

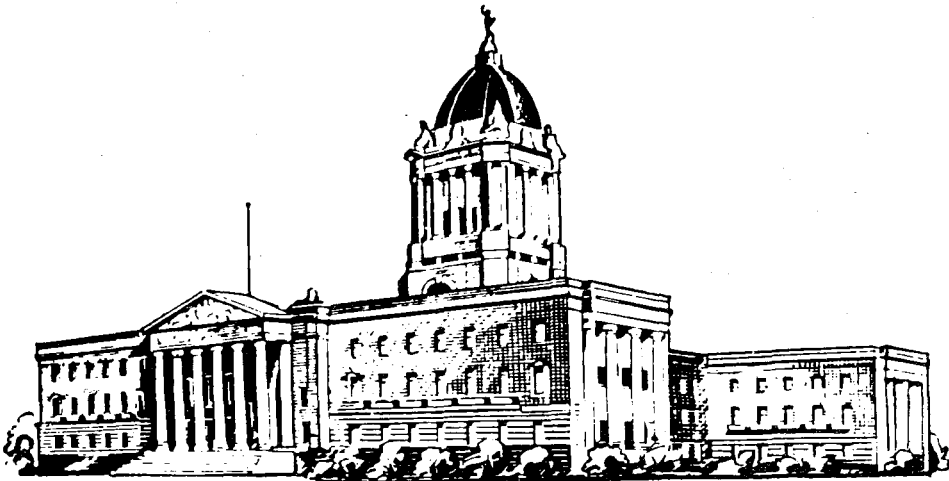


Legislative Assembly of Manitoba

DEBATES
and
PROCEEDINGS

Speaker

The Honourable Peter Fox



Vol. XIX No. 99 2:30 p.m., Thursday, June 1st, 1972. Fourth Session, 29th Legislature.

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WOLSELEY			

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

2:30 o'clock, Thursday, June 1, 1972

Opening Prayer by Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Little technical difficulty today.

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 61 students of Grade 6 standing of the Rabbit Lake, Ontario School. These students are under the direction of Mr. Petch.

We also have 23 students of Grade 7 standing of the Elkhorn School. These students are under the direction of Mr. Sim Coughlan. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Virден.

We have 9 students of Sansome Junior High School under the direction of Mr. Garry Glasser. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

We have 90 students of Grade 9 standing of the Golden Gate School. These students are under the direction of Mr. Collins and Mr. Kent. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Sturgeon Creek.

We have 15 students, Grade 4 to 8 standing of the Matheson Island School. These students are under the direction of Mrs. Marguerite Larson. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Rupertsland.

We have 18 students of Grade 9 standing of the Cecil Rhodes School. These students are under the direction of Mr. Murrell. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Logan.

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

Presenting Petitions; Reading and Receiving Petitions; Presenting Reports by Standing and Special Committees; Ministerial Statements and Tabling of Reports; Notices of Motion; Introduction of Bills. The Honourable Attorney-General.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

HON. A. H. MACKLING, Q. C. (Attorney-General)(St. James) introduced Bill 79, an Act to amend The Law Society Act. (The Honourable the Administrator of the Government of the Province of Manitoba recommends it to the House).

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Roblin.

MR. WALLY J. MCKENZIE (Roblin) introduced Bill No. 76, an Act respecting The Town of Grandview.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Swan River.

MR. JAMES H. BILTON (Swan River) introduced Bill No. 78, an Act respecting the Village of Minitonas.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. SIDNEY SPIVAK, Q. C. (Leader of the Opposition) (River Heights): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the First Minister. I wonder when he can indicate when he will be submitting the reference paper and options for Greater Community and Parental Involvement referred to in the resolution filed in Votes and Proceedings.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

HON. EDWARD SCHREYER (Premier)(Rossmere): Mr. Speaker, it is hoped, and in fact intended, that the reference paper would be available before we actually commenced debate of the resolution.

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the First Minister. Will he indicate whether he has in his possession accurate information regarding the capital and operating costs incurred by each of Manitoba's private schools, showing in addition the gross surplus or deficit, the capital surplus or deficit, and the operating surplus or deficit?

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, there is information available with respect to the operating costs surplus and/or deficit. With respect to capital cost that information is not as readily available. However, I should certainly think that the event that the committee referred to

(MR. SCHREYER cont'd) commences its deliverations, that even that information on capital costs would become available.

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the First Minister. Will the First Minister be prepared to table whatever information the government has in their possession in this House at the time that the resolution is introduced?

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, one of the problems, I mean I wish I could give an affirmative answer to that right here and now, however as the Leader of the Opposition realizes, one of the problems is that over the years the government has taken no official cognizance of complete cost, capital and operating costs, and so some of this information will have to be provided by way of request to those in possession of that information at the present time. And the government up to this point in time certainly has not had in any official way that information.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. MACKLING: Mr. Speaker, I want to now table an Order for Return No. 9 on the motion of Mr. Blake.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Thompson.

MR. JOSEPH P. BOROWSKI (Thompson): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the First Minister. I wonder if he could indicate for the record whether the resolution dealing with aid to schools is his own personal resolution, or whether it has the concurrence of Cabinet or caucus?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: Certainly, Mr. Speaker, the record shows that the resolution is in my name and I would hope that it would have the concurrence of all honourable members; failing that, hopefully majority on both sides of the House; failing that majority of my colleagues.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Morris.

MR. WARNER H. JORGENSEN (Morris): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the First Minister if this is in fact a government resolution?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, I'm not sure that I know exactly what the honourable member's question is intended to accomplish. But it is a resolution that is filed in my name; I intend to speak in support of it, and to ask for honourable members' support.

MR. JORGENSEN: Mr. Speaker, my question was a very simple one. I want to know if the government are taking the responsibility for the action that they're pursuing, or whether they want to slough it off on somebody else?

MR. SCHREYER: Well, Mr. Speaker, when a government is a government it must ultimately take responsibility for whatever actions are taken in this House and I for one am not shirking from that responsibility. Certainly the Honourable Member for Morris should know that when a First Minister puts a proposal before the Assembly it is not a matter that is to be dealt with so casually or lightly that it's of no consequence, whether it passes or doesn't pass.

MR. JORGENSEN: Mr. Speaker, . . . the Premier can tell the House whether or not this resolution will appear as a private member's resolution or as a government resolution?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

HON. RUSSELL PAULLEY (Minister of Labour) (Transcona): I believe that it's improper at this stage in the proceedings for any honourable member to question the First Minister, or any other person regarding a proposed resolution that is only standing on Votes and Proceedings for introduction at some future date. I would in all due respect, Sir, suggest to you that the proper time for such questions as is being raised by the Honourable Member for Morris would be appropriate on the introduction of the resolution. Because until such time as the resolution is in possession of the House, I suggest that it's improper for questions of the nature raised by the Honourable Member for Morris to be discussed in this Assembly.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Churchill. The Honourable Member for Morris . . . The Honourable Member for Morris.

MR. JORGENSEN: . . . to speak on the . . . by the House Leader. Surely, Sir, it is proper for members of this House to determine whether or not a particular resolution that is to appear on the Order Paper is going to appear in the name of the government, or whether it's going to appear as a private member's resolution. Our course of action will be largely determined from the answer to that question. I think it's a very proper one to place before the House at the present time.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

MR. PAULLEY: I again raise the point. There are at least three notices of motion on Votes and Proceedings No. 57 dealing with matters that will be laid before the House for the consideration of the members. On Monday next, there is a notice of motion standing in the name of the Honourable Mr. Paulley, an Act to amend the Employment Standards Act. There is --(Interjection)-- Would you keep quiet for once in your life. I'm not stalling, Mr. Speaker, I'm pointing out the proper rules of procedure in this Assembly and in all due respect to the Leader of the Opposition, it's damned near time he started to learn how the House should be conducted. And I say, Mr. Speaker, that at least three resolutions are before, on notice of motion for Monday, and the same questions could be asked in respect of each of them. The proper time to raise the question insofar as the resolutions is when they are presented to the House for the consideration of the Assembly.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Churchill.

MR. GORDON W. BEARD (Churchill): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to pose a question to the Acting Minister of Mines and Natural Resources. Is it correct that the commercial fishing licenses for Lake Winnipeg are now limited to the number that were in force when the lake was closed for mercury pollution?

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

HON. LEONARD S. EVANS (Minister of Industry and Commerce)(Brandon East): Mr. Speaker, rather than give you my opinion on it, I think I will take the matter as notice and give you a precise answer as soon as possible.

While I'm on my feet, Mr. Speaker . . .

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Churchill.

MR. BEARD: . . . under the advisement, I'd like to ask a supplementary. Would the Minister then consider the possibilities of those that are too old to take up their licenses any more being able to pass them along to somebody else or somebody else being able to pick up those licenses that are not being used as of now.

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

MR. EVANS: Yes, Mr. Speaker. This was supplementary to the first one. We will take this under advisement and report to the honourable member and to the House as soon as possible.

While I'm on my feet, Mr. Speaker, the Honourable Member for Portage la Prairie, who unfortunately is not in his seat at the present time, was very concerned about grocery supplies and a grocery store at Leaf Rapids, and I undertook to obtain some information. I can advise members of the House that the grocery supply is being facilitated by the restaurant which is located at Leaf Rapids on a temporary basis, and in addition Lynn Lake merchants are taking bulk orders and shipping them to the Leaf Rapids townsite.

I can also advise members of the House that a grocery and general store will be erected in June and will remain in service until permanent facilities are operation. In addition, several other types of retail outlets will be provided within a few weeks including a barbershop, travel office, post office, beauty parlour, etc.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Roblin.

MR. McKENZIE: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Honourable Minister of Mines and Natural Resources and Environment control. Today is the opening day of the commercial fishing in this province. I wonder if the Honourable Minister can advise the House if regulations are going to be changed to permit fishermen to sell their fish off the dock.

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

MR. EVANS: Well, Mr. Speaker, we made the regulations as they pertain to the matter of sales very clear to the fishermen, to the people of the province, and there'll be no change from previous rulings in this respect. As the honourable member should know there is such an organization as the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation which has certain responsibilities in a general wholesale and retail way.

MR. McKENZIE: A supplementary question for clarification of the commercial fishermen in this province. It is now my understanding from the Minister's statement that all fish must go through the Freshwater Fish Marketing Board and they will not be allowed to sell off the dock.

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, I did not say that or imply that. I said that there was no substantial change.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rupertsland.

MR. JEAN ALLARD (Rupertsland): Mr. Speaker . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The Honourable Member for Roblin.

MR. McKENZIE: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Again for clarification for the commercial fishermen in this province. Will they be allowed to sell off the dock or will they not?

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

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, as I indicated earlier, this has been made public to all members of the fishing industry and to the general public in Manitoba.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Transportation.

HON. PETER BURTONIAK (Minister of Transportation) (Dauphin): Mr. Speaker, I have three Orders for Return, Order No. 1, No. 2 and No. 5, at the request of the Honourable Member for Minnedosa.

And while I'm on my feet, Mr. Speaker, some few days ago the Honourable Member for Sturgeon Creek - I see he's not in his seat at the present time - asked a question in regard to the refunds. I am happy to report at this time, Mr. Speaker, that insofar as the 1971 refunds are concerned as of May 25th, which is some few days ago, there were only 254 to be processed; also he enquired about 1972 refunds - there were 250. Since this is now the 1st of June it is hoped that within the next few days both the 1971 and 72 refunds will be processed.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rupertsland.

MR. ALLARD: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Co-op Services of Agriculture. Two weeks ago I asked him about the Co-op in Ilford. In view of the fact that today fishing opens and that there is nothing going on in Ilford, could he tell the House what his department is going to do to see that the 800,000 pounds of fish they caught two years ago is again approximated this year, or will they just sit there on welfare?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Agriculture.

HON. SAMUEL USKIW (Minister of Agriculture) (Lac du Bonnet): Mr. Speaker, I took the matter under advisement and I will report to the House when I have the information.

While I'm on my feet, Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I can respond to a question put to me on May 24th by the Member for Rock Lake. The question was whether I had information as to the address to which applications, or from which application forms for the Grassland Incentive Program may be obtained. The address is the PFA Building in Regina, or rather the PFA - yes the office at 500 Financial Building in Regina, Saskatchewan.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Thompson.

MR. BOROWSKI: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to speak to the same point of order raised by the Member from Morris, regarding the question of school aid . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Order please. This is the question period. That point of order has been dealt with and has been left. We are now on another topic of questions. The Honourable Member for Thompson. Would he state his point of order.

MR. BOROWSKI: On a point of order. The point of order raised by the member was that he was trying to determine whether this resolution here is one brought in as a private member by the Premier or whether it's brought in as a government bill, and I think the people of this province and of this House are entitled to know.

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

MR. WALLY JOHANNSON (St. Matthews): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Premier. Could the Premier inform the House whether any deductions are being made from the salary of the Leader of the Official Opposition for the time he is spending politicking out in the constituency of Wolseley during the hours the House is sitting?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for La Verendrye.

The Honourable First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, the answer I gave yesterday with respect to a question directed by the Honourable Member for Sturgeon Creek would apply in this case equally, it applies on both sides.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for La Verendrye.

MR. LEONARD A. BARKMAN (La Verendrye): Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct this question to the Acting Minister of Mines and Natural Resources. Has the Minister had any requests for applications for commercial licences that are not being used on Lake Winnipeg?

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

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, I'll have to take the question as notice.

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

MR. PETER ADAM (Ste. Rose): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Honourable Attorney-General. I would like to know how much the Order for Return requested by the Member for Minnedosa is going to cost the taxpayers of this province?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. MACKLING: Mr. Speaker, it took quite awhile. It cost \$500.00.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Sturgeon Creek.

MR. FRANK JOHNSTON (Sturgeon Creek): Mr. Speaker, a supplementary to that to the Attorney-General. Does the Attorney-General believe we shouldn't ask for Orders for Return?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. MACKLING: Mr. Speaker, I think that any member of the House should be concerned to get as much factual material as he can. I think however that when it involves extensive research at considerable expense, then it would be much simpler, Mr. Speaker, if a member of the Opposition would indicate the nature of the transaction he wants particulars on, and we are always open to give that information. If it's a fishing expedition at great expense to the public, I think it's an abuse.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Minnedosa.

MR. DAVID R. BLAKE (Minnedosa): Mr. Speaker, my question would be directed to the Honourable the Attorney-General. I haven't had a chance to peruse the information here yet but I wonder if he is completely satisfied that the prices they have paid for all of this land are just and fair to the taxpayers of Manitoba?

MR. MACKLING: Mr. Speaker, the administration of the Land Acquisition Branch has not changed since this government came into office, and the policy of the Land Acquisition Branch is to acquire for public purposes, as requested by public authority, at the best possible price for the people of Manitoba.

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

MR. EDWARD MCGILL (Brandon West): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Honourable the Minister of Industry and Commerce. Relative to the news service announcement of today's date with respect to a development program for Saunders Aircraft, and the reference to meetings which his department has held with the federal authorities, can the Minister tell the House if a firm application has been made to the federal department for a support program for Saunders Aircraft and if so, for how much money?

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

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, the application is in process.

MR. MCGILL: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. When does the Minister expect to have a reply or a decision on this application?

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, we would like to get a reply as soon as possible but this will depend on the Federal Government.

MR. MCGILL: A supplementary question. In view of the increasing public involvement in the activities of Saunders Aircraft, would the Minister consider organizing a tour of inspection involving all members of the Legislature for this activity at Gimli?

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, I'm glad that the honourable member raised the question because as he should know, the Department of Industry and Commerce conducts tours of business establishments in various parts of the province from year to year, and it was our intention to conduct a tour, hopefully if all goes well, early this fall or later in the summer, which would include all members of the House to various industries that are located at the Gimli Industrial Park including Saunders.

MR. JACOB M. FROESE (Rhineland): Mr. Speaker, I would like to address a question to the Honourable Minister of Tourism and Recreation. Could he inform the House whether the World Hockey Association has applied for financial assistance, and is consideration being given to providing assistance to them?

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

HON. LAURENT L. DESJARDINS (Minister of Tourism, Recreation and Cultural Affairs) (St. Boniface): Mr. Speaker, yes we have been approached not by the league, but by the local team, and some consideration is being given.

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

MR. MCKENZIE: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Acting Minister of Mines and

(MR. McKENZIE cont'd) Natural Resources. I wonder if the Honourable Minister could advise the House if we can expect legislation this session regarding the control of all forms of bottles, for the control of our pollution and environment.

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

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, unfortunately due to the noise and the acoustics I didn't hear the latter part of the question.

MR. McKENZIE: Mr. Speaker, with your permission I'll repeat the question. I wonder can the Honourable Minister advise the House if we could expect legislation this session regarding the control of bottles, disposable and otherwise, which is a form of pollution and clutters up our environment?

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, obviously this is a matter of government policy and any announcement would be made in due course.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

MR. PAULLEY: . . . call No. 55 standing in the name of the Honourable Member for Rhineland, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Arthur.

MR. J. DOUGLAS WATT (Arthur): Mr. Speaker, I direct a question again to the Honourable Minister of Agriculture, when he gets through with the caucus over there. I wonder if the Minister could tell us today, since the province has withdrawn their assistance for weed control in the Province of Manitoba, if the saving to the government will be more or less than the government's share of the newly announced ARDA program?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Agriculture.

MR. USKIW: Mr. Speaker, I'm afraid I am not aware of what the Member for Arthur is trying to imply. He's tying in the Weed Control Program with ARDA and I'm not sure that there's any connection.

MR. WATT: When can we get the answer from the Minister if it is correct? Which I am satisfied it is that they have withdrawn assistance to the province and the Department of Agriculture for weed control in the Province of Manitoba, and will that saving to the province be more or less than the province's share of the newly announced ARDA program? If he can't understand that . . .

MR. USKIW: Mr. Speaker, again I don't know what the one program has to do with the other? The Honourable Member for Arthur has not made himself clear. Let me say that we have not withdrawn financial support from the Weed Control districts. We have maintained the support that has been here for some time. There may be some variation in the way it's applied, but there has not been a withdrawal of funds. Now what that has to do with ARDA is beyond me, Mr. Speaker, but I want to indicate to the Member for Arthur that yesterday I advised him as soon as my staff have filed a report with me, I will present it to the House.

MR. WATT: With your permission, Sir, I would just like to read out of a letter.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. This is the question period.

MR. WATT: Would the Minister answer then yes or no if they have withdrawn support to the Weed Control in the Province of Manitoba.

MR. USKIW: Mr. Speaker, we have had a number of discussions with the Weed Control people over the last year . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Order please.

MR. USKIW: . . . and there may be some changes from the programs that we had in effect for some time, I am not completely aware at this point, but when I have the report from my officials, I will present it to my honourable friend.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Riel.

MR. DONALD W. CRAIK (Riel): Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I might direct a question to the First Minister. On May 25th, Page 2325 of Hansard, the First Minister made reference to letters that were on file with the Chief Engineer of Underwood McLellan Associates that dealt with the matter regarding Mr. Charles Howard. Mr. Speaker, my question is, would the letters referred to by the First Minister and those of Mr. Howard, would he be willing to file them in the House?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: I think, Mr. Speaker, that the Honourable Member can file an Address for Papers.

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, this Address for Papers was originally filed and turned down, but this reference has been made since.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour on a point of order.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker if what my honourable friend says is correct, then one of the rules of the House is there shall not be any repetition of matters that have been concluded by the House at this session. So I suggest, Mr. Speaker, his question and he are both out of order.

MR. SPEAKER: The point is well taken. The Honourable First Minister on a matter of privilege.

MR. SCHREYER: The Honourable Member for Riel has referred to me as making some reference to Mr. Howard's letters. I was referring to Mr. Hood's letters.

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, on the point of order, I ask you, Sir, if when a member of the House makes reference specifically to a letter as part of his debate, whether that does not legitimately raise the question of whether or not that can be asked for filing. --(Interjection)--

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

MR. SCHREYER: My understanding of the rules is that if the letter is quoted from in this House, then at the time when it is being quoted it is to be tabled, but in any case I was not quoting from the letter but if the honourable member is referring to Mr. Hood, let him make it clear that that is whom he's referring to.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Arthur.

MR. WATT: Mr. Speaker, . . . point of order. I want to reply to the House Leader that if there should not be repetition in the House according to our rules, why is it that the Minister of Agriculture is allowed to give three phony answers.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Order please. The proposed motion of the Honourable Minister of Finance. The Honourable Member for Crescentwood.

MR. CY GONICK (Crescentwood): A question for the Premier. In view of the recent communication from the workers in Gillam indicating that continued frustration with the Manitoba Allied Hydro Council, has the First Minister made up his mind whether or not to set up a judicial inquiry investigating the entire matter?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, at the time when the petition was received with the allegation contained therein, it seemed to me that the appropriate course of action was to have a referral of the subject matter of the petition - the allegations contained therein referred to the persons responsible for the operations of the Allied Hydro Council - so that they might exercise the right to reply. They were asked to do so. I have just received the written replies to the allegations. I am intending to forward those to the person who directed the petitioning and indicate to him at the same time that the allegations appear to be well responded to, or well replied to, or well defended against, that if he has any reason to think that they are not he is to communicate further to either myself, or the office of the Minister of Labour.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Churchill.

MR. BEARD: . . . the Minister of Industry and Commerce, Mr. Speaker. Can the Minister advise what plans have been made to attend the Summer Conference at Churchill this year?

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

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, I'm not sure if I understand the implication of the honourable member's question. Is he asking what plans have I made personally to attend this conference?

MR. BEARD: Well what plans has the government or the Minister made to attend the conference?

MR. EVANS: So far, Mr. Speaker, there have been no firm plans.

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

MR. MCKENZIE: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I could direct my question to the Minister of Municipal Affairs, re the legislation regarding bottles, disposable and otherwise this session. Mr. Speaker, I'll rephrase my question. I wonder if the Honourable Minister could indicate to the House if we can expect legislation this session re the control of bottles, disposable and otherwise?

ORDERS OF THE DAY - GOVERNMENT BILLS

MR. SPEAKER: On the proposed motion of the Honourable Minister of Finance. The Honourable Member for Rhineland. Bill 55.

MR. FROESE: Mr. Speaker, Bill 55 is an Act to amend the Income Tax Act, and I see

(MR. FROESE cont'd) the Minister of Public Works is ready to have it passed, I think he should make a contribution too on the principle of this bill and see what he has to say. The Act that we are amending is Income Tax but as I understand the bill before us, it really doesn't impose a tax on the people of this province but rather it is designed to give rebates for the people of this province for the year 1972, and I take from there on. The bill has been on the Order Paper for quite some time and I have made some notes, prepared some notes some time ago. I hope in presenting them that they will not be too disjointed because I should have gone over them before presenting them to the House this afternoon. I notice an absence of equality actually in the legislation and in the bill as far as the relief is concerned. However I also see that the government recognizes the . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. Order, please. I am having great difficulty in hearing the honourable members. I wonder if the various meetings that are taking place could be conducted elsewhere. The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: Mr. Speaker, the second point is that in my opinion that the government recognized the excessive charge on property as far as school taxes are concerned, and I think this is worthy of note. I too feel very strongly on this point that relief should be provided in this respect for those who have to pay very considerable taxes on property to the support of our education system in this province, and certainly enough the big brunt of the cost. The burden has been borne by the homeowner and the property owner. And as far as relieving them I certainly have no quarrel. But I feel that the legislation is rather favouring the urban dweller, similar to what was passed last year when we brought in the \$50.00 rebate to all homeowners. The reason I stated it's in favour of the urban dweller is that I feel that he will get a just reduction because it will apply on all his property whereas the farmer is in a different position, a much different situation, that he will be only receiving relief on a portion of his real estate and his property tax for the support of schools. I think we're not justified in doing what we are doing under this legislation. I feel we are not recognizing the most needy and that is the lot of the farmer.

The needs of the farmer are not completely met by way of this bill. I think we should have gone much farther and removed the tax on farm property, on farmland. This should have been number one, and this should have been brought in at this session and not delayed again, because taxes on farmland have gone up very sharply in recent years and as has been pointed out time and again, that school costs are going up every year and as a result more and more of this cost has to be borne by the farmer, especially in rural areas, and not only in rural areas but it also is part of the overall bill for the province.

The farmers' income is very limited these days, and I think I mentioned this yesterday on another occasion, and I think it is also borne out in the figures that were presented to us by the Minister of Finance when I refer to Table No. 4, which lists the farmers and the pensioners by percentage as to the benefit level that will be prevailing, and on that sheet it is listed that 66.1 percent of the farmers are going to receive the total \$140.00 tax credit. This in my opinion indicates very strongly the low income of the farmer because he wouldn't be receiving the total \$140.00 if he had a taxable income. This means that there will be no taxable income applying to the 66 percent; and what it also implies I think is the need and the high taxation of farmland.

I would like to know from the Minister when he does reply just when we talk of 66.1 percent of how many farmers is this? How many farmers do we have in the province and how many farmers were taken into consideration in this figure? Was it 35,000 --(Interjection)-- The Minister says those that filed tax returns. Doesn't he feel that there will be an increase in tax returns next year as a result of the legislation? So I think that figures of this type should take into consideration all farmers. Whether on that basis the percentage figure would change or not is speculative, and maybe the Minister would have some comment on that.

We all know that because of the low income that return on investment as far as farmers is concerned is almost negligible, it is very small. I know from past years from the conventions of real estate dealers, and so on, that farm investment money is earning probably the lowest return of any kind in this province, and that the investment field certainly doesn't cater to farm needs, and if it weren't for governmental programs such as Manitoba has the Agricultural Credit Corporation, and the Federal Farm Loan Board, I think very little land would be moving and very few sales would be taking place. It's because of the credit programs that are in existence at provincial and federal levels that land does move and sales are being made from time to time.

(MR. FROESE cont'd)

I mentioned the very limited income before and certainly I think to justify that, or to substantiate that rather, I think we can take note of the pricing of farm commodities, and other than cattle I think there has been very very little improvement, in fact some prices have gone down. The price of flax a few years ago was quite a bit higher; rape prices were higher, although these fluctuate from time to time, and here again very often farmers cannot take advantage when prices are higher because of the quota situation. Earlier this year the price of rape was considerable higher but farmers are unable to deliver, they are unable to sell, at least at the elevator point, and thus realize any improvement in prices. Those that would be selling through the futures they could probably take advantage but I think as far as farmers are concerned there is very little exercise taking place in this respect in this province by farmers.

Another point I wish to raise is the amount of capital required in farming, in agriculture when compared to the risk that is taken. Farmers in the spring when they . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. Once again I would request that the field day that's taking place between the undertones and overtones take place some place else, I have very great difficulty in hearing the honourable member. The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I too feel that this is an important bill and that we should listen, and not only listen also take to heart what is being said, and I also would respect other members when they will be speaking on this bill and hear their comments.

I was just commenting on the capital that is required in farming and in agriculture and the risk being taken. To put in a crop and buy the seed, buy the fertilizers, buy the spray materials, the labour and the farm machinery, the repairs, all these costs add up very considerably and I think in most cases you can't get by without \$20.00 and acre cost just to put in a crop before you will ever harvest a crop. Then you're also subject to the weather and whether you'll get a crop. We have crop insurance, but this too with all the insurance that one has to buy becomes a very costly proposition. Not only do we have that, the farmers of Manitoba today are probably facing another threat of grasshoppers. The wild oats certainly has been a problem this year in many areas, and the rain has been very spotty. However I don't want to be spreading gloom here because situations can change very rapidly some time, but certainly I was just going to point -- my main purpose was in pointing this out, is the risk that is involved before a farmer gets a return, it's very risky and the return on investment is so very poor. We need better prices in the worst way so that the farmer can have a better return and then he would not be so hard up to pay his taxes which are on an ever-increase in Manitoba; and I think this should have been brought forward by way of taxation that we give greater relief to farmers and not just the homeowner in this province. I note the bill is providing assistance or relief to renters as well, which I certainly don't take exception to, because if the homeowner is relieved most likely the proposition as contained in the bill is a valid one.

Comparing the income of the farmer with other wage earners, and I mentioned this yesterday on another occasion discussing the Urban Affairs Estimates, that people getting the minimum wage are getting more than the farmers that are listed here, this 66 percent, because even at minimum wage you would have a deduction from your tax credit of \$140.00. So this means that many many farmers in the province today are working at below minimum wage and working for very little money.

But they are placed in this position where they can't get out. If you don't proceed and put in a crop, what is the alternative? The alternative is that you lose your whole investment. You lose not only your crop then but you lose your land and it will be sold for taxes. So he has no alternative but to proceed and grow another crop even though he may, from the price that he is receiving, not be making any profit whatever. Because I've said this on previous occasions, and this is borne out by the report on inter-regional competition in cereal grains, the survey made by Dr. Craddock of the University of Manitoba, the cost of the production of wheat in the Red River Valley is higher than what we get for our wheat today, and how can you make a profit at that rate? So something has to be done and I think if we can't get the Federal Government to sell our grain at higher prices to other countries, that a subsidy should be coming forth. It is being made in many other areas. The dairy farmers are getting it; the beet farmers are getting it; other areas are being subsidized; why shouldn't the grain farmer get a subsidy? And I think this government should pressure the federal authority for a subsidy

(MR. FROESE cont'd) so that the farmer receives a commensurate return compared to other occupations.

Mention was made in the House, I think the day before yesterday, that as far as the Unicity bill that was passed here a year ago whereby we will now be providing in the Estimates for relief to the people in Greater Winnipeg that some of this cost will be borne by farmers again and the people in Manitoba as a whole. So I think if that is the case certainly we should see to it that the farmer does get his just share. Because taking the total amount that we are going to provide for Greater Winnipeg, the three and a half million, is, if you take that on a per capita basis it almost doubles the per capita grant to municipalities that is in effect today. We have an \$8.00 per capita grant in Manitoba and now with the relief that we are giving to the Greater Winnipeg area, this will almost be doubled in the city although it won't apply to all the people but it will apply to certain people in the Greater Winnipeg area.

One other point I wish to comment on, and I feel that the figures given -- and I was going to check back on the Minister's statement. I didn't get around to doing it, to quote the exact figure that he gave as the total cost of the rebate in this bill. I think figures of 28 to 31 million have been mentioned, and here I think this is grossly exaggerated. We note from British Columbia, the experience that that province has had. They have had this homeowner grant in existence for a good number of years and theirs is very considerable higher than ours, ours will be at \$145.00 where -- 140 compared to theirs of 185. And their estimated cost of their program for this year of \$185.00 is \$72 1/2 million, \$72,570,000, and if you pro rate this B.C. having a population of 2.2 million compared to our one million, then the cost of the program in Manitoba should be much much less. In fact in my calculations it should be around 24.9 or let's say \$25 million. That would be without any deductions through the income tax plan which is going to remove a considerable amount from this figure of \$25 million. I have no way of just ascertaining this figure. I think the material that was given to us is really not complete. We have various estimates given here and, but I would have liked to see with these sheets is the total amount in each category, the total amount of dollars. We are talking of percentages here but we're not talking in aggregate sums. I too feel that I think this \$140.00 should have applied to everyone and all in Manitoba, not discriminate against those that probably have a higher taxable income, because these are the very people that contribute in the first place toward the coffers, toward the monies that are being paid out and I think, I don't think we should discriminate here. I think we should make it applicable \$140.00 to everyone, those that pay that much in the way of school taxes. This is the policy that is being followed in British Columbia and I think it's a good one. I certainly wouldn't begrudge anyone those few extra dollars. If you dock one percent from the taxable income with a person having a \$5,000 taxable income, one percent is \$50.00 to deduct \$50.00, he receives \$90.00. Why not give him the extra \$50.00, why not allow him the extra 50. I think the bill would receive much wider acceptance as a result of this, if this principle was followed and that we would not have the one percent reduction of the \$140.00 figure.

I had a few - oh before I leave that item, I think too that the income in B.C. is higher as we know from the tables that we have and the reports that are available to us, weekly salaries and so on. But the taxation is much higher in this province than in British Columbia, and is it because of this, of the higher taxation in Manitoba that your estimate of 28 million is so much higher if we compare it to B.C. and the way I did. Because under my comparisons, 25 million would be a maximum without any deductions, and yet you figure it would cost at least 28 million. If that is the case, Mr. Speaker, then taxation must be very very considerable higher in Manitoba than it is in British Columbia. And I imagine it would be to a certain extent because of the municipal grants that British Columbia provides. They provide a \$28 per capita grant whereas we provide \$8, and this reflects itself in the mill rate at the local municipal level. In fact the difference could be very substantial, it could probably be double the amount. Perhaps the Minister has some figures or some indications on this. I should have checked further into this before I did speak on the bill because I think some information could be gathered on this.

There are one or two smaller questions that I had in mind when discussing this bill on second reading. There is a provision here that the spouse that has the higher taxable income in a taxation year, the tax credit will be applied on that particular person. How do you intend to implement this on a farm where a wife may be teaching and having a larger income than the farmer himself has, although the farmer may be paying the tax bills, but in that case will you

(MR. FROESE cont'd) deduct the one percent of the wife's income from the tax credit? I certainly would like to know just how this is going to be treated and how this is going to be handled. Because these situations will arise where the wife's income will be higher and in some cases considerably higher than that of the farmer or the male spouse himself, and just how this is going to be worked out.

I think there may be other implications that don't come to mind at this time. We know the bill will come into effect and will only be applicable next year, but it will be applicable as to the 1971 returns or, 72 I'm sorry, 72 returns, and therefore I have no quarrel with it at all. As far as the principle of the bill, I support the principle of it but there are certain exceptions that I take, and I think I have qualified them, and I feel that there are other courses of action that we could have taken to relieve the farmer of his burden, of the tax burden in connection with education, which in my opinion is a much greater need and which should have been taken care of previous to bringing in legislation of this type. Thank you.

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 29 students of Grade 5 and 6 standing of the Cypress River School. These students are under the direction of Mr. Giesbrecht. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Rock Lake. On behalf of all the honourable members I welcome you here.

GOVERNMENT BILLS - (cont'd)

MR. SPEAKER: Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion? The Honourable Member for Emerson.

MR. GABRIEL GIRARD (Emerson): Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Member for Sturgeon Creek, that the debate be adjourned, but I have no objections if somebody else wishes to speak.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Radisson.

MR. HARRY SHAFRANSKY (Radisson): Mr. Speaker, I am very glad to be able to speak on Bill 55, the Education Property Tax Credit Plan, this credit plan which has been introduced as an amendment to the Income Tax Act.

Before I proceed, I'd like to answer a question that was posed by the Honourable Member from Rhineland. He talked about the number of income tax returns on the farm. I'd like to give this information. In 1970 there were approximately 36,800 farms in the province as compared with 29,746 income tax returns. Accordingly it might seem safe to assume that some 7,054 farmers in the Province, that is 36,800 minus 29,746 had no taxable incomes and did not file income tax returns. If this is the case the additional 7,054 farmers would all qualify for the maximum credit of \$140.00 at a total cost of some \$987,560.00.

Mr. Speaker, I want to briefly review what this government has done in three short years to alleviate the very serious inequities of property taxation and the increasing reliance of this tax base to finance education expenditures. First, this government have increased the provincial contribution towards education expenditures under the Foundation Program from 70 percent in 1970 to 75 percent in 1971 and 1972, 80 percent beginning effectively in 1973. At the same time I understand that the government has initiated full-scale review of all aspects of education in the province so that the benefits are not negated by municipal tax increases. The government plans to join with the school boards in a co-operative effort to find areas where costs can be reduced, where programs can be rationalized, and where educational services can be improved with undue expenditures which will have to be borne by the taxpayers of Manitoba. Secondly, we have introduced the School Tax Reduction Act which provides every Manitoban who pays school taxes directly, or pays rent in respect of a residential dwelling unit, with a reduction in his 1972 school taxes equal to 50 percent of these taxes up to a maximum of \$50.00. This is expected to involve an expenditure of some twelve to fourteen million dollars in 1972. Finally, the Provincial Government has succeeded in attaining the Federal Government's agreement to administer the Manitoba Education Property Tax Credit Plan, which is the bill before us. In general the bill provides for tax credit benefits computed under general formula of \$140.00 minus one percent of taxable income to a minimum of \$50.00, applicable both to homeowners as well as home renters. This is expected to cost about \$28 million.

(MR. SHAFRANSKY cont'd)

Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition, shortly after this Property Tax Rebate Program was announced in the Budget, referred to it in his usual hasty manner as either a blunder or a hoax. Mr. Speaker, I challenge the Conservative Party as well as the Liberal section in this House to vote against the bill. I challenge them to tell the voters of Wolseley that they will not support a bill which will provide significant tax relief, especially for those in a low income and middle income groups. In fact, Mr. Speaker, I just can't understand the Leader of the Official Opposition who exhibits such schizophrenic tendencies. I note that the Leader of the Opposition is not in his seat. I suppose he has gone back to the hustings to tell the people of Wolseley how bad that Education Property Tax Credit Plan is.

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

MR. EARL McKELLAR (Souris-Killarney): On a point of order. Is the honourable member reading his speech or is he following notes?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Radisson.

MR. SHAFRANSKY: I'm following notes, Mr. Speaker, the same as all other honourable members do in this House. I just have some reference notes here. --(Interjection)-- I did with much better advisers than the Leader of the Opposition had. Perhaps he should communicate with the Tory government in Ontario in an attempt to ascertain why that government dropped its flat rate reduction scheme at the end of last year and opted for a similar tax credit plan within the Income Tax system. In fact, he doesn't even need to communicate with them. He can just read their 1972 Budget which states on Page 12, and I quote: "The Ontario Government will introduce this year a Property Tax Credit" --(Interjection)-- I see the man who listens in the House and my apologies, Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition is not gone yet, in fact he's just appeared and he did indicate that he was still around. I suppose it's because it's raining and it's not a good day to be out there. --(Interjection)-- Well it looks kind of cloudy up in --(Interjection)-- Then I'm going to quote from the 1972 Ontario Budget. "The Ontario Government will introduce this year a Property Tax Credit Program which relates to property tax burden borne by each taxpayer in Ontario to his ability to pay as determined under the Personal Income Tax system." I carry on. "For three years Ontario has pressed the Federal Government to incorporate a credit against property taxes within the basic income tax system. Now the Federal Government has agreed to administer this plan beginning with the 1972 taxation year and the Ontario Government will finance it for the benefit of Ontario taxpayers".

Still reading on, Mr. Speaker, from the Ontario Budget, the Ontario Tory Budget. And I quote: "Our Property Tax Credit Program has one primary objective to produce a fair and more progressive distribution of the property tax burden borne by individuals and families in Ontario. It will replace the basic shelter grant which have been in effect since 1968, and deliver relief from the regressive property tax according to individual needs."

Let me still read further from the Ontario Tory Budget, Mr. Speaker, with the following details which appear on Page 79. And I quote: "Analysis of the incidence of property taxation in Ontario has confirmed that it is regressive over much of the income scale, and extremely so for the lowest income groups. The Ontario Basic Shelter Grants have partially upset this regressivity by providing a flat amount of relief to all taxpayers on the basis of average municipal taxation. However, this program was not adequate either in terms of vertical or horizontal equity. It did not provide sufficient relief to the lowest income groups, nor did it provide equal treatment to taxpayers in similar economic circumstances. The clear thrust of permanent reform therefore, must be to link property tax burdens directly to the ability to pay of each individual and family in Ontario."

So, Mr. Speaker, the Ontario Tory Government has decided to adopt a Tax Credit Plan which in many ways is nearly identical to the one outlined in the Budget of Manitoba and contained in Bill 55. First, both plans will be related to property taxes and to ability to pay. Second, both plans will affect in the spring of 1973 though they will both be related to 1972 income and property taxes. And three, both plans will be administered to the Federal Income Tax System. Mr. Speaker, there are two slight differences though. First, the Manitoba plan will provide more assistance to those in the lower income groups than the Ontario plan. About \$20 more on the average, and second, although Ontario has already abandoned its old Flat Rate Reduction Program, Manitoba will retain its School Tax Reduction Program for 1972 as an interim measure. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, people in Manitoba will get double benefits for 1972 in relation to their 1972 school taxes.

(MR. SHAFRANSKY cont'd)

I would have thought, Mr. Speaker, that if our government's argument in favour of the new Tax Credit Plan didn't convince the Leader of the Opposition, he might at least have accepted those of the Progressive Conservative Government of Ontario. Yet no! The Member for River Heights says that a tax credit system will simply mean that tax money will come out of one pocket to be returned to another. The fact is, Mr. Speaker, the cost of the credit system will be borne by those who can afford to pay and will provide the most benefits for those whose incomes are not as high as the Honourable Member for River Heights.

Mr. Speaker, I now want to say a few words about the absent Leader of the Liberal Party of Manitoba, that is absent from this Legislature today, who will continue to be absent after the Wolseley by-election. I understand that Mr. Asper is now campaigning in the Wolseley by-election arguing about the Provincial Government's Property Tax Credit Plan. The people of Manitoba and the constituents of Wolseley should clearly be able to see the type of double talk that this man has been involved in as Leader of the non-party. I want to quote, Mr. Speaker, from the Winnipeg Free Press of March 3rd, 1972, from Mr. Asper's column where he writes on education and taxation, and he states, and I quote: "The most critical need is the revamping of property tax, particularly to the extent it is used to finance the cost of education." Another quote: "We now have reached the stage in our social thinking where the majority recognizes that education is an asset which can be measured by the economic advancement of its recipient. It therefore follows that its cost should be repaid by its recipients on the basis of their economic means. Thus taxing property to finance education as only one example becomes inequitable." Mr. Speaker, we can only agree with the above statement. Then Mr. Asper rightly provides the following examples. "Take some examples", and he states: "Home is worth \$20,000 and is occupied by a couple whose children have left home. The husband earns \$15,000 per year, the wife 6,000. They have clear title. Assume the tax for education finance is \$300.00. Home B nextdoor is worth the same but has a mortgage of \$16,000, and its occupants of a man earning \$8,000 per year, partly because his education is less than his neighbour in Home A, and his wife who looks after their three children is unable to work. Home B is taxed the same as A, yet their social and economic positions vary dramatically." Mr. Speaker, these examples are very similar to those introduced in this House by the Minister of Finance in introducing the Budget, and also in introducing this Bill 55. Then, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Asper concludes, and I quote: "Education costs must be financed by a technique related to one's earnings." Mr. Speaker, that is exactly what Bill 55 does. It is exactly what this Education Property Tax Credit Plan is all about. And yet, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Asper in this by-election at Wolseley is going around arguing against the Property Tax Credit Plan. But yet as members of this Legislature can see from the article I've just quoted from, the government has introduced a program that will provide meaningful tax relief related to a person's earnings which means that those in the low and middle income groups will receive maximum benefits.

So, Mr. Speaker, in summary I challenge the Opposition to vote against this bill. I challenge them to tell the constituents of Wolseley that they are voting against a bill which will provide up to \$140.00 of tax relief to those middle and low income groups in that constituency. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Assiniboia,

MR. STEVE PATRICK (Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, I will not take any amount of time to talk of this bill. I'll be very brief and very short. I know that the member that spoke challenged everybody in the House to tell everybody, or tell him, which way they're going to support the bill, or be against it. I thought that's all I was going to do is get up and tell him. I wish to tell him that I intend to support the bill. For that same reason the other day I withdrew my resolution in respect to exemption, certain exemptions for senior citizens that I had on the Order Paper, for that reason I withdrew it. I do intend to support it. I don't say that the bill has everything that we would have desired to have in it. I know that next year when it will come operational we will discover that there will be many difficulties, or there'll be some difficulties, and there'll be problems, and things will have to be changed.

I only hope, and I have at the present time no knowledge or no reason to doubt what the Minister of Finance has told us that there will be many - I believe he used a percentage of 80 percent or 90 percent of the senior citizens will get 100 or more. I hope he's correct. Not because next year I want to say to him I told you so but the reason I say that, I want to see these people get a benefit, I want to --(Interjection)-- 94 percent. Well this is an exciting

(MR. PATRICK cont'd) figure not only to some of us here, but I think it would be to the senior citizens, and I hope it is because if it isn't then I think that certainly we'll be disappointed and many senior citizens will be disappointed as well.

I'm sure that the Minister will recall that for at least the last six years, every year I've had a resolution in this House, every year, asking for 2,000 exemption for senior citizens, anyone over 65 and receiving a supplement. I've continually asked it even when the Conservative administration was in power. I believe the last year they accepted the resolution and said we admit something has to be done, we'll do something, and even they admitted that something has to be done. Now the following year I had a similar thing and again it was accepted except the Minister of Mines and Natural Resources at that time, the Member for Inkster now, said that we're accepting it but really consider advisability doesn't mean anything because you know we don't have to exercise the prerogative if the resolution passed. I know it passed unanimously in the House but he qualified, the member then, or Minister, qualified that the government didn't have to act. Well I know the government has acted now, some three years later after it came into power. I appreciate this. I'm sure that the senior citizens will appreciate, and other people as well that are on fixed incomes and have a difficult time of paying the tax. I think it's a measure in the right direction. How good a program it is, I don't know. I couldn't tell, I think time will tell, and perhaps next year or the year after that when the -- I hope the Minister will, if the government is still in government at that time, I hope they will not wait and say, well we won't change it because it's not doing what we expected this legislation to do, not wait, change it to make sure that the senior citizens, at least those that are receiving a supplement don't be penalized, or certainly get the \$140.00, or the \$100.00 off the education tax back.

In fact I would like to see that our senior citizens 65 receiving a supplement pay no education tax, pay no education tax. I think that would be a good policy. They've paid their education tax for many many years. They made many sacrifices to be able to live in a little home of their own, to retire in it, and I think that they should have the benefits and some of the fruits now that they've worked so hard. They've went through, as everybody will know, many of the pioneers of this country went through two wars where times were hard. They went through a depression, times were very difficult, and surely they've experienced much harder times than probably somebody that's my age, or some of the younger fellows that sits on the backbenches up there --(Interjection)-- or the Minister, I'll even grant him the Minister of Education as well.

So I say to the Minister I don't think, and I don't believe, the program is perfect. I would have liked a little better program in respect to senior citizens, the ones that are receiving a supplement be completely exempt. At this stage I cannot be too critical because I don't know what it will do but I'll tell the Minister this: if it's not doing the job what we think it's supposed to do, or what we're told that the legislation will do for the senior citizens and people on fixed income, then again next year I will be proposing either amendment to the bill or a resolution asking the government to act in this area.

So I hope the member that just spoke before me knows which way we stand and doesn't have to challenge anybody in this House because surely I'm sure that we're all able to get up and tell him you know which we're going to support the bill, or be against it. I'm supporting the bill.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Emerson.

MR. GIRARD: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Member for Sturgeon Creek, that debate be adjourned.

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

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Finance.

MR. CHERNIACK: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Minister for Universities and Colleges, that Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair and the House resolve itself into a Committee to consider 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: Resolution 115 (a) . . . The Honourable Minister of Urban Affairs, HON. SAUL CHERNIACK, Q.C. (Minister of Finance)(St. Johns): Mr. Chairman, I wonder now if I should respond to some of the points made yesterday by several of the members of the Committee dealing with some of the aspects of the program.

MR. BARKMAN: Mr. Chairman, if it would be in order if you gave us the time left in this Department. I'm sorry to interrupt.

MR. CHAIRMAN: . . . the time allotted.

MR. CHERNIACK: Mr. Chairman, the Member for Rhineland was speaking yesterday and he spoke about the efficiencies that we expect to see created and I would think that there are efficiencies that are possible, we've talked about that time and time again and the city council, I believe, itself firmly believes that efficiencies can be accomplished. These efficiencies we had hoped would come in a little more quickly than they did but nevertheless the city council is working on it. The work that was done by the task forces that's supplied by the Provincial Government has helped considerably I believe the evaluation by the city council and I think that as these efficiencies are effected, if I can use that term with the word "efficiencies", then of course there should be a better adjustment in relation to services to all members of the City of Winnipeg and also a reduction in the increasing and known rising costs of municipal government. The member mentioned per capita grants yesterday. Today I think he made more clear just what he was talking about. Yesterday I had the impression he was saying that the per capita grants being given to the City of Winnipeg, or to the urban community of Manitoba, are greater than the capital grants which were given to the rural element. And I had to tell him, and I have to tell him that he's wrong. The capital grants are based on census and they are upgraded only to the extent that census figures show that there was a wrong calculation previously. And the per capita grants are the same throughout Manitoba. Today I think he referred to the fact that certain grants were being made to taxpayers which if considered as per capita grants would then be higher. He nods his head so now I understand what he must have meant yesterday.

Well I can only say to him that when special recognition is given to special areas within the community of Manitoba then it can no longer be called a per capita grant. Then it becomes a grant which is related to hardship of some kind, and the honourable member himself spoke today about the kinds of input that are being provided by both the Provincial and the Federal Government to the rural areas; and he spoke today on another debate, and he spoke at length about the problems of the farmers, and I agree with him. And the Minister of Agriculture would be the first to rise if he had an opportunity and make a lengthy speech, as he has done time and time again, about the problems that face farmers.

Well, Mr. Chairman, the effect of what we are doing in the City of Winnipeg is not really one which is helpful in itself to changing the economic rights and the economic opportunities of people in Manitoba. What we are doing in Winnipeg in relation to this subsidy is only cushioning the shock of equalization, and I say again that it is only a question of helping people adjust to the fact that they are now being equalized when previously they were not.

And I mention that because it leads to the next question raised by the Member for Rhineland. He wanted me to justify the giving of 75 percent in this year, 50 percent in next year, 25 percent in the following year, and I then have to tell him that in the opinion of this government equalization was essential and fair and equitable, and therefore when we created the larger city and thus just by creating the larger city we created a different kind of a tax base which created an equal impact on all taxpayers in the City of Winnipeg related to their assessment and related to the needs of the entire community, by doing that we did the right thing. And we don't back away from it.

But we knew when we said in our policy paper, and the paper which the honourable member said he hadn't seen before, and I'm somewhat surprised because this was given very extensive circulation last year, and he says it wasn't distributed in the House. I can only say I'm sorry, I'm sorry he missed seeing it, but it in itself is but a summary of the policy paper, the large blue document which was certainly distributed in the House and in many areas in the city, so we are not backing away from the fact that we knew that there would be a sudden increase in taxation based on equalization. We made clear that that impact based on equalization is one in which we felt that people were entitled to have some time within which to adjust. You

(MR. CHERNIACK cont'd) can have a couple buying a home in a part of the present City of Winnipeg, which may have been one of the suburban municipalities, where they knew what the taxes were in preceding years, and were adjusting their budget to conform with what they thought the taxes would be. And they suffered a shock. Now I'm speaking now of people who may have just moved in and found that there was quite a change. Well if there is a change where equity is created still we felt we ought to do something to assist them during a period of transition. The period of transition we feel should be considered to be this year and the next two, in which time people will adjust to changes in taxation and people will also be able to watch their city council attempt to perform both in provision of more equitable services across the city of Winnipeg and in reduction of the increase in taxation, the normal increase, by creating efficiencies. And that is why we thought an adjustment isn't 100 percent this year, 100 percent next year, 100 percent three years from now, and nothing four years from now, since we feel that the impact of this rise due to equalization came this year, then over the next three years we want to give people an opportunity to be able to live through that adjustment at the same time that the city of Winnipeg is going through its growing pains. And that is the reason why we have provided for a reducing formula.

There are members on city council apparently who have made statements that we should be paying 100 percent but those very same members were making statements that all increases should be paid for, and I've seen quotations in newspapers more recent than the first striking of the budget by the city of Winnipeg where they are still apparently saying it should be \$6 1/2 million. By their own figures that's complete and utter nonsense, because they calculated the total increase, school mill rate, municipal mill rate, natural growth included, impact on change included, as being something that is the result of unification. Well that has to be nonsense. The imposition of taxation by the school divisions is something over which neither the city council nor the Province of Manitoba has any control.

I have before me a statement showing percentage increases over 1971 of the special levy. Honourable members don't have that table, but I'll read from it, and I find here that the school division increases on special levy on a percentage basis are the following: Winnipeg, 18 percent increase; St. James-Assiniboia, 32 percent increase -- that's in the school division, the increase on the special levy of 1971, the increase in 1972 special levy -- 32 percent in St. James-Assiniboia. You'll recall the Member for Sturgeon Creek seemed to consider total mill rate increases being something that was attributable to the City of Winnipeg unification. But in St. James-Assiniboia there is a 32 percent increase in special levy; in Assiniboine South there was a 27 percent increase in special levy; St. Boniface a 36 percent increase; Fort Garry a 32 percent increase; St. Vital a 23 percent increase; Norwood, 35 percent increase; River East, 6 percent; Seven Oaks School Division, 13 percent increase in special levy; Transcona Springfield, 60 percent -- I looked at Mr. Saunders just to make sure that I was reading it correctly and he nods his head -- 60 percent increase in Transcona Springfield; Seine River a 19 percent increase. Now these increases cannot be attributed to the unification of the City of Winnipeg, and there is no rhyme or reason on the part of the city councillors, or members opposite, to try and attribute the total increase in mill rate, in total mill rate to unification, and that's why we said we will not assume responsibility for something like this.

The other thing the City of Winnipeg says, certain councillors of the City of Winnipeg have been saying, is that the increase in municipal costs is something that the unification is completely accountable for, and the fact is we have studied what the normal increase has been and we have certainly shown an average increase based on normal growth, less than it actually was, or would have been, because we opted always for the lesser figure, to attribute But finally they started talking 7 1/2 million. By the time they hit the city council budget time, it came down to about 5 1/2 million not 7 1/2, and I explained I think to committee one million of that was normal monies that they had a right to expect that if they did not show in their revenue item, and which we were able to point out to them, as being monies which they would be receiving which they had not budgeted for in revenue an additional \$850,000 which we gave as additional revenue to the city before they struck the mill rate. So the mill rate reflects a total increase of substantially less than \$6 million and some of the people of the city council are still talking in terms of 6 1/2.

But then they are talking about a contribution to the City of Winnipeg and to me this is most peculiar because the result of equalization, as I previously pointed out, meant an increase in certain areas in the City of Winnipeg of 2, 2 or almost that -- 2, 2 million dollars,

(MR. CHERNIACK cont'd) but the reduction due to equalization was greater than that. It was 2.4 million and no way did I think that the Province of Manitoba should be paying to the people in the former City of Winnipeg half of the total City of Winnipeg, part of which is within the constituency of St. Johns. In no way did I think they were entitled to any assistance for cushioning the blow because they were the beneficiaries, and the same applies to East Kildonan, and the same applies to Transcona, because they got reductions, and if we had taken the money as requested by city councillors, some of them, and paid it into city council coffers, it would have meant that the people of the former City of Winnipeg, East Kildonan, Transcona, and a couple of the School Division areas, would have had a substantial benefit, and they weren't entitled to it because they already benefitted from equalization. But in the contributions which the province is making, the difference between 1971 and 72 shows that including the schools, the increase in provincial contribution to the city's revenues is up by more than 20 percent, and I think that that is good and proper and fair performance on the part of the province.

The Member for Rhineland asked if these calculations will be made year after year, and the answer is no. We made the calculations because in this year we were able to estimate the effect of equalization, and the figures we have arrived at this year in mill rates, not in dollars, we are paying 75 percent of those mills, next year we'll pay 55 percent of those mills, but because we know that assessments are rising all the time we know that in dollar figures it will be more, and that calculation on the mill rate basis will be recalculated once the assessment figures are known.

Now the member spoke about Brandon amalgamation and said, well why isn't something being done there? Well I must admit that I don't know in detail just what the legislation was last year but I do remember this, and the Honourable Member for Rhineland probably remembers it as well, that when the amalgamation, or the annexation -- that's the more correct word -- by Brandon of a certain part of, I think it was Cornwallis was carried out, it was done largely by way of a negotiated agreement and when it was dealt with at law amendments committee, or maybe it was Municipal Affairs Committee, as I recall it when I was there, there was special provision written right into the Act with the consent of the City of Brandon, and I remember that clearly, the City of Brandon representatives agreed to it that the people who were in the annexed area of Cornwallis would have a mill rate which would be, and now I may be wrong in detail but I think I'm right in the principle, would be related to the average mill rate of the surrounding municipalities around Brandon and not Brandon itself. Now that's my recollection and I may be wrong as I say in detail, but I'm pretty sure I'm right in principle, that that was a negotiated change in the Bill and that the people of Cornwallis were not immediately, and I figured it applied to residents of Cornwallis, were not immediately brought up and told you are going to pay the Brandon mill rate, and I think the reason was pretty apparent in discussions. There was that large plant sitting on the edge of Brandon which both polluted Brandon and which served Brandon, and the employees of which lived in Brandon, and they were contributing on the Cornwallis low rural mill rate, and in that annexation the Simplot Plant became part of Brandon and became taxable for the benefit of the people of Brandon. So it was a different situation altogether and one which I think was clear to us last year.

Now the member, I quoted him as saying "people of low income will not receive the tax credit." I never did understand that. I had the impression that he said that those who did not have a taxable income would not qualify for the credit, and I just don't understand what he means, because this credit is related to all people as it relates to the increase in taxation, both the wealthy and the poor who live in those areas where the real property tax has gone up to an extent because of equalization, they will all receive that benefit, that cushioning of the shock, and therefore I can't really -- I must admit I'm not clear on just what he said, and I haven't seen a transcript of what he said, so I can't really respond.

May I move now to comments made by the Honourable Member for Brandon West and I must say I always enjoy listening to him because his presentation is always such that it's not provocative; it's very searching, and it's very pointed, and requires answers, but it's always at a level where one enjoys debating points with him.

The Member for Charleswood says, not like I do, and I admit, and I think I did earlier, that I can see the Member for Charleswood, it seems to me I see him whether he's in his seat or not, whenever he appears, mainly because he's usually talking in some way from whatever seat he's in, but I admit to him that I have been badly affected and influenced by the

(MR. CHERNIACK cont'd) level of debate generally in this House and I am guilty of not debating on the same high level as the Member for Brandon West. I at least try my best to raise myself to his level. I wish the Member for Charleswood would do the same.

The Member for Brandon West was speaking about the thrust of this Department for Urban Affairs. I am sure that it would be on record somewhere that we said when we announced the creation of a Department of Urban Affairs that it has a very important role to play in the future, and I know, I know I must have said, because I felt strongly of how proud I was that the Province of Manitoba was the first jurisdiction in Canada which recognized the urban problems yet to come to the extent that it was the first to have a Minister for Urban Affairs. I admit to you that the Federal Government appointed its minister fairly soon after I was honoured by being appointed the first Minister for Urban Affairs in Canada but at least I'm sure I said often that Manitoba was the first to recognize the growing problems that have yet to face us.

The Member for Brandon West is quite correct in saying that the problems are ahead of us, so we announced the importance of the creation of the department. We said the Department for Municipal Affairs would continue to function, would continue to serve, but that we needed a different kind of a ministry and the Ministry for Urban Affairs is a ministry which is a co-ordinating ministry, it's not a service industry, it's not a line department, and we made that clear. The Department for Urban Affairs consists of the two gentlemen sitting in front of me and a handful more, and it's not intended that it should be a line department but its function is to relate the services that the government provide at all levels to specific problems which are urban, and that means the Department for Municipal Affairs continues with its work and deals with the City of Winnipeg to the extent it's involved, the Department of Highways, the Department of Health and Social Development, the Department of Education, all aspects of all departments in government that relate to the urban scene are channelled through, or we wish it to be channelled through, and co-ordinated with and through the Department for Urban Affairs so that the people involved in urban problems will have one desk to relate to and be able to rely on that desk to co-ordinate services provided by various departments. We have found that throughout all the years certain departments deal with certain municipal governments without relating their dealings and their transactions to that of another department which deals with municipal governments, and we are still in the embryonic stage, and we clearly said when we announced that we were creating the Department for Urban Affairs, that we are going to concentrate firstly on the problems of ordering the affairs of the City of Winnipeg. So the member for Brandon West can say, well that's all you've been doing; the fact is that's all we said we would do in the initial growing periods of Urban Affairs Department.

We have concentrated on that. We have not neglected other areas, Brandon, Thompson; they have not been neglected; they have been dealt with by the line departments that have dealt with them in the past, but if ever we should be commended for not rushing out and trying to cover the whole waterfront, I think in this case, knowing that we are trying to keep the department small, knowing that we are trying to learn our jobs, and frankly we are, because we have not yet fully established a complete working relationship within the Provincial Government itself, and nobody can expect that that should happen. We are doing it as quickly as we can, but with all due and deliberate haste -- an expression coined elsewhere and in other relationships, but we are trying to do that but admittedly we are dealing with the City of Winnipeg problems now, and I think we should. So if the Member for Brandon West thinks we should be called the Department of Winnipeg . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member has five minutes.

MR. CHERNIACK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman -- then he can do that if he likes, but I just tell him that we consider that the future of this department is urban affairs, and does include the urban scene, and does include Brandon, and does include Thompson, and does include areas that have urban problems, but at this stage we are attempting to concentrate on that area. The member . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Brandon-West.

MR. MCGILL: ... the Minister would permit a question. Now with the Minister's explanations on the functions of the department, could I ask if your department meets with the Federal Department of Urban Affairs in respect to Manitoba's urban problems, does it invite other urban areas to be present at those discussions?

MR. CHERNIACK: I was coming to that because the next point made by the Honourable Member for Brandon West was NHA and why didn't we include Brandon. Well I can tell the member that when we dealt with NHA with the Federal Department, we didn't include the City of Winnipeg people either. So far our discussions with the Urban Affairs Department in Ottawa which - I don't want to say it in an accusing way, but I don't think they are as well organized as we are, and I don't claim we are that well organized - they are in the embryonic stages as we are and our relations with them have been mechanical mostly. We have been trying to set up a method by which we can talk to each other, a dialogue, and that did not involve the municipal governments. We are also working with the Municipal Government of Winnipeg on a dialogue, but we are not having these tripart - we haven't had any discussions of that nature yet, and indeed we haven't had occasion to. So it's not discrimination; we are just getting started and we admit it.

Now the member did say that we came into this in a hasty way and we have problems. So far the problems we have are in the main problems we have foreseen and problems which we are trying to deal with. And I'm not saying we're doing a perfect job but I think we are doing our best and doing it rather equitably. I think I have but moments left.

The Member for Assiniboia talked about houses and urban problems in the late 1970s. At that stage I think he was not prepared to accept a question. I wanted to ask him if he felt that we were too slow in the housing program in the City of Winnipeg or in Manitoba because we have made very dramatic strides forward in that field and certainly we are aware of the problems; not all of them, nobody is, but we are trying to prepare ourselves to cope with the problems he referred to in the 1970s. Now he mentioned the Municipal Board and certain specific problems the City of Winnipeg has; we are now discussing them with the City of Winnipeg and this House will have every opportunity to discuss them further because I have yet to bring forward as I announced earlier amendments to the City of Winnipeg Act which will be discussed at which stage we can discuss the question of any problems they have in zoning etc.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for La Verendrye.

MR. BARKMAN: Mr. Chairman, whatever I have to say is not meant to create divisiveness or pit the urban against the rural or vice versa; but I think I would like to expand a bit on the relationship between rural Manitoba and the new City, so-called new City of Winnipeg. And I realize the new City with its growing pains and perhaps future failures and successes that'll have to go through I realize that they are bound to affect equality of life as far as our rural population is concerned.

In the past 30 years, Mr. Chairman, Manitoba farmers have left the land in great numbers. I think the Manitoba rural dwellers have had to move for a variety of reasons; some to southern towns, others to smaller cities, and of course many to the City of Winnipeg. It is hardly necessary to point out that Winnipeg has more than 50 percent of the total population of Manitoba, and that it is estimated in the future - and it doesn't really matter just what year it'll come about; it'll come about too soon I think - that this will rise to a percentage of 80 percent within the next eight or ten years perhaps. And we must realize that shift of population challenges the old relationship of municipal government. And the result I think we know - or at least in part - has now become the Department of Urban Affairs, a department I agree that is necessary that we should have, must have, so that these people can also speak up for their rights. It is the changing role of municipal and urban government, Mr. Chairman, coupled with the new requirement of urban management that will somehow directly or indirectly affect the rural Manitoba. And I wish to say this emphatically, the two cannot really be separated.

Mr. Chairman, this leads me to the question of relationship with the new Winnipeg City power structure to those who are left. I mean to those who are left on the farm and who have suffered a drop in net income despite any rising gross sales. Rural Manitoba will now have to contribute to the costs of operating this massive urban centre. This so-called siphoning off into the new financial input for the City of Winnipeg - as has been mentioned in this House over and over again - comes at a time when low income farmers are faced with many problems; whether they sell; are ready to leave; or whether they sell their small unit and take a low income

(MR. BARKMAN cont'd) job; or whether they stay on their small farms for inadequate income. But with some security they - if they wish these things - they are nearly forced to move to other places than where they are presently. So I say that neither rural Manitobans nor - for that matter I think we could include - northern residents will derive at their percentage of the benefits from upcoming urban services.

Mr. Chairman, rural poverty when compared to urban inner-city poverty might look like a luxury, but one-half of our rural residents - and I'm speaking Canadian now when I say this and not necessarily Manitoban - we know live below the poverty line; and to this we can add some of our hardships we have in a province like Manitoba. And then of course add the needs that can only be supplied via taxes by government assistance which has been required and has been given out, as was mentioned by the Minister a while ago. He's talking of housing renewal; we can mention water and sewer; mention housing and care for the elderly - my colleague that spoke a little while ago - and many other things that become a different way of life as far as rural Manitobans are concerned.

So, Mr. Chairman, an upset farm community and the farm vote in Manitoba is not a matter that we should take lightly. The farmers do have some organized groups today, although it is quite limited and I realize that there has been a steady growth of marketing boards and larger co-operatives. However, any representation of the rural voice seems to or will be forced to take a second seat to the City of Winnipeg - and I should not perhaps, but I call it a new political power structure. In any future discussions with provincial governments, I think it will have to become that to be its own, but it is going to affect the lives of people in rural Manitoba. Winnipeg, Mr. Chairman, controls about one-half of the seats of the Legislature as all of us know. The City of Winnipeg Act has given a new power structure almost a mini Legislature you might say, that can approach the government at any time behind closed doors with the Department of Urban Affairs. Perhaps the age is dawning when instead of representing our constituents in the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba we instead will be electing or will be elected representatives in the Legislative Assembly of Winnipeg. I mention this for the sake that it will mean a great difference in the lives of some of the people that will want to and have to hang on and live in rural Manitoba.

Mr. Chairman, the situation is very similar to the folk story of the city mouse and the country mouse who tried to live in the same briarpatch. Our city dwellers take their buildings, their pavements, their sewer and their water, their parks, their streets, lighting and many other things for granted - and we realize it is only a part or a parcel of the good city life and they are deserving of it. The point is the difference that will affect . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please. I am sorry to inform the member that the time allotted for Urban Affairs has been expended. I would refer members to Page . . . The Honourable . . .

MR. PAULLEY: . . . any unexpended hours over the 90 hours can be considered later. I don't think that it would be within the rules of the House to grant leave as much as I would like to as House Leader. And now, Mr. Chairman, I believe that the next department is the Department of Colleges and Universities, The Honourable Saul Miller.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would refer honourable members to Pages 12 and 13, Resolution 36 (a). The Honourable Minister of Colleges and University Affairs.

HON. SAUL A. MILLER (Minister of Colleges and Universities) (Seven Oaks): Mr. Chairman, this is the first time that special Estimates are being presented for colleges and universities in Manitoba, and I would like at this time - although it's usual to do so I know - but at this time I would like particularly to pay tribute to Mr. Scott Bateman, my Deputy for sitting in at my request to help me establish this new department and it's thanks to him that the development has gone as smoothly as it has in the very few months that it has been in existence.

The decision to separate the functions was made last fall. The idea was to separate the old Department of Youth and Education, drop the Youth from the title, and to make two departments out of this - education, and form the new department to deal with post-secondary education itself.

Four provinces have taken this step and I am told other provinces will be following suit. I would like to point out three important reasons for creation of this department. The first reason, Mr. Chairman, is growth. During the past decade we witnessed a fantastic growth in the post-secondary field. Full-time enrollment at university in 1960 was 6,200; in 1965, it was 10,800. In 71/72 the full-time enrollment has climbed to over 17,000. This means that

(MR. MILLER cont'd) in Manitoba, universities have been experiencing a growth rate of approximately 60 percent in each five year period. But, Mr. Chairman, this is only one facet of the growth in the post-secondary field.

Several years ago it was estimated that part-time enrollment would rise to equal the full-time enrollment, sometime in the mid or the late 1970s. But the number enrolled on a part-time basis at the university today approximates full-time enrollment. From a total 4,369 in 1960 enrollment in 71/72 stands at 16,200. Mr. Chairman, this increase in part-time enrollment is a clear illustration of the public commitment and the demand for continuous education.

At the community colleges the pattern of growth is even more dramatic. In 60/61, the total enrollment at the community colleges, that is including full-time and part-time enrollment, was 3,100 or just slightly under 3,200. In 65/66, it was 12,100, and in 70/71, 25,600 enrolled at our community colleges. Still another indication of rapid growth in this sector of education is growth operating expenditure; and at the universities gross operating expenditures rose from 11.3 million in 60/61 to 24 million in 65/66, and in 70/71 it reached \$62 million. That's the gross operating expenditure. Similarly at the community colleges expenditures have gone from 371,000 in 1960 to 3 million in 65/66 to 11 million 500 last year.

Now the rate of these cost increases leads me to the second major reason for the establishment of this department. The Provincial Government is very concerned about the future financing of post-secondary education. The concern is further aggravated by the uncertainty of Federal-Provincial cost-sharing arrangements. The Fiscal Arrangements Act, as honourable members probably are aware, is the basis for post-secondary cost-sharing. It has been extended for two years only and will expire on March 31, 1974. The Federal Government has given notice that it does not and I underscore the not, it does not intend to continue cost-sharing on an open-handed basis. Even for the balance of the present agreement the Federal Government has stipulated it will meet only a maximum 15 percent in the rate of increase. Any increase above that percentage will fall on the shoulders of the province, that is all provinces. If the Federal Government persists, Mr. Chairman, in setting a limit on its financial participation, costs are going to fall even more heavily on the provinces. So therefore it becomes most urgent that changes are introduced to get more value for our post-secondary dollars. And I can assure you, Mr. Chairman, that the current discussions with the Federal Government are being approached by us with a full recognition of the very serious implication involved in any change in the financial arrangement.

While rapid growth in numbers and services has contributed to the increase in cost, there have been other equally important factors which have caused the government to place greater emphasis on post-secondary education. And these are reflected, Mr. Chairman, in some of the principal changes in our society, and that society is undergoing. There are a number of social pressures today and developments within our society which have made the continuations of one's education beyond a secondary level a necessity where once it might have been considered a luxury. There are many who need re-education and re-training in order to continue successfully in their present employment. There are many whose education must be extended as a result of a higher educational requirement in many areas of work. And there are those who are educationally and economically advantaged, disadvantaged, and who require opportunities for individual development.

Now in order to make those opportunities available, it was essential that we recognize the inequities that exist in providing such educational opportunities. These inequities range from geographic isolation, economic hardship, social differences and personal handicaps. The challenge to inequality presents a formidable task, but we should strive to assure each Manitoban maximum opportunity to take advantage of his or her fullest potential so long as that individual is ready, willing and able to do so. These are the major factors which have motivated the establishment of this department, Mr. Chairman - however, at the same time the reasons which have caused this government to establish a task force on post-secondary education in Manitoba. We are anxious for the results of this post-secondary task force since they will assist the government in formulating policy directions for the 1970s. In the meantime however, Mr. Chairman, my department is active in many areas and I would like to highlight some of these activities and developments. The completion this fall of a Basic Science building which is a keystone part of the University of Manitoba Medical-Dental campus will make possible a 30 percent increase in student enrollment from 75 to 96 students.

(MR. MILLER cont'd) Continued concern for high quality research in the province will be aided by the completion of the Umphrey Memorial Centre for studies in mental retardation. This is located on the campus of the Brandon University.

Mr. Chairman, the moderation of university enrollment growth in Manitoba and the decreased enrollment in some other provinces indicates that previous enrollment forecasting based upon the historical trends of the past were no longer valid. Students are no longer attending universities in the numbers characteristic of the 1960s and they are turning to other forms of post-secondary education. You can readily understand the need for proper enrollment projection. Since these are essential to rational planning of post secondary facilities and to programs, the Universities Grants Commission has therefore undertaken a study to re-examine enrollment trends at the universities.

This government has indicated its concern for the remote areas of our province, and two years ago there were only two university courses available to residents of Northern Manitoba. We considered this situation quite unsatisfactory. A pilot project which is called Extension Agent in the north was initiated. In two years this project succeeded in expanding the courses offered from two to fourteen and all three universities are involved. Henceforth a program will be carried on as a continuing program under the Universities Grants Commission support because we feel that it's now well established. However we are not resting on that and in the coming year we'll be undertaking a new innovative program in the north of an experimental nature in the delivery of post-secondary education for credit courses. With this new approach we will try to reach people who have been traditionally excluded from post-secondary education; we will attempt to bring university education closer to communities in the north by having those courses taught by people living in the community but supported by university personnel. In the community colleges a great deal of thought has gone into expanding some of the courses in the most beneficial way possible to meet the increased demand. For an example, an existing program for Child Care Service at Red River Community College is to include a Child Day Care Centre and students enrolled in the course will now have the facilities to provide them with essential practical training in child care.

My department is also considering plans for a nursing training program for northern Manitoba. The program has not been finalized since we are looking at a number of alternative approaches to training. But we do expect once the program is established to enroll about 40 students who will be residents of the northern part of our province. Also at the Keewatin Community College at The Pas a new program, the Northern Dental Auxiliary Program, is scheduled to begin this fall. Some 15 trainees selected from northern communities will be enrolled in a ten-month program. This number will increase to 25 next year. Now the primary objective of these programs, Mr. Chairman, is to increase the number of medical professionals working in the north.

Through expanded and new programs therefore the government is continuing to tackle the problems of accessibility and thereby to more equalize educational opportunity. For instance all courses in the three community colleges now include provision for the admission of applicants as mature students who possess less than the traditional formal level of academic preparation which is normally required for admission. In the last three years we have more than doubled the counselling service at the three colleges. This has been done to provide the needed assistance required by an increasing number of applicants who lack the information about suitable courses or who require individual assistance in handling their programs once they are admitted. Because improved counselling is an essential factor in facilitating access to training and in making it more likely that students will complete their training successfully.

An experimental project incorporating a block system approach is now being conducted at Assiniboine Community College. The training program is broken down into two elements, into elements of skill and of knowledge. A student covers only those blocks he needs for his job and as the job or as his needs, or as he seeks to expand his skills the student then covers other blocks and his qualifications' record is changed accordingly. In this way he can plug in or plug out whenever he wishes. At the Fort Osborne Barracks' centre a comprehensive project is underway this year in adult academic upgrading - in upgrading rather. The program provides entry opportunities on a continuing basis as students can advance in the studies according to their individual abilities. A major effort is also underway to develop an effective outreach capacity, Mr. Chairman, and I think this is important. Initiatives are being attempted by the community colleges to collaborate with local school divisions in adult education projects.

(MR. MILLER cont'd) The plan is to arrange for the joint use of facilities and other resources and to achieve a coordinated programming. Assiniboine Community College at Killarney and Dauphin and the Keewatin Community Colleges at The Pas and Thompson are going to try this approach. At the university as well progress is being made in the programming for those individuals in our province who so often don't have the chance to benefit from the mere existence of educational opportunities. One such program, Mr. Chairman, and I might add it's I think the first in Canada, is the special mature student program which is carried on in the Brandon University and has been for the last year. It's designed expressly for a small number of severely disadvantaged Manitobans. Students were selected in co-operation with the Federal Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and the Federal Department of Manpower. The students work in a controlled supportive atmosphere. Mr. Chairman, the success of the program surpassed even our fondest hopes. Two of these special mature students will graduate with their degrees in October after only two years on the program.

The same non-traditional aggressive approach has been taken with an experimental teacher training project. This is known as Project Impact. Project Impact features teacher training occurring in the home communities of the trainees who work part time in the school. The trainees are selected by their communities for careers in teaching; they enter their training regardless of previous academic experience or their personal circumstances. These programs are carried on in the following school divisions: Kelsey, Pelly Trail, Birdtail River; Rolling River and Turtle River and they're tied to the program which is based at the Brandon University. A further new approach based on the Impact model is now being contemplated because many conditions in Winnipeg suggest that the community centre approach to teacher training may also be appropriate in Winnipeg, and Winnipeg School Division has indicated a willingness to participate in such a program.

Members' attention may probably or I'm sure has been drawn to the substantial increase of student aid and student employment. This of course highlights one of the major factors in restricting accessibility to post-secondary education by lowering income groups and the severely disadvantaged. That is their financial inability to pursue their education goals. We have made these expansions to help meet this problem. The Premier earlier in the year announced the details of this year's summer student employment plan, and the growth of this program demonstrates this government's concern for providing jobs for students. In the summer of '69 the provincial government spent approximately 1.5 million to employ about 1,400 students in the service. Last year the province spent approximately three million to provide about 2,700 students with jobs. This year employment opportunities will cost approximately 4.3 million and we hope will generate jobs for approximately 4,100 Manitoba students. In three years, therefore, Mr. Chairman, the government has demonstrated conclusively its concern to advance the cause of accessibility to further education to all Manitobans through its Student Aid Program. In 1968/69, 648,000 was spent on student aid to assist 1,800 post-secondary students. This year in 72/73 over \$4-1/2 million will be spent to assist an estimated 8,000 post-secondary students. From these figures you can see that this government is helping the children of the average Manitoba citizen to continue his or her education.

One new program deserves special mention. That was a program introduced last year in the fall, a special bursary loans program and it was offered for the first time to medical and dental students who would undertake to practice in Manitoba but outside the Metropolitan Winnipeg area. The program exceeded our expectations and drew an unexpectedly large number of applicants, 143 to be exact. I believe that in the years to come, Mr. Chairman, this program will help to alleviate the needs for more doctors and dentists in rural and northern Manitoba. Increases have also been made to the funds available for secondary bursaries which are used to encourage and assist students who desire to complete their secondary schooling. These bursaries have benefitted a large number of applicants especially in the Frontier School Division and in the Adult Education Centre.

Mr. Chairman, since its inception the Youth Secretariat has worked to bring about a better coordination of provincial activities in the areas of youth. The Youth Secretariat operates the Student Placement Office and the student employment program. It has played a facilitative role in the provision of hostel services to travelling youth and is responsible for travel and exchange programs including the Federal-Provincial Young Voyageur Program.

Last summer the Secretariat also initiated in co-operation with the Curriculum Branch of the Department of Education, with the Manitoba Indian Brotherhood, the Metis Federation

(MR. MILLER cont'd) and the Faculty of Education a summer cross cultural project. The purpose of this project was to employ students to develop educational materials relevant to children of native ancestry. The project will continue this summer on an expanded basis and I have the highest hopes and expectations that the results of this project will represent a major improvement in the materials being used in our schools in matters dealing with our native people.

Also in regard to the Youth Secretariat members may recall in 1970 I initiated a summer enrichment program in response to a need for increased learning experiences and opportunities for elementary students from economically disadvantaged areas of Winnipeg. At the same time I saw an opportunity to provide socially meaningful summer employment for university students. This has been a very successful program which has been carried on by the Secretariat. I would like to give you some figures on it, Mr. Chairman, because I think they're indicative of the kind of programs and the growth of programs. In the summer of 70, 240 Grade 5 students from selected schools in Winnipeg participated in a special program at the Frontier Collegiate in Cranberry Portage. In 1971 the program was expanded and carried on at four different sites in the province: the Manitoba School for the Deaf in Winnipeg which involves 150 Grade 4 to 6 students who were brought in from isolated communities in northern Manitoba; at Frontier Collegiate there were 290 students from central Winnipeg and the Town of Cranberry Portage; at The Pas the community college was used to provide an enrichment program for 300 students from Kelsey School Division and here in Winnipeg three downtown elementary schools were used and the program involved 600 students serving the neighbourhood around those schools. In all over 1,300 elementary students were enrolled and 90 post-secondary students staffed the program. The entire program has received a very favourable response by all who were involved in any way - by the parents, northern school community committees, school boards, teachers and students. But this year we have set our sights higher. Some 2,100 children will be involved in this year's summer enrichment program with 150 post-secondary students employed in the program. Now these of course are approximate figures because the program is still being developed.

A significant development also this summer will be the introduction of an internship program because some 40 students entering the Faculties of Education in Winnipeg and in Brandon will join this summer's education program staff and with this background it's hoped that when these students graduate they will work in their local communities with a greater degree of confidence and experience. And I might add that the Faculty of Education at the University of Manitoba will be doing a comprehensive evaluation of the internship program.

So, Mr. Chairman, in conclusion I wish to restate our goal: Post-secondary education for all Manitobans who want and need this opportunity. Although there has been a slowing down of the expansion of full time enrollment it has been more than offset by increasing demands for adult and continuous education. Employment commensurate with their education is of course a problem facing many graduates but we must realize that this is a national problem which can and must be solved at the national level. Let us not also forget that a democracy needs an enlightened citizenry, a citizenry capable of responding to rapid changes intelligently and with an informed judgment. Education gives them this opportunity to develop this ability. Let us not forget also that in a society which demands an increasingly skilled work force education, especially advanced education is society's gateway to lifetime careers and to society's rewards. Mr. Chairman, therefore this government will continue the necessary initiative to provide the required range of post-secondary education opportunities for the citizens of Manitoba. Mr. Chairman, with these opening remarks I trust members opposite will have questions and those I am able to answer I'll gladly answer. Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Emerson.

MR. GIRARD: Mr. Chairman, may I at the outset congratulate the Minister in his new capacity. I have had and I have said in the past that the Minister has displayed an ability to administer his department with a great deal of credit coming to him and we are happy to see this kind of administration. We would like it expanded to other departments, if I may say that, should opportunities be given. However I am concerned and I have a few questions to ask the Minister of Universities and Colleges because there is no doubt that he didn't intend in his speech to cover all areas and there are some areas which are concerning to us, and I suppose this is the right time to ask the questions.

Firstly might I start with the very general but broad aspect of post-secondary education

(MR. GIRARD cont'd) finances. I for one, Mr. Chairman, am of the opinion that we should look very carefully at the present structure which allocates money to both universities and colleges or post-secondary institutions. Although I haven't researched the matter to bring hard cold facts and statistics to the Minister, I might tell him that I'm under the impression that on the basis of per capita expenditures we can both realize that it is more expensive, more costly, to educate people at the post-secondary level but I am not convinced, Mr. Chairman, that the spread that exists now between the per pupil expenditure is a justifiable one, and I suggest that in discussions with the administration of the University of Manitoba, and by the way at that time there was question about some changes in the membership of the Senate I believe, a bill which some people at the university were hopeful would be introduced at this session. It will be. In my discussion with the university president at that time, I suggested to him very candidly that we might not be prepared to bring in alternative suggestions with regards to financing of university institutions now, but if it is not looked at very closely between now and next session that I would be very much more interested in seeing some legislation brought about that would give the provinces, the province possibly more control than it now has with regard to matters of finances at the university level.

It was subsequently, Mr. Chairman, that the Minister announced that he had appointed a commission to look into the matter of post-secondary education and I assumed, although I have not seen the terms of references, that the matter of finances will be considered by this same commission as well as many other matters.

I raise no objection to the appointment of a commission because I think that this is a matter that should have been looked after, and is being looked after, and in that respect I am satisfied. I might be a little critical, Sir, though in suggesting maybe by omission rather than by outright suggesting, that we didn't have the people in Manitoba capable to sit on that commission, except one particular one. It is not a pleasant comment - is there more than one? I am sorry if there is more than one but I would suggest that the number is not very significant. I would suggest that we might have overlooked some pretty capable people in Manitoba that could well have fulfilled that kind of work. I am happy to hear that the commission is to report in November and I hope, Mr. Chairman, that the commission's report and the subsequent changes that are to be made effective, I suppose by the government following that report, will warrant the expenditure that will be incurred. I am not sure that the rumours I receive are all true but some of the rumours have indicated to me that these people are paid in the area of \$100 per day for their studies. In any case, Mr. Chairman, I hope that if that is in fact the kind of salary that we are paying to those people, the study might as well be a good one because it will be sufficiently costly.

I raised questions in the House a few days ago, Mr. Speaker, with regard to the Sacu Test, because the Sacu Test as the Minister well knows was a manner of evaluating to some degree at least, the knowledge possessed by the students who were about to enter university and although it certainly couldn't be called the ideal kind of examination, and maybe in fact it was not even worthwhile, it has been discontinued and my criticism is not so much that it is discontinued but I just wonder, Mr. Chairman, whether or not it is essential, or necessary, or advisable, to have a replacement to that kind of evaluation program because I am curious as to what we mean when we talk about academic standards, and I'm curious as to what the universities will do, and what the standards are doing now, and if the standards as we understood them traditionally are still being seriously considered. If they are not, if they are not, Mr. Chairman, I would suggest that it would be good for the Government of Manitoba and the universities especially, to tell the schools of Manitoba at the secondary level if the academics are not essential, if the academics are not the most vital, in order to assure a person who is destined to be a student at the university that he will be succeeding in his undertaking, what then is, what are the important aspects of the high school student in terms of education?

Might I just change to another area, Mr. Chairman, and ask the Minister if he knows what might have happened to the somewhat flowery ideas that were incorporated in the Core Report. I know that the Minister had some doing with regard to instituting the Core Report and I was hoping that should he have stayed in that department, that something would be done with some of the ideas embodied in that report, but it's kind of regrettable that we get the ideas thrown around, the commission paid, and the curtains closed. I would suggest, Mr. Chairman, that although I know he has remote relationship, are remote with the Department of Youth and Education, might I suggest to him that it would be interesting to have some of the aspects

(MR. GIRARD cont'd) embodied in the Core Report revitalized, and I'm referring even more specifically, Mr. Chairman, to the idea of accreditation in terms of credits per subject. I think that this is timely, it's due, and it should be brought into practice.

I suppose that the Minister of Universities and Colleges spoke very sincerely when he said that this is the first time these Estimates are being proposed, and now he seemed to indicate to us that he was the new Minister of Universities and Colleges and really nothing else. I feel very strongly that to convey to the people of Manitoba if that was the case, would be somewhat erroneous. I hope you will forgive me, Sir, if I look to you as not only the Minister of Universities and Colleges but rather as the Minister of Youth and Education, University and Colleges and Health and Social Development.

I say this not with tongue in cheek. I say this with the utmost respect for the Premier who has made this kind of reorganization because I do feel, Mr. Speaker, that this reorganization was necessary if not essential, and I am not blind to the fact that this was essential because of personalities rather than because of the department involved, and to sell the people of Manitoba the idea that it is simply of administrative necessity, is selling it possibly with tongue in cheek.

I wonder, Mr. Chairman, if the Minister has during his free time, reconsidered some of his statements made in this Legislature during the first session of this Legislature. We spoke on matters of education, and at that time we spoke of a resolution that would permit teaching of religious instruction at different times of the day, and we did indicate that this was only and purely for administrative reasons. At that time the Minister suggested that the answer to the problem is not really giving this kind of freedom to schools because we know that they already practice this anyway, but rather the real answer to this problem is accrediting the course of religious instruction.

I, at that time if you recall, supported this kind of idea, and I still do. The answer to that particular dilemma, Mr. Chairman, is the same answer that came to the university through the teaching of courses such as comparative religion. It would solve many problems, and it would bring some value to that particular kind of instruction. I hope that during his spare time he will be able to go through the file that he now considers closed and remind the Minister of Youth and Education, if it is necessary, that he once made these statements - that particular statement was an excellent one and it should be revived and acted upon.

I am concerned with the matter of youth and education in the area of planning and research, and as I look through the Estimates of that particular department, and please forgive me if I have to bring this in, Mr. Chairman, because it does relate, I keep wondering if the branch of Planning and Research are doing a significant amount of work for the university and post-secondary people, and if so, Mr. Chairman, is the money that is being allocated to that particular branch justifiably taken out of the Department of Youth and Education alone, or should it be itemized in both the Estimates of this Minister and that of the other, so that we know approximately who is doing what in that particular field.

I have talked about the matter of capital expenditures with regard to education in the province before, and I am sympathetic though concerned about the hardfast rules established, I think, by the Minister, the present Minister and reinforced by statements from the Minister and from the Premier with regard to the cost that will be paid by the department inasmuch as it applies to the school buildings and school expansions. We are at present holding a hard fast line, and I suggest it's a hard fast line at \$18.50 per square foot for school buildings when it comes to expansion. And ironically we don't stop, Mr. Chairman, we don't stop at present really to consider what kind of building, or possibly even in which locality that building is being constructed, and it seems a little unfair to expect people to build home ec., science labs, and other facilities that require a great deal more mechanical, or electrical, more expenditures generally, and yet we hold them to the same price as any other school building. I can see this justified if it is a complete large school where costs are averaged out but when it is an expansion, and the expansion is a small one but includes this particular area, then I suggest, Mr. Chairman, that there should be some flexibility in those considerations.

I also am concerned when I find that some school buildings at the University of Manitoba, for example, are let out at some 32 or 33 dollars per square foot while we are turning down public school buildings that might be at 18.51 per square foot. I'm suggesting that maybe we should look at that aspect and find out whether or not \$32.00 per square foot is justifiable. I recognize, Mr. Chairman, that it could not be less justifiable if the building in question were

(MR. GIRARD cont'd) other than the Roblin Building but I would like it anyway to be recorded that I am concerned when I see the kind of, in my view, lavish expenditure being poured down at the university level when people in the public school system and even in Winnipeg are short of facilities they needed.

It's about at the same time as I was discussing this particular matter that one of the music teachers in Winnipeg came to me and he said, you know we have several thousands of dollars, probably \$30,000, tied up in musical instruments in my school and we have two full-time teachers which would likely cost another \$15,000 or \$20,000, and we have no facilities other than an open classroom in which to do our work with regard to musical instruction. A thing, Mr. Chairman, that you well know is an unworkable sort of situation and we aren't able to find \$10,000 to remedy that situation but we are at the same time able to find \$32.00 per square foot to build buildings at the universities. I question this seriously, Mr. Speaker, I think that that matter ought to be looked into closely.

The Minister mentioned the Student Placement Bureau. I have no serious and very grave criticism of the Placement Bureau but it seems unfortunate that maybe the Placement Bureau is localized only in one area, and it also saddens me to think of the hundreds upon hundreds of students who will apply but nevertheless will not get a job and I'm concerned a little bit, Mr. Chairman, that the Placement Bureau that enjoys a relatively good reputation at present, I assume, might well suffer the same kind of fate as the federal counterpart, the Employment Bureau that is disregarded by everyone who might - the Manpower Bureau that is disregarded by everyone who needs a job and only observed by those who have full time employment.

There's another area that should be looked into, Mr. Chairman, and no doubt your commission will be looking into this and that is the area of demand of enrollment and of rejection of students that wish to attend Red River Community College. I can think of one of many specific examples, one example which I thought was very regrettable - a man who was endorsed by Manpower of Steinbach last year; a man who had been a teacher for many years who decided to do something else; a man who was dedicated and a man whom I knew well who wanted to go into a particular course, that of social work at the Red River Community College but was flatly turned down in spite of the recommendations that he had from Manpower. That particular individual, Mr. Chairman, is very dejected and I fail to see the justification for that kind of thing. I have been told since that the office in Steinbach of Manpower is reluctant to refer that kind of student to Red River Community College. And if that kind of attitude develops, I think it should be looked into and corrected. If I understood . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please. Would the member that's reading the newspaper please discontinue.

MR. GIRARD: Mr. Chairman, please forgive me, I didn't hear that. Did you say I had five minutes left? --(Interjection)-- Okay.

The matter of bursaries was raised by the Minister a little while ago, and if I understood him correctly he said some 8,000 students at the university level had had assistance through the bursary program last -- or will be getting this year. He didn't indicate if there was a change with regards to the maximum bursary available. Last year as I understand the maximum bursary available for the undergraduate people was \$500.00. The year before if I understand correctly was some \$700.00. I think it would be advisable for the department and for the government to advise people of Manitoba what is maximum and what can be expected so that we don't get people under the impression that they did not get what they thought they should have gotten - or the regulation permitted more, but somebody else rejected them down the line. I view the bursary program with some caution. I think that with any kind of assistance of this nature there is a tendency for people to become more and more dependent on it and more and more demand for it. And so although I'm not critical of the program I view it with caution and it's not something that should be overdone. I would like to see, however, even more assistance being available to students in the form of loans, and I mean interest free loans. That I would encourage much more than I would a very large expansion in the bursaries program.

As a teacher, Mr. Chairman, I keep wondering at times if the public school teacher in Manitoba is treated as fairly as his counterpart who has been employed by the post-secondary education. I wonder if the Minister would care to give us ideas with regards to the per pupil teacher ratio for example. I realize that it cannot be the same but at the same time I think

(MR. GIRARD cont'd) that there are areas below which we should not go. I am wondering whether we are stretching ourselves thin in some areas offering options that maybe there is not a great demand for. I question the advisability of offering post graduate courses with very few students and especially in cases where the course could be, could be taken at some other university though not in Manitoba - at other universities - because those students are not likely to find employment in Manitoba in any case. And I'm referring to maybe few courses but there are some of that nature. All in all, Mr. Chairman, I wish to congratulate the Minister rather than be overly critical because I know that he's not carrying one portfolio but in fact he's carrying three.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Churchill.

MR. BEARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Education - I won't be too long on this particular department because we're more interested I suppose in the primary education as it affects . . .

MRS. INEZ TRUEMAN (Fort Rouge): Mr. Chairman, I wondered whether the Member for Churchill would allow me two minutes. I don't expect to be able to ask some questions tomorrow that I have in mind. This will be my only opportunity.

MR. BEARD: It would be all right with me, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge.

MRS. TRUEMAN: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman and the Member from Churchill. I did want to ask the Minister some matters concerning the University Grants Commission. The failure to appoint people to the vacancies on that commission - I wondered what the significance of this is, whether there is a downgrading of the University Grants Commission's work and whether that work which they were doing is going to be duplicated or perhaps be replaced by work within the department. The figures over the year, the expenditures or the sums allotted to the Grants Commission have steadily decreased - and I wondered whether we could have an explanation of this - from 1971 - \$49 million to 47 million in '72; and now in '73 down to 72 million. I wondered what the explanation for this is.

I had a further question concerning the student aid. It was interesting to learn that there are 8,000 students involved and something like \$4-1/2 million. I believe this would be in addition to the roughly six million that is being spent by Health and Social Development Department. I wonder if the Minister would explain to us whether the sums in this department's Estimates would be for tuition fees; and whether from the other department - whether it would represent assistance, social assistance for room and board and this type of expense. Now I don't want to take any more time. I appreciate being given this opportunity but I'll look forward to his answers.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Churchill. Oh. The Honourable the Minister of Colleges and Universities.

MR. MILLER: If the Member for Fort Rouge will not be here tomorrow then perhaps I might try to answer her questions now, if it's agreeable to the Member for Churchill who stood down in her favour, and since there's only five minutes left. Regarding the University Grants Commission, I'm not quite sure what the honourable member meant when she was talking about a failure to replace. The numbers of people on the Grants Commission are the same as they have been as far as the personnel is concerned. I can read you their names. There's Messrs. Bateman, Chevrier, Connor, Couture, Hunter, Leach, Lorimer, Shebeski and Radcliffe. It's the same number that has been on for some time. With regard to the figures that you were quoted, the drop itself - last year the honourable member may recall some of the capital requirements were taken out of the revenues or the expenditures for that year and placed in Capital Account. This year we've done the same thing. In fact if you add the Capital and Operating together there is an increase. It's just that they are in two different accounts, one under Capital and one under Operating. The figures shown in my Estimates naturally reflect Operating Accounts only and we dealt with Capital Account when the Minister of Finance introduced them in the House I think it was two weeks ago.

In regard to student aid the amounts shown on my Estimates of 4-1/2 million for post-secondary, the total is over five million in all but 4-1/2 will be used in post-secondary - and her question is, how does this relate to Health and Social Development. The figure she used of \$6 million I think it is, I'm not sure that figure is correct, in any case I think it's a figure that's a 1970/71 fiscal year. In 71/72 it was far less and for next year it will be less again in Health and Social Development. The reason is this: that Canada insists that every student be treated equally; and therefore a student when applying for aid will have to apply and receive the

(MR. MILLER cont'd) maximum bursary they're entitled to, will then have to apply for Canada Student Loan, be processed through that, and only then will they be eligible under Health and Social Development. So that the numbers involved will be considerably less this coming year than have been in the past.

I hope that answers the question so that the member I hope isn't under the misapprehension that there is 4-1/2 here and \$6 million in Health and Social Development. That occurred only the one year when the student aid was nothing like this amount that I'm showing in my Estimates; and it was because students whose parental gross income was under 3,000 were automatically processed by Health and Social Development. That can no longer be done. The students have to be processed in the normal way and only those who as I say get the full bursary and Canada Student Loan can then apply to H. and S. D. unless they are students who don't qualify for either of these. In other words they are students who are taking courses which are not full courses - which are not recognized under Canada Student Loan and then they might be able to go direct to H. and S. D. Otherwise they won't be able to. I hope that answers the member's question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hour being 5:30 I am leaving the Chair to return at 8:00 p. m. this evening.