



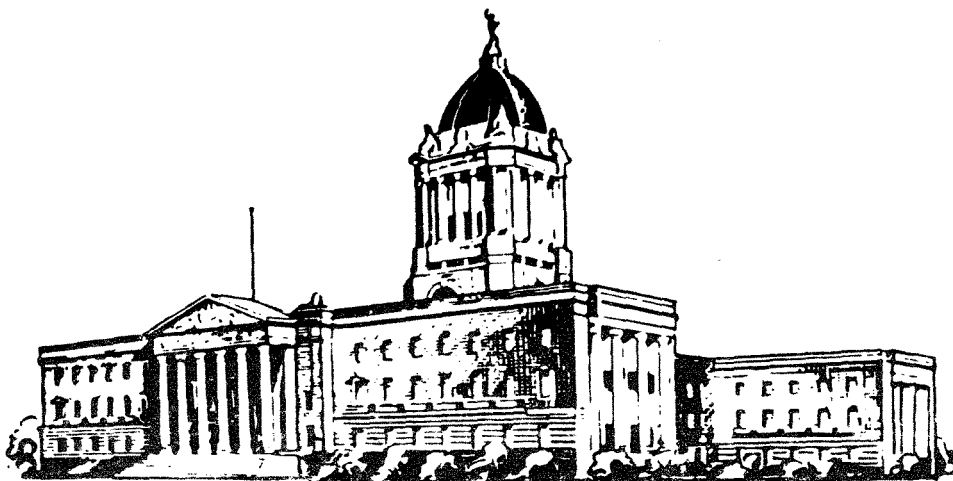
Second Session — Thirty-Second Legislature  
of the  
**Legislative Assembly of Manitoba**  
**DEBATES**  
and  
**PROCEEDINGS**

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31 Elizabeth II

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The Honourable D. James Walding  
Speaker*



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**MANITOBA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY****Thirty-Second Legislature****Members, Constituencies and Political Affiliation**

Name	Constituency	Party
<b>ADAM, Hon. A.R. (Pete)</b>	Ste. Rose	NDP
<b>ANSTETT, Andy</b>	Springfield	NDP
<b>ASHTON, Steve</b>	Thompson	NDP
<b>BANMAN, Robert (Bob)</b>	La Verendrye	PC
<b>BLAKE, David R. (Dave)</b>	Minnedosa	PC
<b>BROWN, Arnold</b>	Rhineland	PC
<b>BUCKLASCHUK, John M.</b>	Gimli	NDP
<b>CARROLL, Q.C., Henry N.</b>	Brandon West	IND
<b>CORRIN, Brian</b>	Ellice	NDP
<b>COWAN, Hon. Jay</b>	Churchill	NDP
<b>DESJARDINS, Hon. Laurent</b>	St. Boniface	NDP
<b>DODICK, Doreen</b>	Riel	NDP
<b>DOERN, Russell</b>	Elmwood	NDP
<b>DOLIN, Mary Beth</b>	Kildonan	NDP
<b>DOWNEY, James E.</b>	Arthur	PC
<b>DRIEDGER, Albert</b>	Emerson	PC
<b>ENNS, Harry</b>	Lakeside	PC
<b>EVANS, Hon. Leonard S.</b>	Brandon East	NDP
<b>EYLER, Phil</b>	River East	NDP
<b>FILMON, Gary</b>	Tuxedo	PC
<b>FOX, Peter</b>	Corcordia	NDP
<b>GOURLAY, D.M. (Doug)</b>	Swan River	PC
<b>GRAHAM, Harry</b>	Virden	PC
<b>HAMMOND, Gerrie</b>	Kirkfield Park	PC
<b>HARAPIAK, Harry M.</b>	The Pas	NDP
<b>HARPER, Elijah</b>	Rupertsland	NDP
<b>HEMPHILL, Hon. Maureen</b>	Logan	NDP
<b>HYDE, Lloyd</b>	Portage la Prairie	PC
<b>JOHNSTON, J. Frank</b>	Sturgeon Creek	PC
<b>KOSTYRA, Hon. Eugene</b>	Seven Oaks	NDP
<b>KOVNATS, Abe</b>	Niakwa	PC
<b>LECUYER, Gérard</b>	Radisson	NDP
<b>LYON, Q.C., Hon. Sterling</b>	Charleswood	PC
<b>MACKLING, Q.C., Hon. Al</b>	St. James	NDP
<b>MALINOWSKI, Donald M.</b>	St. Johns	NDP
<b>MANNES, Clayton</b>	Morris	PC
<b>McKENZIE, J. Wally</b>	Roblin-Russell	PC
<b>MERCIER, Q.C., G.W.J. (Gerry)</b>	St. Norbert	PC
<b>NORDMAN, Rurik (Ric)</b>	Assiniboia	PC
<b>OLESON, Charlotte</b>	Gladstone	PC
<b>ORCHARD, Donald</b>	Pembina	PC
<b>PAWLEY, Q.C., Hon. Howard R.</b>	Selkirk	NDP
<b>PARASIUK, Hon. Wilson</b>	Transcona	NDP
<b>PENNER, Q.C., Hon. Roland</b>	Fort Rouge	NDP
<b>PHILLIPS, Myrna A.</b>	Wolseley	NDP
<b>PLOHMAN, John</b>	Dauphin	NDP
<b>RANSOM, A. Brian</b>	Turtle Mountain	PC
<b>SANTOS, Conrad</b>	Burrows	NDP
<b>SCHROEDER, Hon. Vic</b>	Rossmere	NDP
<b>SCOTT, Don</b>	Inkster	NDP
<b>SHERMAN, L.R. (Bud)</b>	Fort Garry	PC
<b>SMITH, Hon. Muriel</b>	Osborne	NDP
<b>STEEN, Warren</b>	River Heights	PC
<b>STORIE, Jerry T.</b>	Flin Flon	NDP
<b>URUSKI, Hon. Bill</b>	Interlake	NDP
<b>USKIW, Hon. Samuel</b>	Lac du Bonnet	NDP
<b>WALDING, Hon. D. James</b>	St. Vital	NDP

# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

Monday, 13 December, 1982

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 . . . Notices of Motion . . .

## INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

**HON. R. PENNER** introduced Bill No. 18, The Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Conflict of Interest Act - Loi sur les conflits d'intérêts des membres de l'assemblée législative et du conseil exécutif; and Bill No. 19, The Survivorship Act - Loi sur les présomptions de survie.

**HON. A. ADAM** introduced Bill No. 21, An Act to amend The Municipal Act.

## INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

**MR. SPEAKER:** Before we reach Oral Questions, may I direct the attention of honourable members to the Gallery where we have 40 students of Grade 11 standing from Tec Voc High School. These students are under the direction of Mr. John Durham and the school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Minister of Natural Resources.

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

**MR. SPEAKER:** Oral Questions. The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

**HON. S. LYON:** Mr. Speaker, before we embark upon Oral Questions, I wish to raise a matter, to be followed by a substantive motion, which relates, Sir, in a very profound way to the customs and to the traditions of this House, to say nothing of the privileges of each member of this House and regrettably, Sir, to your office.

Sir, on Thursday last, during the debate, or the contribution to the debate on the reply to the Speech from the Throne by my colleague, the Member for Fort Garry, you had occasion to make a ruling with respect to an interjection that had been made by the Member for Brandon East, the Minister of Community Services, and a subsequent interjection that was made at that time by the Minister of Natural Resources. All of this is in Hansard, Sir, and I do not attempt to burden the House, or you, Sir, with a long dissertation reading back from Hansard because it is clearly there for all to read and, Sir, it is in Hansard at Page 134 as it appears on our desk today.

I bring to your attention, Sir, that the Hansard reporters in titling this matter referred to it as "Speaker's Ruling," and you at that point, Sir, proceeded to make a ruling with respect to interjections made by the Member for Brandon East, the Minister of Community Services and the Minister of Resources. Then you, Sir,

used the words, "I thank the Honourable Minister for his support regarding the point that the matter has been concluded. I will ask the Member for Fort Garry to proceed with his remarks with no further reference to the matter which has been concluded." Then you called on the Honourable Member for Fort Garry to proceed; he did that, Sir, and completed his speech just before the supper hour adjournment.

Then, Sir, in the evening of Thursday, December 9th, we find from Hansard that you came back into the House, apologized - this is on Page 136 of Hansard - for being late, said that you were "preparing a procedural statement having to do with the dispute in the House at 5:30 in the afternoon. I will read it to the House when the Member for Fort Garry is present."

You then proceeded to read, subsequently, in the evening, Sir, on Page 140 of Hansard, a short procedural statement, as you styled it, to the House. You went on to describe that, "just before the 5:30 p.m. dinner break, there was a dispute between members of the House. The Member for Fort Garry referred to the subject matter of a privilege motion dealt with on December 7," and so on, Sir. At the end of your remarks, Sir, you then said, "The remarks of the Honourable Member for Fort Garry, although in the full flight of his oratory and at the climax of his remarks were clearly out of order and the two Ministers were correct in their objections to a matter already decided in the House. Therefore, the Honourable Member for Fort Garry should reflect on his remarks and act accordingly to parliamentary practice by withdrawing them."

Then the debate ensued, Sir, with respect to his purported ruling that you were giving. The Honourable Member for Fort Garry was asked to withdraw remarks on a matter which he and this side of the House certainly felt had been concluded in the afternoon by the ruling that you had made. During the course of that debate, before the honourable member was named on a motion moved by the House Leader, supported by the majority of the Government, Sir, I made this comment on Page 142: "I wonder if I might, Sir, as one who came in after these proceedings started, you were on your feet, ask if I may, Sir, on whose initiation does this matter now arise again before the House, because if there was no communication while the House was sitting - and I can only suggest, Sir, that it would be highly improper for anyone to have had any communication with you over the dinner hour - that would be improper and you, Sir, would be the first to object to it. Then on whose initiation, Sir, does the matter rise, because the matter was dealt with this afternoon? The Minister of Natural Resources raised the point of order which has been read back to us tonight. He was in the unusual position this afternoon, Mr. Speaker, you having made a ruling, that if he wished to oppose your ruling, he then had to challenge the Chair. He chose not to do that. So you, quite properly then, Sir, told the Member for Fort Garry to carry on, not to deal with the topic again, which he didn't, and the matter is finished. You, Sir, as the lawyers would say, are *functus officio* on that issue. It cannot be raised again, with the greatest of

respect, by anyone."

There was other debate. Sir, and I'm not trying to indicate that because I do not read from the others who participated in the debate that their contribution to the debate was not relevant or, indeed, some might even say persuasive. I'm merely trying to sketch the outline of the matters which form, regrettably, the necessity for the motion which I am about to put.

Mr. Speaker, the Member for Fort Garry was expelled, a proceeding that is not usual in this House. It is not one that should be followed with any regularity except on those occasions where it is absolutely necessary to deny the House the services of a member for some matter that is clearly an affront to parliamentary privilege or to the customs and traditions of our parliamentary debate.

Then, Sir, on the morning of Friday of last week at 10 o'clock, the morning immediately after the ejection of the Member for Fort Garry, on the Orders of the Day as the first item I asked the following question - and this is on Page 149 of Hansard: "Yes, Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the First Minister. Did the First Minister, Mr. Speaker, any member of his caucus or any third party, for or on behalf of the First Minister or members of the Government, make any contact directly or indirectly with Mr. Speaker on December 9th, relative to his rulings during the speech given by the Honourable Member for Fort Garry on the afternoon of December 9th?"

The the First Minister responded, Mr. Speaker, "I called upon Mr. Speaker personally at 5:35 p.m. yesterday, in order to advise the Speaker that I wanted a copy of the transcript pertaining to the proceedings in the latter part of the afternoon and indicated to the Speaker that I felt that some unparliamentary language had been utilized, particularly in respect to some references by the Member for Fort Garry in relationship to myself, and that I expected, upon perusal of the transcript, to raise the matter of privilege at 8 o'clock."

I made a further comment, Sir. The Attorney-General then stood in his place and said, "Mr. Speaker, first of all, further in response to the first question asked by the Leader of the Opposition, at approximately 7:50 p.m. yesterday evening I called at your office to pick up a copy of the transcript which had been requested by the First Minister and picked up that transcript, and shortly after left your office. That will complete the record on that as far as I am aware."

There was other debate that took place, Sir, that I will not burden the House with, at that time but it can all be seen on Pages 149 and 150 of Hansard of Friday last.

Mr. Speaker, I call to your attention particularly, Sir, the fact that on the evening of Thursday the 8th, I brought it to your attention as clearly as I could that if there had been any attempt to contact you by members of the front bench with respect to matters that had occurred in the afternoon in your discharge of your duties as the presiding officer of this House, that that of course, Sir, would be highly improper.

You sat in your place and there was no response made to that statement at that time. Indeed, as I recall, and I'm subject to correction on this, the First Minister was also in his place at that time and made no response to the impropriety of the front bench, partic-

ularly the First Minister, going to call upon a Speaker with respect to a matter of debate and then later on that Speaker coming into the House in the evening and making a ruling, Sir, which altered the ruling that he had made in the afternoon.

All of these circumstances, Sir, are extremely painful - I want to underline - not only to members on this side of the House but I'm sure to members on all sides of the House. Painful, Sir, to us because of the high role which you have to play in this House and the generally creditable way in which you have attempted to carry on this onerous responsibility during the past year. I said in my remarks, Sir, last Friday, based upon the quick reaction that I had to the words of the First Minister, that it would be our intention to consider this matter and to present a substantive motion referring the matter to Privileges and Elections Committee.

Sir, it is not our intention to do that because upon reflection the evidence goes beyond that necessity. Upon reflection, Sir, it is regrettably the necessity of the Opposition to move a resolution that relates directly to that conduct and to the only answer that we can see, unfortunately, to that conduct.

Sir, I know it is difficult for all members of the House to deal in matters of this sort because we do respect your office, we do respect the individual who has held the office, but a parliament would be a lesser being if it did not, from time to time, take those actions, painful as they may be, which are guaranteed to ensure that the institution of parliament remain an inviolate institution: that the position of the chief presiding officer be one that is not capable of being tampered with by any majority, no matter how well-intentioned that majority may be.

There is, Sir, such a thing as the tyranny of a majority and one of the roles as Bourinot, and as May, and as other writers of Parliamentary Procedure underline time and time again, that the fundamental role of the Speaker is to ensure protection of the minority and at the same time to ensure that the will of the majority, that is to get on with their business and so on, is not totally and completely frustrated. You will find no argument from us, Sir, with respect to the long established traditions of what your role is.

But rising through all of that background and tradition with respect to the impartiality of your role, Sir, is the fundamental understanding that you, like Caesar's wife, must be beyond question with respect to your impartiality. You cannot be seen in any way whatsoever to be catering to the majority in the House, or indeed, the minority in the House, but you have to remain the impartial arbiter of affairs in the House. When, Sir, we see regrettably, that a decision made in the afternoon of Thursday, December 9th is then, for reasons we can only speculate upon, changed that evening, until we are told the next day that the First Minister and the Attorney-General called upon you with respect to matters raised in that debate then, regrettably, it leaves us no option but to move the motion that we do.

I say, Sir, for the benefit of those who are not part of this House and for those who perhaps do not understand all of the nuances of parliamentary procedure and so on - and I made some reference to this the other day in my brief remarks when you were speaking on Thursday evening - it is as if a referee of a

football game near the end of the second quarter had made a call on a particular play. Then he came back at the beginning of the third quarter and said, 'I want to change the call that I made in the second quarter because I've come to a different opinion about that.' That, Sir, would be bad enough, but then when we find that the coach of the opposing team had been to see the referee during the break, that, Sir, is what puts this whole situation into the unfortunate situation that we found on Thursday and again on Friday, Sir, it is, as I have said before, not a matter that any of us in this House relish whatsoever, not one that we relish at all, but I have no alternative, Sir, but to place a motion before the House, with regret.

The motion is as follows, moved by myself, seconded by the Honourable Member for Turtle Mountain:

WHEREAS on the afternoon of December 9, 1982, Mr. Speaker made a ruling with respect to remarks by the Honourable Member for Fort Garry; and

WHEREAS following the dinner recess, Mr. Speaker altered the aforesaid ruling in contravention of all precedents and practices of House debate; and

WHEREAS the First Minister and the House Leader both admitted to contacting Mr. Speaker during the said dinner recess, thereby compromising the impartiality of Mr. Speaker; and

WHEREAS such conduct constitutes a grave impropriety and is offensive to the basic conventions and traditions of a free parliament and to the impartiality of the presiding officer of the House;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this House no longer has any confidence in its presiding officer.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Springfield.

**MR. A. ANSTETT:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to suggest to you that the motion as moved by the Leader of the Opposition is not in order at this time. While I understand - and the House has had notice of his intent to move this motion - it is certainly properly worded in terms of text, because any reflection on the Chair must be in the form of a Motion of Non-confidence in yourself, Sir, and while I certainly do not concur in the intent of the motion, I do not intend to debate it because that would be inappropriate since I submit, it is out of order.

I draw your attention, Sir, to Citation 81, in the Fifth Edition of Beauchesne, which suggests that for questions of privilege a member must give notice to the Speaker at least one hour prior to the opening of a sitting. It is customary for questions of privilege arising during the Oral Question period, and for those for which notice has been given, to be considered at the conclusion of the Oral Question period.

Furthermore, Citation 82, "A question of privilege must be brought to the attention of the House at the first possible opportunity. Even a gap of a few days may invalidate the claim for precedence in the House."

I think it's clear, Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition claims precedence for this motion because we are in the Throne Speech Debate and the only way he could acquire precedence for this motion would be to move it the way he has. To place it on the Notice Paper and go through the notice of motion procedures that are normally attendant to the moving of

substantive motions would mean that this motion would not come up until Wednesday at the earliest if it appeared on the Notice Paper today. So he is very specifically claiming that this is a question of privilege which requires and has attendant to it, some immediacy.

So, first of all, the question of immediacy is raised under our Rules. The opportunity existed for the Leader of the Opposition to raise the question last Thursday evening; the opportunity existed again on Friday when he suggested some possible reference to a committee of the matter which had been some matter of contention in the House on Thursday evening. Certainly the opportunity has been there. The precedence that he requires to set aside the discussion on the Throne Speech has not been established because of the delay - I certainly would have argued the precedence was there even as late as Friday morning - but that's no longer the case. There's been a full weekend intervening; there was ample opportunity on Friday and certainly the nub of the allegation that the Leader of the Opposition makes, relative to the Speaker, relates to his obligation under our Rules for supplying transcripts to members. That has been an established precedent in our House for a long time.

So on that score, although I don't wish to discuss the details of the allegation, I don't think there's any question that the Leader of the Opposition's proposed motion is out of order at this time. If he wishes to move that motion at the end of the Throne Speech, under proper provision, since he can no longer claim precedence, he would have that right; and at that time I would enjoy debating the spurious allegations he's made this morning.

So, Mr. Speaker, I submit the motion is out of order, and would ask you to consider ruling it out of order for those reasons.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

**HON. S. LYON:** Mr. Speaker, one might, in an ordinary debate, anticipate that a procedural objection of the sort that is taken by the Member for Springfield would be raised. I would suggest to you, Sir, with respect, that while it is extremely difficult for you, in the position which you find yourself now, to make a ruling upon this point: that the custom and tradition of power would suggest, Sir, without any written rule whatsoever, that an order or a motion affecting the position of the presiding officer of the House must take precedence in the debating order with respect to matters before the House; and if my honourable friends opposite wish to split hairs about rulings that may be found in Beauchesne, or in Bourinot, or in May, I have some quotations here to give you, Sir, in that respect.

I can only suggest that they consider for once, Sir, in the course of this debate, consider the good of parliament. I would suggest that if they consider the good of parliament they will not be raising what might, by some, be regarded as frivolous complaints about procedure when a matter, Mr. Speaker, of this kind of fundamental importance is raised before the House for its consideration.

I can suggest to you, Sir, that with respect to prece-

dent and tradition, Bourinot, Page 77 and in sections following Page 77, has references for your consideration. I can suggest as well, Sir, that the 19th Edition of May, on Page 225, et sequitur, I am advised has those references as well with respect to urgency of debate, and with respect to the precedence that should be accorded to any resolution touching upon the impartiality of the presiding officer of the House, as indeed regrettably this resolution does.

So I merely say, Sir, that in the interests of parliament that matters of this sort should be dealt with at the earliest possible moment, and that any consideration of what is in the public interest and, therefore, in the best interests of parliament, would cause you, Sir, particularly, to want this matter to be discussed.

You will recall, Sir, that I said in introducing the matter that it was introduced as a matter affecting the customs, the precedents and traditions of this House, which could be treated of course as a matter of privilege affecting all members of the House. I think on all accounts it is clearly in order and that it would be egregiously harmful to parliament, to say nothing, Sir, of your position, if this resolution were not dealt with immediately

**MR. SPEAKER:** To offer advice, the Honourable Government House Leader.

**HON. R. PENNER:** Well, on the same point of order, Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition is not above, whenever the time arises to suit his convenience, reminding us of the importance of the Rules of the House. It is to the Rules of the House and to the traditions of the House that the point of order is addressed.

The Leader of the Opposition rose in his place and offered us a citation, without giving us the substance of the citation. There was reference to a page in Beauchesne, and on that page I find nothing relevant to the point. There is reference to something that you may find in May. Well, the Leader of the Opposition has May in front of him, let him read the sections. It seems to me that he is being a little bit evasive by referring us to something to which he does not want to refer. Let him refer to those passages so that we may judge whether or not they are relevant to the point of order, and I am only speaking now to the point of order. —(Interjection)— Well, I am understanding the motion very well, and I will if necessary speak to the motion and to the fact that it is lacking in a factual foundation entirely, but that's another question.

To the point of order, there has been an objection raised to a well-documented point of order that in no way brings to this House the material upon which it rests, other than an airy-fairy reference to pages in Beauchesne which appear to be irrelevant to the issue.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Turtle Mountain.

**MR. A. RANSOM:** Mr. Speaker, speaking to the point of order raised by the Honourable Member for Springfield, he raised basically two issues. One, that our Rules and Procedures show that notice should have been given an hour prior to the introduction of the

motion. I can only point out to the Honourable Member for Springfield that earlier in the sitting this House and you, Sir, accepted for debate a point of privilege raised by the Honourable Member for Fort Garry without notice being given, as the Member for Springfield now alleges should be the case; that the practices of the House clearly show that it's not required.

The Honourable Member for Springfield also says, and I agree with him, that a point of privilege should be raised at the earliest opportunity. This, Sir, is the earliest opportunity available to the Opposition since the record of Hansard containing the answer given by the First Minister on Friday morning. We are, therefore, fulfilling the necessity of raising it at the earliest opportunity, because when we had an opportunity to see the answer given by the First Minister on Friday morning where he said, "I called upon Mr. Speaker personally at 5:35 p.m. yesterday, in order to advise the Speaker that I wanted a copy of the transcript pertaining to the proceedings in the latter part of the afternoon and indicated to the Speaker that I felt that some unparliamentary language had been utilized, particularly in respect to some reference by the Member for Fort Garry in relationship to myself, and that I expected, upon perusal of the transcript, to raise a matter of privilege at 8 o'clock." Once the transcript became available to us, Sir, it became evident we had no choice but to raise this point of privilege, and this being the earliest opportunity

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Springfield.

**MR. A. ANSTETT:** Yes, Mr. Speaker. I agree with the Leader of the Opposition when he suggests that urgency and the protection of the parliamentary system are what are at issue here, and certainly in accordance with Citation 81, the Leader of the Opposition did give notice at the beginning of question period, on Friday last, of his intention to introduce a motion respecting proceedings last Thursday evening, but he failed to introduce that motion.

To the Member for Turtle Mountain, I can only suggest, through you, Mr. Speaker, that the sentence to which I referred earlier in Beauchesne's Citation 81 in the Fifth Edition, reads as follows: "It is customary for questions of privilege arising during the Oral Question period, and those for which notice has been given, to be considered at the conclusion of the Oral Question period." They don't mean the Oral Question period on Monday next or a month later, they mean that day.

I was suggesting, not that the Leader of the Opposition was required to give notice, but that that was one of his options: that he had failed to give formal notice, including the text of his motion; that he had failed when he raised the matter last Friday to then move his motion at the end of that Oral Question period and he, therefore, has forfeited his question of urgency with regard to Thursday night.

If he wishes to raise the matter as a substantive motion through the proper procedures of our House and parliaments everywhere, he now has another route with which he may proceed and that is formal notice of motion, which has a certain time period

attached to it under our Rules and will be taken into debate in the normal precedence which would be attached to it. But to the claim for precedence over the Throne Speech Debate, and over the business of this Legislature and the people of this province, cannot be granted under these Rules. Furthermore, both the citations to which the honourable member referred in Bourinot and May are based upon the precondition of urgency and have always been.

Questions relating to confidence in the Speaker may be raised at any time, but to attach urgency to those requires the immediacy of the event, otherwise the motion must be considered in proper order and in the proper precedence attached to the House business.

So, Mr. Speaker, I still submit, despite the very learned interventions of the members opposite, the motion is patently out of order.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Turtle Mountain.

**MR. A. RANSOM:** Mr. Speaker, further to the points made by the Honourable Member for Springfield, I can only point out to him that when the Leader of the Opposition made reference on Friday to the possibility of a motion to refer the question to a committee of the Legislature there was still some doubt in our minds as to the facts of the case. Upon perusal of the transcript it became evident that the First Minister had given a full answer in which he stated he had, indeed, been to see Mr. Speaker and had raised the question concerning the use of unparliamentary language, the quotation which I read to you earlier.

Concerning the matter of urgency, Mr. Speaker, I simply point out that we dealt earlier this week with a matter which surely could not be considered as urgent as the one with which we are dealing now. It was dealt with prior to the question period at that time. The rights of members of the Legislature, and especially the Members of the Opposition in a parliament, surely take precedence over other business, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Government House Leader.

**HON. R. PENNER:** Just on the last point and on the same point of order, I think, Mr. Speaker, it's important that we be clear on the basis that is offered for the motion, so that we can address the point of order.

The basis that is offered for the motion has to do with the ruling which you made concerning remarks made by the Member for Fort Garry concerning a matter which had been addressed as a matter of privilege two days earlier. That was the point on which you ruled. You did not, in fact, rule at all, when you did rule, on the point which concerned the First Minister, which was a reference to himself and, therefore, what he said on Friday morning added not a jot or tittle of new factual evidence to the point which is now being raised. To say that they could not until they had perused Hansard to see what the Premier had to say, that they could not formulate their motion until then, is to fly in the face of the record because the First Minister said very clearly and I will read it, it's one sentence, it couldn't have really confused them,

although sometimes one wonders: "I called upon Mr. Speaker personally at 5:35 p.m., in order to advise the Speaker that I wanted a copy of the transcript pertaining to the proceedings in the latter part of the afternoon and indicated to the Speaker that I felt that some unparliamentary language had been utilized, particularly in respect to some references by the Member for Fort Garry in relationship to myself, and that I expected, upon perusal of the transcript, to raise a matter of privilege at 8 o'clock."

It was clear when one then refers back to the Thursday evening proceedings, that later on when you had disposed of the particular issue, the First Minister rose to raise that point that concerned him, that he had been called a liar by the Member for Fort Garry - that was what concerned him and that was what he came to see you about - therefore to suggest, as has now been suggested, that they could not have moved their motion because they needed this record is, as I say, to fly in the face of the record and the point of order raised by the Member for Springfield stands as a valid point of order.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Leader of the Opposition to the same point.

**HON. S. LYON:** Yes, to the same point, Mr. Speaker. I think I had made the point a little bit earlier and I think it bears consideration against the rather frivolous arguments we're hearing about procedure when, Sir, I know that this House would want to get on to discuss the motion of this fundamental importance.

I gave the First Minister, Mr. Speaker, with respect, opportunity on Thursday last to indicate whether or not he had been in contact with you. With the greatest of respect, Sir, I gave you opportunity Thursday night last to make that same indication and there was no indication forthcoming. I then had to put the question on Friday morning, Mr. Speaker, in order to get to the truth and it was only on Friday morning that we heard the rather astounding admission from the First Minister that he had been to see you, Sir, and then later that the Attorney-General had called at your office as well.

Now, Sir, for the Member for Springfield to stand up on some trumped-up procedural matter and to say to you, Sir, that it was not proper and prudent for the Opposition to carefully weigh all of those words before any substantive motion to this House, suggest, Sir, a real want of understanding of parliament and of the individual responsibility of members of this House before they make motions of the very serious nature of this motion.

So I suggest, Sir, that the Member for Springfield, the House Leader, are really arguing in circles, because if they were so wont to give information to the House why didn't they do it when they had the opportunity to volunteer it. Why did it have to be extracted from them?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Does any other member wish to advise the Chair?

The Honourable Member for Springfield.

**MR. A. ANSTETT:** Yes, Mr. Speaker, to clarify one procedural question relating to the Office of the Speaker with which the Leader of the Opposition is

having some difficulty in understanding our parliamentary procedures. The Leader of the Opposition, Sir, suggests that on an unnumbered page in the rough transcript of Friday night, that an opportunity existed. This seems to be the essence of the Opposition's last straw to claim precedence and procedural order for this motion; that the opportunity to gain the information was not there. The Leader of the Opposition, Sir, errs dramatically in his understanding of parliamentary procedure when he thinks that he can ask a question of the Speaker and get an answer from the Speaker. That's one of the most fundamental rules; the questions are not asked of the Speaker in this House.

Similarly, the Leader of the Opposition errs fundamentally when he's speaking on a point of order in this House on Thursday evening and suggests that the Premier, the First Minister, should answer questions he asks during his point of order. A debate on a point of order last Thursday evening was not an opportunity for the Leader of the Opposition to ask questions of the First Minister, nor was it appropriate for the First Minister to answer them. As we all recall, the First Minister answered those questions at the earliest opportunity in question period Friday morning.

So I submit, Mr. Speaker, the opportunity was not there to provide that information Thursday evening; it was provided Friday morning and the Leader of the Opposition had all the information he needed to move his motion last Friday.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Does anyone else wish to advise the Speaker? Order please

When a matter of privilege is raised in the House there are two things that the Speaker has to judge by: one, is whether it is the earliest possible time for bringing that motion; and secondly, whether there appears to be a prima facie case as to the motion privilege. There would seem to be that case involved in this particular one. The dispute between members seems to do with whether there was sufficient notice given or sufficient opportunity to bring this matter up on Friday.

Possibly there is a strict basis for the Honourable Member for Springfield's remarks. However, I understood the mover of this particular motion to indicate very clearly earlier, on I believe Friday, that such a motion was to be forthcoming. I would judge that to be sufficient notice and that the Hansard transcript of Friday morning was not available on Friday morning and not until later on that particular day when the Honourable Leader of the Opposition's office requested it from my office.

In conclusion, I would think that the subject matter of this particular motion is sufficient that the House would want to deal with it at the first possible opportunity and it would not serve the purpose of this House to have the particular motion hanging over the proceedings for the next little while. I will, therefore, read the motion to the House.

#### **MOTION presented**

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Government House Leader.

**HON. R. PENNER:** Mr. Speaker, I'd like to raise one issue which I think is fundamental and goes to the very heart of the issue. The premise upon which the motion is made is that - and it's contained in the second paragraph of the motion - Mr. Speaker altered the aforesaid ruling in contravention of all precedents, etc.

I have before me the record and I will refer to the record in making the point which I wish to make, namely, that there is no substance whatsoever to the allegation that the Speaker altered the aforesaid ruling. And if I am right in my argument that there is no factual basis for the contention, then the motion falls with the disappearance of the alleged factual basis.

Page 134 of Hansard, the Member for Fort Garry had been speaking and raised a point relating to the Minister for Community Services. The Minister for Community Services got up to raise what he thought was a point of order. Speaker's Ruling No. 1 - "Order please, order please. I thank the honourable members for their contributions. They will be aware, I'm sure, that a difference of opinion as to the facts between two members does not constitute a point of order." So up to that point, you had said that there was no point of order - up to that point.

Then you went on to say the matter, - and that the matter relating to the privilege of the member of the House as it affected the Member for Brandon East - you then went on to say that your ruling on the matter of privilege should have concluded the matter, should have concluded the matter. It was not a point of order because you said there was no point of order. You made an observation that your previous ruling on the motion of privilege raised by the Member for Fort Garry should have concluded the matter.

At that point there was a point of order raised and this is the first point of order that was raised. The Minister of Natural Resources rose in his place and you asked the Minister of Natural Resources: "Do you have a point of order?" The Honourable Minister of Natural Resources: "Yes I have, Mr. Speaker." Thereafter, the Minister for Natural Resources was raising the first point of order in the sequence, went on to speak to that and addressed the point of order; and in the short passage that appears on Page 134, raised what is a fundamental question, namely, that once the Speaker had raised a question of privilege and had decided on a question of privilege, it could not thereafter be referred to again. What Mr. Speaker said following the contribution of the Minister for Natural Resources is quite clear: "I thank the Honourable Minister for his support regarding the point that the matter has been concluded." The matter which is concluded is the matter to which you referred earlier as having been concluded, namely, the question of privilege. It's clear that you're using the identical language for the identical point, namely, that the matter of privilege which had been raised on Tuesday had been concluded.

It was in light of that that you went on to say: "I will ask the Member for Fort Garry to proceed with his remarks with no further reference to the matter which has been concluded." You did not rule on the point of order, whether it was a point of order, or rule on the point of order thereafter as you saw fit - and it was up to you - you came back to the House and made for the



first time, a ruling on the point of order and no amount of twisting of words or obfuscation can hide that fact. And when, in his opening remarks leading to the motion, the Leader of the Opposition said that the matter had been concluded, the statement which you had made and those words clearly in context referred to one thing and one thing only, namely, that the matter of privilege had been concluded. There was no suggestion made by you, as I read the record, that the point of order had been dealt with. Therefore, it was open for you to deal with the point of order as you saw fit, on reflection.

Secondly, Sir, in terms of the suggestion that has been made, which I think is contemptuous of you, inadvertently perhaps, but nevertheless in substance objectively and of the First Minister that anyone had attempted to influence your decision. Again, as I pointed out a bit earlier, but I insist it is necessary to repeat for the record, the First Minister when asked the question at the only appropriate time for the asking of that question - that is, the question period that followed the next day - said specifically that he had called upon you with respect to a remark which he heard having come into the House at 5:20, and what he heard was the Member for Fort Garry saying that the First Minister had told a lie. He was rankled, as he was entitled to be at that statement, and called upon you, as he has said to the House and is a matter of record, to ask you to obtain a transcript and to advise you that he intended to raise that in the evening.

Subsequently, you came into the House and did not deal with that matter at all because it had not been raised and that was proper. You dealt with the one question only which had been raised by the Minister of Natural Resources and had not been dealt with; you were not dealing with the concluded matter. Subsequently, the First Minister - and this completes the record and indeed corroborates the point - rose to say that he had intended to raise as a matter of privilege the remark dealing with himself, but in light of the circumstances that had then developed, he saw fit not to raise it but wished to advise the House that he and other members on this side of the House were becoming concerned with these repeated breaches of decorum, calling people liars, and that he was in effect serving notice that, should this pattern of behaviour continue which is bringing this House into disrepute, that we would raise it on each and every occasion until the question of decorum was settled in this House, so that people coming into the galleries to see what is taking place could understand that this was, in fact, the elected representatives of the people and not some kind of third-rate zoo. He raised those points and he raised them properly and to suggest, as this motion does, that there was in any way a grave impropriety, is clearly wrong on the record.

Finally, Sir, I would like to make a point which I made in earlier discussion that in my view it can never be improper for someone to call upon the Speaker and to say to the Speaker there's a question which concerns me. I would like the record. It's the Speaker who orders the record; in these circumstances that was an appropriate thing to do. If we ever reach that day where, as is suggested at least by implication, that the Speaker is closed off from contact by members of the House, then that will be a very sorry day indeed.

The effect of this motion, Sir, is to suggest, not a grave impropriety in my view; the effect of this motion is to suggest that the ordinary business of the House could not be transacted; that people could not speak to the Speaker on questions of the kind that the First Minister did. There is clearly no grave impropriety that has been suggested; no grave impropriety that stands on the record. This motion ought to be soundly and roundly and quickly defeated.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Turtle Mountain.

**MR. A. RANSOM:** Mr. Speaker, it is necessary that the sequence of events and answers given be clearly understood.

The Honourable Government House Leader has attempted to paint a hue to the answers given by you, Sir, which is clearly not the intention of the answers when one follows the course of the debate.

The essence of his first point was that you had not made a ruling; that indeed in your answer on Page 134, where you said, "I thank the Honourable Minister for his support regarding the point that the matter has been concluded." The Honourable Government House Leader is attempting to make that a reference to the point of privilege which had been raised one or two days prior to that; where clearly, Sir, the reference is to the issue that had been dealt with immediately prior to that, the point where the Minister for Government Services had risen to take exception to it. I submit, Sir, the evidence for that is very clear in that, first of all, on Page 134 of Hansard, there is a subheading "Speaker's Ruling" and I believe, Sir, that the transcripts are reviewed by you as Speaker before they are finally printed and that this heading, therefore, receives your approval in being printed in Hansard and it is entitled "Speaker's Ruling."

As further evidence of that, Sir, I refer the honourable members then to Page 140 of Hansard at the bottom of the page, the right hand column. Mr. Speaker said, "Although I ruled on the matter . . ." He then goes on at the very top of Page 141, in the left hand column, "I ruled," and then proceeded to read the ruling which you gave, Sir. That clearly is evidence in your mind and in my mind that the issue had been dealt with and was disposed of. For the benefit of the House, there was no indication that the question was taken under advisement. There was no thought in the mind of any member of this House that they expected you to come back, Sir, at 8 o'clock and make a ruling on this question. I defy any member of this House to say that there was an expectation that you were coming back with a ruling on this issue at 8 o'clock that night. There was no such expectation. It had been dealt with.

On the second point raised by the Honourable Government House Leader, if it is his contention that the issue was indeed still open and that you had yet to make a ruling, Sir, then it is even worse that the First Minister and the Government House Leader, the Attorney-General, should presume to go to your Chambers, Sir, and to speak to you about such an issue. It is even worse that it should be considered and I respectfully suggest, Sir, that it is even worse then for you to have entertained them.

The answer given by the First Minister on Friday morning, in that answer he does not attempt to say that he strictly dealt with the question of an allegation concerning himself. He only says "particularly," which tells me, Mr. Speaker, and I'm sure tells any other thoughtful person, that his conversation was not confined to that issue alone. The fact that the question is there, I'm afraid gives - and I regret - gives rise to the motion which we have put forward this morning.

It is not something that we relish by any means, far from it, having to bring forth such a motion as this; but the Speaker in any parliament must be seen, must be impartial and he must be seen to be impartial. It is fundamental to the protection of the rights of all members of the Legislature, and especially to the rights of the Opposition, that this should be the case. Unfortunately, Sir, this sequence of events which has been outlined by my leader gives rise to this motion of non-confidence. It is a very regretful thing, Mr. Speaker, that it has come to this.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable the First Minister.

**HON. H. PAWLEY:** I would like to just make a few comments in connection with this matter. As the Leader of the Opposition has indicated, this is certainly not a matter that anyone in this Chamber relishes and particularly insofar as the motion itself is of such a nature as to express no longer a confidence in its presiding officer, because this is certainly not the views of members on this side of the Chamber.

In the third paragraph of the motion, Mr. Speaker, it indicates, and whereas the First Minister and the House Leader both admitted to contacting Mr. Speaker during the dinner recess, thereby compromising the impartiality of the Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, the suggestion is, that by contacting the Speaker during that supper hour, on the part of the Attorney-General and by myself, that there was a compromising of the impartiality of the Speaker. Mr. Speaker, that couldn't be further from the truth. Just prior to that, it's my understanding that efforts were made to obtain a transcript of the proceedings from the Clerk's office. It's my understanding that the transcript of proceedings must be obtained from the Speaker and indeed the Leader of the Opposition - if I heard the Leader of the Opposition correctly - indicated that even he had obtained a transcript on Friday pertaining to the proceedings of the House; and that the obtaining of the transcript was, indeed, before you were called upon to make rulings pertaining to this subject today, Mr. Speaker. —(Interjection)—

**HON. S. LYON:** Mr. Speaker, just on a point of order for the record. Let the record be clear.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Leader of the Opposition on a point of order.

**HON. S. LYON:** Yes. It was you, Sir, who made reference to the fact that my office obtained a copy of the transcript on Friday. My secretary, Sir, contacted your office for that purpose and it's quite within the powers of any member to do so in that way.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable First Minister

**HON. H. PAWLEY:** Mr. Speaker, I'm not arguing that there is something wrong with that having taken place but, Mr. Speaker, the fact is that the secretary of the Leader of the Opposition obtained a copy of transcript and that, I believe, not to have been in order, Mr. Speaker. I do not know and I would be interested in obtaining information as to what other means can be used to obtain a transcript pertaining to the proceedings in the House, particularly in relationship to the case which I was concerned about, Mr. Speaker. I rose immediately to my feet at 8 o'clock that evening prior to this matter having been dealt with, to raise a matter which I felt was one of privilege pertaining to remarks made by the Member for Fort Garry in relationship to myself, having to reserve further comments because at that particular point the Member for Fort Garry was not present and, in courtesy to the Member for Fort Garry, I refrained from further proceeding with my remarks on Page 134 later on that evening after the main body of the discussion pertaining to the Minister of Community Affairs had been dealt with.

So, Mr. Speaker, the suggestion that once someone contacts your office, either in person or through an intermediary or through a servant, that that immediately compromises the impartiality of the Speaker, Mr. Speaker, does not bear out by tradition, does not bear out by practice. If there is now a thought that, by requesting such transcript of proceedings, it does impinge upon the impartiality of the Speaker then we'd better that there is a capacity for obtaining transcripts in the Clerk's Office or by some other means so that we can deal with matters rather than having to wait until Hansard is formally printed. There are many occasions where we cannot wait for one reason or another until Hansard is formally printed. Now, the only course, as I understand, Mr. Speaker, not being one that claims to be an expert pertaining to the Rules and Proceedings of this Chamber, is to obtain that transcript from your office.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

**MR. L. SHERMAN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe the Honourable First Minister, in attempting to make his point, has introduced some extraneous material into the argument at the centre of affairs this afternoon and to the central point at issue. The Honourable First Minister has made reference to the fact that he rose immediately at 8:00 p.m. on the day in question, Mr. Speaker, to raise a point of privilege relative to certain references that I had made about him, or in connection with a statement made by him during the afternoon sitting of the House. Mr. Speaker, I don't intend to deviate from the subject at hand by dwelling on that point other than to say, Sir, that the Honourable First Minister did not come into the House at the time that I made that statement on Thursday afternoon. The Honourable First Minister was in the House and was sitting in his place and I directed the remark to him and my Leader even made an informal comment as to whether the Honourable First Minister was concerned by it, and at that juncture the honourable gentleman did not rise in dispute.

Mr. Speaker, the point at issue here is a technical point. If I was guilty of a breach of the privileges of this

House, and I accept the fact that I was, Sir, because the House so decreed on the motion of the Honourable Government House Leader and so voted, it was a technical breach of the privileges of the House, in that I made reference to a subject that had already concluded, in your words, Sir, on a privilege vote earlier in the week

I have difficulty following the arguments of the Honourable Government House Leader when he makes the point, or attempts to establish the position that there were two points of order involved here, Sir, and that the Speaker's Ruling referred to on Page 134 of Hansard refers only to a situation raised by the Honourable Minister of Community Services and not only to a subsequent situation raised a few seconds later by his colleague the Honourable Minister of Natural Resources.

Mr. Speaker, I just want to suggest to the Honourable Government House Leader that it was one and the same issue, and that your remarks, Sir, support that contention and prove the fact that it was one and the same issue. You said, Sir, on Page 134 of Hansard in the right hand column and I quote you, Sir, "I thank the Honourable Minister," this was in reference to the interjection by the Honourable Minister of Natural Resources, "I thank the Honourable Minister for his support regarding the point that the matter has been concluded." I don't know what could be more clear on a statement of that kind, Sir. "I thank the Honourable Minister," the Minister of Natural Resources, "for his support regarding the point that the matter has been concluded." In other words, you had decreed that the matter had been concluded; the Minister of Natural Resources had lodged an interjection before I continued with my remarks; you interpreted that as his support for your point that the matter had been concluded and you so stated that, Sir.

You went on then to say: "I will ask the Member for Fort Garry to proceed with his remarks with no further reference to the matter which has been concluded." And I did proceed according to your admonition and instruction, Sir. So the technical point at issue here is the alteration of that ruling later in the day's proceedings incorporated in your statement that evening to the House, Sir, and that statement commenced with the following words, Sir, I'm quoting you, Mr. Speaker: "Just before the 5:30 p.m. dinner break there was a dispute between members of the House. The Member for Fort Garry referred to the subject matter of a privilege motion dealt with on December 7th and the Minister of Community Services and Corrections and of Natural Resources," and I repeat, Sir, "The Minister of Community Services and Corrections and of Natural Resources rose on a point of order. Although I ruled on the matter without the benefit of perusal of Hansard it is possible that my remarks were not sufficiently clear." etc., etc.

You reinforced the point, Sir, that you had made a ruling that addressed the interjections of both the Honourable Minister of Community Services and the Honourable Minister of Natural Resources, and I therefore suggest in all respect, Sir, that the argument advanced by the Honourable Government House Leader is not logical and does not stand up under scrutiny

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Health.

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** Mr. Speaker, it seems to me that there were two different issues here that happened on Thursday just before the dinner hour. One was the question of the situation of the Minister of Community Services, the thing that had been dealt with, that was one thing; and then the First Minister taking objection to being called a liar in the House by the same member, the Member for Fort Garry. Those were the two issues that - oh yes, now, there was —(Interjection)— now wait a minute, we've listened to you. Those were the two issues that we're looking at today, I am not saying at 5:30.

All right, at 5:30 then, the two Ministers I think took objection to the Member for Fort Garry continuing the discussion on something that had been dealt with the day before. That was the main concern. The first question is, did you make a ruling at the time? The Member for Fort Garry, the members on this side say that you did, and you yourself later on said that there might have been a misunderstanding, you wanted to make sure that was clear. I am not going to debate who was right or who was wrong, that has been dealt with - and again we're bringing this thing up today - that was dealt with, there was a motion on that.

Now I am sure, Sir, that this is not the main thing. The main concern that the Leader of the Opposition had is when he stated that he was concerned that members from this side had approached you and influenced you in changing your decision and that is the reason why they're bringing this resolution today because they said, if you were influenced then, we're sorry, we do not have confidence in you any longer. Those are the two different subjects.

The point is that the Premier of the province stated that he was concerned because he had been called a liar, that he sent someone from the caucus to the Clerk to get the transcript. The Clerk said he could not give it to you; you have to get it from the Speaker. So then he went out and asked for it, and did say at the time that he was concerned, he wanted to see it. He was concerned because of the unparliamentary language and the name-calling that had happened. Before, when it was ready the House Leader went and got it. At no time, as far as the information that we were given, did anybody say that the Speaker was influenced on the other decision at all. So I think that the Speaker might have been wrong in the eyes of the members of the Opposition in waiting until 8 o'clock, which actually as far as the clock is concerned, it was a few minutes after because all this happened between 5:20 to 5:30 and this was at one minute after eight or immediately at 8 o'clock, but that part was dealt with rightly or wrongly - and I don't think we can impute any motive - the Speaker said that he wanted to make that decision clear. The Opposition said you had a chance, you missed it; they challenged the Speaker's ruling, there was a vote and the decision of the Chair was sustained.

Now, the other point is, did we influence? That would be the reason why. That would make it a lot more serious and that would be the reason why you have this vote of non-confidence today. You wouldn't have a vote of non-confidence if there had been a mistake made because there has been mistakes made by the Speakers at other times and you had a chance,

you challenged the ruling at that time. But let the record show, Mr. Speaker, that at no time is there any information given, or any proof that there was influence brought upon you to change your ruling. It was completely different. If that's not the way to get the transcript, please tell us how we're supposed to do it, because the Clerk said you can only get it from the Speaker?

You yourself said that you obtained the transcript on Friday. You yourself did the same thing. You got it from the Speaker. You got it from the secretary. We were told we had to go to the Speaker; this is what we'd done and the First Minister said he wanted to see it. The reason why he wanted to see it was because there was some name-calling, he wanted to make sure, and at the first chance he wanted to protest that. That's exactly what has been done. So I would say, Mr. Speaker, the question that we're talking about now, your ruling, should not be debated, that's finished. It's been the third time we've talked about that and the point is, were you influenced by the First Minister or anybody on this side to change a decision? That is the point of contention.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Springfield.

**MR. A. ANSTETT:** Yes, Mr. Speaker, thank you. Mr. Speaker, as I said when I entered the debate and raised a point of order when the original motion was proposed, because of the tone and tenor in the debate in this House over the last two days on questions relating to this whole procedural argument, I would welcome an opportunity to reply to the spurious allegations that are being made by the Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Speaker, I do welcome that reply, despite the fact that unfortunately it takes precedence now over the urgent business before the House in discussing the Throne Speech of the Government and the Government's plans for action in this troubled economic time.

Mr. Speaker, I do share, however, the Leader of the Opposition's stated concern for parliamentary democracy and the basic conventions and traditions of a free parliament. Mr. Speaker, I would suggest to you that, if anything, my record on that is clear. The record of the Leader of the Opposition is somewhat doubtful, including his contributions last Thursday evening and last Friday.

The matter at issue, Mr. Speaker, appears to be twofold. Does Mr. Speaker have the right under our Rules to expand on a statement he makes to the House? Let's not argue about whether or not what Mr. Speaker said last Thursday at 5:30 or 5:24, or whatever the time was, was actually a ruling. It may well have been a ruling, I will concede that point. It may have been. The fact that Hansard labels it as a ruling does not make it so. The Member for Turtle Mountain's suggestion that the Speaker reads every Hansard in draft and approves the headings and checks the text for typos is an horrendous proposition, and the Opposition House Leader certainly knows that's a ridiculous suggestion. So the suggestion that Hansard determines whether or not, by their subtitles, a ruling is a ruling or a discussion of a point of

order, is nonsense.

But I will accept the point that it's possible some members opposite and some members on this side may have considered Mr. Speaker's statement shortly before adjournment on Thursday last as a ruling. Are we to deny the arbiter of discussion in this Chamber the right to expand? —(Interjection)— Arbiter, sure, I'm easy. The Leader of the Opposition is concerned about denying an umpire as he suggests, or a referee in a sports game, the right to expand or change a decision. This isn't a game; this is very serious business and I resent the implication by the Leader of the Opposition that this is a sports arena. If that's what he thinks it is, he can go play somewhere else.

Mr. Speaker, the matters before this Chamber are much more important than those which take place in a stadium or arena. If the Speaker felt that he wanted to expand on a ruling he had made, he certainly had every right.

Mr. Speaker, I know you didn't change your ruling. You had an opportunity to do research and check it out and you referred to citations, but you certainly and clearly before 5:30 told the Member for Fort Garry that he wasn't to be engaged in that kind of debate, since the matter had been settled, and at 8 o'clock, or 8:40, when the Member for Fort Garry was in the Chamber, said exactly the same thing, that the member should not be engaging in that activity. So whether you call one a ruling and the other a ruling, or one a statement and the other an expansion on that statement in the form of a ruling, is entirely irrelevant. I would never deny the Speaker the right to expand for the benefit for all members, his interpretation of our Rules to make sure that everybody in this House has an understanding of it.

Now, Mr. Speaker, the second matter at issue is whether the First Minister and the House Leader compromised the impartiality of the Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'm concerned about that because I'm nervous about going to visit you. I suggest, Mr. Speaker, the great knowledge that the Leader of the Opposition sometimes purports to claim with regard to parliamentary practice in our Rules, doesn't extend to Citation 119 in *Beauchesne*: 119(2) on Page 39 of *Beauchesne's Fifth Edition* suggests, "The Speaker's rulings, whether given in public or in private, constitute precedence by which subsequent Speakers, members and officers are guided. Such precedents are collected," etc.

Now, Mr. Speaker, how could you possibly give a ruling in private, which is going to then become a collected precedent of our House if no one can talk to you, no one can go and visit the Speaker and discuss a procedural question? Now, I'm not even suggesting for a minute that the First Minister did that or the Attorney-General did, but the Leader of the Opposition is suggesting that they might have had that discussion. That's been denied, clearly been denied last Friday and again today. But I would suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, that your opportunity to discuss procedural questions should not be in any way diminished by the statements of the Leader of the Opposition who suggests that it's somehow improper. That's an established precedent in parliaments throughout the Commonwealth, that any member can consult with the Speaker about House business and House procedure at any time and I wouldn't want the ignorance of the

Leader of the Opposition on that question to prejudice the rights of 55 other members.

Now, Mr. Speaker, the other question that comes into this, is whether or not there's been a grave impropriety, a grave impropriety. The suggestion that somehow the Government House Leader or the First Minister of this province has in some way intimidated by a visit or threatened or bullied. Now we have precedents on those kinds of activities too, and certainly threatening language has always been considered unparliamentary. When a member has intimidated - sorry, excuse me, Mr. Speaker - when a member has intimated that he would move the adjournment unless certain explanations were given, the Speaker has interposed and called him to order for using language threatening to the House, also language threatening to the Speaker or to any other member has been considered intimidation and threatening in the Chamber.

So, Mr. Speaker, I've heard the remarks of the First Minister and of the Attorney-General. I understand that what they've stated in the House is truthful and I accept that as fact, so I know what they said to you, Sir. But I would like the House to reflect upon what the Leader of the Opposition said to our Speaker in Hansard last Thursday evening. "Mr. Speaker, with the greatest of respect, Sir, on the point of order, a football referee can't go back; a hockey referee can't go back and you, Sir, can't go back." That's what he said. A paragraph later he said, "I have not reflected on your conduct yet, but if this procedure is carried through, your conduct will be reflected upon, I can assure you."

Now, Mr. Speaker, if threatening and intimidating language is the kind of thing which provides a challenge of this nature to the Chair, then it's this side that should have been moving the motion. The Leader of the Opposition has threatened and intimidated - at least attempted to - our Speaker, but I have every confidence that those threats and attempts at intimidation had no effect whatsoever. Similarly, I have every confidence that the Member for Virden, who underwent the same kind of threats two years ago this week, was not influenced or intimidated by that kind of language. Mr. Speaker, I think they should be on the record too, so that we understand the kind of activity which the Leader of the Opposition engages in and then expects us to allow him to question the integrity of our presiding officer.

Tuesday, December 16, 1980, a point of order was raised. The Leader of the Opposition, then as Premier in this Chamber, said to Mr. Speaker, "I ask, Sir, that you ask him to withdraw from the House while this debate and while this vote is being taken." He was referring to a member who has presently withdrawn for a period of about seven years.

Mr. Speaker disagreed with the then Premier, suggested that the member had the right to stay and speak, to which then the now Leader of the Opposition replied with some chagrin and for the memory of those here and in the galleries, waving his hand, his fist and his finger and yelling at the Speaker as follows, "Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, I suggest to you with the greatest of respect, Sir, that Rule 13 to which you've alluded on previous occasions in this debate, with the greatest of respect, Sir," - remember this is with the finger slashing the air - "has no relationship to this question before us today at all, and I

would suggest, Sir, that you inform yourself upon that rule before you make further reference to it." Now you had to be here to understand the amount of threat that was in his voice and his finger at the time. But, Mr. Speaker, I do not perceive anyone on this side raising the language and the behaviour of the Leader of the Opposition as compromising you, because I believe you are of full integrity and not in any position to be compromised by the Leader of the Opposition and certainly, Sir, I know you were not compromised by the First Minister or the Attorney-General because I know what they told you; I know what they spoke to you about. They did not speak to you about your ruling; they asked you for a transcript.

Mr. Speaker, I submit therefore, that not only is there no substance to the motion as I've discussed each of the various clauses in it, but that if there is a question of confidence relating to the parliamentary traditions as they are respected in this House, the question of confidence should relate to someone who has great knowledge about these Rules, but does not observe them. In fact, his knowledge is only in the breach and he uses and abuses them for his own political benefits even when he holds the office of the Premier.

Mr. Speaker, the crisis of confidence is not with you, but with the Leader of the Opposition.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Virden.

**MR. H. GRAHAM:** Mr. Speaker, on a point of personal privilege, I just want to state that my record in this Chamber will speak for itself. Apparently the Member for Springfield is still establishing his.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please.  
The Member for Brandon West.

**MR. H. CARROLL:** Mr. Speaker, I'd like to speak very very briefly. You, Mr. Speaker, have the right to be wrong. On Thursday, in my own opinion, you were very very possibly wrong, but I accept that. I am not going to stand by and see an attack on the whole parliamentary system set up because you may have been wrong in your decision. Our traditions are that we accept your decisions and we don't go and try to fight you in some other way. I think this whole motion is an insult to you, Mr. Speaker, and I am most disgusted to see it moved in this House.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Elmwood.

**MR. R. DOERN:** Mr. Speaker, I find it peculiar that at a time when the nation and the province are racked with unemployment and serious social problems that House time is spending time on a matter like this. Mr. Speaker, we are focusing our energies, because of the Conservative Opposition, on a tempest in a teapot.

Mr. Speaker, this whole procedure with the Conservatives' support is bringing discredit upon this Assembly and bringing discredit upon the parliamentary process, bringing discredit upon people in public life, and they're not aware of this, but it's bringing discredit upon the Conservative Party of Manitoba as a whole.

Mr. Speaker, I have watched your rulings for the past year like everybody else. I have seen you try to operate under what can only be described as new and difficult circumstances. The House for many years has had three parties in it; now it has only two parties and I think that you as Speaker have ruled fairly time and time and time again and given the Opposition every opportunity to make their points, given them every benefit of the doubt. And on one occasion when they disagreed with what you have done, they demand your resignation. I find that a very peculiar reaction indeed and the reason is that the Leader of the Opposition has lost perspective, he's gone absolutely bananas on this particular issue. He thinks that this is the most important issue facing the people of Manitoba and their elected representatives in the month of December, 1982.

Mr. Speaker, all of us saw him lose perspective, as was just described, when he did not reflect upon the Ruling of the Speaker which is out of order; he threatened you as Speaker. That is far worse than any verbal reflection, with finger-wagging and red face and raised voice and eyes blazing, threatening the Speaker of this Assembly. Well, we all did see that once before; it wasn't the first time; we did see it with the member who preceded him.

Mr. Speaker, the acrimony in this House, I think, is the worst that I have seen since 1966 - this is the worst, and it started from the very beginning because of the frustration of the members opposite with the last election — (Interjection) — that's right, the cause of it all. The fact of the matter is, Mr. Speaker, that this party still believes that the Government stole the election because they're not big enough to realize that they blew the election.

Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition talks about the tyranny of the majority. Well, we all know about that and we also know about something else called the tyranny of the minority and that's what we're getting right now. We're getting the business of the House ground to a halt on a matter that is of little major importance and of no interest whatsoever to the public, to the man in the street.

Mr. Speaker, can an MLA speak or talk to the Speaker? Can an MLA visit the Speaker? Can an MLA have any contact whatsoever with the Speaker of a Legislative Assembly? Mr. Speaker, surely anyone in this Assembly can at any time, for social reasons or other, visit you in your office. It is not up to the Leader of the Opposition to quarantine the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba from December 1982 on.

Mr. Speaker, transcripts were obtained by the Premier of a debate that was of some importance in terms of problems associated with it and the Leader of the Opposition obtained transcripts as well. Well, I say that what is sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander.

Mr. Speaker, I think that we should dispose of this tempest in a teapot and get on with the business of the people of Manitoba.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Are you ready for the question?

**HON. S. LYON:** Mr. Speaker, if no one else wishes to contribute to the debate, I would be happy to make

some concluding remarks with respect to this motion which is presently before the House. I listened with amusement to the Member for Elmwood talking about how members should conduct themselves in the House, how unemployment is the main consideration and concern of the House and, Sir, when I spoke in the Throne Speech debate a week ago I believe I made that point.

However, I understand that when the Member for Elmwood came to make his contribution to the Throne Speech he dilated, for about 30 minutes or so, on giving the so-called horse racing odds with respect to prospective Leaders of the Opposition on this side of the House. I really don't make it a habit of reading his speeches, but I'm told that that's what took place and I just wondered how that was meant to contribute to the crisis of unemployment that was facing Manitobans and that is facing Manitobans because of the inaction of the Government to which he persists in clinging after he has been thwarted so often in his attempt to run back to the front bench. So I think the Member for Elmwood is hardly in a position to talk about the quality of contributions to debate in this House or whether indeed, Sir, truth; the position and impartiality of the Speaker is not a matter of high priority.

We, Sir, must defer to other judgments, to those of the parliamentary writers and to others who tend to understand this institution somewhat more intimately than does the Member for Elmwood. He, Mr. Speaker, persists in taking this matter, which is an extremely serious matter, as a tempest in a teapot. Well, I pray for the institution of parliament that we don't have too many tempests in a teapot of this order.

Before I leave the Member for Elmwood, may I make it clear for the record, lest anyone be under any misapprehension because of the red herrings, the non-sequiturs, all of the rather crude debating devices that are used by members such as he opposite to deflect attention, public attention, from the issues that are before the House today, the very serious issues that are before the House today, Mr. Speaker, we're not unused or unaccustomed to that technique. When you're guilty, you try to draw the attention of the listener to someone else. It is not anyone on this side of the House, Sir, in the course of a debate, who went to your office and sought an interview with you with respect to a matter that was under consideration, as they claim at the time - no one from this side of the House - so let's get the facts straight. The improprieties alleged, Sir, were improprieties on behalf of the First Minister, the Attorney-General, who at least admitted in the House that they had had that contact with you, Sir, and no one on that side of the House - and one wouldn't expect it from the Member from Elmwood - no one on that side of the House has denied the fact, Sir, that you made a ruling in the afternoon, that you came into the House that evening and said you had made a ruling, then proceeded to change that ruling, which is totally unprecedented.

If my honourable friend from Elmwood hasn't the wit to tie together the incidents which follow chronologically with respect to that unfortunate second ruling on your part, which resulted in the Member for Fort Garry being ejected from this House on a motion, Sir, proposed by the House Leader, then if he hasn't the wit to see how these items all link together then I

suggest. Sir, we should pay no further attention to the kind of mental meanderings that we've heard from that source during the course of this otherwise serious debate.

Mr. Speaker, the Member for Springfield refers to the substance of the resolution as being a spurious allegation, yet I didn't hear him nor did I hear, more importantly, the First Minister, nor did I hear the Leader of the House, the Attorney-General, deny any of the allegations contained in that statement at all. None at all.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Government House Leader.

**HON. R. PENNER:** On a point of personal privilege, the record speaks for itself. On Page 149, I stated that I called upon you "to pick up a copy of the transcript which had been requested by the First Minister and picked up that transcript, and shortly after left your office." The record is clear.

**HON. S. LYON:** Mr. Speaker, the Member for Fort Rouge, the House Leader says that he called at your office picked up a transcript and shortly after left the office. Would he care to enlarge on that and tell us about the conversation? Because what I'm saying to you, Sir, is that neither the House Leader nor the First Minister have said what the nature of the conversation they had with you was nor indeed do they have to because your action when you came back into the House, regrettably, Sir, spoke volumes about the kinds of interventions that were being made. Now, Sir, . . .

**HON. R. PENNER:** Well, Mr. Speaker, is that a question to me?

**HON. S. LYON:** No.

**HON. R. PENNER:** No, of course not.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable First Minister.

**HON. H. PAWLEY:** Mr. Speaker, on a matter of privilege, I would simply refer you to my statements on Page 149 indicating quite clearly what the nature of the visit was and what the request was.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

**HON. S. LYON:** Well, Mr. Speaker, after having dealt with these rather fractured matters of privilege, may I ask the First Minister then, when he was speaking why did he not venture some opinion as to why your Ruling had been changed that evening? Because he had the full opportunity, Sir, as I mentioned before, on the Thursday evening after you had come back and reversed yourself with respect to the matter of a ruling, I raised the point. I've read it into the record —(Interjection)— he had the full opportunity, Mr. Speaker, to advise the House at that time that he had been to your office and had had conversations with you respecting a point of order and the statements made by the Member for Fort Garry that evening. He didn't do that

this afternoon at all; he had the full opportunity to do it but the record will show, Sir, that he didn't do it.

Mr. Speaker, before the triviality is lost upon all who are listening to this debate, may I say that there has never been at issue in this matter at all, the longstanding right that has existed since 1958, that I'm aware of, of any member to seek through the Speaker's office, a copy of the transcript of Hansard. Sir, you are not facing a motion today because the First Minister, the Attorney-General, or anyone else sought a copy of the transcript of Hansard and for anyone on that side of the House to try to obscure or - to use the Attorney-General's favorite word - to obfuscate and to try to cloud up the issue, the clear, pristine issue that is before us with that kind of procedural nonsense, let me say, that kind of technique may work for my honourable friend, the Attorney-General, when he's before a law class, it won't work in parliament and it doesn't work in the court of public opinion.

Now, Mr. Speaker, what I want to find out, Sir, is how long can this side of the House or indeed the people of Manitoba expect the kind of defense - if you may crown it with that word - that we have heard this afternoon to be sufficient? Of course, members of the House have access to the Speaker; no one has questioned that at all. What members are questioning, Mr. Speaker, is the First Minister of this House going to the Chambers of Mr. Speaker and following upon that visit, Mr. Speaker coming back into the House and changing a ruling that he had made prior to the supper hour. That's what's in question.

Mr. Speaker, may I remind you, Sir, may I remind some of my honourable friends opposite, of the famous Pipeline Debate? May I say, Sir, with regret, that there are number of similarities between that debate and what is transpiring in this House because, Mr. Speaker, my honourable friends opposite, like the Bourbons, know nothing and forget nothing. My honourable friends should listen; my honourable friends should read Hansard from the House of Commons for the debate that took place on the first day of June, 1956, when the Speaker came into the House on a morning after having made a ruling on which debate was taking place and the next morning he said to the House, I've changed my mind and I am going to turn about the ruling I made last evening. Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition at that time, the Honourable George Drew; the Leader of the CCF Party at that time, M.J. Coldwell, both said that is contrary to the practices and the precedents of this House. You can't do that.

In the course of that intervening debate, Mr. Speaker, references were made to whether or not the Speaker of the day, the Honourable Renee Beaudoin had been contacted by members of the government front bench. When it came out, Mr. Speaker, that they had been contacted, indeed that the Leader of the House, the Honourable Walter Harris, had spoken to the Speaker after he had made that ruling and that the Minister in that government, the Honourable J.W. Pickersgill, had also called in to see the Speaker, and the Speaker had quite properly in that instance, as it is related in a number of books surrounding that instance, had said, no, I can't talk to you, but I have made up my mind as to what I am going to do. But there was interference at that time by members of the Treasury Bench.

One would think, Mr. Speaker, for anyone who has any knowledge of our parliamentary system, or any sympathy or understanding or sensitivity to it, that that kind of warning which should be in the mind of all parliamentarians, particularly those who esteem to hold the office of First Minister, that they would not put the presiding officer of a parliament in the position into which you have been put, Sir, as a result of that kind of visit. That example alone should have been sufficient to indicate, to sound the warning bell that members of the front bench, at their own peril, tamper with the office of the Speaker in a way that we have seen regrettably in the last 72 to 96 hours.

Mr. Speaker, I didn't hear an argument coming from the Member for Springfield, that really deserves an intellectual response. What I heard, Mr. Speaker, was an attempt by the Member for Springfield to gloss over the facts, which are clear for anyone to see. Backdoor references to debates that took place in this House a year or two years ago are interesting reading but, Mr. Speaker, all I can say with respect to that, as any Speaker of this Legislature will know, if I have anything to say to the Chair, Sir, I'll say it from my seat in the House and not scurry and scamper around through the backdoor like the First Minister does here.

So, Mr. Speaker, I have no apologies to make in that regard; but those who walk down the hall after hours, to try to imprint their will upon the chief presiding officer of this House, are the ones about whom the word "shame" should be used. My regret, Sir, is that you fall as the butt of their ill-considered actions. It is they, the First Minister of this House, the House Leader of this House, who should be standing before the Bar of this House and receiving the proper condemnation from the Legislature of this province for the kind of untoward interference which they have perpetrated.

The Member for Springfield tries to make a case, Mr. Speaker, that there is no finality to a ruling which is made by you. Mr. Speaker, what kind of a jurisdiction do they think we're operating in, if we're not operating in the common law parliamentary system, which we have inherited and which we have built on and made into this exceptionally good Canadian system that we have? God knows it's not perfect, and there are always those on the outside, Mr. Speaker, who are trying to assault it; some from beyond our shores, some from within our very boundaries who try to assault this system. Mr. Speaker, the system has long outlasted those who would try to rot it from within and I predict, Sir, that the system will continue to outlast that kind of sabotage from within.

The fact that the Member for Fort Garry was removed from the service of the House that night seems to have been lost to the attention of the Member for Springfield. That, in his opinion, may not be a big matter. I suggest, Sir, that it is a big matter in the mind of the Member for Fort Garry, who is a distinguished member; not only of this House, but previously of the House of Commons of Canada. That is a big matter that is worth the time of debate of this House at any time. I want to assure the Member for Springfield, that rather than the narrow gauged view that he may have of what constitutes parliamentary privilege and procedure, that that kind of debate will be continued in this House whether he understands it or likes it or

not, Mr. Speaker.

So, my honourable friend for Springfield tries to say there is nothing wrong at all with consulting the Speaker on a matter that is presently before the House. What new rule is he laying down for the people who listen to him? Is he saying that it's all right for a client to go unilaterally to a judge when his case is being decided and talk to the judge? Is he saying that, Mr. Speaker? What difference is there, using the rather specious argument, Mr. Speaker, of the House Leader that the debate was still on, in the matter of the ruling? How then could the House Leader, how then could the First Minister - even accepting that the specious argument was true - how could they presume to go to you, Sir, in the absence of the House Leader for this side of the House, to talk to you about a debate which they stand in the House today and say had not been concluded and that the ruling had not been concluded?

Mr. Speaker, I know that members on the opposite side like to catcall and yell when they find the truth too overwhelming, I know that; and I know from whence that desire springs, because really, Sir, the blood flow of democracy is not too great in the veins of some of the honourable members opposite.

Mr. Speaker, if my honourable friend is suggesting that you can go and consult a judge any time, why is it that every politician in every parliamentary system on the face of the earth would never try to do, with respect to a judicial officer, what the First Minister and what the Attorney-General - of all people - did, with respect to you, Sir, in connection with a matter which they say was still open? That's even worse. That's even worse, Sir. It says something, Mr. Speaker, about the quality, the understanding and the integrity of parliament, when people such as those two members feel that they are free, Sir, in the exercise of their rights as freeborn socialists, to go and pamper with the presiding officer of this House.

Mr. Speaker. I come back to the Member for St. Boniface. I come to the Member for St. Boniface for the contribution that he made in an attempt, Sir, to say that there was no proof in support of this resolution because let me make it clear. What we're debating today here, Sir, and my honourable friends can use their majority in any way that they see fit but the truth will come out, what we are debating here today, Sir, is whether or not that resolution is true. If my honourable friends want to use their majority to vote against a resolution that, with regret, we've had to bring to this House, let them do it; but let them pay the price and be prepared to pay the price of public opinion, Sir, for inflicting their version of truth upon this Legislature. It won't wash. It won't happen.

I ask them if they want to do some weekend reading, as I did; go back and read the Pipeline Debate. Go back and see how that fractured parliament for weeks and weeks of time, after the Speaker took a position that was seen to be one that was in favour of the government, and, Sir, I know I need not instruct you with respect to the unfortunate ending of that incident. The Speaker, the Honourable Mr. Rene Beaudoin, even though a similar resolution to this was put before the House, and even though the government majority defeated that resolution; Mr. Beaudoin resigned as Speaker of the House of Commons within



a matter of weeks after that unfortunate matter was brought before the House.

Mr. Speaker, the Member for St. Boniface says no information was given, or proof, that influence was brought to bear upon you, Mr. Speaker. All I say in response to that is this: why did you come back into the House in the evening and change your ruling and say that you were changing your ruling after calls had been made upon you? Why, Sir? That is what we can't understand. With regret, we can't understand that. That, Sir, is what brings this unfortunate resolution before the House.

Mr. Speaker, the points of argument have been clearly made by my colleagues, the Member for Turtle Mountain and the Member for Fort Garry with respect to what the record discloses. My honourable friends can obfuscate all they wish. The record discloses, regrettably, that you made a ruling in the afternoon; you then came back into the House in the evening and said, I made a ruling this afternoon but I'm going to change it. Sir, with the greatest of respect, that can't be done.

Mr. Speaker, when that kind of action, Sir, is compounded by the admission of the First Minister and the Attorney-General, that they both came to call upon you with respect to this matter, then I suggest, Sir, that your position - as I said on Friday - is untenable.

Mr. Speaker, the First Minister - and I repeat this point - who had an opportunity on Thursday evening; who had another opportunity again on Friday morning; and who had a further opportunity, again, here in this debate on Monday afternoon, which he fought to prevent from taking place, that the First Minister, Mr. Speaker, has not at any time made any denial whatsoever of the topic of the conversation about which he met with you; none whatsoever. Mr. Speaker, no one, as the First Minister said, relishes this kind of a debate; no one at all.

Mr. Speaker, the views of the Government have been expressed and I regret, Sir, that the views of the Government do not in any substantial way deflect, regrettably, Sir, from the substance of the motion. There is not one jot or tittle of evidence that they've brought forward that detracts in any way, Mr. Speaker, from the unfortunate allegations that have to be made on that resolution.

Mr. Speaker, the case that we have made, with respect to this issue in the preamble and in the operative section of the resolution, has not been rebutted. Indeed, there's been an attempt on the other side to try to colour the picture; to try to say it didn't happen. People who go around shooting themselves in the foot are now trying to blame somebody else for aiming the gun. They can't do that, Mr. Speaker. Our parliamentary system doesn't work that way at all.

They may, as I've said before, Mr. Speaker, use the tyranny of their majority to defeat this resolution. They cannot use the tyranny of their majority to defeat parliament.

**QUESTION put; MOTION carried.**

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Turtle Mountain.

**MR. A. RANSOM:** Yeas and Nays, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Call in the members.

Order please. The motion before the House is moved by the Honourable Leader of the Opposition, seconded by the Honourable Member for Turtle Mountain. Do you wish the resolution read again?

**A STANDING VOTE** was taken, the result being as follows:

### YEAS

Messrs. Banman, Blake, Brown, Downey, Driedger, Enns, Filmon, Gourlay, Graham, Mrs. Hammond, Messrs. Hyde, Johnston, Kovnats, Lyon, Manness, McKenzie, Mercier, Nordman, Mrs. Oleson, Messrs. Orchard, Ransom, Sherman, Steen.

### NAYS

Messrs. Adam, Anstett, Ashton, Bucklaschuk, Carroll, Corrin, Cowan, Desjardins, Mrs. Dodick, Mr. Doern, Ms. Dolin, Messrs. Evans, Eyler, Fox, Harapiak, Harper, Mrs. Hemphill, Messrs. Kostyra, Lecuyer, Mackling, Malinowski, Pawley, Penner, Ms. Phillips, Messrs. Plohman, Santos, Schroeder, Scott, Mrs. Smith, Messrs. Storie, Uskiw.

**MR. CLERK:** Yeas, 23; Nays, 31.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The motion is accordingly lost.

### INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

**MR. SPEAKER:** Before we reach Oral Question Period, may I direct the attention of honourable members to the loges on my left where there is a Mrs. June Westbury, a former MLA of this Assembly, former Member for Fort Rouge. On behalf of the members, I welcome you here this afternoon.

Oral Questions . . .

### ORDERS OF THE DAY

#### THRONE SPEECH DEBATE

**MR. SPEAKER:** On the proposed motion of the Honourable Member for Riel, proposed amendment thereto by the Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

The Honourable Member for Inkster has 21 minutes remaining.

**MR. D. SCOTT:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. The other day, on Friday when I got up, I referred to a number of topics, including decorum of the House; how we were keeping this House, in what light in the public: our practices in the House and I think for us as the Member for Elmwood pointed out, to have wasted so far this afternoon in excess of two hours and 15 minutes on a facetious motion such as that has done nothing to enhance this House in the eyes of the public.

I want to move into an area that is of direct concern to many Manitobans.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Does the Member for Virden have a point of order?

**MR. H. GRAHAM:** Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, I believe the honourable member is referring and casting reflections on a decision that has already been made by this Chamber.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Inkster.

**MR. D. SCOTT:** Mr. Speaker, I wish to now turn my speech towards matters that do affect Manitobans; that affect all Canadians, and it's kind of breaking a new bit of ground, I suppose, and giving some food for thought both to my Government, of which I'm a part, and to the Government of Canada and other provinces.

The situation that I'd like to discuss is that of taxation and distribution of the burden of taxation on Canadians. We have seen, since 1972, some erosion of the share of taxation on behalf of corporations and that switched much more to the individual. This is not something that's unique to Canada, it's not unique at all in the world in general, in that right across the world this same phenomenon has been taking place. A good amount of the reason for it is because of the tax structures, the complication of the tax system and the increased number of exemptions of write-offs, and one thing and another, against income and direct credits making parts of incomes that people earn non-taxable, be they individuals or corporations. It has turned very much so, a disproportionate amount of the taxes that are collected in this country on the backs of the wage earner - he who cannot hide his income; he who cannot write off income; he who cannot write off expenditures against his income.

In '71, in the Manitoba case, we collected in the vicinity of 10 percent of our taxes came from corporation income tax; 32 percent came from personal income tax; sales taxes yielded about 18 percent of our total taxation revenues.

In 1982, the corporation income tax had just decreased a bit, but personal income taxes had risen some 6 percent, as far as a total amount of taxes that are collected in Manitoba. The amounts of personal income taxes have increased from \$116 million in 1971 to \$514 million in 1982. The percentage increase and the responsibility upon individual incomes has raised approximately 6 percent. Corporations have, by last year \$114 million was raised, just slightly over three times as much as was in 1971.

In 1983, the latest projections, we're expecting the revenues to be down to in the range of 4 percent of our total tax revenues from corporations. From individuals, they will rise a further percent to almost 40 percent, 39.4 percent, approximately. These are just on estimates is the best that we got at this point in time.

Sales taxes have remained relatively consistent over this time period and the level of income raised from other forms of taxes as fees and other taxes across the board have remained relatively consistent as well. The only one that has generally increased is the personal income tax and on the personal income tax itself, with the exemptions that have been built in, the exemptions have built in disproportionately at the upper ends of the income scales.

I have some data that was brought forward under an analysis of tax expenditures done by the Federal Government just a year or two ago. It shows the impact on what we thought was a progressive tax

system or many people still tend to think of a progressive tax system and the progressivity of the tax system is almost disappeared, Mr. Speaker.

The tax expenditures have risen dramatically in the past decade and the tax expenditures are basically one's ability to receive those tax expenditures is upon their capacity to be able to deduct particular items from their income; to be able to reduce their taxable income by going after incomes that are not taxed at the full rate. The number of people with investment incomes that are therefore taxed at a lower rate, impacts a lot of people as well at the upper income brackets but now down below. With the income exclusions and deductions, they create far more tax savings for the upper income groups than they do for the lower income groups.

I would like to table for the information of the House, I've only got three copies of this, Mr. Speaker, but I'd like to table this, if there are any pages around. On the Federal Income Tax expenditures, as a benefit of percentage of income, it shows, as you can see from this, that for the income on tax expenditure benefits as a percentage of income, for the very bottom income categories, 0 to \$2500, they receive slightly over 30 percent of their income tax expenditures as it should be. That is the people that the tax credits help the most, and it is because of the tax credits largely - the refundable child tax credits under the Federal Income Tax Act, and also our own personal income tax credits and property tax credits - that is why you have such a high level at the lowest income groupings.

As you go across the board the tax expenditures from income of \$5,000 up to \$20,000 does not change. It stays at about 4-10 percent. After that it starts to increase. After \$20,000 it starts going up by a couple of percent a category until you get up to the \$50 - \$75,000 and it's taken a substantial jump, now it's up to about 8 percent; \$75,000 to \$100,000 incomes is up to about 10; \$100,000 to \$200,000 incomes is up to about 14; and then over \$200,000 incomes, they are up almost up to the level of the under \$2500 income people to approximately 26 percent to 27 percent of the total income.

That, I think, Mr. Speaker, is a real aberration on our tax system. It's one of the reasons that we have such a disproportionate amount of taxes falling upon the people who can least afford them and that is the wage-earner.

Income exclusions are basically items which give preferential treatment to capital gains. Income deductions, be they charitable deductions or \$1,000 deduction for investment income on pension incomes for the taxpayers over reported in incomes of over \$50,000, 87 percent of the total deductions for income averaging annuity contracts were claimed by people with incomes over \$50,000.00.

RRSP's are another major factor and the more money you have the more money one is free to put in up to the maximum amount and at the upper income levels most people are able to take the full maximum amount allowed to put into RRSP's. The exemptions most benefit - this is straight exemptions for spouses, for children and other dependants and for the disabled - mostly impact the people they should be impacting and that is the middle-income earner and

the lower-income earners. The tax credits are about the only tool that we have to try and build some progressivity into the tax system at the provincial level.

Unfortunately, when the previous government was in office, they attempted to do away, or at least lessen the impact of the tax credit system on the lower income people, but they did absolutely nothing to try and counteract the high tax breaks given to the upper-income categories. As a matter of fact, the one thing they did do, is they reduced the income surtax on the highest income brackets. At the same time they were doing that they turned around and they tried to reduce, and effectively did reduce, the number of tax credits going to the lowest income earners.

That, Mr. Speaker, is a very vivid description, I think, of the differences between a New Democratic Party Government and a Conservative Government, because when we look for the tax system, we look for some equity in a tax system, we look across the share of who is contributing to the tax system, who is contributing to the welfare of the province, who is contributing to the cost in society and anyone who doesn't think that the society with a high quality of life doesn't cost money to maintain, is living in Disneyland.

With tax expenditures and effective taxation rates - I have another table I'd like to table for the information of the House - and it shows the difference with tax expenditures and without tax expenditures of what the effect of tax rates would be. We have, as should be, a negative balance for the lowest income groups and after that, a slight increase right up to about the \$100,000 to \$200,000 range - very slight, mind you, very very slight, nothing reflected - it gets up to barely 20 percent after tax expenditures. People with an income range between \$100,000 and \$200,000 pay a mere 20 percent of the average tax rates. So when people talk about incremental tax rates and what their actual tax rates are, I would say that the tax credits at least destroy any amount of progressivity that is in a tax rate.

At the top end, those with incomes of over \$200,000, it's unique to see, or not unique - it's very sad to see - a substantial reduction in the amount of taxes paid, back to the level of someone making \$20,000 to \$25,000, back to about a 12 or 14 percent effective tax rate. This kind of situation, Mr. Speaker, I think has to be addressed. It cannot be addressed simply by the province, which is Manitoba, it must be addressed by the whole country.

The Federal Government started to address it in 1979 with, I think, what can be most described as a relatively feeble attempt. There was a tremendous backlash to them monkeying with the taxation system, which effectively reduced the amount of benefit that individuals in a higher income bracket would receive from tax expenditures and they backed away from those. They backed away from the ones that affected the corporations as well. What they in effect did with those actions, Mr. Speaker, is they turned around and they just wrote back into The Tax Act a bunch of loopholes that had been initially attempted to be changed in the fall of 1980s Budget.

It showed 50 percent of those in the top income categories benefiting from the tax reductions for capital gains and 55 percent from the tax credit for dividend incomes. The figures for under the \$50,000

category, which is a pretty high category, were not anywhere near the 50 and the 55 percent for the category over the \$50,000, they were 5 and 6 respectively, 5 and 6. Maybe the Federal Government twisted that around and brought in the 6 and 5 program from it, I'm not really quite sure. —(Interjection)— Yes, they're very very recognizable, lucky numbers. Yes, lucky numbers for everyone except for the wage earner.

Now, Mr. Speaker, when one sees the gross inequities in a taxation system that we have inherited, one must call, and it's only responsible that we do call, for a Canadian-wide investigation, if you wish, an inter-parliamentary review of the Canadian tax system.

I have some information here from other countries as well, and the situations are somewhat similar in that most of them have had fairly significant increases in the individual income tax responsibility for paying for the cost of society; whereas the corporate taxes have dropped. In Canada-wide, since 1955, the individuals' income taxes, as a percentage of total tax receipts by the Government of Canada, were approximately 20 percent. By 1980 they had increased from 14 percent to 34.2 percent - a 13.7 percent increase. Corporation income taxes on the other hand, between '55 and '80 decreased almost 7 percent and I would suggest that the '83s and '82, when '82 is done, that 10 percent figure - in 1955 it was 17.6, in 1980 it's down to 10 percent, I'll bet it's probably not much more than 5 to 6 percent. That much, so there we are, back to 6 and 5 percent. So you will have approximately a 12 percent reduction in the burden of corporations to paying for the costs of society, which they benefit from.

Individuals, on the other hand, turned around and had to pay the additional amount of taxation. Almost all the other types of taxation are relatively level, except with big inequities coming in the corporation and the individual income taxes.

One substantial alteration from that is the types of deductions that we have introduced with the levy for post-secondary education and health. In other countries they are starting to move into that and have been over a number of years.

I'll take one example here - it would be in Japan - in 1955 approximately 6.5 percent of their income came from social security contribution receipts, as a percentage of total tax receipts in that country - 6.5 percent. By 1975 they were up, Mr. Speaker, to about 15.5 percent - a 9 percent increase.

Norway went from 1955 some 4.5 percent of the total income comes from this source to 15.2 percent. In Sweden there was a much more dramatic rise, from 2 percent to 27 percent. But in Sweden as well, I believe there was a substantial decrease in the income tax; whereas we had an individual income tax that went from 20 to 34 percent of total tax receipts. In Sweden individual income taxes reduced from 53 percent of the total government take down to 41 percent, a substantial reduction.

If we were to switch to that form of taxation, Mr. Deputy Speaker, I would suggest there are far fewer loopholes or there are next to no loopholes that corporations can hire expensive tax accountants and tax lawyers for, to get around the income tax system and pass the burden of the cost to society on to the individual. By doing this and bringing in these forms of taxation, as our Minister of Finance brought in last

year, it eliminates the loopholes, it tries to bring back into balance and there are corporation capital taxes and our levy for post-secondary education still does not bring us anywhere near the level of corporate contributions towards the provincial coffers, as we had back in the early '70s and in the '50s and '60s. Mr. Speaker, in the couple of minutes that I have left, I would like to, I believe - what have I got two or three minutes - two minutes left? Thank you.

I would like just to touch upon one point briefly in closing. That is the need for our society and need for our Governments, both federal, provincial and municipal, and the need of the individuals within society to be looking far more not at our pasts, which seems to be a preoccupation of many people on the Conservative side of this House and in the U.S., I might add, as well, in trying to bring back the glorious '50s, but we have to look towards a future with a very changed prospective. I think that we should be looking and trying to become much more of a convivial and non-exploitive society, a conservative society, Mr. Speaker, where the needs and values of environmental assessment and impact statements are given their just place in society; where they are valued the same as a cross-benefit study is valued. No longer, no longer, Mr. Speaker, is our environment free.

The environment and the degradation of our environment is exceptionally costly. It is not the corporations who pollute the environment or the individuals who pollute the environment who pay - it is society as a whole that pays. We must be looking and searching for a higher quality of life, and a higher quality of life does not mean more quantity, which we have emphasized so much in the past years. Let's put up our cost of living or put up - well, that's what happens when you start looking at quantities instead of quality. You start pushing up your cost-of-living; you start reducing the actual benefits that individuals receive out of their government as a whole.

We need to concentrate on the goals of a conservative society, the goals of a non-exploited society, the goals of a society which gives human beings their just deserves, which gives human beings the real purpose of government to serve them. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Order please, the honourable member has expended his time.

The Honourable Member for Sturgeon Creek.

**MR. J. JOHNSTON:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I certainly hoped that the Speaker has the opportunity to peruse Hansard and I would like to say that I sincerely am glad to see that he overcame his health problems that he had last year, that he is operating well and his health will continue to stay exceptionally well in the future. I congratulate him for having this office that he has and, as we know, has a very tough time with, and I would certainly hope that situations that arose today will not have to arise again.

I congratulate you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, for being elevated into that position. I would only hope that in your comments in the House in the future that you would remember that you are the Deputy Speaker when making comments about people in this House.

To the Mover and Second. I thought the Mover did

an excellent job. I must say though that I've never been a person that was known not to be direct. I can't say that I agree with the words of the honourable member, but her presentation was done well, well researched, and certainly she has her constituency at heart when she is making those remarks.

To the Seconder, I would only say that he still doesn't seem to catch the atmosphere of this House. One of his remarks was "Couldn't we all get together and make this province work well." Well, I happen to know, Mr. Speaker, that the suggestion was made to the Government that the Opposition should attend the Summons Conference. I'm rather disappointed that we weren't invited and disappointed about the fact that the Member for Thompson could make those statements when we never had the chance to work with them on that particular conference.

I'd like to compliment the Member for Rupertsland, as everybody else has done. His presentation and his speech in this House was, I believe, exceptional.

Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Finance stood up in his place at the beginning of his speech this year, and before he got more than three or four paragraphs into the speech, he said, "Manitobans are coming back. We have an increase of 10,000 in one year. They're coming back, Mr. Speaker; we have an increase of 10,000 Manitobans and they couldn't do it in four years in office." Mr. Speaker, these are the type of statements that are given to the House and obviously are accepted by honourable members when they receive them and, you know, it disappoints me as members that they don't choose to examine where the numbers come from.

Mr. Speaker, we had a minus from October 1st to September 30th in interprovincial migration of 729. We had 3,466 new immigrants who came to us internationally, and when you subtract that, you have an increase of incoming people of 202,737, but we had a minus in interprovincial migration. Mr. Speaker, the reason why it's 202,737 immigrants, people who joined us from other countries - but the reason for the 10,000 figure, Mr. Speaker, is that we had 874 deaths and we had 16,930 births. So that, Mr. Speaker, is the reason why we get to the 10,000 increase in the Province of Manitoba, but as I said, the Minister of Finance obviously didn't take the opportunity - it's right here. It says, Manitoba's demographic statistics quarterly are presented by Statistics Canada, and it's very available. Mr. Speaker, if the Minister doesn't realize this, he just has to pick up his phone, call Statistics Manitoba and I would be willing to bet that a Minister calling for the statistics would have them in his hands within an hour.

Mr. Speaker, the Minister also says retail sales are up. Well, the investigations of the figures that I have is that they're not up quite as much as inflation is within the province; and those are the two items that he immediately starts out with. So what do we see? We see statements being made in the House that haven't been checked, which are misleading, misleading.

As the motion of my leader says, misleading the people of Manitoba in credibility. How can we in this province, in this House, personally accept the credibility when we continue to have misleading statements presented to us?

When the previous member that just spoke to us,

Mr. Speaker, he started out last Friday and he said to us - he gave us a lecture really on the decorum and the Legislature of Manitoba and what he felt it was coming to. Well, Mr. Speaker, I will give some reasons why it has come to this if he thinks so and I'll tell him when it started. But, Mr. Speaker, I will say to the honourable member, I'm elected by the people of Sturgeon Creek and at no time will he tell me what to do when I'm not in this House - that decision is yours - or when I'm out of this House especially, he will not tell me what to do.

So, Mr. Speaker, let's take it to where it all started. It all started the night the Premier was elected as the Leader of the NDP Party in Manitoba. Mr. Speaker, all of the members are following the same example. It comes from the top, so we can't really put all the blame onto the members on the other side for making misleading statements when that is the way they are led. On the second page of the Premier's acceptance speech as Leader of the NDP Party, he said this: "Only this morning a gentleman approached me at the rear of this convention, who arrived here from Tokyo yesterday, and advised me that four companies that had been located in Manitoba during the period of the Democratic Party had withdrawn from Manitoba." Mr. Speaker, I have attached to that statement the letters from the four companies who said they are there when he said they had gone. On the second page of his acceptance speech, Mr. Speaker, begins the misleading statements. Then, Mr. Speaker, this was brought up in the House when we were the Opposition, this Manitoba economy slumps, where we proved that at least four of the companies named here as businesses closed were still in operation. That, Mr. Speaker, is the type of misleading statements that go out by the First Minister of this province while he was in Opposition, and again, can you blame the people on the other side for misleading statements or not accurate statements or not enough research when the First Minister is the guilty one in the party. He is the leader.

On February 4, 1981, in an "Economy hits bottom" statement - overall economic growth and energy savings would have been aided if orderly development of Hydro was not cancelled in 1978. Mr. Speaker, I hold up to this House the prospectus that was presented by this Government when they took office, which stated: Electric power construction which represented 15 percent of the total construction expenditures in '76 declined thereafter, reflecting the decision made in mid-1977 by the NDP Government by the Ed Schreyer Government. Mr. Speaker, that went out to everybody from the Premier of this province.

Mr. Speaker, the Premier in 1982, between March and April, in the Manitoba Business Magazine, he states in this magazine, "I don't think it's any accident that our business bankruptcy rate increased by 130 percent last year - 130 percent. Mr. Speaker? Statistics Canada, or not Statistics Canada - from Consumer and Corporate Affairs of Canada - he could phone up very easily and get the information which states that business bankruptcies in 1981 in the Province of Manitoba increased by 58.4 percent. Now, isn't that a long way from 130 percent? Mr. Speaker, again it's pretty obvious that it comes from the top. There is no question that the First Minister does not seem to take seriously what he states, he certainly does not check

his facts, and anybody in his position should check the facts thoroughly before making statements.

He made the statement that the increase in health construction was 100 percent in the Province of Manitoba; he made that in a speech in Vancouver and then he was questioned on that in this House, Sir. He then gives the answer, when he is questioned, that we don't have to give those answers until Estimates.

Mr. Speaker, do you really believe, Sir, or are we expected to believe that the First Minister of this province makes a speech in another province, makes a statement there and then puts it out in his year-end report, the same statement, without having the research done to know whether the facts or figures are right, and if he has the facts or figures, all he has to do is to present them to this House. All he has to do is present them to this House, Sir, and he would be in the position of being right or wrong. If he wants to give his research people a real good going over for not giving him the proper information, he certainly has the right to do so if the facts aren't right, but all he has to do, Mr. Speaker, is come forward and tell us or table where those statistics have come from that he presents to the people of the Province of Manitoba.

Mr. Speaker, I go back to something that I have mentioned before in this Legislature and I would not have brought it up again if I hadn't heard the compliments of the Member for Elmwood to the Minister of Brandon East regarding his great job that he did on explaining the economic decline in Manitoba over four years. Mr. Speaker, the facts and figures are all there before us and I assure you when the record is put out by the Department of Economic Development, the book that was being put together when I left, which the Minister says is coming or said it was coming during Estimates last year, when that comes forward you will see that the last four years - '77, '76, '75, '74 - were nothing but decline in this province and you know, Mr. Speaker, I have a report, there is a report available that tells you that the province declined in manufacturing and private investment in this province for four years. The figures that were put forward by the Member for Brandon East were figures that said we weren't doing as well as the rest of Canada. But, Mr. Speaker, we were moving up from where they left us and ever since this Government has been elected, we have been moving down. We have been moving down.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to table the report that said Decline in Manitoba under the Conservative Government, and attached to that report is a brief note that was put together by the Department of Economic Development and presented to me October 27, 1981 by economists in this Government who actually drive holes, in fact, they drive this right over the dam as to the accuracy and the misleading statements that were put forward in it and the twisting of figures, Mr. Speaker. The Member for Brandon East, I believe at one time worked for Statistics Canada and he used those words any way he liked and I table that report, Mr. Speaker.

If he doesn't agree with it - the Member for Brandon East doesn't agree with it - or any of the members on the opposite side don't agree with it, talk to the economists that work within the Department of Economic Development in this province who prepared that brief.

Mr. Speaker, then we have the situation comes for-

ward of making any statement, twisting any figures at any time, then we have the bible, then we have the one that put the topping on the cake, we have a document here that anybody should have been ashamed to put out. We have a document that the First Minister, when you read those paragraphs, should have been ashamed to sign. It's absolutely impossible to do what he said he was going to do, and yet he signed that statement.

Mr. Speaker, the words that are given about jobs, that there would be nobody out of work, those inferences, no businesses would go broke because of high-interest rates. That's bad enough, but to lead the people on on the basis that there would be jobs because we were going to develop our great heritage is really what I call discouraging to the people of Manitoba. "Orderly development of northern generating stations would commence immediately." Immediately. Mr. Speaker, I heard the comment from the member saying, if they weren't properly developed. When you make a statement that you are going to develop them immediately, you must have some ideas of developing or properly developing, and we haven't seen them as yet. We haven't seen one thing.

The people of Manitoba have been encouraged by our great heritage of Hydro for the last many years in this province. It has created jobs in this province. It has had all kinds of spin-off industries creating jobs and to play games with the people of Manitoba making statements like that, I would say is disgusting to the least and it all comes from the First Minister.

The first page, Mr. Speaker, has been read many many times, but you know, I probably call on more small businesses in this province at the present time, than anybody on the other side. I probably have, since I was 18 years old, called on businesses in this province and I have never seen them more depressed, not because of the international-national situations; the depression comes from a 1.5 employee tax in this province; hairdressers, barbers, farmers, non-profit —(Interjection)— yes, lawyers, banks, yes, everybody. I said that last year. Everybody in this province has been discouraged to hire people. That's really what you've said to them. If the honourable members opposite, any one of them sitting there, own a business and they say right now, if I hire somebody in my business, if they don't take into consideration that their cash flow costs will go up by 1.5 percent on everybody they hire, if they don't take it into consideration, they're not businessmen. I don't know of anybody in business that cannot or will not take that into consideration, Mr. Speaker.

The Minister of Finance, he comes along and he says, well, it's not that bad, it's 2 percent and if you don't get the \$70 million and you need \$140 million, you need double. He said, they all say where are you going to get the money from? Well, Mr. Speaker, when I say to the honourable gentlemen on the other side of the House, if you can't find 1 or 2 percent of your budget, move over and we over here will do it for you.

It's very obvious the Minister of Finance doesn't know where the money was coming from. He was asked a question in this House the other day which said, how much money are the savings that you presented to us last Tuesday, that the Government is going to take on, how much money is it going to bring in? The Minister said he didn't know. Maybe he

didn't say that. He didn't answer the question. Any Minister of Finance sitting with his Cabinet or his caucus that doesn't say I am going to present today, a financial statement to the Legislature of the Province of Manitoba, and I want from all of you how much saving you're going to have in each department, and if he doesn't take his own little computer and add it up, certainly somebody in his department will, that will tell him how much the saving is going to be, but he doesn't know. He didn't tell us. Then, he places before the people of Manitoba, a financial statement that says we're \$1.6 million off \$500 million deficit.

You know, Mr. Speaker, some of the articles in the paper that I've read since he did that are rather amazing. He doesn't seem to be too concerned about it because other provinces are having a tough time. I watched the Minister on television one Saturday afternoon on channel 13 talking to the university group. He said, do you know you're better off than you are in any other province and do you know when we even inferred that on this side, we got guffawed at and said, this is Manitoba, but the Minister of Finance, his only claim to fame is what they do in other provinces.

Now, Mr. Speaker, a Minister of Finance should be working very seriously to do something within Manitoba that is capable of being done in Manitoba to help the economic situation, but that doesn't seem to be his concern. He says, we're all right because things are going wrong in other provinces and other parts of the world.

Mr. Speaker, I would read to you the May 8th, 1982 Free Press, and this article I believe, it was Mr. Green that was talking, and I believe he was in a debate with the Minister of Economic Development. He said, the NDP representative, now a Cabinet Minister, denied the necessity to increase taxes. She told the people of Manitoba that monies would be raised through public investment. Mr. Speaker, "monies will be raised through public investment." The amount of public investment required to raise \$500 million, that type of public money is not available, and that was documented by the Member for Turtle Mountain last year very clearly. It is not available for them to do it, so what do we hear about? We hear about ManOil, it won't produce that much money. We hear about Hydro being started, and it isn't going to be started. The Manitoba Hydro Board has basically said it can't start until 1984 unless you have some place to sell power. Where is this strategy that we heard about? The Minister of Economic Development, last year in Estimates, complimented our Government on the manufacturing investment that was done in Manitoba in our time, but she added, "but you have no overall strategy." You have no overall strategy it was what she said after. Now, Mr. Speaker, where is this strategy that we hear about from the NDP?

Mr. Speaker, the NDP Government were handed three projects on a platter. Sir. They were handed the Power Grid, which has been botched by the Member for Transcona, the Minister of Mines and Energy, Mr. Speaker, it has been completely run down. The papers have shown it. All the Minister of Mines and Energy has to do is table the final agreement. He knew what our final one was, why doesn't he table his? He hasn't done that, so he has botched it.

Mr. Speaker, the heritage of Hydro to the people of

Manitoba in this province is one that we don't take lightly, and the people don't take lightly. Here we have a situation where a Government has ruined the negotiations for the Hydro Grid probably for one awful long time. I don't know that we'll ever move it back. We have a Minister working hard saying, I'm going to sell power to the United States, and the previous governments sold power to the United States; but he is resting on his laurels that that will be his saviour. We will sell that power, probably less than what we have paid for it, to put it in place. The Americans and anybody who is purchasing knows when you have a surplus that they're in the bargaining position. It will hold back the construction of Limestone, but really what will it do? Mr. Speaker, the member should realize this. It will create jobs in the United States. They will use our power to build industry, to create jobs in the United States, make products in the United States which we in Canada, in Manitoba will end up buying back. That's what the Minister of Mines and Energy and this Government has done to the Province of Manitoba with our Hydro heritage. That's almost criminal for any Manitoban to do a thing like that.

Mr. Speaker, the Alcan Project was one that was in the centre of Manitoba. It was going to create many jobs and we all know that the market of aluminum is down. We all know that the Grande Baie Plant that the Aluminum Company of Canada built, the last one they built was delayed for four years because of market problems, but they finally went ahead with it. What's happened in Manitoba? When Alcan left Manitoba —(Interjection)—

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please, order please.

**MR. J. JOHNSTON:** They bought property in Quebec, who welcomes them. There was a comment made, and I am not sure which member on the other side made the statement, about dirty industry. It was said during this Throne Speech Debate, and I haven't the research to get at it.

Well, I asked the Minister of Mines and Energy if he had visited the Grande Baie Plant. I don't know whether he has yet. I wonder if he knows that they collect 96 percent of the omission in that plant, and they could go higher as they keep working on it. I wonder if he knows that it's the cleanest, most modern plant that you've ever seen, the big trolleys overhead and everything. They do not make it a sweatshop for people to work in. It's a good place to work in. I wonder if he knows that's all happened, but Mr. Speaker, as I said, it comes from the top. When the Premier keeps misleading people in this province and in this House, I can only expect, as I said, all honourable members to do the same thing because that's what they do.

Mr. Speaker, I will now say what my colleagues said, they didn't want it. They were going to put the potash in and I have trouble trying to understand why they didn't want these projects. The Hydro was government investment, to create jobs in Manitoba, you would have had a 25-year, at least, construction plan on the Nelson. The Government would have been involved in the potash. That's what they agree with. Alcan would have gone it on their own but, Mr. Speaker, they didn't want it. And why?

Now we come to the philosophy. They believe that the Government should own all the plants that have anything to do with resources in this province. They also believe, Mr. Speaker, that they want to have control because they don't want the money to leave the province, that's what they say. They haven't got enough money to put it in place, Mr. Speaker, not one of them. Then what happens? Then the small businesses are the suckling pigs onto the big government enterprises and they have control over everything.

Mr. Speaker, this Government does not govern, they rule. The Government enjoys ruling people, they don't enjoy governing. This Government believes that they should have as much control over the farmland, the farm industry, as they can possibly get. They tried to do it with beef once, a session awhile back, and they failed and every time they find an industry that is faltering a bit, boy, that's the time when they throw out the rope to really suck them in. That's the time when they really reach out to get control. That is the philosophy of the honourable members on the other side. The honourable members on this side —(Interjection)— well then, Mr. Speaker, if that's not the case, produce the final agreement on Hydro. If that's not the case, produce the final discussions with Alcan, and if that's not the case, produce the final discussions regarding the potash that they had with the NDP Government while NDP Government was in power in Saskatchewan. If I am wrong, produce it. Very very simple, Mr. Speaker. —(Interjection)— The young fellow in the front bench over there, he just roams through life and thinks it's a great big joke and he hasn't realized that it isn't yet.

Mr. Speaker, they're going into the insurance business and only to get cashflow, that's the only reason that they want to go into the insurance business. I will tell you that when they went into the insurance business in Manitoba, in Autopac, they said there was a need. When they went into the business of the government insurance corporation extending themselves into other general insurance, they said there was a need. Pardon me, they didn't say there was a need, they're saying what they say now, they say private industry does not mind competition, that's what they're saying, mind you there was no need, there's 100 insurance companies out there, there was no need, but I'll tell you why it was successful, the Saskatchewan Government Insurance Corporation, and your life insurance maybe the same way. When we put the Manitoba Housing and Renewal Corporation general insurance out for tender when we became government, and we put it out for tender in 1979, we saved \$286,000, and they had been told by the government that they had to buy it from the government insurance company.

My colleague, the Member for Lakeside, released government corporations, they were allowed to go out and get quotes on their insurance and the savings were amazing. That's the way these fellows go into the insurance business. If they run the insurance business in this province they will lay down rules and regulations and we all know it because they did it before.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to just finish off by saying to the honourable members on the other side that Tommy Douglas in Saskatchewan was kicked out of

Saskatchewan, not just out of being Premier, he ended up being a Member from B.C. because he started to take control over the resources and the businesses and the people of Saskatchewan. The list of companies he had was a mile long when Mr. Thatcher came in. Mr. Blakeney just received the same rude awakening, the NDP in Saskatchewan, because they went ahead during that 11 years, they nationalized the potash, they took over the resources, they tried to control the farmland, they did all of those things and what did the people of Saskatchewan do? They gave them a lesson. —(Interjection)— Mr. Speaker, the member says it was cheap gas. He ought to talk to the farmers of Saskatchewan. He hasn't talked to anybody, but just talk to them, talk to the farmers of Saskatchewan.

So the rule of not govern but rule, that's what they want to have. We'll move them out of this province without any doubt because they are moving towards that in this province and they joke about it, but the people of Manitoba won't allow it, the people of Manitoba will only be misled for so long. They will only be misled by that Premier for so long who says anything at anytime according to these statements that I have in front of me and he has spread it through his own caucus. You wonder why the decorum in this House has gone down since he became the Leader and the Member for Transcona who twisted words yesterday, that was absolutely disgusting, that was dangerous that anybody — I personally have an ethnic background, and I tell you I'm proud of the ethnic background of this province, I'm proud of everybody that has one, and anybody that would play with it as loosely as the Member for Transcona played with it is a danger to this province and should be out.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please. The honourable member's time has expired.

The Honourable Member for The Pas.

**MR. H. HARAPIAK:** Mr. Speaker, I too am pleased to have the opportunity to make a contribution to the Throne Speech.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to see that you have recovered from the misfortune you had last summer. It is my prayer that God will grant you the health, the wisdom and understanding that you will need to continue to give us the guidance in the affairs of this House.

I would also like to congratulate the Member for River East for his appointment to the position of Deputy Speaker. He has demonstrated by his participation over the last year that he is worthy of the position.

I would also like to congratulate the Member for Burrows on his appointment as Deputy Chairman of the Committee of the Whole. Having had the privilege of serving in that position last year, I know that he, too, is going to require prayers for patience to survive that position.

I would also like to commend both the Mover and the Seconder of the Throne Speech. They both gave an excellent response and they have set standards for all of us to follow.

I would also like to congratulate my four colleagues who have joined the Cabinet since the House last sat

They have already demonstrated that they will add to the quality of the decisions that are made for this humane, compassionate Government.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my gratitude to the people from the constituency of The Pas, who have continuously given me their support as their representative in the Legislature. I appreciate the direction that they have given me, and I feel that it is very important we continue to communicate. It would be difficult for me to represent as diverse a constituency as The Pas if that dialogue did not continue.

I would now like to touch on a few areas that were put forward in the Speech from the Throne. Northern Manitoba has been particularly affected by the state of our economy. The Government has recognized that we are financially limited, and for the number of people we can assist during these tough economic times, we have not sat back. Led by the Premier, most of the Cabinet Ministers have come to the northern part of the province to talk firsthand to the people who require assistance and there has been a lot of assistance provided.

There are many meaningful, long-lasting projects provided. For instance, in three of the northern communities, with the co-operation of the Federal Government, there has been modern fish-packing plants built which will be there for many years to come.

The province has also put over \$2 million into other communities, and I would challenge members of the Opposition to see that the project - to see if they provided - is not a positive alternative to the welfare system which they said was a proper alternative.

I would also want to mention the Work Activity Project that is presently established in The Pas. There are presently 35 people working involved with the work activity projects. These are people who would be out of work if this program was not going on. They are being taught the ethic of work. Each is given an opportunity for individual growth, which is leading to a positive change in their personality and their way of life. They are working in a few projects in the community, including the building of two homes and halls, which are also providing jobs for the private sector, which are badly needed.

Because of the recession over all of America, the sale of products produced in Manitoba Forestry Products has decreased. The workers have had to share some of the burden by taking several short layoffs. The layoffs have come after consultation with the Government, management and labour.

Mr. Speaker, during the recent Economic Summit, there was a consensus reached that there would be more co-operation between all sectors of the community to make for quicker economic discoveries.

Mr. Speaker, we believe that this communication should be extended to the workplace. We believe in the concept of industrial democracy. The Government will be moving towards having worker representation on Crown corporations. We believe that workers' representation there will lead to a greater degree of co-operation and teamwork between the workers, management and board of directors. Experience has shown that with worker participation comes more democracy in a workplace, increased economic efficiency and improved atmosphere in the area of



industrial relations.

It is the intention of this Government to appoint direct workers to the Crown corporation of Manfor, which we are hopeful will become a model for the rest of the corporations of this province to follow.

Mr. Speaker, while I am speaking on the area of The Pas, I would like to stress the importance of the forestry industry to our economy. In 1981, the value of the forest products in this province was \$440 million. Manitoba forests also provide the necessary setting for a multimillion dollar tourist and recreation industry. The Department of Natural Resources has found in their studies that Manfor resources were exceeding the natural renewable resource of the forest. The department has been aware of this for many years, but the plea for assistance fell on deaf ears, until the Minister of Natural Resources and the Minister of Energy were shown the statistics, realized it and acted and started the . . .

The Department of Natural Resources have established a nursery in the Clearwater Lake area in The Pas. There are presently two greenhouses constructed in The Pas, and they will be in operation starting in February. When the project is completed, there will be 20 greenhouses in operation, which will produce four million trees annually. There will be 12 permanent jobs and many hundreds of jobs will be created during the planting season.

Mr. Speaker, recently the Member for Inkster and I accompanied Mr. McKinley to Hadashville, where we were shown the complete operation of their bare root stocks growing and also their container seedlings. They have a very impressive operation at Hadashville. —(Interjection)—

Mr. Speaker, members opposite seem to feel that they are the only people who can speak on the area of agriculture. We also recognize that agriculture is the backbone of our economy. The Swan River area where I was raised, we also have a very productive part of the province. This past summer they were hit by a flood during the month of July. The Minister of Agriculture had a tour of the area and saw that many of the areas that were affected by the flood firsthand, and he is moving to prevent some of the floods on a permanent basis.

Mr. Speaker, there are still some people who would not believe that the area has the potential to become an agricultural area. In a study recently conducted by the Department of Agriculture, it was shown that there is a potential 5 million acres of arable land identified north of the 53rd Parallel. We must bring more of this land into production so that we can bring in all the support that is necessary for an agricultural community.

The concept of the "North feeding the North" must also be implemented. The rising cost of transportation has placed a great urgency on us to supply whatever foods we can locally.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please, order please. The time being 5:30. I am leaving the Chair to return at 8 o'clock this evening, at which time the honourable member will have 13 minutes remaining.