

Second Session — Thirty-Second Legislature

of the

Legislative Assembly of Manitoba

DEBATES and PROCEEDINGS

31 Elizabeth II

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MANITOBA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY Thirty-Second Legislature

Members, Constituencies and Political Affiliation

Name	Constituency	Party
ADAM, Hon. A.R. (Pete)	Ste. Rose	NDP
ANSTETT, Andy	Springfield	NDP
ASHTON, Steve	Thompson	NDP
BANMAN, Robert (Bob)	La Verendrye	PC
BLAKE, David R. (Dave)	Minnedosa	PC
BROWN, Arnold	Rhineland	PC
BUCKLASCHUK, John M.	Gimli	NDP
CARROLL, Q.C., Henry N.	Brandon West	IND
CORRIN, Brian	Ellice	NDP
COWAN, Hon. Jay	Churchill	NDP
DESJARDINS, Hon. Laurent	St. Boniface	NDP
DODICK, Doreen	Riel	NDP
DOERN, Russell	Elmwood	NDP
DOLIN, Mary Beth	Kildonan	NDP
DOWNEY, James E.	Arthur	PC
DRIEDGER, Albert	Emerson	PC
ENNS, Harry	Lakeside	PC
EVANS, Hon. Leonard S.	Brandon East	NDP
EYLER, Phil	River East	NDP
FILMON, Gary	Tuxedo	PC
FOX, Peter	Concordia	NDP
GOURLAY, D.M. (Doug)	Swan River	PC
GRAHAM, Harry	Virden	PC
HAMMOND, Gerrie	Kirkfield Park	PC
HARAPIAK, Harry M.	The Pas	NDP
HARPER, Elijah	Rupertsland	NDP
HEMPHILL, Hon. Maureen	Logan	NDP
HYDE, Lloyd	Portage la Prairie	PC.
JOHNSTON, J. Frank	Sturgeon Creek	PC
KOSTYRA, Hon. Eugene	Seven Oaks	NDP
KOVNATS, Abe	Niakwa	PC
LECUYER, Gérard	Radisson	NDP
LYON, Q.C., Hon. Sterling	Charleswood	PC
MACKLING, Q.C., Hon. Al	St. James	NDP
MALINOWSKI, Donald M.	St. Johns	NDP
MANNESS, Clayton	Morris	PC
McKENZIE, J. Wally	Roblin-Russell	PC
MERCIER, Q.C., G.W.J. (Gerry)	St. Norbert	PC
NORDMAN, Rurik (Ric)	Assiniboia	PC
OLESON, Charlotte	Gladstone	PC
ORCHARD, Donald	Pembina	PC
PAWLEY, Q.C., Hon. Howard R.	Selkirk	NDP
PARASIUK, Hon. Wilson	Transcona	NDP
PENNER, Q.C., Hon. Roland	Fort Rouge	NDP
PHILLIPS, Myrna A.	Wolseley	NDP
PLOHMAN, John	Dauphin Turtle Mountain	NDP
RANSOM, A. Brian	Turtle Mountain	PC NDP
SANTOS, Conrad SCHROEDER, Hon. Vic	Burrows Rossmere	NDP
•	Inkster	NDP
SCOTT, Don SHERMAN, L.R. (Bud)	Fort Garry	PC
SMITH, Hon. Muriel	Osborne	NDP
STEEN. Warren	River Heights	PC
STORIE, Jerry T.	Flin Flon	NDP
URUSKI, Hon. Bill	Interlake	NDP
USKIW, Hon. Samuel	Lac du Bonnet	NDP
WALDING, Hon. D. James	St. Vital	NDP
WALDING, FIUIL D. Jailles	Ot. Vital	NDF

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

Monday, 13 December, 1982

Time - 8:00 p.m.

THRONE SPEECH DEBATE

MR. SPEAKER, Hon. J. Walding: On the proposed motion of the Honourable Member for Riel, the proposed amendment thereto by the Honourable Leader of the Opposition, the Honourable Member for The Pas has 30 minutes remaining.

The Honourable Member for The Pas.

MR. H. HARAPIAK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was speaking on the potential of agriculture north of the 53rd parallel and somebody had asked what we had done on the Saskeram, and there is a continuing dialogue on the Saskeram area. I had the opportunity to tour the area this summer in an air boat and I was able to see what a productive marsh looks like and how it operates. The wildlife in the area was very plentiful and I would hope there would be more co-operation between all the different parties who are concerned about the Saskeram, but the multi-use land concept has not been accepted to this point; the productive area has not been utilized to its full capacity.

Mr. Speaker, I'm also pleased that this Government has created a workers' advisory position to help clients deal with workers' compensation claims that have been rejected. Again this Government showed that the North is a part of the province by appointing two people in the northern part of the province.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the Member for Rupertsland on an excellent response to the Throne Speech. He also spoke on behalf of many of my Native constituents. Although I have always enjoyed a good working relationship with the Native people, I came to a greater understanding of their culture and their problems by attending a Conference on Native Cultural Awareness held at Cranberry Portage.

I have had some firsthand experience on how Native people are misunderstood. Several years ago we had a young Native girl staying at our place when she was going to school - a girl from Brochet. She had received an "A" in her mark on an essay, and children being what they are, they ridiculed her and made fun of her. She went to her teacher and asked the teacher if that was a real "A" or an Indian "A". He convinced her it was a genuine "A". This girl went on with her education and today she is a community leader in her own community of Brochet and I hope that her stay in my home, with my family, also had a part in making her believe in herself as an equal human being.

Mr. Speaker, the appointment of Leon Mitchell to deal with the outstanding land claims has been welcomed by all people of this province. It is time the subject was dealt with in a fair and equitable manner.

Mr. Speaker, the fishing industry is in a tight economic squeeze. They are faced with the same problems as the farmers in this province. The price of production is up and the returns in their produce is down. The Minister of Natural Resources has had several meetings with the associations throughout the province and he has met with many people in the

industry to see how improvements can be made. The communities must be consulted on the issues of licence and controls of quotas. It is my hope that the provincial association that was formed last September will help address some of the problems that are in the fishing industry.

Mr. Speaker, although I am a Northerner, I would like to overcome my parochialism and mention some of the items in the Throne Speech that apply to the whole of the province. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to learn that the Minister of Health has employed a gerontologist that will co-ordinate the programs of all the different departments that are meant to assist the senior citizens. They have earned the right to live with respect and dignity and we should be assisting them in every possible way.

Mr. Speaker, as a parent of an emotionally handicapped son, and I know I speak for many people in this area, I am pleased that the Minister has appointed a Director of Research and Planning which will move the department more deeply into the area of preventative medicine. Mr. Speaker, in a book entitled, "Every Other Bed," written by Mike Gorman, the Executive Director of our National Mental Health Committee. you read the astounding and terrifying statistics that every second bed is occupied by a mentally disabled person. The book goes on to say that there is a possibility in the foreseeable future of two-thirds of the beds in hospitals being occupied by mental health patients. Mr. Speaker, mental illness is costing this country millions of dollars. It is estimated there are many more people committing suicide each year than are dving from communicable diseases. Manitoba must, once again, become a leader and invest in a field of research in the area of psychiatric care.

Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Energy and Mines, in his Throne Speech, made a reference to The Surface Rights Act and said I would speak on this issue, having been raised on a farm and still owning some land in the Swan River Valley. I understand some of the problems and strong concerns that the farm communities have regarding land rights. I am sure the mechanism developed to deal with the disputes arising over the acquisition and the use of land for the purpose of exploration and production of oil and natural gas will be acceptable to all parties. The majority of the recommendations are the result of a Commission of Inquiry into Manitoba's Surface Rights conducted by Party.

The Act will provide for a comprehensive procedure for acquiring and utilizing surface rights. It will provide for the payment of a just and equitable compensation for the acquisition and utilization of surface rights. It'll provide for the maintenance, preservation, restoration of the surface of lands acquired in connection with surface rights, and it will provide for the resolution of disputes between operators, occupants and owners arising out of entry upon use or restoration of the surface of land.

The Act will provide for a Surface Rights Board through which the Act will be administered and which will hold hearings to inquire into these matters for

which the Act has been established. The board is to be comprised of no less than three members appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council, and they will take into consideration their familiarity with the agriculture and the petroleum industry and the petroleum-producing areas in the province.

The Act covers the arbitration procedure in determination of compensation. This part confirms principles already established in The Mines Act, that no operator has the right to enter or to use the surface of any land without the written agreement of an owneroccupant unless authorized by the order of a Surface Rights Board. To facilitate the process a standard form of lease will be prescribed by regulations under the Act. In determining compensation, the board is required to consider a number of factors including the value of land having regard to its present use; loss of the use of land; the loss of the land that may be permanently damaged: the increased costs of the owneroccupant by reasons of the works of the operator; and the nuisance, inconvenience, disturbance or noise or any other peculiarity to each use including the cumulative effect if any.

Prior to a hearing, the board may grant to the operator an interim order for surface rights after seven clear days notice has been given to the owner-occupant, provided that the board is satisfied with any undue hardship on the operator resulting from not granting such an interim order outweighs any prejudice to the interests of the owner-occupant.

The Act deals with the question of abandonment and restoration of surface rights. In the first place, an operator proposing to abandon or surrender part or all of the surface rights must give at least six months' notice of his intentions and shall deposit with the board such security as prescribed by regulations. The size of the security deposit will be sufficient to ensure appropriate cleanup and restoration in the event of default by the operator. In order to complete his obligations regarding abandonment and restoration, four options are available to the operator. He can restore the surface to the satisfaction of the owner-occupant. He can agree with the owner-occupant to make a payment, in lieu of restoration.

However, where the owner-occupant is not satisifed with the state of the restoration of the land, the operator either must apply to the board to determine the matter, whereupon the board may hold a hearing and issue an order, which would require the operator to restore the surface as specified in the order, or authorize the owner to restore the surface of the land in a manner set forth in the order and order the operator to pay the costs of the operation; or he may order the operator to pay the sum of money to the owner-occupant in lieu of restoration.

Where no application has been received by the board, to determine the matter, the operator may request the board to issue a certificate relieving it of any further obligations.

There is a further requirement under the Act, that the operator has a continuing obligation to pay compensation, until all caveats registered by the operator, against the land, under The Real Property Act and The Registry Act have been discharged, released or claimed.

The Act establishes a liability of an operator for any

wrongful, injurious or illegal act, which results in unlawful damage of the land, to an owner, whether committed by the operator, or any of the operators, employees, servants, agent or person performing work, or providing service to the operator.

The Act further applies to appeals against an order of the board, with leave of a judge of the Court of Appeal, but only on a question of law, or a question concerning the jurisdiction of the board. Again, with leave of the judge, an appeal may be made in the Court of Queen's Bench by a person affected by an order awarding compensation in excess of \$5,000.00.

Finally, where an owner-occupant of land cannot be ascertained, or his whereabouts determined, the board may grant permission for an operator to enter on the land, subject to a deposite to the board of an appropriate sum of money. Similarly this procedure can be followed in the case where an operator cannot ascertain or determine the whereabouts of the mineral rights owner.

The majority of the recommendations made in the Nugent Commission have been incorporated into the Act. Furthermore, a number of auxiliary points made by the Surface Rights Association to the Nugent Commission, have been accommodated.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to speak on one of the most precious gifts that we as human beings have, and that is the gift of choice. We are free to choose our thoughts, what we think and the words we speak. We are free to choose how we will act, or react to persons, situations and conditions, whether positively or negatively.

During these tough economic times we could have chosen acute protracted restraint. Instead, we chose to help as many people as we could with our limited financial resources.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Swan River.

MR. D. GOURLAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the opportunity to make a contribution to the Throne Speech Debate at this time and I would like to say at the outset that, really, Mr. Speaker, I'm a lover, not a fighter.

I would like to offer my congratulations to all the appointments that have been made to this Assembly since the last Session. Heaven knows, the Government needs all the help that it can get, and we certainly look forward to the contribution of these new appointments that have been recently made since we started this Session.

I would like to also recognize the efforts of the Mover of the Throne Speech and also the Seconder of the Throne Speech. Certainly, they did a commendable job considering what they had to work with.

However, after having said that, I would like to offer my congratulations, as many others before me have said, to the Member for Rupertsland who certainly spoke from the heart and certainly portrayed the situation with the people that he represents in the vast area of Rupertsland. I know the Member for Rupertsland has made excellent contributions here in previous speeches to this Legislative Assembly and, certainly, I think we all have a feeling for the many

complexities and problems that are evident in that area of Rupertsland. The Member for Rupertsland certainly gets the sympathy from this side of the House on many of the issues that he identified. Certainly, too, we can attest to the Land Claims Commission. It is an area that we will support and look forward to some concrete results from that commission in the months ahead

Just to mention about the Throne Speech, I couldn't help but notice the many speakers from the opposite side, or the Government side, how little reference they have made to the material in the Throne Speech. The last speaker from The Pas is one of the few that has taken time to really go over some of the points, but he didn't elaborate very much on the various aspects of the Throne Speech. You know, really the Throne Speech is a hodgepodge of make-work programs that we come to know so well during the eight years of the NDP administration from 1969-77. There is no change; there is the same kind of government make-work projects that was so evident in those years and here we have it again. Just to list a few, the \$20 million in loans for home insulation, and heaven knows, we've had it indicated here and previous speakers have indicated that this program has been worked to death. As good as it may be, there have been insulation programs now for a number of years, and I know in my own area of the Swan Valley area there have been home insulation outfits tearing around the country for the last two or three years. Some of them do a good job and some of them leave a job that may leave something to be desired. Nevertheless, we have introduced this program, \$20 million in loans to further the home insulation situation, \$24 million dollars in new employment expansion, 50 percent of which is to be financed by the Federal Government.

Then we have the \$4 million accelerated Provincial Works and another \$1 million for Capital Works cost-shared in the City of Winnipeg. Sure, these are fine, these programs. They will provide some kind of short-term work employment relief, but it's a taxpayer type program, and certainly these would be fine if they were tied into an economic initiative which would provide long-term meaningful jobs that the Power Grid would have provided.

Certainly the Power Grid was something that we could have had. The Limestone project could have been well under way at this time, providing a great many job opportunities at the site itself, but the various spinoff opportunities it would have provided throughout the Province of Manitoba is something that we could have really made good use of at this time, to say nothing about Alcan, which I am sure there may have been some difficulties in getting that going in view of the present situation.

Certainly the potash situation may have been in difficulty as well, because we all know that there has been a change of government in the Province of Saskatchewan and why would IMC want to come into the Province of Manitoba when it has large developments that it can pursue in the Province of Saskatchewan. But certainly the Hydro project at Limestone is something that should have been under way if the Government hadn't fumbled the ball in that project shortly after taking office.

What happened to the great imagination that the

NDP had which was so evident during the election campaign? I'm a little bit hesitant to bring this pamphlet to the attention of the Assembly again, because I'm sure that everyone in this House is well informed as to the misleading situation and promises in "A Clear Choice for Manitobans." But, you know, I think that I have to sort of put it on the record, as we have here the Premier of the province, who was then the Leader of the NDP Party, says, "great people, great future. We can build a dynamic future in Manitoba. We can turn around the harsh economic circumstances of the past four years and we can provide interest rate relief and an economic climate to ensure that small business stays in business." This was only just a little over a year ago when this great document was spread around the Province of Manitoba. I think that really we should be sending it around again to remind the people of what they were promised and what they had voted for.

Certainly, I would also like to then go on, this message from Howard Pawley was sent out back in November. Then we get the "Meeting the Challenges of Manitoba" — a report on action taken by the NDP Government from December 1981 to November 1982. Just to briefly refer to this document, I would like to quote, it says, "Already, basic aspects of this Government's approach to provincial affairs are clear. It has enough confidence in the basic strength and great future of Manitoba to tackle economic matters actively and positively. The limited provincial resources and jurisdiction have been stretched to the limit in an effort to relieve high interest rates, climbing unemployment and other effects of the severe national recession. Measures to strengthen the structure of Manitoba's economy are also under way." This was in November of 1982, not very long ago.

Then I would like to just come back to the last page where it says, "Keeping the promise. To even briefly describe the other actions," and they list a whole bunch of little programs that they've been able to include here, "to even briefly describe the other actions by the province to tackle the economy, those details are best left to the Throne Speech." So here we look in the Throne Speech to see the answers to, "A Clear Choice for Manitobans." So much for keeping the promise.

In the last paragraph, I would quote, "Rather than spend a great deal of time celebrating the impressive start to this term in office, Manitoba New Democrats would prefer to keep working on ways to better use this province's limited means of grappling with an economic downturn that has brought such human misery and waste of our rich economic potentials." And that is a true statement. You know, I think that this is really what it's all about. We have to get on with the job and not just send out a bunch of garbage here that there was no plan on doing.

So, just to carry on further with meeting the challenges in the province, I would say that, obviously this is the worst year in the history of this province, and the performance of any government in the history of this province in the first year.

Just to briefly mention the record unemployment, there are 24,000 fewer people working today than there were a year ago. There are some 52,000 people that are unemployed today in the Province of Mani-

toba. Certainly, those people are concerned and we're all concerned because of that. Record bankruptcies, and this Government has certainly broken numerous records and that's in a negative vein.

I would just like now to briefly refer to a letter that the Premier has sent out, back in August, to all the municipalities, towns and villages in the province. Just to read some of those comments from the Premier's letter, he starts off by saying, "Manitoba today is suffering from the effects of a sustained and deep international recession." This was back in August. "Provincial policy has sought to do all that is possible to help individuals who are severely affected by the economic situation and to preserve the basic strengths and structure of the Manitoba economy." Again, not bad. "With no end to the recession in sight, it is important for the public sector to continue adjusting to the realities of a shrinking economy and increased individual hardship. In Manitoba, that adjustment is taking place in three fields; repriorization of programs is one, income policy and price policy. The expected decline in revenues makes it important that provincial programs and spending, which are desirable but not essential, be reduced or eliminated. The preparation of the 1983-84 Provincial Spending Estimates is under way and the appropriate departments will be discussing this with you as they prepare their Estimates.'

Yet, the other day, when my leader was asking the Premier what kind of guidelines were being used, we couldn't get that kind of information. So what kind of information is going out to the municipalities, so they can at least be co-ordinating their spending efforts with that of the province? But we haven't been able to get that information from the Premier as late as a couple of days ago.

Real incomes in Manitoba have been declining for several years," and I'm surprised that the Premier would really recognize that, "and now many workers in the private sector are faced with temporary or permanent joblessness and even more severe decline in their real income. It is important that the public sector share this burden in a fair and responsible manner and to help achieve this goal the Manitoba Government has increased salaries of senior management staff by 8 percent, and Cabinet Ministers are receiving a 6 percent increase in remuneration."

Now I was of the opinion that Cabinet Ministers' salaries were set by statute and they haven't changed in the last couple of years, by Order-in-Council. The recently signed MGEA collective agreement certainly was a generous - I think the increase was a couple years ago, was it not? I believe at that time, the Premier of the province voted against it. I believe that's right.

So now, you know, we can't really say that the Premier is lying, but it might be referred to as a half-truth, to say that Cabinet Ministers received a 6 percent increase in remuneration. All MLAs got an increase and I'm not sure what it worked out to, but — (Interjection)— 12.9 percent?

Anyway, just to conclude by reading the last paragraph of the Premier's letter to Municipal Council, "Manitoba has held its own by comparison to other provinces during the first nine months of this recession. Your action and response to the continued downturn can help determine whether we continue

that record and also ensure that this province remains able to achieve its great future once an economic turnaround begins." This was signed by Howard Pawley, the Premier of Manitoba. But, you know, after the Premier had sent out this notice the municipalities took this to heart.

The municipalities are really concerned about the types of spending that is going on, and I have a letter here that was written by Mayor Dick Penner representing a group of 20 municipalities that met in southern Manitoba. The letter was dated December 7, and the copy I have was sent to my leader, and it says: "Dear Mr. Lyon: Yesterday, 20 municipalities from southern Manitoba met in Morris, Manitoba, to discuss the ever increasing burden of property taxes that municipalities are faced with each year."

He goes on to say that they really want to cooperateon this cutting of spending, and they passed a resolution signed by, I think, all of the municipalities at that meeting - "that this meeting go on record as supporting the 6 and 5 restraint program as a maximum on a global budget basis, that municipal councils prepare a plan to pursue this matter further on a local and municipal level, and that municipal councils hereby resolve to return all requests for increased funding which exceed these guidelines."

I understand that the Premier is not prepared to really go that far, he feels that this is being too restrictive on certain elements.

I understand now, too, that another group of municipalities met in the central part of the province, and they have come up with a similar response; that they are really concerned about the deficit situation and are prepared to really take a hard stand on the amount of spending in the coming year.

When you consider that government spending is made up, 50 percent of it is probably salaries paid to civil servants - I was a civil servant for a number of years in this province - and I would venture to say that the majority of civil servants were not expecting such a generous pay increase as they received here this year. It's absolutely disturbing that they would get a settlement of some 13 percent on the average when a lot of people that are paying the bills to keep the Civil Service in business have been taking no pay increase at all, or, in fact, many of them aren't able to keep their jobs. A lot of businesses, as we already indicated, many companies have gone into bankruptcy and so there are fewer businesses and we know from the Quarterly Report that there aren't the people or the corporations able to pay the money that governments can use, and we certainly cannot justify any 13 percent increase to civil servants at a time when everybody else is suffering greatly.

You know, there's an interesting aspect that is happening with this Government. The Swan Valley School Division has been endeavouring to cut costs wherever possible, similar to other school divisions, and they had a very difficult problem to deal with in that they didn't feel they could justify a French Immersion course in the Swan Valley School Division although there were some 23 students that were going to be starting Kindergarten and Grade 1, parents of which wanted the instruction in French. But the school division didn't feel that they could, particularly at this time, entertain a program of French Immersion which

would cost several thousand dollars to implement in the Swan Valley School Division.

I think that a lot of us know what happened there, the Swan Valley School Division trustees voted not to proceed with the French Immersion: they were taken to court, and they won the first round, but the parents took the case to Appeal Court and the Appeal Court overturned the decision and so the School Division was instructed to proceed.

I'd like to just read into the record a letter that was sent by the Minister of Education to the Swan Valley School Division and this was sent to the Superintendent, Mr. Kastrukoff, re: The French Immersion, The Public Schools Act, Subsection 79-4. "Your letter of September 7, 1982, on behalf of your school board is hereby acknowledged. As you have indicated, the Court of Appeal over the signature of the Honourable Judge J.F. O'Sullivan did, and I quote, 'issue an order directed to the school board of Swan Valley School Division No. 35 requiring it to comply with Section 79-3, the school board shall group the pupils in a class for instruction and provide for the use of French as a language of instruction in the class.' The ruling was made on the basis of the fact that there would be 23 or more pupils. The information which you have now provided indicates that at the present date there are only 20 students enrolled in the combined class of Kindergarten and Grade 1. In view of the fact that the original request contained the legal number of pupils and because much time has elapsed between the original request and the date which the program was to be implemented, I judge this to be an exceptional case and under the authority vested in me by Subsection 79-4 of The Public Schools Act, I direct Swan Valley School Division No. 35 to implement the Immersion Program as requested by the parents of the division.

This follows on the heels of a request from the Premier of the Province requesting municipalities and school divisions to cut back on the programs that they don't feel that they can justify at this time, and yet, the Minister of Education directs the school division to entertain this program.

Just to add insult to injury, the Superintendent of the school went to the Court of Appeal, he pointed out that he didn't feel that it was feasible to combine Kindergarten and Grade 1 in a French Immersion Program, or any kind of program for that matter. However, the judge didn't accept his argument and, as I read in the letter quoted here from the Minister of Education, that the school board should proceed with grouping the students. Lo and behold, two or three weeks after the school board is proceeding with the program, the Department of Education offers to provide a teacher's aide for this French Immersion Program, which in turn the Swan Valley School Division doesn't feel that they can justify because they have another 13 situations where perhaps teacher's aides could be argued if they provide one for the French Immersion, which supposedly didn't need a teacher's aide for the combined class.

So, this whole thing snowballs, and although I, for one, feel that the French Immersion course is the only way to go to learn to speak French, I think you have to be realistic and where you only have a bare minimum or not even the minimum number of students, I don't see how you can proceed, or force, with this kind of

program that certainly does come fairly expensive, and we're not sure what's going to happen next year or the year after, whe ther there will be enough students to really justify even proceeding, but once you have implemented it in Kindergarten and Grade 1, you certainly have to proceed with it for the next 12 years, even though you only have one student continuing on.

I'd like to move on to make some comments with respect to the Minister of Municipal Affairs. The Minister wants to proceed with a perfect assessment program; he wants to go ahead with a perfect assessment program before proceeding, and we all know that Weir and the committees tudied the assessment review for over two years. They met and discussed the assessment problems with all of the municipalities in the province. They came up with their recommendations, based on the information that the municipalities had provided to the committee, and these recommendations were presented to the Minister-I believe he said sometime in March of last year - and nothing has happened since that time, except he's indicated he wants to study it further.

I'd just like to mention this is the Union of Manitoba Municipalities, 1982 Program and Handbook. On Page 81 there appears a resolution, which says,

"WHEREAS principles and the procedures respecting assessment of land and buildings have not been updated for many years; and

"WHEREAS the Assessment Review Committee has completed its study, and its recommendations have been before the government for some considerable time:

"THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of Manitoba Municipalities request the government to act immediately on the recommendations of the Assessment Review Committee."

This resolution was put in by a couple of municipalities and the executive of the municipalities decided that they would not deal with this at the annual meeting; that they would discuss it with the Minister and his staff prior to the convention in the hopes that there would be some action for thocoming, and here it is now near the end of December and all we know at the present time is that the Minister has indicated that he will be holding some further meetings. We haven't, as yet, found out what the Government's position will be with respect to the assessment review recommendations.

I know that some time ago, he indicated that some of his staff would be doing some test cases in, I believe, some three or four areas of the province to see how the recommendations would turn out, using it in real-life situations in various parts of the province. A copy of the Municipal Informant that I got - I think it was in the end of October - it said that information was now completed as of the end of September. Yet the Minister has not indicated to us, after questioning in the House on many occasions, what the Government's position will be with respect to these recommendations; so we can only surmise that the Minister is dilly dallying around with this.

I might point out that the Minister had the opportunity at the recent convention which was held the latter part of November, he had an excellent opportunity to present the position of the Department of Municipal

Affairs and, in fact, the Government to this large body of municipal people, but no, the Minister didn't do that. He took at least two-thirds of his allotted time and he talked about the Main Street Manitoba Program. -(Interjection)- I'm sure. I was in attendance and listened to his address and he took some two-thirds of his allotted time to explain the great things of Main Street Manitoba Program to an audience that was made up of at least 80 percent members of rural municipal councils that are not greatly impressed and have no objections, but really it doesn't affect them, Main Street Manitoba doesn't affect them very much. Furthermore, they feel that they have a heck of a lot more concerns in this province than to be spending that kind of time and money on Main Street Manitoba Program at this time.

When you talk about repriorization, I don't know what that means to the Minister of Municipal Affairs or, in fact, any of the Ministers across there, but I would say that repriorization would be to defer Main Street Manitoba until we get out of this economic situation right at the present time. Because just reading the Winnipeg Sun, as recently as last Friday, the municipalities are in a great state because they bemoan the shortfall in revenues that are facing them - not only this year - but for the foreseeable future. So, for the Minister of Municipal Affairs to get off on a tangent and really belabour this Main Street Manitoba Program, which in itself is fine, but it's something, I think, that has to be looked at with all the other serious problems that the municipalities have today. Certainly there are many problems out there, one of which is not Main Street Manitoba at this time.

Just to go on further, I'd like to just say a word about the payroll tax, which is certainly contributing to unemployment, and it's certainly contributing to the fact that new businesses are not going to relocate or come into Manitoba as long as we have this payroll tax. The Swan Valley Hospital, for instance, will be faced this year with a \$35,000 to \$40,000 payroll tax bill, at least \$3,000 per month on the Swan Valley Hospital, and the Swan Valley Hospital run a pretty tight ship. Last year, they had something like a \$10,000 deficit and they, of course, will have to try and bail that out, as well as pick up this \$35,000 or \$40,000 on the payroll tax. The administration is trying to cope with this problem. To avoid cutback in services, they are reducing staff by attrition and they are shifting the workload with the other staff members so that there will be no cutback in services at that hospital.

I'd like to give the Minister of Health credit for coming out and talking to the Swan Valley Hospital and I'd like to thank him, too, for offering me an invitation to attend a meeting. Unfortunately, I had another commitment on that evening, but I think they had a very fruitful discussion with the Minister in attendance, with the hospital board. But certainly they are hurting right now and as I understand it - the Minister may want to correct this - but he said that you can cut out all your special programs, but the Swan Valley Hospital does not have any kind of special programs. They are already cut to the bone and, as I say, they operate a tight ship there. They had a \$10,000 shortfall last year. They're going to have to pick that up this year, plus the payroll tax. That is only one example of the payroll tax situation.

In the same Winnipeg Sun on Friday, December 10th, and I would just like to quote from it, "Tax may land on municipalities," and it says, "Rural hospitals hurt. Municipal taxpayers may have to bail out rural hospitals that are beingswamped with red ink because of the province's payroll tax.

"Several hospital administrators said yesterday that the payroll tax is swelling their deficits and they don't know where they are going to get the money.

"They say all the fat has been sliced from their operations," and I believe that, "and local municipalities may be asked to increase property taxes to help reduce the deficits.

"The 1.5 percent payroll tax is killing us, said one administrator who did not want to be identified . . .

"What is frightening is that hospitals can't live within the Government guidelines and people could eventually find that a large portion of their taxes are going to the local hospital."

So, you know, the situation with respect to the payroll tax is certainly hurting municipalities, it's hurting hospitals, it's hurting businesses and it's contributing to unemployment.

I thought I would like to take a moment to deal with the Northern Development Agreement. Manitobans, I'm sure, will be pleased to hear that a new agreement is signed, most of all the residents in Northern Manitoba who had been led to believe that this program was going to be signed very quickly because of the new renewed federal-provincial co-operation. Certainly, one would have expected, if this was the case, that it wouldn't have taken a year for the new Government to put in place a new Northern Development Agreement. I would just like to say that I have had some time to go through the agreement; I got a copy of it just recently, but there are some interesting comments that I would like to make. Mr. Speaker, how much time do I have? Five minutes? Thank you.

I just made some comments with respect to the Northern Development Agreement. There are 18 program areas in the agreement. The Government of Canada is responsible for the delivery of 10 programs at a cost of \$86 million, including 1.4 million of Manitoba funds. The Province of Manitoba is responsible for the delivery of eight programs at a cost of \$100 million, including 31 million of Canada funds. It is interesting to note that, for the first time in this type of an agreement, the Federal Government is delivering programs that are cost-shared by the province.

The programs involved are the No. 1 program, Community Regional Economic Development Planning, and No. 17, Evaluation and Consultation. Both of these programs are highly visible activities and one would wonder why the Province of Manitoba is not assuming the responsibility for the Community Regional Economic Development Planning, Evaluation and Consultation. There are only two things that you can derive from this. The province either has no plans for Northern Manitoba or, perhaps, it is a display of federal intrusion into provincial areas of responsibility for purposes of giving political identity.

Another thing that I'd like to mention with respect to the Northern Development Agreement is that "the establishment of the Canada Northern Development Office in Thompson to manage and co-ordinate the delivery of programs designated the responsibility of the Government of Canada." So here, they have set up this office in Thompson to deal with the various Native communities such as the Northern Association of Community Councils, the Manitoba Metis Federation, the Four Nations Confederacy, the Indian Tribal Councils, all of which have their head offices here in Winnipeg, but now DREE is going to be set up in Thompson. There is going to be all this travelling back and forth between Thompson and Winnipeg, and I know for a fact that people involved on these community councils, the MMF and the Tribal Councils, are concerned about the increased travel; whereas when they come to Winnipeg they can do other areas of business when they're here, but they have to make a special trip to Thompson just to deal with this one aspect, important as it may be. However, I think it is a very significant fact that a lot of money is going to be spent needlessly travelling back and forth from the DREE office in Thompson, and how effective will the DREE office be in co-ordinating all of the federal presence that they will have in Northern Manitoba?

So, in terms of programs in the new agreement as compared to previous agreements, funding for Northern transportation linkages has been reduced substantially; there are no funds for any highway upgrading or construction, no funds for intercommunity roads. Some funds remain for community roads on Indian Reserves, 100 percent funded by Canada, and Northern Affairs communities, 100 percent funded by Manitoba. Previously, this was cost-shared 60-40.

So when this whole thing boils down - it was announced, you know, 186.2 million, I believe - but really the joint agreement amounts to 67.4 million and, as far as I can determine going through the whole document, there is about less than \$20 million of new programming included in this \$186 million package. That's over a five-year program, which amounts to less than \$4 million a year in new programming under this new initiative program. It took the new Government over a year to get this in place and the consultation process that they undertook brought out nothing further, no new initiatives that hadn't been already identified through our process previously.

There are many other areas. Just one other area that I would like to briefly talk about and that is the Gas Rebate Program that was introduced as a result of the election in Saskatchewan. We had a problem with border towns, and I have those border towns in my constituency, where they were faced with severe competition from the Saskatchewan gas stations where they reduced their price of gas some 5 or 6 cents a litre immediately after the new Government came into being. The Minister of Finance indicated that they would consider the plight of these gas stations in Manitoba. However, what happened? They said, as long as you don't sell more gas this year than you did in 1981, we will not provide the rebate over that amount of volume.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The honourable member's time has expired.

The Honourable Member for Radisson.

MR. G. LECUYER: Je ne vous appelerai pas Monsieur l'Orateur comme l'a fait mon collègue le député de Saint-Boniface puisque la coutume courante de nos

jours désigne votre poste dans les législatures où l'on s'exprime en français come étant le président plutôt qu'orateur. Je présume pour la bonneraison que c'est à vous qu'incombe la tâche onéreuse de présider nos débâts et d'appliquer les règles et les traditons de notre système parlementaire.

Donc, il est rare que vous ayez l'occasion d'agir comme orateur à moins qu'il vous faille nous rappeler à l'ordre ou pour signaler nos contraventions aux règlements et aux traditions de cette auguste Chambre.

À mon humble avis, vous avez admirablement accompli votre tâche, jusqu'à maintenant. Et monsieur le Président, je profite de cette occasion pour vous souhaiter santé et courage dans l'accomplissement de vos tâches et de vos responsabilités si souvent pénibles et odieuses.

Monsieur le Président, à cette occasion, il est pour moi un honneur de s'adresser en cette Chambre en ma langue maternelle.

Je voudrais tout d'abord reconnaître son Honneur Madame le Lieutenant-Gouverneur en lui exprimant mes voeux distingués. Je félicite aussi mes collègues, les députés de Riel et de Thompson, pour leurs paroles éloquentes lorsqu'ils ont appuyé et secondé le Discours du Trône. De même je félicite le député de River East qui j'en suis sûr accomplira avec toute la sagesse dont il est capable sa tâche en tant que président suppléant. De même j'offre mes meilleurs voeux au député de Burrows dans son rôle de Président du comité permanent. Je sais qu'il remplira avec dignité ses fonctions et qu'il détient déjà le respect de tous les membres de cette Chambre. Enfin, mes félicitations et mes meilleurs voeux accompagnent les députés de Kildonan, Flin Flon, Dauphin et Gimli dans leurs nouvelles responsabilités comme membres du Cabinet.

Monsieur le Président, il y a tant de choses dont je voudrais parler en cette occasion que je crains d'avance devoir me limiter et que je devrais passer sur certains points de façon trop superflue.

En tout premier lieu, jerendshommage à mon chef, le Premier Ministre de cette province, pour son ardeur au travail, pour son leadership, pour l'intérêt et le dévouement constant qu'il accorde à tous les manitobains et à leurs besoins, pour son ouverture d'esprit et pour l'attention qu'il a sans cesse démontré envers tous les groupes et les secteurs de notre société, dans ses efforts sans relâche de coopération et de consultation.

Les progrés considérables atteints durant cette récession sévère et les programmes et les projets de loi que notre gouvernement a récemment mis sur pied et ceux qu'il se propose pour la présente session font aussi preuve que notre gouvernement veut tout ce qu'il y a de mieux pour le Manitoba, et démontre aussi que nous avons confiance en l'avenir et en notre population. Nous n'avons nullement l'intention de l'abandonner à la merci des évènements difficiles que nous traversons.

Tout d'abord, monsieur le Président, je veux exprimer ma reconnaissance à mon gouvernement et à cette chambre pour le fait que je puisse m'exprimer et me faire comprendre dans ma langue maternelle. C'est peu de chose en soi, il est vrai; un trou dans le mur, une vitrine, un interprête et une technologie moderne déjà à notre portée depuis des décennies.

L'important c'est qu'enfin un droit acquis au tout

début de l'existence de cette province est rétabli. Donc un pas de plus, un pas de plus vers une plus grande ouverture d'esprit afin que justice soit faite. Ceci me réjouit et réjouit le coeur de tout mon peuple qui a courageusement persisté à endurer et à durer à travers tant d'injustice commises à son égard depuis près d'un siècle.

Graduellement par des services gouvernementaux répondant à des besoins quotidiens, les francophones du Manitoba pourront se sentir acceptés et réintégrés à part entière comme partenaires égaux dans la société manitobaine. Ce geste concret fait suite logique à la décision de la Cour Suprême que le Manitoba est officiellement bilinque depuis son entrée dans la Confédération. J'espère seulement qu'après près d'un siècle de rejet et d'injustice que les forces dévastatrices de l'assimilation ne rendront pas vaines ces mesures si longtemps attendues. Je dis ceci parce que je constate avec amertume que je reçois souvent des copies de lettres de mes co-citoyens manitobains envoyées aux Ministres de notre gouvernement en anglais malgré l'appel lancé par notre Premier Ministre l'année dernière, leur permettant et les invitant à envoyer des lettres dans leur langue maternelle. Je présume que beaucoup d'entre eux demeurent toujours intimidés par les événements du passé. J'ose espérer que durant les mois et les années à venir, ils reprendront confiance et valoriseront leur langue maternelle.

J'espère aussi qu'au sein de cette assemblée et de la population manitobaine qu'il en reste de moins en moins qui, dans un esprit étroit et fermé, voient dans ce nouveau développement tout simplement une dépense inutile. À mon avis, c'est très peu à payer pour que justice soit faite. Après tout notre système judiciaire, même si très couteux, n'est jamais mis en question car il est vu comme étant essentiel dans une société qui se veut évoluée et civilisée. J'espère aussi que ce geste nous portera tous à reconnaître, à apprécier et à profiter des multicultures qui sont une des principales richesses de cette province.

D'ailleurs, monsieur le Président, nous ne sommes pas la seule législature au monde à fonctionner dans plus d'une langue. Dans le der nier numéro de la revue des parlementaires canadiens que voici, Volume 5, numéro 3, Automne 1982, aux pages 21 à 23 un article fort intéressant dédié à ce sujet démontre qu'une vingtaine de pays fournissent des services dans plus d'une langue. En fait, certains d'entre eux le font dans plusieurs langues tels l'Inde, le Singapour, le Sri Lanka, la Suisse, la Yougoslavie et d'autres. Cependant, avec l'Irlande et Israël nous avons la distinction d'être les seules législatures à faire la traduction simultanée dans un sens unique. Je ne fais pas cette remarque de façon dérogatoire, au contraire, j'apprécie le progrès que nous avons fait.

Cependant je serais grandement déçu si en réacquérant enfin mon droit d'être compris quand je parle, je le perdais dans les transcriptions des débâts dans Hansard. On me dit de toute façon que cette chose sera bientôt corrigée car on aura en place l'équipement nécessaire pour que les débats soient transcrits dans les deux langues.

Monsieur le Président permettez-moi en cette occasion de faire un retour en arrière dans la courte histoire de notre province. Afin de souligner ce qui

était et de souligner par la même les étapes franchies.

Incontestablement, la première langue étrangère parlée dans ce qui est actuellement l'Ouest Canadien après l'arrivée des Indiens fut le français.

La langue française est parlée sur ce territoire qu'est le Manitoba lors des excursions de LaVérendrye et ses compagnons en 1731. LaVérendrye et ses hommes parlent français à nouveau à la Fourche des rivières Rouge et Assiniboine, le 24 septembre 1738, lors des transactions commerciales sur le sol qui constitue aujourd'hui une partie de Winnipeg.

Monsieur le Président, les archives démontrent que c'esten français qu'en 1812 fut lue la proclamation qui déclarait officiellement la prise de possession par Lord Selkirk d'un vaste territoire dont la Fourche était le centre

La cérémonie avait lieu dans l'actuel parc LaVérendrye à Saint-Boniface.

Monsieur le professeur Gill, dans un article intitulé "Federal, Provincial and local language Legislation and the Franco-Manitobans" présenté lors de la sixième conférence biennale de l'Association des Études Canadiennes aux États-Unis à East Lansing, au Michigan, en octobre 1981", p. 31 dit et je cite:

"In 1845 formal provision was made that resolutions of the governor and council be published in both French and English.

The new policy was apparently followed, since the promulgations of laws in French never figured in subsequent Métis demands.

Consolidations of the general enactments of the governor and council were also published in both languages.

After a series of protest meetings and representations by the Métis, in 1849, the council unanimously approved a requirement that both languages be permitted in court in all cases involving either Canadian or Half-breed interests." Fin de citation.

Monsieur le Président, je veux me référer maintenant à un passage d'un discours prononcé par le Juge L.A. Prud'homme à la réunion de la Société Royale du Canada en mai 1923, lorsqu'il parlait du premier parlement du Manitoba. Je cite.

"Le gouverneur McTavish proclama sa propre déchéance en 1869 et invita les gens du pays à établir un gouvernement d'occasion.

C'est alors que Louis Riel, pour sauver le pays de l'anarchie organisa un gouvernement provisoire.

La société a le droit de créer des institutions nécessaires à son existence.

C'est un droit naturel. D'où il suit que le gouvernement provisoire était régulier, et constitutionnel.

Il est de fait notoire que si la colonie ne fut pas durant cette période de profonde agitation, couverte de sang et de ruine, et si la guerre civile ne bouleversa pas toute la colonie, on le doit surtout aux Métis, amis de l'ordre et de la justice.

L'Acte du Manitoba fut préparé par le gouvernement provisoire."

Fin de la citation.

Monsieur le Président, cet Acte réclamait 14 droits spécifiques dont 3 avaient traits à l'usage de la langue. Je cite à nouveau le professeur Gill:

"The Métis demanded that the use of both languages be guaranteed in the legislature and courts, and that all laws, court cases and public documents be published in both; that judges of the Supreme court be bilingual; and that all privileges, customs and usages concerning language at the time of union be respected."

Fin de la citation.

L'Article 23 de l'Acte du Manitoba tient compte de ces demandes et accordait à la langue française des garanties comparables à ceux accordés à la langue anglaise au Québec dans la section 133 de l'Acte de l'Amérique du Nord Britannique. Durant les années qui suivirent, jusqu'en 1890, la législature provinciale dans les faits est allée au delà de ces exigences de la loi. Le fondateur de cette province et les autorités d'Ottawa avaient compris qu'en créant cette province il fallait le faire à l'image d'un pays à développer.

Je tiens aussi à souligner que ce 1er parlement n'était pas constitué comme il l'est aujourd'hui en partis politiques avec un premier ministre. L'autorité gouvernementale était alors le lieutenant-gouverneur Adams Georges Archibald et son conseil.

Suite à la Tre élection des 24 députés élus, 12 parlaient français dont Joseph Dubuc, Joseph Royal et Marc Simard, et Marc Girard, pardon, qui tous trois étaient venus au Manitoba à la demande de John A. MacDonald. Monsieur Girard fut nommé Trésorier provincial et Monsieur Royal fut élu président de la Chambre.

Le Discours du Trône fut prononcé par le Lieutenantgouverneur en français et en anglais et fut appuyé en français par Monsieur Joseph Dubuc et secondé en anglais par Monsieur Thomas Bunn. C'est ainsi que le premier discours d'un député dans la première chambre du Manitoba fut prononcé en français et que le premier président était un Canadien français.

Et officiellement le premier Premier ministre du Manitoba fut l'Honorable Marc Girard à qui le Lieutenant-gouverneur demanda de former le 1er cabinet en 1874.

Jusqu'à l'arrivée au pouvoir du gouvernement Greenway, les statuts, journaux de la Chambre, rapports et Gazette officielle furent toujours imprimés dans les deux langues.

Il n'est pas nécessaire aujourd'hui de rappeler tous les détails de ce qui s'est passé en 1890, en 1897 et en 1916. Il suffit simplement de souligner qu'en 1890 le statut légal du français dans cette province fut aboli, seul l'anglais dorénavant avait le statut de langue officielle. Ce n'est qu'en 1979 que la Cour Suprême, dans le cas Forest, déclarait cette loi ultra vires. En 1916, un projet de loi adopté, fit de l'anglais, la seule langue d'enseignement dans les écoles.

Cependant, les députés francophones à travers les années, et mon collègue le député de Saint-Boniface en a profité à maintes reprises, ont tenu à affirmer leur droit de parler en français dans cette Chambre et à cet effet, ie cite à nouveau le professeur Gill:

"French was spoken very occasionally on the floor of the legislature; when this occurred, the original remarks were recorded along with an English translation."

Fin de la citation.

Monsieur le Président, je voudrais ici citer quelques passages d'un discours prononcé en Chambre par le député Joseph Bernier en 1921. Je trouve ses propos tout à fait appropriés pour cette occasion et de plus en rapport avec les procédures de cette Chambre. Je cite: "Trente années se sont écoulées depuis le jour malheureux, où des politiciens étroits et sans vergogne, ont cru bon de soulever la haine des races et de souffler le vent rageur de la guerre religieuse, dans le seul but de leur aider à cacher des trupitudes politiques et de conserver le pouvoir.

Ces trentes années de mépris de justice, de persécution, d'ennuis, n'ont pas encore réussi à démoraliser la victime de l'attentat et trente années de plus du même régime ne réussiront pas à légaliser ce crime anti-national.

En ce moment toutefois où l'on nous parle tant de fraternité, de concorde et de coopération, il me sera bien permis de rappeler à cette chambre et au pays que l'on ne peut arriver à ce but que par le respect des lois, des traités, des engagements solennels, par le respect des races et du droit des consciences.

Il me semble que l'on est trop porté à oublier l'histoire du passéquand l'on s'occupe de législation en ce moment ici

Je tiens à le répéter aujourd'hui, l'on ne saurait espérer voir vivre l'harmonie parmi toutes les classes de la nation si l'on n'a pas en même temps assez de générosité et de largeur de vue pour comprendre qu'aucune bonne entente ne peut exister à moins qu'elle soit basée sur le respect mutuel, sur le respect des consciences et de l'amour du sang qu'aucun homme qui se respecte ne peut renier."

Fin de la citation.

Un peu plus loin dans le même discours il dit, et je cite à nouveau:

"Je vais dire à mon Roi, encore dans ma langue maternelle, tout l'amour et toute la loyauté de mon peuple pour le Trône et les institutions britanniques, amour et loyauté qu'il a conservé malgré les injustices dont il a souffert depuis 30 ans dans ce pays, de la part de pygmées qui par leurs actions et leur conduite veulent faire du British fair play une expression vaine et mensongère.

Je désire aujourd'hui réclamer mes droits dans ma langue maternelle, et affirmer par là le droit de cette langue à se faire entendre librement dans cette enceinte parlementaire.

Je sais parfaitement bien que personne en ce moment, à part la députation française, ne comprend le premier mot de ce que je dis, mais que peu m'importe, pour le moment j'affirme un droit, et je ne veux pas que l'on puisse dire un jour que ma langue a été proscrite pour la raison que pendant de longues années on ne l'a pas parlée dans cette Chambre."

Fin de la citation.

Je n'ai pas besoin de vous rappeler, monsieur le Président, les luttes que les franco-manitobains ont menées dans le domaine de l'éducation, luttes qui durent depuis 1916. La lutte d'ailleurs n'est pas terminée. Et je dis ceci en entendant dire tout à l'heure le député de Swan River qui faisait référence à une décision de la Cour d'appel à l'effet qu'il fallait que cette division scolaire regroupe ces élèves dans une même classe parce qu'il y en avait vingt seulement. Moi je lui pose cette question et parce qu'il dit que c'est un coût supplémentaire inutile, je lui pose cette question Est-ce qu'il n'y a pas d'autres classes dans la même école où il y a aussi vingt élèves pour un seul professeur? Alors où sont les coûts supplémentaires réels? Et je dois aussi ajouter pour l'édification du député de

Swan River que en réalité cette classe de vingt élèves regroupés pour un programme d'immersion coûte en réalité moins à sa division scolaire que les autres classes pour la bonne et simple raison que ces élèves dans le programme d'immersion qualifient pour des octrois supplémentaires de la province au titre de 190 dollars chacun. Alors pourquoi ce commentaire, estce que c'est, est-ce qu'il est justifié, est-ce que ce sont des coûts réels? Ou est-ce que l'on emboîte le pas à reculons?

Dans un discours en Chambre, en 1916, R.S. Thornton alors Ministre de l'Éducation disait et je cite:

"The first essential to individual progress in any land is to know the language of the country. In an English-speaking country as this is, a knowledge of English is more necessary than a knowledge of Arithmetic. No matter what a man's attainments may be, the doors of opportunity are closed to him if he does not have a knowledge of English, the common tongue. We are building today for the Canada of tomorrow, and our common school is one of the most important factors in the work."

Fin de citation.

Même si la loi ne le permettait pas, il y eut quand même de l'enseignement en français parce qu'il était difficle de la contrôler de façon stricte cette loi et aussi parce que certains membres du Ministère de l'Éducation avaient une certaine sympathie pour le sort des Franco-manitobains.

Il n'empêche qu'on peut de nos jours lire les commentaires tragi-comiques de certains inspecteurs d'écoles qui se lisent comme suit:

Après une visite à l'école de Haywood l'inspecteur Newcombe écrit dans son rapport. Je cite:

"In lower grades they know little or no English. A few pupils in the senior grades can converse, say five out of six."

Fin de la citation.

Le même inspecteur décrit la population étudiante de Portage la Prairie comme suit:

"39 Ruthenians, 5 Austrians, 3 Germans, 5 Poles, 2 French Half-Breeds, 3 Canadians"

Fin de la citation.

Après une visite à l'école de Saint-Jean Baptiste, l'inspecteur Lang écrit dans son rapport et je cite:

"None of the children in this school can converse at all."

Fin de la citation.

Monsieur le Président, il faut croire que tous ces élèves étaient des muets selon le rapport de monsieur Lang.

Au cours des années nous avons ré-acquis nos droits en éducation goutte par goutte. La loi 113 adoptée unanimement en 1970 rétablit le droit à l'enseignement en français jusqu'à concurrence de 75% du temps. Il reste que l'école française et l'école d'immersion qui existent dans les faits ne sont pas encore aujourd'hui reconnues dans l'Acte Scolaire.

Cependant, d'aucun ne sauront reconnaître tous les progrès et les pas positifs accomplis depuis environ 70 ans. Surtout à partir de 1969 avec le projet de loi 59 adopté sous le gouvernement Roblin permettant l'enseignement du français jusqu'à 50% de la journée scolaire, et l'adoption du projet de loi 113 en 1970 sous le gouvernement Schreyer et auquel j'ai déjà fait référence, ainsi que l'établissement du Bureau de l'Éduca-

tion française, la construction d'un Centre Culturel et l'établissement de l'Institut pédagogique au Collège de Saint-Bonface toujours sous le même gouvernement. Enfin, je ne veux manquer de reconnaître l'établissement du Secrétariat des Services en français sous Monsieur Lyon, et la traduction d'un certain nombre de lois. Et voilà que depuis l'arrivée au pouvoir du gouvernement Pawley se concrétise de plus en plus une politique globale afin de fournir des services en français: permis de conduire, certificats de naissance, certificats de mariage et d'autres, et d'autres à venir.

Le sociologue Arès dit ceci et je cite:

"II y a deux conditions nécessaires à la survivance d'une langue et d'une culture. La première c'est un environnement supportif, la seconde c'est un peuple."

Fin de citation.

Le politicologue Gill dit et je cite:

"Since Arès' article appeared, the supporting environment, though still incomplete, has been considerably strenghtened. Today, it is more the people which is in doubt."

Fin de citation.

Monsieur le Président, si je me suis arrêté sur ces quelques moments sombres de notre passé c'est pour davantage souligner qu'il y a eu des changements, des changements d'attitude nous ayant permis de faire d'énormes progrès et j'espère que nous verrons ces progrès continuer.

Monsieur le Président, je voudrais maintenant m'arrêter sur quelques points qui touchent tous les électeurs de Radisson et du Manitoba de façon générale. D'ailleurs je veux profiter de cette occasion de les remercier de leur support au courant de toute l'année dernière.

Nous avons mis en place des programmes visant la création d'emplois et nous avons fait tout notre possible pour alléger les pires effets d'une récession plus longue et plus sérieuse que prévue.

Le financement supplémentaire fourni par la province a permis aux électeurs de Radisson de bénéficier d'un baisse dans la taxe scolaire.

Aussi de nombreux propriétaires de maisons et commerçants ont pu bénéficier de subventions pour rabaisser les taux d'intérêt, le taux des intérêts lors du renouvellement de leur hypothèque. Et nombreux locataires, souvent des familles mono-parentales, ont pu profiter de loyers plus raisonnables grâce aux nouveaux règlements sur les loyers.

L'augmentation des salaires minimums a permis aux plus pauvres de nos travailleurs, qui avaient vu leurs revenus réels diminuer sous le régime précédent, de maintenir leur pouvoir d'achat et par le fait même contribuer au maintien d'une certaine vitalité économique.

Monsieur le Président, le NPD est le seul mouvement politique en Amérique du Nord à la recherche d'une distribution plus juste et mieux équilibrée des biens du pouvoir, des biens et du pouvoir. C'est notre désir mutuel d'augmenter les revenus des plus pauvres et de coopérer au sein d'un système économique qui augmentera le pouvoir et le bien-être de Manitobains qui pendant trop longtemps ont été relégués en marge de la société.

Pour y arriver, notre gouvernement croit qu'il est essentiel de recourir à une approche coopérative pour rechercher de novuelles solutions économiques. Cette

coopération ne peut exister si un gouvernement si comme gouvernement nous enlevons aux travailleurs, hommes et femmes le droit de s'organiser et de négocier de meilleures conditions de travail.

Les multiples rencontres qu'ont eues le Premier Minis-tre et les Ministres avec des groupes représentant tous les secteurs de la société, et tout récemment dans un sommmet économique, témoignent de notre attitude coopérative.

Le Conference Board du Canada dans son dernier rapport indique que l'activité économique au Manitoba en 1982 a baissé moins que partout ailleurs au pays, dû en bonne partie à la bonne performance du secteur agricole. Enfin elle remarque que l'économie du Manitoba relativement saine par rapport aux autres provinces a permis aux Manitobains de rester cheznous au lieu d'aller à la recherche d'emploi ailleurs.

Monsieur le Président, tous les députés d'en face, tous les députés, vous n'avez pas compris mais peutêtre que la traduction ça viendra tout à l'heure. Monsieur le Président, tous les députés d'en face n'ont pas manqué de faire état avec un grand éclat d'un déficit envisagé qui se chiffrera à près de 500 millions de dollars. Nul ne saurait louanger les mérites de déficits en soi, mais tous les gouvernements, faisant face à une crise économique sérieuse, semblent reconnaître que des déficits sont inévitables. Qui de vous ne vit pas des déficits dans l'administration de ses affaires personnelles? Est-ce qu'on attend d'avoir l'argent comptant pour se payer un toit sur la tête? Toute personne qui détient un emprunt ou un hypothèque que ce soit pour une voiture ou pour une maison est dans une situation déficitaire.

Il est un fait indéniable que nous avons peu de contrôle sur les marchés internationaux, les politiques d'intérêt élevé que nous avons sans cesse combattu et la baisse des revenus.

Cependant, nous ne croyons nullement devoir imposer des coupures restrictives sévères dans les programmes essentiels. Des mesures du genre auraient un effet encore plus néfaste et paralyseraient nos efforts en vue d'une reprise économique.

Monsieur le Président, le gouvernement précédent en 1979 a limité ses augmentations budgétaires à 2.9% alors que l'inflation approchait 12%. Donc ils ont effectué des coupures réelles de 9% aux dépens de plusieurs programmes sociaux gelant la construction d'hôpitaux, d'habitations pour personnes âgées et créant du chômage. Ils ont compté uniquement sur l'initiative du secteur privé. Cette attitude de nonconfiance a tout simplement épeur é les investisseurs. Comme résultat, des centaines de familles ont quitté la province et l'économie du Manitoba a stagné.

Pendant quatre ans, Monsieur Lyon et ses collègues ont parlé de projets mégas. Aujourd'hui ils nous accusent de les avoir perdus volontairement. Il faudrait être naïf pour croire cela. Dans les conditions économiques actuelles alors que les matières premières ne trouvent pas d'acheteurs, et que le secteur industriel ne fonctionne qu'à moins de 60% de sa capacité, les projets mégas partout dans le monde sont tombés à l'eau, même, même en Alberta.

C'est d'ailleurs en fonction d'un chômage trop élevé que l'Alberta s'est retiré des négociations en vue de la création d'un réseau hy dro-électrique, préférant créer à des coûts beaucoup supérieurs son propre barrage hydro-électrique afin de créer des emplois chez-eux. Mais il faut aussi ajouter que c'est là un projet à l'étude seulement au coût de 50 millions de dollars.

Oui, même en Alberta, la situation du chômage est très sérieuse. Un reportage de la CBC la semaine dernière indiquait que cette province a présentement le plus haut taux de crimes et 30% de plus de suicides que toute autre province. Pourtant il y a là un gouvernement Conservateur, des revenus supérieurs au Manitoba, le fond d'Héritage, et oui il y a aussi beaucoup plus de désespoir. De plus la ville de Calgary est sur le point de créer 2000 nouveaux chômeurs, parmi eux des policiers.

Monsieur le Président, regardons ce qui se passe partout autour de nous, plus particulièrement jetons un coup d'oeil sur les plus récentes données budgétaires des autres provinces. Toutes sont en situation déficitaires et il en est de même pour le gouvernement d'Ottawa.

Ainsi, Terre Neuve projetait, ainsi Terre Neuve projette un déficit pour l'année de 200 millions de dollars, la Nouvelle Écosse 400 millions de dollars, le Québec plus de 3 milliards, la Colombie qui avait prévu un déficit de 358 millions a maintenant révisé et triplé ses projections pour un déficit de 1.03 milliards et la Saskatchewan qui projetait un surplus de 208 millions contemple maintenant un déficit de 220 millions.

Aux États-Unis. le Congrès américain s'efforce par tous les moyens d'éviter que le déficit atteigne 200 millards pour cette année et pour l'année prochaine. Pourtant, chez nos voisins américains on a déjà imposé de sérieuses coupures dans les programmes sociaux.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. In accordance with our Rule 35(3), I am interrupting the proceedings to put the question to the House.

The question before the House is the Amendment moved by the Honourable Leader of the Opposition as follows:

"But that this House regrets that the Government, by misleading the people of Manitoba by its lack of credibility and by its incompetence, all of which have contributed to the suffering of our people brought about by the highest unemployment and worst economic conditions since World War II, has thereby lost the confidence of the citizens of Manitoba."

QUESTION put on the amendment and defeated.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Turtle Mountain.

MR. A. RANSOM: Yeas and Nays, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Call in the members.

Order please. Order please. The question before the House is the proposed amendment by the Honourable Leader of the Opposition. Do you want it read again?

It is moved in the amendment . . . Order please . . . "But that this House regrets that the Government, by misleading the people of Manitoba, by its lack of credibility and by its incompetence, all of which have contributed to the suffering of our people, brought about by the highest unemployment and worst economic

conditions since World War II, has thereby lost the confidence of the citizens of Manitoba."

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

YEAS

Messrs. Banman, Blake, Brown, Downey, Driedger, Enns, Filmon, Gourlay, Graham, Mrs. Hammond, Messrs. Hyde, Johnston, Kovnats, Lyon, Manness, McKenzie, Mercier, Nordman, Mrs. Oleson, Messrs. Orchard, Ransom, Sherman, Steen.

NAYS

Messrs. Adam, Anstett, Ashton, Bucklaschuk, Carroll, Corrin, Cowan, Desjardins, Mrs. Dodick, Mr. Doern, Ms. Dolin, Messrs. Evans, Eyler, Fox, Harapiak, Harper, Mrs. Hemphill, Messrs. Lecuyer, Mackling, Malinowski, Pawley, Penner, Ms. Phillips, Messrs. Plohman, Santos, Schroeder, Scott, Mrs. Smith, Messrs. Storie, Uruski, Uskiw.

MR.ACTING CLERK, Gordon Mackintosh: Yeas, 23; Nays, 31.

MR. SPEAKER: The Nays have it and the amendment is accordingly lost.

The question before the House is the proposed motion of the Honourable Member for Riel.

The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

MR. H. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, I have been in this House long enough now to realize that honourable members opposite do treat tradition in this Chamber somewhat differently than what some of us have been accustomed to. For the second time in a row, Mr. Speaker, we have witnessed the Leader of the Government refusing to lead his troops, to lead his Government in defending or in speaking to a resolution that plainly points out the incompetence of the Government, the suffering that is caused to the people of Manitoba and the fact that they havelost confidence in the people of Manitoba. Now I say this, Mr. Speaker, because although I'm the first to acknowledge . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. I'm having some difficulty in hearing the honourable member.

The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

MR.H. ENNS: I say this, Mr. Speaker, because I'm the first to acknowledge that while I have not heard every speaker during the comments made on the amendment, on my Leader's amendment to this Throne Speech, but those that I've heard have not touched on the amendment. We've heard a somewhat amusing -depending on your point of view - dissertation on horse races, and in a more serious vein, the last speaker, the Honourable Member for Radisson, and understandably so, I certainly don't fault him for it, took the major amount of his time in speaking to this amendment, to acknowledge the French fact in this Chamber and treated us with worthwhile and interesting history, but not addressing the amendment by and large.

Certainly most disappointing was the performance of the Minister of Finance who, a few evenings ago, just simply ignored the subject matter of the amendment.

As I say once again, the Leader of the Government, on one of the critical debates in this Session chooses not to show any leadership, chooses not to show any direction to his members of the House as to how they should vote on this amendment. Well, Mr. Speaker, so much for that tradition.

Mr. Speaker, I'm privileged once again to be involved in a Throne Speech. I haven't attempted to count the numbers that I have been involved in, but they are a few. Allow me to do the traditional thing in acknowledging and expressing my good wishes to those new officers of the Chamber in the person of the Honourable Member for Flin Flon, the Honourable Menioer for River East, the Honourable Member for Burrows, the new Ministers, the Honourable Member for Flin Flon and the Honourable Member for Dauphin. I know that they will bring their best abilities to the responsibilities that they have assumed.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to begin with the Throne Speech, the subject matter of our debate and begin on a positive note by agreeing with one aspect of the Throne Speech. It comes early in the Speech when it acknowledges that, and I quote from the Throne Speech in the second paragraph, "The economic recession under way when my Government assumed office . . . " Mr. Speaker, that's about the first time I've seen it acknowledged, that I've seen it in writing, that honourable members opposite when they were sitting here, knew that there was a recession under way and it is now confirmed in writing in the Throne Speech and I have to believe what's written in Throne Speeches.

Mr. Speaker, notwithstanding - and you will also recall - despite the fact that under our administration, the Quarterly Reports, Financial Reports, came as called for. The projections that were made were reasonably or certainly within a very small limitation, accurate. I believe the last Minister of Finance of the Progressive Conservative administration forecast a deficit of some \$253 million when he was responsible for doing those kinds of things and the actual deficit came in at \$251 million. Bad enough, but the point that I'm making is there was no need for surprise, the mock surprise that the now Premier expressed when he assumed office a few weeks after office and looked and said, "My goodness, what have I been left? What kind of economic mess have I been left?" When he acknowledges it this week, this Session in the Throne Speech by putting it in the Throne Speech, "The economic recession under way when my Government assumed office," but, Mr. Speaker, far more serious is the fact that they obviously knew the kind of situation that the province and the people of Manitoba faced but that, Mr. Speaker, did not prevent them from, again, that famous document in making those kind of promises.

I'm not going to repeat those promises, Mr. Speaker, except to tell you it is all the more tragic that this Government knew of the economic circumstances facing this province and the present Premier knew the facts of life and then put his signature to this kind of document. Mr. Speaker, I suggest to you that is a great

part of the reason why some of the bitterness in this House, why some of the acrimony in this House and it's because of the manner and way in which this Government got to office.

Mr. Speaker, I'm going to try to make part of that speech, Sir, that you tried to prevent me from making when I stood up to my rights as a member at the last closing days of the last Session when I rose to speak on a third reading of a bill because I do have some election promises made and election promises kept. I can remember when Duff Roblin promised certain things and how he got into office. Among the major features of course - by the way my present leader was very much a part of that progressive team that is often referred to by members opposite when they refer to the Roblin administration - but just a few things, I'll just highlight them, a few things. The then government, the D.L. Campbell government, sat on a flood study report that would have, did in fact, call for massive expenditure of funds to alleviate flooding in the City of Winnipeg. One of the promises that Duff Roblin made was he would do something about it and he did. One of the promises that he made was that he would do something about the education system and

Mr. Speaker, I can recall going back a few years later on, being part of the Weir administration and there are members in this House that remember that election; there are members in this House that came in with the election. I remember the election promises that Mr. Weir made and they were not promises, they were then concerns about the direction that public spending was getting themselves into. You remember the ads, "Keep A Lid On Spending." Remember Walter Weir's heavy thumb on education costs because, after all, I was part of the party that introduced the 5 percent sales tax which all New Democrats voted against. They like to talk about being prepared to accept the responsibility for taxing people if you're going to provide services, but politically they all voted against it but it was the Conservative Party that imposed the 5 percent sales tax after they brought Manitoba into the 20th century in education, in health, in roads and in flood protection for the greater part of the Province of Manitoba.

Mr. Speaker, it was understandable that Walter Weir said, "We will close down, we will limit the spending." That was our promise in 1969, the people didn't buy it and they threw us out of office. I also remember, to give credit where credit is due, some of the promises that the New Democrats then made, Mr. Schreyer and his people then made. They said, among other things, that they would do away with premiums on Medicare, which we had just introduced in the midst of that election by the way. They also said, and we fought it, that if elected they would introduce government automobile insurance. Those were the kind of promises they made and, Mr. Speaker, by and large they carried out those promises.

In 1977, another election, another leader and my leader and my party made certain promises. We said that we would try to reduce the size of government and is there anyone here to deny that we didn't accomplish that? Is there anybody here who will deny that? We said, Mr. Speaker, on such little things that we would sell Crown land to farmers. Is there anybody

here, least of all the Minister of Agriculture, that says we didn't do that? There was a recognition, Mr. Speaker, and that was our basic promise because my leader happened to have been about two years ahead of his time, recognition of where public spending was going, that there was a need to tighten our belts. For that we earned the accolades of a tight-fisted, restraint-minded government. Is there anybody in this Chamber suggesting that we did otherwise? Anybody? Mr. Speaker, in other words the point!" mtrying to make is we carried out the election promises.

Mr. Speaker, it's in that context that you have to look at the promises that Mr. Pawley and the present Government made when they said, "Nobody is going to lose their jobs and if there are going to be layoffs they will have to give 12 weeks notice with pay." They said that the Limestone plant would be built right now. Mr. Speaker, we made promises in the 1981 election as well. We said that if we can get the Western Power Grid going and if we can get the Alcan project going then thousands of people will be employed. —(Interjection)— Well obviously we couldn't say anything else. We didn't have the deals. That's right; we left them for you to complete. You fumbled them but the truth of the matter is a small percentage of the people didn't believe us, about 3 percent....

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.

MR. H. ENNS: That is not what you promised. With an antipathy towards some of these projects you had the gall to say that you can turn around the harsh economic circumstances. Mr. Speaker, President Reagan had been elected by that time. There is no suggestion that Reagan had any influence on these politics, not the kind of nonsensethat we're hearing now. Margaret Thatcher had been around. That didn't stop you from saying that you and you alone can change the harsh economic circumstances. Mr. Speaker, that's about the same kind of nonsense that their national leader is still spouting and spoke so recently about in his speech in Hamilton this October on Labour Day.

Mr. Speaker, that's all I want to say about that because I do want to underline the fact that is the basic underlying reason for some of the acrimony in this House.

Mr. Speaker, I left out one election of course, 1973. The 1973 election is an election that I am not particularly proud about having been part of. It was, by all description in the five elections that I have participated in, in being one of the most vicious, racist elections that we have seen in modern Manitoba. It was an election where the most brilliant people on the part of the government, the Minister of Finance, the Minister of Natural Resources, the Minister of Health and Education, were kept in their ghetto in Winnipeg and told not to be seen in the province too much because they belong to the wrong ethnic group. Only ethnic people of the right order were allowed to travel through the province, so they could point out that the leaders of the Conservative Party and of the Liberal Party had leaders of that particular ethnic group. That's the kind of election we ran in 1973.

Mr. Speaker, when the honourable members talk and try to introduce, and let me say—(Interjection)—no. no. I was still in New York. When the honourable

members want to talk and they want to bring - and I want to warn you, let's not talk this kind of nonsense that you have been talking about a little while. You can attribute many things to my leader. You can call him a feisty leader; you can call him vitriolic from time to time, but one thing you cannot say is second guess him about his command of the Queen's English. Mr. Speaker, when he refers to the word "background," just let me read you what at least Webster talks about what "background" means: "the scenery or ground behind something, the part of a painting representing that lies behind objects, the foreground," but more important, "information essential to the understanding of a problem or situation, the total of a person's experience, knowledge, education." It goes on to other things like, "intrusive sounds that interfere with received or recorded electronic signals," obviously more modern annotations of that word "background." But for honourable members opposite, with the kind of immediate history that they have, to talk about that kind of nonsense, you play a very dangerous game.

Let's not rehash the kind of comments that were made by a Leader of the New Democratic Party that talked about gold dust winds, that talked about not wanting to be represented by people living south of the river - that's what was said - that talked about shyster lawyers for being Leaders of Liberal Parties and Conservative Parties. In this Chamber, we heard about talking about members that represent the golden ghetto. Do we want to have that kind of nonsense in this Chamber? Then, Mr. Speaker, I appeal to you to exercise your stewardship in this Chamber and keep a rein on this Chamber.

No, Mr. Speaker, it is just there are not that many members here that recall and lived through that particular experience. I will tell you, Mr. Speaker, it was not a particularly pleasant election in 1973 to have that kind of a background operating on the scenes and it was fed right from this Chamber, right from the leader, right from the Premier of the Province. Mr. Speaker, if honourable members opposite think thatthey'regoing to try to do that to my present leader for his use of the word "background," they're simply not going to get away with it, and there should be an apology.

Mr. Speaker, one of the problems, and that is the other part of the Throne Speech that I would like to make reference to, and it's a phrase, Sir, that we hear quite often during these times. That is, people talk in the Throne Speech - and forgive me, I don't have the section before me, but the Throne Speech refers to it but we hear it so often. We hear, "when the recovery comes." People talk about when the recovery will come. Well, Mr. Speaker, first of all, I remind you that you hear it most often from NDP or Liberal politicans, political science professors or social workers, not too often from business leaders and that's what worries me. That truly worries me, because there is this kind of automatic assumption that when the recovery comes, we'll all jump back on the gravy train, good times will be here again and we can all barrel along with 12, 15, 20 percent increases in productivity.

Mr. Speaker, allow me to enlighten you and enlighten the honourable members opposite on some harsh facts of life. Nothing in this Throne Speech is giving any direction at all that this province at least will be part of Canada and that it's belatedly trying to put itself in position to take advantage of when the recovery comes. Is there anything in this Throne Speech that acknowledges some recognition of the problem facing Canada in terms of wage costs? Is there some recognition, some eventacit acknowledgement, about the 6 and 5 program? Mr. Speaker, that's a program that is being endorsed by the Federal Government, by their Liberal friends in Ottawa. You know, it wasn't that many years ago that they could support their Liberal friends in Ottawa when it came to removing a Conservative administration that threatened the nation with an 18 centa gallon increase in their energy costs. I don't know where we're at now, but I know that we have far surpassed that.

Mr. Speaker, okay, I accept the fact that this administration doesn't have to ape or copy everything that Ottawa does, but that's the disturbing part of this Throne Speech. The Throne Speech wrings its hands; it shows meaningful concern, to use the Premier's favourite phrase, but it shows no direction, no acknowledgement that: (a) we have to at least address ourselves to some extent to the problem here in Manitoba in terms of getting our own house in order; that we have to have some responsibility as part of the greater Canadian effort in meeting these problems, because, Mr. Speaker, what worries me most is that a recovery will come - and when I speak of recovery, let's acknowledge that the question is, will the recovery come with our major trading partner, the United States. We have been accustomed to assuming that we will automatically piggyback on the rebound of the recovery when it happens to our major trading partner. Now, how sure are we that that's going to happen to us this time around, Mr. Speaker?

There are very important discussions involving world trade right now going on in Europe, the GATT discussions that are taking place right now, particularly in the field of agriculture, and the Americans are getting very disturbed about some of the actions that the European common market is taking. I must tell you, the possibility of Canada being hurt in its most vulnerable area, in the field of agriculture, are real and very serious. I am not so sure that we are going to be in a position to take advantage of that recovery when it comes. I have to tell the Honourable Member for Thompson, Manitobans and Canadians don't particularly need the nickel that is mined in Thompson. We never have. There is enough nickel for domestic use coming out of Sudbury, more than we'll ever use out of Sudbury

So, Mr. Speaker, to close our eyes, to assume that we will just simply have to – you know, we can mine and produce the stuff at any cost without respect to our competitive position is the kind of, you know. Alice in Wonderland world that my friends opposite live in

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Order please.

We have reached the hour of adjournment. When we next reach this resolution, the honourable member will have 19 minutes remaining.

The House is accordingly adjourned and will stand adjourned until 2:00 p.m. tomorrow (Tuesday).