

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

2:30 o'clock, Wednesday, March 15, 1967

Opening Prayer by Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Presenting Petitions

Reading and Receiving Petitions

MR. R. O. LISSAMAN (Brandon): Mr. Speaker, I beg to present the petition of John Ogle Anderson and others praying for the passing of an Act to incorporate the Diocese of Rupert's Land Development Foundation.

MR. SPEAKER: Presenting Reports by Standing and Special Committees

Notices of Motion

Introduction of Bills

MR. WILLIAM HOMER HAMILTON (Dufferin) introduced Bill No. 33, an Act respecting the sale of water in and by the Town of Winkler to Co-op Prairie Cannery Limited of the Town of Winkler.

MR. SPEAKER: Before we proceed I would like to direct the attention of the honourable members to the gallery. On my right we have 45 students of Grade 9 standing, of the St. Malo Collegiate. These students are under the direction of Mr. Dufault. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Carillon.

On my left we have 35 students of the Upgrading class of the Pine Falls Vocational School. These students are under the direction of Mr. Kwalkeim and Mrs. Jardine. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Lac du Bonnet. On behalf of all the honourable members of the Legislative Assembly I welcome you here today.

Orders of the Day.

MR. RUSSELL PAULLEY (Leader of the New Democratic Party) (Radisson): Mr. Speaker, if I may, before the Orders of the Day, direct a question to the Honourable the Minister of Public Works. The question is, Mr. Speaker, does my honourable friend intend to post notices respecting Regulation 21/67 at various parts of the Legislative Building complex in order that the public will be aware of the fact that they are not to be permitted on these properties after midnight?

HON. STEWART E. McLEAN, Q. C. (Provincial Secretary) (Dauphin): Mr. Speaker, that course of action has not as yet been considered.

MR. PAULLEY: Which course of action may

MR. McLEAN: The course of action referred to by the Honourable the Leader of the New Democratic Party.

MR. PAULLEY: The posting of the signs? May I ask a supplement question, Mr. Speaker, pertaining to the same matter. Has the Honourable Minister of Public Works given any consideration to the possibility of lifting the curfew on the citizens of Manitoba during the holding of the Pan-Am Games in the City of Winnipeg when we hope to have visitors from all over the North American and South American continents as our guests?

MR. McLEAN: Mr. Speaker, elaborate and very considerable arrangements have been made already for entertaining the many guests we anticipate will be here during the time referred to.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, my question was whether the curfew of midnight will be lifted. I know that there are elaborate arrangements being made for the reception of our visitors. I want to know, however, from my honourable friend if the curfew will apply to them or will it be lifted?

MR. McLEAN: Mr. Speaker, the answer is there's no curfew to be lifted.

MR. T. P. HILLHOUSE, Q. C. (Selkirk): Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct a question to the Minister of Welfare. Under Section 11 (c) of the Social Allowances Act, the government is going to provide grants for work activity projects undertaken by municipalities either in co-operation with another person or with another municipality. Could the Minister advise me as to the work projects that the government has so far approved, or whether or no regulations have been passed by the government under that section outlining the types of work projects that the government will approve?

HON. J. B. CARROLL (Minister of Welfare) (The Pas): Mr. Speaker, I'm very happy to make comment on that question. As you know, we're still waiting for the regulations from Ottawa dealing with the work activity projects under the Canada Assistance Plan. Once we've received their regulations, then we will be able to proceed to accommodate the various kinds of work projects that may be put forward, or brought forward under our Social Allowances Act.

(MR. CARROLL cont'd.) Until such time as we have that, we have no plans to proceed with our own beyond the work activity projects that are available under the Winter Works program.

MR. HILLHOUSE: Well, at the present moment are there any officials from your department holding consultations with any of the municipalities in the Greater Winnipeg area in respect of this Section 11 (c)?

MR. CARROLL: There will be some discussions with municipalities in the province dealing with the amendments that were made last year to the Social Allowances Act and that affect again the implementation of the Canada Assistance Plan under which we will be sharing all of our welfare expenditures this year with the Government of Canada.

While I'm on my feet, Mr. Speaker, possibly I should reply to the question that was raised yesterday by the Member for Portage la Prairie who asked if an agreement had been signed with Ottawa. I would like to report that on the 27th of February we received the federal proposed agreement which we immediately referred to the Department for study. In the letter that referred that agreement to us, Mr. MacEachen indicated that further instructions would be coming from their officials with respect to this agreement. We received part of the further instructions on March 10th and we received additional instructions again on March 13th. This whole matter is still under review by the Department and will be going to Cabinet for consideration after the Department have completed their work on this proposed agreement.

MR. RUSSELL DOERN (Elmwood): Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct a question to the Minister of Education. According to a radio report of the last 24 hours, the population in senior high schools in Winnipeg declined from 8,200 to 7,900 in the past year - from this year compared to last year. Can you confirm this or deny it?

HON. GEORGE JOHNSON (Minister of Education) (Gimli): Well I can take no responsibility for the report. I'll be happy though to find out what my people know about it.

MR. SIDNEY GREEN (Inkster): Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct a question to the Honourable the Minister of Public Works. As I entered the building today I noticed that there were some young people scattered around the building painting on boards which could conceivably be signs, and I just wondered whether these people are in danger of having their property taken away from them or whether they have the consent of the Minister to paint these signs in the Legislative Building.

MR. SPEAKER: I believe that subject has been pretty well covered. The Honourable Member for Burrows.

MR. BEN HANUSCHAK (Burrows): Mr. Speaker, some three weeks ago I had asked the Honourable Attorney-General a question with respect to regulations connected with the federal Bankruptcy Act, and in particular the regulations governing the Orderly Payment of Debts section of the Act. At that time he had no knowledge, or he had indicated in the House that he had no knowledge whether the Province of Manitoba had received them but he said that he would take the question as notice. I would therefore wish to know, Mr. Speaker, whether in fact the Manitoba Government has given consideration to the regulations dealing with this section of the Bankruptcy Act, and if it has, when can we expect the Manitoba Government to take the necessary action to make that section of the Bankruptcy Act operative in Manitoba?

HON. STERLING R. LYON, Q. C. (Attorney-General) (Fort Garry): Mr. Speaker, the answer to the first question, have we given consideration to it, is yes; we can expect the Part 10, I believe it is, of the Bankruptcy Act which is the old Orderly Payment of Debts section, to come into force in Manitoba, I believe on the first of June of this year.

MR. STEVE PATRICK (Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Honourable the Minister of Labour. Is the Manitoba Labour Board required to give any reasons for its decisions?

HON. OBIE BAIZLEY (Minister of Labour) (Osborne): Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the honourable member would repeat the question please.

MR. PATRICK: Is the Manitoba Labour Board required to give reasons for its decisions?

MR. BAIZLEY: I'll take the question as notice, Mr. Speaker.

MR. GILDAS MOLGAT (Leader of the Opposition) (Ste. Rose): Mr. Speaker, I'd like to address a question to the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture. I was surprised to see in the newspapers this morning an announcement that the Deputy Minister of Agriculture - of Manitoba that is - has apparently been appointed as an Assistant Deputy Minister in Ottawa. Is this correct, and if so should not the House have been advised of this before we find it out in the newspapers?

HON. HARRY J. ENNS (Minister of Agriculture and Conservation) (Rockwood-Iberville): Mr. Speaker, I don't particularly know the procedure of notifying the House on staff changes. The statement by the Leader of the Opposition is true. I regretfully report to the House at this time then that we did lose our Deputy Minister, Mr. Jarvis, to the federal service. I would like to take the opportunity at this time, and I know most of the members would share with me, of saying a note of appreciation for Mr. Jarvis' services to the Province of Manitoba. Certainly I, as a new Minister, felt very fortunate in having the services of Mr. Jarvis at this time. However, I think that we can all look at it from the point of view that it's not Manitoba's loss; he is being offered a very meaningful position as Assistant Deputy Minister for the Canada Agricultural Department, and particularly in view of the fact that we hope to work very closely with the federal authorities on some of our agriculture and more specifically some of our ARDA projects, I know that his move to Ottawa at this time will stand Manitoba in good stead.

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Speaker, a subsequent question? Could the Minister indicate if a replacement has been selected and who that is. Insofar as his comments about working with the Department of Agriculture in Ottawa and ARDA, does ARDA not come under the Department of Forestry?

MR. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, in answer to the first question of the Leader of the Opposition - no. The second question is that while this is quite true and as such comes under the Minister of Forestry in Mr. Sauvé - the Honourable Mr. Sauvé - however, the special committee set up to deal on this is a special committee of Deputy and Assistant Deputy Ministers, and it's in that area that I am very thankful that we'll have Mr. Jarvis' counsel on Manitoba's behalf.

MR. HILLHOUSE: Mr. Speaker, on the assumption that the Honourable Minister of Agriculture has either heard or read the statement alleged to have been made by Senator Thorvaldson, namely, that \$9-1/2 million being spent in the Interlake area is a waste of money, would the Honourable Minister advise me if that is the views of the Government of Manitoba?

MR. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, certainly not.

MR. MOLGAT: Isn't it a fact that Senator Thorvaldson is no longer in the close counsels of my honourable friend the Leader of the government, Mr. Speaker?

HON. DUFF ROBLIN (Premier) (Wolseley): My honourable friend is at liberty to make any assumptions he wishes.

MR. NELSON SHOEMAKER (Gladstone): Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day are called, I would like to direct a question to my honourable friend the Minister of Public Utilities. Did he not inform the House the other day that as respects power toboggans that the only place that they could have on the Queen's Highway - the provincial trunk highways - was in crossing the road. That is, you couldn't go down the road, you couldn't go down the ditch, you couldn't go between the fences, but you could, in fact, cross the road. Am I correct?

MR. McLEAN: Municipal roads.

MR. SHOEMAKER: Municipal roads. You couldn't use the highways in other words.

MR. McLEAN: Mr. Speaker, I read the provisions of the Highway Traffic Act and I would not care to give any interpretation to the Honourable the Member for Gladstone.

MR. SHOEMAKER: . . . a question. Is he aware that his Department are, in fact, breaking the laws then, because in the annual report of the Manitoba Telephone System there is a beautiful picture there of a toboggan being used to service the telephone lines in the province. I refer you to Page 11: "Construction crews uniquely employ power toboggans during the winter months to combat the deep snows and service the lines." That's the Manitoba Telephone. I'm completely surprised that my honourable friend is not aware of the number of toboggans that the Manitoba Telephone System use, and are they licensed, or are they not licensed, and how do they get around the Highway Traffic Act? It's my honourable friend's department; surely he knows

MR. JOHN P. TANCHAK (Emerson): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Honourable Minister of Health. About three weeks ago I asked the Honourable Minister about the sale of LSD in the Province of Manitoba and at that time the Minister replied that the sale of LSD in Manitoba is under full control; there is not too much danger. But the next day I don't think the Minister was too sure and he said he would check further. Now in view of a recent conviction of the sale of LSD in Manitoba, could the Minister give us a little more information on how tight the control of LSD is in Manitoba?

HON. CHARLES H. WITNEY (Minister of Health) (Flin Flon): Mr. Speaker, following the question, I had the Department make several enquiries of such people as the Police and our own health units within the metropolitan area of Winnipeg, and with the University officials, and

(MR. WITNEY cont'd.) at that time we could find that there was no problem with LSD in the province or in the metropolitan area. We still are of that opinion. There may have been this incident that was referred to in the newspaper the other day. We have, however, asked the Dominion Council of Health when they meet in April of this month to have this matter on the agenda. At the present time you can only obtain it by a prescription, and a prescription is a very difficult thing to get. It's very difficult even for any medical practitioners to obtain LSD under the present rules and regulations that have been set down primarily under the Food and Drug Administration.

MR. SHOEMAKER: Mr. Speaker, am I not going to get an answer to my question from the Minister of Public Utilities?

MR. McLEAN: Mr. Speaker, I am not aware that the picture to which the Honourable the Member for Neepawa-Gladstone has made reference shows a snowmobile or power toboggan on a highway or a road. I would think that the honourable member might well have put that question to the committee if he was concerned - to the Telephone System in committee - if he was concerned about it.

MR. SHOEMAKER: . . . to the fact that my honourable friend is Minister of Public Utilities and surely he has some jurisdiction over the law in this respect. This is the question - I haven't got an answer, and this is my honourable friend's annual report.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The Honourable Member for St. John's.

MR. SAUL CHERNIACK, Q.C. (St. John's): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister for Urban Development and Municipal Affairs subsequent to the reports in both newspapers yesterday dealing with the interim study on housing in Metro Winnipeg. I am wondering whether she has information that would confirm, deny or qualify the bald statement made in both newspapers to the effect that half the people in Metro Winnipeg are living in sub-standard or over-crowded accommodations or spending too large a portion of their incomes on housing.

HON. THELMA FORBES (Minister of Urban Development and Municipal Affairs) (Cypress): I haven't read the report. I'll take your question, though, as notice.

MR. CHERNIACK: Well then, Mr. Speaker, may I, as a supplementary question, volunteer to send the report over to the Honourable Minister and ask her to consider and advise us in due course whether this justifies a crash program of some type in regard to the housing conditions in this area. -- (Interjection) -- The Minister of Welfare seems to suggest that this is only an account. If the Minister of Municipal Affairs wishes to have it, I'll be glad to send it to her. If she doesn't, I won't. I'll send it then.

MR. SHOEMAKER: May I direct a question to my honourable friend the Attorney-General. Would he take this subject matter into hand and if the Public Utility are breaking the law, prosecute them the same as he would anyone else, and I refer you to Page 11 of the annual report in which they are using power toboggans and they are advertising the fact that they are.

MR. LYON: Mr. Speaker, I am sure that picture was taken over a year ago and I think the limitation period for prosecutions is about six months.

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Speaker, I would like to address a question - I presume it should go to the Leader of the House. Prior to the Christmas recess we had some questions about auto insurance, and the government then indicated that they would refer this matter to a committee - I believe the Statutory Orders and Regulations Committee, although I am not sure. Could the government indicate when it intends to proceed with this referral to the Committee?

MR. LYON: Mr. Speaker, that matter and I think a number of others that were held over from the last session, resolutions will be appearing before too long on the Order Paper referring these matters to the separate committees for study.

MR. LAURENT DESJARDINS (St. Boniface): Mr. Speaker, I'd like to ask a question of the Minister of Public Utilities. How many second-hand power toboggans does the Telephone Board have for sale?

MR. McLEAN: Mr. Speaker, I think that would be the proper subject matter of an Order for Return.

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to ask a question of the Honourable the Minister of Education. That is, I would like to ask him if he has an answer to the question I asked yesterday. He was going to check with the University. This was the special privileges granted re the swimming pool to the members of the alumni.

MR. JOHNSON: I have sent out an enquiry, Mr. Speaker, and as soon as I have a report I'll notify the House.

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Speaker, I have another question. I would like to thank the Minister of Health for the answer that he sent over to me to one of my questions, and I would like to remind him of the question that I have asked repeatedly: if there is anything being done to exempt the students, children of widows, from paying hospital premiums.

MR. WITNEY: It is in the hands of the Hospital Commission at the present time.

MR. PETER FOX (Kildonan): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Labour. In view of the disappointment I had yesterday on the vote that was taken on the Minimum Wage question, can the Minister of Labour inform the House how soon he expects a recommendation from the Minimum Wage Board?

MR. BAIZLEY: The answer is I can't, Mr. Speaker.

MR. FOX: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Can he determine or ask the Board to make some haste in this, because I think this is a vital matter? Costs are rising continually.

MR. BAIZLEY: Mr. Speaker, I am well aware it's a vital matter and this is why they shouldn't be hurried.

MR. PATRICK: Mr. Speaker, I am not sure which Minister I can direct this question to. Perhaps the Minister of Public Works may be able to answer it. I understand a pedestrian tunnel will be built connecting the Civic Centre, the Winnipeg Civic Centre to the Centennial Centre. I wonder if the Province of Manitoba is sharing any of the costs.

MR. McLEAN: Mr. Speaker, only through the Centennial Corporation who are concerned in the matter inasmuch as it affects the Concert Hall and so on. It is my understanding that the revenues to be obtained are expected to pay the costs involved, but the arrangements are with the Manitoba Centennial Corporation.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

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

MR. GORDON E. JOHNSTON (Portage la Prairie): Mr. Speaker, I wish to move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Emerson, that an Order of the House do issue for a Return showing the following information:

1. The names of all individuals who were provincial candidates for any political party in the elections since January 1, 1958, and who have been appointed to any Manitoba Government Board, Commission, Committee, Agency, Enquiry, Study or Advisory Group, or to any Manitoba Civil Service position or who have been employed in any capacity by the Manitoba Government, giving the position to which appointed.
2. The date of any such appointment and the duration of the appointment.
3. The amount paid to each such individual in each year, for all purposes including salary, expenses and allowances.
4. The political party such candidates represented.

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

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Lakeside, that an Order of the House do issue for a Return showing the following information regarding the Law Reform Committee:

1. When the Committee was established.
 2. How it was established.
 3. The names and addresses of all the present Committee members.
 4. The dates when they were originally appointed.
 5. The date when they were last re-appointed.
 6. The number of meetings held each year since the establishment of the Committee.
 7. The matters or subjects referred to the Committee showing:
 - a) by whom referred
 - b) when referred
 - c) the action taken by the Committee
 - d) the date when a reply or recommendation was made by the Committee and to whom made
 - e) the action taken by the recipient of the reply or recommendation.
 8. The subjects or matters taken into study by the Committee of its own volition and any recommendations received by the Government on such other subjects.
- MR. SPEAKER presented the motion.

MR. LYON: Mr. Speaker, we will accept this Order. On questions 7 and 8, of course the answers are subject to the usual rule re confidentiality and insofar as our records disclose the information that is required, having regard to the fact that this is a deliberative body. In other words, there is a lot of oral discussion goes on in the body of which no record is kept.

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Speaker, speaking on the reservation made by the Minister. Surely there is no confidentiality in this matter, is there? After all, the Minister of Urban Affairs the other day referred the subject to this committee. I presume it's a regularly authorized committee that should be reporting to this House. If this House is in fact going to refer things to that committee, then I think it is essential that the House be advised of the actions of this committee. What is the purpose of having the Law Reform Committee if it is not to refer to the House the matters which they are considering, and so I cannot see that there is here any question of a confidential nature. If we, in fact, have recognized such a committee and established it, and we are referring matters to it from this House, then I think that the matters should flow both ways; their recommendations come back to this House as well.

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

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable the Member for Lakeside, that an Order of the House do issue for a Return showing the following information on land at Winnipeg Beach, since 1960:

1. The legal description of all lands the Manitoba Government has purchased or is negotiating to purchase, and the size of each parcel.
2. Which parcels of land have been purchased to date by the Manitoba Government, and the date of purchase of each.
3. From whom the land was purchased.
4. The amount and terms of purchase.
5. Whether there were any other considerations.
6. When the land had previously been sold.
7. The amount it was sold for at that time.

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

MR. SPEAKER: The adjourned debate on second reading of Bill No. 38. The Honourable Member for Pembina.

MRS. CAROLYNE MORRISON (Pembina): I regret, Mr. Speaker, I must ask the indulgence of the House to have this matter stand. If anyone else wishes to speak, that will be fine.

MR. SPEAKER: Bill No. 56 and the proposed motion of the Honourable Leader of the Opposition in amendment thereto. The Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

MR. PATRICK: Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the amendment of my Honourable Leader that regulations for Bill 56 be immediately made public; and (2) that Bill 56 should be referred to the Standing Committee of Law Amendments for consideration and report after full opportunity has been given to the public to make its representations.

Mr. Speaker, it is my opinion that Manitoba's proposed 5 percent sales tax is going to have a disastrous effect on the development of our province. For these reasons I would like to say that the Bill should go to Law Amendments Committee for full discussion, because it's only a couple of days ago that we had a referendum on an issue that was not fully discussed and the people did not have full information, and it was defeated. I say for this reason it is most important, and this morning we had a brief given to everyone in this Chamber. It was put in the box by the Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce. On Page 3, I would like to refer the members to one of the comments made in the report and it is in reference to the Carter Commission. And, Mr. Speaker, I would like to quote this portion: "The Carter Commission in its recent comprehensive study of our national tax structure had many recommendations to make in the area of general tax administration. Chapter 32, Volume 5 deals with tax formation and calls for greater public participation in a parliamentary review of tax legislation. It proposed public discussion and hearing of all tax bills, and notes that in an increasingly complex society it has become almost impossible for any small group of tax experts restricted in their contacts largely to those who seek them out, to foresee even major implications of a proposal for tax reform, particularly one of a highly technical character. Some such procedure should be adopted in Manitoba and we believe that it would provide opportunity to avoid inequities which shall flow from such tax legislation." And that's the end of my quotation from that brief because everybody has a copy of it.

Mr. Speaker, many of the speakers before me have covered various aspects of the Tax Bill and I would like to confine my remarks to the construction industry and how it's going to

(MR. PATRICK cont'd.) affect industrial, commercial and residential construction in the Province of Manitoba. Mr. Speaker, personally I don't think that shelter and food should be taxed at any time and this is the reason that I'd like to confine my remarks to the construction industry. I feel that home ownership and home construction will be retarded by this 5 percent sales tax, increasing the actual price of homes. This will create a situation which is bound to reduce the number of home buyers and will have a marked effect with regard to employment in the house-building industry.

Mr. Speaker, throughout the years many levels of government have for a number of years encouraged home ownership as a basis of direct boost to employment and the general economy of the country so that its citizens can enjoy a very high standard of living which to a great extent is due to the high percentage of home ownership. I want to stress to this House it is most unfair, because this tax hits the people the hardest, the ones who can least afford it. I want to disagree with the Provincial Treasurer who when he introduced this tax said it is no burden on the people of Manitoba. I think it will be a great burden. He introduced the tax so he must have assumed that it's not going to be any burden. Mr. Speaker, what about the little man whose financial position has been degenerated beyond anything ever seen in this province, and done in a way which leaves him two choices: give up tax money or leave the Province of Manitoba.

I again say this tax is unjust and strikes hardest at the low income groups. As almost all the members in this House probably know, almost half of the working population of the city and indeed of this province receive an annual income below \$3,500. Not only do they pay taxes now on electricity and telephones but they will have to start paying a five percent sales tax starting June. Mr. Speaker, what about the people who cannot afford to buy a home and must live in rented premises? Their rent will have to be increased and maybe increased substantially. They indirectly will pay this because the apartment owner will have to raise the rent if he has to pay a tax on his services, and the builder will have to pay a tax on materials. What about the old age pensioner and other people of fixed income? What relief measures has the government come up for them? How about the Winnipeg Transit System? How are they going to meet their tax on their purchases when we consider the deficits over the last few years?

Mr. Speaker, right now I feel it is almost impossible for the average family to make ends meet. With all other taxes imposed on the people of this province I feel this one is just the last straw. I do feel that this will have a great effect on the construction industry in Manitoba. At the present time the concrete manufacturers will have double taxation. They already pay tax on royalties on sand and gravel. Today, the home owner through the Foundation Program was to get relief for his property tax. I feel that the five percent sales tax will increase the price for new houses, and as a result assessment on these houses will have to be increased, and thereby I don't believe the home owner will get a great benefit.

I would like to quote some statistics and I would like to inform the House that these statistics are from the MacLean Building Reports just to show the decrease in the construction of residential, commercial and industrial area that has taken place in 1966 as compared to 1965. There has been a great decrease, in some areas as high as 50 percent. Now personally, I feel the five percent sales tax will not help the situation. It will probably have a reduction again in 1967. In 1965 we had 2,069 residential starts. In 1966 we had only 1,603 which is over 20 percent decrease, or 466 units less. I know many members in this House will say, "Well this is due to the shortage of money that we experienced the last year." Well I would probably agree to some extent but the decrease is not as great in any other province as it is here in Manitoba.

What about the commercial construction? In 1965 we had 59,700,000; in 1966 we had 24,000,000, which is a decrease of over 50 percent. Industrial -- in 1965 we had \$45,500,000; in 1966 we had \$14,700,000, which is a \$30,000,000 decrease. These figures, Mr. Speaker, are just in Greater Winnipeg area. So I'm sure all the members would feel that this is a pretty serious situation that we're in today to have such a decrease.

I would like to also quote from the paper of March 3rd, 1967 - it was in the Tribune - what George Fanset, the City's Industrial Commissioner had to say about sales tax. I'm quoting: "George Fanset, the City's Industrial Commissioner, has revealed that last year was one of the most disappointing in the history of Industrial Development Board of Greater Winnipeg. 'We've had more disappointments in 1966 than in any other year that I've been with this board,' Mr. Fanset told the Board's annual meeting Tuesday at the Marlborough Hotel. He said: 'Many companies which were considering expansion in Winnipeg deferred their plans, and some . . .'"

(MR. PATRICK cont'd.) indefinitely, with the impact of tight money and high prices. Mr. Fanset said he felt the province's new equalized education tax which imposes a 33 mill assessment on industrial property and 9 mills on homes and farms will make the job of industrial development much more difficult in the future."

I think that we can agree with his statement because I think taxes are the chief reason for the low return from apartment investments in Winnipeg because realty tax now uses almost 20 cents on the dollar of rent and any increase will have a positive effect on apartment investment in Winnipeg. I believe there's some over 50,000 people in Greater Winnipeg now living in apartments. For example, if we used an assessed value of a sample apartment unit for tax purposes as an assessed value of \$5,300 on school levies only in the City of Winnipeg, and in 1966 with 34.65 mills resulting in a tax of \$183.70 per apartment, on estimates for 1967 it would be 33 mills as a foundation rate plus 12 mills for special rate, would bring a total of 45 mills resulting in a tax of \$239.62, or \$55.92 increase per apartment for schooling purposes only, and I don't think it's equitable to say that people living in apartments have to be taxed that much higher for schooling purposes only than the ones that are living in homes, and for this reason I think it would be worthwhile to have this Bill go into Committee that we can have all these arguments ironed out.

Mr. Speaker, I cannot find any valid reasoning to justify discrimination in taxation policies between one citizen and another to the effect of apartment people who pay more school taxes than home owners. I feel that this tax, if it is implemented, major money lenders will not make investments in Manitoba because of the realty taxes and the five percent sales tax. I know that the government has received many briefs from many organizations in the last few weeks and I have many of them here that I could quote from, but I think that all these people should have an opportunity to discuss and probably the result would be that we would have a much better Tax Bill if the government would allow this Bill to go into Law Amendments Committee.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I would support the position that is presently being taken with regard to this amendment, and I support it not so much because I think that the reference of this Bill to committee will result in an improved sales tax, I support it because I think that if this Bill were exposed to the type of public scrutiny that is now being suggested by the amendment of the Leader of the Opposition, that that public scrutiny would result in this Bill not being adopted by this Legislature. I don't think, Mr. Speaker, that there is any type of improvement or any type of renovating that could make this Bill an acceptable Bill for the purpose of taxation in the Province of Manitoba, and it's for this reason that I think that the amendment of the Honourable the Leader of the Opposition should be accepted.

Mr. Speaker, I think that the Bill, if exposed to public scrutiny such as is now being suggested, would not commend itself to the people of the Province of Manitoba or indeed even to the majority of the members of this House, because I submit that this Bill has been ill-conceived and is an inequitable form of taxation which is now being introduced in the Province of Manitoba to make our already inequitable pattern of taxes even more so.

Mr. Speaker, when the Bill was introduced, or at least at the tail end of the budget debate when the Honourable the Provincial Treasurer was justifying, or attempting to justify the five percent sales tax, he gave various arguments against adopting other forms of taxation, and he used figures which I'm going to try and repeat and I hope I'm doing it accurately. He said that we would have to double or treble the personal income tax -- double the personal income tax or treble the corporation tax, that we would have to put five times the surtax on personal income, 21 times the surtax on corporation income, or, in the alternative, that there would have to be a 25 to 30 percent increase of the total income tax and a 65 to 70 percent increase on the total rate of corporation tax.

Well I assume that these figures that have been quoted by the Provincial Treasurer are accurate, and I assume that he has used a method of calculating them which in fact derives at their accuracy as he has presented it. But frankly, Mr. Speaker, it's too complicated for me to understand what he has done, for me to be able to satisfy myself that the results that he in fact envisages are in fact correct. I think that there is a more simple way of assessing what would happen with the income tax if one looks at the revenue estimates for the Province of Manitoba and sees what the actual income tax is. Now as I read it, Mr. Speaker, the income tax is now approximately \$70 million for the year 1967, and my honourable friend can correct me if I'm wrong, but I'm reading from the revenue estimates of the Province of Manitoba, income and succession \$74.8 million, and the succession duty is a very small part of that so that

(MR. GREEN cont'd.) would leave \$70 million. We're seeking to raise, in 1967, \$33 million by means of a sales tax.

Now it would occur to me, Mr. Speaker, that the simplest statistic is that if we wanted to raise the entire amount by income tax that we are now suggesting be raised by sales tax, we have to add to the present income tax the sum of \$33 million. And of course if you add \$33 million to \$70 million you get an increase of roughly 50 percent. This is with regard to the revenue division of income and succession that is received by the Province of Manitoba and that doesn't include the amount of the equalization payment that is received from the Federal Government. So using that simple form of calculation, and I suggest that the Provincial Treasurer tell us what's wrong with that system, there would have to be an across-the-board increase of 50 percent of the Manitoba Income Tax to receive the same revenue that is now being contemplated as being received by the sales tax. Well, my honourable friend -- they say that an increase of 50 percent on the income tax, raising it 1-1/2 times what it presently is, that's indeed a very high increase, and therefore in order to save people a 50 percent increase in income tax we are going to do them the favour of instituting a five percent sales tax.

Well, Mr. Speaker, that just doesn't hold true. We don't save anybody taxes; we don't save anybody on income tax if we impose a sales tax. We merely collect the tax in another form, and what will be the effect of collecting it in another form? Will it in fact result in less than a 50 percent increase in the income tax? Has my honourable friend suggested that it will result in less than a 50 percent increase in the income tax? Because I think that if we examine what will happen to a person's taxes or income taxes by virtue of the sales tax, we will see that it doesn't, it doesn't reduce the amount of taxes that he would have to pay, and as a matter of fact in very few instances will people not be required to pay far more than a 50 percent increase in income tax. And I refer, Mr. Speaker, to the various levels of income earners in the Province of Manitoba, and I'm also referring, Mr. Speaker, to a married man with two children, a married man having two dependents, who would then have a basic exemption of \$2,700.00.

Well, if he worked for the Minister of Labour's minimum wage and earned roughly \$47.00 a week, or \$40.00 a week if he was on a 40-hour week which you think he should be, he wouldn't earn \$2,700.00, so that his income tax at the present time is zero dollars. Now if we take this same wage earner, the person who pays nothing in income tax, earning \$2,700 a year, entirely exempt from payment of income tax, and figure out approximately what he would pay in sales tax, I suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, that he'd be paying approximately \$35.00 in sales tax. Now I could be wrong by a few dollars but I'm suggesting that the estimate is \$35.00 in sales tax. Now what has been the increase in his income tax, Mr. Speaker? Well, in mathematics we used to say any number divided by zero equals infinity, so there is an infinite increase. We can't even record it in percentages. It's impossible to mathematically record the increase in taxes that will be paid. This is correct; it's impossible to mathematically record the increase in taxes which will be paid by virtue of imposing a five percent sales tax as against an increase in income tax on the person earning \$2,700 a year.

Well we don't have to have all our figures quite as impossible of determination as that one, but that one is impossible to determine. The percentage rates can be referred to as a thousand percent - my honourable friend is afraid of 50 percent - the percentage rate could be referred to as a thousand percent, a million percent or a billion percent, and we still wouldn't be right. That's the percent increase in that man's tax.

Well let's look at a person who's a little better off, a person earning \$3,700 a year, the same type of family. His present Manitoba income tax is \$31.70. My figures could be wrong but I don't think that they're far wrong, \$31.70. His estimated sales tax would be an additional \$50.00. So his taxes, Mr. Speaker, are going up by 166 percent. Not 50 percent; 166 percent. And my honourable friend isn't worried about that.

The person who earns \$4,700 a year; his present provincial income tax is \$72.30. The estimated amount that he will pay in sales tax - and my learned friend can change the estimate if he wants to - \$75.00. His taxes are going up by roughly 100 percent; 100 percent - by imposing a sales tax rather than an income tax.

The person who earns \$6,700 a year; that's a person who's already in the higher income group. He's supposed to save money by having a sales tax imposed rather than an income tax. He is presently paying \$176.30 in provincial income tax; he will be paying roughly \$100.00 in sales tax; an increase, Mr. Speaker, of 57 percent, an increase of his taxes of 57 percent. It's only, Mr. Speaker, when we get to the income level of \$10,700 a year, whose present

(MR. GREEN cont'd.) provincial income tax is \$454.90 and whose estimated sales tax will be \$175.00, do we find that his tax is increased by less than 50 percent. And what is the increase? - 38 percent. So that even a person in the \$10,000 income group, even he will not experience a great saving by virtue of a sales tax rather than income tax, and I hope that honourable members are noting who will experience the savings. When we get to the \$10,000 level we start finding that it's a little less onerous to these people. How many is it? Three in a hundred -- or is it three in a hundred? That it's these people who start saving something by imposing a sales tax rather than an income tax. So my honourable friend is willing to impose a sales tax to save three percent of the people some share - and it's not a great deal because they're going to only go down from a 50 percent increase to a 38 percent increase - but to save three percent of the people a percentage increase on their income tax, we are going to impose an inequitable tax on 97 percent of the people of the Province of Manitoba.

Mr. Speaker, I don't think that we in this party have taken the position that there is no necessity for an increase in taxation. We feel that more and more of the services that we collectively provide for ourselves and for the people of Manitoba are going to involve increased taxation, but we say that that taxation should be based on the ability of the people in the province to pay for those taxes. In this we go with the Carter Commission. We find that the government in this particular case is imposing exactly the contrary principle, and why do they adopt this principle? Well the Honourable the Provincial Treasurer says we have to make sure that these people don't leave the Province of Manitoba, that the income tax rates are competitive, that it will not be a discouragement on individual initiative that you impose an income tax. I fail to see, Mr. Speaker, that this policy in fact is borne out by events. If it were so, the people in the wealthy countries of the world - and in those countries I include the United States and Canada - would surely be running away and leaving and going to live in countries of the world where they have no taxes and they have no money. Surely this has not been borne out by events, but what has been borne out, what has been borne out by the activities of the Honourable the Minister of Industry and Commerce, is that wage earners have left the Province of Manitoba or cannot be attracted to the Province of Manitoba, and do they not consider that this deterrent which they say will deter the investor, that an income tax will deter the investor because it's a tax that's going to be levied as against him, don't they consider that a sales tax will deter the residents? And, Mr. Speaker, I can say frankly that I have received letters from my constituents who tell me that they are going to leave the Province of Manitoba, and I say to these people that they should not be discouraged, that they should stick with us, that they should help to make the Province of Manitoba a better place to live in, and to do that that they should help elect more New Democrats to this House but that they shouldn't leave because the Progressive Conservative Government seeks now to impose a five percent sales tax.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I have no great illusions, and I want to make it clear that the income tax has effectively taxed ability to pay. It's made an attempt at taxing ability to pay, and it has probably greater success in this area than the sales tax, but even the income tax shouldn't scare anybody out of leaving the Province of Manitoba because, as I said before, the people who have the ability to pay taxes also have the economic ability to pass those taxes on to other people, and eventually the tax that is imposed by means of an income tax finds its way down and becomes, in effect, in the long run, a consumer's tax - a sales tax. It's paid in the same way. It's paid in higher prices. It's paid by people who can't negotiate better working conditions as against those who can negotiate better working conditions, so until the basic economic structure is changed - and that's something that this Party and I as an individual I hope are striving to do - but until then we can't even expect that the income tax will properly tax ability to pay, but it's at least, Mr. Speaker, the best tax we have now, and far more important than that, far more important than the fact that it is the best tax that we have got, the administration, the machinery and the bureaucracy of an income tax is something that we are already living with. It's something that we can employ to collect this new means of taxation. The machinery, the administration and the bureaucracy of a sales tax is something that this government is now consciously setting up, and setting up in such a way, Mr. Speaker, that millions of dollars worth of effort - and I know the government would be astounded if I said millions of dollars was being spent but they don't mind so much if millions of dollars' worth of effort is being spent as long as they won't have to show it as an expenditure on their balance sheet; but millions of dollars' worth of effort is going to be expended by Manitobans from north to south and from east to west, in doing nothing productive for the people of the Province of Manitoba

(MR. GREEN cont'd.) except collecting a tax. We are going to have every storekeeper, every provider of services that is mentioned in this Act, thousands of people, working more than they are working now and producing nothing.

I don't object to people working, because I think that if we work and increase our collective wealth it is a good thing; that wealth will find itself being enjoyed by the people of the Province of Manitoba or at least I hope it would, but in this case we consciously know that thousands of people all over this province are going to be working, and as a result of their work nobody is going to get increased medical services; nobody is going to get increased educational services; nobody is going to have more to eat; nobody is going to have a better place to live in; nobody is going to have anything; but the sole result of their labour will be the collection of a tax. Not the fruits of what that tax could pay for, but the collection of a tax.

Now we already have a tax machinery. We already have the income tax machinery and that tax machinery should be something that we should utilize to tax people in accordance with their ability to pay even though it's not 100 percent effective or even 50 percent effective. It's at least effective to the extent that the machinery is there. It won't have to be duplicated and expanded with other machinery. And what happens when other machinery has to come into effect? We have the kind of Act which has been presented by this government, whose most distressing features in addition to the collection of five percent of the purchasing power, or a great extent of the purchasing power of each Manitoban will be reduced, and I submit that this is a percentage decrease in wages for every Manitoban in this province, and the people in the province are not going to accept that decrease in wages with equanimity. I know that the lawyer is going to try to make up for it. I know that the doctor is going to try and make up for it. I know that the trade unionist is going to try and make up for it. The people who won't be able to make up for it are, for the most part, people such as the farmer, people such as the people who are living on fixed incomes, people who are living on the minimum wage which the Minister of Labour hasn't even seen fit to increase to \$1.02 merely to cover the sales tax. For no other reason but to cover the sales tax, none of these things will be done. It is going to be the unorganized worker, the farmer, the person who is living on a fixed income who is going to bear the brunt of this sales tax, but that's only one of the distressing features of this tax.

There are two other distressing features which have been referred to and which I hope I won't spend a great deal of time expanding upon, which I think, Mr. Speaker, make this tax reprehensible and unacceptable. One is, Mr. Speaker, the amount of legislation that we are going to have by regulation, and we don't debate what is done by regulation and I'm sure that we had an example yesterday of the kind of legislation that you get by regulation. Who would predict, Mr. Speaker, that if this government were to introduce a bill, present it to the House, that the Minister of Public Works will have the power to eject any person for any reason he deems fit from any part of the Legislative complex, which includes the area between the Assiniboine River, I suppose, and the northerly end of Memorial Park, let the Minister present such a resolution or present such a Bill to this House, does anybody dream that he could debate that Bill through this House or would he even attempt to? I suggest that he wouldn't, but he is going to be able to do that type of thing by regulation. There are numerous things, Mr. Speaker, which in this Act will not be legislated upon by the elected representatives of the people but will be enacted in the confines of the Cabinet room without debate. What constitutes children's clothing? What constitutes, Mr. Speaker, a gift? This will be determined not by the Legislature, by the Minister. Not by the elected representatives of the people in open debate, but by the Minister; and I suspect, Mr. Speaker, that the kind of laws that you get by regulation are not the kind of laws which commend themselves to the democratic process, and I need refer no further to what was done yesterday with regard to the regulation which appears, Mr. Speaker, to be aimed at a particular individual whom the Premier proudly said that he was going to protect that individual's interests and wouldn't do anything about upsetting him. Well, the regulation we saw yesterday would permit the Minister of Public Works

MR. LYON: sales tax legislation. If my honourable friend wants to talk about regulations there is a committee of the House where that subject can properly be discussed. I suggest that he get back to the point.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I am now discussing, and I know my honourable friend would not like to hear it discussed, the terrible situations that can be created by government by regulation, and I hope that my honourable friend -- it is sometimes difficult to convince members opposite unless you give them a concrete example. Now here is a concrete example. Here is the Minister of Public Works who can now by regulation say to Joe Borowski, and I'll use him because this

MR. SPEAKER: . . . gentleman has made his point very very well. He has been talking on the subject for a few minutes and I think he will agree with me in that respect, and I wonder if he would come back to the point under discussion.

MR. GREEN: Well if the Speaker feels that I have convinced those fellows over there and they understand me clearly, I'll go on . . .

MR. SPEAKER: I don't wish to unduly interrupt the honourable gentleman but I think he will agree with me on that point.

MR. GREEN: Well, Mr. Speaker, I'll proceed. I hope that they get the point. It is sometimes difficult but I hope that they get the point.

MR. DOUGLAS CAMPBELL (Lakeside): . . . on a point of order, isn't it a fact that this Bill is replete with examples of what can be done by the government by regulation? It is a fact, and if my honourable friend wants to develop the question of regulations and his dislike of legislation by regulation, why is he not in order in doing so?

MR. SPEAKER: In answer to the Honourable Member for Lakeside I feel that he has made his point. In my opinion he has discussed this matter of regulations to do with the Public Works to a long degree, and in my opinion I feel he has made his point and therefore I've appealed to him to come back.

MR. GREEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will proceed just to say what this Act says can be done by regulation. The Legislature is not going to say what a gift is; it is going to be done by regulation. Settlers' effects - and I'm not sure, and I have probably more experience than some of the other members of the House, but I am not sure what those are, but whatever they are, they are going to be decided, not by debate, but by regulation. There are not many settlers coming in. The forms that the vendor will use to make returns will be described by regulation. The amount of interest that a person will have to pay by virtue of not paying his taxes in time will be decided by regulation. The amount which an item should have been sold for, rather than the amount which it was sold for; that is, if two people get together and they exchange an item and the amount is disagreed to by the Minister, he shall decide it not by regulation but just by his opinion. The amount of commission that's payable to people who are doing all this work which doesn't produce anything; that's going to be decided by regulation. My honourable friend the Member for St. John's pointed out that where any word in the Act not defined - and we could be very facetious about this and say even the word "and" which isn't defined in the regulations can be defined by regulation; any word. Not by debate but by regulation.

This Act, Mr. Speaker, is so worded that the government may as well have said, may as well have presented, "This Act may be cited as the Revenue Tax Act;" that's clause No. 1. Clause No. 2, "The administration and collection of taxes under this Act shall be decided by regulation." That's just about the effect of the Act that we have before the House, and the government is asking members of the Legislature, each of whom has been elected by their constituency, to permit this type of legislation to go forward. I suggest, Mr. Speaker, that there are far too many things in this Act which can be decided by regulation, and there are things which no Minister should want and no government should want to have decided by regulations. Regulations are for the purpose of implementing a procedure which has been agreed to by members of the Legislature, not for the purpose of enabling the Cabinet to do what they couldn't do if they had to come to the Legislature, and that's the kind of Act we have before us.

Maybe my honourable friends will show precedence of other Acts containing similar regulations. I don't care if they do. I'm suggesting that this Act, with these regulations as I read it, and with my responsibility to my constituents, is not acceptable.

The other area - and the last area of which I'll speak, Mr. Speaker - is the amount of ministerial discretion that we find in this Act. In this Act there are many things which the Minister can do without regulations merely because it's his opinion that this particular thing should be done, and one of those things is the cancellation or the refusal to issue a license. A man can have, Mr. Speaker -- and I suggest to you that the way the Act is now worded a man can be deprived of his business by a cancellation by the Minister for a period of 30 days, and it's questionable about whether in the interim he has an appeal to the Courts, but if he has an appeal I can tell you from experience that it takes a few days to get to Court, that he could have his business closed up, some stigma associated with him by virtue of the government coming in and closing his business, merely because the Minister thinks - in his opinion - that it's in the public interest to do so. And he could be entirely wrong; and the man can't have a hearing prior to his place being closed up. So I would suggest that the amount of ministerial discretion makes this a particularly arbitrary and unacceptable piece of legislation.

(MR. GREEN cont'd.)

The same is true - and I find it difficult to even speak on this subject with the present Attorney-General in the House because I know that the present Attorney-General works hard to eliminate a great number of the reverse onus sections. The reverse onus sections, Mr. Speaker, are sections which create the onus on the accused to prove his innocence. And to the Attorney-General's credit, I believe that he was personally responsible for seeing to it that a great number of these onus sections were eliminated. But apparently power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely, and now we have a government of which the Honourable the Attorney-General is a - I assume from what I've heard from the Member for St. Boniface and other members - a very substantial voice, coming in with exactly the type of section which he found so nefarious in the past.

So, Mr. Speaker, I have come to the conclusion of my remarks. I'll summarize briefly: I think this Act should be referred to the committee that's mentioned in the amendment, not because it needs improvement but because it needs rejection, and that if members were more acquainted with what is in this Act, they would reject it. Secondly, I say that the sales tax does not properly tax ability to pay. Thirdly, I say that the sales tax sets up an entirely new administration and bureaucracy, that it employs thousands of people in the Province of Manitoba doing useless work, work which will not increase by one cent the collective wealth of the people of this province. Adding to that, Mr. Speaker, this Act is an Act which takes the luxury of government by regulation to an unparalleled expansion - unparalleled and unnecessary. Next, that the Act permits ministerial discretion which should not be either legislated or desired by the Minister who has to assume this awful responsibility. And lastly, that it introduces or reintroduces the concept of the reverse onus, the onus being on the accused to prove his innocence rather than the onus being on the people collectively to prove that somebody has done something wrong.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you ready for the question?

MR. EDWARD I. DOW (Turtle Mountain): Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Carillon, that the debate be adjourned.

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

MR. SPEAKER: The proposed motion of the Honourable the Attorney-General, Bill No. 44. The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. JACOB M. FROESE (Rhineland): Mr. Speaker, Bill 44 is an Act respecting the Attachment of Debts, the short title for which is The Garnishment Act. Already a number of honourable members have spoken on the Bill and I certainly agree with a number of the comments that have been made. I notice, for instance, the principle here in the third section in connection with exempting MLA's from being garnisheed. I think this matter was brought forward by the Honourable Member from Lakeside and I certainly agree with him on this point.

But there are some other principles in the Bill which I thought I would like to comment on more fully and one has to do with putting the onus, and too much of the onus, on the one that is extending credit. I notice from the Citizen's Remedies Code, the White Paper that has been introduced to the House, that under "Consumer Credit" it points up a principle and I'd like to read it. In this respect the principle will be, "Let the seller exercise caution when he extends credit."

Mr. Speaker, I think we've gone overboard from the situation that previously prevailed. We've introduced a number of changes through legislation in the House where we're making it easier all the time for the borrower and I think we're reaching the point where we should rather go back than proceed further on. I think this will have its repercussions in that people get into trouble as a result that credit is extended too freely. This might be to the advantage of the big businessman who has a large retail outlet, who has all the facilities to deal with these people that will not honour their contracts and so on, but the small businessman, first of all, he hasn't got the credit to extend; secondly, he hasn't got the machinery to go after these people and to indulge and create expenditures in this way. I think it has a bad aspect as far as people in this province that accept this credit too easily. We find today that the big businesses are offering goods - nothing down, start your payments two months hence. Others - fly now, pay later. You see this all over and then these people later on run into trouble as this is accepted too freely and then they meet up with collection agencies and the garnishment orders and so on, and this is what we're considering now, that we're increasing the exemptions under these garnishment orders.

If this Act goes into effect, we're going to extend a \$100.00 exemption to an individual and

(MR. FROESE cont'd.) \$165.00 exemption to a person, a married person with one dependent or more. It would seem to me that if we're going to extend \$165.00 to a married man with one dependent, that certainly we should take into consideration the exemptions that are offered in the Federal Income Tax Act where if you have a larger family naturally your exemptions will be larger, and I think this should be made applicable in this case to exemptions under the garnishment orders.

Then I find here also the other -- this other point has already been raised I think by the Honourable Member for Selkirk, and a very valid one about the Clerk of the County Court being given wide authority here in releasing garnishment orders, and I take great exception to this. It would seem to me that under this section that if a Clerk took upon himself to give terms to a certain party that had been garnisheed and then the party later on did not meet up to the payments, that the person who had to go to Court originally would have to do it all over again and I feel this is not right. Certainly the powers extended to this Clerk of the County Court, and I find there are no qualifications attached to such a position, and certainly I feel that to give him these powers that there should be qualifications attached to the position. Therefore, I question this very much and I certainly don't go along with it; I disapprove of it. In fact, if the information that will be given by the Minister concerned in concluding second reading is not satisfactory, I intend to vote against it.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you ready for the question?

MR. LYON: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable the Provincial Secretary, that the debate be adjourned. I'll be closing the debate.

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

MR. SPEAKER: The adjourned debate on Bill No. 65. The Honourable Member for Selkirk.

MR. LYON: I think Bill No. 58 is shown next, prior to Bill No. 65.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, but I believe the placement of 65 is a printer's error.

MR. LYON: Fine, it's immaterial.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Selkirk.

MR. HILLHOUSE: Mr. Speaker, with leave of the House, I'd like to have this matter stand.

MR. SPEAKER: Second reading of Bill No. 58. The Honourable the Attorney-General.

MR. LYON presented Bill No. 58, an Act respecting Compensation to Families of Persons Killed by Accident, for second reading.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion.

MR. LYON: Mr. Speaker, a brief word of explanation. Honourable members will realize that this is a new Fatal Accidents Act for the Province of Manitoba. It emerges from the Uniformity Commissioners Conference as a model type Bill which is being recommended to all of the provinces across the country. In addition, it has had the benefit of study by the Law Reform Committee of Manitoba and they have made some minor changes to the Bill that has particular reference to matters that are germane to the Manitoba scene and Manitoba decisions, but nothing I am told of a substantive nature.

There are one or two new principles that I might make brief comment upon without attempting in any way to point out all of the changes in the Act because substantially it is the same Act as we presently have on our statute books. There are some new provisions which give protection to both the tort-feasor and the beneficiaries of the deceased. Cases on matters of settlement have arisen in several provinces and there has evidently been some discrepancy in the decisions as to the effect of these settlements. There are new provisions here that attempt to clarify the position with respect to settlements of actions.

There are a number of provisions in the new Bill which are brought in because of decisions made by Courts of Records, Superior Courts in other provinces or the Supreme Court of Canada requiring change.

There is a new item here that should be brought to the attention of the House, Mr. Speaker, that there is now a specific provision respecting contributory negligence on the part of both the beneficiaries and of the deceased himself. This is something that can be gone into in more detail. If honourable members want to know the fuller explanation of that, I'll be happy to give it either myself in Law Amendments Committee or have one of our officers of the Crown present to do this.

There are other new sections which again relate to cases where a decision was made that a pension payable to a widow of the deceased was taken into account as part of her income. This

(MR. LYON cont'd.) is another curative amendment that we're trying to build into the Act.

I don't believe there are any other substantive matters, Mr. Speaker, that I can dwell on at the present time. I commend the Bill to the members for their approval as a Bill approved by the Uniformity Commissioners of Canada and we'll attempt to give any other detailed information when we have the Bill in Committee.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you ready for the question?

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Member from Logan, that the debate be adjourned.

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

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MR. LYON: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable the Provincial Secretary that Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair and the House resolve itself into a Committee to consider of the Supply to be granted to Her Majesty.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion and after a voice vote declared the motion carried, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of Supply with the Honourable Member for Arthur in the Chair.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Chairman, there are two matters that I would like to mention briefly.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution 114.

MR. LYON: I wonder if I could interrupt my honourable friend the Member for Lakeside to make one announcement before we start on these estimates. The Members of the Committee will be aware of the fact that following upon the conclusion of these two items, the Commissioner of Northern Affairs, the Department of Highways will next be called and thereafter the Department of Public Works and then the Department of Public Utilities. I thought honourable members would like to have that information.

MR. CAMPBELL: Thank you very much. I'm sure it will be appreciated by the members of the House. One of the matters that I have been going to raise and just haven't found the opportunity to get into the discussion, is to ask the Leader of the House if the members of the House will soon be furnished with the customary list that we receive each year, as to the salaries, the present salaries of the deputy ministers, the heads of boards, commissions, etcetera. I believe that has not yet been presented. I certainly do not consider that this is the item under which that would ordinarily be raised but I just haven't seemed to have had the opportunity of raising it as yet. I assume that that will come from my honourable friend the Provincial Secretary and I would like to ask that the regular procedure be followed.

The question that I wanted to ask on my honourable friend's department before this last item has been dealt with, the Commissioner of Northern Affairs, was to ask the Minister as to what is the situation at the present time with regard to the refinery that was to be built at The Pas? The oil refinery.

MR. LYON: No information on that matter, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CAMPBELL: Perhaps the Honourable the Minister of Welfare could give us the information. The Honourable Minister of Welfare is not able to give it either. Would my honourable friend the Minister undertake to get that information for us?

MR. LYON: I can make enquiries. This is referring back to a proposed development of some, how many years ago?

MR. CAMPBELL: Yes, yes, as a matter of fact I was quoting from one of the information bulletins that was furnished to us some years ago. I distinctly recall it was when my honourable friend the present Minister of Health was in the position of Minister of Mines and Natural Resources, and an information bulletin had conveyed the information that this refinery at The Pas was being built. I had asked at that time of the then Minister of Mines and Natural Resources how the development was proceeding and my honourable friend the then Minister had told me that it was proceeding satisfactorily and I wondered what had happened in the meantime.

MR. CARROLL: Mr. Chairman, maybe I can help - it is no longer proceeding satisfactorily. They did proceed to acquire property at The Pas; they made very considerable investigations, investigating the possibility of a pipeline and a good many other things. However I believe there was some change in the market outlook at that time and possibly some problem with financing because of a tight money situation, as I understand the situation, and since then the plans have apparently been abandoned. They still own some property I believe in The Pas but I have heard nothing on it recently at all.

MR. CAMPBELL: In other words I gather, Mr. Chairman, it is defunct. Would any of the Ministers be able to tell me if some funds from the Industrial - oh I always have trouble with the name - the Development Fund had been forwarded to assist these people? I know that it's against the declared policy of my honourable friends to give details of individual transactions but now if the development is no longer proceeding, I think we would have a right to ask if any government funds were involved.

MR. LYON: If there was any information presumably it would be in the annual report of the Fund, Mr. Chairman.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Chairman, it was I believe, almost a week ago that we were last in Committee -- two weeks? -- and I believe that I had the floor when we closed the Committee hearings and I was quite agitated at the time and I have calmed down considerably since then. What agitated me was the statement by the Honourable the Attorney-General that we had suffered the whoppingest defeat in recent history in the constituency of Churchill, therefore anything that my honourable leader said about conditions in the north wasn't worth paying much attention to. I asked several rhetorical questions on that evening and I am going to answer them tonight, Mr. Chairman. I asked who won the election in Lynn Lake, and the election results in Lynn Lake, and these are approximate, but they are substantially correct, the New Democratic Party Candidate 353, the candidate for the government party 279. I asked who won the election in Snow Lake; the result, the New Democratic Party Candidate 222, the candidate for the Progressive Conservative Party 177. I asked who won the election in Churchill; the candidate for the New Democratic Party 430, the candidate for the Progressive Conservative Party 343. I stated that the election in Thompson, there was a margin of 100 votes approximately in favor of the government candidate; the actual results not quite as good, 973 for the Conservative Candidate, 892 for the New Democratic Party candidate. A total of 3,159 to 2,192.

Now I make these remarks because if my honourable friend felt that he shouldn't listen to what the Leader of the New Democratic Party said and if it's the election results that's affecting him, I suggest to him that he should reconsider, that he should listen, because at least in the four urban areas, or as close to urban areas as there are, in that constituency, the result indeed shows that the New Democrats and their program satisfy the aspirations of those people and in the whole constituency as I pointed out, we got 40% of the vote which as I said before if that's a whopping defeat at least then the people of Manitoba administered at least equally as whopping a defeat on the Progressive Conservative Party because they didn't get 40% of the vote.

As I said I was considerably agitated that night. I'm calmed down now, I am not going to spend a great deal more time in committee. The only thing I will say is that when my honourable friend the Member from Burrows and myself and other members of our party go out next time we will carry our program with us, yes - but we'll also carry a soldering iron, we'll carry a hammer and nails and we'll carry guns to shoot wild dogs, soldering irons to fix electric ranges and hammer and nails to fix piers and then maybe we'll do a little better next time.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Chairman, I am sorry I didn't realize that my honourable friend the Member for Inkster had the floor when we rose the last time. If I had known that, I wouldn't have intervened. I apologize to him if I took his place. I would not want to be blamed for him having lost a measure of his agitation in the meantime because I like him very much when he is agitated, and I am sorry if I had anything to do with cooling him down.

A MEMBER: Who won or lost the election up in the north when it was all over?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would hope now that the Member for Neepawa when speaking, will stick to the resolution.

MR. RODNEY S. CLEMENT (Birtle-Russell): I was just going to ask a question of the Minister. I have already spoken. Mr. Chairman, I will direct my question to the Minister. As a member of the Legislature and one who is vitally interested in the North, as well as the rest of Manitoba, plus the fact that I'm a member who travels around quite a bit, if I perchance was to land or drive up to Thompson some day within the next year or two, the Director of Northern Affairs, who I understand has a home there, and I would think by this time should have a private aircraft to fly around the north, if he happened to be going on one of his tours, would I as a member of the legislature be allowed to go with him?

MR. SHOEMAKER: Mr. Chairman, I didn't have any intention of rehashing the last election but I would like to find out as well, the answer to the question that was put by my honourable friend the Member for Birtle-Russell because I understand that the government has built a home for the Administrators or the Commissioner in Northern Manitoba somewhere and perhaps if we get stuck overnight up there we could spend the night with him, at a reasonable cost. Now when the former Commissioner introduced the Bill that setup this Department a year ago, On April 4th to be exact, his comments as you recall them, Mr. Chairman, were very, very brief. In fact, they did not take up more than a quarter of a page when he introduced the whole Bill, he said "this is a measure which would provide for the establishment of the office to be known as "Commissioner of Northern Affairs", such commissioner would be a member of the executive council, he would have under the proposed bill a staff which would be located in

(MR. SHOEMAKER, cont'd) northern Manitoba and which would be designed to provide in those communities of the north, the initiative to assist the people in those areas to provide themselves with some forms of municipal services where it is feasible to do so". And that's about the extent of his remarks a year ago. That's on page 1486, Mr. Chairman.

And then he goes on to say "The proposed staff would be a director, and several administrators, each of whom would be responsible for a special district and the ordinary clerical staff to assist them to do the job." Well this points up that there is going to be a commissioner, "several administrators" each with a clerical staff, and you will recall last year, and the commissioner then really mowed me down because I said that to take his words literally and examine them it would appear that there would be a civil servant for about every two in the north, because on page 1488 of Hansard he said "We have in the north in the area that will be covered by this proposed Commissioner of Northern Affairs, some 80 to 90 communities varying in size from a dozen or probably 15 inhabitants to 80 or 90". And I said then that if you took an average, that would - say there would be 40 in a community and to take him at his own word, that there were 80 communities, that would be 3200 people, because 40 times 80 would be 3200 people, that was intended to be served by the commissioner and the staff -- and you will recall, Mr. Chairman, that I said that that just happened to be the size of Neepawa 3200 people -- and to serve that area, we were going to have a commissioner, several administrators, he says here, each of whom would have a large clerical staff. How many have we got? How many administrators and how many - well what is the size of the staff of each one of the administrators? Are we up to par? Are there any vacancies?

That, Mr. Chairman, was before the last election and my guess is they took on an increased staff during the election and I don't know whether they've let them out since that time or not. But it seemed to me that this was a terrific expense to look after say 3,200 people, and I'm wondering what is the size of this staff at the present time, and is it proving to be worth the effort? I know my honourable friends to my left wonder whether or not an administrator, a commissioner, several administrators, each of whom has a large staff, whether they are required to look after the dogs and the electric stoves as they have said. Now I would like simply to know what's the size of the staff, how many administrators have we got, what is the size of the staff of each one of them?

MR. LYON: Mr. Chairman, we have the following staff in the commissioners office: Mr. J. M. D. McDonald who is the Director of Northern Affairs, resident in The Pas, pardon me, in Thompson. In a home by the way I understand he built himself. We have four Northern Affairs co-ordinators, two in Thompson, one in The Pas, one in Lac du Bonnet. We have an administrative officer and we have 4 clerk stenographers on staff, for a total of, I believe it is 8 at the present time, and we expect there will be two more stenographers a clerk V and an administrative officer added this year, for a total of staff requirement of 12 for the next fiscal year. Have they got enough work to do? Answer yes. They have more than enough work to do; they are helping to oversee and to establish a winter works program at the present time which is in the area of a quarter of a million dollars, with projects going on in, I think it is roughly 30 to 40 communities already.

This staff was not established prior to the election; the Act was not brought into force until sometime in July; the staff was not hired until -- the Director was hired first and then he set about getting about him his co-ordinators, sometime I believe it was in August or September of this year, and since that time they have undertaken a really remarkable calendar of works in their area, the details of which I could give to my honourable friend but they would take some considerable time to read. I suggest to him in any case that he can imagine himself what is involved in a winter works program of the size that I mentioned. That's only one of the activities that they engage in. In addition to that they have been into practically all of the communities in Northern Manitoba where there is no local government set-up. They have established local advisory committees and they continue to make regular calls on these communities to ascertain how municipal services are proceeding. They have as well set up co-ordinating meetings and activities with other departments of government as they are charged to do under their legislation.

By and large I can say as Commissioner that I am well pleased with the progress that they have made in the few short months that they have been established as a working entity within the service of the Government of Manitoba.

MR. HANUSCHAK: Mr. Chairman, I have two or three questions that I wish to ask with respect to development in Northern Manitoba and reading the Act establishing the office of the

(MR. HANUSCHAK, cont'd) Commissioner of Northern Manitoba Affairs it appears that he is the logical person to whom these questions ought to be directed. Attempts were made to get the answers to some of the questions from other ministers; some of them found it difficult to answer my questions and he being the co-ordinator of activities in Northern Manitoba I would presume would be in a position to answer some of my questions.

About a year ago now an announcement appeared, well the announcement was made in the House and it was well publicized in all news media of the development of the North. The Honourable the First Minister had announced that there is more to come and he was quoted as saying "that we're just beginning folks". And then the news report went on to say that he is engaged in negotiations with industrial developments, with promoters of industry with a view to developing industry in Northern Manitoba. Now I would like the Commissioner for Northern Affairs to report to this House on the progress that is being made in attracting further industry to Northern Manitoba.

The Honourable Minister had mentioned that this is a people oriented services program and this I'm glad to hear - I'm glad to hear that in whatever this department does that it does have the welfare of the people in mind. But I would like the Honourable Minister to demonstrate in more concrete terms just how this is brought about. He speaks of creating jobs. However I suggest to you, Mr. Chairman, that just creating jobs for the sake of creating jobs is not solving the problems we are faced there. I'm sure that in 1670 when the Hudson's Bay Company began operating in Northern Manitoba that they created all kinds of jobs for the people; they created all kinds of jobs which formerly were non-existent. Suddenly the natives found themselves occupied shooting animals and trapping animals and exchanging them for rifles and beads. I'm sure that the cotton plantation owners in the Southern United States also were successful in creating jobs but I needn't elaborate on the problems that developed from that. What I'm interested in knowing is what success is the government having in raising the economic level of the people resident of Northern Manitoba.

I note on page 1440 in Hansard where the Honourable Minister describes the types of roads that are being constructed in Northern Manitoba. I would like to ask him does that description apply to all roads? --(Interjection)-- I don't know - he does not exclude any roads. I don't know whether it applies to all roads or not. The Minister of Highways heard this description. I'm inclined to believe that it does apply if not to all roads to most roads and to many of the roads that I have travelled on in Northern Manitoba with the exception perhaps of some portions of No. 10 highway which weren't too bad.

In summing up, Mr. Chairman, I would like the Commissioner for Northern Affairs to tell us what progress is being made in attracting industry to Northern Manitoba further to the comment expressed by the First Minister a year ago. I would like to hear him comment on the success of the operations of his department because it's rather strange that this office has been in existence no more than one year when the Honourable the First Minister comes along with a resolution asking for the establishment of a commission to inquire into the development of Northern Manitoba, transportation, rail transportation, water transportation and so forth. One would imagine, Mr. Chairman, that the Commissioner of Northern Affairs would be able to obtain this information, in fact I would suggest, Mr. Chairman, that a lot of this information is presently available to him, and it's just simply a matter of giving effect to it, of acting upon it, rather than establish a commission to do the job which according to the Act would appear to be the responsibility of the Commissioner to do.

MR. GORDON W. BEARD (Churchill): Mr. Chairman, if you will recognize me as the Member for Churchill perhaps I can take my place and say a few things. I think that if members are questioning the Bill that brought in the Commissioner of Northern Affairs then possibly they should take a little time out to read it. Particularly the preamble. Because in looking over it it sets out the duties of the commissioner, of the department, and probably sets them out in the preference with which government wanted them looked after and it was for closer integration with the more settled and developed areas of the province. It was for the purposes of encouraging the development of Northern Manitoba and it was for maintaining or improving services for the development of the inhabitants of any community in Northern Manitoba. What could be more plainer? We feel on this side that progressive communities come through progressive leadership, and this is what we're trying to give them.

I think perhaps in the first stages one should consider this as a department of northern peoples affairs, it's helping them to help themselves. It brings government closer to the people and this is what the Minister said last year when he introduced the Bill. It allows for the

(MR. BEARD, cont'd) recognition of many of the people of Northern Manitoba who have not been recognized as Manitobans so often. I speak this time of the Treaty Indians who up to now, or up to the introduction of this Bill in many cases were considered solely the responsibility of the Federal Government and this allows the Manitoba Government to take its place in respecting Treaty Indians in the Province as Manitobans first, and it is a responsibility of the Federal Government secondly. It allows for co-operative plans and I think I can show you a few as I go on. Its prime purpose was the co-ordinating of all departments of government and this is what members opposite insist on forgetting. They judge northern affairs by, what is it? - two lines in our estimates, and they say what are you making all the noise about a couple of hundred thousand dollars? But this is to co-ordinate the spending of many hundreds of thousands of dollars, co-ordinate services. I think that you'll find that in most cases this office will never have a large account, never a large estimate because it will be co-ordinating those monies that are being allocated toward Northern Manitoba.

But the point that I want to make is that it is to look after people first and in whatever manner or form they can look after them or help look after them then this is progress, which we conveniently forget on the other side. But the main problem in Northern Manitoba is the isolation. And what is isolation? To many of us who have not lived in isolated communities we can't tell. We can't understand the difficulties that neither the Member for Gladstone said a few but many - many many communities have to struggle with in Northern Manitoba. They have poor communication; if they're living in real isolation they have no roads. They have no roads.

MR. RUSSELL DOERN (Elmwood): Whose responsibility is that?

MR. BEARD: I think it would possibly be the responsibility of the member to get up there and look at some of those places and then he wouldn't ask silly questions like that. But communication, poor communication, is not only roads. It's mail service, telephone, all those communications which we take for granted in those areas down in the southern part that we never have to deal with, we have never had to deal with for many years and we forget it; so it's difficult to compare. These are backward communities; backward communities because they've been in northern Manitoba for many years, of course, and it was always considered as northern Manitoba and I think if you'll look over the Province of Manitoba you'll find that this happened in many of the places that we consider in the southern parts of the province and as the population grew in the province, these places came out of their isolation, they became a part of southern Manitoba. And we are trying to now deal with those areas that have not become integrated with the rest of the Province of Manitoba.

I admit that these places are far behind; they're going to have to run fast to catch up. They won't catch up overnight or over a year and they're not going to catch up by just building a road. This isn't going to be the answer. There has to be orderly development and this has to come through the co-ordinating of services of all branches of government. These are communities that have a difficult time getting medical assistance. No possibility of a doctor living in the community, no possibilities of jumping on a bus and going to see a doctor, very difficult to fly to see a doctor, and this is where the co-ordination of services comes in that the doctor must come to them. This isn't always possible, convenient or filling the services that doctors and nurses usually are required to fill, because emergency services always have to be dealt with in emergency ways and sometimes it's difficult -- if you can picture anybody out on a reservation, out in an isolated community; they haven't got a road to get anywhere; they haven't got a plane in the community; if the weather is that bad it could be that their radio was out; these are the difficulties that these people face and they're ones that we are not facing today in the rest of the province. These are in fact courageous people, they're courageous, just as are the civil servants that go and live in that area. They're going without those things which many of us not only take for granted but demand before we'll consider moving to an area. These are the services that our wives and families find necessary: education, policing of a community, mail delivery, where in many places you have it perhaps twice a day or you can go down and get your mail any time during the day; where some of these communities wait two weeks, sometimes a month to get their mail. These are not isolated communities, Mr. Chairman, there are many of them. There is no daily papers. There is no regular news coverage -- and believe me unless you've lived in those areas you don't realize just how valuable the daily paper is until you have to do without it. We don't always agree with what they have to say but it's nice to have a daily paper and I don't think there's anybody in this House that does without it; but they do. They have to because of the cost of flying them in; and if they were, you

(MR. BEARD, cont'd) can imagine they're two weeks old then you lose interest in them.

In the past there was little room for government to move in and share municipal services or government grants that the rest of the province took advantage of. Our Commissioner has made that possible through the Director and the co-ordinators taking trips around the community, finding out what the problems are, on a regular basis. How does one apply for workmen's compensation? How would one apply for work benefits, old age pensions? These are difficult for people that are not only isolated because of distance but isolated because of language. How do they find out about jobs? Many of them come out to The Pas and they apply for a job. There is, "come back in a week or come back in a few days and we may have one for you, or how can we get in touch with you if you go home?" Here's somebody that's travelled hundreds of miles. They can't stay around waiting for the possibilities of jobs; they don't know when to come out to find a job and they have nowhere to go when they do get out. These are the difficulties that we're not living with in southern Manitoba and we have no conception of how difficult it can really be. We have problems in practically each of the communities that come up always, where a brother and sister can be wards of separate governments through Indian Affairs Acts. These are the fortunate. It's difficult enough for us as legislators or as residents of southern Manitoba to understand government and the ways of government and the responsibilities not only of the different levels of government but of the departments. And when we take this back to those people, to the 25-odd thousand of them in Northern Manitoba, who do not understand, many of them do not understand the English language, many of them who have had only a few years of schooling, how are they expected to understand the ways of government, how to deal with government. This is the difficulty. I think that we have to get into more and more development of our communities. In fact one of my suggestions would be that community development be a responsibility of Northern Affairs in respect to the north because I truly feel that if we unite these services, come up with something, then we can move closer together and work better to bring these communities that are so isolated into the main stream of modern times.

Last year we were warned that this department as a Department of Northern Affairs would cost too much and would only be a duplication of services. I'm sure it was the Member for Neepawa-Gladstone who spoke on the cost of bringing these services, just as he did a short time ago -- It would be covering only a population the size of Neepawa. But he is wrong because in the Indian-Metis population alone there are over 25,000. These are the things we have got to understand. We're reaching into the lives of many thousands of people. This year I've heard complaints about not having enough in our estimates. Last year it was going to cost too much. Last year we were warned that the Commissioner could be a dictator, that he would have untold authority. This year we hear he isn't doing enough. But I'm pleased that the members are now recognizing the importance of this department and I think that they will find as the office carries on throughout the years that it will become an intricate part of the northern community and it will continue until at least they have come out of their isolation and can be treated without exception as other communities of the south.

The Commissioner is there to see that our money is spent properly. He is both the people's protector, you might say, and a government protector. There are many things that he will turn up, find in many ways duplication of services, not only in provincial services but in provincial-federal services. This comes from uniting an effort to get along with the development of Northern Manitoba. But what has been done? This is what we hear: "What has been done in Northern Manitoba?" I think that the first thing is they've given hope and recognition to the people of Northern Manitoba for the first time, for the first real time has this been recognized and something done about it. Not all the problems have been solved, certainly not. We can't expect to catch up in one year. It's going to take many years. We heard a little while ago the question about creating jobs. Have they created jobs just for the sake of creating them, just as the Hudson Bay did back in 1670? Well I'm not an advocate of the Hudson Bay, but back in 1670 the Hudson Bay did quite a bit. They created jobs. Some think that the remuneration wasn't too good to the Indian people or . . . , but at least they created jobs and they opened up that part of the country. And this is what Northern Affairs are doing today, they're opening up that part of the country; they're creating jobs through departments such as Highways; they're helping in the problem of administrating medical services. They point out problems to the Department of Welfare, Education, all those services that we offer on an automatic basis to the rest of the province. Ask what roads they are building, what type of roads? Well first of all I guess we build roads or trails whether they be for tractor trains or whether

(MR. BEARD, cont'd) they be for communication between the community and the rail or whether they be one just to try and lift the community out of isolation; whether they be one to assist the trapper or the fisherman to get to and from the lake to get his fish hauled back to the community as fast as possible so it can be flown out, or to get from the lake to the rail center so that it can be shipped by rail to save that costly expense of freighting fish. There are many of these things that the road does for the community.

I think that possibly the road is one of the more important things to a community. Go and ask the people what kind of a road they want at Cormorant. Talk to them at Thicket Portage, see if the people are interested at Pikwitonei on the winter road to Thompson. See how interested the freight haulers, tractor train men are on developing a winter road to Shamattawa, to Moose Lake. The cost of developing the winter roads to Nelson House. Roads come in various sizes, they're different. A lot of roads don't have to be asphalt; a lot of roads don't have to be gravel. If you're using a dog team, a gravel road won't help you very much. I'd like to see paved roads, if that's what's intimated; I'd like to see a lot of paved roads in the North, but I think we'd better be realistic and get the first roads first and let the pavement come when we lift these communities out of isolation. I'd like to see a road paved from Thompson to Paint Lake, one of the older roads. I'd like to see a road to Grand Rapids. I'd like to see a road to Gillam. I'd like to see a road to Churchill. --(Interjection)-- What's money when we don't have to be responsible for building . . . --(Interjection)-- I'm just repeating what I've heard.

How about community drainage? We hear about drainage in the South, we hear about tremendous ARDA plans in the Interlake area. Many of these northern communities are in areas where they demand drainage to stop from keeping their feet wet, but they do dry out once in a while and I think our department is doing a good job in helping these people, giving them the incentives.

Ilford, a town that's been there for years, had no fire fighting equipment, just as I don't believe any of the small towns have. Through the Commissioner of Northern Affairs, through the efforts of some of the businessmen, through the co-ordination of the CNR and Indian Affairs, they bunched together enough monies, enough old fire fighting equipment of different types and they have fire fighting equipment in Ilford - for the first time. And this is good. These are the things that you and I grow to expect and have become a necessity and which those people who do without, and they can ill do without because they're living in isolation, they have a difficulty to overcome. There's not as much assistance if some may get burnt out in that area, as happens in Winnipeg or Neepawa or Dauphin. The Commissioner has helped with the street lighting at Sherridon; he helped them build an outside rink - through his office it was possible for him to buy from Hydro street lights - a system for \$1.00 a light. This was a good bargain, but he bought them all, 12 of them. Sherridon now has street lights. That's a good deal. I wouldn't have told you about it only I'm assured now that they have no more left, or they'd give it to us. He's helped with the school classes. To go to Frontier School Division, which we took the advantage of seeing, we saw schooling at its best - we saw schooling at its best. It wouldn't have taken much more of a trip to see schooling at its worst. This is perhaps a harsh thing to say but it's right. But it is progressing. This is what the Commissioner is doing. He's trying to help as much as possible and he will continue.

I think one of the big assets to these communities are they do have a co-ordination now between the provincial and federal governments, where they sit down at the directors level or at the Indian Superintendents level, the co-ordinator, and they get together and they find ways and means of building little roads, of maintaining them, of providing the services that we take for granted in southern Manitoba and you can't imagine what it's like to live without. But you ask what did you do. I have a list of some of them that I have knowledge of. They won't set the world on fire but they help. At they cut an air strip and an access road to it -- an air strip, one of the more important things in an isolated community because there's nothing as frustrating in the Spring and the Fall to be caught between freeze-up and thaw where a plane can't get in, you can be outside the radio services, be weathered out completely. This has gone on for years, this has gone on for years. No assistance is available unless they can get in with air strips.

Sherridon, as I said they built the skating rink; they secured the old lights; they repaired a bridge. These are things that were done in a community that were never done before, never; no assistance from the government at all. They have a control dam I note here for the water supply. It doesn't come out of a pipe, they have to use a pail. But even there as

(MR. BEARD, cont'd) the communities grow larger you find that the water is getting polluted, even in the small communities, and their water supply is difficult. We often say they don't get around to washing - I don't know - but when I go into some of these communities and see that they have to run down to the river bank some 80 feet down to get a pail of water to take it back up -- I got enough trouble getting up there without the pail of water, I don't know whether I'd be going down very often at 40 below --(Interjection)-- Perhaps that's why they're not used to drinking water - right.

At Nelson House they extended the air strip, they're planning and arranging for Hydro in Nelson House for '67. What a wonderful centennial! Nelson House community for the first time in their life have the opportunity of getting Hydro electricity. And I might state on the basis - charges that are comparable to what it's costing them today to keep their coal oil lamps, the gasoline lanterns going.

Moose Lake: They built a dock, lengthened their air strip, they cut a cross strip to get in; a winter road to their fish camp. These are important things to a community that's isolated and hasn't had them before. Cormorant: A skating rink again. They're working on the streets; there's a road to the Indian-Metis settlement part of Cormorant. This is rather interesting. The Commissioner went in and said all right I'll put up the money but you have to put up some effort. They went out and they cut the road out, used the trees as corduroy and they built the road. Cormorant is happy just as I'm sure you and I would be happy if we lived in an isolated area. Kids don't have to walk to school with wet feet anymore; they've got a dry road to walk on.

It's impossible to imagine the frustrations that go on in isolated communities. Wabowden: Another rink, open air rink; road to the point Metis settlement. They argued over this for years, the Metis had a settlement inside of Wabowden, nobody was going to build a road out there, but Northern Affairs got together with the community, with the Department and with the Metis people, and they can get back and forwards, without dodging in amongst the trees. Not a paved road - not a paved road. Shamattawa: They cut an air strip in there. I don't know why. The Commissioner has never been able to fly in there yet, he gets fogged out every time he tells me. They built a dock in sections. Here is a community on God's River, many feet up from the river itself they built the dock, built the stairway down - this is a big assistance when you figure that Indians have to come many miles with their trees, floating them down the river, bringing them for wood. Oxford House, Gillam, Rock Lake, Split Lake, all these places are small things that you do for a community - far too many to carry on with reading now.

But I think one of the big important points are the small communities in Northern Manitoba are growing larger and I think we should keep this in mind. They're growing larger; in the south we have problems with them shrinking. Somebody asked are they earning a living? Are they earning a living? We of the Department of Northern Affairs, we welcome people like this into this department to help them - show them how they can earn a living. If you ask a foolish question like that, you're expected to get a foolish answer. No they aren't earning a living - a lot of them aren't.

MR. HANUSCHAK: Why not?

MR. BEARD: Because they haven't got the opportunities. That's why we have Northern Affairs. If we hadn't have had Northern Affairs --(Interjection)-- you better take a trip up Mister; you better take a trip up. Not stop in Thompson and Churchill where the big votes are - get into the little people - get into the little communities, find out what's going on there. Don't stop in Thompson where you can get a few hundred or thousand votes - get in where the people need you. They're happy. Get your Member for Inkster to read out the results again. That'll show you how happy they are. That'll show you how happy they are. They don't expect the world tomorrow; they want assistance; they want assistance. I think that money can be spent on a high priority in Northern Manitoba, but I think it must be considered an investment, not a cost. It's an investment not only in the future of Northern Manitoba but in the future of Manitoba as a whole, because our growth depends upon the raw materials that we get, and if we are concerned about the high cost of living today, I think we must be concerned about where we are going to get the raw materials for tomorrow. Wars have been fought over countries where we get raw materials. We have the raw materials in the north and we have the department to assist in co-ordinating private enterprise and other departments of government to get in there and open up that north.

I might say in ending that I would hope that we as Members of this Legislative Assembly

(MR. BEARD, cont'd) would work together in the hope that this development will come. We look forward to the day when Churchill Forest Industries gets in there and allows us to open up more of the area and provide an economy which the Member for Burrows asked about; allows these people to get out and earn a living close to where they live; give them the opportunity to take advantage of the natural resources which are there to replace those natural resources which are dwindling, and I talk about the fur-bearing animals, etc., which are being lost to those Indians; and if they can return with the forest industry that can give them the opportunity to earn a living, then I think we will go along in an orderly development and not be paying out welfare but be getting tax dollars back, and progress, so that we can further develop the rest of the Province of Manitoba.

MR. DOERN: Mr. Speaker, I was quite inspired by some of the comments of the Honourable Member for Churchill and I thought that I might point out to him that some of his comments in the past simply do not jive with the comments that we just heard. He talks in such terms as the importance of northern development to prevent people from going on welfare rolls, and this is true, but I want to point out to him that there are certain flaws in his logic. He is one who apparently talks a great deal about free enterprise and socialism. He sees all sorts of socialist bogey men in the NDP and in the pronouncements of our Party on various issues. He continually refers to these as socialistic and so on. This alarms him, and yet he proposes socialistic measures or social measures in northern Manitoba continually.

He's like the person who seems to argue when it comes to certain issues that we should have socialism for the rich and free enterprise for the poor. When it comes to university entrance and the cost of admission into the University, I'm sure he says let's have it on the basis of free enterprise, those who can pay may enter. People like this would forget that it so happens that people in higher economic brackets have the money and money is not a consideration, so for them, what do they care? But for those of lower classes it's much more difficult.

He talks of doctors in northern Manitoba, and like my honourable friend who also talks for them, also speaks about the need for putting doctors in various parts of Manitoba. I agree, but this in a sense is not free enterprise in the old sense of the natural laws of supply and demand and interfering with these iron laws which cannot be altered and which determine the economic and social systems. They can be interfered with; they are being interfered with. It's a question of who controls what. If the natural laws indicate high unemployment, then if you wish to accept that, go ahead, but I for one will not.

My honourable friend talks about these doctors and the reason the doctors aren't out there right now is that it is not economically feasible. A doctor can't make a good enough living. He's got too high expenses. He can't locate in a proper area so you have got to - what - underwrite him or you have got to give him certain benefits or pay him a certain basic minimum. Well fine - I don't oppose that - but is that free enterprise or is that government providing a certain basic framework within which free enterprise could not otherwise operate or prosper? I don't know whether you want to call that free enterprise or whether that's socialism. You'd better think about it.

MR. BEARD: Equal medical services.

MR. DOERN: He talks about television for the north and so on, and there again it's up to the government largely to provide these services in northern Manitoba because private industry again can't apparently do it. It's not economically feasible and he calls for the government to step in and the CBC. Fine, but is that free enterprise? And he calls for jobs for the north, and one of the biggest providers of jobs in northern Manitoba will be the development of the Nelson River. Is that free enterprise? It's government enterprise. The government provides the jobs, the government develops it and the result is that people get jobs and then they call themselves free enterprisers.

He talks about the Commissioner of Northern Affairs and what a great department this is, and one of my honourable friends to the right pointed out that \$200,000 isn't even a drop in the bucket. You can't even pay for fuel for an airplane to go and do your job properly, never mind buy the airplane. So the point is that although it is a good idea, I suppose, to have this department set up, what will the Commissioner really accomplish? He now has several other departments and I just wonder how much time he can devote to this. If this is an important department, maybe it should be a separate department. I question whether one man, no matter how capable, can properly handle three departments, especially if several are rather heavy. I think it's just a feeble gesture; I think it is simply a bone that has been tossed to the people of northern Manitoba.

(MR. DOERN, cont'd)

I don't know whose responsibility it is to deal with Indian and Metis problems. I don't seem to see any effort being made in that direction as to dealing with the question of the Reserves and so on. There has been some efforts made in education but I don't see very much being done to advance the Indian and Metis people of your constituency.

So when my friend wants to talk about socialism and throw these words around like bogeys, he should question as to whether or not he is asking for -- what he calls socialism in Winnipeg, he doesn't seem to call socialism in the north. When he talks about the need for television, he says it's all right for the government to step in; when he talks about the need for doctors in his area, he thinks it's all right for the government to step in; and when he talks about jobs for the north, he thinks it's all right for the government to do the development of the natural resources. Fine, but it's not all right apparently. He doesn't think it's all right for the government to step in and do something about nursery schools. If you run your nursery schools on free enterprise, nobody could afford them. The cost would be at least \$6.00 a day and if you had one or more children it would be impossible to go out and get a job.

So I would just like to remind my honourable friend that when he thinks in terms of the separate compartments in his brain, that he should attempt to examine things together. If you want to use the word socialism against us in the sense of a bad word, you had better also consider whether the means that we are talking about aren't identical to the means that you are talking about. I say they are pretty close.

MR. CHAIRMAN (a)--passed; (b)--passed; Resolution 114--passed.

Department VII. - Highways.

HON. WALTER WEIR (Minister of Highways) (Minnedosa): Well, Mr. Chairman, we seem to have been awhile getting here but I understand we have arrived, and as usual I will attempt to, at this stage, not take up too much of the time of the committee, but I would like to say a few words on the introduction of the Highways Estimates. As the members of the committee are aware, it's the first opportunity that I have had to present the Water Control estimates for Manitoba and I'll do my best to provide the information that I can in that regard. It may be that I'll need help in some of it, and hope that that help will be forthcoming.

Before saying anything about the estimates themselves, I think that I would like to mention the fact that this past year has seen the official retirement of George Collins, the Deputy Minister of Highways and former Deputy Minister of Public Works, prematurely. He is at home, hopefully able to spend some good years yet, although he certainly has some disabilities that most of us wouldn't care to have to go through life with. It is also unfortunate that we have to recognize I think the untimely death of Jack Griffiths as Director of Water Control and to record for both of these gentlemen the contribution that they have made to the people in Manitoba. I think that all of us would want to record the appreciation that we as the representatives of the people have to these two men and others like them.

I think I would also like to record the appreciation that we all have for the members of the two departments that I have the pleasure to be responsible for now, but not forgetting the other departments as well, that during last year's emergencies spent such long and untiring and faithful hours to attempt to save the affected people in the Province of Manitoba from the waters that we had running amuck during certain seasons of the year.

I don't see them coming yet, but the usual road program will be distributed immediately I expect so that the members will be able to have it. Here we come, and I think if I can attempt to break down some of the total figures for the honourable members, it might be helpful.

The program that you have here this year has quite a considerable amount of work in it that has already been tendered and carried over work from last year. The increase that we experienced in prices last year accounted for the fact that a great deal of the work that had been planned wasn't able to be completed. Our costs went up for the work last year and our estimates have to reflect of course the anticipated increase that we can expect in this coming year, so that the work really contained in the program represents an estimated expenditure of around \$34 million. The capital program that is budgeted for is an expenditure of \$23, 400, 000, which leave an anticipated carry-forward into the 1968-69 year of something over \$10 million.

I think that I would like to mention just a few of the projects, Mr. Chairman: the fact that we are now able to travel on a divided highway from here to the east end of Portage on No. 1 Highway, and the progress that was made last year as a result of much better construction weather than we experienced in 1965 made this possible; and the fact that considerable work will be carried on again this year in that area, in the area of the Portage by-pass and the extension

(MR. WEIR, cont'd) west to the junction of No. 4 Highway west of Portage.

The Virden-Elkhorn stretch - the contract has been let, some work has been started and it is scheduled for completion this year. Also, the beginning of the upgrading of the stretch on the existing two lanes from No. 4 Highway through to Brandon - an area which is several years old now - it will be being upgraded within the terms of the Trans-Canada Highway Agreement and we'll have sharing in that respect and there will be considerable work in this area this year.

The Perimeter Highway is another area in which there has been considerable work in the last few years. We'll all recognize that there is now four-lane traffic around the south perimeter and work has been carried on in other areas as well. The concrete is anticipated on the construction on the east side of the perimeter north of No. 1, from No. 1 to No. 15, which will provide two lanes of concrete in that area which up until now has been gravel. We've attempted to keep the dust under reasonable control with calcium but this year's program will see concrete on two of those lanes.

You will also see mention of an interchange at No. 1 and the commencement of an interchange - No. 1 on the west end, the completion of the one on the Trans-Canada Highway - and starting of an interchange on the junction of No. 101 and No. 8 which is a very heavy intersection. I think that it's also fair to say that many of our major intersections on the perimeter this year are going to require the protection of signals. Anyone that's been out that way will recognize that signals are now in operation within the last week or so on Roblin Boulevard and the Perimeter Highway, and there are other intersections that are going to have to receive this intermediate treatment within the coming year.

Highway 59 - the major program within the perimeter area on the east side of the city has been one that we've been attempting to get going and have run into drainage difficulties. I believe that we have reached a position where we will be able to proceed full-speed ahead on Highway 59 in this year's program.

The Honourable Member from St. George, I am sure, has already checked to see what there is in store for No. 6 Highway. He hasn't had the program long but I'm sure he and others from that part of Manitoba have checked to note that the balance of the commitment that was made some time ago for a three-year program in completing asphalt as far as Eriksdale is contained within the program and that provisions are being made for improvement of the grade from Eriksdale north. I think that I might say, in connection with No. 6 and other roads in that area, that we are awaiting the negotiations that my colleague the Minister of Agriculture is having with the Government of Canada and hoping for some sharing on some of the projects in this area which will enable us to proceed at a good rate in that part of Manitoba.

Questions have been asked earlier this Session in relation to the Lake Manitoba Causeway, and members will note that it's contained within the program again this year. Tests are being undertaken to attempt to find out a little more about it. Investigations indicated that there is no previous experience in a structure of this type and it's felt for various reasons that these further experiments and this further testing should be done prior to the commencement of the causeway.

Another improvement that I think we can expect in the coming year which isn't included in the program is the fact that approvals have been received from the Board of Transport Commissioners for the installation of a further 55 signalized crossings of the railway on the provincial road system. During last year we had approximately 26 installations, which is a fairly heavy program in the province's experience in itself, and the 1967-68 program will be double that which was achieved in 1966.

I think, Mr. Chairman, I'd like to make a few remarks on water control as well at this stage of the game. Mentioning the Red River Floodway and the fact that we have indicated before that it will be possible, although hopefully not necessary, to accelerate even further the excavation of the floodway to handle partially the flows of the Red River this spring. During the past year there has been eight and one-half miles of the diversion channel of the Portage Diversion placed under contract and excavation has progressed on schedule. The outlet control structure is essentially complete and two bridges have been completed, and during 1967 it is proposed to call excavation contracts to cover the balance of the excavation from Lake Manitoba to No. 1. In addition, the proposed program includes funds for the start on construction of four railway line revisions and the necessary bridges.

On the Shellmouth Dam, the entire reservoir area behind the dam has been cleared. The first phase of the embankment was completed as well as 90 percent of the main outlet conduit

(MR. WEIR, cont'd) for the dam. The contract for the construction of the spillway is expected to be awarded shortly by the Federal Government and the contract for the final phase of the dam embankment will be let this year. The completion of the dam is scheduled for the fall of 1968.

Following the 1966 flood in the Red River Valley, a program of ring-dike construction for some of the towns and villages was instituted. Planning and designing of dikes for the Towns of Emerson, St. Jean and Morris was carried out during the last year and a start made on the construction of the dikes at Emerson and Morris. These dikes will be completed during 1967 at these centres and will provide protection against a flood of the 1950 magnitude. Investigations are under way at Rosenort, Letellier, Ste. Agathe, St. Adolphe, and Aubigny to determine the feasibility that there may be to protect the main commercial areas at these locations and plans will have to be made as a result of the outcome of these studies.

During 1966 plans were completed for 113 watersheds covering the southern portion of the province. The waterways in each of the watersheds have been designated and those artificial drains of the third order or higher have been declared provincial waterways. The province is therefore fully responsible for the maintenance and construction of these waterways, with the municipalities retaining the responsibility for the first and second order drains.

Comprehensive planning for the ultimate development of water resources of the province will continue again in 1967. It is expected that the plan for the Fisher River Watershed will be completed early in the new year and work on the construction program will be put under way. Work on the Whitemud Watershed is well under way and in the new year it is planned to increase the activities into those watersheds having their upper reaches in the western escarpment.

Considering the future water requirements in the Assiniboine and the Souris River Watershed, studies will continue in co-operation with the Federal Government to determine the means by which water requirements in future years can be made for these watersheds either by conservation reservoirs or diversions from adjacent watersheds.

Ground water availability studies for irrigation use are under way in the Melita and Carberry areas in co-operation with the Department of Agriculture and water availability studies are presently being carried on in the Ethelbert area, and it is the intention to extend the water availability studies in the area around Oak Lake in the Souris River Basin as well as in the Minnedosa River area.

Mr. Chairman, those are a few preliminary remarks that I had that I would like to make on the introduction of the estimates. I'll be happy to hear the remarks and comments of members of the committee and to provide any further information that I'm able to do as the estimates proceed.

MR. LYON: Mr. Chairman, I move the Committee rise.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Committee rise. Call in the Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, the Committee of Supply has directed me to report progress and asks leave to sit again.

IN SESSION

MR. DOUGLAS J. WATT (Arthur): Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Springfield, that the report of the Committee be received.

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

MR. SPEAKER: It is now 5:30 and the House now adjourns and will stand adjourned until 2:30 tomorrow afternoon.