

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA
2:30 o'clock, Thursday, March 23, 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 23 students of the Red River Community College. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Logan.

We also have 45 students Grade 7 standing of the Morris Elementary School. These students are under the direction of Mr. Kauenhofen, Mrs. Newman and Mrs. Bergen. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Morris.

We also have 75 students Grade 11 standing of the Churchill High. These students are under the direction of Messrs. Sabaski, Chappell and Parson. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Osborne.

There are 45 students of Grade 11 standing of the Windsor Park Collegiate. These students are under the direction of Mr. Pitcairn. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Radisson.

On behalf of all the Honourable Members of the Legislative 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.

The Honourable the Attorney-General.

TABLING OF REPORTS

HON. A. H. MACKLING, Q.C. (Attorney-General) (St. James): Mr. Speaker, I would like to table on behalf of my colleague, the Minister of Municipal Affairs, the Manitoba Public Insurance Corporation 1971 Report.

MR. SPEAKER: Ministerial Statements; Notices of Motion.

The Honourable Minister of Colleges and Universities.

HON. SAUL A. MILLER (Minister of Colleges and Universities)(Seven Oaks): Mr. Speaker, I wish to table the report of the President of the Brandon University for the year '70-71.

MR. SPEAKER: Notices of Motion. The Honourable Member for Rupertsland. Introduction of Bills; Oral Questions.

The Honourable Member for Churchill.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

MR. GORDON W. BEARD (Churchill): I'd like to direct my question to the Minister of Industry and Commerce. I understand that now officially notice has been given that the tenders for the contracts with the Port of Churchill shipping has not been called. Would the Minister care to state whether he would be able to make any further presentation in respect to keeping the government services at Churchill as they were in the past?

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

HON. LEONARD S. EVANS (Minister of Industry and Commerce)(Brandon East): Mr. Speaker, I'll take the honourable member's general question of concern as notice but I can tell him that we are extremely concerned about the recent matter of supply services being offered out of the Port of Churchill. Unfortunately I have not yet received a reply from the Honourable Donald Jamieson Federal Minister of Transport, and if I don't receive a reply by tomorrow I'll attempt to get in touch with him -- I'll take the initiative to get in touch with him further on this matter. But I am very concerned about the entire question and I thank the honourable member for again bringing it to the public's attention.

MR. BEARD: Subsequent to that question. I wonder if the Minister would also -- if the government refused to continue with the services in the past I wonder if he would consider requesting that the new contracts be . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. The question is hypothetical. Would the honourable member rephrase it.

MR. BEARD: I would wonder if any future tenders that call for contracts if the government could assure us that the contracts be starting at Churchill rather than Montreal?

MR. EVANS: You know, Mr. Speaker, as much as I have sympathy for the point of view

(MR. EVANS cont'd) of the Honourable Member from Churchill, it is simply not within the jurisdiction of the Government of Manitoba to give this assurance as much as we'd like to. However, I repeat what I've said before and that is that we will keep on top of the situation and I will endeavour to get in touch with the Minister concerned about this particular matter.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. L. R. (BUD) SHERMAN (Fort Garry): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Honourable the Minister of Tourism and Recreation. I would ask him whether at its hearings beginning April 6th the Hewak Commission of Inquiry will be summoning all the principals involved in the February 21st boxing card?

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

HON. LAURENT L. DESJARDINS (Minister of Tourism, Recreation and Cultural Affairs) (St. Boniface): Mr. Speaker, I have no idea what Judge Hewak will do. He's conducting the investigation himself.

MR. SHERMAN: A supplementary to the Minister, Mr. Speaker. Does the Commission have power to force witnesses from outside the province to come back to Winnipeg to testify? Does the Commission have power to force witnesses from outside the province to come back to Winnipeg to testify?

MR. DESJARDINS: This is something that should be asked of the Attorney-General but I'll save my honourable friend the time and trouble because apparently these people have said that they are ready to co-operate, will come whenever they're asked to.

MR. SHERMAN: A further supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Will the taxpayers of Manitoba be paying the transportation costs and the accommodation costs here in Winnipeg for them to come here and testify?

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

MR. HENRY J. EINARSON (Rock Lake): Mr. Speaker, I address this question to the Minister of Agriculture. We are informed that applications for Canada Manpower training on the job program - the deadline being March 17th for applications to be received, I'm wondering if the Minister has had any communications with Canada Manpower to see if it is possible to have this deadline extended in order that better utilization could be made of this program?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Agriculture.

HON. SAMUEL USKIW (Minister of Agriculture)(Lac du Bonnet): Mr. Speaker, every year we have discussions relating to the Manpower program. I'm not sure whether I can give a specific answer at this point but I'll take the question as notice.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Riel.

MR. DONALD W. CRAIK (Riel): Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct a question to the First Minister. Can he indicate if the Water Commission restricts Lake Winnipeg usage to a maximum of 714 feet whether Manitoba Hydro will proceed with regulation of the lake?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

HON. EDWARD SCHREYER (Premier)(Rossmere): Mr. Speaker, that question is hypothetical in every respect.

MR. CRAIK: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Will a decision be made on by Manitoba Hydro and on the permit, the final permit, prior to the filing of the Water Commission Report?

MR. SCHREYER: I shouldn't think so.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

MR. HARRY J. ENNS (Lakeside): Mr. Speaker, not by way of supplementary but certainly relative to the questions asked by the Member for Riel, I direct a question to the Minister of Labour, the House Leader. Can he indicate to us when the Public Utilities Committee will meet?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

HON. RUSSELL PAULLEY (Minister of Labour)(Transcona): Mr. Speaker, I'm sure my honourable friend is aware of the fact that the committee has not as yet been established. Until that is done and approved by the House I cannot answer his question.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Riel.

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct a question to the Minister of Finance. Can he indicate whether the Capital Supply Estimates will contain monies for Manitoba Hydro purposes?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Finance.

HON. SAUL CHERNIACK, Q.C. (Minister of Finance)(St. Johns): I'm under the impression that a Minister of Finance has his job in jeopardy if he starts forecasting what will be in legislation of that nature to be brought before the House. I'm hoping that the Capital Supply Bill will come as quickly as possible and we're working to that end.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Charleswood.

MR. ARTHUR MOUG (Charleswood): Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct a question to the Minister of Tourism and Recreation. Did the government give a grant to the Festival du Voyageur to help offset 1971 deficits?

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

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Speaker, yes, the government did. It was a cost-sharing grant with the Federal Government, the city and the government grant. And while I'm on my feet I'd like to tell the same honourable member who is quite busy making a survey on grants, but he asked me a question yesterday about did the Dauphin Lions Club receive a grant. They did receive a grant I'm told for their Midwinter Conference which was an international conference. I understand that most hospitality grants that are authorized are either for conferences or conventions of this nature and the fact that this conference was held in Dauphin rather than Winnipeg does not have any bearing on the case at all. I think it's a good idea not to have all these conferences here in the City of Winnipeg.

I might say further, Mr. Speaker, that this is not my responsibility. I got the information for my honourable friend at this time but I don't intend to waste my time finding all this at this time, he could ask the people responsible or wait during the estimates to get that.

MR. MOUG: Could the Minister give us the amount of the grant that was given to the Festival du Voyageur?

MR. DESJARDINS: I'd like the honourable member, if he's going to pursue this any further, he probably has one for every day of the session, would he ask for an Order for Return, please.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Brandon West.

MR. EDWARD MCGILL (Brandon West): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Honourable Minister of Industry and Commerce and relates to the activities of Saunders Aircraft Company. Can the Minister tell the House whether the ST-27 has received the United States certificate of air worthiness which would enable it to be sold in the United States?

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

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, I'll take the question as notice and while I'm on my feet I'd like to reply to a question that was posed on March 15th by the Honourable Member from Ste. Rose constituency at which time he inquired about the plan of the government to assist in the rehabilitation of Lake Dauphin and Lake Winnipegosis, with particular reference I believe to the commercial fishing.

I could advise the honourable member and reassure the residents of that area that we are continuing to work, that the Department of Mines, Resources and Environmental Management is continuing to work in co-operation and in concert with the fishermen on those lakes in developing a commercial fishery program in this particular region and that monies for such a development program are being provided for in our 1972-73 budget, in the '72-'73 estimates of the Department, and I would hope, Sir, to be able to provide more information to the honourable member and other members of this House in a specific way as to what the program will entail during the discussion of the Estimates in the Committee of Supply.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

MR. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, I direct a question to the Honourable Minister of Education. I wonder, Sir, if he can tell the House and tell me whether or not the funds specifically set aside for the purposes of education and building of schools in the Interlake under the ARDA-FRED Program have in any way been -- the time period was a ten-year agreement signed in '67 -- has that time period in any way been shortened or have any other arrangements been arrived at between the Federal Government and the Provincial Government in this respect?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Education.

HON. BEN HANUSCHAK (Minister of Education)(Burrows): I'll take the question as notice, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

MR. STEVE PATRICK (Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of Industry and Commerce if he has got the answer to my question that I asked about a week ago now in respect to King Choy.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. I think a number of days ago I mentioned that I would assume answers would be forthcoming when they have been finalized. I do not see that we have to have them repeated every three or four days. I think the honourable member has raised that question about four times already. Orders of the Day. The Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

MR. PATRICK: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Honourable Minister of Labour. Has he received a request from the employees of Milk Products Limited in respect that they haven't received their wages and has he received a request to investigate?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

MR. PAULLEY: No, Mr. Speaker, and if there is any violation of any of the labour laws of the Province of Manitoba the Minister of Labour will assure that the law will be complied with.

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

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, I wonder whether or not it would meet with the convenience of the House to go into Committee of Supply to be granted to Her Majesty. That being so, my honourable colleague the Minister of Finance.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Finance.

MR. CHERNIACK: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable the Attorney-General, 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.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please. I believe it has been agreed that we will start with the Department of Agriculture --(Interjection)-- Attorney-General's Department.

Resolution 22. The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. MACKLING: Mr. Chairman, I deem it somewhat of an honour to have the privilege accorded to initiate the consideration of government estimates. Inasmuch as this department now covers a wide diversity of operations I intend to touch but briefly on the significant aspects of the operations of the Attorney-General's Department. But I certainly don't intend to say very much more, Mr. Chairman, unless there's some diminution in the very audible muttering all around me and across from me.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please. The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. MACKLING: Mr. Chairman, the estimates of the Attorney-General's Department indicate increases in spending of approximately \$2 million. The most significant increase in spending will be found in the area of provision of police services. As most honourable members may know, the police services accorded to the Province are by way of contract with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, by contract, and I must say that the services of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police have throughout the many years of the lifetime of the contract been to our entire satisfaction. That is not to say that from time to time there are not complaints from individual citizens and others who may feel themselves aggrieved by the imposition of the law. But by and large we are more than happy with the contractual relationships which we have as the result of the contract entered into during the course of a previous administration, and we continue to employ the Royal Canadian Mounted Police who through extension contracts between the Province of Manitoba and various cities and municipalities provide police services to many communities in Manitoba.

Recently the Royal Canadian Mounted Police increased their budget and accordingly we had to increase our budget and there is therefore a substantial increase resultant from the higher cost of R.C.M.P. police services to us, and where there are extension contracts with various cities and municipalities we, of course, merely pass those on.

I might say also, Mr. Chairman, that there have been additional police services provided for in the budget in areas where the Royal Canadian Mounted Police have indicated a requirement either arising from communities wishing R.C.M.P. services through extension contract or to meet the basic needs of provincial policing. The budget therefore for police services reflects those two significant factors: an increase in police costs under the contract itself and an increased number of police personnel employed in the province.

(MR. MACKLING cont'd)

Another significant aspect, Mr. Chairman, in respect to the budget of the Attorney-General is a very substantial increase in the cost of legal aid.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please. Carry on please, the Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. MACKLING: The Fact-finding Committee on legal aid made recommendations to the government through my department for a comprehensive program of legal aid embodying the technique of a corporation which could have been set up either under the Companies Act or by special act of this Legislature. As honourable members will recall, at the previous session of the Legislature we passed an Act establishing a legal aid corporation. That corporation will have the responsibility for the administration of a comprehensive program of legal aid within the province.

As most honourable members will recall, I have from time to time made comments about the need for a comprehensive program of legal aid in Manitoba and I think it would be doing a disservice to honourable members to repeat the arguments I've advanced in the past for such a program. But it is significant to note that the Federal Government has indicated that they are at last going to undertake some assistance to legal aid in Canada and there had been an exchange of information between the Federal Government and representatives of my department in respect to the type of legal aid program which we anticipated to become operational under the new legal aid corporation and I am convinced that the type of program that will be instituted in Manitoba will fill all of the requirements, the basic criteria that have been indicated to us on an informal basis that the Federal Government would consider as a basis for their contribution to legal aid. They've indicated, Mr. Chairman, that legal aid from a Federal point of view would in all likelihood be confined to legal aid dealing with cases where criminal charges have been laid. And this is only proper, Mr. Chairman, since the Federal Government has the jurisdiction in respect to all criminal public law in Canada.

For many years, or at least since I was appointed to the office of Attorney-General I have been pointing out the illogic of the situation where one jurisdiction makes the law, determines the law and yet makes no contribution of any real significance as to the costs of the operations of that law that it controls. Certainly the indication by the Federal Government of its intention to participate in legal aid will be a significant factor in the funding of an adequate comprehensive legal aid program, not only in Manitoba but throughout Canada, and we certainly welcome the indication by the Federal Government of their intention to participate in a substantial manner.

I would also draw honourable members attention to the fact that the Legal Aid Corporation has been constituted by the appointment of a Board. The Legal Aid Board in itself is unique in Canada inasmuch as it's representative not only of members of the legal profession but also of lay persons. The Chairman of the Board nevertheless is a lawyer, Rolan Penner, and they are presently -- the Board and the names of the other Board members I will reveal shortly and I think they have been widely published -- will be involved in the practical administrative matters in establishing all of the personnel and procedures necessary for the comprehensive program. This legal aid program will be a combination of not only of the type of scheme or adaptation of the scheme that has existed in Manitoba heretofore, but will also employ some of the latest techniques of legal aid including the neighbourhood law centre.

Other members of this Board, four of whom by virtue of the Act are members of the Law Society of Manitoba, selected by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council from a group of seven referred to the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council for appointment. Representation from the Law Society of Manitoba is given by the appointment of Mr. Ron Myers, Mr. Roy Gallagher, Mr. Arthur Rich, Mr. Harry Walsh, and really, I should have added Q.C.s to the names of all those honourable learned gentlemen but you'll pardon my informality. In addition we have citizen members, Lloyd Lenton, Daisy Paulley and Adam Cuthand.

Mr. Chairman, in my meetings with the Board I am satisfied that we have not only a unique Board in its makeup, but a Board that is dedicated to the development of a program that will have no equal in Canada for its assiduous concern for a legal aid program that will meet the needs of all of the people of Manitoba.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to refer briefly to another Board which has been established pursuant to the provisions of the Human Rights Act, and that is the Human Rights Commission. Honourable members will note that the funds provided for the Human Rights Commission have been increased reflecting the increase in the work that that body is doing and will be continuing to do, and it also reflects the increase in the number of staff that's required for the comprehensive

(MR. MACKLING cont'd) program that the Human Rights Commission makes provision for.

The Human Rights Commission, Mr. Chairman, not only is established to deal with complaints of individuals arising from discriminatory practice but also is a vehicle for the dissemination of information about the rights of citizens in respect to discriminator practice. In addition, Mr. Chairman, the Human Rights Commission can initiate various endeavours to advance the cause of human rights in Manitoba. The Human Rights Commission in the period to date has, I should say in the fiscal year, has received and investigated approximately 800 complaints. Pardon me, I'm sorry, we anticipate that in the 1972-1973 year approximately 500 complaints will be dealt with by the Human Rights Commission. In 1971 - 72, there were approximately 300 complaints that were received and were examined, upon some of which there have been recommendations and those recommendations have either been responded to or presently in the work and I'm not at liberty to go into some of the details inasmuch as they involve, frankly, Mr. Chairman, some new departures on the part of the government, certainly on the part of the Minister.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to also refer briefly to another of the Boards and Commissions for which I as the Attorney-General have responsibility and that is the Law Reform Commission and this Law Reform Commission in Manitoba again is unique inasmuch as it combines not only members of the legal profession but also lay persons. The Chairman as most honourable members will recall is Mr. Francis Muldoon. Other lawyers on the commission are Mr. Dale Gibson, Mr. Robert Smethurst and Mrs. Myrna Bowman. Lay persons on this Board, Mr. Chairman are Sybil Shack, Dr. Brockway and Mr. Val Werier. This unique Law Reform Commission has been exceedingly busy and has made a number of recommendations to government, some of which have already seen implementation.

At the last session of the Legislature I indicated a concurrent interest on the part of the Law Reform Commission and an honourable member of this House, the Honourable Mr. McBryde, in respect to amendments to the Jury Act; as a consequence of which for the first time, native Indian people living on reserves have been given the right to participate in jury trials, and as a result of that change in the Act they have now participated in fact in the adjudication of the guilt or innocence of an accused person and therefore have established a further return of basic rights to that group of our citizens.

Mr. Chairman, in addition to the projects that have already been considered by the government some of which have been published including the suggestive repeal of the Billiard Pool Room Act, a recommendation for changes in the disposition of builders and workmen's liens, and a discharge recommendation in respect to discharge of maintenance orders in the Land Titles Office. They have also recommended amendments to the Mortgage Act and some of those recommendations will be demonstrated, or at least the results of those recommendations will be demonstrated by particular Acts which I hope to have the privilege of introducing later in this Session.

In addition, Mr. Chairman, the Law Reform Commission has an extensive number of matters under review including administrative procedures, computer selection of sums, contempt of court proceedings, the whole question of family law. And I might here digress for a moment, Mr. Chairman, to indicate that from time to time many people have indicated their concern for the complexity of family law and the apparent duplication in respect to jurisdiction and application of law by various agencies in the whole domestic field. They also have under consideration various provisions - I shouldn't say various provisions - the entire Highway Traffic Act; the question of inter-spousal immunity, the whole question of mechanics' liens and builders and workmen's liens. They also have under consideration the City of Winnipeg Act by reference, as undertaken by the Attorney-General at the last session. Also considerations in respect to the Unconscionable Transactions Act. In brief then, Mr. Chairman, the Law Reform Commission has undertaken a very significant amount of work both by initiative of its own and by reference from government through the Attorney-General.

Mr. Chairman, I would also like to briefly allude to the work of the Crime's Compensation Board. And I pause there for a moment, Mr. Chairman, to indicate that it was always my hope - it was always my understanding and the understanding of my colleague the Minister of Finance to whom I would accord the credit for advancing the need for criminal injuries compensation legislation - it was always our intention that the name for this Board should be the Criminal Injuries Compensation Act. Somehow the name Crimes Compensation Board fell

(MR. MACKLING cont'd) into the drafting, I assume responsibility for not correcting, it's not the kind of name that we want and as a result I hope in the Statute Law Amendment Act, that omnibus act that we will receive later on to make a slight change there. --(Interjection)-- Apparently, Mr. Chairman, we already have support and I'm grateful for it. But the need for the criminal injuries compensation has been abundantly demonstrated in the decisions that have been made by the Board to date, Mr. Chairman. --(Interjection)-- I'll have something to say about that in a moment, Sir. During the fiscal year, the Board heard an extensive number of cases. The total amount of claims that were recognized by awards totalled a monetary sum of \$4,676.48. Since the year end, however, I believe that was the calendar year end, there have been some very substantial awards presented. One in particular, Mr. Chairman, involved the very serious injury to a gentleman arising from a very serious crime, affecting a 71 year old resident of the City of Winnipeg, as a result of which he received a lifetime pension of \$412.50 per month. This award has a capital value of \$36,300.00.

I could go on, Mr. Chairman, and indicate particulars of awards that have been made that mean a great deal in the lives of individual citizens who have been affected by injuries suffered as a result of crimes committed in our Province. It is significant to say, Mr. Chairman, that but for this legislation these individual citizens would have had, and received, no compensation, because the basis of the compensation awards that are made by the Criminal Injuries Compensation are pursuant to the Criminal Injuries Compensation Act, take into consideration and deduct the ordinary Workmen's Compensation, other private insurance compensation benefits that would otherwise be received, so the awards that are made are made to people who but for this legislation wouldn't have been able to receive anything by way of compensation. Mr. Chairman, I think that we all, Members of the Opposition, every member of this house, should feel justifiably proud that we now have a technique whereby innocent victims of criminal acts now can receive a measure of fair compensation.

The Honourable Member for Rhineland asks about Federal participation. Well here, too, I am pleased to note that the Federal Government in the Speech from the Throne, through that speech indicated a concern to make some contribution towards the cost to private citizens of injuries that they have suffered as a result of criminal acts. And I think that is only logical too. Because here again, the Federal Parliament, as I've indicated, has overwhelming jurisdiction in respect to the development of the criminal law, and accordingly should participate in the defence of the law, the prosecution of the law, and, in my opinion, some compensation for the victim of crimes in society. And, here again, I welcome the indication that has been given that the Federal Government will assist to some extent, an extent which has as yet to be determined, some significant aspect of compensation to victims.

MR. JACOB M. FROESE (Rhineland): . . . would I be able to . . .

MR. MACKLING: Well I'll be happy to answer innumerable questions but I would like to complete my overview if I could and perhaps that would be more helpful to the honourable member.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to point out as well, that in respect to the Criminal Injuries Compensation Act, honourable members might from time to time be critical of the number of boards and commissions that are necessary to be established and functioning within the Province of Manitoba. On previous occasions I have indicated my like concern, and as a result of that concern a significant departure was made inasmuch as instead of constituting a new Board to deal with Criminal Injuries Compensation, we passed at the last session of the Legislature amendments to the Workmen's Compensation Act, and provided that claims in respect to criminal injuries could be heard by that body under an appropriate administrative cost arrangement. And I'm happy to say that that system is working out fairly, working out well, and I think we should all be extremely satisfied that that initiative has worked so well, and so basically in the interests of, not only the economy of not having to have a separate administrative apparatus, but having people who are dealing with like problems adjudicating the similar problems in respect to the claims for compensation that are provided under that Act.

In addition, Mr. Chairman, I'd like to touch briefly on the appointment of the Manitoba Police Commission. Inasmuch as the Act establishing the Manitoba Police Commission was passed at the last session of the Legislature, I don't intend to say too much about the need and the rationale for the Commission except to say that the Commission has been appointed; Bertrand Sellner, a Winnipeg lawyer is the Chairman; a former Alderman and Vice-Chairman of the Winnipeg Police Commission, Max Mulder is the Vice-Chairman, and Eleanor Crystal,

(MR. MACKLING cont'd) from Brandon, is the third member of the Commission. They are now making a study, not only of the Act, but of relevant Acts elsewhere, determining the administrative apparatus that is necessary for the work of the Commission and I expect in the near future to be indicating further results of the work of that Commission.

Dealing briefly with the operations of the Lotteries Commission, another Commission for which the Attorney-General is responsible. The Lottery Licensing Board, as distinct from the Manitoba Lotteries Commission, is made up of three persons who have dealt with an enormous number of applications for licenses for lotteries for various charitable organizations; they have issued a total of 116 licenses to date, and I would like to point out that as result of the license fees that are payable in respect to the administration of lottery licensing, the revenues that have been obtained appear to compensate for the cost of the administrative apparatus. And I might say, Mr. Chairman, that it is my intention to shortly indicate in a much more formal and public way a concern for enforcement of the licensing provisions, inasmuch as it is incumbent on any one who intends to operate any form of lottery to obtain a license, a license initially from his local community where the amount of the prize of the lottery involved is \$3,500 or less; or in the event that the prizes exceed that amount to make application to the Provincial Lottery Licensing Board. We have been, and I believe all of the enforcement authorities have been extremely fair, considerate, but there comes a time when perhaps we will become a little more stringent in our application of the law. A law which has had a very difficult application throughout Canada, and as a result of which the Federal Parliament spent many, many hours in consideration of changes to the Gaming Laws, because of the seeming impossibility of enforcement and various provisions of those laws. We established regulations which by and large I think are now appreciated, certainly better understood, and have become effective throughout Manitoba; and the time is drawing near when I say, Mr. Chairman, we will be much more demanding in respect to organization to ensure that they are not only responding to the provisions of the law, but really making an effort to make sure that every organization makes provision for the adequate safeguards that are established by way of the regulations, to ensure not only the protection of the persons who might buy lottery tickets, or attend lotteries, but also the protection that is necessary to the public as a whole to prevent any untoward abuse from those who would make it a matter of their livelihood to engage in this sort of activity. Which also too, indicates the very significant success to date of the Manitoba Lotteries Commission, the Commission that is responsible for the administration and the programming of the Manitoba Sweepstakes.

I think Honourable members have noted the returns that have been publicized to date; the total net revenue from the first two Sweepstakes, for which the Commission has been responsible, has been approximately \$860,000.00, these monies of course paid to the Provincial Treasurer, in trust, however, for recreation and cultural purposes. The operating expenses for 1971-72 were \$497,000.00. The total prizes for the first two Sweepstakes were \$550,800.00. The total monies received by organizations participating in the sale of lottery tickets, and accordingly receiving grants as a result of their having sold successful tickets, total \$1,352,500.00. A significant amount of money that individual organizations were thus able to spend in respect to their individual programmes. --(Interjection)-- \$1,352,500.00.

I would like, Mr. Chairman, to indicate briefly that our land title system has maintained a busy operation during the past year. In 1971, 48,438 titles were issued, and transfers of land and mortgages processed were 67,384. Revenue and fees from the operations of the Land Titles Office amounted to \$1,880,000.00

Mr. Chairman, in respect to the operation of the Courts, in addition to the ongoing programme in the administration of justice there was a substantial further input on the part of the Government of Manitoba in the establishment of a full time Family Court Judge in the Brandon area. Additionally, there has been an increase in the full time legal counsel available in the Western region.

I would like to also comment briefly, Mr. Chairman, in respect to the provision of the County Court dealing with the summary disposition of small claims \$500 or less. There have been an extensive number of claims processed, and I would like to give the honourable members some indication of the scope of that programme. The number of claims received since November 1971 now total more than 850. I might say, Mr. Chairman, that I am satisfied that the majority of these claims would never have been brought before the Court for adjudication had it not been for the simple, efficient, and very inexpensive technique that is employed in the handling of these small claims. These claims are handled not only by the Clerk of the County

(MR. MACKLING cont'd) Court and the Deputy Clerk, but also by Judges of the County Court.

To date the provisions of Part II of the County Court Act have been confined to the City of Winnipeg, but it is our intention as quickly as possible, having satisfied ourselves that the system is not only working well in the interests of all of the people of Manitoba, but it is also in the interests of the people, not only in Metropolitan Winnipeg or City of Winnipeg proper, but the people throughout Manitoba, that such a system be available to them. However, as can be expected, there is a problem of staffing, of training; and it may be yet some little time before the system is available throughout all of Manitoba. But it is certainly our intention to provide for the provision of the summary disposition of small claims throughout Manitoba in its entirety as soon as possible.

I would also indicate, Mr. Chairman, that as the Minister responsible for reporting to the Legislature for the Liquor Control Commission, that the Commission has heard a considerable number of applications for variation of licenses, has dealt with a large number of issues facing the Commission, and, in my opinion, has done an excellent job in the administration of the Liquor Control Act in the year concluding. I think honourable members have had an opportunity to see the Annual Report. There are some aspects of the operations of the Commission, however, that perhaps I might underline or indicate in some further elaboration to you. The Commission considers that their primary policy in licensing is in the fulfillment of their responsibilities to the people of Manitoba and the general public.

The Board and the Commission realize the importance of licensed business people receiving a fair return on their investment. The Commission strives to achieve compatibility in both policies, but where this is not seemingly achievable both the Board and the Commission place the interest of the public as primary.

Mr. Chairman, it is also the policy of the Commission and the Board to provide as much as possible services and facilities for residents of rural Manitoba comparable to those services and facilities available to people in large urban areas. An example of the exercise of this policy is the establishment of self-serve store operations in rural towns such as Daughin, Portage la Prairie, Flin Flon and Brandon and a new self-serve store presently under construction in the Town of Selkirk. --(Interjection)-- Yes, I suppose that after a number of drinks one might use that kind of elaboration. I'll take a drink, maybe that will smooth out the slur, I apologize.

Liberalization of liquor legislation in Manitoba such as the service of spirits in some 225 beverage rooms across the province plus the reduction in the drinking age by virtue of The Age of Majority Act has opened new revenues and increased patronage for licensed premises. The licensed hotel industry in particular has consequently enjoyed two comparatively buoyant business years. In the area of the board and commission responsibilities compatible to the intentions and spirit of the Bracken Liquor Inquiry Commission Report toward providing updated facilities and services in licensed premises to the people of Manitoba, it is to be noted that the commission and the board are in possession of alcoholic beverage sales statistics for each and every licensed premise in that alcoholic beverages are only to be purchased by licensees from the Manitoba Liquor Control Commission. The board and the commission therefore have a good working knowledge of the capabilities of each licensee to fulfill board and commission requirements and with very few exceptions receive co-operation from Manitoba licensees. Some of those exceptions include very old hotels in which the cost of renovation is not considered feasible. Sixteen such hotels have been placed on licenced life limit and during the life limit period are freed from all but basic requirements dealing with fire safety and sanitation. In a few cases, Mr. Chairman, the board and commission are faced with a dilemma of deciding between fire safety protection for hotel residents as against continued service for the people of the area. Licensees have been reminded publicly on a number of occasions including statements made at the Manitoba Hotel Association Conventions, that the commission is always willing to consider special circumstances and licensees have been urged to directly contact the commission for any special consideration they feel that they merit.

Mr. Chairman, in respect to Liquor Commission control of licensed premises, over the past two years the commission has been increasing its emphasis on maintenance of proper control in licensed premises. This has to do especially with violations such as excess service, service of patrons to the point of intoxication, service to already intoxicated persons and admission and/or sales to under-age in beverage rooms and cocktail lounges. There has been a sizeable increase in the number of licence suspensions issued for violations which numbered 25

(MR. MACKLING cont'd) suspensions in the 1970 to '71 period; 14 suspensions in the '69-'70 period and only two suspensions in the '68-'69 period.

Following reports of lack of control in licensed premises from the Northern Task Force early in the calendar year 1970 commission members visited northern communities and held meetings with municipal representatives, educators, clergy, hotel licensees and leaders of native people. Several months ago the commission appointed its first full time resident inspector in the north with offices at The Pas. Commission members have visited many communities in the province for personal observation of licensed premises in these various areas. The action of reducing seats for a period of time at licensed Main Street hotels is a further indication of the responsibilities felt by the commission toward the development of an increasingly mature attitude toward the consumption of alcoholic beverages. Commission Chairman and members met with the various groups of Main Street hotel licensees for fairly full discussions on control problems evident in that area.

Mr. Chairman, the commission hopes to implement this summer study projects in respect to licensed premises control in beverage rooms across Greater Winnipeg and if feasible in certain other areas of the province as well. If negotiations are successful these studies will be conducted by qualified personnel from appropriate faculties of the University of Manitoba.

Mr. Chairman, the new self-serve liquor store located in the Hudson's Bay Store in Winnipeg and opened last November realized commission sales predictions and, for example, carried out more individual transactions in December than any other commission store. And one of the aspects of that operation, Mr. Chairman, which I think is significant, is that in that store operation there is a direct relationship between the sale of alcoholic spirits, liquors, wines and so on and food, and that is completely in keeping with the spirit of the report of the Bracken Commission of Inquiry, that the control and the sale of alcoholic beverages should be such that there should be an encouragement of moderation and a close relationship of the consumption of alcoholic beverage with the consumption of food. I think that the Hudson's Bay Company is to be complimented on the excellence of that facility. Now if that sounds like it's an advertisement or a request for some favours here, it is not.

As I had indicated, Mr. Chairman, a new self-store will be opened on April 3rd at Portage la Prairie and a new self-serve store is slated for opening in Selkirk hopefully late this fall. A study has been completed of conventional stores in rural Manitoba and renovations are under way and soon will be undertaken in commission stores in Russell, Killarney, Beausejour, Morden, Neepawa, Swan River, Virden, Melita and Morris. The Commission is also studying the feasibility of new stores at Pine Falls and Lac du Bonnet. At present there are 44 commission liquor stores, 16 in Winnipeg and 28 in rural Manitoba. Nine stores in Winnipeg are self-serve and there are three self-serve stores outside of Winnipeg. There are 106 liquor vendors in Manitoba at the present time.

Mr. Chairman, these are some of the significant aspects of the operations of the Liquor Control Commission. Honourable members have a complete report. In addition to the concern that the Commission has evidenced in respect to the development of a close association of the consumption of food and alcoholic beverage, I as the Minister responsible to the Legislature have engaged in some dialogue by way of correspondence with representatives of the distillery industry and have urged that their advertising campaigns reflect our concern for moderation in the consumption of alcoholic beverage. I am one of those who is most concerned with the effects of the Intoxicated Persons' Detention Act, and it is a matter of some concern to me --(Interjection)-- I can assure you it's Adam pure. It's a matter of some concern to me that there has to be developed a much more sophisticated treatment for persons who are suffering from alcoholic disease as well as diseases from many other drugs which are addictive in our society.

I wouldn't like to indulge in too long a dissertation about my concerns for the rampant development of drugs of all kinds in our society. It's a sad reflection on our society, Mr. Chairman, that we are facing the onslaught in North America of a greater incidence of crippling addictive drug consumption. The answer to it is not easy. Police forces everywhere despite their utmost efforts indicate that hard line narcotics are ever more present and there seems to be an increasing number of people who commit crimes either as a result of or in need for money to buy narcotics. The question of the legalization of soft drugs, hashish, marijuana, cannabis, is still a continuingly explosive subject matter being given consideration not only in Canada by the LeDain Commission but by commissions in the United States. I can

(MR. MACKLING cont'd) assure you, Mr. Chairman, that people everywhere are concerned with the terrible uncertainty of the effects of the increasing incidence of drugs in our society.

Mr. Chairman, I think that I could say a great deal more but I think honourable members would appreciate it if I said a great deal less. I have in the moments that I've taken with you tried to touch on the highlights of the significant changes in the department, its operations and programs and I'll be delighted - and I say that sincerely, Mr. Chairman - to endeavour to the best of my ability to deal with the questions the honourable members wish to pose either under the first resolution or during the course of the subsequent resolutions that are put. Thank you.

. . . . continued on next page

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Swan River.

MR. JAMES H. BILTON (Swan River): Mr. Chairman, I thank the Honourable the Attorney-General for his extensive review of his department but I must say in all sincerity that a cursory glance at the estimates that are before us that we are somewhat concerned that there is an increase of some \$2 million.

I notice with interest, too, that he spoke of the association with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and he praised them for their efforts throughout the province and went on to say that he was quite happy with the services received. I notice with interest that he said whilst that item is increased it's because of the increase of the RCMP in their normal costs and the possible addition of additional men in areas. I take it this is in rural Manitoba and particularly in remote areas. This is something I've looked forward to seeing for some considerable time.

He spoke on increased costs for legal aid. We in our Party are fully in agreement with what he had to say but we wonder if the increased costs have been based on experience. He did not give us any opinion as to the number of cases that might have been handled last year that would warrant the large increase this year.

He spoke extensively also, Mr. Chairman, on the matter of human rights, and here again we are disturbed with an increase from \$78,000 to \$248,000.00. He gave examples of injustices that have been taken care of and these we applaud. It's a situation that has long been overlooked as he said and something worthwhile. But why he should require this enormous amount of money for an anticipated 200 cases over the 300 that have been handled is a question that we would like him to answer in due course.

He spoke of law reform and I was very pleased to hear his comments with regard to Indians now serving on juries, another matter that is long overlooked and we applaud. The Crime Compensation Board, his words in that respect were well worth hearing today but I noticed that last year some \$27,000 were dispensed and he's anticipating spending \$85,000 this year and I wonder if the Minister is anticipating that crime will increase to the extent that it will require this amount of public funds to compensate those that may be injured.

The Police Commission, I spoke extensively on it last year and he knows my feelings in that respect. And here again, Mr. Chairman, there's an increase from 28,000 to some 57,000. I'd like him to tell us why this increase is brought about, what is he anticipating and just what did this commission do during the past year. Did it hold any investigations, civil or with the RCMP?

The Lottery Commission. He gave us a good report on that and I think my party generally would appreciate what he had to say. But in speaking to this item last year, Mr. Chairman, I commented that restrictions would ultimately come and he has promised us today that those restrictions will come. They are going to be expanded, and as I said then and I'll say again, that it seems to me that this could be very restrictive and hampering of local organizations, associations that raise funds for public service and public service only.

Item number 26 under Law Courts. Here again in every respect we see an increase. I appreciated his opinion in the upgrading of hotels in order that better services may be given but he and I have discussed hotels in my area and I would ask in all sincerity that those in remote areas where the lodging income is so limited that the inspectors take everything into consideration and give these people who are giving a service to the public generally a feeling of security.

I also, Mr. Chairman, appreciated his opinion in the matter of drugs as they're affecting the province; and I appreciate his thoughts that it seems that they are on the increase in their use. I would urge him to diligently follow through on this matter, in the interest and protection of our people generally. He spoke of oncoming legislation with regard to soft drugs on a Federal level. I would urge on behalf of my colleagues that this be approached with care and that under no circumstances must any indication be given from a legislative point of view that encouragement is going to be given to those who would create misery amongst people unknowingly.

There are other items, too, Mr. Chairman. We had quite a discussion in this House last year with regard to some four bills who are known as the "snooper" bills. In particular I am thinking of the Personal Investigation Act, the Landlord and Tenants Act and the others. I'd like the Attorney-General at his convenience to tell the House how many seizures of books have taken place during the past twelve months.

(MR. BILTON cont'd)

I have spoken to the Attorney-General privately as to my opinion with regard to the appointment of peace officers of native extraction on reserves. I would ask him in all sincerity to give that serious consideration with a view to assisting these people in remote areas when wrongdoing takes place. I wonder, too, what program he may have in mind with regard to developing better public relations between the police and society. The word "pig" is now becoming quite prevalent, particularly with our young people, and it seems to me to be out of place and uncalled for. I would suggest to the Attorney-General that people must realize that a police officer is a person dedicated to work and if society and government - and I repeat, government - don't see fit to protect him, then he will protect himself by avoiding the problems in his work.

Mr. Chairman, one further word on that subject. I would like to emphasize that it is important to say that the public may possibly receive less protection service from the police if the police themselves are receiving less protection from the laws, and I would ask the Attorney-General in all sincerity to find some way somehow to get on side with the police when situations develop that there is some doubt as to what they're attempting to do in their endeavours to protect society generally.

We have an Order for Return, I'm not going to dwell on that, that has to do with the Statutes, and I would take this opportunity to explain to the Attorney-General that what we want to know is why the delay between the adoption of the statutes in the House and their delivery some 14 or 18 months later?

I was surprised somewhat at the Attorney-General or the First Minister when action was taken in Ottawa to eliminate the word R. C. M. P. or the crest from the doors of the cars. I mentioned it in my Throne Speech debate and I'm sure had the First Minister or the Attorney-General for that matter, when the matter was being discussed, had reminded Ottawa that the Royal Canadian Mounted Police have a corner in the history of western Canada and the people young and old alike know what the Royal Canadian Mounted Police crest is about, and in no way in the Province of Manitoba should it be removed from those cars.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Point of privilege been raised? The Honourable First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: I believe it's a point of privilege, Mr. Chairman, when an honourable member opposite calls into question the solicitude of any Minister of the Crown for the Monarchy. There's been no suggestion whatsoever at any time that we have other than a solicitude for the Monarchy and the Member for Swan River above all other persons should be aware of that. He knows full well, Mr. Chairman, that there is nothing within our provincial jurisdictional competence that can in any way influence the decision made by the Government of Canada with respect to that question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think the point is well taken. The Honourable Member for Swan River.

MR. BILTON: I don't question the opinion of the First Minister, but it is one of those things, Sir, that the official approach is not entirely the thing that I am looking for but rather the reaction of the people generally throughout the province, whom you are the chief spokesman for, would have applauded anything, any comment insofar as this is concerned or the Royal prerogative in any direction is concerned. --(Interjection)-- Oh yes, I am, you bet. However, Mr. Chairman, I wasn't going to mention that because of the fact that I have been associated with that Force and it will be celebrating its 100th Anniversary in 1973 and I want to assure the House that I will be amongst the old boys out in Vancouver at that time.

Having said these few words, Mr. Chairman, I thank you for your indulgence. My colleagues of course will be questioning the Attorney-General as we proceed through the Estimates. I must say in all sincerity that he gave us a good explanation as to what it was all about but we are determined to suggest to him that he can still cut out some fat and that the \$2 million increase in his department in our humble opinion is unnecessary.

There is just one other item, Mr. Chairman, before I sit down. I would ask the Attorney-General what has happened to the legislation that was proposed in recent times with regard to the security of tenure of the magistrates throughout the Province of Manitoba. We all know that the Attorney-General through his jurisdiction has full responsibility for these offices and he can hire and fire as he feels so inclined. Is there any consideration being given to resurrect that legislation with the view to giving security of tenure of office? Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Churchill.

MR. BEARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe the Minister is right when he stressed that he had quite a wide ranging department now. You can almost talk on anything when you get up to speak on the Attorney-General's Department, but probably drugs and alcoholism are two of the things that seem to be getting a great deal of publicity today and as we watch from year to year and day to day on the changing attitudes toward drugs what we should be doing and what we shouldn't be doing, it seems to become more and more to mind the fact that really we're not getting a cure for the problem by deciding whether somebody should have a year or two years in jail or how they should be punished for either taking the drug or selling it, because that is not the answer. One person can smuggle in a million or two million dollars worth of the product and can do all the harm that is necessary or undo all the good work that a good police department can do over many months. --(Interjection)-- There's nothing coming into Churchill and if the Federal Government keep on with their present programming, nothing will come in during the summer either, I suppose. No, as far as I understand there has nothing at any time every come through in the summertime on a serious nature. But I do feel - we have to get at the root of the problem and certainly we can't as a province; it's a worldwide problem and really I think you've got to go to those countries that are producing the product, that are farming it, and I think that there will have to be economic pressure put on those producing countries, and today, where we have hover-crafts etc. I see no reason why a country cannot police the farmers within its own jurisdiction. I do not see why in the worldwide financing and the banks that we have today we cannot give those countries incentives to stop growing drugs in their countries.

I'm sure that if we can pay farmers to stop growing grain and food in the United States and Canada and some of the other countries of the world, there's no reason why we can't pay them to stop growing drugs in those drug-producing countries and there's not that many. I am sure that there are not that many farmers really involved nor is there that much money involved in the prime product, and if the primary producer is in fact stopped from growing that product then we'll all save money and we could all afford today to contribute toward a worldwide bank that would in fact stop those countries and those farmers from having to produce that type of a drug. And while I suppose we could stand here and discuss that for years and not really be able to bring any pressure to bear on United Nations in respect to this, I think it has to be said and has to be said over and over again by many people and perhaps we can get together as nations of the world and do some good for a change rather than to fight about many other things that we get together to do every once in a while.

And out of all this comes the very fact that while drugs are serious, still alcoholism and alcohol is worse still and it's amazing where you find that when they're talking about alcoholism they are now admitting that with more consumption of alcohol in the country, we find that there is more alcoholism, and we had thought that perhaps with the wider use of alcohol that perhaps we would cut down alcoholism in some way or shape or form. And I guess it isn't going to work out that way.

I don't change my attitude toward it, I think that we have to broaden our thinking and our laws to accept alcohol as part of a way of life, there is no hiding from it, but unfortunately, along with that we accept the disease that comes with it. And what do you do about that? Unfortunately there are different attacks to it. I did read one in the Free Press last night where on the editorial page they decided that the real answer was to raise the price of liquor and beer, and I thought either how stupid was the editorial writer or how wise is the Member for Churchill I don't know which it was but I wonder. I think he must have been a bootlegger, because if you're going to raise the price of liquor to an excessive price then you're going to drive the person to the bootlegger and then of course the government doesn't get their fair cut and we depend upon that revenue for many things. Then of course you get, again, more drinking and more alcoholism. I don't believe in cutting the price, I think that you've got to keep it to the point where people have to realize that it costs money to drink.

Now I realize that anybody that's caught up in it doesn't really care what it costs whether if you doubled the price those same people would still be giving up everything else to drink. But they're the people that fall under the name of alcohol, alcoholics, I suppose, in one form or another. I believe that if there is an answer to this then I say that we'll have to add to this a tax, perhaps an additional tax for alcoholism and I would quite frankly support an additional tax at any time for education and additional help for alcoholism. While there will be members saying why not take part of the profits that we do have now. We can do that but if you take away

(MR. BEARD cont'd) the profit that is there, you're going to have to raise taxes some other way. If there is a growing alcoholism, then I think that people have to pay for the problem that they are creating themselves. Because it isn't the teetotler that becomes the alcoholic, it's the person that is drinking and if they can't overcome the alcohol then they become alcoholics. And to become an alcoholic you've got to start to drink so you may as well start paying for it when you start drinking and then you've built up the kitty and the insurance fund that will look after you when you reach that stage of becoming an alcoholic and a drag on the public purse. So perhaps we should start to look at it and start to bring those that are involved in the alcoholic programs back in, AA programs back in, and say to them, really what do you want for funds. What do you anticipate you're going to need in the future, because we all know that what we're giving them is really peanuts for what they need. If we're going to really get out and have a good program for alcoholism, then I think we're going to have to have money because that's what they're going to ask for, and if they're going to ask for it then we have to find that money, and I don't think that it's necessarily should we go to those that are not involved in alcohol themselves for that money, I think we should go to those that are drinking and say, "you are a part of all this problem and you are the ones who are going to pay for it". And probably if government could sit down with AA people and bring forward a good program over the next two or three years, for the next two or three years rather, then I think maybe they could come up with something that would be constructive. You know what you can approximately expect over the next two or three years as far as revenues are concerned. I don't think the Hotel Association, I don't think the breweries, I don't think the wineries, or anybody involved in either the manufacture of spirits, or the retail of spirits, can really fight the fact that we have to support those that are caught up in alcoholism. And I think that all could get together, those that produce the alcohol and profit from the sale of alcohol; those that are caught up with the problem of alcoholism and the government, the ones that are in the middle. Then I believe that you would have a program that would be reasonably satisfactory, come out with a good approach, modern approach towards looking after those that have fallen off the wagon and possibly lick this, or go a long way towards beating this problem that is a growing one and certainly is accepted by all apparent committees that look into drugs as being a serious one, more serious than the drug problem itself.

Now I'll quickly pass along, Mr. Chairman, to minimum security as far as northern Manitoba is concerned. My thoughts go back to the Honourable Stewart McLean at the time when he was the Attorney-General and while it's no reflection on our present Attorney-General, I thought of Mr. McLean as one of the finer Attorney-Generals. He had quite high principles and he had looked towards this minimum security law as one that would help in the north to look after the problem of drinking and the problem that the Indian people had in having to go to jail, and the fact that there was such a high percentage of people in jail that were of Indian ancestry, and that really there -- while there were so many of them in jail, it was not of a serious, really serious nature. And now with our new look at the laws and the reasons for dealing out sentences I think you'll find that people in general are saying, should they be in jail themselves? And I believe that if we would look more to this minimum security program in the north -- we've got the law that would allow us to go ahead with the program; we've got the areas such as Thompson, Gillam, and Churchill, and it would be a wonderful idea if we could get these people located in these areas so that there would be a minimum security program that would allow them to be working during the day, producing the needed dollars that would look after their families. There would be a deduction to look after themselves, and they would be in fact pretty well self-sustaining rather than the figure that I heard the other day of, was it \$10,000 a year cost?

MR. MACKLING: I hesitate to interrupt the Honourable Member from Churchill but I appreciate the fact that maybe I ought to because the particular references he was making involve a program for which I am not responsible. I certainly could convey his views to my colleague, the Honourable Minister of Health and Social Development, but perhaps he would far rather direct them directly to him. I'll certainly convey what he has already indicated to me.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Churchill.

MR. BEARD: I'm sorry, Mr. Chairman, I won't go any further into that because there's no reason for repetition in here. We do it enough without consciously doing these things. So with that I think the Attorney-General has pretty well cut down my program on his department and I'll sit down and let somebody else take over from here. Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

MR. PATRICK: Mr. Chairman, I listened to the Attorney-General and I know that he was patting the government on the back for bringing in many commissions and boards, and I know that I voted for all of them, and I would agree that some of these are probably functioning properly, for instance the Crime Injuries Compensations Board, I couldn't agree more with it. I would like to hear from the Honourable Attorney-General to see how many compensations have been made and how many people have been affected in the last year since the legislation came into effect. I will cover some of the other boards later but you also realize, Mr. Chairman, that last year we made many amendments to The Liquor Control Act such as permits on Sundays for special things like fairs, and so on. There were also for rodeos and dining room liquor facilities to a club which previously were not allowed to hold. I would like to ask him how effective and how well are these changes working. But again, Mr. Speaker, I know that we are allowed to serve cocktails in beer parlors and the dining room facilities are now serving underage people, even under 18 in the presence of a parent. I know there were many changes and I would like to ask the Attorney-General just how well are these changes are working out? Is there some problems in any areas? I would like to . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. MACKLING: Mr. Chairman, I just want to correct the record. I'm sure that the honourable member did not want to indicate that underage children were being served merely in the presence of their parents, it's only at the request of the parents.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Assiniboia.

MR. PATRICK: I understand that, Mr. Chairman, but really, Mr. Chairman, in perusing both the Attorney-General's estimates and the Throne Speech I can't help but notice the inconsistency between the NDP theory and practice. On one hand the government in the Throne Speech speaks of a time when our democratic institutions are called upon to solve many problems of social and economic inequities to a far greater extent than was ever the case of years gone by. That's exactly -- it's a quote, it's taken out of the Throne Speech. Yet the Attorney-General's estimates hardly reflect this government's desire to eliminate these inequities. I think this government is prepared to rely on certain boards and good public relations rather than real deed and it is the people whom this government has always professed to represent and in my opinion I feel these people in many instances are neglected.

Its remedies of solving the problem of juvenile delinquency in my opinion is more concerned in censorship of movies than really the upgrading of the juvenile courts, Mr. Chairman. Its newly formed legal aid services society cited by the Attorney-General as the most progressive in the country receives only \$250,000 more than it received last year; and probably the most important courts in this province, the Magistrates Court and the Family Court in my opinion are given token increases with which to carry on their duties. We must direct ourselves to these people's courts and the assistance this government is prepared to give to the lower and the middle classes, Mr. Chairman. These estimates in my opinion do little to reflect the government intentions of breaking down the fact of there being a law for the rich and a law for the poor.

I would like to ask the Attorney-General, perhaps he can produce to the House the number of juvenile transfer applications to adult court. What was the increase over one year ago of transfer applications which are usually made when the probation efforts and the efforts of the juvenile court are exhausted? And if there is many of these transfers taking place, Mr. Chairman, in my belief it is an admission of defeat that there is a problem as far as sending the juveniles to the adult court. And what happens in the adult court, it's certainly an incarceration and I think that somewhere that we're not doing the work or the job that this government and this House should be doing if this is what's taking place.

I would like to know what positive steps is the government taking and what programs that it is undertaking to assist the youngsters and the young people to try and help them and reduce the juvenile delinquency. I think that we're spending very little as far as preventative measures are concerned, but we all know it's very expensive when we get into correction measures.

In my opinion, Mr. Speaker, I think that we are to some extent disgraced by an out-moded family court, and I think that perhaps one good thing that the government has done is to appoint a present senior family court judge some few years ago - probably a year and a half or two years ago. But really I think to find out if it's successful or not let's find out how many transfers there is from the juvenile courts to the adult courts and this in itself will be an indication to see how successful the juvenile courts and the preventative measures are in this

(MR. PATRICK cont'd) province.

Mr. Chairman, the dockets in the Winnipeg Family Court attest to the fact that there are problems and in my opinion this is a people's court. It is the lower income groups who must suffer as a result of the lack of ideas coming forth from this government. It now takes more than two months for a woman seeking a separation to get into the family court. Meanwhile she must live in constant daily fear from beatings from her husband because of the community police who quite often refuse to interfere in domestic matters. And when the family does get into the family court further delays destroy her faith in the judicial system.

Mr. Speaker, the other question I would like to ask is how can two courts at the Fort Osborne complex handle the bulky caseload that we have even at the present time. I think even if the Attorney-General builds additional courtrooms what is there in the government's program to insure that proper administration will facilitate the remedies that should be forthcoming from this government. I think that the Attorney-General should also give consideration to a thorough review of rules governing the family court to give a more proper interim relief to the deserted wives.

The second point - and it has been a concern I know to many - I would like the Attorney-General to tell the House how many Crown prosecutors have left the government, or his department, in the last couple of years. And how many - I'm not blaming it on the government at all, I'm saying because of the system - and how many have any seniority of say five or six years or seven. There must be a problem there since for some unknown reason they don't happen to stay there too long, Mr. Speaker. —(Interjection)— Well if that's the case then I - one honourable member said they're probably making more money outside and if that's the case then perhaps they should be paid the proper amount.

MR. CHERNIACK: Increase the cost of the civil service.

MR. PATRICK: Well if crown prosecutors need more money I think that they -- and if they raise a problem where they don't stay for any length of time and there's a real problem in that area, then I think that certainly this is -- if that's the only problem then that consideration should be given, and I'm sure that everyone in this House would attest to that.

Mr. Chairman, is it not also true that it takes at least two to three months to have a case heard in the Magistrate's Court? And to me this is hardly speedy justice. And I think that this government, and I heard the Minister just a minute ago talk at some length about legal aid, that it's functioning quite well, and it's working real good and I would like to ask him -- I know that this government - we base it on its Legal Aid Services Society Act and the report of the Attorney-General's fact-finding committee which - it recommended at least a \$1.3 million to effectively carry out a comprehensive legal aid scheme. And, Mr. Chairman, the estimates in my opinion certainly does not reflect that amount at all, not anywhere near. I know that the Federal Government has announced its program as well and I would like to ask the Minister, is he in the process of receiving or will he be receiving any amount of money from the Federal Government to supplement this figure that we have in the estimates? So, Mr. Chairman, if many of our people - and I'm talking about people with serious problems, break up in marriages, people in the low income scale -- if they have to wait for two to three months I don't think that we should be very much satisfied as far as our court systems are concerned and I think that the Attorney-General has a big job on his hands to improve the situation.

Mr. Chairman, on a different point completely I know that the Minister has talked about the Liquor Control Commission and the other day one of the other members in the House has also brought this to his attention, and I'm somewhat concerned. I understand the commission at the present time if you sell a business or you sell a hotel and you have not been in there for five years you cannot go and get a licence if you purchase another premises and there are people right now in this province waiting with probably \$200,000 or a quarter of a million dollars investment to invest money in a different venture but the Liquor Commission says you can't get a licence because you just sold your hotel three years ago and you haven't been in there for a five-year-term which you should stay in. And what will happen, what's happening -- and I see the First Minister is interested -- what is really happening, some of these people are taking this money out of this province and going elsewhere because they are able to do this in a province like Alberta; they're able to do this in some of the other provinces, and still I think there's perhaps, there may be some cases, isolated cases, that this shouldn't happen but I think if, with a reason . . .

MR. SCHREYER: Are they hotel keepers or capital gainers, what's their occupation?

MR. PATRICK: Well to me it doesn't make - what's the difference between a capital gainer? Just because a man made \$10,000 or \$20,000 on a hotel that he'd stay there for 20 years. He improved the business, immediately this is what the First Minister feels he shouldn't get a license to get another one because he's gained a few thousand dollars of capital gain. I don't believe that he's really sincere, that this is what he's saying that they should not get a license or should not be able to purchase another business because they picked up a capital gain, a few thousand dollars. I'm sure that this is not what he means. But that's apparently what the First Minister is telling the people of Manitoba, look, if you make a capital gain, don't try to get in a different business in this province because we won't let you and I think it's wrong.

Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the Attorney-General has - I missed about five minutes of his remarks at the end of his speech, I was here most of the time but has he said anything with respect to rehabilitation and I know that the percentage is not comforting to any of us to see the number of native people that we have incarcerated. And I feel that it's time that we have taken steps to ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. MACKLING: Mr. Chairman, again I would be delighted to hear the honourable member give his earnest views in respect to rehabilitation but I am not the Minister responsible and I think that I would again have to convey to my colleague the Minister of Health and Social Development your arguments and I would rather that you did that during the course of his estimates.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

MR. PATRICK: I thank the Attorney-General but, Mr. Chairman, that's the point I raise, I don't think the program is working. Perhaps, maybe the whole program should be under your department so that you can co-ordinate it better and perhaps, I think, that we would have better success because it's not working at the present time because the facts speak for themselves.

Mr. Chairman, I just got another point, one more point, and has the government purchased the old Grace Hospital for a detoxic centre or has it not or has it given any consideration in that area? I think there's a crying need and I did not hear the Minister say anything in this area at all so perhaps he can explain to us what is the government's intentions in this area.

Mr. Chairman, these are some of the points that I wanted to bring to the attention of the Attorney-General and I have more which I will be bringing on specific items as we proceed in the estimates.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I too wish to bring some matters to the Honourable Minister's attention, and I do hope the Minister is listening. First of all I would like to congratulate him on his introductory remarks. I thought they were good and I appreciate hearing from him, probably more so because we're not getting departmental reports on the department and I think this should be done. We've done it in past years. We received a report from the Attorney-General's Department and, if I'm correct, we're no longer getting it, and this government is failing in that respect. --(Interjection)-- Pardon?

MR. SCHREYER: I thought you were being too kind, I can see you're not.

MR. FROESE: Because if we did have a proper report before us we could then go over some of these items that he has mentioned and give a little more study to them at a time. However, as stated I wish to comment on certain aspects of what he did say, and also probably bring forth some matters that were not mentioned.

He reported on crime compensation, and here again I am in full support of this program that where injuries are sustained, are made, that people be compensated. Recently, I think I read correctly, when the Federal Government announced a program of a similar nature, just how this will dovetail into the provincial one, I don't know at this time. Maybe the Minister can tell us, and whether we are going to be responsible for certain provincial injuries, and whether the Federal Government is going to be responsible for those coming under the criminal code, perhaps he could tell us more about that.

I think the Honourable Member for Swan River touched on the matter of the police and the Minister reported on the Police Commission. I don't have any griefs or any beefs on this except that I think, too, that we should be in full support of our police here in this province. Don't let them down. I think this is our obligation as a Legislature, as a body that is making the laws of this province and we should stand behind them.

The matter of capital punishment doesn't come under the jurisdiction of the provincial

(MR. FROESE cont'd) Legislature but I think this has a lot to do with the situation that we are getting into in Canada and I would be in support of capital punishment. I am in support of it. I know that a good number of the NDP will not support this, at least they didn't when they were on this side of the House. I haven't heard them speak on it since they came over to the other side and maybe the Attorney-General could give us his views on this matter. I don't know whether I should go into this matter any more at this time. Probably after I've heard the government's view on it, I will then react.

MR. CHERNIACK: Why do you favour it?

MR. FROESE: On the matter of the Human Rights Commission: here I had great hopes for this Commission. I don't feel that this Commission is effectual. It's ineffectual in my opinion because from what I've heard of it and what has happened, I don't have the confidence in the Commission that I had in the legislation when it was brought forward, and I don't know what it is. Is it the personnel, or is it due to the legislation itself? But certainly I have great doubts about it at this time, whether it is really working.

I would also like to refer to the matter of the Land Acquisition Branch, and here I want to tell the Minister that I've been contacted by a number of people requesting payment and asking me why this slowness, why the delay in paying for properties that the government has taken over, especially in connection with the matters coming under the jurisdiction of the Minister of Mines and Natural Resources in regard to drainage? I feel that we should make every attempt that settlements are made and that they don't drag out for years and some of these are several years old by now.

On the land value appraisal - what do they call it? Commission - yes, they call it a commission here. I just wonder what is the practice? Are we employing people who have had a number of years experience, or are we engaging young people just out of high school, or for that matter out of university? I think we should have people with practical experience to avoid unnecessary difficulties. And to what extent is this commission being used? Is the Federal Government relying on our provincial appraisers, and are the appraisals made by the Provincial Government? Are they being used by the Federal Government when it comes to estates, settling of estates? This is something I would like to know because having had dealt with some estates and the problems connected with it, and some of the appraisals made, I certainly took exception to what was being done.

On the matter of the estates for the mentally incompetent, it used to be that we did get some kind of report on this. How many cases do we have at present? How many estates are presently administered under the mentally incompetent section? How many trustees have we acting for the government? And would the Minister provide us with an accounting as to both the number and also the money involved and so on. How many have been cleared up during the last year, or last several years, so that we have a better idea as to what is going on in this area?

In connection with the Legislative Counsel for which we are budgeting some money. We know that Legislative Counsel is in the preparation of the regulations but I am sure there must be other monies allocated to this department, or this area in the department, which prepares legislation for the current session and so on. And in what respect, or to what degree have private members got a right to go to legal counsel for assistance in drafting private bills? I would like to get some clarification on this. I would like to in certain cases go to him and ask for assistance or ask for help. But I am not sure whether it is proper for me to do so and whether he is there just for the government, or is he there for the Opposition as well when it comes to the preparation of legislation and bills.

I was interested to hear the Minister giving a report on the lotteries and on the amount of money that had been collected and so on. In my opinion, this money needn't all be used for sports purposes. I feel that we have other areas where we can put some of that money to use. This way the money is going to go for the young people only and whereas, probably, many older people invest money in it and so that, not necessarily all the money should go towards sports but I think the bulk of it is going towards sports in my opinion. If that is not the case, I would like to hear from the Minister on it.

Coming to the Liquor Commission and here I think a case could be made actually for Crown corporations. This is I think the only one where we have a government body that is really making a profit. —(Interjection)— The Member for Swan River says, excessive profits. In fact, I would like to visit those offices some day, and I think the Minister should provide for

(MR. FROESE cont'd) this so that we should as members should see the offices because look what they spent on improvements, improvements under Schedule 8 for leased premises, \$140,000.00. This is all spent in one year. And then for furnishing and fixtures another \$157,000. Almost \$300,000 expenditures which are written off in a single year for improvements. And I would like to know where these improvements are, and just what we are doing, and whether they are warranted or not. I don't mind if the Chairman of the Commission has a decent office, certainly after all being chairman of a business that produces a \$30 million profit, he should probably have a good office. --(Interjection)-- Then like last year, we wrote off fixed assets of \$207,000, this was on land. Just how much are we owning as government, in assets, presently being used by the Liquor Commission for which no showing is made except the one dollar. I think it would be worthwhile to have that in the report, even though it is shown as one dollar in the report, just how much we do have in fixed assets that have been written off over the years.

I note that there is a \$2 million increase in excise and custom duty which represents roughly 8 percent over the previous year. How come there is this large increase? Are we importing more of the spirits or products that are being sold, or are there increases in duties that were made recently or what is the reason for this?

Then I notice that inventories increase 20 percent over the previous years. They rose from 3.3 million to 3.9 million. What is the reason for this? Certainly the increased sales I don't think would warrant that large increase in inventory. Certainly there may be a valid reason for this but I think if there is one then we should know because if you have too large an inventory, naturally this will reduce your profits.

So let's get the facts on it. I notice the gross profit is 33 percent, \$31.5 million out of a turnover of \$93.5 million. This is a real large net profit. Are we not overcharging those people that probably are in dire need, that are already bothered by this habit of drinking. Should we just aggravate the situation by increasing taxes on them?

A MEMBER: It's a bad situation all right Jake.

MR. FROESE: I just wonder what the government's feeling is on this, whether they think that such large measures of taxation is really warranted. I thought you people when you first came to office you prided yourself as being the champion of the small man.

MR. ENNS: They're the biggest capitalists of them all.

MR. FROESE: Here you're charging them these terrific rate of profit on liquor. That's terrible. I'd like to see the Member for Thompson get up and give us a speech on this. I would like to know from him just what his feelings are in connection with the profits of the Liquor Commission.

MR. JOSEPH P. BOROWSKI (Thompson): Hey Jake, I'm like Bennett I'm against drinking and smoking.

MR. FROESE: But to top it off, Mr. Chairman, I find that there were automobiles written off last year of \$321,000.00. None for this year. What is the government's policy in connection with write-offs? Is that the policy for all automobiles that the government owns? Do you write them all off every year as they are being purchased? Or do we have differentiating policy for the Liquor Commission as that of the general policy of the government? I would like to hear from the Minister on this, what the situation is and whether this is warranted.

I noted from the interim financial statement received by the Minister of Finance the other day that we have revenues received of \$28 million at the end of the calendar year in the Attorney-General's Department. We had \$4 million expense. Is this mainly Liquor Commission revenue? If that's the case maybe he could tell us so, because this would give us some idea as to how the Liquor Commission was performing in the current year which is for the first time that we have a statement on record of this kind. After all these years of prodding that I have done to this government, and the previous government, I finally got an interim financial statement on operations. --(Interjection)-- Pardon?

MR. BOROWSKI: Real people's Minister.

MR. FROESE: But I have done a lot of prodding over all these years in order to get it. So, Mr. Chairman, with these few remarks at this time I would like to hear the Minister's reply on the information I requested and I will have some further comments later.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Winnipeg Centre.

MR. J. R. (BUD) BOYCE (Winnipeg Centre): Mr. Chairman, there's a few brief remarks I would like to make at this time. I know that as the Attorney-General pointed out there is an overlap of the jurisdiction of the two departments, Health and Social Development and the

(MR. BOYCE cont'd) Attorney-General's Department.

I'd like to preface my remarks by saying that this is not a criticism of the operation of the Attorney-General's Department nor a criticism of the Chairman of the Liquor Control Commission, but I would just like to point out a few salient points, at least salient in my mind, especially with a couple of points that were raised, one by the Member for Rhineland and one by the Member for Churchill. When we're talking about, you know, the profits made on the sale of liquor in the Province of Manitoba I would like my colleagues to consider the fact that perhaps it is a fictitious profit. Now there's no Canadian figures available but some, what I would consider intensive research done in the United States, they figure the total social cost relative to the sale of alcohol costs the American people \$15 billion a year. If you transfer this over -- which is a bad technique but nevertheless just for convenience sake -- if you transfer this over to our population it means about \$1.5 billion a year in total social costs for the Canadian nation. So that really perhaps we're not making any money at all on the sale of alcohol.

I said a couple of years ago that -- I said it facetiously at the time but nevertheless I said it because I feel it is true -- that if we built beer troughs down Portage Avenue I wouldn't object to it, but I would object to people convincing other people that they have to drink it. And really what I'd like to ask my colleagues in the House to consider is this: that, you know, if all we needed was laws to make people moral then perhaps Moses first ten would be all we needed and they should be more relevant today than perhaps they are.

So that when we get into the realm of curing social ills through the operation of the law I would suggest that perhaps it should be not so much in the Attorney-General's Department as perhaps in the Department of Health and Social Development. I feel it necessary to rise at this time and make a slight contribution or hopefully a slight contribution to the consideration of this matter because another hat I wear is I'm a member of the Board of Directors of the Alcoholism Foundation of Manitoba and this is the agency that is established by law to deal with the matters that we're talking about at the present time. And perhaps the best place to deal with it extensively is under the estimates of the Department of Health and Social Development, but nevertheless because of the remarks that the Attorney-General has made, and others have made, I would like to just point out that in my estimation some of the suggestions that are being made are more or less not intentionally perhaps but they are criticisms of the Alcoholism Foundation per se. It is my opinion, and of course I'm not speaking at this particular time for the Board, this is the prerogative of the Chair. But nevertheless because of our population -- we only have a million people in the province and really we haven't got the resources to carry out the investigations that perhaps -- not perhaps, but are better done by other jurisdictions.

It was the decision of the Board and one that I was party to that this would be a year of more or less hold the line in dealing with alcoholism and awaiting the investigations, the results of investigations in other jurisdictions, and specifically in the LeDain Commission Report. Now I really don't want to get into, you know, what the Board's recommendations to the Legislature will be. Statutorily they are required to file with the House a report, which doubtless they will comply with. I'm informed by the Minister that the report if available. --(Interjection)-- Now due? Oh excuse. Maybe I better get on with it. But I would just mention that so that perhaps, you know when we're discussing this relative to the Attorney-General's Department that we keep in mind that there are agencies charged with the responsibility and if we have some constructive criticisms from to make perhaps they should be made relative to that department.

But as was raised by the Member for Swan River, you know the first criticism we get from the Opposition is in the amount of money spent relative to something else; I'm not saying this as a criticism of the member, but really you know when we're talking about programs and programs with people, you know this is what we're talking about, it seems odd that, you know, we get pressure from the other side that we're not doing enough and the first criticism we get is that we're spending too much money, we're enlarging the civil service and all the rest of it, so there seems to be some conflict there.

But just one brief point I would like to mention relative to the use of the law for social problems. The legal profession in our country gave up in trying to define a drunk. The medical profession in our country gave up in trying to define a drunk. They turned to the technician, they turned to the technicians and the chemists to devise a machine which would establish a criterion of when a man is drunk. But nevertheless in the law we write -- "that if a person sells alcohol to an intoxicated person they are guilty of breaking the law". It seems to me a strange situation where our most highly trained professional people in our society cannot define a drunk,

(MR. BOYCE cont'd) but yet we as legislators turn around and charge a beer waiter with the responsibility of defining a drunk. And because we have charged him with this responsibility we say that the people who are licensed to operate - and licensed to operate in my mind means operating a legal business - so the law should operate to those operators of that legal business in the same way that it would operate relative to any citizen in society; that if there's rights in our laws to protect the citizen then there should be the same provisions for the protection of the individuals who are operating a legal business.

I would just like to point this out to you at this time, and I would repeat just before I sit down, that if every person in this country, every person in our province and every person in this House devoted as much time to the solution of the problems not only in their immediate jurisdiction or in the jurisdiction that impinge upon that jurisdiction as the Attorney-General of this province does, we would be much better off.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, I wish to address myself to the estimates presented by the Attorney-General for a moment or two but I intend to be brief, Sir. I would like to commend the Attorney-General for the stewardship of his department and I would like to stress that we on our parts here in the Progressive Conservative opposition recognize the importance of the services of his office, and anything that we say during the consideration of his estimates will be said in the spirit of constructive criticism with a view to holding down the burden to the Manitoba taxpayer wherever possible while achieving as high a degree of efficiency in services as possible.

We are, Sir, deeply concerned about the rising costs of government administration, public administration in Manitoba, as no doubt everyone in this House is. I am sure that the Attorney-General is as concerned with rising costs of administration in those areas of public life for which he has responsibility as we are on our side of the House. Therefore it is with some regret that I must express disappointment in the totals of the estimates for which he is asking. It would seem to me that with the kinds of concern that all of us share for the tax load borne by Manitobans today that he too must be disappointed with the expenditure level to which his estimates for the new fiscal year now have climbed and to the percentage increase that his new estimates represent in comparison with the spending estimates of his department not only a year ago but two years ago. It's in this area of control of costs and spiraling costs that I for my part are most concerned and it's in that area that I want to speak for just a moment or two at this stage in consideration of his estimates, Mr. Chairman.

There seems to be no evidence in the estimates, the preparation of the estimates for this Department that much thought has been given or in any case that much creative achievement has been possible with a view to holding down the spiraling costs of public administration with a view to the essential need for cost control. The costs of the Department of the Attorney-General are rising at a very rapid rate. The estimates for this department for two years ago, Mr. Chairman, totalled \$8 1/2 million. This increased to \$9 1/2 million last year and now it stands at approximately \$11,700,000 for this coming fiscal year. So that means that the total increase in two years is more than \$3 million, which works out to a total increase, Sir, of 36 percent, and we suggest that an increase of this size can certainly be questioned, scrutinized and debated conscientiously and constructively at this point in the life of this Legislature.

Mr. Chairman, the increase to which I've referred in the proposed spending by the Attorney-General's Department may be justified, and may be rationalized on grounds to which we all subscribe, namely the grounds of the provision of the proper high degree of law and order, and the provision of the proper and high degree of legal services and judicial services to our society. But in this department and on this plane, as in any department and any plane of public administration, unfortunately the bureaucratic tendency to staff enlargement continues to raise its head and unless an extremely conscientious and persistent attention to cost control is maintained by the administrator of such a department, there is an inevitable tendency for costs to increase, for costs to build upon costs, and for the burden for the taxpayer to spiral year upon year. And we say that the increase of 36 percent over the past two years, the increase of approximately \$2 million plus for the past year is an increase that we feel is unnecessarily high, regardless of the services that the Attorney-General's Department performs for the people of Manitoba, Mr. Chairman, that increase is too high. We will be making proposals during the remainder of the time in Committee spent in considering the estimates of the Attorney-General for cutting back on that increase and for holding it down. We will be doing

(MR. SHERMAN cont'd) so, Mr. Chairman, by recommending a much lower, a much lower appropriation under the aegis of the Attorney-General's budget for law enforcement. I emphasize, Mr. Speaker, we will be recommending a much lower appropriation under the aegis of the Attorney-General's Department for law enforcement, and I want to spell out our philosophy on this point very clearly so that there's no misunderstanding as to what we mean. I'm not suggesting that we wish to downgrade the operations of our law enforcement agencies. On the contrary we wish to upgrade them and maintain them; we wish to improve them, and we wish to expand them. I want to say at this point that my colleagues and I go on record as supporting and endorsing the services rendered to the people of Manitoba by all our law enforcement officers, by all our peace officers. We want to help them in any way we can in their job of helping us to maintain a civilized and orderly society. But, Mr. Speaker, there are ways of doing this that can accommodate the kinds of increases and improvements we'd like to see that can provide the kind of support that our law enforcement officers need, that our police forces need, without overburdening the average Manitoba taxpayer. They cannot be done by loading on appropriation after appropriation in the proposed spending estimates of the Attorney-General's Department. They can be done in another way and so I say that when we talk about a much lower appropriation for law enforcement I re-emphasize that I only mean it in terms of the appropriation in spending under the aegis of the Attorney-General. There is another way that we feel will provide for the improved, supported and expanded law enforcement services that we need in this province which, as I suggested a moment ago, will not imply, and will not contain the increased burden for the taxpayer that these proposed spending - that these proposed spending estimates of the Attorney-General's Department do include.

We want to speak up as I said, Mr. Chairman, for law enforcement and for our law enforcement officers in every way we can and we will do so in the course of the study of the spending estimates and when we come to the appropriate items we will be making a proposal which will call for a somewhat revolutionary and imaginative shift in financing arrangements that I think will satisfy the ambitions and the desires of the strongest supporters of good police services. At the same time it will enable us to propose to the Attorney-General, to this government, and to the people of Manitoba that the estimates of the Attorney-General's Department for the 1972-73 fiscal year can be successfully cut back by a substantial amount to a point where the over-all increase instead of being something in the order of 36 percent over the past two years will be something closer to the order of 15 percent over the past two years, and that proposal will be revealing itself in the course of the next few hours. We're not at that particular item, Mr. Chairman, but I wanted to make this point to explain our fundamental reaction to these estimates. The Attorney-General is doing an excellent job in administering the judicial system and protecting the institution of due process in our province but when he asks for \$2 million more than he had last year, he's spending too much and the taxpayer can't afford it.

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MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member from St. Vital.

MR. JAMES WALDING (St. Vital): Mr. Speaker, I really wasn't intending to get into this debate but some remarks that were made by the Member for Churchill prompted me to rise and say a few words on the same subject.

The Member for Churchill was concerned about the drug problem, and quite rightly so. We should all be concerned with the extent and the severity of the drug problem in our country. He makes the suggestion that the supply of drugs should be cut off, and it's a suggestion that has been made before by other people. At first glance it's a most attractive scheme but if you cut off something then no one can use it. He suggests that if we can pay farmers not to grow crops then we can pay other farmers or other growers not to grow heroin, or drugs, or poppies, or whatever it is he's concerned with.

President Nixon made a similar suggestion publicly a few days ago when he said that his government was prepared to pay the Government of Turkey so many million dollars a year not to grow opium poppies. I suggest, Mr. Chairman, that this is a very simplistic and perhaps a too easy answer to the problem for we had prohibition in the United States a few years ago, and the same theory was put forward then that if you stop the supply of alcohol then no one will drink it and no one will get drunk. The only problem with that was that it simply didn't work.

Now they took a slightly different approach to this problem in Britain and it's been in effect for quite a few years whereby drug addicts are registered and they are issued a certain supply of the drug daily. Now this means of course that there is no black market in drugs, that there is no expensive drugs being pushed on the people, and there is not the tendency for the users of those drugs to commit crime to obtain the necessary money to pay for it. And this has resulted certainly until the last couple of years in an almost non-existent drug problem in Britain as compared with North America.

The problem that we're up against here is that the supply of drugs -- I'm talking about hard drugs particularly -- is, it is a free enterprise business, that when the demand goes up, the price goes up, and when the supply goes down, the price goes up. Now if we're to follow the reasoning of the Member for Churchill we would reduce or prohibit the availability of these drugs and the only thing that would happen there was that the price would go up two or three or ten times depending on what the available supply was. The result of that would be -- and this is something we've been warned of repeatedly in the past -- the drug users are resorting more and more to criminal methods to obtain the money to pay for these high-priced drugs to maintain a very expensive habit. So I suggest, Mr. Chairman, that before we accept such a simplistic and easy solution that we take a closer look at it and I don't have the answer to the problem; I'm pretty sure this government doesn't have the answer to the problem; but I'm sure that the answer is not in cutting out the supply of drugs.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member from Brandon West.

MR. MCGILL: Mr. Chairman, I would just like to acknowledge the explanations of the Minister on the spending estimates from his department, and to comment just very briefly on one or two of the items that he mentioned. He did mention the provision of legal aid through the newly developed legal aid corporation and he did so with some pride, and I think justifiably so. I think members on both sides of the House can agree that the aid which is now being provided in this way to people who might not otherwise have it available is a step in the right direction.

He also mentioned the problems in connection with the operation of the courts, and it is in these two areas that I'd like to mention one or two things which apply particularly to the western judicial area of the province.

Certainly the provision of legal aid has brought an increased input to the courts, and the input in the courts, the caseload has also increased as the crime rate has increased. There was an item in the paper the other day that even in the City of Brandon there has been a noticeable increase in the crime rate in the past two years. Mr. Chairman, the problem which has been brought to my attention there is that with this increased load, particularly in the magistrates courts, we're having a serious delay in the time lag between the time the accused first appears and the trial date that can be set. I think the Member for Assiniboia also mentioned this as being a problem in the Winnipeg area.

I would like to mention specifically a case that was brought to my attention where the accused was charged with common assault; he appeared on March 10th of this year and pleaded not guilty, and the earliest trial date that could be given was August 10th of this year. Now, Mr. Chairman, here is a delay of five months and I think this has to be regarded as a very serious problem in the administration of justice in this province.

(MR. WALDING cont'd)

The Minister mentioned that they had already provided a full time family court judge in the western judicial district and I think this has worked out very well. It has improved the situation considerably but with a single full time magistrate having to serve in Brandon as well as other points in the western Manitoba region they are definitely finding that a serious and increasing time lag is occurring.

It has also been suggested, and I understand full well that the appointments of Queen's Bench judges is not under the jurisdiction of the province but it would be an improvement and a facilitation of the legal process in western Manitoba if a Queen's Bench judge were appointed for that particular area. I suggested this to the Minister as probably something which has previously come to his attention and one which he has not full authority over but certainly one in which he undoubtedly has an interest.

I'm not unaware of the increased spending estimates that are now being presented by his department and like my colleague from Fort Garry I am equally concerned about this increase in cost. In the western judicial district I am told that there is adequate courtroom space, there is no necessity for the consideration of capital costs if court facilities were improved. It is the -- really the necessity appears to be the addition of a magistrate perhaps in that area and perhaps that can be done, or perhaps that has already been provided for in these estimates by the Minister. Mr. Chairman, this is the major point of concern as I am told is being experienced in our part of the province. I would be very interested in his comments on this. I did miss one explanation which he gave which I believe did concern the western judicial district. I don't think he reported that he intended to increase the staffing of the magistrates in that area but if he has not considered this, I would greatly appreciate his doing so and letting us have his comments. Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Pembina.

MR. HENDERSON: Mr. Chairman, I have a few remarks I'd like to make but they're very short. I'm concerned about the increase in spending, it seems to be a few million here, and a few million there, and they add up to pretty nearly 60 million which has to be paid out of taxpayers' money. However things are going up and if it can't be pared there isn't much we can do about it, but I think in some cases it could be pared.

I'm concerned that the Attorney-General didn't make representation to Ottawa when the government down there were talking about deleting RCMP and using the name "Police" because I think this is something that's part of the heritage of western Canada and indeed all Canada and it's for something we're noted all over the world and I'm very disappointed in that and I feel that other members in the House are too. I'm very glad that the Member from Swan River brought this up because the RCMP are noted all over the world.

And I'd like to mention about the policing in local towns in this last year where towns entered into contracts with you, your department at a certain price. And then later on in this year you billed them for last year an additional sum of money. Now these people had entered into contracts with you and as the contracts were binding on them I think it should be binding on you. And I know in one particular instance in particular that you did bill the town back for this extra money. Now I know that they refused to pay it and I don't know how it's been settled, or whether it has been settled at all, but I believe that if you enter into a contract it's a contract that's binding on two parties and that you shouldn't begin to bill them back.

I'm concerned about law enforcement these days. I hear a lot about police brutality but I believe it's a bunch of nonsense. I believe we should back our policemen because if we aren't going to back our policemen, we aren't going to get people wanting to enter that profession at all. Nowadays we're having bomb scares in planes and we're having them around -- even in the Legislative Buildings - all over the place, schools and everything else. I think we should really get behind the backing up of our local police authorities and frankly I'm just a little provoked with a lot of the do-gooder groups and a certain group of lawyers that seem to be able to get people off when they're in trouble just by using technical loopholes. I don't believe this is good and I think it's something that we should get on top of before it gets worse. At the present time the way people are talking about police brutality, or bringing a charge against the police if they can, it's just wrong and you can be pretty sure that if you were to be hit over the head by a bandit today and robbed that the prisoner might be out of jail before you're out of hospital and I think it's time that we tighten up on it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

MR. ENNS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just a very brief comment that I want to make at this time. I offer the traditional congratulations to the Attorney-General for bringing down his estimates and being first on the list. I have one concern -- I think I would appreciate hearing particularly at this juncture of his estimates where a wider degree of latitude is given where you can discuss matters of general nature, and that has to do with the Liquor Control Commission and in their expanding policy of creating more and more outlets, liquor vending outlets throughout the province. I would ask him to take this opportunity to indicate to us what his general thoughts and what his general policy guidelines will be to the commission in the coming year in this respect. I'm referring specifically now not to the known and to the kind of established government-run, you know, liquor outlets but the expansion into the private, the grocery, the merchants throughout -- this situation is again more pertinent to rural Manitoba -- the criteria on which liquor vendor outlets are given to individuals in this area, and whether or not in fact the government, or whether or not we should be considering seriously reviewing, you know, the policy as a whole in this area. I find some conflict in continuing the concept of restrictive action in this area where you have to single out perhaps a merchant out of one or two, or a merchant out of many in a municipality otherwise and I ask for the Minister's thoughts about his rationale in how he arrives, or in what direction he gives to the Chairman of the Liquor Control Commission in arriving at these decisions. I think there's possibly room in this Chamber, perhaps not on this occasion but perhaps by means of a private member's resolution to discuss this matter wholly.

I raise these questions because I think by and large the changes that have been made have been accepted in a relatively mature way by the people of Manitoba. I recognize though that in getting into this area you have a constant problem; constant possibility of charges, whether they are founded or unfounded, that can be levelled at the Chairman of the Liquor Control Commission, or the Liquor Control Commission itself, as to favouritism or patronage, or on what basis, you know, awards are being made, or vendors are being made. I suggest perhaps the Attorney-General could enlighten the House, and myself, as to what direction he intends to move in the next little while in this particular area. Forward, the Minister of Finance says, and that's of course encouraging.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I'd like to take just another moment to assist the Attorney-General, because I am concerned, as I am sure many Manitobans have been concerned, about the Chief Magistrate and Chief Justice of our province in this sense, and the Attorney-General, and that is that, you know, if our magistrates or if our judicial system generally is failing in any way, in any capacity, I would expect the Attorney-General to be the -- firstly in the Christian ethics to take the man aside and talk to him, or take his judicial colleagues aside and lay down the law to them, or whatever it is with respect to the housekeeping, you know, problems that may occur from time to time. If we have magistrates making obscene decisions, or this or that, then I kind of look forward and I think we have the right to expect the Attorney-General to be the first one to be exercised about this, or to either, as I said earlier, in quiet confidence, or in consultation with members of our judiciary to straighten up whatever problems there may arise. I would not like him to be cowed by the Member for Thompson to run the department for him, because I really -- while I have perhaps expressed some reservations in the past about the competency of the Attorney-General if given a choice between the Member of Thompson and the Attorney-General, I would have to, Sir -- as choices always cause one some difficulty -- I would have to opt for the Attorney-General. I would have to opt for the Attorney-General. Mr. Chairman, I think all of us in the Chamber, would want to support the Attorney-General in carrying out the responsibilities of this important Ministry, and he should do so with due respect and concern and awe from those of us in opposition who are being paid to attack him, and to criticize the operations of his department from time to time. But, Sir, I want to, in this instance at least, come around to his side to this extent to say that we will shield him to the extent possible from the attacks that are coming from immediately behind him from time to time, because those are the kind of . . . that come from unknown sources, or sources you are not familiar with, or behind, and they're the ones that can be devastating from time to time.

I think particularly in the area, Sir, and I don't know, I apologize for not having been present all the time where the Attorney-General spoke during the introduction of his estimates, I think for this reason that he may, or may not, have mentioned, but I would certainly want to encourage him to proceed with some legislation that I know has been requested from time to time by those concerned, and I specifically refer to the possible Act dealing with the

(MR. ENNS cont'd) Magistrates, Judges, Provincial and Magistrates Acts. I don't know whether the Attorney-General indicated that he was proceeding. I know my colleague from Swan River indicated this. I look forward for some comments by the Attorney-General on this and the other matter that I raised. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

MR. EARL MCKELLAR (Souris-Killarney): I would like to say a word before we adjourn this afternoon here on the Attorney-General's estimates. I would like to congratulate him on the statement he made here this afternoon explaining the operation of his department; and also I would like to say a few words that concern some of the people in my area.

One of the things that is concerning most of the people right now is the legislation dealing with Estate Tax, Gift Tax. The retroactive legislation is coming forward by the Minister of Finance. It not only concerns the lawyers in my area, it concerns every individual, and it concerns the families of those persons who have passed on since the 1st of January, who suggest to the Minister of Finance, the Attorney-General, that they do away with all retroactive legislation because it's not right, and especially it's not right in gift tax and Estate Tax. There is no way that any government should bring in retroactive legislation when it involves estates, and I would ask them that when they bring this in to forget about it. I know they're going to lose some money, but . . . fair with the people of Manitoba, and those who have passed on, that you give this some consideration. Those people have no choice to move to Alberta; they can't move to Alberta, they're dead and gone, and they're dead and gone before they actually knew what the government was going to propose.

MR. CHERNIACK: Would the honourable member permit a question?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister of Finance.

MR. CHERNIACK: Would the honourable member not agree that there was ample notice given to all people, intending to die in the near future, last December telling them what would be the effect of the retroactive legislation.

MR. MCKELLAR: Mr. Chairman, that's quite right. Many of the people were in hospital, sick, some of them couldn't read, and I tell you you can't understand what the government's doing anyway, because they've changed the rules of the game already, so they might change it again before we receive the legislation. And this is what I'm saying, if they had made up their mind, they didn't, they didn't, they hadn't made up their mind. If they had, then I wouldn't mind it, but you've changed the rules of the game for that very reason.

MR. CHERNIACK: Would you permit another question?

MR. MCKELLAR: No. Mr. Chairman, have you got any influence on your colleagues on that side of the House? And have you got anybody in your constituency that has an estate, I would suggest to you that you use your influence on the Minister of Finance and the Attorney-General.

Mr. Chairman, it's not possible for a person who dies in the year 1972 who will be involved in Estate Tax and Gift Tax to have their estate settled up in that particular year. Because the lawyers -- most of them don't move that fast -- and it's because for another reason that they won't have the legislation for many, many weeks, and those of us only received our legislation eight months after the last session closed off.

Now one other thing I want to direct, Mr. Chairman, to the Attorney-General. I was told by one of our law enforcement officers in the province -- (Interjection) -- It is true -- that no charges will be laid for an indefinite period, and that means from last week on, to those people who do not buy their car registrations in Autopac. And I want to know from the government today, how long are they going to permit this unbroken law to be continued, because it is an unbroken law. It says right in your statutes: that if you do not purchase your license . . . Autopac insurance before the deadline, which was February 29th, you'll lose your licence plates. And it's not right even though your government was not ready and was broken down -- (Interjection) -- Don't blame it on the computer either; blame it on the Board of Directors blame it on the Board of Directors right here. It's not right. And I'm going to have a lot to say on this when they are dealing with Autopac. Because those people who didn't buy their registration at Autopac were not insured after the first day of March, were not legally insured after the first day of March. -- (Interjection) -- not with auto registrations and Autopac combined. It was never done before. It wasn't done even the first day of November . . ., Mr. Chairman, the government is wrong in extending that date. Wrong. I know you can do it with registrations but you can't do it with insurance contract; you cannot do it with an insurance

(MR. McKELLAR cont'd) contract. You're letting the Winnipeg Transit drive around without insurance, without registrations; but there's other people . . . cars I saw in the Province of Manitoba who are driving without it. If you are going to encourage this kind of thing in the Province of Manitoba, you're really opening up the gates. That's all I'm saying.

Mr. Chairman, there's one other thing I would like to say. I know the liquor problem is a serious problem. But the one problem that concerns me as a citizen in this province, is the drug problem, and in the schools, schools in our Province of Manitoba. And it's getting to be that it's a problem in most all high schools in the Province of Manitoba. I don't know how the drugs are getting there, but I know they're receiving them somewhere, somehow. And I don't know what type of law enforcement you have on drugs - the drug problem in our schools and in our communities, but I'd like to hear from you, Mr. Minister, on this very important problem. It's affecting our whole society today, and the next generation, what will they be like if the present generation from sixteen on are taking drugs. Now, Mr. Chairman, it's 5:30. I might have something more to say in this particular department later on.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hour being 5:30, I'm leaving the Chair to return at 8:00 o'clock tonight.