

## THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

2:30 o'clock, Monday, June 12, 1972

Opening Prayer by Mr. Speaker.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

MR. SPEAKER: Before we proceed I should like to direct the attention of the honourable members to the gallery where we have 33 students, Grade 11 standing of the Elton Collegiate. These students are under the direction of Mr. Fleming and Mr. Hay. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Minnedosa.

We also have 100 students of Grade 9 standing of the Isaac Brock School. These students are under the direction of Mr. Dilay, Mrs. Cahill and Miss Millen. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for St. Matthews.

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

Presenting Petitions; Reading and Receiving Petitions; Presenting Reports by Standing and Special Committees; Ministerial Statements and Tabling of Reports; Notices of Motion; Introduction of Bills. The Honourable Member for Portage la Prairie.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

MR. GORDON E. JOHNSTON (Portage la Prairie): Mr. Speaker, we have this matter stand?

MR. SPEAKER: Yes. The Honourable Attorney-General.

HON. A. H. MACKLING, Q.C. (Attorney-General) (St. James) introduced Bill No. 85, an Act to amend The Provincial Police Act and Bill No. 88, an Act to amend The Securities Act.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral Questions. The Honourable First Minister.

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

HON. EDWARD SCHREYER (Premier) (Rossmere): Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the House would be inclined to give leave to revert back to Ministerial Statements, and inasmuch as it is not a matter of Provincial Government policy, I would hope that honourable members would agree to the waiving of the rule requirement that a written statement be circulated in advance. I refer to the flood disaster and loss of life in our neighbouring State of South Dakota. (Agreed)

Mr. Speaker, about all that can be said at this time is that I'm sure honourable members of the Assembly and the people of this province would want to take official cognizance of a disaster of the magnitude that has struck in South Dakota, that has resulted in the loss of several hundreds of lives with an attendant disaster in terms of the large numbers of missing people.

I think that members would agree that given the fact that our neighbouring country is able by means of its own highly sophisticated organization, financial capability, to do just about all that is humanly possible in terms of assisting those who are directly affected in terms of providing the organization to bring the situation back to normal, to the extent that this is possible to bring it back to normal; there may not be much that the Province of Manitoba can do in this particular circumstance. Nevertheless I should like to advise honourable members that my office is making an effort to contact the office of the Governor of the State of South Dakota to see if it is possible for the Governor's office to specify any way in which it might be possible for our emergency measures people here in Manitoba to be of some assistance.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Morris.

MR. WARNER H. JORGENSON (Morris): Mr. Speaker, as one who has lived through a couple of such disasters in the Red River Valley, we welcome the Premier's offer to help to our neighbours across the line. I recall on the occasion of the disastrous flood in 1950 that assistance poured in for the victims of that flood I think from all parts of the world and a great deal of that assistance came from the United States, and I presume a great deal of that from the State of South Dakota.

The Minister's offer of assistance is one that I think will meet with the approval of everybody in this province; but I, Sir, am willing to bet that the Mennonite Central Relief Committee is already there with representation from the Province of Manitoba. There is no organization that I know of that responds quicker and more readily to situations of that kind than that organization. It is one of the organizations formed on a voluntary basis in this country that has performed more useful and valuable service in the assistance of mankind than anything that I know of. But the Minister's offer is nonetheless very gratefully received by this House.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral Questions. The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

MR. SIDNEY SPIVAK, Q.C. (Leader of the Opposition) (River Heights): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the First Minister. I wonder whether he can indicate to the House whether his government has taken notice of the published statement of the Honourable Jack Davis that the Provincial Government has dealt harshly with the people who had their property expropriated as a result of the Fish Marketing Board coming into existence and a commitment, and I quote: "on the part of Manitoba to look after expropriation has been ignored in this case even though the Federal Government has offered to share the outlay on a 50-50 basis."

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, I would have to study the statement in its full context, and I say that because I am advised that at the time when the procedure was adopted and the guidelines were adopted relative to the handling of claims submitted by those who could allege that they were adversely affected by the coming into operation of the Freshwater Fish Marketing Board, that I am advised that the Federal Minister at the time did not give any indication to his provincial counterpart that the action taken here was unsatisfactory so far as the Government of Canada is concerned. Because I am advised that that was the circumstance and the Federal attitude at that time, I would have to read the statement quoted by the Honourable Leader of the Opposition in its full context, and if necessary to make some inquiry of the Federal Minister.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. SPIVAK: A supplementary question. I take it from what the First Minister said that in view of the published statements you are prepared to re-examine the question ...

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

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, I can say that I've not been directly contacted by the Federal Minister in this respect to date. I do not believe that any other member of the government has been so contacted and until that takes place, I have no reason to assume that the Federal Government wishes any formal change with respect to the way in which the matter was handled.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, I have another question then for the Acting Minister of Mines and Natural Resources. Is it not a fact that the Federal Government offered to share on a 50-50 percent basis the cost of compensation to those who had their businesses ...

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. The question is argumentative. Would the honourable member place it in another frame?

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, I think the question, the intent is very obvious. Did the Federal Government offer to share on a 50-50 percent basis the cost of compensation to be paid to fish processors who went out of business as a result of the Fish Marketing Board coming into operation?

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

HON. LEONARD S. EVANS (Minister of Industry and Commerce) (Brandon East): Mr. Speaker, I believe they did agree, but they also agreed with the system with which we were -- in the way in which we were handling the matter. They agreed with the system that was established 100 percent.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. SPIVAK: Well again to the Acting Minister of Mines and Natural Resources. Has the Environmental Minister, the Honourable Jack Davis indicated to the government that in the opinion of the Federal Government, the Provincial Government of Manitoba has acted harshly with respect to the fish processors?

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, while I was previously Minister of Mines and Natural Resources and now as Acting Minister of Mines, Resources and Environmental Management, I never heard once from the Honourable Jack Davis with regard to any complaint in the manner and the method by which we were handling this particular problem - orally or in writing. Not one word of complaint whatsoever.

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, my question is for the First Minister. Dealing with the same matter but dealing with the claims of the fish processing companies, have they not in fact dealt with the First Minister and his office indicating that they do not believe that they received fair compensation from the Provincial Government?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, that is correct. On the other hand, I can advise my honourable friend that there are at least a few hundred former property owners that own property that was along the course of the Red River Floodway and many of them still have a sense of grievance as to the price that was ultimately settled upon.

MR. SPIVAK: A supplementary question. I wonder if the First Minister will allow the fish processing companies to be able to have access to the courts to determine the compensation as those who he referred to in his explanation?

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, if the Honourable Leader of the Opposition is basing his last question upon some alleged statement coming from the Federal Minister of the Environment which when he was directly involved with the matter did not indicate to us that there was any sense of dissatisfaction on the part of the Government of Canada, then I wonder if any basis for the question exists.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rupertsland.

MR. JEAN ALLARD (Rupertsland): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Mines and Resources. Could he advise the House as to which fish companies, fish processors, have entered into an agreement for compensation with the government.

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

MR. EVANS: Well, Mr. Speaker, that is a question I'll take as notice.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Morris.

MR. JORGENSON: Mr. Speaker, I direct my question to the Acting Minister of Agriculture. It will be interesting to see who rises to respond to that request. My question is based on a reply that the Minister gave to this House on May 24th regarding supplies of grass-hopper poison. My understanding is recently that there is a shortage of this chemical and I wonder if the Acting Minister of Agriculture could now inform the House if measures have been taken and steps have been taken to ensure that there are adequate supplies of insecticides to cover the rather serious outbreak in the Red River Valley this year.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Transportation.

HON. PETER BURTNIAK (Minister of Highways) (Dauphin): Mr. Speaker, for the benefit of the Member for Morris to know who the Acting Minister is that's why I'm on my feet now. But I'll have to take that question as notice, Mr. Speaker, and relate it to the Minister.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Emerson.

MR. GABRIEL GIRARD (Emerson): I'd like to direct a supplementary question to the Acting Minister of Agriculture. I wonder while he is finding that information if he would also find out if possible why it is that the same insecticide or similar insecticide is sold in the United States for \$13 a gallon where in Manitoba it costs the farmer \$20 a gallon?

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

MR. JACOB M. FROESE (Rhineland): Mr. Speaker, I'd like to address my question to the Honourable Minister of Mines and Resources I think. Could he inform the House as to the number of representatives that the Province of Manitoba has on the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation and who those representatives are?

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

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, by federal legislation and by agreement between the Federal Government and the provinces, the Province of Manitoba has one official delegate on the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation Board of Directors and the name of that person is Professor Wood of the University of Manitoba.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rupertsland.

MR. ALLARD: Well either as a supplementary, Mr. Speaker, or as a question on its own to the Minister of Mines and Resources. At the same time as he's getting that information could he also tell us what the agreements were -- at the same time as he's getting the information as to which companies entered into agreements, could he give us the information as to what the agreements were, the particular agreements with each company?

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

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, I'm not sure how much detail we're getting into. As much as I would like to accommodate the honourable member, I'm not sure whether this should not be the occasion for an Order for Return, but let me look into the matter and see how much detail is involved.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Morris.

MR. JORGENSON: I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Industry and Commerce and it's related to the question I asked earlier about -- from the Minister of Agriculture, as Minister in charge of the Water Control Board.

I wonder if he could advise the House if some satisfactory arrangement has been made with the municipalities or some other responsible group in the municipalities to take some steps to control the serious outbreak of grasshopper infestation along the government owned drains in the Red River Valley?

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

MR. EVANS: Well, Mr. Speaker, I'll look into this matter.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Radisson.

MR. HARRY SHAFRANSKY (Radisson): Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I may have leave of the House to make a brief statement.

MR. SPEAKER: Is it agreed?

MR. SHAFRANSKY: Mr. Speaker, this morning we were favoured to have a tour of the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation and on behalf of all the members who were there this morning, I wish to express our thanks to Mr. Corney, the President of the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation, and also to express regrets and disappointment at the number of people who did not come. There were only some 11 people there this morning. The opposition and the government side were very very poorly represented. I must say that the other parties were very well represented. When people go to the trouble of making such arrangements - they had staff laid on for some 30 people - and to have such a poor turnout I think is a disgrace. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge. Order, please. On a matter of procedure.

MR. JORGENSON: I'm rising on a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: Very well. The Honourable Member for Morris.

MR. JORGENSON: ... no objection to granting leave to anyone to make a statement if that statement contains information that the House should have; but to rise on the pretense of making a statement of some kind in order to take advantage of that opportunity to lecture members of this House is in my opinion completely out of order and presumptuous on the part of the member. He could find another opportunity to do that if he wishes.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge.

MRS. INEZ TRUEMAN (Fort Rouge): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Honourable Minister of Health and Social Development. Will there be any further legislation placed before the Assembly during this session from his department?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Health and Social Development.

HON. RENE E. TOUPIN (Minister of Health and Social Development) (Springfield): Yes, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rock Lake.

MR. HENRY J. EINARSON (Rock Lake): Well, Mr. Speaker, I rose to say a few words on the same point of order that my colleague the House Leader ...

MR. SPEAKER: Orders of the Day. The Honourable Member for Birtle-Russell.

MR. HARRY E. GRAHAM (Birtle-Russell): I have a question for the Minister of Municipal Affairs, the Minister responsible for Autopac. Can the Minister indicate what steps are being taken to improve the three to six months' delay that presently occurs in application for refund on unexpired portions of insurance?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs.

HON. HOWARD R. PAWLEY (Minister of Municipal Affairs) (Selkirk): Mr. Speaker, I regret that the honourable member didn't take the advantage of discussing this matter in the Estimates period, except to say that the officials of the Motor Vehicles Branch are doing everything possible in co-operation with the officials at the Manitoba Public Insurance Corporation to improve the service.

MR. GRAHAM: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Would the Minister indicate if there are any proposed changes in regulations which would allow the transfer of the unexpired portion of extended coverage from one vehicle to another, rather than the present system of having to pay cash and then wait for an extended period of time for rebate?

MR. PAWLEY: It's under review, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rupertsland.

MR. ALLARD: I have a question for the Minister of Mines and Resources. Could he advise the House what his department is going to do to help the members of the Island Lake Fishermen's Co-op and the God's Lake Fishermen's Co-op to achieve reasonable or maximum utilization of the fish resources in their areas - whether he has any programs in any way to help them under the present circumstances.

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

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, there is no easy answer to the honourable member's question or series of questions. As much as I would like to give a very simple answer, there is no easy or simple answer or answers. I can only state that this government is concerned to provide the maximum utilization of our fisheries in Manitoba for the benefit of all the people, and particularly the benefit of those fishermen.

Inasmuch as the honourable member has raised this particular location in Manitoba, has brought this particular area to my attention, I will endeavour to look into the particular problem at hand, if indeed there is a problem. I gather the honourable member's concerned about it. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member from Morris.

MR. JORGENSEN: I should like to direct my question to the House Leader and ask him if he has sufficiently cleared his lines of communication to the members of the Cabinet to be able to advise the House as to how many more bills will be introduced during the current session.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable House Leader.

HON. RUSSELL PAULLEY (Minister of Labour) (Transcona): Mr. Speaker, I accept the humour of my honourable friend the Member for Morris, which in some cases might have been considered a violation of our rules, because of the preface to his question. However, I will not go into that with my honourable friend at this time. I believe there will be about 17 more bills to be forwarded to the House, as far as the government is concerned. I do not know whether there will be any more from the opposition or other members of the House. My honourable friend recalls last year on a couple of occasions we thought we had been finished with all of the bills and one of the honourable members in opposition said, "just a minute I'd like to present one more".

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rock Lake.

MR. EINARSON: Mr. Speaker, I present this question to the Minister of Municipal Affairs. When a car has been involved in an accident having had the car repaired, is it correct to say that that person has to report to the head office of Autopac within ten days?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs.

MR. PAWLEY: Not in normal circumstances, Mr. Speaker.

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

#### GOVERNMENT BILLS

MR. PAULLEY: Would you kindly call Bill No. 55 standing in the name of the Honourable Member for Emerson, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The proposed motion of the Honourable Minister of Finance. The Honourable Member for Emerson.

MR. GIRARD: Mr. Speaker, I do not wish to speak at length on Bill 55. It is a measure however, to deal with the Income Tax Act of Manitoba as it now stands, and when we consider matters of taxation I think it is only fair to have a look at the taxes that are now being required for Manitobans to pay and in some degree the manners in which these same taxes are extended. And I would take this advantage, Mr. Speaker, to suggest to the government that we ought to take a very close look at the present tax structure.

I know that it might be an on-going process but there might well be areas that should be looked at very soon and acted upon very quickly. I'm referring more to the area of property taxation than that of income taxation, and the reason I'm suggesting this is that we have had several occasions in the recent past where people from various parts of the province have addressed themselves to this government with a view of criticizing the present tax on property. We also have had in the last three years resolutions passed in this House, and some of them passed I believe almost unanimously, suggesting a decrease and a progressive decrease in property taxation.

(MR. GIRARD cont'd)

I would suggest that the manner in which the government has reacted to this kind of request, namely that of rebating taxpayers on school property, is not the answer. I think that this is a piecemeal approach that will satisfy very few and it is not satisfactory. I think that what we have to look at is the reduction, the real reduction of property taxes as a whole and for the remaining part that might not be removed because we have to find the money somewhere; but more important even than the reduction might well be the equalization. We find it quite strange that in some parts of the province now, people who are paying higher property taxes are called upon to compensate those who are now paying less in property tax. I'm not suggesting by any means that this is an overall picture, but I'm suggesting to the Minister that this in fact is occurring and it shows us what kind of problem we get into when we try to answer these kinds of questions on a piecemeal approach.

My suggestion to the remedy of this particular problem might well be, Mr. Speaker, not to give tax rebates, but rather to have a look at the possibility of increasing the general levy which affects all the people of Manitoba, in order to allow school divisions especially to be able to decrease their special levy and in several divisions, I am sure, that if we increase the general levy you will find a multiple decrease in the special levy. This would be significant help.

Mr. Speaker, the matter of equality in taxation is one that we have spoken about many times and is one where the government has stated a position that they favour ability-to-pay taxes, and they would want to go in that kind of direction. My suggestion is that by tax rebate measures such as they have now introduced, especially in the case of the \$50 one, we are not going in that direction at all.

The one where the \$140 considers net earnings is more in the direction or philosophy that they have espoused for several years. However, I say again it is an unsatisfactory piecemeal approach and I would suggest that we have a look at this kind of thing with a view of bringing about equalization in our tax system. Just one more item I would like to bring up in this matter and that has regard to assessment. The property taxation that people are called upon to pay is based on a, sometimes I think somewhat arbitrary evaluation and I think that the Municipal Affairs Minister might well agree with me that we have had more people criticise our assessment system of recent years than we have had in the past; and the reason why we are getting this kind of criticism is that with an increasing mill rate, an increasing burden of taxation placed on property, the disparities become more glaring, more obvious, more easily identified and the injustices in this kind of system are soon brought to light.

If we continue to have a taxation system where the added amount of moneys that are required are raised by levies on property tax, the Minister can well rest assured that he will have much more pressure from property owners to bring about a more fair system of assessment. Now it's easy to say, bring about a more fair system of assessment, but I'm a little at a loss, Mr. Speaker, when it comes to advising the Minister as to how a fair assessment can be achieved. I can realize his problem in matters of assessment. I can realize, for example, and politicians have a bad habit of catching on to all the small defensive pieces of material they can have at their disposal, but the Minister of Finance himself the other day in defending a position that I thought was defenceless, suggested you know there are some areas in the province where the assessment is lower, so if you locate your house in that particular area, even if the mill rate is higher, your taxes are not that much higher, because in that area it seems that the assessment is lower.

Well that kind of statement, Mr. Speaker, defeats the objective and purpose of such things as balanced assessment and equalized assessment and so on that the Minister of Municipal Affairs is supposed to be trying to bring about. If there is less taxation on property people are willing to accept some disparity, but we are now at the stage where the ratepayers of Manitoba are demanding the justice that they are not getting. And again, should we not change this kind of taxation in the near future, I suggest the government will be in for some more very serious and justified criticism.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Finance will be closing debate.  
The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. L. R. (BUD) SHERMAN (Fort Garry): Mr. Speaker, if no one else wishes to speak at this time, I'd like to move, seconded by the Honourable the Member for Brandon West that debate be adjourned.

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

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

MR. PAULLEY: Would you call Bill No. 35, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The proposed motion of the Honourable Minister of Finance. The Honourable Minister of Finance.

HON. SAUL CHERNIACK, Q. C. (Minister of Finance) (St. Johns) presented Bill No. 35 an Act to amend the Insurance Act for second reading.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Finance.

MR. CHERNIACK: Mr. Speaker, those who have had an opportunity to review the Bill will find that it breaks into several parts. This bill relates to the Insurance Act and of course is not to be confused with the Automobile Insurance Act which is the Autopac. The purpose of the bill is dual in nature. The earlier sections deal with the administrative functions of the Superintendent of Insurance. They are designed to enable the Superintendent to prohibit unfair or deceptive practices in insurance and also to regulate advertising material.

There is provision for the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council to make regulations to prohibit questionable insurance practices, to regulate advertising and to prescribe minimum standards for insurance policies. I am sure honourable members are aware of the fact that there has been a trend in the insurance business toward mass marketing methods of soliciting insurance through the media of newspapers, mail order catalogues, direct mail. The result is that there has been the danger of people being misled by the type of advertising practices into getting something that they are not quite aware of as to the cost and as to the limitations on the benefits. Certainly we have heard from a number of people expressing serious concern; we ourselves have had concern.

I may say that I have been in contact with the chairman of the national - I don't know its formal name - Consumers Council is one set up by the Federal Government and the chairman is a Winnipeg resident - we have discussed this. The proposals here are very similar to those recently passed in Ontario. They have some very far-reaching effects and I hope that in committee we can discuss those and see whether they are practical and fair and deal with the problem which has to be fairly immediate if it is to be dealt with at all. We found it was important that we get legislation to give us the necessary power.

Then there are other sections that deal largely with automobile insurance legislation and are substantially amendments which were worked out at the annual meeting of the Superintendents of Insurance and are designed to create uniformity for adoption across Canada. There are some sections that are necessary to recognize the current Highway Traffic Act minimum liability limits of \$50,000. There is one section which sets the minimum -- I'm sorry, there is one section of the present Act which sets the minimum liability limits for Auto Insurance policies at \$35,000, and it was thought that with the advent of Autopac it was not necessary and could be repealed, so that a repeal position was enacted subject to proclamation but was not proclaimed because on review we found that there is a very exceptional case which relates to the requirement of an insurer not licensed in Manitoba to respond to a claim in Manitoba to the extent of the minimum liability limit which would apply when an out of province motorist has an accident in Manitoba with a Manitoba resident, and for that reason we intend to retract the deletion previously proposed.

Now, Mr. Speaker, that's a rough outline of the bill itself in principle. It's something that I'm sure we would want to discuss in committee when no doubt we'll be able to have the Superintendent of Insurance with us to answer any particular questions and explain it, but I think otherwise that that is enough for the introduction.

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

MR. EARL McKELLAR (Souris-Killarney): Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the Minister for the explanation of this bill. We, the Party, are agreeable to passing this bill at this time going to committee and there will likely be some questions that we'll ask both the Minister and the Superintendent of Insurance at that time.

One change the Minister did mention regarding advertising and I think that I know of the particular case he's mentioned - a certain life insurance company - and I think it's right that this should be corrected. So with those few words, Mr. Speaker, we're willing to pass this bill on second reading.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

MR. STEVE PATRICK (Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, I also rise to support the bill. In my

(MR. PATRICK cont'd) . . . . opinion it's streamlining some of the legislation and I believe it's a fairly good bill. I do have a question to the Minister, and that's giving quite a bit of power to the Superintendent of Insurance. Not that I'm concerned about the powers that are given to the Superintendent of Insurance but it seems to me that there may be undue onus placed on the Superintendent of Insurance to make very important and serious decisions and to this extent I would like to know what has the Minister's opinion been as he discussed it with the Superintendent. Of course I guess we'll have the Superintendent before the Law Amendments Committee so we can ask him these questions, but I do believe that it certainly gives the Superintendent a considerable amount of power, not only power but placing a considerable amount of onus for him to make decisions.

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

MR. CHERNIACK: Mr. Speaker, I would close debate and indicate to the Honourable Member for Assiniboia I appreciate the comments of honourable members and the fact that they wish to see the bill go to committee and approve in principle. The direct answer to the question by the Honourable Member for Assiniboia is a problem which I tussled with too. I was afraid of the great powers, and the power there, there's immediate power to act quickly and I think that's essential. Then there was provision - I might say that in Ontario which we studied, there's a provision for appeal to the Minister from a decision of the Superintendent. Frankly I felt that that wasn't quite enough because a Superintendent to a large extent acts as in the Department of Finance and is therefore subject to the control of the Minister.

I felt it shouldn't be enough just to appeal to the Minister, so I think that there is a section in the bill - at least I requested that there be one - for a further appeal to a court of competent jurisdiction and I felt therefore the Superintendent has to have the right to act quickly. But then his decision I think is a temporary one - for fourteen days as I recall it - and the design is that then there has to be a more formal and permanent kind of decision. We did want to make sure that nobody was being pushed around unfairly and we inserted the provision that a court of competent jurisdiction would sit in appeal over the decision of the Minister who sits in appeal over the decision of the Superintendent. Of course we should discuss it in committee and hopefully we can all agree on what is the fairest way of dealing with it.

MR. SPEAKER: Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion. Agreed? So ordered. The Honourable Minister of Labour.

MR. PAULLEY: Bill No. 49, Mr. Speaker, please.

MR. SPEAKER: The proposed motion of the Honourable Minister of Tourism and Recreation.

HON. LAURENT L. DESJARDINS (Minister of Tourism, Recreation and Cultural Affairs) (St. Boniface) presented Bill No. 49, Le Centre Cultural Franco-Manitobain Act for second reading.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Tourism and Recreation.

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Speaker, this bill entitled the Centre Cultural Franco-Manitobain Act, is new legislation designed to provide the vehicle for the furtherance and preservation of the French culture in Manitoba in the form of a Crown corporation. The Centre was initiated as a Centennial project and initial funding was provided jointly by the Federal and the Provincial Government. It will be located in the area of the southeast corner of Avenue Provencher and Rue des Meurons and I think that they're asking for tenders at the present. We should start building in approximately two and a half months.

The bill provides for a Board to be established consisting of not less than five members who would administer the Centre and the Board members would be paid only out-of-pocket expenses and only the Chairman may - and I say "may", the intention is not at this time anyway - be paid a salary in the amount to be fixed by the corporation.

The objects of the corporation are to maintain, encourage, foster and sponsor by all means available all types of cultural activities in the French language and to make available Franco-Canadian culture to all residents of the province, not only of course the people of St. Boniface, and to this end it will be empowered to acquire both real and personal property. The accounts of the corporation will be subject to audit by the Comptroller-General, its banking arrangements will be under the direction of the Provincial-Treasurer, but its funds will not be part of the Consolidated Fund.

The corporation will be required to submit an annual report to the Legislative Assembly in addition to any further reports requested by the Minister responsible from time to time as



(MR. DESJARDINS cont'd) . . . . he deems necessary. It is proposed that the corporation may be allowed to draw up to \$200,000 as working capital from the Consolidated Fund and that it be authorized to borrow or raise money for temporary purposes from time to time in an amount not exceeding \$100,000.00.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Emerson.

MR. GIRARD: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move seconded by the Honourable Member from Brandon West that the debate be adjourned.

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

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister of Labour.

MR. PAULLEY: Bill No. 50.

MR. SPEAKER: The proposed motion of the Honourable Minister of Tourism and Recreation. The Honourable Minister.

MR. DESJARDINS presented Bill No. 50 an Act to amend The Public Libraries Act for second reading.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister.

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Speaker, the amendments to The Public Libraries Act now submitted to you are numerous and important and will I am sure greatly facilitate the development of public library services in the province. The amendments proposed for your approval are those which have been brought to our attention and for our consideration by library boards in communities seeking the extension of library services. I think I can best explain the reason which prompted these amendments by briefly outlining the procedure for the establishment of financing of library facilities in organized municipalities and local government districts now and indicating the changes proposed in this bill.

At the present time under Section 9 (2) of the Public Libraries Act, where the council of a municipality receives a petition of not less than eight percent of the municipal electors asking for the establishment of a municipal library then the council shall submit a by-law to the electors and if a majority approves, the library established financed by a government grant and a municipal levy not exceeding one mill in any year. If two or more municipalities are associated a regional library can be formed and financed the same way provided a majority of the electors in each municipality approve.

Experience has shown this involved procedure and restricted financial resources has greatly handicapped, receded, the library expansion. The revision in the new Municipal Act (1970) now makes it possible for councils to levy for community centres, parks, boulevards, etc., without the approval of the ratepayers and without being limited to a specified or restricted levy. I believe that this principle should now be expanded to include public libraries, therefore the main purpose and aim of these amendments is to overcome this handicap by two important changes.

First, the requirement of a petition signed by eight percent of the electors is the initial step in setting-up library facilities is, let them change. But the next area, a necessity of submitting a by-law to the electors in either a municipality or local government district is no longer required. Under these amendments a council receiving a petition signed by eight percent of the electors may give first and second reading to the by-law. However, before any such by-law becomes law it must be, one, approved by the Minister and two, receive the authorization of a municipal board.

The second important change introduced is to give autonomy to local municipal councils to levy whatever mill rate they deem advisable and necessary to finance library operations. This means we are repealing those sections of the Act which limited the municipal tax for library purpose to one mill. This change had been strongly advocated by many library boards and by the Manitoba Library Association and the Manitoba Library Trustee Association for many years, and of course this was made possible by the removal of the restriction in the new Municipal Act.

We are confident, Mr. Speaker, that the council of the municipalities are competent to judge the financial requirements of libraries in their own areas. These changes I have mentioned are important and to give effect to them requires the deletion of several existing sections and the insertion of new sections. I thought it much more helpful for me to explain them in broad outline rather than refer in particular to the many sections in question.

It should be noted with certain minor alterations the above changes apply to the establishment and financing of library facilities in both organized municipalities and in all local

(MR. DESJARDINS cont'd) . . . . government districts. The requirements for the establishment of library facilities in local government districts is covered by Section 10 (1) and 10 (2) which must be read together, and here again the only change is that action may be taken to give effect to the petition if approved by the Minister. The only change is there is no necessity for a vote. Special provision is made by adding Section 41 which allows for participation of Indian bands by agreement with a municipal or regional library to provide library services to the Indian band and for election or appointment of a person as a member of the board by the Indian band or its council.

There are other changes to which I wish to refer briefly. The repeal of Section 3 (1) (a) is made necessary by the fact the administration of The Public Libraries Act is no longer under the Minister of Education, and subsection 4 is repealed because the office of the Director of Libraries appointed under the Public Libraries Act and that of the Provincial Librarian appointed under the Legislative Library Act are now separate and distinct positions.

Section 42 simply clarifies by law what is now the practice. That is that "the board of a municipal library, regional library or library federation, may pay the members or employees expenses incurred in attending a conference of a national or provincial library association".

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Roblin.

MR. J. WALLY MCKENZIE (Roblin): Mr. Speaker, I thank the Honourable Minister for his explanation of this bill introducing it on second reading. We in the Opposition have caucused this bill and studied it and find it approves with the caucus and I congratulate the Minister for bringing forth these amendments.

I find the regional library concept that's being used in my constituency through the Parkland Development Corporation has been a most interesting one this past year especially among the students that attend school. I find the utilization of the facility is in most cases amazing, the number of young people with all the exciting things that are around them today still will go back to the library and pick out a book of interest and read it. I think this is a type of culture that the Minister is trying to create more interest across the province and I'm sure that all members of the House are in support of it.

I would like also to hope that the Minister in his wisdom and guidance to those libraries across the province - I see some interest in the various languages and cultures of, especially my constituency, where books of the cultural and language nature, the native language in some cases are very difficult to procure. No doubt in time that will remedy itself. So with those few remarks, Mr. Speaker, we'll approve of the bill and move it along to committee, no doubt others will express their views on this Bill No. 50.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: Mr. Speaker, first of all let me say that I'm all for having libraries and that people have access to libraries, but, Mr. Speaker, I think we have our division schools and we have our divisions that have libraries, why we can't use those libraries to greater advantage and probably put the added money into those libraries rather than establishing some more and probably duplicating a service and in this way we could get different and other books and make that library more useful.

Secondly, and to the second point I take very strong exception. This government is quite prepared and willing to have the municipal council pass such by-laws and make the people, make the property owner pay. This is all right to put more taxes on the people in the province, but I wish they would rather make it free that they could from the government consolidated fund the money. Why do they have to get it from the property taxpayer? Why not from the consolidated revenue fund? If they're so anxious to give grants or to give monies to these people, then let them show it and let them get it from the consolidated revenue fund not from the taxpayer. We're just adding more taxes to the people in rural Manitoba again and this I take very strong exception to. I certainly would like to hear from the Minister when he closes debate why not get the revenue from another source than from the taxpayer again, from the property owner. And this is what it means. It means increased levies to the property owner and especially in rural Manitoba who is already overburdened. For that reason I think we can use the libraries that we have in the divisions and we already have some municipal libraries set up. We have one in my own area but I'm sure that rather than propose that they tax the people on property back home some more, let them get that money from the consolidated revenue fund.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member from Emerson.

MR. GIRARD: Mr. Speaker, a few things come to mind with regard to this bill. Firstly, if the financial resources for the upkeep and maintenance and establishment of libraries is to be taxes on property in whole or in part, areas that will best be able to afford libraries therefore are those areas that have a high assessment. If we follow that argument one step further you might well find that this bill will enable some areas of the province to establish satisfactory regional libraries but will be out of the financial means of others, probably in the very places where those libraries are most needed.

Secondly, Mr. Speaker, I would be remiss if I did not suggest to the Minister that establishment of the regional libraries - and I believe that one experiment in the rural parts has already been conducted by the Department of Education - is certainly a valuable asset and certainly something that I would not want to oppose. But on the other hand, I think it is regrettable if that kind of library is established without a very close communication between the schools and the regional libraries.

I have been advised by some people who have been working with the school libraries, some library supervisors for various school divisions, that they are a little bit annoyed to find some very learned, supposedly at least, very learned young people who have been employed as either permanent or part-time help with the Planning and Research of the Department of Education and these self-styled experts in library establishments come to some areas with the view of establishing libraries and forget to communicate with the librarian and the schools in that very locality. That, Mr. Speaker, I object to, I think that that's really an insult to the establishment that is and I would suggest that it's time we had a look at what is going on in that particular part of that department or branch.

Mr. Speaker, I certainly don't wish to hold back the bill; I certainly don't wish to oppose the bill, but on the other hand I would wonder on the long run if we are going to be, through this bill, providing libraries of the kind we need in the areas they are most needed.

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

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the honourable members for their very worthwhile contribution in this debate. I might say that with this bill it's not the intention of the government to announce a major policy on libraries. I want to make this quite clear, that there is a committee that is studying the situation now and I would agree that most of what has been said so far in this debate. This committee should report fairly soon and then I hope that the government will be ready for the next session to report, to bring in policies and we feel that we are probably a little behind times in this situation.

I say that the Honourable Member of Roblin who mentioned books available in different languages, I think that this is something that will be looked especially when we come in -- it happens to be in the same department -- we will also set up soon if another Act is passed an advisory committee on multi-culturalism and so on and this is one of the recommendations, this is something that we will ask them to look at, so this is something that we will cover.

The committee that I mentioned that is studying the situation, library setup here in Manitoba, is a committee that both my department and my honourable friend the Minister of Education is very much interested in. I certainly would say that we both agree -- in fact I might say that all the members of the government Cabinet anyway agree with the intention to see the proper use of school libraries. As far as I'm concerned, I think that we have an ideal setup in Selkirk for instance. There is a comprehensive school there and the intention is to have a library that will be the public library, the library for the district and certainly -- I think that I mentioned that in the past that we are doing this in the field of recreation. We are going to do this in this field also. There is no point in duplicating these services, it's much more costly and we might centralize and have the people come in where they could take advantage of a proper library. This is certainly something that will receive consideration.

The Honourable Member from Rhineland seemed to be quite excited with this bill. We're not doing anything any differently. There are some grants -- the government is in fact giving grants coming from Consolidated Fund to help these people and it is something that - the people at the municipal level will have to do something. I don't think that the intention is to say that they won't have to pay anything towards the library.

The main object of this bill, we have said in the past that it's not possible to have more than one mill tax for recreational areas and certain other services and we are suggesting that the same should be true of the libraries. Now as I say, there will be a major policy in this

(MR. DESJARDINS cont'd) . . . . field probably at the next session. We're just doing something now -- don't forget that we're not going to let them start something new, something different. It has to be approved by the Minister and we're just asking you to bear with us for awhile; we have a committee studying this and we'll come in with major legislation at the next session I hope.

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

(On Division)

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister of Labour.

MR. PAULLEY: Bill No. 56.

MR. SPEAKER: Which one?

MR. PAULLEY: Fifty-six, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: On the proposed motion of the Honourable Minister of Finance. The Honourable Minister of Finance.

MR. CHERNIACK presented Bill No. 56, the Hospital Capital Financing Authority Act, for second reading.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Finance.

MR. CHERNIACK: Mr. Speaker, I have rather extensive notes but I don't think they should be necessary although if necessary I'll deal with them on closing debate. I have already mentioned, as I recall the Member for Birtle-Russell expressed an interest during my Estimates and I dealt with our expectations at that time. It is a problem that many members are probably aware of where for various reasons hospital districts have been unable or thought they were unable to raise capital on the public market. There seems to be a deterioration of investment interest in these kinds of bonds although other factors have been at work. There has been some temporary borrowing from banks that have extended as long as four years, but there does appear to have been a reluctance on the part of underwriters to bid competitively for hospital bonds and some hospital districts have felt that such a situation is disadvantageous to them. So there has been a reluctance to give the underwriting investment dealers authority to sell the bonds as agents of the district without full underwriting liability. On the other hand there have been hospitals that have given such agencies to different dealers and indeed have found markets.

What we have felt in view of the volatility of interest rates and the inability in some cases of hospital districts to arrange for the financing of the bonds, that the time had come when we should review carefully, and we have, the possibility of creating a hospital financing authority similar to the public schools financing authority. And members who have looked through the bill will find that there's a great deal of similarity between this bill and the Manitoba School Capital Financing Authority. At present there appears to be about \$16 million worth of debentures ready to be sold representing capital construction which have been borrowed on short term but which have to be financed on the long term. It has been estimated that by the end of the year the amount would possibly rise to some \$30 million and for the next two or three years at least an additional \$15 million annually. So that the proposal is, in this bill, that the Hospital Capital Financing Authority Act would provide for the setting up of an authority similar to the Manitoba School Capital Financing Authority which has been operating now since 1966 and it is proposed that there be the authority to proceed either by way of guarantee or to sell the bonds themselves and to be handled in the same way, that is the Minister of Finance to be the agent for the authority to negotiate for sales of the authority debentures.

May I say that -- on the assumption that this bill will pass -- that there may have to be a supplementary capital supply bill to authorize the raising of the funds for this year's program, which today is spread amongst various hospitals who have differing abilities to cope with the problem of the sale of the bonds. So that, Mr. Speaker, we expect and hope that this new authority will ease the problem of financing our hospitals, problems that have weighed heavily on many of our hospital district boards and which of course have therefore been of concern to the Health Services Commission and to the government itself.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge.

MRS. TRUEMAN: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Member from Gladstone, the debate be adjourned.

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

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

MR. PAULLEY: Bill No. 48, please.

MR. SPEAKER: Would the Honourable Minister indicate where?

MR. PAULLEY: At the bottom of Page 2, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. MACKLING presented Bill No. 48, an Act to amend The Hearing Aid Act, for second reading.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. MACKLING: Mr. Chairman, the amendments to The Hearing Aid Act as provided in this bill are rather housekeeping in nature, they're technical changes. In the preparation of the Act, the bill last year provided for the appointment of a board. It was not anticipated that there would be problems involved in remuneration for board members but such has been found the case because as the Act presently provides there is a difficulty in arranging payment for the Chairman who as anticipated would be a civil servant but as a matter of fact he is not a civil servant and there's no arrangements there for payment of his services. So the bill before the House merely makes provision for that as well as makes provision for certification and licensing of hearing aid dealers and the fees that are to be paid. The Act made provision for the certification but the question of the payment of fees was overlooked in the bill itself, and since the appointment of the board in its workings they have come upon this technical defect.

These amendments therefore are really technical in nature, Mr. Speaker, but they're necessary to the proper functioning of the board and of course the Act and I comment them to members of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge.

MRS. TRUEMAN: Mr. Speaker, I thank the Minister for his explanation. It did appear that the bill was concerned principally with housekeeping matters. I am sorry that further amendments were not made at the same time. The preceding section to the one which is being corrected - had Chairman and Secretary been removed from that it would have made it possible to perhaps have one more hearing aid dealer on the board. Their representation I believe is limited to one at the present time. Certainly the matter of setting fees is -- I have no quarrel with that.

Regarding the total situation in the province at the present time, Mr. Speaker, as regards hearing aid dealers, there are now seven dealers left in Winnipeg and two I believe in Brandon. This is not a sufficient number to service the people with hearing problems in this province. There should be another one or two in the Dauphin or Swan River area who could work throughout that western part of the province. I believe the dealers are also having some difficulty working within the regulations as they have been set down. They are prevented from attending people elsewhere than at their place of business or from doing telephone surveys and so on and I think that because people who are hard of hearing are reluctant to admit this to themselves first of all and therefore they fail to get the attention that they should have, and also the fact that some loss of hearing may be associated with other conditions -- associated with senility, therefore they are not apt to go to seek the advice of people who deal in hearing aids.

I think it would be desirable for the Minister to have a careful look at the regulations and see whether now that we have an Act which sets down all the terms and standards under which hearing aid dealers can practice, that the standards are therefore high enough that it would perhaps be possible to just loosen a little bit the regulations so that these people who are willing to comply with the Act will have the opportunity to service some of these people in their homes. With those remarks, Mr. Speaker, we're prepared to see this bill pass.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Attorney-General shall be closing debate.

MR. MACKLING: Mr. Speaker, I would like to reply very briefly to the Honourable Member from Fort Rouge. Her concern was with representation in respect to the Hearing Aid Dealers' Association on the Board and as the honourable member knows certainly there is representation there. It is a relatively small board and I think that the hearing aid dealers have effective representation inasmuch as the President of the Association is on the Board. There has been excellent communication between the members of the Association and the government in both the framing of the amendments and all manner of dealing in connection with the establishment of the regulations pursuant to the Act. I think that the industry is more than well pleased at the co-operation that they have received from the government in respect to

(MR. MACKLING cont'd) . . . . the administrative arrangements that are being carried out. Now if the honourable member is concerned that there are a lack of hearing aid dealers in the province, I think that in private enterprise if there is ample opportunity and scope for dealership, there will be people who will take up the industry and I think that there may be, there may be much more work available for dealers now that the air has been cleared of the shoddy practices that were practised by some unscrupulous fly-by-night dealers and as a result of their activities the responsible dealers in the province did receive some poor publicity. I think that that has been rectified to the advantage of the existing dealers and to the people of the province as a whole and I think that everyone can feel well satisfied now that this is an area of social and medical concern that now has been safeguarded by appropriate legislation.

The honourable member indicates, Mr. Speaker, some concern with rather a tough nature to the regulations. Well, Mr. Speaker, we would rather have regulations that are a bit too onerous than too sloppy and weak. The dealers are well represented, I don't think that the regulations will be administered in a difficult unthinking manner. I am hopeful that the industry will improve substantially, and has already improved substantially; by the passage of this act and by the few technical amendments provided in this bill, the board will be enabled to carry out its work efficiently and I think to the benefit of all people in Manitoba.

MR. SPEAKER: Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion? (Agreed)

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister of Labour.

MR. PAULLEY: Bill No. 39 on page 2, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The proposed motion of the Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. MACKLING presented Bill No. 39, The Sand and Gravel Act for second reading.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion.

MR. MACKLING: Mr. Speaker, the principle involved in the Sand and Gravel Act is a very simple one and it's a very precise bill. I hear coaching from my colleagues that it deals with the real nitty gritty of things in Manitoba and I agree with that. It's one of those - my colleague says innocuous. No I don't say it's innocuous. It's a very important piece of legislation because it deals with some fundamental principles of ownership. And you know, in our society ownership of things of, of rights, is a very important aspect of life, and as the Minister responsible, as the Minister responsible for the workings of the Land Titles system in this province it has long been a conundrum to many to deal with the whole question of the rights in some of the areas dealing with sand and gravel.

In our sister provinces they have Acts similar to this one that have cleared the ambiguity that has existed for many years in Manitoba in respect to the law dealing with the ownership to sand and gravel rights in land. As honourable members can appreciate, sand and gravel are not recognized commonly as minerals and yet they have very substantial value for many purposes particularly for building and road construction and one of the major users of sand and gravel is the Crown itself. As a matter of fact, in certain areas of the province, if it weren't for very substantial deposits of sand and gravel conveniently located we wouldn't be able to develop some of the facilities which we have today.

For example, if any one of you has had an opportunity to fly in or at least, no matter how you got to the Town of Churchill and marvelled at the size of the airfield there in Churchill, and reflect on the fact that that immense airfield was constructed by the hauling of many, many millions of cubic yards of gravel from the shores of Hudson Bay, to build that mammoth airfield which still can accommodate very large aircraft, all on the basis of this fortuitous location of an excellent supply of sand and gravel. Now the right to sand and gravel has never been a very great problem in Manitoba with the exception of some areas in our province where there has been a fair degree of speculation and realization in respect to oil and mineral findings, and particularly I refer to the southwestern part of the province.

For years, Mr. Speaker, there have been certain among the legal profession and in particular, Mr. Doak of Virden and my good friend, Frank Meighen of Brandon, who have been -- now I notice that some members winced. You know in the legal profession -- (Interjection) -- I see. Well I think that Frank doesn't lie. In the legal profession we argue strongly and we have very strong opinions of each other when you are indulged in a case, but when it's over, you know, we can frankly acknowledge the sincerity of another person's position and therefore -- and that's the same in this Chamber -- therefore still recognize another person as an honourable person.

Mr. Meighen of Brandon has for many years been trying to convince the Government of

(MR. MACKLING cont'd) . . . . Manitoba to do something in respect to this anomaly, because in the southwestern part of the province there are quite a large number of farmers who have sold or leased their oil and petroleum rights and when they did so the type of lease that was used covered all minerals - minerals and hydrocarbons - and with the ambiguity that exists in respect to the definition of mineral there have been problems in connection with the utilization of the sand and gravel that lies within their land. They own the surface rights but from time to time it's been claimed - and I believe, claimed successfully - that they do not have the right to exploit the sand and gravel that underlies the surface by virtue of the fact that they have entered into a lease in respect to mines and petroleum and so on. So, Mr. Speaker, it's a very real problem for some people in this province and the people that by and large are affected are landowners in southwestern Manitoba.

The whole subject matter of this Act as I have indicated was under consideration for many years. When we came into office I found that one of the matters that had been researched, to some extent, by the Law Reform Committee under the Attorney-General's Department had been the whole question of sand and gravel rights. When the Law Reform Commission was appointed it was one of those areas of concern in respect to the laws that are referred to the Law Reform Commission, and they have studied the matter and unanimously recommended the passage of an Act which would clearly define sand and gravel not to be minerals but to have always belonged to the surface owner of land in the Province of Manitoba. Essentially therefore, Mr. Speaker, the bill makes provision for that.

Now in connection with the problem that might arise, or problems that might arise by the granting of rights in respect to the exploitation of sand and gravel, where these rights have been sold, of course they will cease - I mean, those who have obtained the rights to extract sand and gravel generally pay on the basis of the amount of sand and gravel that's extracted. We don't think there's going to be any formidable problem in connection with that.

One of the problems that we were concerned with is whether or not there might be, or might have been, titles issued for sand and gravel, because you can get a title for a specific interest in land. It's probable, but it's not at all certain that there were titles issued for sand and gravel rights in the Province of Manitoba.

I had asked the various district registrars and certainly the Registrar-General as to whether or not they could recall any titles having been issued for sand and gravel rights and they know of none or can recall none. Despite that, Mr. Speaker, a provision will - and the Real Property Act which is another bill which will shortly, I hope, be introduced by me, will make provision for any claim that might arise by the withdrawal of the rights to sand and gravel in some subsequent holder than the surface owner. So that if there is or has been that kind of a title issued by the Land Title system sometime in the past, and we know of none, they will have a right to claim against the insurance fund which is provided under the Torrens system, under our Real Property Act to cover any problems of that kind.

So, Mr. Speaker, this is a very significant and a very important Act. It's a very special act, but one I think that will be most welcomed particularly by those residents of the southwestern part of the Province of Manitoba. Certainly certain members of the legal profession, practising in the southwestern part of the province will be enthusiastic about the introduction of this bill, and I'm hopeful that the bill will be passed. There may certainly be representation, I hope it is of the congratulatory kind at the Law Amendments Committee. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Brandon West.

MR. EDWARD MCGILL (Brandon West): Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Roblin that the debate be adjourned.

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

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

MR. PAULLEY: Call Bill No. 51 will you please on the top of page 3? I might say, Mr. Speaker, on the Orders of the Day both Bills 51 and 53 do not have the notation "printed", in an error in printing. I am assured by the Clerk that they have been printed and distributed.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. MACKLING presented Bill No. 51 an Act to amend the Real Property Act for second reading.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion.

MR. MACKLING: Mr. Speaker, the Real Property Act is a rather vast Act. It's one of the most important acts that we have on our Statutes, again dealing with some of the fundamentals

(MR. MACKLING cont'd) . . . . in respect to individual's rights of ownership of real property.

This Act as one can readily imagine, from time to time does require clarification.

Various sections are interpreted in different ways by different people, either in court or out of court, and it's incumbent on the government of the day to make certain corrections, certain advances in the interpretation of the sections and further provisions. There is a rather lengthy catalogue of particular changes in this act and with your indulgence and the indulgence of the members of the House I'll try to make brief comments in connection with the principles involved in each of the changes.

A certain provision in the bill that's before you makes added accommodation for the regular or regularized destruction of certain types of documentation after passage of a reasonable amount of time. This is of course necessary, Mr. Speaker, because the otherwise tremendous buildup of old paper congests the workings of the system and so it makes provision for certain additional destruction of documentation which is considered to be very reasonable. And further provisions are related directly, Mr. Speaker, to the changes that are being made in the law in respect to sand and gravel as non-minerals, as I indicated earlier in my articulation of the principle behind the Sand and Gravel Act.

A further section in this Bill, Mr. Speaker, lists as an additional assumed incumbrance any limitations or restrictions that are placed under the Highway Traffic Act of the Province of Manitoba. The honourable member thinks that's great and I don't think there's anything very substantial about that, except that it's facing up to a problem or acknowledging a problem that the use of land is restricted by the developments or orders made under the Highway Traffic Act and puts an onus on those who buy land to recognize that they may have to make further inquiry as to the use that may be made of land where it's adjacent to and immediately fronting on a highway, because there are restrictions now in the law as to the use of such lands and people ought to be made aware of them, so I think it's a reasonable thing.

There is a further provision which clarifies when it is possible for the discharge of a mortgage to be a matter of right. Further sections provide for the elimination of certain particularity in respect to the requirement for the number of copies that must be filed with the registrar in respect to plans and provide some flexibility then in respect to technical administration when filing of plans is involved.

A further provision or provisions, Mr. Speaker, deals with the vesting of title and provides that the title to lands which are owned by municipal governments may be vested in the names of those municipal governments rather than indirectly as they are now vested. The vesting in the name of municipal governments has long been the case in respect to the City of Winnipeg and the City of St. Boniface but in other areas, other municipal corporations, it has been vested in a slightly different manner and it's considered to be reasonable to have the vesting all the same.

Other provisions I classify again as largely administrative detail in connection with a number of plans that have to be followed on a given occasion in respect to certain land developments and so on.

A further provision in respect to actions on trust and mortgages lists corporate debenture as those over which the court has jurisdiction in respect to certain filing in respect to land title systems. Again, further provisions dealing with the interest of sand and gravel rights, and in particular, Mr. Speaker, a day certain for the establishment of rights in respect to sand and gravel and that is to provide for certainty as to the application of those rights of any action that might be brought claiming an interest as against the insurance fund arising from the passage of the new legislation dealing with the interest in sand and gravel. I think, Mr. Speaker, that the honourable members will find that the amendments that I have outlined largely technical in nature, are necessary however for the good administration of the Real Property Act and Torrens Title System and to accommodate specifically the provisions which I have outlined in respect to The Sand and Gravel Act.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Morris,

MR. JORGENSEN: Mr. Speaker, I should like to move, seconded by the Member for Rock Lake, that debate be adjourned.

MR. SPEAKER: The Member for Rock Lake is missing.

MR. JORGENSEN: Lakeside.

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

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister of Labour.



MR. PAULLEY: Bill No. 27, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: On the proposed motion of the Honourable Minister of Industry and Commerce. The Honourable Minister.

MR. EVANS presented Bill No. 27, The Seine River Relocation Act, for second reading. (To be referred to Law Amendments Committee)

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister.

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, this is essentially a technical bill providing - the essential purpose of the bill is to effect a change of ownership between the Province of Manitoba and the City of Winnipeg for lands that have been affected by the relocation of the Seine River. Under the terms of the water rights licence issued under The Water Rights Act, the former City of St. Boniface in co-operation with the former Metropolitan Corporation of Greater Winnipeg carried out certain diversion works on the Seine River to improve the channel alignment. The City of St. Boniface provided the Government of Manitoba with the land required for the channeling out of this diversion and this Act vests the title - the Act that we are now considering, Mr. Chairman, vests the title of the former river channel in the name of the City of Winnipeg and the lands that are now covered by the new diversion in the name of Her Majesty the Queen. Mr. Speaker, therefore I submit that this is essentially a technical piece of legislation which is required by virtue of the change of the location of the channel of the Seine River. I can advise that the boundaries affected by the river lots will be adjusted in this Act to conform with the new location of the Seine River and I would urge honourable members to therefore support it.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

MR. HARRY J. ENNS (Lakeside): Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Morris, that the debate on this matter be adjourned.

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

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister of Labour.

MR. PAULLEY: On page 3, Mr. Speaker, Bill No. 69,

MR. SPEAKER: On the proposed motion of the Honourable Minister of Tourism and Recreation.

MR. DESJARDINS presented Bill No. 69, an Act to amend The Tourism and Recreation Act, for second reading.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister.

MR. DESJARDINS: Well, Mr. Speaker, I think that this is very clear, this bill would provide - this amendment would provide the opportunity, the power for the department to set up two advisory committees, one on multi-culturalism and the other one on tourism. I don't think I can explain any further. I'm sure that the honourable members are well aware that this would be a step in the right direction, I'm sure.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Roblin.

MR. McKENZIE: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Brandon West, that the debate be adjourned.

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

MR. PAULLEY: Bill No. 70 on Page 3 by the Minister of Tourism, Mr. Speaker, please.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Tourism and Recreation.

MR. DESJARDINS: Well, Mr. Speaker, this is a bill that all the members I am sure have been ...

MR. SPEAKER: Has the Honourable Minister introduced it?

MR. DESJARDINS: Excuse me, Mr. Speaker.

MR. DESJARDINS presented Bill No. 70, an Act to amend The Amusements Act (2), for second reading.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister.

MR. DESJARDINS: Yes, Mr. Speaker. This is a bill that has been awaited by all the members of this House. I must say from the outset that I do believe in censorship although this bill is abolishing the Censor Board. I believe in censorship only on one condition if I could do the censoring myself, and I'm sure that there's 57 members in this House that feel exactly the same way as I do and I'm sure that all the members of the press and the radio, and

(MR. DESJARDINS cont'd) . . . . so on, feel as I do. It is virtually impossible to do any censoring. Therefore I think that the next best thing would be to assist the public. We can assist them by evaluating or class — or in changing this board to a classification board, and this is what this bill is suggesting. The only way that there would be a restriction would be for children under the age of — minors under the age of 18, and the onus to see that this law is obeyed of course would be left with the operator and there would be an increase penalty. But also there is certainly a responsibility on the part of the minor who would be charged under the Juvenile Delinquency Act. This is as far as we can go.

I would like at this time, Mr. Speaker, to suggest to the government and I think the government is looking into this, the possibility of providing some kind of a birth certificate with a picture to identify the people. I don't think that this should be imposed on the people; they should be free to get this if it's available, which I feel that it should be made available at cost and is something that could be used for the young people who appear to be less than 18 but are actually adult and they could use that in entering beer parlors and also when they are driving a car, and so on. Of course this is something that I would like to hear from these people representing the different parties, and I'm sure I will hear from them and different groups because the regulations are very important also. So I think that with the introduction of the bill it received wide coverage. I think I'd like to invite other members to participate.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Roblin,

MR. McKENZIE: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Member for Brandon West, that the debate be adjourned.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion.

MR. SPEAKER: Does the Honourable Member for Churchill wish to speak?

MR. McKENZIE: Certainly if the honourable member wishes to speak . . .

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Churchill,

MR. GORDON W. BEARD (Churchill): I don't have too much to say on this, so I believe, Mr. Speaker, I may as well say it now. I think the government are abdicating their responsibility when they advocate -- when they say that they are doing away with the Board of Censorship. I think there are certain principles on morals and I believe that government should provide leadership in this. Certainly if the government are not prepared to take a stand I don't know where else people will look for leadership. If this government can't provide those principles of good morals then maybe they should get out of office and let somebody in there that can. But I believe that there are steps that should be taken to set up a code that is good for people, and let people respond to that. Now there will be some that will say that they're being censored but if so then I suppose they can go to Ontario or Saskatchewan, or some place else, if they think they can see things a little dirtier or a little smuttier than they can in the Province of Manitoba. But I believe that we're careful in what we try to give the children in the schools as far as education is concerned and then we turn around and allow anything -- and I say, according to what I hear, absolutely anything, Mr. Speaker, to be shown in a film to be distributed in the Province of Manitoba, and for the price of whatever it may be you can go and see it, and whether it be sex or whether it be something that would advocate the overthrow of a government, or whatever it may be, is allowed to be displayed and there would be nothing done about it. And if this is the case then I think there is something wrong.

I think that there is certainly a case for government to look, and look well, at their position that they take in respect to being leaders for the good of the people of the Province of Manitoba. And if there are those in their party that would say that they want to be very permissive and do the things they want to do and they want government to release all the reins so that everybody will be able to do what they want, I think they should stand up and say it, but I don't think Cabinet necessarily needs to take that direction because I think there will be many people in this province that will still say that we're old-fashioned enough to believe in this Province of Manitoba that there should be a set of rules that will govern what is allowed to take place in public in the Province of Manitoba.

And I think that we should also say to government that they should be looking at these things and saying, is it good for the public? Because just how far does our permissive society go and remain good for one and good for all? I don't believe that over-permissiveness can be necessarily right, just as being over-restrictive is necessarily right. You go back through history and you'll find that we have gone through those ages, especially I refer to the English history where you went from Charles, from Cromwell to Charles, where one was one way and

(MR. BEARD cont'd) . . . . the other was over-permissive. I believe that the government has to take a middle-of-the-way stand and if they're not prepared to take the middle-of-the-way stand, if they're afraid to do it then at least -- if they're afraid to do it politically, I'll say, then let them set up a board of people that are prepared to take a stand, and let them keep their fingers off that board and let that board stand or fall on the decision that it makes in respect to censorship. But I don't think that any government will fall because it refuses to allow one motion picture or another to come to the Province of Manitoba. But I do think that it will be highly criticized for allowing the crap that can come into the Province of Manitoba if they throw the doors wide open and let the smut manufacturers of the movie industry come in, not only bringing the stag movies into the movie houses of the Province of Manitoba but bring in movies that would make the stag movies of the olden days look pretty presentable today. So I say I think you'd better take another look at it, and I don't want to be over-righteous on this but I do feel that there is a point that should be made, and I think it's one that should be strongly made, and if you can't establish principles as the Government of the Province of Manitoba, then somebody else should be allowed to take a crack at it.

MR. SPEAKER: Moved by the Honourable Member for Roblin, seconded by the Honourable Member for Brandon West, that the debate be adjourned. Agreed? So ordered.  
The Minister of Labour.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, I am now going to call Committee of Supply but if you would permit me, Sir, I'd like to indicate to honourable members by way of advance notice that the Committee on Law Amendments will meet Thursday morning at 10:00 o'clock, and that the Committee on Municipal Affairs will meet next Monday, a week from today, at 10:00 o'clock.

Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable the Minister of Mines and Natural Resources, 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.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion and after a voice vote declared the motion carried and the House resolved itself into a Committee of Supply with the Honourable Member for Logan in the Chair.

. . . . continued on next page.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

MR. CHAIRMAN: The resolution is 89 (a) (1). The Honourable Member from Brandon West.

MR. MCGILL: Mr. Chairman, I'd just like to complete my remarks very briefly. I think when we left off on Friday afternoon at 4:30 I was in the midst of posing a question to the Minister in respect to the conversations he'd had with Japanese interests, mining interests, recently in a meeting in Manitoba. The Minister did mention that there was some slackening of interests on the part of Japanese industrialists in providing capital for expansion in the mining industry in Manitoba because of the uncertainty of the international monetary markets. And I'm wondering if during those conversations there were any other reasons given for the reduction of interest by the Japanese capital sources. I'm wondering if there has been an experience of interruption of metallic concentrate flows to Japan due to perhaps loading stoppages at our export ports, or because of problems of continuity in production at the mines. So when the Minister has an opportunity I'd be very pleased to hear some further explanations in that respect.

The final point, Mr. Chairman, that I wish to make, and I feel it's the most important point that I have in respect to these Estimates, and I go back again to the questions that were posed during the question period to the First Minister about ten days ago in respect to what action the Province of Manitoba was taking on the announcement of Pan Arctic Oils that they were currently considering two alternative routes for a gasline from the Arctic islands to the markets of eastern Canada, and one of these routes we now know would pass through the territories, and through the northern part of Manitoba, to a possible terminal at Hamilton. The First Minister's replies to these questions as to the extent of the involvement of Manitoba at this time were not quite as positive as I would have liked. They indicated to me that it wasn't on his list of high priorities, at least I took that to be an assessment of his comments.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I feel that it's of the utmost importance to the Province of Manitoba to become involved as quickly as possible and to offer some support and some assistance to Pan Arctic Oils in determining this summer which of the two routes they are likely to adopt. I say this is of great importance, Mr. Chairman, because I feel that it's not just a case of the tax revenues that may accrue to the province, and certainly that's important; it's not just a case of our being involved in the choice of a route for this energy corridor that would avoid environmentally sensitive areas of the province, and perhaps through our assistance point out to the Pan Arctic Oils that there are some very rugged parts of the province that could be used for this corridor, and I speak of the rock formations that are exposed in the Canadian Shield and the semi exposed rock formation with which our northern part of the province is well supplied, it's important that in environmental considerations these things be considered, and I think in this respect our province is well endowed. These are things that should be pointed out. But while if we get the route, if Manitoba is successful in attracting Pan Arctic Oils it will mean more tax revenues, it'll mean many other things. But there is one thing that I feel that perhaps the government itself has not even thought of yet in respect of this route, and I suggest, Mr. Chairman, that if we are not now aroused as to the importance we should be when we look at the map of the route as it may come through Manitoba. Has it occurred to the government that if this energy corridor goes through northern Manitoba that we may achieve at that time the goal and the dream that we have held for a great number of years, and that is a road to the north. Has it occurred to the government that this may be the road to Churchill that we have not been able to find our way clear to finance up to this time? Has it occurred to the government that a road may go through this corridor, and should go through this energy corridor, that will take us right to the northern limits of our province?

Mr. Chairman, I think there can't be anything more important right now for this government to be doing than to be actively associated with Pan Arctic Oils to assist them and hopefully to get this route for Manitoba and in that way to get now, or within the next four or five years, a road to Churchill and to the Arctic and with all the benefits that may achieve for Manitoba by active co-operation with Pan Arctic Oils and the Federal Government. I can't think of anything more important and if the government is not now considering this by-product of this energy corridor, it should certainly be highest on its priority list. Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Rupertsland.

MR. ALLARD: Well, Mr. Chairman, I realize that there are a number of members

(MR. ALLARD cont'd) . . . . . who probably still want to speak and that the time is passing so I will try to be brief as I possibly can. There are two or three subjects that I would like to touch but first I would like to salute the new deputy of the department and state my confidence in him from long acquaintance and working with.

But there are a number of subjects that I'd like to touch on and one of them happens to be that follow-up - I believe ARDA comes under the Minister's department - and one of the problems that I'd like to deal with deals with that follow-up on the NewStart Program which was a program which was cancelled because of its inefficiency and waste of money, a program that was cancelled with the Federal and Provincial Governments. It has a son in the field called Information-Communication which has all the weaknesses of its parent. I don't know whether a mother would really want to claim it, but I think it's a crass waste of public money and it effectively ends up being a propaganda unit - that's the best word I can use for it. I'd like to have an explanation of how a program which has so little public support - which is none as a matter of fact - can be spending a million dollars of the taxpayers funds without really having any practical goal that anyone can see that I know of in the north anyway.

The second point that I'd like to deal with has to do with fishing on Lake Winnipeg. Now, Mr. Speaker, we all know that three years ago, two years ago, mercury pollution became a serious problem on the lake and that fishing was closed down. And it was a very great disappointment that in that length of time --(Interjection)-- Mr. Speaker, I'm really not complaining about the closing of the lake as such. I think this happened because of regulations at the federal and provincial levels and especially because the Americans established certain levels of mercury in fish beyond which they would not buy fish, and it was a sensible thing to close the lake at the time. I'll agree with the Attorney-General on the subject. My concern is that in this length of time the department did not see fit to develop more practical policies in terms of fishing for the lake. We all know that fishing --(Interjection)-- If the Member for Radisson will please allow me to make my comments I'm sure I'll listen to his after. Now fishing on the lake was depleted by over-fishing and by undersized mesh fishing - mesh by the way that was legal - and it was a serious disappointment both last winter and this summer to see fishing allowed back on the lake with the old mesh sizes. And I disagreed vehemently with the policy I thought as well as I could. I regret that it was put back into practice because I think that it really has a long-term effect psychologically as far as the fishermen are concerned. I want to state my very serious disappointment that this should ever have happened. There were possibilities for establishing larger mesh regulations in which the government could have participated and supported the program with ultimate benefits to all concerned, both government, the fishermen and the resource itself.

The third subject, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to deal with has to do with the resource of the fishing in the north especially, not in Lake Winnipeg but in the north. We all know that when the Freshwater Fish Marketing Board came in, one of the conditions it wanted to establish was that the agents or the middle man in fishing should be co-ops in the north, or anywhere else for that matter. Now while sharing to a considerable extent the ideas behind the whole thing, what I really find regrettable is the manner of application and I think that the Minister in charge of resources has a responsibility to have a very long and serious discussion with his colleague in charge of co-ops because of the manner in which they have been operating, and I think that it's germane to the question to deal with the co-ops who are harvesting the fish resource. The Island Lake Co-op is something like \$80, 000 in the red; the God's Lake Co-op is not effectively harvesting the fish; The Ilford Co-op is in very serious problems, and the reason behind it is always the same. It's related to the lack of management support given by co-op services, and I think the Minister has a responsibility here, because he's responsible for the fish and harvesting of the resource, to have a very serious discussion to put pressure on the Minister responsible for co-ops to see to it that there's some effective and efficient support and leadership in terms of managements of co-ops in the north.

I think that with these few words I'll give someone else a chance to make their contribution to this subject.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister of Mines and Natural Resources.

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, the debate in the Estimates of Mines and Resources have been freewheeling and indeed have got into other departments, the department of co-ops and the Information-Communications Program, which the honourable member spent some time on, refers to the Honourable Minister in charge of the Northern Affairs Branch, or I guess I should refer to him as the Commissioner of Northern Affairs. Also I was quite disturbed the other

(MR. EVANS cont'd) . . . . day that the Chairman allowed the Honourable Member for Brandon West to go on and on about the Department of Industry, and I found this absolutely incredible that the member - mind you it's on my salary so I imagine anything goes and I must be given the opportunity to reply, Mr. Chairman - that the Honourable Member for Brandon West was able in one totally irrelevant and incomprehensible statement to cast scorn on the entire academic profession in this province while at the same time revealing his own unfortunate lack of information or discretion. Mr. Speaker, the honourable member referred to academic playpens. I presume he was trying to criticize employees not in Mines and Resources but in Industry and Commerce, and what possibly could he have meant by that term. Could he have meant that academics should not take part in government, or could he mean that the logic and rational judgment which is usually associated with academics should not be part of the government decision-making process? But perhaps he was simply suggesting that anything academic is beyond him and hence is suspicious in his mind, I really don't know, Mr. Chairman. The word "playpens" was used, and again we must ask what the honourable member opposite could have possibly meant. Was he suggesting that our employees spend the day frittering away their time? Was he suggesting that civil servants, whether it be the Department of Industry and Commerce - maybe he's now referring to Mines and Resources as well - do not work hard enough? Perhaps he was simply telling us he really doesn't know what goes on in the departments.

But, Mr. Chairman, it should not be necessary to defend the efforts and activities of civil servants in this Chamber. When a member of the Opposition exercises such complete lack of discretion with one sweeping statement and responsible judgment, then it does become necessary - and I can assure the House that the employees of both departments are making every effort possible to serve the people of this province. It's true we encourage and support research in the Department of Industry, which the Honourable Member from Brandon West took time out to refer to, through the Manitoba Research Council, through the Design Institute - I don't know whether he was talking about our Rural Management Program as was this academic playpenning? Was he talking about our support to the Regional Development Corporation under my Ministership? Was he talking about our aids to industry for exports? Just what programs was he talking about? What programs designed to create jobs was he talking about? I certainly do not know, Mr. Chairman, whatever the honourable member could be referring to by academic playpens, and perhaps he will see fit to explain his remarks to the many university professors and students who reside in his constituency, a constituency which is fortunate enough to contain Brandon University.

Mr. Speaker, I think we've established that the honourable member opposite simply did not know what he was talking about. Perhaps the heat of last Friday got to him, I don't know, but after all he was speaking on the Estimates of Mines and Resources and he should not have been discussing Industry and Commerce at all. But I want to assure the honourable member and all honourable members that the dilemma of the Opposition do not worry us duly. The situation is well in hand, Mr. Chairman, and the members of this Assembly, and the people of the province in general, need not fear a recurrence of any fiasco such as Churchill Forest Industries or any giveaways such as in the case of Columbia Forest Products. Academic playpens indeed, Mr. Chairman, if only the members opposite had a little more academic logic when they were in government perhaps we would have had less of a mess on our hands today than we do have.

Mr. Chairman, the Honourable Member from Portage la Prairie cast some concern, or expressed some concern, about the Leaf Rapids townsite development and this is a development, Mr. Chairman, that all members of the government, all members of this side of the House are very proud of, and I want to take an opportunity to explain, and elaborate, and to answer questions raised by the Member for Portage, to explain to him that this is probably the first serious attempt in the province's history, if indeed not in Canadian history, to develop a town which is something more than the traditional company dominated town. In general terms it is the intent that the community have full control of their own affairs in as democratic a fashion as possible and that wealth generated to the greatest extent possible return to the benefit of the community. And there's some very salient features of this agreement indicating new departures that we are taking. For the first time, an agreement has been signed which puts a mining company on the municipal tax rolls. The master agreement establishes Sherritt-Gordon as a tax paying corporate citizen in the same sense that any other business is a tax paying entity. This is an improvement on the traditional kind of agreement because the

(MR. EVANS cont'd) . . . . company, Mr. Chairman, no longer has special status and the community no longer is required to go to the company for money for essential services such as schools and hospitals. --(Interjection)-- That's right. The traditional grant in lieu of taxes has often meant difficult negotiation with the company involved and has at times meant services not adequate to the needs at hand, and of course one example that comes to mind is the Thompson hospital which was underbuilt initially. In general terms this is an attempt to put northern communities on a more equal footing with their southern counterparts, and to normalize the abnormal situation of nearly total dependence on any one company - and henceforth at least one northern town, Mr. Chairman, will be financing schools and hospitals in the same fashion as any other town in Manitoba. The fact of the mining company helping to provide a firm tax base insures that there will be money to pay for such facilities.

Leaf Rapids Corporation has been established as a subsidiary corporation of the Manitoba Development Corporation, and for the first time I believe, Mr. Chairman, the MDC is being utilized in this case as a developer in the total sense, both in the physical sense and the social sense rather than just being a banker, and by using a Crown agency in this way with goals and values other than the strictly monetary or commercial values, it is hoped that facilities and services can be developed which are more responsive to real human need. As far as possible decisions will not be taken which might pre-empt future decisions of the community, and as far as possible development will be pursued with an eye to retaining in the community the wealth that is generated.

There was reference made to community ownership of commercial space, or rather the utilization of the commercial space, and the ability of businesses to be established in the community. This community ownership of commercial space, this is a specific means by which some of the wealth generated I mentioned earlier, will be retained in the community rather than a traditional commercial shopping centre funded and controlled by remote interests in New York or Toronto, or Montreal or wherever, the commercial spaces will be developed with the Leaf Rapids Corporation as the interim owner who will lease space to various private entrepreneurs. At some point in the future, let us say two or three years, Mr. Chairman, a successful commercial venture will be turned over to a locally constituted development authority which will in conjunction with elected municipal officials make use of the revenues generated by rents for specific community purposes. In addition, there is the option for the community to itself run certain enterprises. For example the new hotel that is now being developed by the community corporation, surely the community will at some point in the future have the option of leasing, selling, or operating, the facility itself. The point to be clear on is that this will be a community decision and will not be pre-empted at this point in time by private interests, by the Provincial Government or by the Leaf Rapids Corporation. The various community and commercial facilities including the school, the medical centre, the recreation and commercial aspects, are being knit together in a single integrated and well designed complex. By building in such an integrated fashion it is thought possible to provide a much more lively and much more interesting complex of buildings which will consequently also be much more of a community centre. It should be stressed that in essence the approach is relatively conservative in the best sense of the word. Rather than building a recreation complex here and a commercial shopping centre there, each with its own attendant servicing costs, parking lots, and so on, these will all be consolidated into a unified entity which will conserve both the buildings and the land and given the delicate nature of that particular site it is essential that no more of the site be disturbed than is absolutely necessary. To be specific, Mr. Chairman, as to how this approach saves on buildings, I cite the example of the gymnasium rather than a school gym and a recreational gym, each being smaller than desirable, one single first-class facility is planned which will be less costly than the two spaces taken together, yet a better total community facility than either space taken separately.

For the first time, I believe, in Canadian history a serious attempt is being made to preserve in a mining community both the trees and the ground cover. The Leaf Rapids plan will not result in the virtual total removal of trees as has been the case in Thompson, or in Lynn Lake, or elsewhere. Rather than the transplantation of the typical suburban sub-division to the north, a plan has been created by planners and landscape consultants, who are particularly aware of and sensitive to the need to plan carefully, that as much of the natural environment is preserved as possible. And I would stress that to the best of my knowledge, Mr. Chairman, this is the first time such planning has taken place with ecologically sensitive people

(MR. EVANS cont'd) . . . . in the key planning roles. It should be noted that the need for careful planning is particularly acute in Leaf Rapids. The site is a sand esker with sandy soil conditions making plant growth very difficult once the site has been disturbed. Therefore it is essential that natural growth be distributed - I am sorry it is essential I should have said, Mr. Chairman, that natural growth be disturbed no more than absolutely necessary. This has been achieved by retaining large blocks of trees between groupings of houses and by cutting down no more trees on the individual lots than is necessary to build the houses. The individual residents of course can cut and prune as they see fit once they are in those houses and normally they would be faced with a bald site which would require probably ten or twenty years to replenish with significant tree cover. Similarly, planning of such things as the town centre, as mentioned previously, are being built with an eye to disturbing no more of the site than is absolutely necessary.

With regard to housing in Leaf Rapids, Mr. Chairman, I can advise honourable members of the House that the approach has been to provide for as full a range of housing as possible from single family detached housing through duplexes, through row housing, through maisonnettes, through apartments, dormitories, and even mobile homes. It is an attempt to move beyond the traditional mining town pattern, housing pattern, which basically tried to solve the problem by building primarily single detached houses. The inadequacy I believe of this approach has been demonstrated by the very acute basement suite situation that exists in the town or the City of Thompson. To achieve the end of providing a varied mix of housing types a commitment has been obtained from Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation to provide loans at reduced interest rates of 7 5/8 percent. This has not been done before in a resource community and will help provide better and more economical housing for northern residents.

One last point, Mr. Chairman, on the Leaf Rapids situation and that agreement, Sherritt-Gordon in co-operation with the Provincial Government have signed a special agreement which sets out means by which both parties intend to employ native northern people in the mine site development. Support services are being set up jointly by Sherritt-Gordon and the Government with Sherritt having to hire a personnel man of native background who speaks the native language, and by this intensive joint effort local northern people will for the first time really be involved in a northern mining development. It is hoped that this special effort with the mining company will then lead to similar efforts and successes in other aspects of the total Leaf Rapids development.

Well, Mr. Chairman, the aforementioned few remarks are by no means exhaustive; they certainly don't go into all the aspects of the Leaf Rapids venture, but I did want to take the opportunity to touch upon the highlights and in doing so I hope that I have perhaps brought members of the House up to date as to where the development is presently at.

Lastly, Mr. Chairman, there was considerable interest shown in the Air Division of the Manitoba Government which exists in this Department of Mines and Resources and Environmental Management. It's significant that the Air Division of the Manitoba Government is this year celebrating its 40th birthday and is indeed the oldest air organization operating in Manitoba. It was formed away back in 1932, in fact specifically in May of 1932, when five Vickers aircraft, flying boats as they were called, were acquired from the RCAF for \$1.00 each. Well, the Manitoba Statutes set out quite clearly the role and functions of this particular aspect of government service. I might add that today the Air Division is operating 18 aircraft. I was asked some questions as to, I believe, as to the make-up of the air fleet. I can advise that of the 18 aircraft 13 of them are single engine aircraft with visual flying regulations; five twin engine aircraft with instrument flying regulation. They also have ten other fixed wing and rotating wing aircraft on lease during the forest fire detection and suppression season which includes two PDY's Canso Water Bombers, three G4 Helicopters, two Comanche twin engine fire detection aircraft, two Astec fire detection aircraft and one Piper Cruiser single engine for fire detection in the Dauphin Duck Mountain area. These latter mentioned as I said, Mr. Chairman, are on lease for the fire hazard season.

Without going into too much more detail on the aircraft fleet as such, I would like to advise that we also charter on a day to day basis as required from existing commercial carriers in Manitoba to fulfill requests made by the various agencies and departments of the Manitoba Government. These are more special requests, for example we have two helicopters from Lambair working on geological surveys in the Burntwood and Kasmere areas for the next couple of months, and of course each year there is usually a requirement from our surveys



(MR. EVANS cont'd) . . . . branch for various land surveys and the establishing of ground patrol points in the north in order to carry out aerial photographs during the summer months. These photographs are required for many purposes such as mineral claim staking, forest inventory, etc. And from time to time we also lease helicopters for the Highways Department for location survey for northern roads and highways.

Under our new policy for flight co-ordination, which was established on April 1, of 1971, I am very pleased to report, Mr. Chairman, that we have reduced substantially any duplication or inefficiency which normally results when hundreds of people are attempting to arrange for their own aircraft to various communities essentially in northern Manitoba. This had been something which had gone on for years and years and years in the government service where you had several civil servants sometimes going to the same town in northern Manitoba, each making their own separate arrangements, whether it be Manitoba Government aircraft or privately chartered aircraft, and thereby wasting considerable of the taxpayers' dollars, and as a result of this lack of co-ordination, of this duplication of air service, unnecessary duplication, we have established this flight co-ordination program and as a result we have a program whereby civil servants and others, various people in the government service, are requested to indicate the nature of the business, the number of people that may be in the party, where they are going to, the date, the time, and their general flight requirements. We have flight agents situated at Thompson, The Pas, and Winnipeg, and these are supervised by our flight co-ordinator in Winnipeg. The head office base, or the head base, is at Lac du Bonnet where our director and chief pilot are situated, and I should also add that we have summer bases at Norway House and Lynn Lake, all connected with the co-ordinating function. So we now find that the staff of the Manitoba Government are now sharing trips, avoiding duplication, and time spent by executives arranging for their own trips is now avoided, it is now used in their own disciplines, and persons knowledgeable with air operation, with tariffs, etc., are now doing the work arranging for the necessary aircraft.

It is necessary, as I have indicated and it should be obvious, we do have a number of aircraft in the Forest Fire Service, forest fire detection and suppression, it's absolutely necessary to have aircraft to patrol the various forested areas of the province in order to preserve these resources, and of course to protect the lives of people living in these areas, and it goes without saying that the resources have to be protected generally as an economic wealth but also because there are people in those areas which depend on those resources for their livelihood. The Forest Protection people have insisted on service of aircraft which must be ready when needed and which are generally not available from commercial carriers with the capabilities that they require, and it is more economical for the government to own the equipment with these capabilities, Mr. Chairman, purchased and operated on a tax exempt basis, than it is to require commercial carriers to carry, to acquire this equipment and have it on a standby basis with sales tax and profit factors for operating the fire protection and suppression program. So I make no apology for that particular decision and I think it's the decision that's the most economical one for the government, therefore for the taxpayers of this province.

There is another element of the operations of the Air Division that I would like to touch upon and that is in the construction and operation of airstrips in isolated communities in northern Manitoba. We presently have 32 airstrips in one stage or another of construction and we are out to upgrade them in order to present a safe operating aviation industry in our province. It is the policy of this government to create equality of access to isolated communities and to subsidize the industry as required and necessary. On these airstrips we are now constructing facilities such as small terminal buildings, small warehouses, airstrip markers, windsocks, and hopefully in time some runway lights and non-directional beacons in order to have an all weather day and night operation similar to that enjoyed by people in the southern part of our province. In the year 71/72 we did appropriate 2.5 million for this purpose, and some of the work of course was done during the past winter months giving needed jobs to people at that particular time of the year.

I would like to touch upon one other element which we are very proud of and that is the announcement that was made by the Premier last Friday, and which I mentioned very briefly in my opening remarks, and that is the patient air transport program, if I might refer to it, which will come into effect on July 1st. This program has been devised, Mr. Chairman, to assist the people in the north who are not provided for by a program of emergency medical requirements and to equalize the cost of these persons for hospital transfers and emergency benefits.

(MR. EVANS cont'd)

My Premier, my colleague in the Cabinet, in announcing this program stated that the program will be undertaken by members of the Air Division and staff will be acquired as necessary to carry out this program on a seven day week operation in an attempt of course to save lives and alleviate suffering as much as possible for the people of the north. At the present time we're working out the administrative details in conjunction with the various medical authorities and other people in the northern communities.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, I would like to indicate to members of the House that our Air Division has a very excellent operating record. We have pilots and engineers and other staffs some of whom have been with us for a long period of time, some have been here approximately 30 years and we're proud of the performance; I think all of us should be proud of their performance and the record of these people. It is the policy of our government to carry out a safe and viable operation to serve the people of Manitoba, to construct and improve airports, air strips in airports in northern Manitoba in order to provide those people of the north, and indeed all Manitobans, with the services government normally offers and which in many cases in the past the people of the north did not enjoy. I think therefore I have well indicated that in the last two or three years the Air Division has made great strides and we'll continue to promote services and the air industry in general in the Province of Manitoba.

Well, Mr. Chairman, I could go on further with this but let me take a few more minutes to try to answer some of the other questions . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have four minutes.

MR. EVANS: I have four minutes. Well let me briefly then refer to a couple of other questions that were asked by honourable members opposite.

The Member from Pembina urged irrigation for canning crops, and I acknowledged that we could improve the vegetable crop in that area and of course assist the canning industry of that town by an improved water supply, there's no doubt about that. The only point though is that with regard to the Pembina Dam, which I believe the honourable member was referring to, I would point out that it is a multimillion dollar investment and one has to base and compare the amount of dollars going into this particular investment as opposed to the amount of benefits that will accrue and particularly, let us say, with regards to the growing of vegetables. I should say -- I'm informed that Morden has some fine water anyway and it is one of the areas of the province that is blessed with a very good water supply, although we can all look for improvements. But nevertheless it is one of the better -- it has a fairly, better situation I understand than in the neighbouring town of Winkler, but I'm not going to get into this particular argument.

The question of nightlighting was raised with respect to treaty Indians and I think really the honourable members frankly have answered their own questions by pointing out that this is a federal jurisdiction. I can advise that my staff are currently having a series of very positive and productive meetings with representatives of the treaty Indians, with the hope and belief that an understanding will develop whereby the treaty Indians will restrict themselves and cause their members to desist from practices that threaten not only the survival of wild-life but also in some cases can threaten human life as well.

Well, Mr. Chairman, I think that I'm just about run out of time and there are a lot of questions that I would like to answer but I'll take another opportunity to do so.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Morris.

MR. JORGENSEN: Mr. Chairman, for the last half hour we have been entertained by the Minister in attempting to explain the activities of his department. Sir, there are times when you find in a large Cabinet that one Minister will have a tendency to go in one direction and another Minister will have a tendency to go in the opposite direction, and sometimes it's difficult to get the kind of communication that enables both departments to some degree move in the same direction. Sometimes even within a department that is large you'll find two different branches going at cross-purposes. But, Sir, this is the first time that I've run across a Minister who is attempting to go in both directions at the same time. The Minister with a great flourish talked about the Leaf Rapids Development Corporation and that that government enterprise was not going to be influenced by the mundane considerations of money, no Sir, they were interested only in seeking that communal paradise of the socialist, developing a community in which everybody would be equal, and all things would be wonderful. No money considerations there, Sir, but as the Minister of Industry and Commerce, the Minister goes the opposite direction. By George, he says, Western Flyer must make money. That too is a

(MR. JORGENSEN cont'd) . . . . government enterprise --(Interjection)-- That too is a government enterprise, Sir. But money is an important consideration now. It is a demonstration of the inability of the Minister to even come to grips with the elementary considerations that he must come to in dealing with these two departments. I'm much more impressed with his views about the Leaf Rapids Development Corporation, communal as it is, than I am with his pronouncements about Western Flyer and the Manitoba Development Corporation in connection thereof. Sir, how in heaven's name does this country or this province ever expect to have leadership with that kind of a Minister running those two departments? Earlier someone made the suggestion that it was necessary to have a Minister for each department, and by George that person was right. And the Minister himself has given the kind of demonstration in his last few remarks as to how necessary and imperative that change is. --(Interjection)-- The Member for Inkster is sitting there laughing, smiling to himself --(Interjection)-- because I'm sure he would not have allowed that kind of a mental contradiction to exist within his own mind. --(Interjection)-- Well the Minister speaks about entertaining and I have never seen a more amusing performance than the mental contortions of the Minister of Mines and Resources as opposed to the Minister of Industry and Commerce. That, Sir, for the record is the same Minister. How can he possibly have the audacity to stand in this House and in the Estimates of one department say one thing and then on the Estimates of another department say exactly the opposite. Perhaps, perhaps, Sir, at some future date -- and I won't ask the Minister to rationalize that kind of impossible situation at this time because I think he will have to get a message from his departmental officials, and I hope they're writing the answer out to him soon although I know that even with the capabilities of Mr. Wallace who sits in front of him, and I might say that I have a high regard for the capability of that honourable gentleman, I don't want to ask him to attempt to rationalize the thinking in the mind of the Minister because that is asking too much from even a deputy minister. Perhaps at some future occasion the Minister himself when he is back in his academic playpen will be able to do his own rationalization when he has some leisure time at his disposal and then he'll be able to say, where did I go wrong? Listening to the theorists, Sir, I don't intend to take up more time in discussing this. I thought it would be appropriate though on this occasion to point out, to point out the inconsistencies in the mind of the Minister going that direction in one department, going the other direction in another department. The Minister talks about Morden Canneries. --(Interjection)-- I don't know what department that comes under. I'll leave that to my friend the Member from Rhineland to deal with that particular situation. I am simply attempting to point out a contradiction ~~that~~ one could not help but notice in the last few days in different pronouncements by the Minister himself. It's an amazing thing to see a person who is so incapable of rationalization that he would allow himself to make statements and make utterances that are so contradictory in nature.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: Mr. Chairman, I really appreciate the opportunity to make a couple of remarks before we close off the debate. I had a number of questions put to the Minister and I didn't receive a reply to any of them. I certainly had hoped at least that he would comment on one or two. I still take issue that I would like to have a copy of the drainage program for the ensuing year. In years gone by - I know when this party was in power here to my right, we received a program of the work that was to be done on the various drains in the province, and I think we received it the first year that this government was in office, but since then the former Minister promised it to us but we didn't get it, and I think with all the money that is being expended that we certainly should have some idea. We get it from the Highways Department. They give us a good program of what is anticipated and what highways will be improved. I think we ought to get the same thing as members in connection with drainage. This is very important to me, and I'm sure it's important to other members from rural constituencies, and I would ask that this be furnished to us. --(Interjection)-- I didn't get what the Member for Inkster said so --(Interjection)-- Oh well certainly if he wants that I would have no opposition to giving it to him.

I also toured the Fish Marketing Plant this morning, together with some other members, and I think this province certainly has abdicated their responsibility to the fishermen in this province by handing everything over to the Federal Government and --(Interjection)-- Sure. The Member for Inkster can reply later if he wishes to on that. I just have a few minutes at the --(Interjection)-- Later on when I am completed, I note from the financial statement that a year ago they had a profit of 829, 000 - this was for the year 1970 - with a

(MR. FROESE cont'd) . . . . turnover or sales of 14 million. Last year they had sales of 13 million, and do you know what the profit was? Less than \$5,000 compared to 829,000 the year before. And I was told this morning by the manager or the president there that for the next couple of years they would be in the red, and very considerably so. Who is going to take the loss for that and what is going to be the end result, what is going to happen as a result? Certainly it shows up that once you expand and put up a big plant like they have that it won't carry itself and that either they'll have to increase the price of fish very tremendously or show big losses, and I'm at this time wondering who is going to suffer those losses, whether the fishermen will have to take up those losses. I certainly would like to hear from the Minister on that score.

He mentioned the Leaf Rapids program. This, too, is I think a highly socialistic program where the government is going to own everything and they won't sell any property to an individual. Certainly I think this is going far too far in my opinion. Some of the other members, or other groups, in the House got a copy of the agreement. Why wasn't the agreement furnished to us as well? I'm interested as much in the agreement as any other member and I don't have the access to it that other people have. The same holds true for some of the Orders for Return. Just a few days ago an Order for Return was tabled costing they told us \$500.00. Yet they wouldn't even give me a copy. They spent \$500.00 on an Order for Return and they won't spend a dollar to give us copies of it. . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Inkster.

MR. SIDNEY GREEN, Q. C. (Inkster): On a point of order. On a point of order, Mr. Chairman. The honourable member -- and this is a point of order -- has indicated that he does not have the same rights as every other honourable member, and I understand that the honourable member has the same rights as every honourable member, including myself, and that the only difference is with regard to parties, not with regard to members, that no other honourable member, and let the record be clear, was treated any differently than the Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: Well certainly that's not the case at all because members are treated differently. If your group has a copy you can have access to it. If I haven't got a copy then I haven't got access to it.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Chairman, on the point of order, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, on the point of order I think that again the record should show that a copy is available to the honourable member because it has been tabled in the House. The honourable member has access to that copy.

MR. FROESE: Let the Member for Inkster say as much as he wants. I even conferred with the Clerk the other day on one Order for Return - he said that they didn't even have one. So I had no way of going to them and inquiring, and for the few dollars that it takes to get an extra copy of a Return, and I'm willing to pay for it. Let them deduct it from whatever pay I get, or from whatever money will be coming. Certainly I am willing to pay for it, but let's get the information. First of all going to all the trouble and then later on not getting copies.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please.

MR. GREEN: I must again rise on a point of order. I believe that first of all the remarks of the honourable member are out of order in their entirety but I would not like the record to show things that are not correct in that the honourable member is being mistreated. I'm advised by the Clerk that what the honourable member requested was a copy of a Ministerial Statement which are furnished to Party Leaders and not an Order for Return. Therefore the honourable member cannot suggest that something which is laid on the table in the House he has not got access to, just as every other honourable member has.

MR. CHAIRMAN: . . . I'd ask the honourable member to come back to Mines and Natural Resources and Environmental Management.

MR. FROESE: Oh well I'll go back to discussing this but let the Member for Inkster say what he wants, I know what the situation is, and I know what I have access to and what I don't. I was just wondering why the Member for Inkster had to get into this again, after all he's . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please. Order, please. I've asked the honourable member - now, I've given quite a bit of latitude, but I want you to come back to Mines and Resources and Environmental Management. If you're not prepared to do so then I shall have to ask you to sit down. The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: Okay let's go to the Winkler Cannery. The member . . .

MR. GREEN: I don't believe, Mr. Speaker, that is contained within the Estimates of this department.

MR. FROESE: It sure comes under his department. Who in this House is proud of the Morden Cannery and who is the Minister that makes a statement than the Honourable Minister, and if canneries don't fall under his jurisdiction I don't know under whose it would. And certainly . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Inkster on a point of order.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Chairman, on the point of order I believe that the Winkler Cannery does indeed fall under the person of the Honourable Minister who's now speaking but not under the department under which he is now speaking, that the Winkler Cannery comes under the person of the Minister under the Department of Industry and Commerce.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

MR. ENNS: On the same point of order, Mr. Chairman, it is a well known fact that the major ingredient to a successful cannery operation is water and I'm sure what my honourable friend from Rhineland is about to refer to is the need of water and the inactivity and the lack of leadership on the part of government to proceed with the Pembilier Dam.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: This is the very thing that I was coming to because I know too well the bill that was . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please. I can't hear the honourable member.

MR. FROESE: Mr. Chairman, I know too well the bill that was passed here a few years ago in this House whereby we set the water rates for the Town of Morden and for the cannery at Morden --(Interjection)-- 16 cents a thousand. Portage la Prairie cannery, 12 cents a thousand; in Winkler the rates are very substantially higher. But what have they done? Now they've removed the cannery from Winkler and put it into Morden and what is the result? Now the water rates are doubled for the Town of Winkler.

MR. PAULLEY: . . . sit in my seat for a moment in order to speak. On a point of order what the Honourable Member for Rhineland is discussing . . .

MR. FROESE: I'm discussing water.

MR. PAULLEY: That's right, Mr. Speaker, and I'm rising on a point of order. What the honourable member is talking about, water supply rates, etc., etc., are under the Department of Agriculture. The Honourable the Minister of Agriculture introduced a bill here just the other day dealing with water rates. My honourable friend from Rhineland had ample opportunity to discuss his point at that time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please. I think the point is well taken. If the honourable member wishes to talk about water as such then he's free to do so, but not water rates. He'll have an opportunity when we complete the departments and we go back in the time left and he can speak about water rates under the Department of Agriculture at that time.

MR. FROESE: Mr. Chairman, the Estimates certainly deal with water resources. --(Interjection)-- Sure, and if ever an industry requires water it's a cannery and the cannery at Morden requires a lot of water and we need a dam, we need a reservoir for the towns in my area, for the Town of Morden, for the Town of Winkler, and I'm sure Coulee at some time later would like water and it would have to be piped in from that source, and they've had a vote on it some years ago but the rates were too high. I don't know how the present population

. . . .  
MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please. The honourable member is beginning to stray again off the point. The Honourable House Leader.

MR. PAULLEY: That's right, and despite the assist from Souris-Killarney, that matters regarding rates for payment of water are contained within the Department of Agriculture. Certainly there is in the Estimates of the Department of Mines and Natural Resources reference to water, but not water in the context being used in the argument of the Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Rhineland. It's Mines, Resources and Environmental Management, please.

MR. FROESE: Mr. Chairman, the other day there was tabled a brochure dealing with the ARDA Program which provided for portable water, and which comes under the purview of the Honourable Minister's department. They're going to have investigations as to the ground water available. So it certainly does apply even though the House Leader may not

(MR. FROESE cont'd) agree with me, it certainly does apply as to the reserves that are available and whether these towns in the future will have water. But I think it was a shame to close the Winkler Cannery and open the Morden Cannery, removing the jobs from our area and putting it into another. And this is my big complaint that this government just caters to certain areas of the province and others are left alone, and not only - they're out in the cold. Where do the government offices go? This government again just favours Morden every time. When they've set up offices that's where they set them up, and I feel that the people in other areas of the province are just as entitled to some of these services and offices in their area than just to some favorite places. That's discrimination in my opinion. --(Interjection)-- Yes, maybe we should get the Human Rights Commission to . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please. Now I'm not being amused by the honourable member's obvious attempt to try and go all around the subject but what we're under discussion. Now to Mines, Resources and Natural Environment, and if the honourable member persists in skirting around human rights, water rates, and anything else, I'm going to ask him to sit down. Now the Honourable Member for Rhineland to the point under discussion.

MR. FROESE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The other day I talked about environment about the lagoons in the various parts of the province and the stench that comes from them, the pollution that comes from them. The government's policy, is it ever going to change? Are we going to get away from these and are we going to have water and sewage treatment plants put up instead? Certainly I think it's high time that we do something in this respect because if we are going to start dealing with pollution I think this is one area that should be dealt with because this spreads disease, I am sure, and I just question too whether . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please. The Honourable Member for Lakeside if he wishes to speak, gain the recognition of the Chair and make his comments, or otherwise keep quiet. The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: Well, Mr. Chairman, I'm having so many interruptions that I lose my trend of thought, but I'm wondering whether anything is being done, whether the specifications for lagoons are met and having in mind the population that it serves and also the soil conditions, and so on, because in certain areas of the province a lagoon doesn't work satisfactorily, and certainly the grounds in the immediate area are just full of weeds, grass will not even grow. Some of the people's land surrounding these lagoons are actually damaged very excessively and are not even fit for production of any crops. They become so saturated that you can't grow a good crop in the immediate area, and in the immediate vicinity. I put this up to the Minister the other day. I've heard no comment from him. I think this is a matter that is deserving of discussion and also deserving of a reply. I will forego some of the other things that I had planned on talking because the hour's almost -- recess is almost at hand and maybe the Minister can give a reply to some of the questions.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution . . . The Honourable Member for Roblin.

MR. MCKENZIE: Mr. Chairman, I have a few questions I'd like to direct to the attention of the Honourable the Minister, and I will use the Annual Report as my reference as we try to get approval of his salary. The first one under Forestry Research, Mr. Chairman, I'd like to draw to the Minister's attention and I notice here that they are doing hybrid plantation studies and the northern forestry studies, and I wonder if the Minister now that he's indicated to the House he has all this surplus funds around, if he'd take a look at Skinners Nursery I'm sure the material that he's looking for in this research and the production of that type of plant is available. The Federal Government has already indicated some interest in Skinners Nursery. This is available - it wasn't available under the other department but I find that he has all these surplus monies now maybe he could take a look at Skinners Nursery and hopefully find some use of that great resource.

On the following page, Mr. Chairman, I'd like to ask the Minister what research studies if any have been done regarding the area of the Pleasant Valley Dam project which has now been completed. I wonder if any wildlife studies have been done for that area as a game sanctuary for birds or wildlife, and if in fact the Minister has taken a look at that.

The next point that I'd like to draw to the attention of the Minister is I wonder what we can expect for next year regarding the damage by wildlife. I know he's well aware of the many concerns I've laid on his desk of people that are suffering damage from wildlife year after year after year. The matter has been under debate for many years and I know certain funds are being allocated for that and while the monies may not be of significant amount at this

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(MR. McKENZIE cont'd) . . . . time, I wonder if the Minister in his remarks could tell the farmers especially of this province what's going to happen next year. Will they be able to get compensation for their losses or will they not?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please. The time being 5:30, I'm leaving the Chair to return at 8:00 p. m. this evening.