

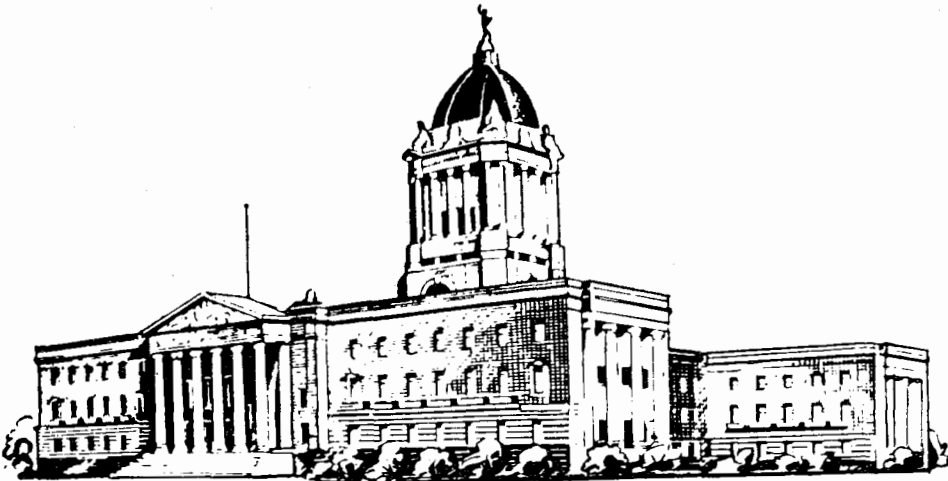


Legislative Assembly of Manitoba

DEBATES
and
PROCEEDINGS

Speaker

The Honourable Peter Fox



Vol. XXII No. 105 2:30 p.m., Friday, May 30th, 1975.

Second Session, 30th Legislature.

Electoral Division	Name	Political Affiliation	Address	Postal Code
ARTHUR	J. Douglas Watt	P.C.	Reston, Man.	ROM 1X0
ASSINIBOIA	Steve Patrick	Lib.	10 Red Roblin Pl., Winnipeg	R3J 3L8
BIRTLE-RUSSELL	Harry E. Graham	P.C.	Binscarth, Man.	ROJ 0G0
BRANDON EAST	Hon. Leonard S. Evans	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
BRANDON WEST	Edward McGill	P.C.	2228 Princess Ave., Brandon	R7B 0H9
BURROWS	Hon. Ben Hanuschak	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
CHARLESWOOD	Arthur Moug	P.C.	29 Willow Ridge Rd., Winnipeg	R3R 1L5
CHURCHILL	Les Osland	NDP	66 Radisson Blvd., Churchill	ROB 0E0
CRESCENTWOOD	Vacant			
DAUPHIN	Hon. Peter Burtniak	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
ELMWOOD	Hon. Russell J. Doern	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
EMERSON	Steve Derebianchuk	NDP	Vita, Manitoba	ROA 2K0
FLIN FLON	Thomas Barrow	NDP	Cranberry Portage, Man.	ROB 0H0
FORT GARRY	L.R. (Bud) Sherman	P.C.	86 Niagara St., Winnipeg	R3N 0T9
FORT ROUGE	Lloyd Axworthy	Lib.	132 Osborne St. S., Winnipeg	R3L 1Y5
GIMLI	John C. Gottfried	NDP	44 - 3rd Ave., Gimli, Man.	ROC 1B0
GLADSTONE	James R. Ferguson	P.C.	Gladstone, Man.	ROJ 0T0
INKSTER	Hon. Sidney Green, Q.C.	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
KILDONAN	Hon. Peter Fox	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
LAC DU BONNET	Hon. Sam Uskiw	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
LAKESIDE	Harry J. Enns	P.C.	Woodlands, Man.	ROC 3H0
LA VERENDRYE	Bob Banman	P.C.	Steinbach, Man.	ROA 2A0
LOGAN	William Jenkins	NDP	1294 Erin St., Winnipeg	R3E 2S6
MINNEDOSA	David Blake	P.C.	Minnedosa, Man.	ROJ 1E0
MORRIS	Warner H. Jorgenson	P.C.	Morris, Man.	ROG 1K0
OSBORNE	Hon. Ian Turnbull	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
PEMBINA	George Henderson	P.C.	Manitou, Man.	ROG 1G0
POINT DOUGLAS	Donald Malinowski	NDP	23 Coralberry Ave., Winnipeg	R2V 2P2
PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE	Gordon E. Johnston	Lib.	26-120 - 6th St., S.E., Portage la Prairie, Man.	R1N 1E8
RADISSON	Harry Shafransky	NDP	4 Maplehurst Rd., Winnipeg	R2J 1W8
RHINELAND	Arnold Brown	P.C.	Winkler, Man.	ROG 2X0
RIEL	Donald W. Craik	P.C.	3 River Lane, Winnipeg	R2M 3Y8
RIVER HEIGHTS	Sidney Spivak, Q.C.	P.C.	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
ROBLIN	J. Wally McKenzie	P.C.	Inglis, Man.	ROJ 0X0
ROCK LAKE	Henry J. Einarson	P.C.	Glensboro, Man.	ROK 0X0
ROSSMERE	Hon. Ed. Schreyer	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
RUPERTSLAND	Hon. Harvey Bostrom	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
ST. BONIFACE	Hon. L.L. Desjardins	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
ST. GEORGE	Hon. Bill Uruski	NDP	10th flr., 330 Portage Ave., Wpg.	R3C 0C4
ST. JAMES	George Minaker	P.C.	318 Ronald St., Winnipeg	R3J 3J8
ST. JOHNS	Saul Cherniack, Q.C.	NDP	333 St. Johns Ave., Winnipeg	R2W 1H2
ST. MATTHEWS	Wally Johannson	NDP	418 Home St., Winnipeg	R3G 1X4
ST. VITAL	D.J. Walding	NDP	26 Hemlock Place, Winnipeg	R2H 1L7
STE. ROSE	A.R. (Pete) Adam	NDP	Ste. Rose du Lac, Man.	ROL 1S0
SELKIRK	Hon. Howard Pawley	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
SEVEN OAKS	Hon. Saul A. Miller	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
SOURIS KILLARNEY	Earl McKellar	P.C.	Nesbitt, Man.	ROK 1P0
SPRINGFIELD	Hon. René E. Toupin	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
STURGEON CREEK	J. Frank Johnston	P.C.	310 Overdale St., Winnipeg	R3J 2G3
SWAN RIVER	James H. Bilton	P.C.	Swan River, Man.	ROL 1Z0
THE PAS	Hon. Ron McBryde	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
THOMPSON	Ken Dillen	NDP	84 Pintail Cres., Thompson	RBN 1A6
TRANSCONA	Hon. Russell Pauley	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
VIRDEN	Morris McGregor	P.C.	Kenton, Man.	ROM 0Z0
WELLINGTON	Philip M. Petursson	NDP	681 Banning St., Winnipeg	R3G 2G3
WINNIPEG CENTRE	Hon. J.R. (Bud) Boyce	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
WOLSELEY	Vacant			

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA
2:30 o'clock, Friday, May 30, 1975

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 73 students, Grade 6 standing, of the Springfield Heights and Cross Lake Schools. These students are under the direction of Mr. Ladovski, Mr. Schurman and Miss Farden. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Rossmere, the First Minister.

We also have 20 students of Grade 7, 8, and 9 standing, of the Glenalla School, under the direction of Mrs. Marciski. This school is from the constituency of the Honourable Member for Ste. Rose.

And we have 25 students of Grade 4 standing, of the Bannatyne School under the direction of Mrs. Lagasse. This school is from the constituency of the Honourable Member for Sturgeon Creek.

And 35 students, Grade 5 to 8 standing, of the Rhineland School under the direction of Mr. Pauls and Mr. Hoëppner. This school is from the constituency of the Honourable Member for Rhineland.

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

Bill 47. The Honourable Member for Rock Lake is absent.

Bill 50. The Honourable Member for Birtle-Russell.

BILL NO. 50 - THE CITY OF WINNIPEG ACT AMENDMENT

MR. GRAHAM: Mr. Speaker, the amendments to the City of Winnipeg Act I think have to be dealt with somewhat in conjunction with the remarks that were made earlier in debate today when the Member for Fort Rouge and the Member for St. Johns were speaking. I think it's only appropriate that perhaps we should go back a little bit in history and take a look at what happened in the largest urban area of Manitoba over the last one or two decades.

I think previous governments recognized that there was a need in the large urban area to have some co-ordinated planning, and I would suggest to you, sir, that that occurred with the establishment of Metro in the urban area. Whether or not that plan was successful history alone will record, and I think that that has already been fairly well documented that it was a reasonable planned approach that by and large was accepted by most of the people in the urban area of Winnipeg.

The present government wasn't satisfied with that though and the Member for St. Johns, and he wasn't alone, I think he had reasonable support from several other members in the government front benches, felt that that wasn't good enough. He was going to bring in something better. He destroyed a system that did give a co-ordinated planning program for the urban area; it did more than that, sir, it recognized the right of community identity, and the right of people in their collective manner to handle their own affairs under a large umbrella and still remained relatively autonomous. Sir, all that was destroyed. We now have one large complex, and I suggest to you, sir, that the planning that had been a fairly progressive element has now disappeared. We did have local autonomy that has now disappeared, and we now have a large urban government which has been rendered relatively powerless by many of the sections that were implemented in the City of Winnipeg Act.

And, sir, I recognize that the Member for St. Johns who is vitally concerned and lives in it every day, and I recognize the Member for Assiniboia who was last speaking on this, has lived in it every day and seen these things, and I am one who lives in it on a short-time basis but has the benefit of also living in other areas and viewing it from a rather distant, and I hope, objective viewpoint.

And, sir, quite frankly I have to say after watching for three or four years, I don't believe that the passage of the Unicity Bill was basically a good move. And, sir, the amendments that we have before us today, sir, I don't think will do for that urban government what many of us would like to see happen. And when I say many of us, I do not make any attempt to include all members in this Legislature, because I know that there are some members of this Legislature, at least, sir, it's my belief that there are some members of this Legislature that feel that almost akin to the old Divine Right of Kings that the supreme authority should lie at all times with the government in power, and that government as far as they're concerned, is the Provincial Government. But, sir, there is more than just one

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(MR. GRAHAM cont'd) level of government in this province. We've also seen moves made at the federal level of government who have themselves expressed concern for urban areas in this Dominion of Canada, and I suggest to you, sir, that the concerns that they express are not necessarily homogenous with the concerns that are expressed by the Province of Manitoba through its Provincial Government, nor are they synonymous with those expressed by the municipal level of government, which is the City of Winnipeg.

Sir, I feel that if we do not do something very soon to give to that level of government, that third level of government, the municipal level, the right to determine their own fate, the right to work under a one-city government that has been imposed on them, with many strictures, I say, sir, that until we remove some of those strictures that we are going to have stagnation, we are going to have unrest and general dissatisfaction.

Sir, it was my hope that amendments to the City of Winnipeg Act would be forthcoming at this Legislature which would have major significance but, sir, I fail to see them. So, sir, I say this that while the amendments we have today are of a bookkeeping nature, we cannot oppose them but we can register our regrets that there is no positive action on the part of the Provincial Government to give to that municipal government some of the freedom that it justly deserves.

There is another point, sir, that I want to bring out too. I do not believe that all members on the other side of the House have a degree of consent, or a basic unanimity of purpose in the present Unicity legislation. It's rather interesting to note, sir, that we now have before us - and it was discussed before dinner - a planning bill which basically is trying to impose on rural Manitoba an umbrella type of planning which was remarkably similar to that that existed with the Metro form of government in Winnipeg. It's similar in many respects. Certainly there are differences in particular ideas but the basic concept is one that is remarkably similar. So, sir, I have hope that at least there are some members on the other side who recognize the merits that existed in the form of legislation that was given to this province previous to their office, and I would hope that perhaps in the future there'll be members on the other side that will more freely admit that they and they alone don't have all the ideas to improve government in this province.

I would hope, sir, that the Minister of Urban Affairs will have the courage in the coming year to sit down and work very closely with the urban level of government and bring forward for the next session of the Legislature some amendments to this Act which will give us many of the essential points that are necessary to make the municipal level of government work efficiently, and with a fair degree of expediency. I say that now, sir, and I say that as an observer who is not immediately involved, but as one who has watched it with interest and perhaps can see the trees through the forest in the jungle that has been imposed by this government on our largest municipal government in the Province of Manitoba.

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

MR. MILLER: Yes.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Urban Affairs.

HON. SAUL A. MILLER (Minister of Urban Affairs) (Seven Oaks): Mr. Speaker, I thank the members who have spoken on this bill. It has been correctly labelled as a housekeeping bill. I announced earlier in the session that that is what it would be. I make no bones about it; I made no bones about it at the time. I make no apologies for it. Some members took advantage of the introduction of this bill to talk about the entire concept of Unicity, to go harking back to the good old days of Metro, and we'll come to that in a moment. But when I introduced the bill I limited my remarks to - as I had to in accordance with our rules - to the contents without referring to any sections but to the general principles of the contents of the bill. And as I say the debate from there on went in very broad directions, with perhaps the exception of the Member for Sturgeon Creek who did limit himself to the actual content of the bill, and I congratulate him for that. Others went further afield.

The Member for Birtle-Russell has made some interesting comments, and I recognize that as a member from rural Manitoba he has an interest in, and he has a concern about the City of Winnipeg, the largest urban community in Manitoba, and that's good. Because certainly any member of the Legislature, be he from the city or from rural Manitoba or

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(MR. MILLER cont'd) northern Manitoba, should show a concern for other parts of Manitoba than from which he comes.

But you know, Mr. Speaker, the Member for Birtle-Russell talks about the fact that well Metro was a reasonably planned approach accepted by most people, and I wish the Member would harken back, or maybe he wasn't in the city then, to that period during which Metro existed and the annual, almost ritualistic battle that took place every spring, every winter and spring, as between Metro and the City of Winnipeg, and the municipalities of St. James, and West Kildonan, and Fort Garry, and every other one, complaining how Metro was spending money like it's going out of style. Those are some of the terms they used. That the requirements under the Act that there be a meeting, pre-budget meeting of Metro, where an Annual meeting would be held with all municipalities, and they would send representatives and then they would have a meeting, and then they would come back and say, what's the good of having a meeting? We had a meeting but nobody listened, Metro didn't listen. We told them to cut the budget in half, they didn't cut the budget in half, they didn't cut the budget in half, so we're not being listened to, so why are we going to meetings, it's a waste of time.

A MEMBER: You didn't cut it by a tenth.

MR. MILLER: We didn't cut it by a tenth. It's a waste of time. I attended one of those meetings, the first one, and I said from here on I seek volunteers because I'm not going again.

So to suggest that the good old days were somehow acceptable to everyone is nonsense. The City of Winnipeg fought Metro, and fought it down as hard as it could, consistently every day of the week. I recall a bill that was introduced here by a former Minister of Municipal Affairs to give to Metro certain additional powers within the City of Winnipeg, which would have saved the taxpayers of Winnipeg a considerable sum of money. That bill was opposed in second reading, it was lobbied in the halls of this Legislature, it went to Law Amendments, it was opposed by the City of Winnipeg representatives, and finally the Minister had to withdraw that bill, and had to eat crow because the City applied enough pressure. So to suggest that all was well when Metro was in place is nonsense. Metro in its time played a role, and a useful role, because it made people recognize that Winnipeg was one community and that simply living across the street from someone else and saying, "I am in a different municipality than you are" just didn't make sense in this day and age. And Winnipeg was really going through the same problems that every major urban metropolis is going through. How do you rationalize local government?

The Member for Birtle-Russell says, "Well now he feels that the new Act we just introduced to discuss today is very much like Metro." Well I have to tell the honourable member the only similarity is that both bills were printed on paper, and there is some sections in the City of Winnipeg dealt with planning and some sections in this bill deals with planning too. But Metro had elected people, 10 members elected, wards representing the City of Winnipeg. The only elected people here are those that represent their municipalities. Metro had not only planning powers and zoning powers, but ran certain operations, regional streets, that was under their control, the maintenance of them, the building of them. The building of roads, of highways, the transit system, these are operational. The parks, the zoo, all these were Metro controlled, and they were not acceptable, and as I say they were opposed by municipalities because every time Metro wanted to do something more, there was felt an encroachment on their powers. So that to suggest that all was well is nonsense.

Also to suggest that the third level of government needs to be given the right to determine their own fate. You know, Mr. Speaker, that's really just a lot of verbiage. Every municipality, the entire Municipal Act, the Public School Act, all the Acts we pass when we the Legislature conveyed to a body certain statutory rights, there always are built into those rights certain requirements that they had to meet. I'll remind the member opposite of an example. At one time in order to spend public money for a major public works one had to have a referendum, and go to the people and have a vote, and when we amended the Municipal Act we said, elected people who are elected by their public shouldn't have to just go running back to the same people to ask them whether or not a bridge should be built or a major construction should take place, or a swimming pool built. These people are responsible people, having been elected they should have the right to make that decision, subject only to the fact that they have to go to the Municipal Board to assure that they have the financial ability to carry forward with this kind of capital works.

So that to suggest that we have somehow in The City of Winnipeg Act taken away from the

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(MR. MILLER cont'd)City of Winnipeg powers over its own fate is nonsense. They have it in spades. The fact is that the City of Winnipeg is a major and mighty powerful political unit, much greater than the old City of Winnipeg was and much greater than any one of the suburbs was. And when we created the Act we knew that we were in fact creating this kind of very powerful single force in Manitoba, a force that represented over half the province. And we did it knowingly, consciously, but recognizing that Winnipeg should be accepted for what it is, a major city in the province, and should be allowed to grow and to develop under the guidance of its own elected people to develop in a way as they see fit.

So there's no intent and never has been to control their fate or to limit their scope. Sure, when they come to the province and they want cost sharing and they want funds for one thing and another, we don't question them on their decision. But if they want our dollars certainly we have a right, as the Federal Government has a right, and does say to us, we will give those dollars under certain conditions, or you're asking for so much but we will only give "X" dollars instead of "Y" dollars. That's a right the Federal Government has, it's something that they use, and we in the provincial level also assume that same right and obligation.

The Member for Fort Garry - he is in his seat now - while he was speaking yesterday I thought to myself, I've seen the awards, the Oscar Awards the film industry hands out, the Emmy Awards the T.V. industry hands out, I think there should be an award in this Assembly, and I was thinking of the "Golden Boy Award" for the Member for Fort Garry. It's beautiful to watch him. He can build up a head of steam and go into such theatrics and such hyperbole on nothing. But he does it beautifully, and if someone in the gallery is watching him they really think that this man has really got something going. And you know he's really a - if he wasn't a Thespian he should have been.

A MEMBER: A what?

MR. MILLER: Ahah I thought I'd catch you with that.

MR. DESJARDINS: He talks like a Frenchman.

MR. MILLER: You know he says that this government offered great savings, they promised savings. Mr. Speaker, I made public pronouncements, I too was on this circuit that he was talking about. As a matter of fact I was one with Mr. Elswood Bole who was mentioned in this House, and I never questioned, I never argued with Mr. Elswood Bole as to the cost. I never said there would be savings, I never said there would be - rather less cost. I didn't. What I said was there would be for the first time equity. Equity is what we were talking about. --(Interjection)--That's right. That's right. And I tell you I'd rather have it expensive for everybody as the Honourable Member for Assiniboia says than to have the old city rotting, unable, because its tax base is totally eroded, unable to cope with the needs within its own large area while the suburbs were flourishing beautifully on their own - living off the city but sitting back and saying, well now we in St. James, we'd just as soon be left alone because you know we have --(Interjection)--I'm interpreting what you just said. --(Interjection)--Well then don't say it from your seat. We've got it well in St. James. We've got a nice industrial tax base, because it so happened that in the Second World War we happened . . .

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Assiniboia have a point of order.

MR. PATRICK: It just may be a very small point of order, but I never said a word from my seat just a minute ago. It wasn't me. It wasn't me. No, it wasn't me.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Urban Affairs.

MR. MILLER: I'm sorry, I thought it was the Member for Assiniboia. It's the Member for Portage la Prairie. My apologies to the Member for Assiniboia. Okay, I'm sorry.

Oh, I know the Liberal Party is a supporter of Unicity, I know that. As a matter of fact in the 1969 campaign I believe that the Liberal Party under their Leader at that time came out in favour of Unicity. --(Interjection)--1967, whatever year it was.

But you know this was one of the problems that was faced and we had to come to grips with. It's a problem that is very common across the line where the flight from the old city was taking place as it was in cities across the line, the flight to the suburbs. Industries are picking up and moving, and as they move people didn't move out of the Inner City, people just stayed behind, were left without jobs and the flight to suburbia took place not only by those that can afford it but by the industries because that became the in thing to do in business. They would go into industrial parks in the suburbs. It was good for business, it enhanced your

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(MR. MILLER cont'd) image and in the meantime the city proper suffered, kept suffering and was simply heading downward and could not cope with any of their problems.

Metro could not resolve that problem, there was no way it could resolve that problem. And as I indicated I never said - I don't know anyone who did say that there would be less money or less cost. What we said, it would be more equitable. We said that places like St. James who had a very fine tax base, and I know they had it, they were in the right place at the right time historically, when World War II, the airport became part of the war effort, the repair of planes, the training, the Federal Government poured money into underground infrastructure, sewer and water systems, so when the war ended that was one of the few suburbs who was all set to go and they went. There's no question they grew very rapidly, and they had a huge industrial commercial tax base.

Tuxedo - you know, there probably was the most democratic community in Winnipeg. They never even had elections. They would get together a few weeks prior to the fall of the year that an election was to be held at somebody's house, and they would decide whose turn it would be to be Mayor and Councillor. And as I said it was very democratic, like the old village town general store, where people get together and they express their views on how they thought that the little village should run. And I recall an early hearing back in the very very early - in the late Fifties when they were talking about Metro - and I recall at that time, the Mayor of Tuxedo saying, we're not opposed to anything, but just leave Tuxedo out of this would you please, because we really don't want to be part of it. If the rest of you want to get together with Metro or amalgamate, you do what you want, but just leave us be. And they could well afford to be left alone, because they had one industry, just one - Canada Cement - and it gave them the lowest mill rate in Greater Winnipeg. They had it made.

What was necessary was to combine the industrial commercial investments tax base of Greater Winnipeg into one. It made no sense for St. James to compete with Fort Garry, to compete with St. Boniface, to compete with St. Vital, to try to compete with Transcona, fighting for more commercial development, whether it made sense or not; industrial development, whether it made sense or not from the planning point of view. But they had to have it, because without that they were losing revenue, their costs were going up and they needed that tax base. And as I said, it made no sense in any large metropolitan area, and the result is - the objective was to equalize, to make possible greater equity in the city and to do away with this kind of nonsensical competition, which really led nowhere except to very poor planning and the placing of industries and commercial buildings where perhaps none should exist, where perhaps certain areas should be all residential - there was always an attempt to bring in something that would yield higher taxes.

On the question of these amendments and why they are so minimal, all they do is really housekeeping, and everyone has agreed that there's not much you can disagree with on them, but people are talking about what isn't in here, and why isn't it more encompassing? Why don't we have more amendments when in fact some members feel that far more surgery has been done to the City of Winnipeg Act. Well, you know, Mr. Speaker, as I announced early in the session and again, there will be a legislative review, it will take place. That review will address itself to the entire City of Winnipeg Act, everyone and anyone will be able to present briefs and appear at hearings and make their views known. And it's not going to be an easy task because even sitting in this House . . .

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable House Leader.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I'm worried that the Honourable Minister is later going to be quoted in Hansard for what may be a slip. He said a "legislative review" and some may interpret that as a legislative committee of some kind, and then they'll say, he said "a legislative review" and there is no legislative . . .

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

MR. SPEAKER: I would thank the Honourable Minister for that correction.

Before the Minister of Urban Affairs proceeds, I wonder if I might take a moment to introduce two guests in my gallery who are being hosted by Bishop Valentine, The Right Reverend and Mrs. Amos Bettengera from the Diocese of Ancoke, Uganda. On behalf of the honourable members, I welcome you.

The Honourable Minister of Urban Affairs.

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MR. MILLER: I thank my colleague for correcting me. It's a review required under legislation, but it's a committee that will do the reviewing, and it's true this might have appeared in Hansard and then I might have been quoted back. And that review will take place, and all these questions can then be raised and all the assumptions on which the Act was based and all the hopes and aspirations behind that Act can then be questioned and then everyone will have their say. But you know, it's not going to be an easy task, and I, frankly, am glad that I will not be part of that review committee because if a canvass was made in this House and someone had listened to the speeches that were made yesterday, the differences of opinion about what the City of Winnipeg Act should be all about were quite evident. Because the Member for Fort Rouge, I know, doesn't agree with the Member for Sturgeon Creek. The Member for Fort Rouge would want us to write certain sections of the Act in such a way that, without a doubt Winnipeg would have to follow precisely what is in the Act, so that there would be no ambiguity of what this Legislature in its wisdom wanted the City to do - the Environmental Impact Reviews that are required. And the Member for Fort Rouge feels that they're trying to - (I'm trying to paraphrase) - that the City is trying to avoid acting on some of the requirements and therefore we should be even more precise so they cannot avoid the responsibilities which are placed on them under the Act. Because some members of council are not - and I know some members of the council would just as soon do away with it, but I know the Member for Fort Rouge wouldn't want to do away with it.

On the other hand, there are many people, both inside this House and outside of the House who feel the Environmental Impact Review is something that we perhaps shouldn't have put in the bill. And it is a difficult thing to live with. On the other hand, it's recognized throughout everywhere, in this day and age, that you cannot ignore the environmental needs, you cannot simply put them aside and say it's a problem that doesn't exist. People are more aware, more conscious and more sensitive than ever before, and it's needed. At the same time, you cannot hobble an elected council, and simply by dint of using various devices sort of stifle them so that they can't move at all.

And what the City of Winnipeg Act really was was a vehicle, a vehicle through which certain things could happen, through which certain things were possible. Now you can read all the statutes in the world - and as I was once advised many many years ago by a solicitor whom I consulted when I was in the course of my business, and he said, you can write all the agreements you want and I can make up three or four different agreements, but if you're going into a partnership and the final analysis of what counts is how the two partners or the five partners get together. No agreement in the world will protect and assure that the partnership will succeed. If the people involved don't have the goodwill, if the people involved don't want something to work, there's no statute that can force them to. You can take a horse to water, you can't make him drink. We can only make, as I say, create a vehicle, that's all we can do, and that's all any statute and any Act can do. You can't tell people how to think, as I think my colleague from St. Johns said, "You can talk, but you can't make people listen."

The City of Winnipeg Act therefore, as I say, was a vehicle under which things could happen. The Act itself is considered, and I know is recognized as a model throughout North America, and various people have visited Winnipeg to study it. There have been copies of the Act sent all over the world literally, because of its uniqueness and because of its forward-looking approach. And that maybe is what makes it so difficult, because maybe it is so progressive, so far-reaching, so forward-thinking, that it's difficult to adjust. And I am not critical of people on City Council. It's very difficult to move from one kind of structure and one kind of mind set - December 31, 1971 to January 1, 1972 where you're into a new ball game with a new approach - it's difficult to shed one's parochialism, very difficult. And it takes a long time for new ideas to permeate, and it takes a long time to think in terms of the larger, rather than the narrower need - it's not easy. And this is one of the dilemmas that the Council faces, one of the dilemmas of people who are proponents of environment impact studies, and I sympathize with them. But what they have to recognize is that simply because a group of people in a community or in a neighbourhood, be it the present system or the old system, because they don't want something to happen doesn't mean that because they're ignored when it comes to the Council and the final authority Council votes that something shall be done; and then people say, well what's the sense of going to a meeting because I said no, and all 90 of us put up our hands in opposition, and then the Council goes ahead and does it anyway. But

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(MR. MILLER cont'd) of course that's the way things operate, and always have operated in this House. We have votes, and the majority votes one way and the Opposition sometimes unanimously votes in opposition. Does that mean that because the bill carries that the legislation carries, that the budget carries, that therefore their role is useless and they should go home. Of course not. They're performing their function and they're performing it well. And so to suggest as has been suggested by one of the speakers, that the Community Committee meetings are fruitless and hopeless because the people opposed it, the entire - I think it was the Member for St. James - that the entire Community Committee of St. James opposed something, it went to City Council and they were voted down. And that's what it should be, because the Council as a whole thought in terms of the need of the city, not of a little part of it. And in no way should ever one little group at any one corner on a street or on a cluster of streets, ever dictate and decide that its need is greater than the greater need. That has never been the case in our society.

I've been on a municipal council, and I know the silly situations you can get into, where you get petitions. Today they are all in favour of a bus route in this and this area until you announce what the street is, and then when the announcement of the street comes in, then you get a petition, the same names, we don't want the bus because now it's on their street. We all want it on somebody else's street. And that applies to a commercial development on the corner, and it applied in my day to apartment blocks, and applied to elderly person housing, and it applies to public housing and it applies to a major through street. It's inevitable. But that's one of the dilemmas and problems of a large city, and that's what we have to try to cope with and that's what we're trying to cope with.

The City of Winnipeg Act and its conception is good. Sure there are things that now have to be looked at in the light of experience, and that's what we are going to do in the review. And if there are changes that make sense, they'll be made, but they'll be made in an orderly manner. The fact that there are amendments, there isn't a year goes by, and there hasn't been a year gone by that I recall that there wasn't an amendment to either the Metro Act or the Winnipeg Act or some other act. We're always changing bills because you're living in a dynamic changing world. If there were no amendments to the City of Winnipeg Act, then there would be something wrong, because it means that the City of Winnipeg is not a living thing, it's dormant. So that I have no . . . you know, the fact that we have had to make changes every year since 1972, it doesn't surprise me. I would have been very surprised if there had been no change.

Mr. Speaker, I simply want to say that I welcome the comments made. This is not the kind of bill that some members would like - and as I said earlier, if each of the members had been asked to submit their version of a bill, I suspect they would be in complete contradiction with one another. And that's why it is difficult to convey or to bring in at this time something that really will change substantively the City of Winnipeg Act. It's a new experiment, it's all of - what? - four years old - and to expect that in four years they would learn to work within this structure and to use it in the way it was planned, was really asking an awful lot of a lot of people. I think that there has been a vast improvement in 1975 over 1974; a vast improvement in 1974 over 1973; I think it is improving all along, as they come to grips with it, as they themselves understand what their new responsibilities are, what the Act is and what the objectives of the whole Act was meant to be. And I think that when the review is held, that some people are going to be surprised, and although there still may be very strong opponents - and I know there are still proponents around who would like to turn the clock back and through various devices really go back to twelve municipalities - although there are some of those around, by and large, I think the majority, including most on Council today, recognize that the step towards one City of Winnipeg and the way it was conceived was the right way to do it. Now if they can learn to live with it, if they can learn to operate it well, then I think the citizens of Winnipeg will benefit in the long run and Winnipeg will continue to be looked upon as a model city because of the model Act that it has.

QUESTION put, MOTION carried.

SPEED-UP RESOLUTION

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable House Leader.

MR. GREEN: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I would like to introduce the resolution standing in my name on the Order Paper.

SPEED-UP

(MR. GREEN cont'd)

I move, Mr. Speaker, seconded by the Honourable the Minister for Urban Affairs, that for the remainder of the session, the House have leave to sit in the forenoon from 10:00 a. m. to 12:30 p. m., in the afternoon from 2:30 p. m. to 5:30 p. m., in the evening from 8:00 p. m.; and each sitting to be a separate sitting; and have leave to sit from Monday to Saturday, both days inclusive; and the Rules with respect to 10:00 p. m. adjournment be suspended; and that government business take precedence over all business of the House;

And that for the remainder of the session, the operation of sub rule (3) of Rule 88 of The Rules, Orders and Forms of Proceedings of the House be suspended, but the report stage of any bill shall not be taken into consideration prior to twenty-four hours following the presentation of the report of the Standing or Special Committee with respect thereto.

MOTION presented.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Mines.

MR. GREEN: Well, Mr. Speaker, just by way of statement of intention, we felt it appropriate now, with I think the majority of . . . well, I have to be more definitive than that. I do not believe that there are any bills of significance that have not been given first reading. When I say of significance, I mean of great controversy; something could arise, but nothing that I am presently aware of that have not been given the first reading in the House. We of course have not finished the estimates, but the rule changes with respect to estimates make the sort of tradition of not having extended hours until after the 90 hours rather a --(Interjection)--redundant provision, that is right. What my intention would be, would be to really make use of the mornings for the House and the afternoons for the House, and do very similar to what we did last year, and that is start holding committee meetings every evening. And honourable members will recall - and I believe it was the Member for Birtle-Russell who I owe a debt of gratitude for this particular innovation - that really the extended hours last year were for most members, a break in the evening, and certainly this year there will be a break in the evening because we've been sitting some evenings fairly late on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. If we hold only committee meetings on the nights, as long as we have committee meetings to hold, then the chances are that these occupy sometimes one-quarter of the members at most, roughly one-third of the members; even when we are on Law Amendment Committee, it doesn't amount to half the members.

So I would think that what we should do is start holding committee meetings - Law Amendments Committee, the other committees that have not yet met; the other committees to which bills are referred - in the hope that we can get our committee work done in the evenings with those who are not on committees being able to enjoy themselves as they see fit --(Interjection)--until, Mr. Speaker, we finish of course with the committees, and then to utilize the time in the best way that is before us. I think that when this was done last year, we probably had one of the best experiences in speed-up that we have ever had. And what is better, Mr. Speaker, we probably had one of the best considerations of bills at committees, both from the public point of view, because the committees were not pushed unnecessarily except when we felt like continuing. I think that this provision will enable us to do that, thereby giving us more House and committee work during the week, considerably more. It becomes actually one-third of the time in addition. And then add on Wednesday night and Friday night and, if necessary - although we seldom have used it - Saturdays, that it gives us a chance of possibly getting out of the House before the 1st of August, which is I suppose is a good target date for everybody. (Laughter). But that is my intention in introducing this resolution and I hope that it will be readily accepted by members of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Morris.

MR. WARNER H. JORGENSEN (Morris): Mr. Speaker, normally this was the occasion for a lot of posturing and a lot of debate, a great deal of criticism of the government for the way they've managed and conducted the business of the House; and an opportunity for the Opposition to explain to all and sundry how hard they had been worked during the course of the Session, now the government House Leader intended to drive them mercilessly to complete the Session, simply because of the mismanagement of the affairs of the government by the House Leader and by the government. I don't intend on this occasion to take advantage of that opportunity and reiterate all of those speeches that were made in those days, because I think there have been some significant changes in the manner in which the business of the House has been conducted

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(MR. JORGENSEN cont'd) since the Rules Committee has been meeting regularly and dealing with problems as they arose, making changes. And I think there has been the kind of co-operation by members of the House and in the work of the Rules Committee that enables members to experiment and to deal with different ways of conducting the business of the House and handling the business of the House. So that we have, I think, in this Session, utilized our time to if not almost totally good advantage, at least to the best I'd say - it's been my experience. And as a result of that, the workload that still remains is, as the House Leader points out, not a significant one. And the introduction of the so-called speed-up motion at this time is not going to make a great deal of difference in the number of hours. As a matter of fact, we should be looking forward to it with some anticipation because it might even shorten some of the hours for some of us.

So by proposing this motion at this time, one thing the House Leader did not indicate, was when he intended to have the motion go into effect. If it's immediately - I would appreciate if he would indicate that - and he did not say how many bills were left. He did indicate that a significant number of them had been introduced for at least first reading now, and that there won't be very many of any consequence left. We appreciate the fact that bills have been moving through the House on a fairly regular basis, and it does give us an opportunity to have a little bit of variety in the workload so that we can deal with bills on occasions and then estimates. I think that we on this side of the House have appreciated far more than we have in the past the manner in which the business has been conducted. And I don't want now that remark to go on the record as precluding me from making some criticisms on other occasions, sir, because I may want to do that as well. But at this stage, sir, all I want to say is that we are prepared to allow this resolution to pass at this stage, and we look forward to a bit of rest when speed-up occurs so that we have a little bit more time to ourselves.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Portage la Prairie.

MR. G. JOHNSTON: Mr. Speaker, I'm sorry I missed the House Leader's remarks when he introduced this motion, but I imagine that he would say much as he has said in previous years, that he would be reasonable, he would use it with care and so on. And we're inclined to accept that. But I would like to point out to him, it's almost a joke to introduce a speed-up motion on the day after we sat until 2:15 in the morning. My God, what does he want? And I ask this in jest, because I know he is rather reasonable. But in the past month, members will recall that we've sat here after 10:00 many many times, and like the Member for Morris says, there's been a great deal of co-operation in the House and we hope that spirit will carry on.

But I would remind my honourable friend that the original reason for governments to use the speed-up motion, was when the end was in sight, two or three days of speed-up would help close the House down. That was the original reason. It was not intended to be used for weeks on end, and I'm sure my honourable friend knows that. And I hope that when he calls upon us to use the speed-up hours, he will do so with some consideration and some care - not necessarily for members on this side, but I remind him that the members on his side, three Cabinet Ministers have been in and out of hospital this year. One almost would now consider the main qualification to run for office, to run as an MLA, is endurance and stamina. One of the minor qualifications would be common sense and an outlook on the problems facing the Province of Manitoba. --(Interjection)--Yes.

So with those few words - and I know I have the whole-hearted support of the Minister of Labour, although he's not in his seat, that every year he supports me or I support him, I forget which. We will give co-operation, but we want the House Leader to clearly understand that co-operation is a two-way street.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. SHERMAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wanted to say a few words on this resolution, because I want to demonstrate to my friend and opponent, the House Leader, that the Member for Fort Garry can, over the course of a period of years, change his mind on a subject. The fact of the matter is, that since I had the privilege of coming into this House - which wasn't that long ago, but it embraces some seven Sessions now, including this one - I think I have stood here in every Session and fought tooth and nail against the concept of speed-up. This time I look upon it as blessed relief, Mr. Speaker. And I want the House Leader to know that he's not going to get the usual kind of tirade and the usual kind of argument from me, against the motion,

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(MR. SHERMAN cont'd)against the resolution this time.

The Member for Portage la Prairie looked across at the government House Leader and made reference to the late sitting last night, and he said, you know, what does the House Leader want? Well that really has become the new rallying cry, I think, for many of us in this Chamber. The cry, of course, across the land used to be, "What does Quebec want?"; then it became, "What does Alberta want?"; now we're asking, "What does the government House Leader want?" No doubt he wants to wear us down as quickly as he can; and if he were sensible, he would stay away from speed-up and continue the procedure that we've been going through the last few weeks.

We'll be looking forward in Rules Committee in-between Sessions, Mr. Speaker, to re-examining the kinds of experiments that we've gone through this Session. Those experiments of course are related to the timing of speed-up and to the mechanics of the sessions in committee that we've had in this Session of the House. I think that it's been an interesting experiment for all of us, and as a member of Rules Committee I'll be looking forward to a re-examination of that whole procedure in the between Sessions period.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Birtle-Russell.

MR. GRAHAM: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to at this time state what I have said on previous occasions, that basically I support the concept of speed-up. But I want to ask the House Leader if he would also consider providing some of the mechanics that I consider to be essential to MLA's in providing some assistance to them. At the present time, Mr. Speaker, we are one week behind in Hansard and when speed-up comes in we will be even further behind. It doesn't, sir, lend to good debate, because as the House Leader is very prone to point out on various occasions, he loves to have the opportunity to refer to Hansard for what some particular member said. And if we are already one week behind in Hansard I would suggest, sir, that after a couple of weeks speed-up, Hansard will be relatively meaningless to us.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

MR. PATRICK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do have a couple of points to bring to the attention of the House Leader. And like some of the other speakers have already indicated, I felt that for the last week or so that we were under the speed-up motion because we were sitting quite late - which was different from last year, because really the House Leader did not keep us here until the speed-up motion much past 10:00 o'clock; which this year, I believe we sat much longer.

The concern that I have - and I know he indicated that there will be no major pieces of legislation, but I am concerned about some legislation that will be of some major concern and it's been indicated it's still coming. One is the conflict of interest, which I think it will be an extremely important piece of legislation. And the problem that we have at the present time, it's talked in the morning, or second reading in the morning, and you have to debate it in the afternoon, and I hope that --(Interjection)--That's right, pass it at night. I hope that the House Leader will be lenient enough to say that we can have an opportunity to look at that legislation for two or three days before we have to make a decision.

There's another point, there was some indication and considerable amount of debate that we would have some legislation in the way of housing. I know the Minister of Consumer Affairs said that he's got no way, or no legislation coming in the way of rent controls or rent review, and from all the debates there was some indication that we may be getting something in the way of housing legislation and would take some action; or the government would take some real serious action that would at least encourage the construction of new houses and create some areas - in that area. And really - so I feel there may be, because I'm not so much concerned about the speed-up motion, and we said we'll agree as long as the House Leader is prepared to be at least reasonable - but I'm almost certain, like last year, you know, after the speed-up motion we did get on the desk every day for about three or four or five bills every single day, and if this is what will take place this time, after the speed-up motion now, then I hope, and I ask him to be reasonable that we have enough time to look at the bills because we haven't got the kind of research people that can, you know, give us all the information that's necessary and you have it at your fingertips.

The other point is - and the Minister of Urban Affairs is in the House, and I insist to him right now that he does something in the housing field and I think it's very very important. --(Interjection)--No, I'm not. Well, I'm sure the Minister for Health and Social Development

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(MR. PATRICK cont'd) will speak on this motion, because I know he doesn't like to stay here too late, --(Interjection)--too late in the evening. I will agree with the resolution, but again, I'm saying to the Minister we hope that we don't get, you know, five bills every day for the next five days or ten days and then say you can't adjourn them.

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

MR. GREEN: Well, Mr. Speaker, I don't know whether the Member for Assiniboia or the Member for Portage la Prairie were in their seats when I announced the intention. I do not believe that there are any significant controversial pieces of legislation that have not been given First Reading. With respect to the conflict of interest, I expect that that will be dealt with in a way that will completely comply with the honourable members' suggestions that there be reasonableness.

With respect to the Honourable Member for Portage la Prairie's plea that I be reasonable, I was merely going to say that I expect to be my usual reasonable self. With respect to the sitting hours, with respect to the late hours that we've had - and there have been some, but I think there were maybe two nights that we went beyond 12:00 P.M, once just marginally and last night very late, but we've also had, I believe, over 130 hours, 140 hours in estimates, and part of the request by the Opposition was that we stay later and spend more time on estimates, and we really haven't done that to any great extent. The other feature of it is that a majority of the House - and I make this announcement now - it said in the rule that the House Leader will decide the time of adjournment at night, and I changed that. I said I wouldn't have that. There's got to be a majority of the House who decides the House adjournment. And there was never a motion to adjourn, you know. Last night, although we keep a quorum here for purposes, there were many times when . . . and I believe during the entire evening the Opposition had more members than we did and could have moved an adjournment. --(Interjection)-- Well, that is right. Well, I agree. I agree that it's co-operation, but I don't want it to be called unco-operation by staying late hours, because I think we wanted to finish that department, and therefore there was no motion for an adjournment. And a motion for adjournment would be perfectly valid at night.

However, you know, you're sort of scoring little points on each other. That's not what I intended to do when we made the motion. I believe that speed-up will be, as someone has said, a relief to a certain extent. Calling speed-up a relief - that's like we've been knocking our heads against a wall because it feels so good when you stop.

Well, we're now going to stop this present session activity and I expect that next Monday I would call in the evening something like - I'm not sure yet, I'll have to find out - but something like Moose Lake Loggers and Minago Contractors before Committee on Economic Development. Now that leaves off two-thirds of the members for the entire evening, and will not be a heavy evening for the members, I don't expect, unless there are great things happening in those corporations that I'm not aware of.

Tuesday, I could call the Committee on Economic Development for the report from the Economic Development Board. Wednesday, I think I would like to call Law Amendments. And I say Law Amendments on Wednesday because I am looking to the media seeking free public-spirited publicity, because that will give between tomorrow and Wednesday for people who wish to come to Law Amendments Committee to come . . . The Member for Morris asks me a question.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Morris.

MR. JORGENSEN: . . . ask the House Leader if he would then, in order to ensure that the public generally know what will be discussed at Law Amendments, if he would give the press a list of those bills that will be brought before Law Amendments.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable House Leader.

MR. GREEN: Yes, I believe they have them, because I believe they have the bills as they are passed, but I will ask the Clerk to give a special communication to the press room and I will also ask the Clerk to do what he usually does, that is to inform any citizens who he has notice wish to appear before Law Amendments on Wednesday, that Law Amendments will be called for Wednesday. But I say that that will give, well, four days' really, notice to people who wish to appear before Law Amendments Committee, so that I could schedule Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, and Thursday perhaps, Communities Economic Development Fund. In any event, it would be committee meetings every night. And I think that the committee meetings would not generally go beyond midnight. The first meeting of Law

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(MR. GREEN cont'd) Amendments, I don't think that we can really . . . we would have to tell people that . . . If there are many many presentations, maybe we would tell the first 15 people to stay, and the others that it wouldn't be fair to keep them beyond let's say 11:30 at night, and therefore they should come back to the next meeting. But we'll have to work something out with the public; but that generally we would be operating in the morning and in the afternoon and we would be dealing with bills.

Now that would leave the Estimates as the last item of business. In other words, I would hope to deal with bills mornings and afternoons, every morning and afternoon, and I am asking, I am pleading with honourable members, to have their speeches ready on bills, because when we finish the bills, at the end of all of the legislation, we will be left with the Estimates, which we then will do in block, like continuously, and the financial bills which are to be passed at the end of the Estimates. Now that is our sort of game plan, call it what you like. I've discussed it just informally with members from time to time. It's working out that way. And however long we have to sit here we will sit here, but we will do a good job with public legislation while we are here.

MR. SPEAKER: Has the Honourable Member for Fort Garry a question?

MR. SHERMAN: Yes. Would the Minister permit one question having to do with starting times in the morning. The normal Friday time of course is 10:00 a.m., but it seems to me that under Speed-up that morning starting time in the past has been 9:30 a.m. Is that correct or . . . ?

MR. SPEAKER: Ten.

MR. GREEN: Ten o'clock. Ten o'clock and 2:30. Last year we started some sessions at 1:30. We used to do Estimates from 1:30 to 2:30, but that's not necessary this year.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge has a question?

MR. AXWORTHY: Can I address a question to the Minister? Could the Minister inform me what the plans are to do with Private Members' Bills? I have a particular bill that was introduced in the House earlier which was of some importance to my own constituents. Would we be still allowed to proceed with those?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable House Leader.

MR. GREEN: We have, of tradition, Mr. Speaker, given a special category to Private Members' Public Bills. We don't list a Private Members' Bill that is really a change of law, but where it is necessary to accommodate legislation for, let us say, a municipality - I'm not sure which one the honourable member's talking about.

MR. AXWORTHY: The Condominium Act.

MR. GREEN: The Condominium Act. If it is a change of the law, then that goes to the bottom of the Order Paper. I regret to tell him that, but there is no special category either for my resolution or his bill. If it is not a change that he can get through to the Minister of Consumer Affairs, would it be, then it's not one that has priority.

MR. SPEAKER: Does the Honourable Member for Ste. Rose have a question?

MR. A.R. (PETE) ADAM (Ste. Rose): Yes, a point of information. I just wanted to ask the Minister, the House Leader, if housekeeping - I want that clarified - housekeeping private members' public bills will have priority.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, there are bills that relate to changes in a municipality, that the municipality has requested, or fidelity trust, things of that nature. Even a measure such as the honourable member introduced and has now had second reading - Susan Thiessen - that kind of thing, there has generally been given some priority to, but if it's a bill that changes the law, then that has to stand after government business. That is only the tradition but I think it's right, yes.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge.

MR. AXWORTHY: Mr. Speaker, I understand what the House Leader is saying, but at the same time I would gather that by the Rules of the House that if there was to be leave given that it could be considered in that way, if that was requested, which I'd be prepared to do because again it is a bill of some importance in terms of a specific group of people and a specific problem.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable House Leader.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, if leave were given, then the honourable member would be able to introduce it. I am not inclined to think that leave would be given. He could ask

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(MR. GREEN cont'd) for it. You know, at an earlier time of the year I thought the resolution that I put was more important than anything else that was on the Order Paper, and I would have hoped that leave would be given for me to proceed with it, but that doesn't happen and I accept the fact that it doesn't happen. If he cannot get it through the Minister of Consumer Affairs as being a government measure which those people are interested in, then he can make whatever public assault that he wishes to make on the Minister of Consumer Affairs, but he can't get his legislation as a priority to government legislation.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Swan River.

MR. JAMES BILTON (Swan River): I have a question for the Minister too, if I may, Mr. Speaker. As the Minister sees the situation now, is it his intention that we sit a week tomorrow - that is, Saturday?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable House Leader.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, we won't be inclined to sit on Saturdays unless we see real value in a Saturday session to reduce the time, which I do not see the situation at present.

QUESTION put, MOTION carried.

GOVERNMENT BILLS

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable House Leader.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I can't recall if we finished all the bills that were on the Order Paper.

MR. SPEAKER: There are two.

MR. GREEN: I'd like to proceed with those bills.

MR. SPEAKER: Very well. Bill 52, proposed by the Honourable Minister of Health. The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. SHERMAN: Stand, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Bill 53, also proposed by the Honourable Minister of Health. The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. SHERMAN: Stand, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: And Bill 29, the Honourable Minister of Labour. That concludes the bills.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable the Minister for Urban Affairs, that Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair and the House resolve itself into a Committee to consider of the Supply to be granted to Her Majesty.

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

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY - LABOUR

MR. GREEN: I'm expecting the Minister of Labour momentarily to introduce his Estimates, if we could just wait a few moments.

MR. CHAIRMAN (Mr. Jenkins): Order please. I would refer honourable members to Page 33 of their Estimates book. The first resolution is 70 (a) Minister's Compensation. The Honourable Minister of Labour.

HON. RUSSELL PAULLEY (Minister of Labour) (Transcona): Mr. Chairman, may I first of all express my regrets at delaying the proceedings of the Committee. I want to confess to the Committee that I was engaged on government business and was not aware that we had gone into Committee of Supply. However, I am sure that honourable members will appreciate that sometimes these difficulties arise and that we can now proceed.

Before getting into the formal introduction of the Estimates and consideration of the Estimates as such, I would like to take this occasion to refer to a few events that have taken place of recent date which make direct reference to myself. I am sorry that some of my very supreme critics are not present at the present time, and I want to refer to a number of occurrences.

I think it quite proper for me to do so, sir, in dealing with the Estimates of the Department of Labour, because over a number of days some pretty obnoxious - in my opinion - remarks have been directed toward me as an individual, and my conduct in this House, and what I consider to be the democratic privilege, indeed the democratic responsibility of each

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(MR. PAULLEY cont'd) and every member of the seat of government in the Province of Manitoba. And I regret, and I resent very much, some of the approaches of members of this House, and in particular some members in Opposition.

I believe the date was April 29 when, in accordance with ancient custom and privileges of members of the Assembly, I stood on the introduction of the motion to go into Supply and raised a grievance at a collective agreement that apparently had been agreed upon by negotiators between a certain segment of the employees of the government and parties concerned. At that particular time, despite what some people or some members of the Assembly may have thought that I was speaking through my hat because of the fact that I may have had a cocktail over lunch - and I want to assure you, Mr. Chairman, and all of the members of this House, that such was not the case - that when I was speaking on the grievance, I was speaking from my heart because I felt that an injustice was being done and that unfair consideration was being given in a collective agreement.

I have prided myself, since I became a member of this House in 1953, of trying to be forthright, of trying to be honest, and trying to present to the Assembly my considered opinion. I realize that when one enters into the field of politics, he or she makes it possible that that person is subject to barbs, to criticisms, and consequently has to take the brunt of being engaged in the field political. Mr. Chairman, I don't normally read Hansard, although I suppose if the utterances of any individual member in the House were totalled over the number of years that I have been here, I might win the prize for most involvement. So I say, Mr. Chairman, normally I do not read Hansard, because I listen. In this particular case, however, that I am referring to, the time during which I took the advantage of speaking of a grievance, before Hansard was laid on our desks, unfortunately due to the advice of my medical adviser I went to hospital for a period of time, about ten days, and didn't have the opportunity of considering the utterances of some of my colleagues in this august House. And while I say, Mr. Chairman, I do not normally read Hansard, on this particular occasion following my return from hospital I made it my business to read what was said by some honourable members regarding what I had said about negotiations with our psychiatrists and representatives of the government.

I noted particularly, I noted particularly, Mr. Chairman, in Hansard, that one honourable member who has been in this House for a considerable period of time took the opportunity of lecturing as to the responsibility of a Cabinet Minister and inferred that a Cabinet Minister was a different type of an individual than any other type of an individual, that that Cabinet Minister did not have the democratic right of expressing an opinion that may be different than the opinions of his fellow colleagues in Cabinet, a premise which I, as a Democrat, reject in total. And if news reports are correct, that honourable gentleman said it was a disgrace for me, as one of the 57 members of this Assembly, to comment as I did on April 29th. He used the term "a disgrace, a violation of the principles, a violation of the normal concept that once a decision has been made by a Cabinet, that decision deprives an individual of the right of self-expression."

The member that I am referring to, Mr. Chairman, I do not believe ever had the honour of the privilege of being a member of Cabinet that I can recall since I've been in this House. And I would suggest, I would suggest to that honourable gentleman that if perchance he ever does become a member of a Cabinet and that he is placed in the position or takes the position that having been placed, that deprives him of the right of self-expression, then his approach would be wrong. I still think, I still think, Mr. Chairman, that democracy is well served by the rights of self-expression by individuals, be they in Cabinet or be they out of Cabinet, be they in a political party or be they out of a political party. It is their responsibility to give freedom of their opinions, which I was doing, I felt, on April 29th.

But when I read in Hansard, Mr. Chairman, when I read in Hansard that an honourable member states - and I quote from the Winnipeg Free Press of Wednesday, April 30th - that the member I am referring to stated: "The Labour Minister may have achieved some personal satisfaction by his dramatic 'outpourings' but he placed Manitoba's system of government in jeopardy," I, sir, will argue this with that honourable member at any time. The honourable member also went on to say that he was disgusted with my performance. Now I give to the honourable member --(Interjection)-- I hadn't even mentioned the fact that I was talking about you. So now, Mr. Chairman, I was trying to be fair, reasonable, and I was trying not

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(MR. PAULLEY cont'd) to implicate any particular individual of the Assembly in order to once again express fairness, to express justice, but now that the Honourable Member from Swan River, who once presided over this Assembly, has disclosed that he is the individual, or one of the individuals referred to, now it's obvious that I am speaking of the utterances of the Member for Swan River albeit he's not seated in his own seat in accordance with the rules of this House.

Oh, it's well to condemn me for non-adherence to the so-called rules in his opinion of the conduct of a Cabinet Minister. And here my honourable friend admits from the seat of the Leader of his Party that it is he, and was he, that was guilty of the unfair accusations that were directed toward me, in my opinion, because I expressed an opinion that I honestly and deeply held that the settlement that was arrived at between the psychiatrists in the employment of the government was unfair, taking into consideration the fact that we were at that particular time in negotiations with the Government Employees Association and its employees, and one of my objectives, if my honourable friend from Swan River will accept my honesty, one of my objectives was to attempt to point out that when the Manitoba Government Employees Association made their requests, percentage and dollarwise, I used the expression "Wow" because of the implication of the dollars. And when I found that as a result of a general agreement respecting those to whom salaries of \$25,000 or \$30,00 per year was being paid was three or four times, in some cases, the salaries that were being paid to the little boy or the little girl that was doing their office work for them, I said that it was a crime - and I meant it. And while some may criticize me again for saying that, I am well sure that when the employees consider the full significance of my statement - and I'm not trying to butter myself up toward them at all - but when the full significance of my statement is realized, it will dawn upon them the unfairness of the comparative salary adjustments.

We are not sure at the present time, Mr. Chairman, what the salary adjustments may be, but I do say that was the basis of the logic under which I was using my grievance, and condemned by one of the oldest - not chronologically - but one of the most affirmed traditionalists that we have in this House, that because I didn't stand up - or rather maybe it was because I did stand up and make a statement - that I should be condemned and criticized for giving an honest opinion, criticized a disgrace. Well I don't know whether a thing being a disgrace or the accusation directed to an individual that the conduct was disgraceful is an accolade or what, but in my opinion, my interpretation of what the Honourable Member for Swan River said was not laudatory, but condemned me.

MR. BILTON: Why not: ?

MR. PAULLEY: And why not? Here again, Mr. Chairman, why not condemn me because I have the honesty, because I had the internal fortitude to be able to stand up, yeah, even in the face of multitudes, and express my honest opinion as to where I stood, maybe in disagreement with the traditional aspects of my honourable friend, but certainly, Mr. Chairman, I was only exercising my opinion and also trying to import to this House what I considered to be an injustice. Now one in the democratic process normally thinks that it is only the Opposition that is privileged to stand up in this House and make comments on what they think may be the shortcomings of the government and stand up and criticize, but when my honourable friend states, as he stated, that parliamentary tradition demands that Cabinet battles be fought behind closed doors, other Ministers who couldn't agree with a Cabinet decision have recognized their responsibility to resign from Cabinet he said, and then again, to quote the Honourable Member for Swan River . . .

MR. BILTON: Why don't you read it from Hansard instead of that?

MR. PAULLEY: The honourable member then is quoted as saying - and this quote is out of Hansard - "stated that he has lost my confidence, he told Mr. Paulley." And my honourable friend has just repeated that I have - and I'm not arguing at all, Mr. Chairman; I have no desire at all to argue or to engage in a verbal battle with my friend from Swan River. I am merely trying to put on the record this afternoon my first opportunity - I'm only trying, Mr. Chairman, to put on the record the first opportunity I have of dealing with the Minister of Labour, because, Mr. Chairman, as Minister of Labour I have to have some confidence somewhere. If I do not have the confidence of the Assembly, if I do not have the confidence of my Premier and my colleagues, then I would agree with the suggestion that I should resign.

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(MR. PAULLEY cont'd)

But there's another member of the House that I would like to make reference to at the present time - and I am sorry that he is not here as well. Because, as I read Hansard - and I've compared with the notes that I have before me - never was I more shocked, either in this House or out of this House, with the comments that were made - and I repeat sincerely I'm sorry he is not here - the comments that were made by the Honourable Member for Souris-Killarney. This honourable member injected into the discussions in this House, Mr. Chairman, something that in my opinion has no place whatsoever in any of the deliberations that are carried on. I admit, Mr. Chairman, I am not ashamed of the fact that I belong to a fraternal organization called the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Manitoba. Here too, at no time in my nearly 30 years of involvement in politics of one description or other in this province as mayor, as school trustee, or a member of this Assembly, can I recall any time I've made reference to an individual being part of any particular fraternal party. And I must quote this, and I must rebut it. Mr. McKellar, which is the honourable member referred to, told the Legislature he was especially disturbed because he and Mr. Paulley belong to the same fraternal order. "It is not right if I can't have trust in a brother Mason," said Mr. McKellar. Then he went on to say - and here, Mr. Chairman, is an indication of absolute disgust as far as I, an individual, is concerned, because it ranks on discrimination against others. I must quote - this too is from Hansard - what the honourable member had to say about me, not because I'm a Cabinet Minister, not because I happen to be a New Democrat, not because of the fact that I come from Transcona or may be a member of this Assembly, but the quote by the honourable member referred to, from Souris-Killarney: "If you want to fight with the RC's (Roman Catholics), that's one thing," he said - he told the Minister of Labour. He said Mr. Paulley had made matters worse by claiming reporters misrepresented his statements last week.

This is the type of thing, Mr. Chairman, that went on at that particular time, and I resent very much the attitude of some of my honourable friends opposite that were uttered during the time that I had spoken in the grievance and then went to hospital. And it's rather peculiar, and I suppose I should let my heart bleed and thank the Honourable Member for Swan River for his generosity to me, because when the First Minister formally announced to the House that on doctor's orders I was confined to the hospital, my dear honourable friend from Swan River said, "Kindly extend to the Honourable Minister of Labour my best wishes for a speedy recovery."

MR. BILTON: What's wrong with that?

MR. PAULLEY: Nothing wrong with it at all because I have recovered. I have recovered, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I have recovered to the degree that I can ignore completely the remarks being made at the present time from the Leader of the Opposition's seat by the Member for Swan River, and pay no attention to him.

But there's another honourable member in this House that I want to refer to - the Honourable Member for Fort Garry. In his remarks to the Premier, it was recorded, by the Honourable Member for Fort Garry, a number of accusations were levied against my Premier because the Premier had over-burdened me with work, that he had shown no consideration for me because of the onerous task that I was attempting to face up to in these days as Minister of Labour. I was surprised, Mr. Chairman, to read what the Honourable Member for Fort Garry had to say in this House, and condemn in effect my Premier for his treatment of me. I want to assure this Assembly that there has been constant consultation between the Premier and myself as to my workload. It is true, it is true that the job has been a hard one, recognized, I think, Mr. Chairman, by most fair people in Manitoba. It isn't an easy position today for one to attempt or try to solve some of the problems that we're having in the industrial arena, but I want to tell my honourable friend from Fort Garry that at no time has the Premier attempted in one way or another to impose upon me burdens that were considered to be detrimental to my health. That situation, Mr. Chairman, has since been found out by medical advisers far more competent, may I suggest, than the Honourable Member from Fort Garry. So I would trust and hope that the honourable member referred to will re-read Hansard and really inwardly digest what he said.

There are some that might attempt to interpret that all of my mental or physical deficiencies I could lay at the doorstep of the man that I was so honoured to follow as the

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(MR. PAULLEY cont'd) Leader of our party. He has been most considerate of me and we have worked together as much as we could, Mr. Chairman, worked together to be a team in the interests of the best for the Province of Manitoba.

I have other references, Mr. Chairman, that I want to make insofar as the debate that took place following my moving out of the Assembly. It is true, Mr. Chairman, that I did say to the Premier as I left the Assembly, that if this is the way that negotiations are going to be concluded, then find somebody else to be the Chairman of the committee on negotiations. It's true. I believed it. I said it. I make no apologies for doing so. And in saying that, Mr. Chairman, I do want to pay a tribute to my colleague the Minister of Urban Affairs who took over the chairmanship of that sub-committee in Cabinet dealing with employee relationships. I pay a tribute to him, because it does appear, according to press releases and consultations, and I had the honour of being in one or two of them in the final stages, that there will be no strike - that there will be no strike if the recommendations announced by the Association are adopted by the membership.

I don't know whether the Honourable Member for Swan River would be disappointed that the strike didn't happen. I leave that to him. I leave that to him because of his judgmental capacity. But I do say to my honourable friend, who I've sat in this House with I believe ever since 1958 or possibly 1959, I'm not quite sure - maybe it was 1962 - at no time, at no time to my knowledge, other than political differences, has there been any real interchange between the two of us. I feel sorry for my honourable friend. I feel very sorry for my honourable friend, and I enjoin him, I enjoin him to read Hansard and inwardly digest exactly what he said. I suggest that the same be done by the Honourable Member for Souris-Killarney. I also ask that the Honourable Member for Fort Garry does the same.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I know my time is either up or very close to it, but I would like just to finish off on a note of a personal medical nature. I realize that from time to time it has appeared in this House as though I may have had a scotch or a rye or two too many. When I was asked, indeed when I was ordered to go into hospital, which I did for ten days and underwent intense medical examination, it was discovered because of the fact that it is necessary for me, because of a chest condition and because of other physical conditions, to take a number of drugs to alleviate the suffering as the result of that, that even a teaspoonful of alcohol could adversely affect the stability of my limbs and my equilibrium. As a matter of fact, Mr. Chairman, may I say to you, I was thoroughly examined and, as I was leaving the hospital - and maybe I should have taken him up on it - one of the doctors that I was investigated by said to me: "You know, Russ, maybe I should give you a certificate that after having gone through all of the examinations that we put you through during these last eight or ten days, I think you can be granted a certificate of sanity. And I would question whether all of the members of the Assembly with whom you deal could so qualify." So I did get some satisfaction that I have proven myself sane, or been proven sane, and I would be glad to continue the time allotted to me, which I believe I still have some left, at a later date, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hour being 4:30, the last hour of Friday being Private Members' Hour, Committee rise and report. Call in the Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, your Committee of Supply has considered the Estimates of the Department of Labour, reports progress, and asks leave to sit again.

IN SESSION

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Logan.

MR. WILLIAM JENKINS (Logan): Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Emerson, that the report of the Committee be received.

MOTION presented and carried.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Morris, that the House do now adjourn.

MOTION presented and carried, and the House adjourned until 10:00 a.m., Monday morning.