

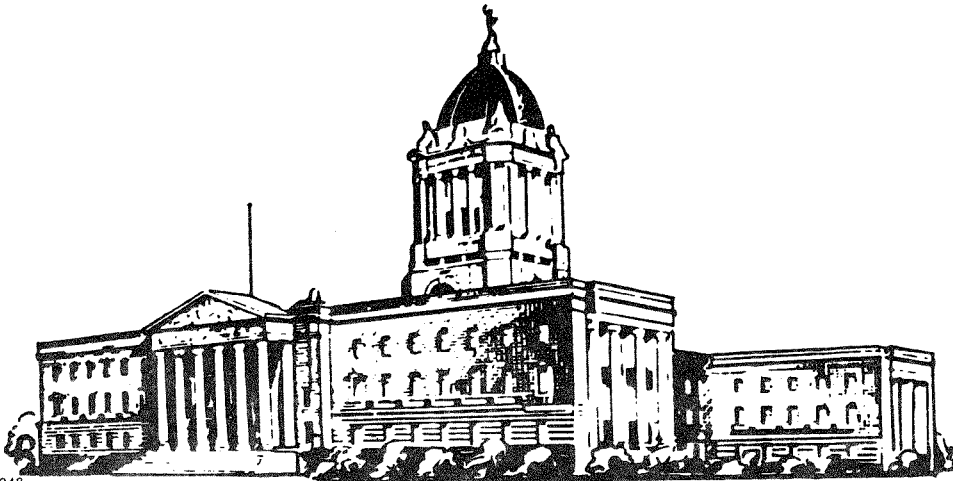


Second Session — Thirty-Second Legislature
of the
Legislative Assembly of Manitoba

DEBATES
and
PROCEEDINGS

31-32 Elizabeth II

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Speaker*



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MANITOBA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
Thirty-Second Legislature

Members, Constituencies and Political Affiliation

| Name | Constituency | Party |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|-------|
| ADAM, Hon. A.R. (Pete) | Ste. Rose | NDP |
| ANSTETT, Andy | Springfield | NDP |
| ASHTON, Steve | Thompson | NDP |
| BANMAN, Robert (Bob) | La Verendrye | PC |
| BLAKE, David R. (Dave) | Minnedosa | PC |
| BROWN, Arnold | Rhineland | PC |
| BUCKLASCHUK, Hon. John M. | Gimli | NDP |
| CARROLL, Q.C., Henry N. | Brandon West | IND |
| CORRIN, Brian | Ellice | NDP |
| COWAN, Hon. Jay | Churchill | NDP |
| DESJARDINS, Hon. Laurent | St. Boniface | NDP |
| DODICK, Doreen | Riel | NDP |
| DOERN, Russell | Elmwood | NDP |
| DOLIN, Hon. Mary Beth | Kildonan | NDP |
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| DRIEDGER, Albert | Emerson | PC |
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| EYLER, Phil | River East | NDP |
| FILMON, Gary | Tuxedo | PC |
| FOX, Peter | Concordia | NDP |
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| GRAHAM, Harry | Virден | PC |
| HAMMOND, Gerrie | Kirkfield Park | PC |
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| HARPER, Elijah | Rupertsland | NDP |
| HEMPHILL, Hon. Maureen | Logan | NDP |
| HYDE, Lloyd | Portage la Prairie | PC |
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| RANSOM, A. Brian | Turtle Mountain | PC |
| SANTOS, Conrad | Burrows | NDP |
| SCHROEDER, Hon. Vic | Rossmere | NDP |
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| USKIW, Hon. Samuel | Lac du Bonnet | NDP |
| WALDING, Hon. D. James | St. Vital | NDP |

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

Thursday, 2 June, 1983.

Time — 2:00 p.m.

OPENING PRAYER by Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER, Hon. J. Walding: Presenting Petitions . . . Reading and Receiving Petitions . . . Presenting Reports by Standing and Special Committees . . .

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS AND TABLING OF REPORTS

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Health.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Mr. Speaker, I apologize that I will have to make a correction as we go along. I received this just at the last minute. I wasn't able to make the correction.

Mr. Speaker, I am informed by officials of my department and the Department of the Environment that baseline studies on the well water in the area near the proposed site of the Underground Research Laboratory at Pinawa have detected radio-activity levels in excess of maximum acceptable concentration recommended by guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality of 1978. I understand that the maximum level of concentration is based on drinking two litres of water per day for 365 days per year, and is set at 100th of the concentration of the occupational dose limit for continuous exposure of workers.

I would point out that the residents with affected wells in the Pinawa area, that is, Lac du Bonnet, the town and the municipality and the people in the area, were advised of the situation by way of a hand-delivered letter today. The letter indicates that although the radiation levels in the well water present little risk, alternate sources of water for cooking and drinking may be considered.

I would emphasize that surface water - and there's the correction - instead of the Pinawa area, it should be in the area of the proposed URL, Underground Research Laboratory, were found to be free of significant radio-activity.

I would also emphasize that the levels of radiation in the well water are considered to be naturally occurring and attributed to the type of rock formation in this area. I'm informed by the Radiation Protection Bureau in Ottawa that the levels of radiation found in the well water is not unique or unexpected in rock formations of this kind.

Officials from my department and the Department of the Environment are monitoring this situation closely. Further tests are being taken to confirm the radiation levels and to determine the type of radiation involved.

I might say that the monitoring is going on and as soon as we have more information we'll give it to the House and release it to the public also.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Speaker, there's no disputing the fact that forewarned is forearmed, and on behalf of my colleagues on this side of the House, and

particularly my colleague, the Honourable Member for Tuxedo, the Official Opposition critic on the Environment, we thank the Minister for his warning and acknowledge the caution that is being exercised. We trust the inconvenience, difficulty and anxiety that may be caused for residents of the Pinawa area will be quickly removed and quickly alleviated.

MR. SPEAKER: Notices of Motions . . . Introduction of Bills . . .

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

MR. SPEAKER: Before we reach Oral Questions, may I direct the attention of honourable members to the gallery where we have 22 students of Grade 6 standing from the Snow Lake School under the direction of Mr. McQuoid. The school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Minister of Housing.

There are 30 students of Grade 9 standing from the Morden Collegiate under the direction of Mr. Einarson. The school is in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Pembina.

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

The Honourable Member for Turtle Mountain.

MR. B. RANSOM: Mr. Speaker, before Oral Questions, I would like to rise on a question of privilege.

We have on our desks today Bill 78, An Act to amend The Telephone Act and with that we have a press release, presumably, put out by the Minister responsible for Manitoba Telephone System. It refers to the introduction of this bill into the House and makes public release about information which has not been introduced in this House. I don't see Bill 78 on the Order Paper, I don't believe it has been introduced for second reading, Sir . . .

MR. H. ENNS: Just another lie.

MR. B. RANSOM: . . . and this is certainly another breach of the tradition of this House and another example of how this government is unable to handle their affairs. They seem to be in such a hurry to introduce a mass of legislation late in the Session, that they are unprepared to follow the normal routines. The government is prepared to resort to this type of activity, Sir, and I believe that it's appropriate for the Minister of Government Services at least to offer an apology to the House. We recognize that he is new in his position.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please, order please. The Honourable Member for Turtle Mountain is not concluding his remarks with a substantive motion. It is not a matter of privilege. The matter of which he complains may be a matter of discourtesy, but it is not a matter of privilege.

The Honourable Member for Virden.

MR. H. GRAHAM: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I, as another member of the Assembly, have . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Does the honourable member have a question?

MR. H. GRAHAM: No, on a matter of privilege.

MR. SPEAKER: There's another matter of privilege?

MR. H. GRAHAM: I speak on a matter of privilege. I have received on my desk a news release put forward by the Honourable Minister of Government Services . . .

HON. R. PENNER: That's what he was just talking about.

MR. H. GRAHAM: . . . that is certainly of concern to me, and I have just received a printed copy of a bill purporting to deal with the Manitoba Telephone System and I think, Mr. Speaker, it is fitting that matters dealing . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please, order please. Is the honourable member referring to something different from the Honourable Member for Turtle Mountain, which has just been dealt with and concluded?

MR. H. GRAHAM: No, Mr. Speaker, I'm dealing with a matter of my personal privilege in this Assembly.

MR. SPEAKER: If it is different from that which has already been raised in this House, the Honourable Member for Virden can proceed.

MR. H. GRAHAM: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I am concerned about this and therefore, Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Member for River Heights, that this matter be referred to the Rules Committee of the Assembly for proper consideration.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Government House Leader on a point of order.

HON. R. PENNER: Well, on a point of order, the members opposite have made assumptions which are simply groundless. The press release has not been released. It's being distributed to the members of the House along with the bill so that they should be the first to have a chance to see what would be introduced by way of speaking explanation in a day or so. This has been discussed in the House before. It has been agreed and it's agreed on our side that something that's released to the press before the bill is circulated ought not to be done, but this is not the case. I've satisfied myself in speaking to the Minister of Government Services that this is being distributed to the members first and as such, it breaches no privilege, breaches no rule.

SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Order please.

This proposed motion by the Honourable Member for Virden is not shown to be any different from that matter raised on a purported matter of privilege by the

Honourable Member for Turtle Mountain, which has already been dealt with and ruled out of order. This accordingly is also out of order.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Virden.

MR. H. GRAHAM: Mr. Speaker, I find it very difficult in my position to challenge the ruling of a Speaker, but in this particular case I would suggest that I have followed every rule of the Assembly and if I am being overruled then I would respectfully challenge your ruling, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: The question before the House is shall the ruling of the Chair be sustained. Those in favour, please say aye; those opposed, please say nay. In my opinion, the ayes have it, I declare the motion carried.

ORAL QUESTIONS

Brandon General Hospital - staff elimination

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Honourable Minister of Health. Notwithstanding the fact that he is the Minister of Health, not the Administrator of Brandon General Hospital, and not the Chairman of the Board at the Brandon General Hospital and I recognize that, Mr. Speaker, I want to ask the Minister whether he can tell this House whether or not Brandon General Hospital is moving to eliminate licensed practical nurses from its staff?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Health.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Mr. Speaker, there is certainly no policy of government or the Commission that would suggest that this has been done. Now what is being done by the hospital, I'll have to take the question as notice and find out from the Brandon Hospital.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Speaker, I would ask the Minister whether he or officials of his department have received a number of communications from LPNs at Brandon General which have come to me, and which would indicate on the copy list contained on those letters that they have similarly gone to the Minister and to a number of his colleagues, including the Honourable Minister of Community Services, stipulating that the hospital has indicated to them that there will be a change in staffing patterns, and the intention of the hospital is to move to phase out the licensed practical nurse.

That is not to say that it would not be replaced with something else, but if its replacement is to be a person holding a baccalaureate or an extensive qualification of that kind, there is obviously a serious impact involved here on employment and hiring and staffing patterns, and the futures of those LPNs.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: I can't say that I remember receiving this letter or copy of this letter. I'll certainly

check, but I would like to say if that is the case I would also be very concerned.

Some of the members of Cabinet met with the officials of MONA not too long ago, and this is one of the concerns that I expressed to them, and they assured me that it wasn't the intent of MONA to replace the LPNs by RNs, either diploma or, in fact, not to replace the diploma nurses also by nurses that all had degrees, although I think there is an endeavour for many of the nurses to try to improve their state, and then I think that many of them would like to have a chance to, those that have received only a diploma, get their degree.

But I asked MONA specifically what was the intent, would we eventually have all RNs and all RNs that received their degree, and they assured me that that wasn't the case.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the Minister's response and I would just ask one final supplementary, and that is: Can we then conclude in this House and through the various reporting mechanisms, assure the LPNs working at Brandon General Hospital that their jobs are secure insofar as the Minister of Health and the Manitoba Health Services Commission are concerned and that there is no intention by this government at the present time to phase out the LPN and replace her or him with a different category of nurse?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Mr. Speaker, I'm glad the member added, as far as the Minister of Health is concerned, yes, without any hesitation at all. I think that in the past we've realized that there are certain people that do certain jobs, certain work, and it would just add to the cost if everybody is overqualified. Now, there might be a reason why the Brandon Hospital has done that. I'd want to talk to them and talk to the Commission before, but as far as my own personal belief as of now, unless there is some other information that I don't have and I certainly would want to keep an open mind on that. But it would take an awful lot of persuasion to get me to change my mind on that.

Anti-noise by-law violations

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Virden.

MR. H. GRAHAM: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a question of the Minister of Labour. I would like to ask the Minister of Labour if there are any particular regulations within her department that would prevent the use of loud hailers between the general foreman and the operators of overhead cranes on any construction sites within the City of Winnipeg?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

HON. M.B. DOLIN: Mr. Speaker, I'll be happy to take that question as notice.

Government construction projects - exemptions

MR. H. GRAHAM: At the same time as the Minister is taking that as notice, would the Minister also indicate

whether there were any particular exemptions for construction on government projects within the City of Winnipeg?

HON. M.B. DOLIN: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I'll research the question fully.

Anti-noise by-law violations

MR. H. GRAHAM: I would like to ask the Honourable Attorney-General a question. I would like to ask the Attorney-General if he could indicate to the Legislature what charges, if any, have been laid against Mr. John Kehler, who yesterday was arrested, handcuffed and forcibly removed from the grounds of the Legislature?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Attorney-General.

HON. R. PENNER: The Honourable Member for Pembina shouts from his seat "shame." I should point out again, if he was here yesterday, he wasn't listening; if he wasn't listening, he wasn't understanding. In either case, he hasn't deviated from his past pattern, and that is that neither myself, nor any other member of government had anything to do with the removal of that person and I deplored it in the House yesterday. But to answer the question, the person has been charged with a breach of the anti-noise by-law. This is a municipal by-law under the by-law making power of the City of Winnipeg. He is being released on his own recognizance with some conditions attached and the matter was remanded for a week from yesterday to appear in court on the 9th of this month. My officials are continuing to look into the matter.

One of the concerns that I raised yesterday which continues to be a concern of mine is whether or not, with respect to a municipal by-law of that kind, there exists the power to arrest without warrant. The person was arrested without warrant and that in itself raises some question.

I think, Mr. Speaker, just one other observation, because the matter is sub judice and I don't want to get into it. There are problems that I think all authorities will have to consider in this year of the Charter where one of the guaranteed rights is freedom of expression. I think that one should not be hasty at all in restricting someone's freedom of expression. Very often that freedom of expression will be with respect to a grievance, sometimes with respect to a minority cause, and it sometimes isn't something that people against whom it's directed or may be in the vicinity of the demonstration or expression of opinion are comfortable with, but we live in a democratic society and we have to learn that kind of freedom of expression is guaranteed in our Charter.

MR. SPEAKER: Before the Honourable Member for Virden proceeds, I'm sure he will recall that matters which are before the courts are not deemed appropriate for questions in the House.

The Honourable Member for Virden.

MR. H. GRAHAM: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for that admonition. I, like the Attorney-General, am very concerned about speculating on any case that is before

the courts, but I believe the courts are a public record and it is proper and fitting that people should know what individuals are charged with before the courts.

Having said that, Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Attorney-General a supplementary question. Can the Attorney-General confirm that a senior general counsel in his office was the person that informed the City Police, in fact was present when the City Police arrived and personally supervised the arrest and handcuffing of Mr. Kehler even though no attempt to resist . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please, order please. Order please. The honourable member will recall, I am sure, that matters that are before the courts are inappropriate for questions before the House. We would not like the honourable member to ask a question which might in some way compromise the case.

The Honourable Member for Virden.

MR. H. GRAHAM: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I would hope, Mr. Speaker, that you would listen carefully to the question I put forward, and I would again ask the Attorney-General if it is true that a senior general counsel in his department was the person that informed the police and was present to supervise the handcuffing of the individual who was forcibly removed from the Legislative grounds?

HON. R. PENNER: That answer to that question is no. Now had he asked the question properly, he might have got the answer he was looking for. A senior judge - if he wants to ask me the name of the judge, that's up to him. I go no further. Two senior judges, one more senior than the other, apparently being disturbed by the noise, which as I say, I found a little bit perplexing since Cabinet was meeting much closer to the person and was not disturbed by the noise - we had enough of our own going on - asked the senior counsel referred to about the matter. The senior counsel did no more than ask the police what the law was in this respect. It's out of his inquiry, not complaint nor requesting the police for action as I am advised, that the police attended and thereafter acted entirely on their own.

MR. H. GRAHAM: A further supplementary question. Am I then led to believe that senior general counsel was not at the scene when the City Police arrived, and personally identified the offending person to the City Police? Is that what the Attorney-General is telling me?

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.
The Honourable Attorney-General.

HON. R. PENNER: What the Honourable Member for Virden was advised of is what I told him. Now what more does he want? I told him that the information he has about a senior counsel somehow being involved in the arrest is erroneous. Those are not the facts as I have them.

With respect to the surly remark hurled across the floor by the Member for Turtle Mountain, I have only received the police report within the last hour. I did not have the police report. I have the police report now and, to the extent that I can answer questions which

do not get into the matter you have correctly identified, namely, the merits of the case, I will answer those questions, but no further.

MR. H. GRAHAM: A final supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Would the Attorney-General consider it to be an admirable action on the part of any Minister of the Crown to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth when answering questions in this Assembly?

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The Honourable Member for Virden ought to be more aware of the rules of asking questions than to ask such a question.

The Honourable Member for Elmwood.

Anti-noise by-law violations

MR. R. DOERN: Mr. Speaker, in view of the first question put by the Member for Virden about disturbing of the peace by construction cranes and so on, I wanted to also ask the Minister of Labour first of all whether there is, in fact, a limit on the audibility of the P.A. system regarding construction sites and cranes in populated areas.

Secondly, if there is not now a standard for that, I would like to know whether she would believe that standards should be established, because some of these cranes operate in densely-populated areas early in the morning much to the discomfort and dismay of local residents. Given, Mr. Speaker, that there are, in fact, modern communication systems, I don't know if it is necessary for crane operators to be heard over a radius of many blocks in a city like Winnipeg.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

HON. M.B. DOLIN: Mr. Speaker, I will be happy to take this question as notice as well and consider it as we look at the entire picture. Certainly occupational health and safety limits do set the level of noise that is acceptable, and I will be working with my colleague, the Minister responsible for that area, in preparing the answer to this very important question.

Environment Week meeting

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Minnedosa.

MR. D. BLAKE: Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Honourable First Minister. I wonder if the First Minister could inform the House what the purpose of the meeting in Room 200 the day before yesterday was at which the Governor General and the Minister of Immigration and Citizenship were present at a reception there in the afternoon.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

HON. H. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of the meeting was dealing with the environment, the calling of Environment Week and the issuing of a proclamation dealing with the providing of some awards to various

school children in the Province of Manitoba that had entered into competition pertaining to Environment Week.

MR. D. BLAKE: I wonder if the First Minister could inform the House who was invited to that reception.

HON. H. PAWLEY: I have no idea who was invited to the meeting. I know that Room 200 was packed with those that are interested in respect to matters pertaining to the environment.

Certainly more information can be obtained if the honourable member wishes to have that information. I'm sure that can be obtained for the honourable member.

Anti-noise by-law violation

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Ellice.

MR. B. CORRIN: Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Attorney-General. Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that the Attorney-General's Department is responsible for the enforcement and prosecution of municipal by-laws in the City of Winnipeg, will the Attorney-General give consideration to instructing his Crown Counsel to enforce or order a stay of proceedings with respect to the case of the individual who has been apprehended with respect to the city's noise by-law on the grounds of the Legislative Buildings yesterday?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Virden on a point of order.

MR. H. GRAHAM: Mr. Speaker, I believe that the question of the honourable member is one that is certainly dealing with a matter that is before the courts, and trying to influence the courts is something that no member of this Assembly should try and do.

SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order please, order please.

I believe I did say something earlier this afternoon about matters which were before the courts and I would not expect any member to ask such a question. Neither would I expect the Honourable Attorney-General to answer such a question.

MR. B. CORRIN: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Ellice will rephrase his question.

MR. B. CORRIN: No, I don't wish to rephrase my question, it's on a point of order.

I wish to explore the issue of order that's been raised by the Member for Virden. The Member for Virden raises the premise that matters that are before the court shouldn't be discussed and I agree. But the issue that I raised was essentially one which was within the purview and domain of the Minister responsible for law enforcement.

The issue is whether or not, within the administrative capacity of that Minister and within his role as Minister responsible for the Department of the Attorney-General, whether he would exercise his authority and in so doing ask his departmental Crown Counsel to withdraw a prosecution that he had launched in the name of the Queen on behalf of the public and right of Manitoba.

So with respect to the Member for Virden I think that the question actually was not addressed specifically to a matter before the courts but rather a matter before the purview of this Legislative Assembly.

MR. A. ANSTETT: Mr. Speaker, to the same point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Springfield to the same point of order.

MR. A. ANSTETT: Mr. Speaker, I would like to draw the attention of the House to Citation 335, in Beauchesne, Page 118, which in reference to the sub-judice convention states "The purpose of this sub-judice convention is to protect the parties in a case awaiting or undergoing trial and persons who stand to be affected by the outcome of a judicial inquiry."

Mr. Speaker, I would suggest that the purpose of the convention which is a voluntary one, a voluntary restraint imposed upon the House by itself, is to protect the parties from discussing the details of any case. A question as to whether or not the Attorney-General would consider a stay of proceedings is not a reflection on the merits of the charge or any of the details which will be placed before the court, and certainly would seem to be a question which should be in order in this House.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Virden to the same point.

MR. H. GRAHAM: Mr. Speaker, I would ask you to listen carefully to the points put forward both by the Member for Springfield and the Member for someplace up . . .

A MEMBER: Ellice.

MR. H. GRAHAM: Ellice. I would suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, that if you listen carefully to the debate put forward by the Member for Ellice and the Member for Springfield, it is a direct attempt at trying to influence justice in this province and should be outlawed.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please, order please.

The remarks of the previous few speakers have sounded remarkably like the pleadings of lawyers, which I have no competence to judge one way or the other.

The matter is, as has been mentioned, listed on Page 118 of Beauchesne, where members can read what Beauchesne has to say about the matter. It would seem, too, that the questions have referred to a particular case, a particular incidence that has happened and which is likely to come before the courts. It would therefore seem appropriate that the House deal with other matters of interest and not ask questions about or pertaining to this particular case.

The Honourable Member for St. Norbert.

Abortion clinic - Dr. Morgentaler

MR. G. MERCIER: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Attorney-General. Can he confirm that he has received a preliminary police report from the Winnipeg Police Department with respect to Dr. Morgentaler's Clinic and expects to receive a final report by next Monday?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Attorney-General.

HON. R. PENNER: Yes, I can confirm that I received a preliminary report outlining the investigation which is taking place and the progress that has been made on that investigation. I can further confirm that I expect to receive a further report - I doubt whether it would be a final report - a further report early next week. That much I can confirm.

MR. G. MERCIER: Mr. Speaker, could the Attorney-General indicate whether he will be dealing with this matter personally or the matter will be handled by the Director of Prosecutions.

HON. R. PENNER: The matter will be handled by the Director of Prosecutions.

Jobs Fund - allocation of funds

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Turtle Mountain.

MR. B. RANSOM: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the First Minister. In his capacity as Minister responsible for the Jobs Fund, can the First Minister advise the House how much of the budgetary authority for the Jobs Fund has been allocated at this point?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

HON. H. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, in the neighbourhood of \$70 million has been allocated.

MR. B. RANSOM: Mr. Speaker, can the First Minister indicate how much of the \$10 million contributed by Manitoba Government Employees has been allocated?

HON. H. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, \$70 million has been allocated and that \$10 million is within the general total, complete total, so that at this particular point there is \$70 million allocated out of the total budget pertaining to the Jobs Fund. The \$10 million is part and parcel of the total.

Jobs Bill - second reading

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Turtle Mountain.

MR. B. RANSOM: Mr. Speaker, the House gave second reading to the Jobs Bill over four weeks ago. The government does not seem to have been in any haste

to proceed with that bill. Can the First Minister advise what purpose that bill will serve when it's passed since the budgetary money, at least, seems to have largely been allocated?

HON. H. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, we are proceeding on the expectation that the bill, indeed, will be passed, and as was mentioned during the introduction of the bill, the bill assists in respect to the administration and the payout of monies in respect to the Jobs Fund. It's administratively necessary and certainly we are proceeding on the basis that bill will be passed with the support of each and every member in the Chamber. Certainly, on the part of members on this side of the Chamber.

Order for Return No. 12

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Sturgeon Creek.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Mr. Speaker, on April 7th, I asked the Attorney-General when he would be tabling the Order for Return No. 12, which he said was ready, and his answer, Sir, was: "I am considering the legal position of the government before I file it in terms of the privilege of those individuals. When I have satisfied myself that we are not, in fact, unintentionally, but nevertheless breaching the privacy of those individuals such that we might be subject to a suit . . ." he would then decide whether he would table it or not, Mr. Speaker. In view of the fact that I have asked the Legislative Counsel for an opinion, although I have not gotten one back in writing because he's so busy with legislation, he has informed me verbally that the government is not liable. Could I ask the Attorney-General when he will be tabling the Order for Return No. 12 which has been ready for a long time?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Attorney-General.

HON. R. PENNER: I'll discuss the matter with Legislative Counsel. I thank the member for advising me that an opinion has been obtained, I haven't received it myself. I will be glad as I usually am to be advised by Legislative Counsel and I normally find his advice very persuasive.

Small Business Interest Rate Relief Program

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Mr. Speaker, I would send the Attorney-General a copy of this if he doesn't have one, but I would ask him if he would please consult the report on small business which is the spring of 1983, and on Page 7, he will find that the government is advertising and naming two people who have received assistance from the the Small Business Interest Rate Relief Program. It's been made public to others. I wonder if he would take that into consideration when he is deciding whether to table it or not.

HON. R. PENNER: Where a matter of personal privacy is involved, it's always up to the individual to waive whatever protection the law affords that person with

respect to privacy, I assume. But I can only assume at the moment those persons have permitted the use of their name, but I will look into that as well.

Oak Point emergency road

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

MR. H. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, I direct this question to the First Minister.

My colleague, the Member for Arthur, has asked this question on numerous occasions to the Minister of Agriculture. I have dealt with the matter with his Minister of Natural Resources during Estimates. I now ask the First Minister for his personal intervention and whether or not he will not reconsider the Department of Natural Resource's decision to take out a short piece of road that was put in three years ago during a hay emergency in the Oak Point, the Marshy Point area. It's just a matter of several hundred yards of road that were put in to assist several ranchers to get at valuable hay supplies.

I remind the First Minister that we are looking at a possible hay shortage this year with the kind of winter kill that we've had, and whether he would not think that there are other places to spend \$12,000 or \$15,000 to take out a road. You know, rather than - in fact give it to the Minister of Highways who's had to decrease highways spending by 20 percent this year, — (Interjection) — or give it to the Minister of Agriculture to put it back in the 4-H programs, but why spend \$15,000 to take out a road that was put in three years ago to help some ranchers to get at their hay?

Would the First Minister's office - I don't want to be unkind to him, but we've raised this matter with his Ministers - would the First Minister just give me his commitment to look into the matter?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

HON. H. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, I'm impressed by the honourable member's deep concern for a matter obviously involving some of his constituents and certainly we'll take a look at that along with the Minister of Agriculture. The Minister of Agriculture, in fact, may have something further to report today in view of the message but we'll be glad to take a look at the honourable member's concerns that he's raised.

MR. H. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, I was hoping perhaps the Minister of Agriculture would, indeed, have something to report. I point out, just in a further supplementary fashion, Mr. Speaker, the request to remove the road comes from an absent landowner living in Montreal. The people, the constituents, that want the road are asking for it to stay.

So, I'm asking this government really to ask themselves whether or not they should be spending \$14,000 or \$15,000 to remove that road?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Agriculture.

HON. B. URUSKI: Mr. Speaker, the honourable member should be aware that I have been involved in this matter.

— (Interjection) — Mr. Speaker, the honourable member should be aware that this question was raised in 1980, and the honourable member was, I believe, a member of the Provincial Land Use Committee at which time the decision was made to allow these lands, which were an integral part of the management area or the goose sanctuary in the Marshy Point area, this matter was put to the, I believe, Western Interlake District Planning Board in which the R.M. of Coldwell is in by the Provincial Crown Lands Classification Committee to seek their views and opinions with respect to the lands in question and there are some two sections or parts of two sections of land that have been periodically under grazing lease.

The decisions that were given by his administration were that these crossings were of a temporary nature. As late as early this spring, I had occasion to speak both to the individuals involved and to the municipal council indicating that the road was in fact a municipal road and if council was prepared to assist because the road was theirs and wished to deal with this question, we would defer to them. But the fact of the matter is, the council and the district board both agreed to leave these lands in their natural state.

The question of the shortage of hay is one that we are concerned about. I have met with the individuals involved as late as approximately one hour ago and have indicated to them that council should indicate their position to us because there has been a decision made by the Municipal Council and by the Western Interlake Planning District Board to us. We would certainly be prepared to review our position in that respect and allow the municipality to continue that road, but we are waiting advice and in terms of whether those crossings - and we're talking about basically not the road, but the crossings - will be removed. We're prepared to await further confirmation from council as to their intentions.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

MR. H. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, I'm intrigued with the Minister's answer and I want to assure him all I'm asking from him is please don't you send in your bulldozers to remove it. What council does, or what anybody else does, I'll accept their opinion too, but what I'm asking you right now, my understanding is that on June 6th, your government is sending in bulldozers at taxpayers' expense to remove the road. So would he just give me the commitment that you're not going to do that. You'll back off and you'll wait for council to make their decision. If you do that, then I'm very happy.

HON. B. URUSKI: Mr. Speaker, the honourable member should be aware and I will quote from a letter that was written as early as a month ago by staff within the Crown Lands Classification Committee to people in the Oak Point area indicating that as early as March of 1981, the R.M. of Coldwell Council resolved that the sections in question of the leased land were critical areas for the resting and brooding of Canada geese and the council requested the Crown land plan designate these two sections for wildlife use only and that no agricultural use be allowed.

This request was made again in April of 1982 whereby the Western Interlake District Board agreed to the

province's Crown land plan for the area subject to these two sections of Crown land being limited to wildlife use only. In June of 1980, the Marshy Point area, including these two sections, were identified as possible sources for additional hay under the 1980 Emergency Drought Program, and to facilitate access to this area it was agreed that temporary crossings would be provided in the area. Upon the ending of the drought, the request to eliminate agricultural use of Section 89 was acted upon by the Crown Land Classification Committee.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Table it, table it.

HON. B. URUSKI: Mr. Speaker, I will certainly table the letter for the member's information, but certainly we are prepared to review that position.

Translation of statutes

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Cultural Affairs.

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Two days ago, I took as notice a number of questions from the Honourable Member for St. Norbert and I'd like at this time to respond to those questions.

He had asked me as to the amount of money that has been spent to date, since 1979, with respect to the translation of statutes and regulations and quoted a figure of \$2 million. The figures that we have with respect to those costs to date, including what is estimated for this current fiscal year, are \$1,204,987, which are made up as follows: the year 1980, \$94,989; 1981, \$205,000; and 1982, \$390,000.00.

The member further asked me whether or not what we expected the costs of translation, up to and including the year 1993, under the proposed amendment to The Manitoba Act, and he quoted a figure of \$15 million to \$20 million. No, Mr. Speaker, the figure of \$15 million to \$20 million would be a vast overstatement of the cost of translating statutes and regulations under the proposed amendment.

As I indicated, our budgeted costs for this current year is approximately \$513,000, which is equally split between that which is needed for staying current with the annual production of statutes and dealing with the backlog of the pre-Forest statutes.

The amendments and the agreement with the Federal Government should enable us to undertake a complete revision of statutes in English and French, and the government has already announced that the cost of this revision is projected to \$3.5 million shared 50-50 with the Federal Government. It's my estimate that the net cost to Manitoba for this revision and for the translation of statutes and regulation on a current basis will not exceed \$6 million over the period in question.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, the honourable member asked for me to confirm whether or not since the translation of statutes that the Queen's Printer has sold 25 . . .

A MEMBER: Lying.

HON. E. KOSTYRA: I don't know, Mr. Speaker, if the member would like the answer to the question.

SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

HON. E. KOSTYRA: . . . whether or not there has been sold 25 statutes in French. I can confirm that only 25 copies of French statutes have been sold by the Queen's Printer. I would just caution this figure should be taken in the context that only 22 of the possible 383 statutes in continuing consolidation have been translated.

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

MR. G. MERCIER: Mr. Speaker, I simply wish to thank the Minister for providing that information.

Bill No. 47 - introduction

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Sturgeon Creek.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Attorney-General, the House Leader of the government, and for the sake of this House not being confused by him any more I wonder if he could explain to the House, Bill 47, that was just introduced to us. It is introduced by the Honourable M. Penner in French, and the Honourable Mr. Adam in English. Could he please explain who is introducing the bill?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Attorney-General.

SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order please, order please. The Honourable Attorney-General.

HON. R. PENNER: I was about to say, if I've left the honourable member confused, I've only left him where I found him.

A MEMBER: Pick him up, pick him up.

HON. R. PENNER: I now withdraw that remark because his source of confusion indeed is not originating with him but with the printing of this bill. They seek 'em here, they seek 'em there, they seek 'em everywhere, the elusive L'Hon. M. Penner. He doesn't exist and perhaps that's as well. The House probably feels from time to time that one Penner is more than enough and we'll see to the correction of this grave error.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The time for Oral Questions having expired, the Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. A. BROWN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I beg leave to make a non-political statement.

MR. SPEAKER: Does the honourable member have leave? (Agreed)

NON-POLITICAL STATEMENT

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. A. BROWN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today marks the 30th anniversary of the coronation of our Queen Elizabeth. She is a monarch who has gained the admiration and respect of all her subjects, whether they be in the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the countries over which she is the Queen. Her dedication to duty and responsibility, her concern for the well-being of her subjects, have endeared her everywhere, even beyond the countries over which she is the monarch.

Mr. Speaker, I trust all members will join me in congratulating the Queen on this momentous occasion. I would ask you, Sir, on behalf of all the members of this Assembly, to convey our congratulations and best wishes to Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

HON. H. PAWLEY: I indeed thank the Honourable Member for Rhineland for raising this matter and ensuring that this is brought to the attention of honourable members. Certainly those on this side wish to fully associate themselves with the congratulations to Her Majesty with respect to this 30th anniversary from the date of her coronation.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Government House Leader.

HON. R. PENNER: Just an announcement, two announcements in fact, Mr. Speaker. The House will not be sitting on its regular sitting day a week from Friday. This is a matter of some accommodation that has been made between this side of the House and the opposition to accommodate those members of the opposite side who will be travelling to their leadership convention.

There is a collateral announcement that goes along with that. That is that on the 30th of June which is a Thursday the House will not be sitting to accommodate members on this side who will be going to the 50th anniversary convention of our party.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Turtle Mountain.

MR. B. RANSOM: With respect to that announcement, Mr. Speaker, I would just like to point out to the Government House Leader and the House that, if indeed their whole caucus is not planning to attend, we would be prepared to conduct committee business on that date.

HON. R. PENNER: I thank the honourable member for that suggestion, and indeed it will be taken under consideration.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MR. SPEAKER: Could the Honourable Government House Leader indicate the next item of business?

HON. R. PENNER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Minister of Finance, 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 to consider of the Supply to be granted to Her Majesty with the Honourable Member for River East in the Chair for the Department of Community Services and Corrections; and the Member for Burrows in the Chair for the Department of the Cultural Affairs and Historical Resources.

CONCURRENT COMMITTEES OF SUPPLY SUPPLY - CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND HISTORICAL RESOURCES

MR. CHAIRMAN, C. Santos: Committee, please come to order. This section of the Committee of Supply will now be dealing with the departmental Estimates for the Department of Cultural Affairs and Historical Resources. Consistent with tradition and practice, we shall begin with an opening statement from the Minister responsible.

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I welcome this opportunity to present my department's Estimates, and to review the substantial progress and more notable achievements of the past year upon which these Estimates are based.

Members are aware of the strong commitment this administration has to preserving and developing Manitoba's culture and heritage in full recognition of the diverse backgrounds and traditions of its peoples. This commitment is reflected not only in the numerous occasions that my staff and I have consulted with individuals and organizations throughout this province, but also in our understanding of what culture encompasses.

There are a number of definitions of the word "culture" which depend in large part on one's background and personal experience. The narrowest definition is the one that regards culture as the arts. A broader definition relates culture to ethnic origin.

In some respects, the name of my department, Cultural Affairs and Historical Resources, tends to generate the notion of culture as being separate from heritage, and heritage as meaning our history and the artifacts of our past. My department and I define culture in a broad context. We regard culture as being all those aspects that combine to reflect who we are today as individuals and as Manitobans.

In this sense, culture includes our heritage and all those elements of our past that have played a role in the evolution of life in our province and nation. In this respect, some of the elements and their significance in forming our views have not been given adequate recognition and have not become an integral part of our expression of Manitoba culture. I am thinking of the many and varied histories: The history of our first peoples, our Metis and our Francophone history, our ethno-cultural history, our labour history and the role that women have played in shaping the province.

Each province of this country is unique. It is the heritage, the cultural past and the cultural vision of the

present and future that give us an identity of our own. Our cultural past is reflected all around us in many forms. We see it in our architecture, our languages, in the visual arts and crafts, and in our songs and dances. It is also reflected in more fundamental aspects of our life, our diverse religions and philosophies, the way we earn our livelihood and the family traditions that shape the way we see ourselves and others and help form our attitudes and values.

At the first Provincial Cultural and Heritage Conference held in March, I found this understanding to be shared by other Manitobans from all areas of the province. The inherent value of this diversity to Manitoba's unique identity was further demonstrated at the Ethno-Cultural Assembly held in April for the purpose of founding the Manitoba Intercultural Council. In relation to this last one, Mr. Chairman, I am especially pleased to note that this government has met its promise to provide a forum to address the needs of the ethno-cultural community. The framework for this forum is identified in The Manitoba Intercultural Act which I introduced to this House in April. I am looking forward to working with the Council in the days and weeks ahead.

This government recognizes the contributions of all ethno-cultural groups to the social, economic and cultural enrichment of our province, and is committed to safeguarding these assets for future generations. The government also recognizes that all citizens contribute to our society, and therefore that all citizens must benefit from what society has to offer. It is for this reason, that my department's Multicultural Grants Program has been increased from \$135,000 to \$300,000 and the Linguistic Support Program has been increased from \$40,000 to \$60,000.00.

As I mentioned earlier, Mr. Chairman, my department sponsored the first Provincial Cultural and Heritage Conference in March. At that time I announced a number of new thrusts to repriorize the activities of the department in order to better serve community needs. Consistent with the broader view of culture I expressed earlier, existing programs have been reformulated and expanded within the broader framework of a community cultural and heritage development policy. Within this framework three categories of programs have been developed.

The first category is the community support programs. These are the programs which provide core funding or capital assistance to community groups and institutions such as libraries, museums, multicultural organizations or cultural councils. The objective of these programs is to provide assistance which will help to build the strong foundation at the local level.

The second program category we have called the Skills Development Programs. These programs seek in various ways to address the needs for training that have been expressed to me and my staff. Only through the development and strengthening of skills at the local level can we hope to ensure the encouragement of creative expression and the maintenance of our culture and heritage.

The third set of programs is termed Cultural Opportunities, and it includes those activities that are sponsored either by the communities or by my department that are designed to promote exposure or increased awareness. In an effort to deliver our

programs and services to a broader segment of the population we are reorganizing our staff resources to provide a stronger regional service focus and we will be working closely with the regional local recreation personnel as part of our efforts to improve co-ordination and communication, and to better serve the needs at the local level.

In addition, Mr. Chairman, access to information is being extended through the quarterly publication of Manitoba Culture and Heritage, a newsletter which will be available to any Manitoba citizen at no charge.

We have reviewed some of the department's programs in the past year and there are other programs that are scheduled for review. These include our programs of support to regional and provincial festivals and to associations of regional or provincial significance. The purpose of the review is to find ways to serve a broader base of the population within the framework of existing resources.

A good portion, Mr. Chairman, of the budget of my department comprises grants to the major cultural and heritage institutions of Manitoba. The Manitoba Arts Council, the Museum of Man and Nature, and the Manitoba Centennial Centre are but several examples. In these difficult economic times my department continues to place priority on sustaining these community institutions.

Overall the budget for grants to these institutions has increased from \$6,440,000 to \$6,878,000, an increase of \$438,000 or approximately 6.8 percent.

Mr. Chairman, provision has also been made for an increase in provincial support to Manitoba Public Libraries. Shortly I will be seeking Cabinet approval for an improvement in the formula used to calculate library operating grants. I'll be proposing that for 1983 libraries will be eligible for a basic grant of 3.50 per capita up from \$3 last year. The mill rate that governs the equalization and incentive grant components would remain unchanged at 1.35 mills.

In addition since last year the Library Capital Grants Program has been revised. Major changes include removing a limitation of one grant per facility and replacing it with a ceiling of \$50,000 per facility, clarifying the definition of capital to reflect the programs' orientation towards projects affecting the physical plant and removing the limit of one bookmobile per system.

Mr. Chairman, I should point out that during the past year, I have assumed responsibility for the Office of the Queen's Printer. As you know, the Queen's Printer is responsible for the management and control of all printing and statutory publications and the provision of stationery and office supplies.

During the year, I also assumed responsibility for telecommunications policy. In this capacity, we are addressing such issues of current relevance as Pay TV and the provision of telecommunications services in the North. The 1983-84 radio drama competition we co-sponsored with CBC is but one example of the linkage between technology, culture and the creation of regional content.

Other efforts currently being undertaken by my department together with advisory committees which are representative of the cultural community include the development of a film policy and a publishing policy. This is part of a broader focus on cultural industries and new creative activity. I expect this to result in the

introduction of appropriate support programs later this year.

This government, Mr. Chairman, is strongly committed to the preservation and sound management of Manitoba's heritage resources. My department will be undertaking a number of initiatives this year in this respect. About most important, I believe, is the need for strong heritage legislation. I will, therefore, be developing legislative changes respecting The Historic Sites and Objects Act to be discussed in the near future.

My department, in discussion with the Provincial Archives, the Museum of Man and Nature and the Winnipeg Art Gallery has also developed a heritage conservation policy. This policy will enable the provision of advisory and treatment services to heritage repositories and museums throughout the province.

The Provincial Archives will also be providing skilled development opportunities in the new year for those interested in oral history. This activity will help to reinforce our very popular Local Histories Program.

As well, Mr. Chairman, staff in my department have initiated a review of provincial museum policy. Members of this committee are, no doubt, aware that the level of assistance to community museums has not been increased since assent was given to The Museums and Miscellaneous Grants Act back in 1970-71. We will be looking at this program in the context of recognizing museums of regional or provincial significance, and also at the range of advisory and technical support services currently available to museums and heritage associations.

In addition to these specific tasks, we will be working to ensure that those aspects of our culture that have not received adequate attention in the past will be given more consideration. I am thinking of the examples I referred to earlier such as our ethnic, Native and labour history. Through new appointments to the Historic Sites Advisory Boards, I have attempted to ensure a balanced perspective in the portrayal of our history.

In closing, Mr. Chairman, it has been shown in the past and will continue to be shown that in hard economic times, even those much harder than we are experiencing at the present time, people will not give up their cultural pursuits. In fact, it is in hard times that we have had to turn to these pursuits to find joy and to ensure that they are never regarded as being dispensable. Perhaps the goal that we all have to hold in the next few years is to embrace our cultural past and to express our cultural present in a way that we will be proud to have remembered in the future. As individuals, our greatest single resource is our creativity. It is essential that we continue to find ways to express this creativity and to meet the needs that are so essential to the quality of our life in Manitoba.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Chair now calls upon the leading critic of Her Loyal Opposition to deliver her reply to the Minister's opening statement if she so desires.

The Member for Kirkfield Park.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the Minister for his remarks and giving me a copy of his statement. I think that we can just go right into the line-by-line, if you like, of the department and I'll just make remarks as we go along.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. The Chair invites the member of the administrative staff of the Department of Cultural Affairs and Historical Resources to kindly take their respective places where they feel most comfortable to help their Minister.

Postponing Item 1.(a) relating to the Minister's Salary plus the last item for the committee's consideration, we shall begin with Item No. 1.(b)(1), 1.(b)(2) and 1.(b)(3) relating to the Departmental Executive: Salaries; Other Expenditures; Multicultural Policy Development.

The Member for Kirkfield Park.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if there has been any additional staff in the Departmental Executive?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: I think if the member would concur, what I will give is an overview of the staffing changes for the total department, if you'd rather have that overview now.

With respect to the Minister's office there has been an increase of .08 which is basically the increase due to the fact that my salary was broken into three separate departments before and is now broken into two.

Within the departmental executive there is an increase for an information officer and two staff persons for Multicultural Policy Development. In the Legislative Library there is a decrease of two positions. In the Manitoba Film Classification Board there is a decrease of one position. In Cultural Development there is a net increase of .39; where there is an increase within that of one full position and a decrease of .13 in a term position. There is a decrease of one position within Public Libraries. An increase of one position in the Provincial Archives and a decrease of 1.1 position within Historic Resources which is a net reduction overall within the department of 1.15 positions.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: The information officer, is that a part of the Information Services or is this something that's separate?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Information Services is not under the Department of Cultural Affairs and Historic Resources. This position will be a position reporting to the Deputy Minister to provide the full range of Information Services for the department as a whole.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: This was a new position?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Yes, this is a new position.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: I wanted to ask about the Multicultural Policy Development and to ask how much of the \$140,000 in last year's Estimate had been spent to date?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Of the \$140,000 that was set aside last year for the Policy Development, \$120,000 was spent or approximately, because I obviously don't have the final year in figures yet. Of that amount, approximately \$53,000 was transferred to the Multicultural Grants Program because of increased demand in that area. Last year there was, I think, about \$135,000 budgeted for multicultural grants and some

in excess of that was granted. Part of that was made up through underutilization of the money that was set aside for the Multicultural Policy Development. It was hoped, at that time, that the Council would have been operating during the last fiscal year. The money that was spent was basically spent for the various costs of the Interim Liaison Committee, the Planning Committee, a Multicultural consultant and related costs, papers and such, stationary.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Kirkfield Park.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: Is the . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: May I just call her the Member from "K" Park, because it's a tongue twister?

MRS. G. HAMMOND: Go right ahead. If you want, call me the member. The money that's allocated this year, the \$139,200, is that expected to be spent on the Multicultural Council, or are you planning to transfer funds out of these funds?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: The \$139,200 is expected to be spent on and for the purposes of the Intercultural Council. The salaries for the staff people that would be assigned to the council, whatever costs would be associated with the calling of the meetings of the council and related costs to the operations of the council itself. I would not, at this point, see any transfer of those funds for other purposes.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: Yes, is this amount the actual budget that is proposed for the Intercultural Council?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Yes.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: The head office that's referred in Bill 50, where will that space be?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: That has not been determined at the present time. I would await the formalization of the council and its executive before determining where it ought to have its offices. I would hope that they would use some existing space within government buildings, if that's possible, but I would await the passage of the legislation, the formal meeting of the council and its election of an executive before determining where the office would be located.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: Referring to the council itself, did any of the major groups decline to join the council?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: I will get the complete information in a moment.

The one major group that formerly indicated that it was not going to participate at this point in the council was the representatives of the Francophone community through the SFM. However, two representatives of individual organizations attended the Founding Conference and one member was elected from those two on to the council.

I'm just waiting for the details, but there are a number of other ethnic communities that didn't elect representatives at the conference. The one major group

that comes to mind is the Hutterite community, but other than that I would take that as notice and provide her with the information once I have it in my possession, hopefully later today.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: That's fine, Mr. Chairman. I think that's all I wish to deal with in that particular line if you want to pass it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Can we pass 1.(b)(1)?

MRS. G. HAMMOND: Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 1.(b)(1)—pass; 1.(b)(2) - the Member for Pembina.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Mr. Chairman, would this be an appropriate place to ask further questions on the Communications Officer that the Minister has indicated he's bringing on staff this year?

MR. CHAIRMAN: It will be appropriate.
The Member for Pembina.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Could the Minister indicate whether this is a new position - and I assumed from his remarks and he may want to correct me - that this Communications Officer is going to deal with press release information for the Department of Cultural Affairs and Historical Resources, would that be correct?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: I had answered earlier that this was a new position. I went through the changes in staff within the department and indicated there is an overall net reduction of just over one position, but this is a new position.

The purpose of this position would be to look at all aspects of information and communications within the department which would include the function of looking after any news releases that are done by the department. Presently, the initial drafting of those releases are done by specific sections within the department and this would be co-ordinated through the central resource, central person. They would also have responsibility in other areas of communication. The many publications that are printed by the department are presently done by the specific branches, usually with the hiring of some contract personnel to do the actual publication, so this would be co-ordinated through the Information Officer.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Pembina.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Mr. Chairman, I guess this is one more department that is falling victim to the growing demand for a propaganda machine by the government, because we have Information Services which traditionally handled the service of information, providing information, the type of information the Minister is referring to coming from this department and other departments of government. That was, shall we call it, a free-standing operation under the previous administration and even somewhat free-standing under the Schreyer administration.

This government over a year-and-a-half has not only moved it to the Premier's Office, have it report to an Executive Assistant or a special assistant, not a Civil Service position. Now they've gone the further step of everybody developing their own little communications bureaucracy in their departments.

If I could offer some non-partisan suggestion to the Minister as to thoughts on the value and the potential misuse, i.e. cranking out government propaganda rather than legitimate government business, I only have to refer my honourable friend to some very notable speeches made by a former member of this Assembly, one Sidney Green. He was always, very very critical of the role played by News Services and communications people. This Minister or this government are not following what I thought in that case was reasonably sound advice offered by a long-standing former member of this Assembly.

We've got this Minister following the path of the Minister of Education and others in developing and building within his department a parallel and duplicating information service. It's an abuse of taxpayer dollars. It is one that will, if the member will read Mr. Green's remarks on it, cause them no end of trouble in the long run. It might seem like a very good idea now, but it will get this Minister and this government into a certain amount of trouble, because then with the volume of releases that are coming out, the media just get turned off from all of them and you don't get your legitimate news out when you try to propaganda and prop up the image of your government with each of your departments having their own communications staff and people. That doesn't work.

You have to have substance before you can have confidence given to you by the people of Manitoba. Cranking out press releases on an hourly basis will not, over the long run, add the kind of public confidence in this government that you, no doubt, are seeking to achieve by having this expansion of communications officers throughout the various departments.

HON. E. KOSTYRA: The intention of having an Information Officer within the Department of Cultural Affairs and Historic Resources is to attempt to provide better and more complete information to the public that we're responsible for serving. I would find it a bit strange that the member who represents a constituency in rural Manitoba would be raising concerns about this position, because in the opportunities that I have had in travelling and consulting with people that are served by my department in rural and Northern Manitoba, one of the major concerns that I heard was the lack of communication from the government, the lack of information on available programs from the government, the fact that there was a gap in information as it relates to the specific area of cultural activities and heritage. I heard it in the regional meetings that we held last year during the month of December. I heard it in, I believe, a community that's in his constituency, that being the community of Carman.

The intention of this position is to provide a focus for better communication with the groups that we serve, particularly in rural and Northern Manitoba where, I believe, the focus of attention has to be with respect to the activities of my department. So the position is

not one of, as he suggests, propaganda. That may have been something that he was used to, because I know that, as I understand or have been informed, there were communicators put in the Minister's offices during the previous government.

This position is an Information Officer to serve the very needs of the department, and I believe that it's something that in this particular department is needed, and one that is responding to legitimate concerns that have been raised to me and to my staff throughout rural and Northern Manitoba.

MR. D. ORCHARD: I take it from what the Minister is saying then is that Information Services under the Premier's hand failed the government in providing information when he's now having it duplicated. The Premier was unable to organize the Information Services to provide the kind of information that he says is desired and needed. That, in itself, is quite a reflection that the Minister is making on his leader, the Premier, and the operation of Information Services under the Premier's Office.

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Quite the contrary, the member is aware there was a reorganization with respect to the operations and overall Information Services of the government. If one would look at the different departments of government last year, there were some departments that had large information sections providing information for those departments, other departments, like the Department of Cultural Affairs and Historic Resources, that had no in-house capacity in that regard.

There was a reorganization generally of Information Services throughout government to provide better services to better reflect the needs of the departments themselves. In overall terms, there was no - as indicated by the Premier, I believe at the time he made the announcement with respect to the reorganization of communications, there was no overall increase in total staff that was allocated to Information Services and communications function. Secondly, that Information Services would remain in a somewhat changed role to do the final editing and final co-ordination of Information Services in the government.

So the position of this department in having one person available for that purpose does not run contrary to the overall decision and direction of this government with respect to providing information to the public.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 1.(b)(2)—pass; 1.(b)(3)—pass; 1.(c)(1), 1.(c)(2), Planning and Development: Salaries and Other Expenditures - the honourable member.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: I notice that there's a decrease in the Other Expenditures in Planning and Development. With all that the Minister was mentioning is happening in his department, was there any particular reason or . . .

HON. E. KOSTYRA: The reduction is \$10,500, and the decrease is as follows: There is a decrease in fees that we had available for the staging of the Identity and Resources Conference that was held last March of \$5,000 and some costs associated with the design

of the department's newsletter, Manitoba Culture and Heritage. There is a decrease of \$3,000 which was in the previous allocation for the purchase of some equipment, and a further decrease in the amount that's paid out for the health and post-secondary education levy which is transferred to the Department of Finance, I believe, but was paid out of this appropriation last year.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: What appropriation is it paid out of now, the 1.5?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Yes, I'm sorry. It is paid out of this appropriation, but what it means is that there's \$2,500 less than was available for other purposes within that appropriation. So it is paid out of this appropriation.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 1.(c)(1)—pass; 1.(c)(2)—pass; 1.(d)(1); 1.(d)(2), Finance and Administration, Salaries, and Other Expenditures - the Member for Kirkfield Park.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: Yes, is this where I can ask the question on the reconciliation statement that's on page 41, the page before?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: You can ask it anywhere.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: Yes, my question is the \$65,000 for the Jobs Fund, was that money that was not spent last year, or is that monies that are just coming out of this year's Budget and moved over to the Jobs Fund?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: That appropriation was spent last year, and that is the portion that was spent last year that has been transferred to the Jobs Fund. It is the Multicultural Capital Grants Program. It is in the Jobs Fund and the appropriate time to discuss that is under the Jobs Funds, but under the Jobs Fund it's \$100,000 now, so the previous level of \$65,000 was transferred and through the Jobs Fund there was an increase of \$35,000 in available funds.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: I know this isn't the spot that I intended to ask it, but would this be the money then that was announced under the Jobs Fund that was for the Aviation Museum?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: No, Mr. Chairman. As I understand it the grant of \$450,000 to the Western Canada Aviation Museum was a straight grant out of the Jobs Fund and was not one that was an ongoing or previous grant program.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: Was there or is there a particular spot that this \$65,000 is to go to in the Jobs Fund? Excuse me, Mr. Chairman, I understand, the member indicated that it's \$100,000 that's come out this year and so I'm asking the same question, is there a particular spot in the Jobs Fund that this money is aimed for? A historic site, anything of . . .

HON. E. KOSTYRA: The purposes of those funds under the Jobs Fund will be for Multicultural Capital Grants to organizations.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: What the Minister is saying then is that the money that would ordinarily be spent under

Cultural Affairs for capital has just been moved over to the Jobs Fund to be announced under that fund?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Not quite. As I indicated \$65,000 was what was contained in the appropriation last year from Multicultural Grants. This year it's been combined into the Jobs Fund and has been increased by 30 percent to \$100,000.00. So \$35,000 is the amount of the increase for the Multicultural Grants that is contained within the Jobs Fund.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: Yes, but this is money that is designated, both the 65,000 and the 35,000, would have ordinarily been in Cultural Affairs under a Capital Grants Program.

HON. E. KOSTYRA: The \$65,000 was contained, and if there would have been allowance for increase then I presume that increase would have been allowed, but it was felt that because of the nature of the grants that they were better suited to the Jobs Fund and particularly that this kind of activity can lever additional private sources of funds to help the job creation that was transferred to the Jobs Fund, and enhanced by over 30 percent.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: Yes, there's a transfer of functions to education in the amount of \$12,000.00. Could the Minister explain this?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Yes, thank you. The transfer there is as indicated, the \$12,000 is for a Student Bursary Program that's under agreement between France and Canada with respect to some form of student exchange study program. It was felt that would be a better a part of the Department of Education rather than Cultural Affairs and Historic Resources.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 1.(d)(1)—pass; 1.(d)(2)—pass - the Member for Pembina.

MR. D. ORCHARD: I'm not sure whether I've got the right section here but in the Minister's opening remarks he mentioned development of a film policy and a publishing policy, I believe. Would that be appropriately discussed within the general administration of the department?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: If the member promises to leave after that, then I would discuss it anywhere and not come back and discuss the same issue tonight. No, Mr. Chairman, I think we can discuss it here.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister is agreeable to discuss it as long as the discussion shall be brief.

HON. E. KOSTYRA: That's misrepresentation, I didn't say that.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Mr. Chairman, you know that I always very very closely follow your advice and I thank the Minister for his kindness.

The film policy that the Minister is developing, what is the eventual outcome going to be of that? Is the target to make films in Manitoba by Manitoba

producers? Is that the objective of the film policy in Manitoba?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Well, I think it would be difficult to say what the objective would be if you're trying to develop a policy obviously, but at the present time we have, surprisingly, a significant film industry in the Province of Manitoba. It's clear that it hasn't been focused and it's one that's been of concern and attention, not only by this government, but in fact, the previous administration when funds were set aside for the development of film policy, but unfortunately, were spent on other purposes.

I would see the need of developing a policy with a two-prong approach, or two major provisions. One is to look at ensuring that we can develop an industry here that does reflect, through film, the culture of this province. Secondly, is the industry side of it, that we can further help develop the industry as it exists in the present time. It's been clear to representatives of the film industry, that it's at kind of the crossroads, that it's either going to develop further in the kind of areas that it has developed on its own in the past, or it's going to move backwards. It's not our intention to develop Manitoba or Winnipeg as the "Hollywood of the North," It's inappropriate and it won't work in the context of Manitoba.

But I think there is an area for us developing focused attention on the film industry. That was something that also I just note, was discussed and was a recommendation of the Cultural Policy Review Committee, back in the late '70s or early '80s. So it's our intention to look at how we can work with the film industry to help further develop it in the Province of Manitoba and ensuring that we use the film industry as a way to ensure that we meet the cultural needs of this province.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Is the policy development being developed in-house by the department, or are you retaining a consultant, an outside consultant to develop the policy?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Yes, it's being developed through the establishment of an Advisory Committee of representatives of the film industry in the province, filmmakers, and others, and is being supported by one staff resource researcher that assist with the necessary research for the committee. The Advisory Committee is composed of representatives from the Manitoba Film Producers Association, the Winnipeg Film Group, I believe a filmmaker that's not a member of any formal organization, the Manitoba Arts Council.

MR. D. ORCHARD: With that, I would assume volunteer group that are industry participants, formulating the policy, surely the Minister must have offered them some guidelines to target their policy development along. Was that done, or are they under a free-ranging policy pursuit?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: I think the member has to understand that the Advisory Committee there is to advise on the research work that's being done. The actual policy development will be, of course, one that

would be the responsibility of our government. We're looking at advice from the Advisory Committee in the skills area, the production, and probably one of the most crucial areas, distribution of films. So the overall direction is somewhat loose in having them look at what is needed, because they're the ones that are out there attempting to make a living, or earn a profit, through the production of films in the province. So we want to get their advice and get the researcher to do the necessary research work to look at other jurisdictions, so that we can develop a policy that would reflect the needs of the industry here.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Is it too soon to ask the Minister whether the policy would include, at this year or some future year, support funding for filmmakers in Manitoba?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Well, at the present time, there is some small grants programs available for film producers in the Province of Manitoba through the Manitoba Arts Council. So it may be that the recommendations that come out of the policy development may suggest an enhancement of those grants, may suggest what exists, as I understand it, in some other jurisdictions, that is loan guarantees or interest right down on loan. It may include some essential resource to help in the co-ordination of activities in the film industry, like the film office that exists in some provincial jurisdictions. So, I wouldn't prejudge what would come out, but it could include those components, or an enhancement of the existing grants, as minimal as they are, that exist for film in the province.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Moving on to the publishing policy, could the Minister indicate the parameters there in the process that's going on in developing the publishing policy, as well?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: It's somewhat similar to that that's being developed with respect to film. There is an Advisory Committee that has been formed of representatives of the publishers in the Province of Manitoba, libraries, writers and book sellers. There is a consultant that has been retained, on contract, to do some of the research work and provide some options and that's being done in two stages, looking at publishing with respect to books and secondly, with respect to periodicals.

I might just add, this is another area that I think, on its own, in the Province of Manitoba, we have developed a fairly good group of Manitoba publishers utilizing Manitoba writers and this has existed and struggled along over the years and one that I hope, through our work, we can enhance.

MR. D. ORCHARD: If I can offer a small suggestion to the Minister, I would hope that he keeps the present Member for Elmwood away from his policy-formulation committee, because I recall a resolution that he brought before the House, I think it was two or three years ago, where he was going to force all book retailers in the Province of Manitoba to carry a given percentage of Manitoba books and I would hope that the Minister's policy development would not include those kinds of

activities, but rather an encouragement and a support service to assure that our writers develop and have access to quality publishing, quality writing. I would ask the Minister if the publishing policy, in his view, would take us back to the years of, I think it was Clare Publishing, back in the Schreyer days where we owned our own publishing firm? That wouldn't be part of this Minister's policy developing, being the free enterpriser I know him to be?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Maybe I lost something in attempting to appreciate the comments of the member, but as I understand, he was suggesting two things to me. One was that we should have a Manitoba publishing firm as a Crown corporation, and secondly, that he wanted some guarantee that when he publishes his book, some years from now . . .

MR. D. ORCHARD: I'm going to publish my memoirs.

HON. E. KOSTYRA: . . . his memoirs that Manitoba publishers would indeed sell it, and I would encourage any Manitoba bookseller to stock books that may be written by the member. But seriously, Mr. Chairman, I would not see a policy with respect to the publishing of books or periodicals in the province that would have any aspect of force in it on Manitoba booksellers. I would hope that we could have programs in place that would provide the necessary incentives to assist in the distribution and sale of books and the production of books in the Province of Manitoba.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Every human being has unlimited potentials.

1.(d)(1), 1.(d)(2)—pass.

1.(e)(1), 1.(e)(2) Translation Services: Salaries and Other Expenditures - the honourable member.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: Yes. I just have a question with reference to languages other than French.

Last year, the Minister indicated that there was German, Spanish, Hungarian and Dutch being provided for translation, at least interpreters I would think. Have any other languages been added?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: I didn't get all the languages that were mentioned. The ones that we have the capability at the present time to interpret are German, Spanish, Ukrainian, Dutch, Swedish, Italian, Japanese, Chinese and Danish.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 1.(e)(1)—pass; 1.(e)(2)—pass.

1.(f)(1), 1.(f)(2) Legislative Library, Salaries and Other Expenditures - the honourable member.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: Yes. The Minister, Mr. Chairman, indicated a decrease of two at the Legislative Library. Was there any particular reason that the Minister was able to decrease two staff in that area?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: The positions that were decreased were one term position that had existed and one vacant position. We still believe that the resources of the Legislative Library will be sufficient to provide the necessary services with the reduction. It was one that

was part of the overall belt-tightening that we were looking at during this current fiscal year.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 1.(f)(1)—pass; 1.(f)(2)—pass.

1.(g)(1), 1.(g)(2) Manitoba Film Classification Board, Salaries, Other Expenditures - the honourable member.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: Yes. Have there been any changes in policy for the Film Classification Board?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: There's been no change in policy with respect to the Film Classification Board at the present time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 1.(g)(1) - the honourable member.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: Nova Scotia is making their movie shown on Pay TV, subject to the same classification system as used for films shown at theatres. Has the Minister given any thought to that type of policy for Manitoba?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: I understand from discussions that I had some time ago with the Minister of Nova Scotia at the time when we had a meeting of Provincial Ministers, that they were looking at that area. I don't believe they have in effect instituted that because, again, Pay TV is under federal jurisdiction. So the simple answer is no, that we have not looked at that area.

The one area, I might just add, that we are looking at is the whole area of videotapes, the ones that are sold and used in various public facilities in the Province of Manitoba. We're looking at and reviewing that whole area at the present time.

As the member may recall, in fact just this past week, there was a decision in the Province of British Columbia with respect to that same area of videotapes and uses thereof. So we're reviewing that area to see the possible classification of videotapes that are sold and utilized in public facilities in the province and/or for home use.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: I'm just looking at a press release here that indicated that it is a regulation now in Nova Scotia. So the Cabinet has passed that policy.

HON. E. KOSTYRA: I thank the member for that information. I understand that it is true, but there is some question as to whether or not they can actually implement that regulation.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 1.(g)(1)—pass; 1.(g)(2)—pass.

1.(h)(1), 1.(h)(2) Telecommunications, Salaries; Other Expenditures—pass. 1.(h)(1)—pass; 1.(h)(2)—pass.

2.(a)(1), 2.(a)(2)(a), 2.(a)(2)(b) Cultural and Heritage Programs, Cultural Programs: Cultural Grants; Cultural Development - the Honourable Minister.

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Mr. Chairman, before we get into that area, I have the information regarding the ethnocultural groups that I only had partial information for.

The groups that are not at present going to be reflected on the ethnocultural assembly are the Hutterite, Finnish, Danish, Belgian, Norwegian, Estonian - we all learn something, that's one I wasn't aware of

before - Latvian, Lebanese, Slovenian, Croatian, Welsh and English. I indicated earlier the situation with the Franco-Manitoban representative.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: Just if I may, one brief question. How many members have been elected so far?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: There are 36 representatives of the various ethnocultural communities, five regional representatives and one representative from the service category, for a total of 42.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 2.(a)(1)—pass - the honourable member.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: If I may in this area, Mr. Chairman, I'll just go all over the board and then we can pass the whole area.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have to be guided what to call.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: Meaning the Cultural and Heritage Programs?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, all of 2.?

MRS. G. HAMMOND: Right.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay, I'll just call them first, so we'll agree on that.

2.(a)(1), 2.(a)(2), 2.(a)(2)(a), 2.(a)(2)(b), 2.(a)(3)(a), 2.(a)(3)(b), 2.(a)(3)(c), 2.(b)(1), 2.(b)(2), 2.(c)(1), 2.(c)(2), that's it. I called them all and we agreed that we can ask free-wheeling questions.

The honourable member.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: Would the Minister supply the list of the grants for the major cultural organizations?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: The Manitoba Centennial Centre Corporation is \$1,201,900 which is an increase of \$67,000 over the previous year.

The Franco-Manitoban Cultural Centre is \$231,600 which is an increase of \$16,600.00.

The Ukrainian Cultural and Education Centre is \$106,600 which is an increase of \$5,800.00.

Western Manitoba Centennial Auditorium is \$53,500 which is an increase of \$2,000;

Museum of Man and Nature, \$2,563,300 which is an increase of \$223,900;

Winnipeg Art Gallery, \$1,282,200 which is an increase of \$79,000.00.

There are funds under the Cultural Grants of \$81,000 which is to implement a conservation service program with the Museum of Man and Nature and the Winnipeg Art Gallery.

The Manitoba Arts Council is \$1,316,800 which is an increase of \$83,800; a deficit reduction grant which will provide up to \$30,000 for the Winnipeg Contemporary Dancers, and Miscellaneous Special Grants Program of \$12,000 which is available for other emergency or for any potential emergency. Last year, there was \$20,000 set aside for that purpose, so that was a reduction there.

The total, as I think I indicated in my opening remarks, is \$6,878,900 which is an overall increase of

\$438,200.00. Those are the major Cultural Grants, I think, as the member is aware.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: Would the Minister happen to have the increases to each of the grants in percentages? I should have asked him that before.

HON. E. KOSTYRA: I will give the complete listing with the figures, percentages, etc., to the member.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: Has there been anyone assigned outside of probably the Deputy to study or to be keeping on top of the Applebert Report, and have there been any changes that would affect Manitoba policy from that report, or have there been any recommendations actually finalized?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: The department has done an initial review of the recommendations of Applebaum-Hebert Report, particularly looking at how they may impact on the Province of Manitoba. We have also requested all the organizations and other interested parties in the province to bring forth to us their concerns with respect to the impact of the recommendations if they were indeed implemented on the specific groups in the Province of Manitoba.

We have, through the provincial Ministers of Culture, indicated our concern that the Federal Government engage in detailed consultation with the provinces prior to the implementation of the recommendations. We're really awaiting the Federal Government to put it into some kind of context, because no one really knows how the Federal Government intends to move with respect to the recommendations. They do have the Austin Committee that has been formed. There has been some work done in DOC with respect to the report, but we are still in a somewhat difficult situation to respond until we have some greater indication from the Federal Government as to how they are going to deal with the implementation, if indeed they are, of all the recommendations of the report.

I must say that in two areas we have grave concerns and have expressed them. That is on the recommendations particularly dealing with the National Film Board and the CBC. We are of the opinion that if those recommendations were to be implemented that they would have a tremendously negative impact to the Province of Manitoba. While we see room for improvement with respect to both of those institutions, the suggested cure, if you will, recommended by the Applebaum-Hebert Committee is one that will not provide any improvement, in fact the opposite in the Province of Manitoba.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: As far as the two areas are concerned, Mr. Chairman, the National Film Board and the CBC, are there any other provinces that are similarly affected to give Manitoba more clout if this is the direction that they are hoping that they won't be going?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: This item has not been discussed in any great detail by the provincial Ministers. We did have some short discussions on the report, and we were more concerned with the process ensuring that the Federal Government was going to indeed consult

with the provinces. I would expect that we are going to have much more detailed discussions at the Minister's Conference in September, but I do understand that most of, if not all, the prairie provinces and the Atlantic regions and the Territorial Governments share the view of Manitoba with respect to those recommendations.

I might also add that representatives of the film industry in Manitoba have expressed the same concerns to me, and I know they have directly to the federal Minister and the Austin Committee.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: Has there been anyone on contract, a term employee at all, been working on the Applebert Report as it relates to Manitoba?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: No, the work has been done by staff within the department. I'm sure, as the member is aware, we are fortunate in Manitoba to have now working as the Deputy Minister one who was part of the Applebaum-Hebert Cultural Policy Review Committee. So we are fortunate in having that expertise directly available and the knowledge of the background that went into the Report available here.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: Has the position for the Director been filled for the Winnipeg Art Gallery?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: No.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: I understand there is a Search Committee. Is there a short list, or are they still in the process of looking?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: I'm informed - first of all as the member is aware, the Deputy Minister has at my request been placed on the Search Committee by the President of the Winnipeg Art Gallery, and I'm informed that there is a preliminary short list, but the Search Committee apparently wants to look to see if there are any other suitable candidates that might be encouraged to apply and thereby be put on that preliminary short list. So I would take it that it's still some months from a decision.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: The indication was that the position would be filled by a Canadian. Is that still the aim of the committee?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Yes.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: How much of a reduction, in the way of grants, did the Canada Council give the Art Gallery?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: I'm sorry, but I do not have that information available. Indeed, if the actual decision's been made, I know there was some indication that the Canada Council was not satisfied, and thereby was planning to reduce its financial assistance to the Winnipeg Art Gallery, but I can't confirm the actual amount or, indeed, if that has happened at the moment. I will take that as notice and provide the member with the information, if it is available, as soon as I can.

The assistance from the Canada Council was frozen for a number of years and I understand that they were looking at cutting back this year, but I will get that

detailed information and provide it to her if it is indeed available.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: I thank the Minister. If there is a shortfall and it was indicated, whether it's correct or not, to be somewhere in the neighbourhood of possibly \$70,000, will the Manitoba Arts Council have to make up this shortfall?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: No, the Manitoba Arts Council does not fund the Winnipeg Art Gallery. The funding is directly through the department and it is not the intention of the department to provide any further funds than that which is allocated at the present time for the Winnipeg Art Gallery, so we would not be intending to pick up any of that shortfall.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: To deal with the Manitoba Arts Council, has there been any change in policy or direction in the Council?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: The Manitoba Arts Council has attempted to focus attention on the developing arts in the province, has attempted to provide greater outreach programs for the client organizations that it funds, and is attempting to provide greater assistance for individual artists and artisans, so the change in direction in that regard is one which is attempting to help expand the audience base and support for the arts in the province. So the focus of attention, in effect, any increase of funds that are available for use by the Manitoba Arts Council this year are going into touring, into arts exposure programs and support for individual artists.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: The Arts Council has given an indication to the province's major performing arts groups that they can expect no increase in operating grants for next year. Is this an indication that the province is planning to reduce funding to the council?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Quite the contrary. I think that's an indication that this government will not be doing that. The actual grants that go to the major performing arts organizations, through the Manitoba Arts Council, are being maintained at the present level on the straight grants. The majors are eligible and are being encouraged to look at programs that put work in the expressed priorities of the council, that being outreach and school programs. So the major arts organizations will have the ability to seek additional funds for those activities that fit in the priorities of the Council for outreach and work in the schools.

I must say I'm pleased, Mr. Chairman, that Manitoba is one of the few provinces that has been able to maintain, in fact marginally increase its funding to the Arts Council, and thereby to the artists and artisans and performing visual arts organizations in the province, because in some other provinces, unfortunately, there's been not just a maintaining of grants, but indeed a reduction in grants to arts organizations.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: Can an organization receive a grant through the Arts Council and directly from the government?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Yes, from time to time there are situations where a client organization of the Manitoba

Arts Council receive funds from the Arts Council and funds from the department. They would fall into a number of categories. One would be where the organization is doing programs that relate to the community development thrusts of the department. As the member is aware, the Manitoba Arts Council's focus is to work with the professional artists and arts organizations in the province and the mandate of the department is to assist with community development of culture in the province and from time to time those thrusts meet, in fact they should meet consistently in my view.

As an example, the contemporary dancers receive funds from the Manitoba Arts Council and the department is giving it a special challenge grant on its deficit reduction and I think the same was true in the past with the Royal Winnipeg Ballet when they were in deficit, and to an extent with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra. There's been times when the department has provided funds for the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra and the Ballet to do projects in the park. Indirectly, they receive assistance from the department through touring in rural and Northern Manitoba. Although the grants go directly to the communities, they're used to pay for those organizations when they come into rural or northern communities.

So there are situations where the major arts organizations will receive funding. We work closely with the Manitoba Arts Council to ensure that there isn't duplicate funding, rather it's complementary funding.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: Which community arts councils operate cultural centres? I'm referring to, I guess, more the rural areas.

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Is the question which Community Arts Councils have their own facilities as such? Well I'll go by memory from my travels around the province. But Brandon has an existing facility and a new one that's going to be a combination Library and Arts Centre, Dauphin, Teulon, and Portage. Others I believe use existing community facilities in their communities for their activities, and Leaf Rapids.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: These Arts Councils then would own their own buildings or would they be leased?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: I would have to get that detailed information but I think most of them lease or rent space in facilities that are owned by municipal authorities, though in the case of Brandon there's going to be a new organization that's being formed as the organization that will be managing and operating the combined Library and Arts Council in Brandon.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: I understand that the Tour Hosting Program has been changed and it is now, is it the Public Events Program? I wonder if the Minister could explain what happens to the small community organizations then that have liked to bring in their own performers. How does this work? Or am I correct on that?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: They will be eligible for grants under the Public Events Sponsorship Program. I believe

the member does have the information as far as the guidelines and the grants. If not I would be pleased to provide her with copies. Basically they make application for assistance under the program and then will receive indication as to whether or not they will receive support and the level of support that they will receive.

One of the things that has been accomplished by the new program, well, I guess two accomplishments, one was the program was expanded to provide for a greater variety of events. In the past the program tended to look specifically at performing arts or artists. It's now been expanded to look at other activities ranging from readings to lectures to gallery shows.

Secondly, we've combined resources in the department to have greater financial resources available for that program without an overall increase, but rather the combining of existing resources in the department.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: I'm not sure I've got this straight - the Public Events Program - I'm looking at a Press release here that says this replaces the Tour Hosting Program. I don't understand, I guess, the change. Do the small organizations, are they still able, like a senior citizens group, or a school, able to bring in an event under this program?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Yes. It has to be a non-profit community organization but they are eligible for assistance under this program.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: Is there a top limit as far as money went or is it open-ended?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: There is no maximum under the program. It's based on need. There used to be flat grants to organizations of \$500 rural, 750 in the north, and 1,000 remote. It's based on the need and the actual costs of the production or the event and also the revenue projections that would be with that event.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: Yes, how does one judge the need?

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Thank you, there's a number of criteria. One is the facilities or the resources that exist within the community; the need of that community as against other communities within the province; there was equal access and equal distribution throughout areas of the province; those kind of criteria.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hour being 4:30, we are interrupting the proceedings of this committee for Private Members' Hour. Hopefully, we shall be here at 8:00 p.m.

SUPPLY - COMMUNITY SERVICES AND CORRECTIONS

MR. CHAIRMAN, P. EYLER: Committee, come to order. We are considering the Estimates of the Department of Community Services and Corrections, Item 5.(b)(1) Institutional Mental Retardation Services: Salaries - the Member for Fort Garry.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wonder if the Minister could provide the committee with the

staff total at the Manitoba School at the present time. Does he have a categorical breakdown; and does he have to go with that, a comparison of staff-to-residents so that we get a staff-to-patient ratio; and does he have with that a comparison of those same figures for previous years during the two or three years immediately preceding this one?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

HON. L. EVANS: I have the staffing pattern at the Manitoba School for Retardates as of, I believe it is as of 1983-84. The number is 742. I don't have handy the number from last year, but the . . .

MR. L. SHERMAN: The total staff is 742?

HON. L. EVANS: . . . 742 is the total staff including the Chief Executive Officer right through to some contingency positions, that is, positions that are available to replace people who are ill, leaving for holidays or for whatever purpose.

The number of clients at the school December 31, 1982, it was 830. So that compares with 742 staff positions that we now have available.

I have the previous years for the Manitoba School client population, but I don't have the staff. I'll just tell you what the client population was. These are all as of December 31st. So in 1978 - 855.

MR. L. SHERMAN: 855?

HON. L. EVANS: Yes. 1979 - 854; 1980 - 828; 1981 - 832; and as I said 1982 - 830.

I'm sorry, I don't have the staffing pattern of previous years. We could obtain that. We do have the total number of staff as of last fiscal year, staff years or staff positions - 745. So last year - 745, this current year - 742.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Insofar as the three years prior to last year are concerned, would there have been a significant difference in the Minister's memory or the memory of the Deputy Minister, Mr. Johnstone, who was here in the committee? The Minister has said that he doesn't have the exact figures, Mr. Chairman. I'm just wondering whether the 742 on staff at the school for 1983-84 represents anything significantly more or less than the staff totals in the years 1979, '80 and '81. Does the Minister or the Deputy Minister recall offhand what those approximate comparisons would be like?

HON. L. EVANS: We found one more previous year, namely, 1981-82 and that number was 745, identical with last year. So I would suggest that the pattern of staffing is more or less constant, at a plateau I suppose you'd say.

MR. L. SHERMAN: So that we're looking at a staff-to-patient ratio that is fractionally less than one-to-one at the Manitoba School. Is it the intention or the view of the government that the staff-to-patient ratio at the Manitoba School should be a minimum of one-to-one, or even better than one-to-one? Or is the department

satisfied that it's fractionally close enough to one-to-one to be satisfactory?

HON. L. EVANS: Just an observation about the statistics, the numbers that I gave you of staffing, of course, are those who work in the Department of Community Services and Corrections. It doesn't include support staff who are on the payroll of the Department of Government Services, which would include the engineering staff and maintenance people. I don't know, but if you added that in maybe you would get more of a one-on-one situation.

I suppose like in many areas of endeavour the sky is the limit and you can always have improvements in programs by having more staff. It would certainly be good to have more staff. I think it partly depends on the kind of population you're dealing with, the degree of retardation.

There is an effort, as the honourable member knows, to attempt to put as many people in borderline, mild, moderate situations to keep those people in the community, to try to indeed prevent them from coming in, and to wherever handle them either right within the families by giving the families more respite care or by creating community residences or whatever alternative; but this is a problem, of course, that's been around for a long time. It's a problem where this whole question of where our mentally retarded population resides and how they are being treated and served is a question that's being actively studied now because we have some in-depth studies going on related to the task force on mental retardation as a point of departure.

I did mention the other day that there is a possibility of phasing out North Grove because the fire commissioner's office is requiring us to upgrade for fire safety purposes and this is a very very expensive process. It's deemed by some people that the monies required for fire upgrading in that particular building would not be monies well spent, that it would be far better to just phase out that particular building. So that might have some implications for the population at the school.

I want to say this, that unfortunately the school is often badly maligned, it's often unfairly criticized. I think that we have an excellent staff at the Manitoba School for Retardates at Portage la Prairie. They're doing their very best and I've had opportunities to be there on two or three occasions in the past year and I've been impressed with the dedication of the staff and the various services offered by the staff. I was acquainted with one or two particular difficult cases that they were able to assist and I know some of those individuals, I won't mention names of course, who had different problems including problems of hearing, problems of physical appearance and so on have been assisted to the point where we believe that we may be able to take them out and assist them to live in more of a normal community residential setting.

But this is something that can't be done overnight, and it's something that nevertheless we're looking at, and there's a possibility that we could make some changes in this respect. The constraining factor often is the monies that are available. Fortunately, that is the stark reality of offering services to the retarded. I think that there's so much to be done. We indeed would like

to improve the ratio; we indeed would like to see more programs at Portage; we indeed would like to see new improvements there.

With regard to the one building, we are looking at the possibility of phasing that particular facility out, so it may have some impact on the population at the school.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, I know that my colleague, the Honourable Member for Portage la Prairie, has a number of questions he would like to ask, particularly in the realm of redevelopment and potential redevelopment for the school.

Just before yielding the floor to him on that point, Mr. Chairman, I'd like to ask the Minister one more question about the staffing patterns. Obviously, if the Department of Government Services employees were included in the totals that would bring the overall total, I'm sure, fractionally above the one on one ratio. It's my experience that has been the desirable ratio that successive governments have attempted to achieve in this particular institution, this particular facility, although it's also my understanding that in the field of institutional mental retardation generally in North America that a seven to nine ratio, seven staff to nine residents has been demonstrated to be satisfactory and practical, provided the staff component that one is referring to is a component that is made up very heavily of professionals.

So I'd just like to know from the Minister whether in that number of 742 staff that he has given me for 1983-84, for the Manitoba School, whether there is a significant number of professionals, a significant number of therapists, a significant number of behaviour modification specialists and the like, because no one for one moment minimizes the value of all the other categories of staff that comprise the family of employees at a great institution like the Manitoba School?

But we can have one on one, or even two on one and still not be doing the job for the residents that needs to be done if there is not a significant chunk of that staff total devoted to the professional specialties.

HON. L. EVANS: Yes, I can give the honourable member a breakdown of the staffing pattern . . .

MR. L. SHERMAN: Okay. Yes, thanks.

HON. L. EVANS: . . . and that would give you some idea of our capacity out there. I can read them slowly if you wanted to note them, or else do them quickly and you can read them tomorrow.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Well, maybe the Minister can read them into the record and they'll be in the record.

HON. L. EVANS: Sure. And if you want me to repeat, I certainly will.

Well, of course, there's Neil Upham, who's the Chief Executive Officer, one position; medical personnel, 8 positions; nursing, this is the single greatest. Remember we're talking about a total of 742. This is the greatest single category. Nursing staff 414; nursing education staff, 8, because we do train psychiatric nurses there. A very fine school. Had the pleasure and privilege of

being at last year's graduating ceremony. Behavioural psychologists, there are 15 positions. This includes one contract, part-time person. But there are 15 persons there, or 15 positions. We have 9 positions on evaluation and program planning; we have 13 positions in education. I suppose there could be an argument as to whether we should rely more heavily on the Portage School Division to do the training of the students, but there has been a tradition of bringing the teachers in so we have 13 teachers in effect for the residents. We have 31 people in the field of physiotherapy and motivational therapy; and then there's another 196 in what is referred to as Resource Services. This includes your laundry people, your housekeeping, your dietary people, cooking and so on, and general administration. There's a farm that's operated and we have 12 staff positions involved with that, and then the last number is Contingency, these are 35 positions. As I explained before, that is to help out where there are emergencies or people who have to be away ill or for whatever reason. So that comprises the 742.

As the member can note, well over half are nurses and there's certainly a large support staff in behavioural psychology, evaluation, and physiotherapy. When you take them together that's another almost, well 55 to 60 people in that category, so it's quite a significant professional component to the staff.

Just another - well this is an observation with regard to the population, the residents. Today we find that the population is older on average than ever before. There are fewer and fewer young people coming into the institution for all kinds of reasons that perhaps the member is aware of. Today, therefore, there are only 71 persons under the age of 18 out of the total population. So that explains the need not to have more teachers than we do. In other words, there are very few young people. They're older people, and there are quite a few quite elderly people as a matter of fact who do reside at Portage.

I suppose some people might even wish to make an argument that a certain part of that elderly population might do very well in a nursing home, because I visited, as I said, on a couple of occasions, and I did talk to some of these ladies and I think are very delightful people and I think they might do just as well, in some cases, in a personal care home or nursing home, because they do need to be provided for in certain ways. Someone has to prepare meals for them and provide some other basic amenities, ensure that their basic hygiene is maintained and their health requirements are served, etc. But the population has changed somewhat over the years, but basically the bulk of the population are of the profound and severe category, and hopefully in the years ahead, there'll be fewer of the mild and borderline cases.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Portage la Prairie.

MR. L. HYDE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a few questions I'd like to pose to the Minister at this time. The first question, has the Minister aborted the shared recreation facility for the residents of the Manitoba School and the residents of the City of Portage la Prairie, that was agreed on in principle, Sir, by the former Government of Manitoba?

HON. L. EVANS: I would be the first person to recognize that there is a need for better recreational facilities at the Manitoba School at Portage. There's no question that we have to do something. Various organizations have put forward — (Interjection) — I beg your pardon?

MR. L. SHERMAN: You could not be the first person. You might be one of them.

HON. L. EVANS: Did I say I was the first?

MR. L. SHERMAN: You said, you would be the first person to recognize it.

HON. L. EVANS: No, I didn't mean it in that way. Having been there, I would like to think that it's an obvious observation that one would come to, or a conclusion that one would come to. Well, certainly the previous government wished to go ahead, or in fact, stated that they wanted to proceed with this large swimming pool jointly with the city and I appreciate that decision was made, or at least an announcement was made, that the government was going to proceed in that way. We are not prepared to proceed, at this time, with a large swimming pool along those lines. I can tell the honourable members that some people who are activists in the mental retardation field are very, very much opposed to that. They've stated it publicly and have been very much pressuring government against moving in that direction.

At any rate, we are not prepared to go ahead with that type of swimming pool. Having said that, I just repeat that I would certainly acknowledge the need for recreational facilities, improvements along those lines, at the school in Portage.

MR. L. HYDE: I certainly appreciate to hear the comments of the Minister that he does recognize that there is a need for a facility such as that, when my next question to the Minister would be then, what has the Minister done with the hundreds of thousands of dollars that parents of the patients of the Manitoba School raised through car sales, teas, bake sales, etc.; what has he done with that money that was raised in support of this recreational complex?

HON. L. EVANS: I believe the Member for Portage la Prairie is referring to the funds raised by the auxiliary to the Manitoba School. Well these are monies that the auxiliary has. I do not have them; I've never had them; no Minister has had them; they are in the hands of the Manitoba School auxiliary. I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge the dedication of the auxiliary. Mr. Doug Dorsey, the past president, and I've also had the pleasure of meeting the current president, Mr. Charles Lowe, and I know they do very fine work. I was there at the occasion of their annual tea last year and I met a number of people at that time, and I know of the fine work that the auxiliary does, providing bus service, taking some of the residents to the Shrine Circus for example, in Winnipeg, or to whatever facility and I do appreciate the fact that the auxiliary runs a summer camp at Lake Manitoba.

I just want to take the opportunity also to point out that I believe we've provided some, through one of our

other government programs, funding for the hiring of students to assist at the camp this summer. That's through the STEP Program. So I'm very cognizant of the excellent work being done by the auxiliary.

Hopefully, at some time, if the auxiliary still has those funds, you know, they can always perhaps spend them in some other way for the school. You know, they may decide to buy other kinds of equipment, or whatever they wish to do with those funds, but if they still have them, at whatever point we're prepared to go with some recreational facilities, at that time we would sit down and discuss it with that organization. But I have to emphasize that we are now spending a fair amount of money at the school on fire safety upgrading, and that, I'm sure the member will agree, has to be our No. 1 priority. It is our No. 1 priority and indeed, we are spending a lot of money in that respect.

MR. L. HYDE: Mr. Chairman, as the Minister knows, and I'm quite aware, of the fact that that fire upgrading of precautionary measures has been on the go for a number of years and I am in full agreement with that, that it should be continued. But I wonder, does the Minister not believe that the citizens of Portage la Prairie deserve, that is the community surrounding the City of Portage la Prairie, as well, deserve an indoor pool, at the town?

HON. L. EVANS: If I heard the member correctly, I believe he asked whether I thought that the citizens of Portage la Prairie deserved an indoor pool?

MR. L. HYDE: That's right.

HON. L. EVANS: Well, I certainly do believe that the citizens of Portage la Prairie deserve an inside pool, if you describe it that way, but I don't believe that it's necessarily the - in fact, I know it's not the role of my department - to provide funding necessarily for recreational facilities off of the grounds of the Manitoba School at Portage. In fact, I suggested to the Mayor of Portage la Prairie last year that that's something he should pursue and who knows, he may be able to find funding through some other government programs. There are all kinds of grants and projects being funded now. There are many grants available now for employment creation, and so on, so I certainly wouldn't want to deny the citizens of the good City of Portage la Prairie with any kind of facility, whether it be an indoor pool, or whatever, but it's not the responsibility of my department to ensure that any city or town or village obtains recreational facilities. That is not my mandate.

MR. L. HYDE: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to ask the Minister one more question. Does the Minister not believe in the shared use of such a facility?

HON. L. EVANS: I'm not sure whether I heard the whole question. Was the question, do I believe in the concept of shared facilities?

MR. L. HYDE: Yes.

HON. L. EVANS: Well, I'll say yes and no. Yes, I believe that facilities should be available where the mentally

retarded can share and be part of the active community and be of the community and in the community. But at the same time I don't believe that it is necessary that we should have a public facility of the kind that the member has referred to on the school grounds. You can make an argument for that which was made by the previous government but, if you ask me for my bias, I would say, no. I think we have to spend our monies at the Manitoba School at Portage essentially for the welfare and benefit of the residents there. Having said that, I would love to see as many of the residents get out and be with the people of Portage or the people of Manitoba in any recreational pursuit that is available to them.

Just let me add to my comments a minute ago about fire upgrading. The renovations have been going on to the resident cottages, and I believe for this year we have allocated \$735,000.00. That's roughly three-quarters of \$1 million for renovations to the seven resident cottages. In addition to that, we have allocated another \$75,000 for miscellaneous repairs and renovations at the school. So we're looking at, I guess, \$810,000 of expenditure in the City of Portage at the school in this '83-84 fiscal year.

MR. L. HYDE: Mr. Chairman, I'm sure the Minister is quite aware of the fact that today there are a number of patients, residents of that school are being transported daily from the Manitoba School for Retardates in Portage la Prairie to the RCAF base south of Portage la Prairie for their annual swimming instructions. I am a little bit at a loss as to why the positive stand has been taken by the Minister and his government in denying those children of that particular school the right to a suitable facility on their own grounds.

HON. L. EVANS: As I said, Mr. Chairman, a moment ago, I acknowledge the need and desire for having recreational facilities, whether it be a swimming pool or some version thereof or whatever. Certainly, I'm not denying the need for that and that we should proceed along those lines, but I don't believe we should spend a great deal of money for the joint type of swimming pool that had been planned previously. That's my opinion.

Having said that, I hope and trust and wish the City of Portage will get on with the job of getting itself a swimming pool. In the meantime, I am going to do my best to get improvements in the recreational facilities at the school in Portage as soon as we can. But as I said, there is only so much money and there is such a great demand from all sources for improvements. As I said, we are spending well over \$800,000 for fire safety upgrading and other renovations at the school this year.

MR. L. HYDE: Mr. Chairman, I couldn't help but overhear the comment that the Minister's Legislative Assembly Assistant made during our conversations. She stated, why didn't your government proceed with this work?

I could tell her and tell you and members of this House that the plans were all drawn up. The work was to be started in the spring of 1982 where the residents of the Manitoba School were going to be given the

opportunity to have that recreational complex that they have been desiring for a number of years. At the same time, the citizens of Portage la Prairie would have been served.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 5.(b)(1)—pass. Order please. 5.(b)(2)—pass; 5.(b)(3)—pass; 5.(b)(4) - the Member for Fort Garry.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, would the Minister review the external agencies for the committee in this category, please?

HON. L. EVANS: The external agencies are St. Amant Centre and the other is the Pelican Lake Training Centre. Those are the two external agencies in the field of mental retardation covered by this appropriation.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, what would the breakdown be between St. Amant and Pelican Lake with respect to that budgetary figure? Is it approximately half and half?

HON. L. EVANS: No. The figure at St. Amant - I'm going to just round it off here - it is just a wee bit under \$9.8 million for '83-84. That's our estimated expenditure, 9.8. In terms of Pelican Lake, it's again rounded off to \$1.9 million. It's a shade under \$1.9 million.

Now, of course, there is a different population. Pelican Lake provides care for up to 70 adults and they are, of course, ambulatory and are a bit of a different category than St. Amant. St. Amant is essentially for children, although they do look after some adults as well, but the majority are children. In addition, the funding for a day care program for 30 children is included at St. Amant. The in-patient population as of the end of last year, December 31, 1982, at St. Amant was 275 persons.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 5.(b)(4)—pass; 5.(c)(1) Rehabilitation Services to the Disabled, Salaries - the Member for Fort Garry.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, are there new workshops and occupational activity centres contemplated in the department's program for '83-84, or is it a hold-the-line year?

HON. L. EVANS: Basically, it's hold the line, although last year I recall at least one new facility coming on stream, Doray Enterprises in the City of Winnipeg. That was essentially for the post-mentally ill category. But we have 24 occupational activity centres, three evaluation and training centres and three sheltered employment businesses, which provide specialized workshop programs.

MR. L. SHERMAN: The latter category that the Minister refers to, Mr. Chairman, are like Skills Unlimited and the Employment Corporation Centre, that type of facility, correct?

HON. L. EVANS: And A.R.M. Industries.

MR. L. SHERMAN: And A.R.M. Industries, yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 5.(c)(1)—pass; 5.(c)(2)—pass; 5.(c)(3)—pass; 5.(c)(4)—pass; 5.(d)(1) Human Resources Opportunity Program, Salaries - the Member for Fort Garry.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, is this the area of departmental operations that used to be referred to as Employment Services?

HON. L. EVANS: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Is there any significance to the change of name other than, I suppose, it's a little more contemporary and perhaps a little less declamatory, employment and unemployment being such volatile terms in the language of the province and the country now? Is there any other significance to the change in name? Does it reflect a change in mandate, scope, terms of reference, objectives or anything of the like, Mr. Chairman?

HON. L. EVANS: Yes, well, I think both points that the member raises I can respond to positively. One, I believe, that the phrase and expression, Human Resources Opportunity Program, more aptly describes the intent of this particular thrust by government. Work activity projects or work activity programs as a name to me is rather barren. The name is one that I guess came originally out of the federal legislation, because as the member knows this is cost-shared. The program was started under the previous New Democratic Party administration in the '70s and the work activity name was in the federal legislation. But there is no difficulty with the Federal Government. We were well advised in using a different terminology.

As a matter of fact if you look around Canada, you'll find there are programs similar to this using different titles. I know, for example, in the City of Vancouver, there is one called, I believe it's called the Youth Employment Program, and it's exactly more or less along these lines, partly along these lines, but it's funded under that same category of federal program assistance, under CAP.

The other element of change is that we are striving and have succeeded to a very large extent in reducing the costs per participant and we're doing this by bringing in more participants without virtually any increase in staff, very very minor increase in staff, but a large increase in the number of participants, so that the cost per participant is down and the staff ratio has improved. I can give some of those numbers to the honourable member just to explain what I mean.

I have some figures here for April which are indicative of some of the improvements that we've made.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Excuse me, just before we do that, the figures the Minister is going to give me are figures related to the work activity projects, is that correct, or what used to be known as work activity projects?

HON. L. EVANS: Yes.

MR. L. SHERMAN: How many are we looking at now, 6?

HON. L. EVANS: I can advise the honourable member that we're looking at 7 now. What we did - as I announced last year we were going to expand into other regions and we expanded into Eastman without adding to any staff. We virtually used some of the regional staff that were available, and I might note that as of April of this year, we have 33 participants working in the Eastman Project and they're all under this new thrust that we have going, and this is what I was going on to explain, that is the work experience thrust.

What we're trying to do to bring down the cost is to identify more community-based work experience opportunities. The on-site work is more of a make-work type. It tends to be much more expensive and this is something that has evolved over the years, where the projects require various kinds of equipment, had to pay for various kinds of overhead, office buildings, various buildings to house the equipment, various overhead costs that do make the program relatively expensive and unfortunately over some years there was a decline in the number of participants in the last several years with no substantial change in the staffing.

So, what we've done is to come up with the community-based work experience programs, so not only do we have on-site jobs, on-site participants, but we have participants now being spotted and located in the community. This is what's happening in Eastman. If we have a nursing home that can use one or two people, without taking away from regular jobs - in fact that's a very fundamental principle that we don't replace any ongoing existing regular job, that this job to be performed by the participant would be an add-on, it would be something that couldn't be afforded otherwise.

So whether it be a nursing home, a municipal council, a small business, some other non-profit organization that had a useful work experience, we would place the participants there. They still had to and do obtain the life skills training. That is a requirement of the Federal Government and I don't object to that, and all of these people, whether they're working on-site, which is the traditional path followed for years and years and years, or whether they're working off-site in the work experience component, both categories, both types receive the life-skills training. They receive the same benefits and the same treatment in terms of whatever the program offers.

But, what we've been able to do is to substantially increase the population of participants. April of last year, we had 230 participants served in that particular month; April of this year, it's up to 542.

Now one reason we are able to do that is because we added substantially to the total budget but, because we added considerably, more than double the number of participants and virtually holding the staff constant, we've gone up from 50 staff to 53 staff, and the reason for that of course is that we were in the process of developing The Pas, and there was a bit of addition from that area. But basically staff have gone from 50 to 53, essentially a hold the line, and the number of participants, as I've said, have gone from 230 to 542. Therefore, the staff-participant ratio last year was 1:4.6, one staff to 4.6 participants. Now as of April, it was one staff to 10.2 participants. So that's a substantial improvement of the staff-participant ratio from one to 4.6 to now, one to 10.2.

In terms of costs, the cost per participant-day last April of 1982 was \$55.65. As of April of this year, it's

down to \$34.63. So I'm very, very pleased that we have made that progress.

I can just advise the honourable member that I have a breakdown as to those who are on-site and off-site, not for April, but I have it for the end of '82. We can get it for April. I just don't happen to have it with me, but for the end of '82, it probably gives them an idea anyway. December 31, 1982, there were 223 on-site participants and 267 off-site participants. That totalled 490 at that date.

So I want us to go further along these lines. I want to, whatever we can and however we can rationally, slowly - we can't do this overnight - to reduce the on-site activity as much as practical, as much as feasible, and to maximize the off-site community-based work experience. This is the way to handle more participants and do it with the existing staff. So to that extent, I think we have made considerable progress in this particular program.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, what do those figures on the numbers of participants that the Minister gave me mean precisely when he says that the number of participants has gone from 230 to 542? Is that figure that he's giving me a total for the seven projects? He nods his head in affirmation, so the answer that I required there I have received, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Now what about the time frame we're looking at. The Minister says, we've gone from 230 to 542. Is that fiscal '81-82 compared to '82-83 or calendar '82 compared to calendar '81, or what is it? Are we looking at a comparative set of dates on the calendar so that is an actual and accurate comparison?

HON. L. EVANS: The figures of 230 relate to the number of participants on the project in April of 1982. I mean, if you took a census - I'm now getting monthly data, so the monthly reports show that we had 230 participants being served in the month of April, 1982. The month of April, 1983, the number of participants being served was 542. So it's April to April, month to month.

I just might say that when I took on the job, when I first became Minister, there were only 150. So that was November or December of 1981, there were only 150 with the same staff, with the 50 staff. So from November or December of 1981 to April of 1982, we were able to get it up to 230. As I said now, we've more than doubled it to 542.

Now it takes money to do that. You know, I'm not denying it, but the fact is we have had a greater increase in participants than change in staff. So the cost per participant-day has dropped very, very dramatically.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, I hope the Minister doesn't take too much pride in the increased figures, because he is not in the business, I trust, and we're not in the business, I trust, of building up a large volume of unemployed people who need to be trained and equipped to find some role that they can fill in terms of earning a living in the community. He says that when he became Minister there were only 150 in the program. I would point out to him that when he became Minister there were a lot fewer unemployed in Manitoba than there are today.

I'm certain that there are unemployed persons who are going into that program in order to avoid breadlines and queue lines and more power to them, just as there are university students going to university and taking more than they need in university and staying in university longer because there are no jobs available for them in the community. So I appreciate the information the Minister is giving me and if he's kept the staff down while dealing with an expanded clientele, then that is commendable. I don't think that the expanded clientele represents anything but a Pyrrhic victory. It may mean that he's capable of dealing with more people, but it also means that there are more people in difficult straits to deal with. That is not a commendable situation for us.

The Minister has given us April, 1982, and April, 1983, comparison figures, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask him how long on average those 542 participants in '83 or the 230 in 1982 remained in the project, either on-site or off-site. How long on average did they remain in Work Activities Project training courses?

HON. L. EVANS: I am not sure that I have the figures on the average length of stay, but some have stayed up to a year. In fact, I guess there are some people who stay more than a year. On our Work Experience Program, I believe we are trying to impose a six-month limit on that. Now there are always exceptions.

You know, there is no question - I suppose the member is arguing that the population at these centres are a function of the amount of unemployment. I really don't think that is the case. If this figure, instead of being 542 and versus 230, if it was something like 2,300 versus 5,420, when we're dealing with a much more significant number of people, I'd say yes, the level of unemployment out there has a bearing on this; but I'm sorry to say that there are just many many hundreds of disadvantaged people out there who need help.

I really would suggest with all respect, Mr. Chairman, that even if we reduced unemployment in Manitoba substantially, let's say there was a turnaround in the business cycle and we reduced our unemployment levels down to more normal levels - whatever that may be - say 4 or 5 percent, or whatever instead of what we have today, I would suggest that we could still have 542. In fact even more because there is a category, a component of our population that do need some kind of help - and I don't need to describe the program to the member because he's very familiar with it - but there are categories of people who have great emotional problems.

We've dealt with and are dealing with people, some who've come out of the prison system, dealing with people who have had great problems with alcohol, many people who are socially disadvantaged, and even in normal times would have great difficulty in finding employment. I think the only exception would be if you had, say, an all-out war such as World War II, where hundreds of thousands of men went overseas, we had wartime industries flourishing and we needed every able bodied person, whether they had one leg, one arm, or whatever, to work in the factories and do whatever, where all-out war effort and total employment was definitely achieved. Short of that I would say, even with better times, even with much lower levels of

unemployment, we could still usefully and fruitfully find participants in our midst.

Unfortunately we can still find those people who have these social disadvantages, so I don't really buy the argument that this is a function of unemployment, or the changing level of unemployment. It's a function of us changing, of providing more total funding. It's a function of us changing the thrust to just not depend on on-site make-work projects, but to go out to the community and look for community-based work experience proposals and possibilities.

The other thing I might just add, there was a bias - if you looked at the figures male, female - there was definitely a bias towards male participants. For whatever reason, we seem to be more successful in having make-work projects for male, whether it be construction or whatever, woodworking, etc., etc., not that females can't engage in woodworking, but the statistics showed a predominance of males. What the Work Experience Program going off site has done, going into the nursing homes, for example, and so on, has opened up opportunities for females. So a great deal of that increase is an increase in the number of female participants, and that's something that we should both welcome because I think we should be prepared to assist socially disadvantaged people, who are female or male, to the same degree.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please. Before proceeding, I would like to direct the attention of the members of the committee to the gallery, where we have standing a group of 13 adults, and 39 students of Grade 6, from the George Fitton School. These visitors are under the direction of Mr. Stan Thickens. The school is located in the constituency of the Member for Brandon East.

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

The Member for Fort Garry.

MR. L. SHERMAN: I do welcome that last statement by the Minister, Mr. Chairman, and I want to discuss the aspect of the program that he just referred to; that is, the increased participation of women, the larger female component in the clientele now, the situation that was devised and developed for Mothers' Allowance recipients, in the Work Activities Project Program, etc., etc., but we're not quite at that point yet. I do want to explore that a little with him and I welcome his information to the effect that there is a much stronger component, a much stronger representation of women being able to take advantage of this program now, than apparently had been the case previously.

I would just say, Mr. Chairman, I don't intend to get into a three-hour philosophical debate with the Minister on this subject because I don't think that he will ever entirely agree with me, nor I entirely with him, and that's fine, that's democracy. But he refers to the social damage, in effect, the social damage that exists in our society and therefore, the fact that no matter what kind of unemployment figures we had, there would always be people who need this kind of program. I don't disagree with that, but I say to the Minister that lack of job opportunities and lack of a healthy economy

creates social damage and when you have social damage being created and precipitated, you have an increased number of victims of that damage and I think that it's not unreasonable or illogical to point out that those increased numbers would be reflected in programs such as this.

However, if the program is strong enough to cope with them and do something for them and help them, then that is a silver lining in the cloud and I'm not denigrating the efforts that the Minister or the department are making here. I would just hope - and the Minister as a former Minister of Economic Development - I would just hope that while attending to what's happening in human resource opportunities and work activities projects, that he urging his colleague, the Minister of Economic Development, to greater and greater efforts to reinforce and strengthen the conventional economy, so that his client load in these programs may go down, or may be permitted to go down.

Mr. Chairman, there are a couple of philosophical aspects to this program that I'd like to explore for one minute with the Minister without, as I say, getting into a lengthy philosophical political debate. First, I would like to ask him whether he agrees that these programs are really job training programs and life skill training programs, but they are not intended to be sheltered workshops, and people are supposed to be helped sufficiently through programs of this kind, to be able to address the normal responsibilities of life and citizenship in what all of us, or most of us, recognize as the conventional working day and they're supposed to be helped to the extent that they're equipped to hold down a job and contribute positively to society. They are not supposed to be sheltered workshops and it seems to me that, you know, to some extent - perhaps I've drawn an unfair and inaccurate inference from the Minister's remarks - but to some extent he seems to be viewing them as sheltered workshops. Am I right or wrong about that?

HON. L. EVANS: Well, again I guess it depends on what you mean by sheltered workshops and how you might define it.

I guess a sheltered workshop is any workshop where the people are brought in and maintained by the employer even though they may not achieve a predictable level of productivity that a normal business person, a normal factory owner, or industrial employer would wish to achieve. So the extent to which you're prepared to accept a low level of productivity vis-a-vis the cost of labour, the costs of workers, to that extent, I guess, it's sheltered, but not in the sense surely of the sheltered workshops that we have for the mentally handicapped or the physically handicapped.

I guess to a degree it's a sheltered workshop, but hopefully we've got as many normal working experiences as possible.

Just to relate and refresh the honourable member's memory, I had the pleasure and privilege last summer of going to each one of these. I visited everyone of them for some several hours, talked to the staff, talked to the participants and I can picture each one of them. I have an idea what goes on.

I know in Winnipeg, for instance, there's an excellent woodworking shop. It looks like any normal

woodworking shop and it's a beehive of activity. I wouldn't necessarily describe that as a sheltered workshop. There's a reupholstering shop in Winnipeg as well and people are being trained and so on so.

I guess it's really how you define the term because they are in training. I mean they're not . . .

MR. L. SHERMAN: Well, I'll define it for you.

HON. L. EVANS: Yes, okay. What's your definition?

MR. L. SHERMAN: What I mean by a sheltered workshop is a sanctuary where someone goes and is protected against the vicissitudes of life and fate for an indeterminate period of time. Certainly we have fellow citizens in our society who deserve that kind of protection and I subscribe to the provision of that kind of protection. But I don't think this clientele is the clientele that should be served by that kind of philosophy. This clientele needs to be equipped to get into the marketplace and hold a job.

HON. L. EVANS: Okay, now that the member has described, or has now defined his term, of course, these are people who we do expect to eventually graduate and be out in the normal workplace. Absolutely. I agree there certainly is a time limit, we cannot and will not keep people here forever and a day. Certainly there is a training component where people do learn a skill that is marketable, we hope, out in the world of work, out in the marketplace. Also, of course, there is the lifeskills counselling, which does give them that support and a little bit of additional training that might help them cope with whatever they have to cope with out there, in applying for jobs and so on.

So it's certainly not sheltered in that sense, such as the occupational activity centres where you do have largely mentally handicapped people and they may be there for their entire lives. Certainly, they're a different kettle of fish. But they are special workshops, they're not the workshops that you find in a normal factory. They may be similar, but the people are in a training phase so you don't expect them to be as productive as you would in a normal woodworking shop in some factory in the City of Winnipeg compared to what we'd find at the Winnipeg Project. There is bit of difference, but certainly it's not a sheltered workshop in terms of the definition that the honourable member mentioned.

But having said that, I repeat that I think we have an excellent staff. The programs have been well-administered, they're conscientious people. What I'm saying though is we've got a drive on, and I think we've been quite successful to date, the figures show that, to increase efficiency and productivity and the figures demonstrate this, and we want to continue on along these lines. So I hope next year we can show continued success, continued progress.

I'm particularly excited, maybe excited isn't the word, particularly interested in a continuation of an expansion of the work experience component, because it's cheaper for us because we don't have to provide the supervisory personnel. If we're running a workshop, we have to get supervisors, trainers, and so on. Whereas if we can place a young man or a young woman in a factory or in a nursing home, that nursing home, or that factory,

or that office, or wherever it is, will be providing the supervision. So to that extent it's cheaper and the person is right in there, right in the normal work environment. Having said that, they still of course have to come back and get the life skills training and our staff still do oversee and keep tabs of the training that individual is experiencing.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, the Minister has made a number of references to life skills training and he may have anticipated through some form of ESP my next question, because I have been waiting for some time to ask him about the life skills training component and life skills training aspect of this program. I don't mean waiting for some time today, I mean waiting for some time in this Session of the Legislature.

The Minister announced about a year ago that he was assessing and re-evaluating the whole Work Activities Project Program and that there were a number of proposals and conceptual approaches that were being looked at for strengthening and reinforcement of the program with a heavy emphasis, if I'm not misquoting him and if my memory serves, with a relatively heavy emphasis on the work aspect and the work experience thrust.

At that time some of those people who conversed with me on subjects of this kind - and I know the Minister finds it surprising perhaps that people do express their concerns and their anxieties to members of the opposition when they are people who are employed in the government service, but I can assure him that does happen. Certainly some people in the Employment Services Branch have been in touch with me about concerns and anxieties of theirs. That was obvious to the Minister last year, I'm sure, when we got into the debate about personnel at the helm of the Westbran Work Activity Project in Brandon.

Following the Minister's comments a few months ago or a year ago about reform of the program some persons working within the system expressed concern to me that the emphasis was being unwisely and imprudently shifted away from life-skills training to pure work experience training. I'm not suggesting that the work experience thrust should be downgraded, but I would hope that the life-skills training component has not been downgraded either.

The Minister has made reference to the fact that many of these people through no fault of their own are the victims of social difficulties, social inequities and social damage that has left them unequipped to meet the requirements that we would consider to be basic and average and normal insofar as day-to-day living is concerned, has just simply left them unequipped to do the kinds of things that an individual has to do to get through the day as a man or woman in our society.

They have not had the opportunity to learn any life skills and training them for a job is one thing, or training them to go out and look for a job is one thing, but if they don't have the skills of the most basic and fundamental nature that enable them to face the new day, to get up in the morning and face a clock and face a schedule and go to work and recognize some responsibilities there and a timetable there and recognize authority there and recognize the hours of work and to be able to take a pay cheque and cash

it and use it properly, to be able to handle their money properly, to be able to purchase their food supplies and the basics of life in a responsible way.

All of these things which many of us take for granted are experiences that are anything but normal, ordinary experiences to some of this component of the population that we're talking about. They cannot take them for granted because they've never been exposed to them. That, obviously, is what the life-skills training component of the program is all about - equipping people to live, to get through the day and the night, let alone hold a job.

So, Mr. Chairman, I would hope that component has not been sacrificed to the work experience thrust, and I raised that question because the Minister has made several references to it and I had had concerns expressed to me by personnel, professionals, working in the system, working in the program some months ago when the Minister announced his intention to reform the program, and those concerns are as I've expressed them. They were concerns that the life-skills training component was being downgraded and being reduced in importance and I would hope that is not the case.

HON. L. EVANS: Well, Mr. Chairman, I can assure the honourable member that is not the case.

First of all, the federal cost sharing requires any province involved to provide a given amount of life-skills training and human development assistance. I can advise the member that we provide between 25 to 30 percent of the time that the participant is with us on any of these projects, 25 to 30 percent of the time is spent on human development. Part of that involves life-skills training, some of it may be one-on-one counselling. There'll be other components providing information on health, nutrition, we provide job search counselling. But there is another point I would make as well and that is that we are now utilizing the services of the employment counsellors, apart from the actual staff involved in the human resource opportunity centres in the projects, we do have another group of employment service officers throughout the province, and they are now being utilized in a more active way to help with these programs, these human development programs and these are counsellors whose mandate, of course, is to help anybody whether they're on welfare or not on welfare. Whether they're participants or not, they have a function to help people seek out and find jobs.

As a matter of fact some of them have been attached, or at least physically located with our social allowance offices, our income security offices. You know, it's an offshoot of the welfare program. But these people with some skills are available to help and are being integrated, partially into helping with the Human Resource Opportunity Program, so we're able to call upon their services as well. This is particularly true for the work experience participants. This is where the employment service counsellors are doing a great job. They're helping us identify work opportunities in the community, community-based work experience, and this is where they're playing a key role. But they are qualified to help us provide some of this human development component of the program that the member is concerned with.

I share his concern and I can assure him, as I stated, we have 25 to 30 percent of the time of any participant who's with us, 25 to 30 percent of his or her time must be spent in human development.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, one other point on this subject, well two actually, and I think probably the Minister would agree with me that we should attempt to clean up this section of the Estimates by 4:30 which is the hour at which we have to break for Private Members' Hour, not that we won't be back here tonight, we will, but I would certainly target that achievement if we can do it within the next 15 minutes. I would certainly target that achievement as an objective that is worth aiming for, but I would like to deal with two subjects in that time.

One is: What has happened to the Westbran Work Activity Project in Brandon? There was difficulty there that created considerable debate and disputation between the Minister and me last year, and I think justifiably so, because I didn't like what he had done with respect to changing personnel there. Who is heading up that Work Activity Project? What is Mr. Douglas Wark doing? Has the Minister continued with his purported plan to split the executive or administrative function in the Work Activities Projects into two jobs rather than one? So, that's really one subject I'd like to ask him to address in the next few minutes.

The other one is the subject of the Mother's Allowance recipients who were being integrated into the Work Activities Project Program clientele and given work experience opportunities in a way that seemed to be holding some considerable promise for reducing our Mother's Allowance caseloads, but then, subsequently, seemed to run into some trouble. At last report confirmed or unconfirmed, it seemed that Mother's Allowance clients in this program were being put into jobs or work experience situations where they were being required or asked to work for \$1 an hour or some such very minimal, very nominal fee. That doesn't seem very helpful in getting Mother's Allowance recipients off the welfare rolls. I would think they would consider it much more to their advantage to stay at home and draw Mother's Allowance than to go into these work experience projects or programs and receive only \$1 an hour in remuneration. Can the Minister address those two topics?

HON. L. EVANS: To answer the first question first, Mr. Wark is still the Regional Co-ordinator of the program in the Westman region. The manager of the project is Ron Heuchart. He is the chief person responsible for the Westbran Project.

In terms of the staff, we have 13 staff. Again, I am pleased to report that the same pattern has developed in Westbran as we see in the averages for the program as a whole. In other words, the number of participants last April, 1982, there were 72 participants served in that particular month. As of April of '83, there were 146. So it's a doubling of the number of participants being served. The staff ratio was - I'll just round this off - one to five last year, last April. This April, it's one to 11. So we have 11 participants per staff, whereas last year we only had five participants per staff. That was an improvement over a few months before that.

The cost per participant-day has been reduced from \$56.97 to \$33.69. So that's a substantial improvement in the costs in terms of the numbers of participant-days.

As far as I indicated, Mr. Wark was not fired. No one ever suggested he be fired except some honourable members across the way. There was a misunderstanding. He was wearing two hats, and we asked him to maintain the senior hat which was that of Regional Co-ordinator for the Westman Region. Indeed, he is in no different a position than some other regional co-ordinators who are co-ordinating the Employment Services Counselling Program for their regions. It's no different than the other regions. In fact, in the process, he was given a salary increase. No one ever suggested that he be fired; it was never ever entertained or suggested. It was simply a transference of workload and responsibility. As I said, there was a bit of a promotion that he obtained; he obtained a salary increase in the process.

On the other question of the Mother's Allowance recipients, I believe we had a very small amount of money in the budget, \$125,000, and it was a bit of a pilot project. We paid the mothers involved - I think there were 41 involved at one point - \$4.50 an hour, which is the minimum wage, I guess - well, a little bit higher than the minimum wage, 50 cents higher - but that amount of money at that rate of payout doesn't go very far and it was very much of an experimental pilot nature.

It would be lovely if I could obtain a few more millions of dollars and do this on a more comprehensive basis. We are not able to do that. However, what we might be able to do and we have now taken some steps to move in this direction, but we want to move slowly and see how it works, but we are in a position - and this is where the misunderstanding again comes along when you talk about \$1 an hour - and we have approval from Ottawa for cost-sharing to take people who might be on the municipal welfare roll and allow them to continue to draw their municipal welfare and, being able-bodied, to allow them, if they fit the category and the criteria for admission, to come onto the Human Resource Opportunity Centre and get some work experience and training, life skills training.

So they would continue to get what they are entitled to under the welfare regulations or our social allowance regulations but in addition to that, because there may be some extra costs involved in getting to work, particularly in Winnipeg or a bigger town or city, additional costs involved, maybe having some lunch money or whatever, that we were prepared to pay an allowance of \$8 a day in addition to the welfare payment.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Are you doing that?

HON. L. EVANS: We're just on the verge of beginning that. We are just beginning it. I don't think any money has been paid out yet, but we want to do it very carefully. We would like to try it on a smaller scale and then, hopefully, develop it around the province.

I think it has a lot of merits, because a lot of people - in Manitoba, I wouldn't suggest that our pay out on welfare is all that generous, but compared to some other provinces, it's not bad. As a matter of fact, I

would suggest that some married people who have a family dependent on them, under our social allowance regulations, obtain far more money than a person who's working on the minimum wage and may be in a far better position than, say, the man on a minimum wage who is supporting the same size of a family. That person may be better off. So they get the social allowance or the welfare money, and they'll get the \$40 per week if it's a five-day week, or \$8 a day.

As I have said, we have discussed this with officials in Ottawa and they are prepared to cost-share it. So I think this is a bit of a breakthrough. It's strictly voluntary. We are not suggesting people be required to work for welfare; we are not suggesting that. It's a voluntary incentive allowance that we are prepared to pay them. As I said before, anyone who comes onto the program will get the experience of the life skills training and the other human development service. We simply don't have monies to carry on paying a separate category of people, taking them off of welfare and then paying them \$4.50 an hour that is not cost-shared.

There is a note that I have here indicating that the Ryant Review, that's the Task Force on Social Allowances that we've established, have received submissions requesting that Mother's Allowance be able to participate in training programs. We note that 53 percent of the mothers involved moved on to employment opportunities immediately, so there is some substantial success involved in this.

So, what I'm indicating to you is that while it would be very nice to expand that little pilot project we had previously where we helped 41 mothers, that runs into an awful lot of money if you expand it to any extent, but we are now in a position to dovetail assistance under the Human Resource Opportunity Program with the social allowances and the welfare monies that we pay under our Income Security Programs.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Where is that 53 percent that the Minister just referred to coming from, Mr. Speaker? The Minister said that he had indications from the committee that 53 percent of the Mother's Allowance recipients had moved on to employment programs?

HON. L. EVANS: Yes, I wasn't specific enough. That's of the 41 that were under that pilot project.

MR. L. SHERMAN: That was in the pilot project?

HON. L. EVANS: Of the 41, yes. Now the financing problem we had, Mr. Chairman, with that program was that was not cost-sharable with Ottawa. So that was much more of a burden to the Manitoba taxpayer than this other approach that I have suggested.

MR. L. SHERMAN: What were the clients being paid on that pilot project? Is the Minister saying they were being paid 4.50 an hour.

HON. L. EVANS: Yes. In that pilot project, they were being paid \$4.50 an hour. It was virtually a job-creation program, and I . . .

MR. L. SHERMAN: It was not cost-shared.

HON. L. EVANS: It was not cost-shared, and the fact is that the Minister of Labour now has umpteen

programs, many programs - she's got a lot of money anyway - and of course the Federal Government has come along under the NEED Program. There are many many job creation programs out there. So, I don't believe we should be in the job creation business as my colleague, the Minister of Labour, is. What we are in the business of is providing some training to socially disadvantaged people so that they can ultimately get out into the normal workforce. That has to be our mandate, not the mandate of job creation.

MR. L. SHERMAN: But, Mr. Chairman, the Minister is telling the committee and telling me that he feels that his department is on the threshold of being able to move beyond the pilot project concept in this area that we've been discussing and move Mother's Allowance recipients into Human Resource Opportunity Projects at \$1.00 an hour or \$8.00 a day over and above their Mother's Allowance payments?

HON. L. EVANS: Yes, it's over and above. It's an allowance. It's not an hourly wage or a daily wage; it's an allowance for costs involved and it's in addition to what those mothers would normally receive as Social Allowance recipients. Under our laws, mothers with families dependent on them automatically can qualify for social assistance. So they get their normal social assistance, they get the \$40.00 per week allowance and they get the training 25 to 30 percent of the time.

Incidentally, I've been reminded they can utilize our day care centres that we have developed and are developing around the province as well.

MR. L. SHERMAN: When do you expect that program initiative to be launched and under way. The Minister is indicating he's on the threshold of launching it?

HON. L. EVANS: Yes, we are on the verge of launching it and I would think - this is June, we are ready to start now. In the month of June, we'll be beginning, and we'll start slowly and hopefully if we don't find too many bugs in one or two communities, we'll continue to expand it.

I just might add that the Mother's Allowance that an average mother might obtain - well it depends on how many children they have - a mother with one child or a couple of children, plus the \$1.00 or \$8.00 a day assistance works out to \$4.50 an hour or more usually.

So the Mother's Allowance received previously would come off the Social Allowance Program, and you'd get the \$4.50 a day. What's being proposed now, they continue to draw the Mother's Allowance, which is not bad, and then they get the \$8.00 a day in addition to that. So, the bottom line is that they're getting as much, if not more money, than they did under this small pilot project which was really a job creation project.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please. The hour is 4:30, time for Private Members' Hour. The committee will reconvene at 8 p.m. tonight.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' HOUR

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The time being 4:30 p.m., Private Members' Hour.

Order please. Honourable members should be properly dressed when the House is in Session.

The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

MR. H. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, I assure you this is the latest from Yves St. Laurent, from Yves Salon, in Paris. It's known as a sleeveless topcoat, somewhat similar to a vest, but I'm told that this is going to be the rage in the coming season. However, if it's not in keeping with the decorum of this House, I will certainly get my top coat.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member is correct, but from here it does look as if the honourable member is without his jacket.

The Honourable Minister of Housing on a point of order.

HON. J. STORIE: On a point of fashion, Mr. Speaker, I know that the Honourable Member for Lakeside would never mislead this House and indeed what he was wearing must have been a sleeveless topcoat.

ADJOURNED DEBATES ON SECOND READING - PUBLIC BILLS

MR. SPEAKER: The first item on the agenda for Thursday afternoon is the Debate on Second Readings of Public Bills.

On the proposed motion of the Honourable Member for St. Norbert, Bill No. 41, standing in the name of the Honourable Member for Concordia. (Stand)

On the proposed motion of the Honourable Member for Brandon West, Bill No. 56, standing in the name of the Honourable Member for Springfield. (Stand)

BILL 56 - THE BRANDON CHARTER

MR. SPEAKER: On the proposed motion of the Honourable Member for Inkster, Bill No. 59, standing in the name of the Honourable Member for La Verendrye.

MR. R. BANMAN: Mr. Speaker, I'm going to be very brief. I believe that this bill parallels, as the Member for Inkster indicated, a number of bills that have passed through this Assembly in the previous years and seeing, of course, that I have introduced a similar bill, it would be very interesting if I would go ahead and oppose this one, because I'm sure the Member for Inkster would do the same to mine. So, in the spirit of co-operation in dealing with the curling clubs of the Province of Manitoba, Mr. Speaker, I would say that this bill can be passed at this time and referred to committee.

MOTION presented and carried.

RES. NO. 5 - FARM FUEL TAX

MR. SPEAKER: Private Member's Resolutions. Resolution No. 5, the proposed resolution of the Honourable Member for Pembina and the proposed amendment by the Honourable Member for River East.

The Honourable Member for Portage la Prairie has 19 minutes remaining.

MR. L. HYDE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When I spoke on this resolution some 10 days or two weeks ago, I started out by criticizing the Minister of Agriculture and the members of the government, who have spoken on this resolution in a critical manner and not ready to be of any support to this important resolution. The Minister of Agriculture spoke for 20 minutes that particular day, as I recall, and said nothing in support of the people who he represents in the agricultural field.

Mr. Speaker, it is unbelievable to hear that the Minister is of the opinion that a 6 or 7 cent a litre saving in taxes is really no significant reason to be concerned about this issue. Ten years ago, the price of diesel fuel and gasoline was not considered to be a burden to the farmer, but today, Sir, it is a different matter. A saving of 6 or 7 cents a litre on the federal tax on the energy, could easily mean the difference between a profit and loss at the end of a year, to many of our farmers. It is recognized, Sir, that the farmer's return for 1983 is going to be on the down side, so why would the Minister say that a few cents saving per litre on gasoline is a mere something the farmer should absorb?

Mr. Speaker, most farmers in our province, and indeed most farmers in Canada are in serious trouble. With the cost of production going up and their net returns coming down, they, the producers of foods, are indeed in trouble. So, Sir, if by the passing of this resolution in this Assembly, urging the Federal Government to reduce or eliminate the federal taxes totally, I support it and I urge the members of government to support this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, it was very disturbing to me, just last week while I was having coffee with my bank manager in Portage la Prairie, to hear him to say to me, Sir, that 60 percent of his farm accounts will be in serious trouble by this fall if there isn't a bountiful harvest and that the movement of grain doesn't improve. The farmer who is growing and is relying on straight grain farming is, indeed, in deep trouble and could be faced with a problem of whether he can continue to operate or not. Maybe his bank manager will make the decision for him. One thing that is going his way, is that interest rates are declining and I trust, Sir, that they continue to do so.

Mr. Speaker, the farmers attending the Annual Meeting of the Federate Co-operative Limited in Calgary last March, were told that they can expect fuel prices to almost triple in a matter of four years. Mr. Speaker, if this were to happen, a farmer today operating 120 horsepower tractor, burning 31 litres of diesel fuel per hour at 30 cents per litre, that would be a cost to him at the end of a 16-hour day, of \$175.36 and if that were to triple as suggested, I ask you, Sir, could that farmer stay afloat? I would say not, Mr. Speaker, and the Manitoba Minister of Agriculture says that 6 or 7 cents a litre tax is of no great issue in the terms of the cost of energy in Manitoba, or indeed in Canada.

Mr. Speaker, I want to relate to you and to the members present some of the actual costs a farmer is faced with when he is in the production of food. My own family farm of 700 acres under cultivation, with 300 head of beef cattle, and 400 acres of land needed to grow the feed in pasture for those cattle, the crops grown or produced on the 700 acres are wheat, barley, rape or canola, lentils, corn, sunflowers and beginning this spring, an acreage of strawberries. Some of these

crops would be regarded as special crops requiring a more intensified method of farming practices, therefore requiring more energy in the form of diesel power and natural gas.

Mr. Speaker, I will be using figures for the years of 1980-81 and 1981-82, as I have yet available to me figures for the year of 1983. In 1980-81 the fuel bill was \$5,648, equivalent to 4,800 total gallons of diesel and gasoline. The figure of 4,800 gallons - and multiply that, Sir, by 61.5 cents, being the average federal tax for the year - amounted to \$2,952; that being, Sir, 52 percent of the fuel bill for 1980-81 season; that figure going to federal taxes. Fertilizer and chemical costs for that same year, Mr. Speaker, were \$20,124.00.

Mr. Speaker, assuming that approximately 15 percent is federal taxation, that being \$3,000, how many wage earners, Sir, pay \$3,000 per year federal income tax? Mr. Speaker, at 9 percent interest charges, that would mean that my farm had to pay out \$550 in that particular year in interest charges.

Now in 1981-82, the fuel bill was \$11,813, meaning a total of 808,590 gallons. Multiply that, Sir, by 65.5 cents per gallon. The average federal tax for that year comes to a figure of \$5,626.45, that making 48 percent of the fuel going to federal taxes in the year of 1981-82. They say in here, Mr. Speaker, the fertilizer and chemical costs were \$28,761.00. Once again, Mr. Speaker, assuming that 15 percent is federal taxation, that figure would be approximately \$4,500.00.

So, Mr. Speaker, total tax for fuel, fertilizer, chemical would be approximately \$10,000 for the years of 1981 and 1982. \$10,000 federal tax for the year means \$1,200 interest charges that my farm paid at 11 percent to operate for that particular year. So, Mr. Speaker, in 1981-82, a 66 percent increase in the amount of dollars spent as federal tax on fuel, fertilizer and chemical was experienced on our farm.

The region of the province I represent is for the most part a highly intensified special crop area and does use a heavy volume of energy per acre in the production of food. Mr. Speaker, I hope this gives some indication as to what problems the farmers of Manitoba are faced with when dealing with the present economic conditions of our country when they are producing food for the province and for other parts of the world.

The present federal taxation on energy is a burden on the food producers of the province. So regardless of what the Minister of Agriculture thinks, I want to urge all members to support this resolution brought forward by the Member for Pembina and in support of the farmers of the Province of Manitoba.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs.

HON. A. ADAM: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's a pleasure for me to be able to take part in debate on this resolution. I have listened with interest and have reviewed the comments in Hansard made by members on both sides of the House. I hope that my comments will perhaps add further to the debate that has already taken place.

What seems clear to me, Mr. Speaker, is that members on both sides of this House are concerned

for the welfare of our farm community and our farm producers, producers of agriculture products. We are all aware that the farmer has been placed in a very difficult cost-price squeeze in the last number of years, and has created some serious problems for many farmers. I'm not sure to the extent of the problem. We know that there are always some farmers and other occupations as well that have to either go out of business or discontinue their operations for perhaps a number of reasons. You can't just zero on the one particular or maybe two particular causes for farmers having to go out of business or any other type of business.

Basically we know, Mr. Speaker, the farmer, which is one of the most basic economic sectors that we have in the Province of Manitoba, is in a very difficult situation because, on the one side, he is compelled, as honourable members have indicated, to pay for whatever the market will bear on his inputs, I suppose, the costs of implements, the costs of fertilizer, the cost of fuel, the cost of many things that go into agriculture production. On the other side of the ledger, he is more or less being told that he has to take whatever the market will pay.

I have been here for quite a number of years, but I have yet to hear as many great laments that I have heard from members opposite not only on this particular resolution, Mr. Speaker, but on just about everything under the sun. It was a great lament about the difficulties of the farmers, and the government has to interfere, the government has to come in and help, and the government has to do this, and the government has to do that. While we are concerned on both sides of this House, I can't help but ask myself the question, in all this lament that we hear about the difficulties of the farm community, is this a condemnation of the system? Why are these difficulties coming about? That is a question that should be responded to by members opposite. Is it the free market system that is at fault? Is it the cost?

MR. D. ORCHARD: Absolutely not, absolutely not.

HON. A. ADAM: Well, the Honourable Member for Pembina says, absolutely not. Well what else is there, Mr. Speaker, what else is there? The farmer is dealing with having to pay what the corporate sector requires, the price they require for the fertilizer; he is told what he has to pay for it. He is also told what he's going to get for his products; he can't say, this is what it cost me to produce, this is what I have to have; he's unable to do that, Mr. Speaker. The Honourable Member for Pembina says that it's not the free market that is to blame.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I recall a few years ago that farmers in Canada were going across to the United States to buy fertilizer that was produced in Brandon, and they were buying it cheaper in the States than they could get it in Canada.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Prove that. Step outside and say that.

HON. A. ADAM: That was happening, Mr. Speaker, and it's happened on many many occasions.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Step outside and say that, you'll have even Roland Penner laying a lawsuit on you.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.

HON. A. ADAM: You see I've touched a nerve, Mr. Speaker, because the Honourable Member for Pembina was saying that it's not the free market system that's to blame for the problems the farmers are facing. I've just pointed him out one situation, Mr. Speaker.

MR. H. ENNS: You're wrong Pete, you're wrong.

HON. A. ADAM: All right I'll tell him another one, I'll give him another one and I'll prove it to you.

Mr. Speaker, back in the early '60s, I believe, okay, the National Farmers Union used to pool orders, used to buy in bulk. Mr. Speaker, we used to buy fertilizer in bulk, carloads; we used to buy bailer twine in bulk, in large quantities; we used to buy chemicals in large quantities and we had a very successful rate. We were very successful in our attempts to cut costs to farmers.

Mr. Speaker, for the first time we used to make the fertilizer companies compete for most of the fertilizer that was being used in that particular area. We would bulk our orders, we got all our members together; how much fertilizer each member wanted, we bulked it all and then we gave everybody an opportunity, we were very very fair. We would go to Esso; we would go to Gulf; we would go to the Co-ops; we'd go to every company that was providing fertilizer, Simplot. How much? What is the price for X-number of cars of fertilizer? What happened, Mr. Speaker? On many occasions the Co-op had it. What happened, Mr. Speaker, is that one supplier would end up with the bulk of the sale. We were very successful on this. We did it with twine, we did it with fertilizer until the suppliers got smart. Hey, hey, hey, what's going on here? For the first time in our lives we've got to compete against one another, that just can't do. I want to say, I believe, that lasted about two or three years.

The suppliers got wise to this and what did they do? The word went around to all the suppliers by, I believe, Mr. Simplot, who is a big potato producer down in the States who has thousands of acres in potatoes, and he's a fertilizer producer, and he has cornered the supply of certain potashes, or whatever it is they have, certain ingredients. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Simplot has most of certain supplies of ingredients that goes into the manufacture of fertilizer. Now . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The Honourable Member for Pembina on a point of order?

MR. D. ORCHARD: No, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask the Honourable Minister a question.

MR. SPEAKER: Does the honourable member have a point of order? Will the Honourable Minister permit a question?

The Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs.

HON. A. ADAM: No, sit down. Mr. Speaker, I have just shown what happens. Here was an instance, Mr. Speaker, where farmers had got together to cut their

costs and the corporate sectors soon threw that out. So what you have, Mr. Speaker, is socialism for the rich and the corporate sector, and free enterprise for the poor people; that's what you have, that's the system that you have. Here we have this great lament here every day, of complaining of what's happening to the farming community, an outright condemnation of the system, the conditions under which these farmers have to operate, Mr. Speaker. I want to point that out so that members, when they talk, that they're not fooling everybody. They may be fooling themselves but they are not fooling everybody.

Mr. Speaker, the member who presented this resolution has chosen to frame the resolution in such a way at first to ensure that no one but the farmers would benefit. The resolution is framed in such a way as only the one sector would benefit from the resolution and that, second, indirectly promote an increased bureaucratic component to administer the changes that he proposes. It is for those two reasons, Mr. Speaker, that I believe that the amendment proposed by my colleague, the Member for River East, is the most appropriate response for this Legislature on this issue.

What is the effect of the amendment? Mr. Speaker, it's to dip to 75 percent of the world price. We are saying that not only farmers but all Canadians should benefit from decreased oil prices. That is what we are saying. We are saying that not only the one sector should benefit from this, but all sectors. Let us not forget, Mr. Speaker, that if the transportation companies' costs are reduced, that translates into reduced costs for all other sectors.

Mr. Speaker, for every \$1 increase per barrel of oil, it costs the farmers \$300 on an average. For every \$1 decrease in the price of oil, it saves each and every farmer \$300.00.

Mr. Speaker, we have a number of caucuses going on at the present time. I think there are at least four or five caucuses going on at the present time. It becomes very difficult to hear myself speaking on this.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please, order please. Order please. If there are members present who don't wish to listen to the Honourable Minister, I would appreciate if they would permit other people to do so.

The Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs.

HON. A. ADAM: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for your assistance.

Mr. Speaker, the Canadian oil prices are \$3 a barrel at the present time above the 75 percent of the world price. Mr. Speaker, in other words, if the Governments of Canada and Alberta would abide by the terms of their agreement to limit oil prices to 75 percent of the world prices, Manitoba farmers, on an average, could each expect to save \$900 this year, not a paltry sum to ignore, a saving of \$900 each. But it wouldn't be just the farmers who would be benefiting by this reduction, Mr. Speaker. It would be everyone.

It would be the transportation companies, industries using fossil fuels for production of heating. Consumers would benefit, the elderly, Mr. Speaker. Every facet in our society would benefit by the proposition as proposed by my colleague and what he has amended. It would be a tremendous benefit for the Canadian

economy. Inflation would drop further, and I have support from some intelligent people on the other side, Mr. Speaker. Many production costs would decrease, Mr. Speaker. Businesses would begin to gear up and, at the same time, start putting our unemployed back to work. That's what it means, Mr. Speaker.

The proposal from my colleague for River East recognizes that there are costs involved in such a plan, but he proposes that the costs be shared equally by the major beneficiaries, the producing provinces, the oil industry and the Federal Government. What could be fairer than that proposition?

The second important change that has been proposed to the Member for Pembina's resolution is to remove the very vague words "federal taxation" and replace them with "federal sales tax." That is a good move. That is a good amendment. If the federal taxation phrase is left in the motion, it would be a bureaucrat's delight.

As a result of the royalty system in this country, four different fields may pay four different rates of royalty. Royalties on crude produced through the tar sands is at one level; oil produced from new oil fields has a different rate from old produced in old fields; oil refineries on the east coast purchasing imported oil at world prices are subsidized down to the Canadian price. So you have all this melding . . .

MR. H. ENNS: What about the Beaufort Sea oil?

HON. A. ADAM: What about it? They're not even in production yet, but I want to point out that PetroCan is involved in every major discovery in the last 10 years, Mr. Speaker.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Tell the truth. Good heavens.

HON. A. ADAM: You wouldn't recognize it if you saw it.

MR. D. ORCHARD: I sure recognize it when you're not telling it.

HON. A. ADAM: He wouldn't recognize the truth if it was staring you right, straight, square between the eyes.

MR. D. ORCHARD: You're getting the Pawley disease. You can't tell the truth.

HON. A. ADAM: Because you are so prone to prevarication that you wouldn't understand the truth if you saw it.

HON. A. ADAM: Mr. Speaker, as you can see, it could be very difficult to determine the federal taxation that makes up the price of any given litre of gasoline. So in place of what could be a complicated and costly request to remove federal taxation, it has been suggested that we should specify just the federal sales tax. That makes sense.

Most provinces already exempt fuels destined for use in farm machinery. Some provinces, like Manitoba, have extended the exemption to fuels used in farm trucks. By asking the Federal Government to exempt farm fuels used in agricultural production from sales tax, we could be entirely consistent with the practice

in most other provinces, and we should not be asking Ottawa to give up revenue that we are not prepared to give up ourselves.

SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

HON. A. ADAM: I've done some quick calculation that should be of interest, Mr. Speaker. The present Federal Sales Tax amounts to about 3.42 cents a litre of gasoline. Should the Federal Government agree to our proposal each farmer in Manitoba would save approximately \$1,600, and that's quite a tidy sum which should be of great assistance to many of our farmers who are hard pressed by today's economic circumstances.

Am I just about finished? I believe my time has run out. I still have . . . The honourable member doesn't like to hear the truth because he wouldn't recognize it if it hit him square between the eyes.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please, order please. The Honourable Minister's time has expired. Are you ready for the question?

SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The question before the House is the amendment proposed by the Honourable Member for River East as printed. Do you wish it read?

QUESTION put on the Amendment, MOTION carried.

MR. D. ORCHARD: On division, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Then Resolution 5, as amended, is before the House. Are you ready for the question?

The Honourable Member for Pembina will be closing debate.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

A MEMBER: Did you call a division.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Yes, I called for a division on the amendment. Speak to your House Leader and learn the rules.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, this was the second year that I introduced this resolution. This is the second year that the government has failed to understand what the resolution was all about and have gone about amending it and removing the intent of the resolution. It demonstrates, Mr. Speaker, once again, that they haven't learned anything in an extra year in government; they haven't come closer to an identification with rural Manitoba; they are prepared, Mr. Speaker, to not address a very important issue in rural Manitoba, and that being the cost of energy; and that cost being much higher than it should be because of Federal Government taxation. They won't deal with it. They are afraid deal with it; they're afraid to send the Federal Government a message; they're afraid to tell the Federal Government

that their taxation policies on energy are crippling the farm community. And the justification that was used by the last speaker, the Minister of Municipal Affairs, was that their amendment would save the average farmer in Manitoba \$1,600.00.

Well, my resolution, if they hadn't amended it, would save them \$4,800.00. This New Democratic group over here just lost every Manitoba farmer the potential of saving \$3,200, and they're trying to justify this as knowledgeable reaction on behalf of the farm community.

Now, the Minister of Municipal Affairs has become one of our favourites over here and, when the government introduced another resolution earlier on, and their buzz word was to Save the Crow, we thought they were talking about a transportation freight rate, but no, we find out now that saving the Crow to the NDP meant moving the crop insurance office from Minnedosa to Neepawa in the Minister of Municipal Affairs's constituency; that's what they meant by save the Crow, Mr. Speaker.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I want — (Interjection) — the old Crow even, Mr. Speaker. The Minister of Municipal Affairs just gave us some of his early experience with the NFU before he got into the NDP, during their marriage process I would have presumed, the NDP with the NFU; and he talked about the great success they had in bulk buying farm inputs, and how they would go, Mr. Speaker, to various suppliers of fertilizer, in particular, and they would bulk buy all of their fertilizer, their twine and whatever chemicals and whatever.

The NFU, when they were doing that, were responsible for the demise of more business supply outfits and firms in rural Manitoba, during the years they were successfully doing that, than any other depression, recession or drop in commodity prices that the country has ever seen, and the NDP was in bed with them while they were doing it. There were farm supply dealerships going out of business because 10 of them would bid and only one would get the order, the other nine were out of business. That's the kind of policy development that the NFU gave us, and now the NDP are saying, it was good farm policy, good policy for rural Manitoba, cripple the retailer. They didn't hurt the manufacturer one little bit when they were doing that because there are still five major manufacturers of fertilizer in Western Canada, and you take a look at the number of fertilizer dealers that have gone out of business because of that policy from the NFU and the NDP. They crippled the rural Manitoba businessmen through that policy, and he stands up and defends it today with glowing terms.

What kind of a hypocritical statement did we hear from the Minister of Municipal Affairs this afternoon, Mr. Speaker? Glowing terms and reference of how they crippled farm businesses during their association with the NFU and their bulk buying. Proud of it, Mr. Speaker; proud of the fact that they put honest businessmen out on the street, unemployed and broke.

Well, Mr. Speaker, they can haggle all they want, but that's what he did. That's what the policy of the NFU was and it was aided and abetted by the New Democratic Party at the time, and I suspect they're probably still in favour of it. They would still cripple any retailer they could through that buying policy; they would still do it.

And, because of that, the National Farmer's Union now does not represent anybody in rural Manitoba, their membership is down.

MR. H. ENNS: One-fifth of 1 percent.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Most of their executive are not active farmers. They don't represent the farm community anymore because those tactics crippled the farm community in the late '60s and, as a result, the farmers, the legitimate long-standing farmers abandoned the NFU en masse. The only ones that stuck with them were the NDP - the only ones.

Now, Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Municipal Affairs - and I hate to pick on him because he's really quite a kind gentleman - but he mentioned, what is the problem in the farm community today? Well, you know, is it the free market system? Then he lays all the ills and woes of the farm community on the free market system. He says it's because of the international market price of grain that the farmers are suffering. Well, I reject that. I reject that outright.

There is no farmer in Manitoba today getting \$4.15 initial for a bushel of wheat, who would not be healthy, wealthy, wise and there for future generations, if his input costs weren't so high. And what are some of the reasons his input costs are high? This is exactly what my resolution addressed. Excessive taxation by a Federal Government desperate for money, is causing the cost of inputs to go up and forcing farmers off the land, and what do our NDP friends do? They agree with the policy. They get in bed with the Petro-Canada taxation. They love Petro-Canada and they love the taxation that the farmers are paying to pay for Petro-Canada. It's one of their brainchild.

The people know what are putting farmers out of business. It's increasing costs and part of the costs are energy costs, which are directly tied to federal energy taxation policies that the New Democratic Party agree with, support, and want to see continued, to impose severely on the farm community.

The other thing that is costing farmers a lot of money is their machinery. Transportation costs are costing them a lot of money.

MR. H. ENNS: The payroll tax. Co-op Implements.

MR. D. ORCHARD: The payroll tax is costing them a lot of money that the New Democratic Party put in place. But I want to tell my honourable friends over here, my New Democratic Party friends, who are in the hip pocket of organized labour in Canada and in the vest pocket of organized labour in Manitoba. The Premier of this province cannot answer a letter without brushing it by Dick Martin. That's a fact. We know that they are completely controlled by organized labour and they get substantial funding from organized labour. We know that.

So we've got this unholy alliance between the New Democratic Party and organized labour. What is the price of a farm tractor today? Well, it can range from \$50,000 to \$100,000, depending on what you buy. A combine, \$50,000 to \$125,000.00. What are the major components of cost in that farm machinery? The cost of organized labour, Mr. Speaker. It's there. It's there from the iron smelter to the iron mine, to the factory floor. It's absolutely there in every stage of the manufacturing.

Now, in the free market system, if the free market system existed, which it doesn't, it only exists in the

selling price of grain where farmers go out and compete on the international market, there it exists. But in the fuel industry, it exists very little because you have 50 percent of the cost of fuel and energy being taxed by the Federal Government. There is no flexibility there. They will not reduce taxation and any decrease in the price of fuel is strictly, because of the margin left by the multinational oil companies that the New Democratic Party hate so badly, that is where the reduction in the cost of fuel comes from. You can get a 22 or 23 percent reduction per gallon this year and it's solely out of the pockets of the oil companies, no one else. Federal taxation still takes its pound of flesh, so there is the reason for this resolution.

Now, in the price of farm machinery, the retailer, the private sector retailer, that individual that an NFU, NDP alliance in the late '60s put out of business by their bulk buying, those people, those retailers are taking a lower margin to sell their product. The company is taking a lower profit margin to sell their product, but is organized labour taking less to build it? No sir. So you don't have a free market in the cost of the machinery that we buy. It is controlled by the price of organized labour aided and abetted by the New Democratic Party in Manitoba and Canada.

The cost of interest, is it flexible? Not very much; not until the inflation rate in the country comes down. Who is the biggest contributor to inflation rates in the country? — (Interjection) — Well, I won't go that far. Government deficits help to stimulate inflation in this country, and when you have high inflation you have high interest rates. — (Interjection) —

The only time that inflation rates have dropped in the last four years is the fact that the inflation rate has dropped. The inflation rate has not dropped because government have decreased their deficits, no. It's dropped because the private sector has tightened up their operations all across the board. Inflation is dropping because the price of private sector sold commodities are going down but the cost of government service and government taxation continues to escalate. That is why today Winnipeg leads all cities in Canada for the cost of living increase because of taxation imposed by this gang of New Democratic Party leaders, or so-called leaders. That's why it's gone up in Winnipeg compared to all other cities.

So you talk about the perils of the farm community and what is causing their problems. I want to tell you it isn't the free market system that's causing the farm community the problem nowadays. It is the government and labour controlled costs that you cannot impact upon to any degree whatsoever, that is killing the farm community today. It is Federal Government taxation on energy that this New Democratic Party will not support the reduction of. It is the cost of organized labour which will not be reduced because the New Democratic Party are in bed with organized labour and support their drive for higher wages. There is those costs that are fixed. There is no free market in organized labour. There is no free market in Federal Government taxation and there is no free market to control the deficit level of the Federal Government and this gang of incompetents that are governing the Province of Manitoba right now. There is no free market there. We just simply pay your bills as taxpayers, and the farmers bear an inordinately large burden of those taxation

bills, so energy taxations federally and through paying off this government's deficit.

That is why I brought this resolution in again. I wanted some support, some recognition, some sympathy, some understanding on behalf of the New Democratic Party of the woes of the farm community imposed by government. Did I get a favourable hearing, Mr. Speaker? The message that my colleagues delivered in speaking to this resolution fell on deaf, dumb and ignorant ears because no one over there understands the farm community; understands their problems; understands the imposition that federal taxation has upon their bottom lines, the net profits of the farm community. They don't understand.

What is demonstrated clearly from this resolution this year, Mr. Speaker, is that they don't care to understand, because once again they have dealt with this resolution in a callous offhand and slanderous way. They have amended it to mean nothing. They have taken away the meat and the message in this resolution. Why have they done it? They have done it in the ideological defence of Petro-Canada, so that the farm community in Western Canada can help pay for Petro-Canada.

You know, the Minister over there, the Minister of Municipal Affairs - he's the latest one to speak on this resolution - really put some incredibly false statements on the record. I posed a question to him and he refused to answer my question. He made the ridiculous statement, the untruthful, unfactual statement that Simplot had a corner on the supply of certain ingredients that went into fertilizer. I want to tell my honourable friend that he does not know what he's talking about, or else he is deliberately misleading this House and giving false information.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Springfield on a point of order.

MR. A. ANSTETT: Mr. Speaker, with regard to the language that's being used by the Member for Pembina, he has made several allegations; the last one referring to the possibility of the Minister of Municipal Affairs deliberately misleading the House; and immediately prior to that, one sentence before, making an allegation of a false statement.

I refer members of the House and you, Mr. Speaker, to Page 107 of Beauchesne, which makes reference to those statements, and suggest that the Member for Pembina should consider withdrawing those unparliamentary expressions.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Mr. Speaker, if I might continue on?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Pembina on the same point.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Oh well, certainly on the same point of order if that's what it takes, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, when a member in this House does not speak the truth in his remarks, it is incumbent upon him to withdraw non-factual statements, statements that are false, statements that are untrue. Mr. Speaker, I point out to you that I asked of the Minister of Municipal

Affairs the privilege of asking him a question because I wanted to help him out of the untrue statement he made during his speech, but he refused to allow me to give him the opportunity to correct a falsehood that he left on the record. Now, Mr. Speaker, I have no other opportunity but in replying to his speech to draw out where he made false and incorrect and misleading statements.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. I thank both honourable members, and I note, as the Member for Springfield says, that the word "false" appears on Page 107 in the the list of unparliamentary terms. He will note that it also appears on Page 111 in the list of approved or permitted parliamentary terms. It would seem, however, that the Member for Pembina in saying that if something is in fact false, it has to be withdrawn, might well be a matter of opinion. What one member feels is one thing, it appears to another member to be something different. Since it does not aid in the decorum of the House for the Honourable Member for Pembina to use such phrases, it would perhaps be better if he did not use similar phrases in the future.

The Honourable Member for Pembina has four minutes remaining.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. I could conclude my remarks very shortly. For lack of a better word, I might say that the Minister for Municipal Affairs is a stranger to the truth in his comments about a corner on the market and a number of other comments that he put on the record this afternoon. Now, as I say, that has become sort of what we affectionately know on this side of the House as the "Premier's disease," and we come to expect it, although we didn't think it had spread to the middle bench. Obviously, now we know that the Minister of Municipal Affairs has picked up the Premier disease where he's a little stranger to the truth on some of the things.

Mr. Speaker, I want to conclude my remarks by expressing the disappointment of farmers in rural Manitoba to the stand that the New Democratic Party has once again taken on this issue. They have rejected the proposal I made in this resolution for purely ideological reasons in the terms of Petro-Canada support; and, secondly, they have rejected it because they don't understand its impact on the farm community; they don't understand what Federal Government energy taxation is doing to the farm community to contribute to the demise of farmers from the business of farming. That lack of understanding is completely demonstrated with their failure to support this resolution.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The time being 5:30, when we next reach this resolution, the honourable member will have four minutes remaining.

The Honourable Attorney-General.

HON. R. PENNER: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Minister of Energy and Mines, that the House do now adjourn; it being understood that Supply will continue this evening, beginning at 8 o'clock.

MOTION presented and carried and the House adjourned and stands adjourned until 10:00 a.m. tomorrow (Friday).