

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA
2:30 p.m., Thursday, June 10, 1976

Opening Prayer by Mr. Speaker.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

MR. SPEAKER: Before we proceed, I should like to direct the attention of the honourable members to the Gallery where we have 35 students Grade 11 standing of the Boissevain Collegiate under the direction of Mr. N. Dyck. This school is from the constituency of Souris-Killarney.

We also have 50 students Grade 9 standing of the Rivers Collegiate under the direction of Mr. Young and Mr. Henderson. This school is from the constituency of the Honourable Member for Virden.

And we have 20 students from the King George VI School from Kenora, Ontario, as our guests.

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

Presenting Petitions; Reading and Receiving Petitions; Presenting Reports by Standing and Special Committees; Ministerial Statements and Tabling of Reports. The Honourable Minister of Tourism.

TABLING OF REPORTS

HON. RENE E. TOUPIN (Minister of Tourism, Recreation and Cultural Affairs) (Springfield): Mr. Speaker, I would like to table for the interest of members of the House the fire hazards pertaining to Whiteshell Provincial Park, more particularly Muriel Lake fire.

MR. SPEAKER: Any other Ministerial Statements or Tabling of Reports? Notices of Motion; Introduction of Bills. Oral Questions. The Honourable Member for Virden.

ORAL QUESTIONS

MR. MORRIS MCGREGOR (Virden): Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct this question to the Minister of Tourism and Recreation regarding beach extension at Lake Wahtopanah, Beach Rivers. When is the Minister's staff going to purchase land known as grant property as letter of intent indicated some time ago. There is a real urgency here, Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. TOUPIN: Mr. Speaker, first of all I would like to thank the honourable member for his short notice of the question that he's now posing of me. I'm sorry to say, Mr. Speaker, that I cannot leave the Honourable Member for Virden on happy grounds on these dying weeks of the session.

I would like to inform the honourable member, yes, that we've had discussion with the party concerned and this is being pursued, but at this time I cannot give the honourable member a positive answer but certainly will pursue possibilities of extensions to that facility whenever funds make it possible.

Mr. Speaker, while I'm on my feet, I would like to respond to questions posed of the Premier yesterday that he took as notice and I'd like to answer as the Acting Minister of Health. These questions were posed by the Honourable Member for River Heights. They pertain to consultation by the Department of Health and Social Development pertaining to the Denticare Program and the answer that I get here is that dentists were consulted pertaining to diagnostic services to be offered.

Question Two: Would the First Minister indicate whether children's dentists dealing with children's teeth were ever consulted by government? And the answer is that there were consultations both through the Manitoba Dental Association and on individual basis.

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Attorney-General.

HON. HOWARD PAWLEY (Attorney-General)(Selkirk): Mr. Speaker, I wonder if with leave I could give notice of intent to introduce a resolution.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister have leave? (Agreed)

MR. PAWLEY: Notice of intent to introduce a resolution to establish a committee, intersessional committee in order to study the Family Law Reform Commission Report and other matters pertaining to family law.

ORAL QUESTIONS (Cont'd)

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

MR. STEVE PATRICK (Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the First Minister. The First Minister I believe indicated he has an option on \$1 billion of financing to develop a hydro generating station on the Nelson. Can the Minister indicate how long is that option for and is it under present consideration?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

HON. EDWARD SCHREYER (Premier)(Rossmere): No. Mr. Speaker. In some manner of means that became known of three years after the fact and I, as is my usual tendency, replied to questions, in this case questions from the media, some of the media, and I indicated that, yes, three years ago approximately there was a concrete expression of interest on the part of North American based life insurance companies through an intermediary for the equity investment into the development of Nelson River plants, one or two. The concept was interesting enough to be heard out but it would be contrary to practice anywhere in Canada in our time.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Roblin.

MR. J. WALLY MCKENZIE (Roblin): Mr. Speaker, I refer to the report which was tabled by the Minister of Tourism and Recreation re the Muriel Lake fire, and I notice that the RCMP are investigating the case. I wonder, is this a suspect in other fires as well? Would the Minister need additional staff now if there is going to be this type of vandalism in our parks?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Tourism.

MR. TOUPIN: No, Mr. Speaker, I am not requesting, and I have not requested, following the acceptance of Estimates of my department, for additional staff in parks. I believe that through redeployment of staff that we can meet the demand. We are receiving good co-operation from the RCMP and we hope to continue receiving same.

MR. MCKENZIE: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. I wonder if the Minister would advise the House why the RCMP were called into the Muriel Lake fire.

MR. TOUPIN: Well obviously, Mr. Speaker, there's a suspect that foul play was involved. And if it is, it'll be proved by investigating.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. DONALD W. CRAIK (Leader of the Official Opposition)(Riel): Mr. Speaker, I had a question I wanted to direct to the Minister of Mines and Resources but in his absence, and the possibility I may not have the opportunity, it's with regard to the mine at Lynn Lake. I wonder if the First Minister can indicate what the present circumstances are regarding the operation or the closing of the mine, the main mine at Lynn Lake itself.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, this announcement of last week was not entirely unexpected. There had been some tentative indication for a period of a year or more that there was a probability of a phasing down, possibly even a temporary closedown of operations at the Lynn Lake Nickel operation.

Implicit in the company's statement is the assumption that there may be a start-up again at some future date because they have announced that they are not going to dismantle the production equipment including the hoist, etc.

It was also indicated that some 130, I believe, personnel would be directly affected but that it was hoped that employment at the Fox Lake Mine and at the Ruttan Mine would offset that. That's about all I can report, Sir. There is some speculation that the

ORAL QUESTIONS

(MR. SCHREYER cont'd) announcement may have been timed for reasons of strategy in negotiations. I don't think I could comment on that.

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

MR. HARRY E. GRAHAM (Birtle-Russell): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Honourable Attorney-General. I would like to know if the Attorney-General has issued any directive to the RCMP or the City Police regarding high speed pursuit of vehicles by police forces in the Province of Manitoba.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. PAWLEY: No, I have not, Mr. Speaker. I have requested that certain information be gotten together for me to look into the need under all circumstances of high speed chases, but no directive has been issued.

MR. SPEAKER: Orders of the Day. The Honourable Minister of Agriculture.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

HON. SAMUEL USKIW (Minister of Agriculture)(Lac du Bonnet): Mr. Speaker, the intent is to go into Industrial Relations in a few minutes and then to come back on completion of the work of that committee into the House and go back out for Law Amendments. The suggestion is to leave the mace on the table.

MR. SPEAKER: Very well. In that case I will leave the House and I'll be back at the call of the House.

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PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Logan.

MR. WILLIAM JENKINS (Logan): Mr. Speaker, I beg to present the Fourth Report of the Committee on Industrial Relations.

MR. CLERK: Your Committee met on June 8, 1976, and heard further representation on Bills referred, as follows:

No. 16 - An Act to amend The Workers Compensation Act: Mr. Art Coulter - Manitoba Federation of Labour.

No. 57 - An Act to amend The Labour Relations Act: Pastor Arie G. Van Eek - Private Citizen, Mr. J. Steele - Private Citizen, Mr. A. E. Stanton - Winnipeg Builders Exchange, Mr. Stephen Riley - Winnipeg Newspaper Guild.

Your Committee has considered Bills:

No. 16 - An Act to amend The Workers Compensation Act,

No. 57 - An Act to amend The Labour Relations Act,

And has agreed to report the same with certain amendments.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Logan.

MR. JENKINS: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Thompson, that the report of the committee be received.

MOTION presented and carried.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Agriculture.

MR. USKIW: Mr. Speaker, it's the intention to go into Law Amendments Committee after the House reconvenes at 8 o'clock this evening. So I move that we now adjourn.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition on procedure.

ORDER FOR RETURN

MR. CRAIK: I wonder if by leave I can raise a matter of an Order for Return. It's a matter that would have come up had the Public Accounts Committee sat, but it now appears obvious the Public Accounts Committee will not sit for the purpose of looking over the detailed Public Accounts; and I would ask that an Order for Return be allowed to go on this evening's Order Paper and can be debated at that time as to whether or not it's accepted. But it would normally have appeared at the Public Accounts Committee.

I've distributed the Notice of Motion of the Order for Return.

MR. SPEAKER: Does the honourable member have leave? (Agreed) Very well, then in that case we shall take up that matter at 8 p.m. when we get to that order of business.

MOTION presented and carried and the House adjourned until 8 p.m.