they were afraid. All of a sudden they realized this was a government that wasn't fooling around and the money was the important thing.

But I'll say to the Minister, if you think the morale is there, wait until they start negotiating their next contract and see what happens. Because they've got you where you thought you had them a few years ago. You have a shortage of nurses and you need them and you are going to pay for it. You are going to pay for it and you'll see what the morale is then, Mr. Chairman.

This same Minister refused to give the answer for two years. Finally I had to go to Ottawa to get the information of what money was given to the province for that and he can try to mix everything up. He can say the total pure health budget, the thing is that there was no cost-sharing except on these three items that I mentioned and, Mr. Chairman, we know what they did. We know that they paid in 1976-77 of the hospital and medical total, it was roughly 50 percent, and in 1979-80 then the federal government was paying 66-1/2 percent of hospitals and medical, where the share was another \$97 million compared to last year. You can be technical . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister, on a point of order.

MR. SHERMAN: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman. I have not objected and had no right to object to what the honourable member was saying with respect to priorities because I dealt with priorities, because he had challenged me to state that the psychiatric facility for adolescents was my number one priority, but he is now talking about EPF funding, he is now talking about health financing; it has nothing to do with psychiatric services for children.

MR. DESJARDINS: Oh, yes, Mr. Chairman, on the same point of order, it has very much to do. On a point of order, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Fine, but be acknowledged first.

MR. DESJARDINS: All right.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for St. Boniface, on the same point of order.

MR. DESJARDINS: On the same point of order, Mr. Speaker, the Minister chose himself to bring in a red herring, to say that they wanted to do all kinds of things and that they had to prioritize, and I'm saying, I'm proving here, that they had the chance to do these things because they were getting some money from Ottawa that they were diverting to something else, and that is very much to the point, Mr. Chairman, and I'd like you to rule.

I'm still on . . . I think the Minister should be recognized also the same as you asked me to be recognized and I haven't sat down yet, Mr. Chairman, and you haven't asked me to sit down. —(Interjection)— Yes, I'm speaking on a point of order. The Minister said that I shouldn't bring this in. I was very satisfied. I was in a very easy mood, very charitable mood, I was just trying to emphasize that together we had the same problem and that should be licked and the Minister, all incensed, got up and started bringing in the red herring of the Health Sciences Centre, about the relationship with doctors. He brought that in and now he is saying, now that I'm answering him, he's saying that I have no business talking about the money from Ottawa, when he's talking about priorities, and he said that —(Interjection)— The same point of order is not finished. I am speaking on a point of order. I am speaking on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He's got the floor on the point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I'm speaking on a point of order, and I'm saying, very much, if he wants to talk about priority, priority is something that you do, if and when you have the means to do it, and I'm trying to show, and to determine and to prove that they had the chance to do it before.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Can I rule on the point of order, or do you want to speak on another point of order? Well, I'll tell the honourable members that I have let the debate get a little bit out of hand, and I would apologize to the honourable members. I didn't call the Minister to order when he was debating on this particular subject, and because of that I had allowed the Honourable Member for St. Boniface to carry on. But it is getting a little out of hand and I would hope that with this discussion and everybody being able to speak their

minds, which was all really out of order, I would hope that rather than bring the House to order, that the honourable members would get back to the subject that we were discussing and we could carry on.

MR. DESJARDINS: I am pleased to accept that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: . . . on the point of order?

MR. SHERMAN: No, Mr. Chairman, I'd like to ask for some direction from the Chair. But I will defer to my honourable friend, and I would like to . . .

MR. DESJARDINS: . . . on that I still have the floor but if he wants to speak, I am certainly . . . This might help: I might say that I will be very pleased to accept your suggestion and to come back to that, if that is what is concerning the Minister. I was challenged, I think we were challenged in the tone of the Minister's remark and what he introduced and we answered it. If you want to bring us back here, I'll be very happy to conform.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is there further discussion on the matter? The Honourable Minister.

MR. SHERMAN: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I'm not going to get into an argument as to who challenged whom. We were discussing priorities. But I would like some direction from the Chair, Sir, as to where we are going to discuss this issue of health care financing. If it's going to be discussed on every item, then I suggest to you that that is neither practical nor responsible. We are dealing with psychiatric services for children. And if every item is going to lead into a debate as to how we finance health and how we treat the EPF block funding arrangement, as opposed to the former 50-50 cost-sharing arrangement, then I think that that will serve no productive purpose, and we'll be here until the middle of July.

I would like a ruling from the Chair as to where that item is going to be discussed. I think it should be discussed under the Minister's Salary or under The Health Services Commission.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It's not a point of order, to the Honourable Member for Seven Oaks. If you care to add something to the ruling, or to help me with my ruling, I'll be happy to acknowledge the Honourable Member for Seven Oaks.

MR. MILLER: Mr. Chairman, I don't object to what the Minister said. He, I think perhaps, will be the deciding factor in how this debate goes. The Minister indicated that this is a matter of priorities, the priorities being the fact that the funds were, or were not, available. And if he uses that excuse as to why it's taking two-and-a-half or three years to move on this, because it's a matter of priority, there were no funds, then I think it's inevitable that he's going to elicit from this side, the rebuttal and the charge that in fact the funds were available. So to the extent that he uses that pretext, he is, in fact, inviting the response that he did and will continue to invite that response.

MR. CHAIRMAN: To the honourable members, I think that as these subjects come up, I will have to make up my mind at that point whether it is in order or not in order, and if we can be guided by the Minister's sug-

gestion that the specific items of the actual overall costs be discussed under that last item, or Minister's Salary, I will be guided by that in making my decision as to whether it's in order.

MR. DESJARDINS: Sir, I think that you should add that you be guided by the suggestion of the Minister and also the suggestion of the Member for Seven Oaks, because we will not accept, unless you rule otherwise, we will not accept that the Minister will talk about priorities and talk about the lack of funds and so on, not to do something, and that we will not say a word, and we will wait another item. We are very satisfied to bring in the question of priorities, the question of total cost, the participation from Ottawa, anytime you want. But I think, Sir, that you should, yes, listen to the Minister's suggestion, but also listen to the suggestion, and the Minister should listen to the suggestion of my colleague from Seven Oaks.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

MR. SHERMAN: Could I add one further suggestion? I do not object to honourable members opposite saying to me, you did have the funds. That is not what I am talking about. We say we didn't, they say we did. What I am talking about is going into then the debate of EPF as against block funding and how we are applying our moneys, and how we are applying the EPF moneys, which is the same debate over and over again, on EPF versus cost-sharing. And I don't think we should have to get into that debate on every item.

If they want to say, well, you're talking priorities and we say, you had the money, that I don't object to. I don't agree with it, but it's their prerogative to say it. But I don't think we have to have the EPF debated on every item.

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, this is a style of debate. The Minister seems to be very pleased to be yelling platitudes at each other across the street, yes you have, no you haven't, yes you have. That's not good enough. If we're going to discuss priorities, and if the Minister said, I didn't have the means, we've got to point out with the means. I'm not trying to insist that we keep on in this, as I say, we didn't invite that. But we're not going to limit the debate, when the art of debating or the purpose of debating is to prove each other wrong, I guess, or try to get people to your side of the argument, and it would be ridiculous, and I hope that we're not going to suggest that the Minister said, I haven't got it, and yes, you had it, but not go in detail. I would much prefer to wait to a certain time to discuss that. But let not the Minister then bring in the question of priority and bring in the Health Sciences Centre and bring in the MMA, and bring in everything, and we're going to have to stay silent here and they say, no, you should have done something else. That is not the point. So, you know, let's wait until you decide and until we agree to debate this question of the funds and the priorities, too, Mr. Chairman.

MR. SHERMAN: I would ask, Mr. Chairman, that the House Leaders of the respective parties get together and determine that the debate on health financing and on EPF funding be held now, first, and cleared out of the way before we deal with any other items.

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, this is not acceptable to us. We're going to follow what the tradition is and what the rules of the House are. We are going to stay on the line, and bring us back to order if we're not. But bring everybody back to order, and we will talk about this later on. What I'm trying to say is discussion on priorities, inevitably, we'll talk about the means to do what is announced, or the priorities that you have. You can't separate one from the other. It doesn't make sense. So let's wait, let's do it in a proper way, but if the Minister wants to talk about priorities and start naming them and accusing us of not doing certain things, then we'll do everything in our power to disprove him and to show that he had a chance to do, and the means to do more than this one priority. And this is exactly what we've done.

So you rule, if you want us to talk about priorities, we would insist, unless you rule otherwise, to talk about the means. If you say, okay, just stay on this item, and the value of the item and all that, we'll be very pleased to conform to your suggestion.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, the Honourable Member for St. Boniface can't have it all one way. He says to me that they, on their side, have to talk about the financing and the funding and the budgetary categorization. I also, as Minister of Health, obviously have to talk about priorities, although I remind you that I didn't raise the subject of priorities, I was challenged by the Honourable Member for St. Boniface to declare that the adolescent psychiatric facility was my Number One priority and had, in fact, when I was in opposition, been my Number One priority. That is where the subject was opened. But quite apart from that, I concede that as Minister of Health, and I'm sure that he, or his colleagues on the right of left of him, who both were Ministers of Health too, would concede with me that no Minister of Health can participate in a debate on his estimates discussing the programming for the year and never refer to priorities. I've had to prioritize everything. So did they. It's impossible not to talk about priorities.

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, yes. I want to be fair. I realize that this has to be done. The Minister can say, all right, this is a priority. And he says I challenged him. I was very much, as you know, on the subject, and I said that I was disappointed when the Minister made a remark today, and he said, well, we're trying to determine a site. Lo and behold, in my mind, we were back to my last year in office, when I had the same problem. I wasn't accusing the Minister; in fact I went out of my way to be more than charitable and said that there was no attempt on his part to delay this. I was wrong, apparently, and I thought he said that, and I said, I didn't. I never said that it was my first priority. But if I remember right, I said that he emphasized that, that it was certainly one of their first priorities when they were in opposition. He criticized us, and rightly so. In fact, it was a very mild debate at the time.

Then the Minister got up, and he didn't say, well, all right, it's not just the priority. If he would have said, in passing, like he's saying now, that well, that's my first priority, but he started going into all kinds of subjects, the Health Sciences Centre, which was done, and he lectured us on all these things. Well, it was normal, Sir, that he would challenge us and he should have been expected to say yes, but this is the money that you got. So there's a difference between talking about priority

in passing and trying to go all out and tell us, and he brought back the Minister's Salary, and he started talking about all that they have done and all the great things that they have done in the department; he brought that in, we didn't.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will be guided by the remarks from both sides of the House; it was a slip of the tongue earlier when I said I would be guided by the Minister's remarks only. I will take all remarks into consideration in making rulings as to whether it is in order or out of order and, as I say, I will be guided by all members of the House as to whether I will be making rulings in order or out of order.

And if we can get back to the item under discussion now, I would like to carry on, if all the other members would agree. The item is under Item (b)(1) Salaries. The Honourable Member for St. Boniface.

MR. DESJARDINS: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. We'll go along with that without any difficulties at all. I don't remember exactly where I should get back to the thread of this discussion, so I'll be very short. But I want to emphasize, Sir, that we think that this is very, very important, and in fact it is a kind of a futile debate. If you are talking about something that wasn't a priority, and so on, and we're talking about something that we both want, and that the Minister is announcing this year, and it certainly was in his capital program of this year. So I'm just saying to the Minister, we were with you on that 100 percent, and we would hope that we will come back next year, but that these facilities will be in place and the service will be given and we will be very pleased.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Item (b)(1)—pass; (2)—pass; (b)—pass. Item (c) Institutional Mental Health Services. (1) Salaries—pass — the Honourable Member for Transcona.

MR. PARASIUK: Mr. Chairperson, we're into a very large budgetary item, \$22 million, and I note that the increase for this item is only 1.3 percent. Really, if you take into account inflation, it's really a de facto reduction of something in the order of nine percent. The seriousness of this is that, we're talking about institutional mental health services, and the annual report of the Department of Health and Community Services and Corrections on Page 60 indicates that the average daily in-patient population, at least at Selkirk Mental Hospital, has increased from 344 in 1978 to 349 in 1979. It says, In-patient data continues to indicate trends towards higher populations and longer stays. That's what the annual report of the department is saying, that these institutions, or at least one of them, and I have no reason to expect that the others would be any different, are in fact being, in a sense, packed in with people who are staying longer, and therefore it is of concern to us that we have a reduction there. It is a concern to us if you look at salaries specifically, we have got an absolute reduction, not even a reduction taking into account inflation, but we have got an absolute reduction.

So I then wonder what the approach of the government is, whether in fact the approach here is one of, in a sense, warehousing, because that is a very serious problem. There are some reports, one today for example, in the Free Press, which really raises some very

serious issues with respect to the rights of mental patients in these mental institutions; that in a sense they are thrown in there and forgotten about; that these in fact are dumping grounds, that the average stay at the Brandon Mental Health Centre was something like 16.9 years, that for the Selkirk Mental Health Centre 6.5 years. The question is then raised, is there any rehabilitation taking place or is this just a warehousing facility? What programs exist?

When we have situations where we don't have automatic reviews, we have situations where people, in fact, can be thrown in there for a long period of time, I think it is a very valid question then to say, well, what is happening? Why do we have this very deliberate attempt to cut back seriously in this effort if populations are increasing? I think the government has some explaining to do here. I think the quality of care in these institutions is decreasing, if in fact we are to believe the indications of the annual report, and if we look at the annual report and compare it to the actual estimates. I would like to have the Minister explain that situation. Why is that if the number of in-patients is increasing, if they are staying there for longer periods of time, why is it that estimates have been cut for this particular appropriation?

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, with respect to the honourable member's first question on the appropriation amount, the reason for the relatively minimal increase in the appropriation is because of an over-provision made under the Salaries item. There is full provision for salaries and for cost-price increases covering all the SMYs, covering food and operations of the institution, but the salary provision was larger than was necessary. The decrease in salaries is due to a reduced amount requested for shift premiums offset by annual increments. There is no hardship in terms of salaries or salary increases, but the over-provision was recognized and removed and it is really on that item that the budgetary increase finds itself limited.

The other questions raised by the honourable member with respect to the patient population at the two mental health centres, mental hospitals at Brandon and Selkirk, has a number of explanations. In the first place, the in-patient population at Selkirk, which is up in 1979 over previous years, is 391 as of December 1979 as compared to 354 in December 1978, is due to an increased volume of forensic patients, forensic cases, Mr. Chairman. It does not reflect an increase in psychogeriatric patients. There is pressure on both institutions in terms of chronic re-admissions. Many patients who are released and returned to the community suffer from conditions that require re-admission on oftentimes a continuing basis and there is some pressure there, notwithstanding the efforts to meet their needs through our community mental health services and the kinds of medication that are available now to out-patients and to patients in the community. But essentially, it is the pressure in the forensic field that has produced that increase, and I am assured by my officials that it is not due to increases in psychogeriatric population.

I am aware of the particular news articles to which the Honourable Member for Transcona refers. I can only say the references by a particular person in that article to the increased number of psychogeriatrics and elderly patients vis-a-vis the nursing home and personal care home situation are suggestions to which neither my officials nor I subscribe. I would withhold too broad a

comment until we have had a chance to investigate precisely the accusations that are made, because this is the first time that accusations of this kind have been made or have been brought to our attention, but at this point in time, Sir, I do not accept them and I merely stop short of rejecting them outright out of a sense of propriety, and my personal conviction that the subject area requires some investigation over the weekend. We have had no evidence, no indication, no reports from anybody in the field that our mental health centres are being turned into dumping grounds for elderly persons who can't get into nursing homes. I have no evidence of that, Sir, and my officials tell me that is not the case. The deficiencies in The Mental Health Act, I acknowledge, and are recognized and my department is developing with me, at the present time, amendments to The Mental Health Act which will be introduced in the current session of the Legislature and which are designed to rectify the major deficiencies that are referred to in today's news article. Particularly, they are designed to accommodate the need for the mandatory review which would eliminate many of the difficulties and much of the concern that many of us, if indeed not all of us, have with the current Mental Health Act of Manitoba. The Law Reform Commission's recommendations were accepted, acknowledged and are being acted upon.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hour is now 12:30, Private Members' Hour. Committee rise, call in the Speaker.

The Chairman reported upon the Committee's deliberations to Mr. Speaker and requested leave to sit again.

IN SESSION

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Radisson.

MR. KOVNATS: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Virden that the report of Committee be received.

MOTION presented and carried.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Government House Leader.

MR. MERCIER: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Member for Kildonan that this House do not adjourn.

MOTION presented and carried, and the House accordingly adjourned until 2:00 o'clock Monday afternoon.