

TIME: 2:30 p.m.

OPENING PRAYER by Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER, Honourable Peter Fox (Kildonan): Before we proceed I should like to direct the attention of honourable members to the gallery where we have nineteen students of Grade 12 standing of the Bradford District High School from Ontario under the direction of Mr. Donald Burt. On behalf of the honourable members we welcome you.

Presenting Petitions; Reading and Receiving Petitions; Presenting Reports by Standing and Special Committees.

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS AND TABLING OF REPORTS

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Mines.

HONOURABLE SIDNEY GREEN (Inkster): Mr. Speaker, I wish to lay on the table the **Report of the Clean Environment Commission for 1976** and the **Report of the Manitoba Mineral Resources Limited for 1975-76**.

MR. SPEAKER: Any other ministerial statements or tabling of reports? The Honourable Minister of Continuing Education.

HONOURABLE BEN HANUSCHAK (Burrows): I wish to table the **Annual Report of the Legislative Library and Provincial Archives**.

I have a statement to make, Mr. Speaker, with respect to the Parks Branch Forest Tent Caterpillar Spray Program, but I regret that I do not have copies of it for the members of the House, so whichever way you wish to handle it, Mr. Speaker

MR. SPEAKER: Does the Honourable Minister have leave without copies to proceed? (Agreed)

MR. HANUSCHAK: During the current forest tent caterpillar infestation, the Parks Branch of the Department of Tourism, Recreation and Cultural Affairs will again undertake to spray a number of heavily-used parks and public areas of large parks, such as the Whiteshell and Spruce Woods. This spraying program which has been approved by the Clean Environment Commission, has already commenced in a number of areas. Areas to be sprayed include the following: Grant Memorial Wayside Park, 50 acres; Manitoba Provincial Park, 130 acres; Aseissippi Provincial Park, 700 acres; Rosebud Wayside Park, 5 acres; McCreary Wayside Park, 45 acres; Rivers Provincial Park, 25 acres; Grand Valley Provincial Park, 50 acres; Grand Beach Provincial Park, 825 acres; Pine Falls Provincial Park, 35 acres; Wallace Lake Provincial Park, 60 acres; Caribou Lake Wayside Park, 5 acres; Wanipigow Lake Provincial Park, 20 acres; Ironwood Point Provincial Park, 125 acres; Winnipeg Beach Provincial Park, 45 acres; Camp Morton Provincial Park, 640 acres; Hecla Island Provincial Park, 825 acres; Birds Hill Provincial Park, 1,930 acres; and Whiteshell Provincial Park, 2,340 acres, for a total of 7,855 acres.

Spraying in the Whiteshell will cover the Falcon Lake Golf Course, the Falcon Lake townsite and campgrounds and picnic areas throughout the rest of the park. The Whiteshell District Association, comprising some 3,200 members, has undertaken a spraying program to cover cottage areas in the park. The association has arranged to spray those lots whose owners indicated a desire to have their lots sprayed. Those cottage lots whose owners object to the program will not be sprayed. Cottage areas on 21 lakes will be treated under this program financed totally by the association.

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

MR. HARRY E. GRAHAM: I would like to ask the Minister for further clarification. Of the 700 acres of the many thousands that are in Aseissippi Provincial Park, will any of the spraying take place on the west side of the lake?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister.

MR. HANUSCHAK: I cannot reply to that question offhand, Mr. Speaker. I'll take it as notice to determine the exact location of the spraying area — to give, you know, the boundaries of the spraying area, that is.

MR. SPEAKER: We are still under Ministerial Statements and Tabling of Reports. I thought it was a question of clarification. Notices of Motion; Introduction of Bills.

ORAL QUESTIONS

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. STERLING R. LYON (Souris-Killarney): Mr. Speaker, a question to the First Minister. We understand that the Hall Report has been tabled in Ottawa today and made public. Would it be possible, first of all, to ensure that copies are available to members of the House as soon as possible, number one; and number two, can we expect the Ministry to be making a statement with respect to its position on the Hall Report before the end of the session?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

HONOURABLE EDWARD SCHREYER, Premier (Rossmere): The answer to the last question is "yes" to the first part of the question with respect to distribution of the report, I'm not certain whether we will be receiving multiple copies but, in any case, we will attempt to obtain multiple copies sufficient for tabling and for the records.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Minnedosa.

MR. DAVID BLAKE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question — I don't know if it should be to the Minister of Tourism in connection with the statement that he just made to the Minister of Agriculture. It has to do with spraying for the tent caterpillar worm. There have been many requests from municipalities around the boundaries of the park to spray a buffer zone of roughly two miles around Riding Mountain National Park because the park people aren't going to spray for the worm. And I wondered if the areas that he has indicated to us that are being sprayed include an area that would be roughly a buffer zone around the confines of Riding Mountain National Park.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Continuing Education.

MR. HANUSCHAK: Mr. Speaker, it would seem to me that either those responsible for spraying in municipalities, or the department that may have some degree of responsibility for spraying within municipalities, could better answer that question. Or if it's something emanating from spraying in a park, or the lack of spraying in a park, then perhaps the question ought to be directed to the authority responsible for the park to which the honourable member makes reference, which is not provincial but federal.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Minnedosa.

MR. BLAKE: Yes, well obviously, Mr. Speaker, the Minister has given one of his answers that tells us absolutely nothing so I'll direct my question to the Minister of Agriculture. In view of the fact that the Department of Agriculture owns many thousand acres surrounding the park, has the Minister agreed to work with the municipalities and have this particular area sprayed to control the worm?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Agriculture.

HONOURABLE SAMUEL USKIW (Lac du Bonnet): Well, Mr. Speaker, for the last three years — I believe it's three years — we have been most co-operative with municipalities in their spray program. But it indeed is their spray program, not ours. And to the extent that municipalities around the park wish to carry out that program this year, that is entirely up to them and we will give them the normal amount of assistance that we have in the past three years.

MR. BLAKE: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I am aware that the Minister has received correspondence from the municipalities and I'm asking him has he agreed to provide that support to the municipalities that have requested it?

MR. USKIW: Well, Mr. Speaker, again there is a standard formula or approach on the part of the department with respect to the program and all of the municipalities are aware of that. We've had many meetings throughout rural Manitoba making them aware of that and it is their local decision that determines whether there is a program.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Roblin.

MR. McKENZIE: Mr. Speaker, I have question for the Honourable Minister of Highways and I guess the Member for Ste. Rose has taken over that seat as of the weekend when the Premier was out there eulogizing the philosophies of the . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Question please.

MR. McKENZIE: Oh he's moving now, then I'll direct my question to the Acting Minister of Highways, Mr. Speaker, and wonder if the Minister is prepared to discuss with the villages of St. Lazare and Angusville the deplorable and horrible conditions of Public Roads No. 476, No. 478 and No. 270, the main street of the Village of St. Lazare and the main street of the Village of Angusville.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, with respect to the condition of roads and certain specific locations the numbers that my honourable friend has rattled off will be looked at and I can assure my honourable friend that they will be kept at least as good a standard as PR's. 204, 214, and 325 when my honourable friends were the government. When my honourable friends were the government I don't think they knew those roads existed.

MR. McKENZIE: Mr. Speaker, I thank the First Minister for those kind remarks and I now would ask the First Minister if he will advise me or the Members of the Opposition when those roads will be brought up to the standards that the citizens think they deserve.

MR. SCHREYER: Well, Mr. Speaker, there is admittedly a problem with respect to the road in the Village of St. Lazare and partly that has to do with the peculiar problem of stabilization of a hill that is in near proximity to the village which has caused a considerable engineering difficulty and added cost. With respect to Angusville, I was in Angusville only two weeks ago and I'm not aware that the condition of the road within the village is much different than when my honourable friends were in office.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. L. R. (Bud) SHERMAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Honourable the

Attorney-general and I would ask him whether he can confirm that the government has prepared extensive amendments to Bill 61, the Marital Property Act and will those amendments be circulated in the House before the debate reaches conclusion on second reading stage?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Attorney-General.

HONOURABLE HOWARD PAWLEY (Selkirk): Mr. Speaker, there are considerable amendments as it would be expected. I had intended to bring forth those amendments during the Committee stage and I would think that would be the most appropriate area unless there was something that was of such a basic nature that it should be presented first here.

I am not aware, let me tell the Honourable Member, of any amendments to the bill that are of such a nature that it would not be normally dealt with in the process of amendments at the law amendments stage.

MR. SHERMAN: Well, Mr. Speaker, perhaps the Minister has partially answered my supplementary question, but I'd like to ask it anyway with your permission, Sir, whether the Minister might consider that it would be worthwhile to distribute the proposed amendments because of the effect that they would have on the positions that various members of the House would take during second reading debate.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, first the amendments are, in the main as I can recall, of a very very legal and technical nature. I don't think honourable members would find them of that much significance insofar as seeing what effect the debate on second reading. Secondly, I may not proceed with some of the amendments that have been prepared. It will depend upon the debate, I suppose during second reading, but the amendments again are of a very technical and not of a major nature, just a sort of run-of-the-mill type of amendments that are made generally for technical or legal reasons during committee stage.

MR. SHERMAN: A further supplementary, Mr. Speaker, could the Minister advise whether the same process is, in effect, taking place with respect of Bill 60, the Family Maintenance Act.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, all that I can do is assume that the legal draftsmen will be again examining the bill to ascertain whether technical amendments should be made, legal amendments that were overlooked. Secondly, I would think that during the course of the debate on second reading that there may be call for some further amendments to be prepared and introduced at Committee stage. I had indicated, by the way, in respect to The Marital Property Act, that we might expect a number of amendments, depending upon the discussions that took place in the House here and as a result of the public submissions, so that certainly I am not proceeding on without the expectation that the amendments in one form or another may not be made to the bill.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, in the forenoon, the Leader of the Opposition had asked as to the nature of the emergency arrangements that were made relative to Nelson House over the weekend because of a threatening fire in near proximity to the community. Upon checking with Emergency Measures, I am advised that the matter was dealt with, pursuant to a standing arrangement at Thompson with respect to emergency measures and local preparedness. There has been good co-operation between the City of Thompson, International Nickel, the Department of Renewable Resources Air Division, the RCMP, Department of Health and Social Development and Emergency Measures itself.

Basically the arrangements were such that ground assistance with respect to firefighting was provided by the City of Thompson; ground transportation by the city and by Inco; aerial water bombing by the Department of Renewable Resources, organization was carried out through Emergency Measures for the quartering of people in the schools, in two schools, overnight, and the providing of food. And at 9:30 this morning, because of the changed situation, transportation was arranged for the returning of approximately 500 people back to the community.

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

MR. GRAHAM: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Attorney-General. I would like to ask the Attorney-General, now that at least his nomination is secured, what action is he prepared to take on behalf of the people of Selkirk to ensure that they get the federal penitentiary in that area?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister for Consumer and Corporate Affairs.

HONOURABLE RENE TOUPIN (Springfield): Mr. Speaker, I took as notice a question from the Member for Morris in regard to the possible sale of rotten potatoes by the Vegetable Marketing Board. The indication that I get, Mr. Speaker, from my department is that we have not been informed by consumers and/or retailers of such sales being made by the Marketing Board. It may be that in five or ten-pound bags there could be some rotten potatoes, and we are being advised, Mr. Speaker, by retailers and especially by the Marketing Board that when we purchase same, that we should check and find out if they are rotten, and if they are, not to purchase them and if we find out once we get home, to return them to the retailers. This is nearing the end of the season and this could occur. I have had the personal experience myself, Mr. Speaker, in shopping at the Co-op Store and other stores in the city and finding out good and less-good products.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Minnedosa.

MR. BLAKE: Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Agriculture, and I wonder if he can inform the House what discussions he has had, or what contingency agreements he has with his federal counterpart and those responsible for the operation of the federal national park, to allow grazing rights to farmers should the need arise with the drought conditions prevailing.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister for Agriculture.

MR. USKIW: Well, Mr. Speaker, that is an ongoing process and we are meeting, for example, on Friday with the federal people in Regina, so that is still something that has not yet fully jelled.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Brandon West.

MR. EDWARD MCGILL: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Honourable the First Minister, relative to some questions that were asked last week about the purchase of a majority interest in Transair by Pacific Western Airlines and the responses that were given at that time. I wonder if the First Minister can indicate if a caveat applied by the Federal Government would be that not only would the applied for licence of Transair to serve eastern Canada from Brandon, but also other licences which they now hold on eastern runs would have to be surrendered in order to gain approval.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: That is my understanding, Mr. Speaker. That with respect to routes, including proposed routes from a point in western Canada eastward, that these would be surrendered or not pursued as a *quid pro quo* for the addition of certain existing and possibly new routes within western Canada. Of course, as the honourable member will appreciate, that kind of determination can only be adjudicated upon by the federal agency and that is presuming of course that this is also acceptable to PWA. But, even assuming it is, it would be, I assume, the Canadian Transportation Commission's Air Transport Committee that would be adjudicating the matter.

MR. MCGILL: Mr. Speaker, then specifically does the First Minister understand that the present licences of Transair to serve from Winnipeg to Toronto would have to be surrendered?

MR. SCHREYER: I don't know that they have to be surrendered. It is my understanding that PWA is prepared to see this done in return for offsetting and then some considerations. So really this will not take place at all if PWA does not make that kind of application, presumably.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MOTION OF CONDOLENCE

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring before honourable members the resolution pertaining to the passing last week of a former Premier of this province, the Honourable Stuart Garson.

Some honourable members in this Assembly may have known former Premier Garson personally. I suspect so. He was the Premier of this province at a time which could be best described as a period of reconstruction immediately after World War II and, as such, occupied an important and responsible and onerous position in the government of this province at a time when it was relatively critical.

He was not a native born Manitoban but one who came here so early in life that for all intents and purposes he could have been regarded as a native Manitoban.

In addition to having been educated all through the school years, including secondary and post-secondary, here at Winnipeg and the Manitoba Law School, he practised law in a rural community that is familiar with many of us — Ashern, Manitoba — and represented that community and surrounding area in this Legislature from a period between 1927 until his resignation as Premier and member in 1948.

Having been elected and re-elected in 1927, 1932, 1936, and 1941, he became Premier on the 14th of January, 1943, and, as I've already said, served as Premier during the reconstruction period and in late 1948 resigned to join the Cabinet of the Right Honourable Louis St. Laurent and served as Minister of Justice for the Dominion of Canada from 1948 to 1957.

I cannot say, Sir, that I knew him personally although I was already of an age to follow his work or follow his career at a time in the 1950s. Subsequent to his defeat in the federal election of 1957, as happens to all democratic politicians or almost all, he returned to private life and practised law in private practice for a number of years.

Recognition of his life and his work are perhaps best summarized in the fact that several years after his active political years came to an end, he was recognized by way of the Order of Canada for his service to his country and his province. It is equally appropriate that we in this Legislature at this time should similarly recognize his life and his work by passing our Motion of Condolence and conveying it to the family.

Accordingly, I move, seconded by the Honourable the House Leader of the Liberal Party, that this

House convey to the family of the late Stuart Sinclair Garson, who served as a member of this Assembly, its sincere sympathy in their bereavement and its appreciation of his devotion to duty in a useful life of active community and public service and that you, Sir, be requested to forward a copy of this resolution to the family.

MOTION presented.

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

MR. GORDON E. JOHNSTON: Mr. Speaker, it is an honour to be asked to second a resolution of sending the message of condolence to the Garson family.

While the First Minister was speaking, I was reflecting a little bit. I knew the late Mr. Garson, not very well but I knew him well enough to know of some of his outstanding qualities. His record indicates that he was first elected as an MLA at the age of 29 and then for 30 continuous years, especially after the time when he became a provincial Cabinet Minister, he was full-time in the public service. And I think if we recall, those of us who are old enough to remember, that a full-time public official in those days was really not that well rewarded. So I would imagine that Mr. Garson gave up a lot of the material things that he could have had with the abilities that he did have, and those abilities were directed towards the good of his fellow men and women in Canada.

So I think that this is something that tells us about the nature of the person, that he would not only serve as an MLA and then as a provincial Minister, and then Premier, but obviously that not only was he asked to come but he felt the duty to go and serve his country in Ottawa for so many years later on when most people would have felt that they had done enough for their province and would be inclined to return to private life. But Mr. Garson was not that sort of a person. He gave fully of his time in that thirty-year span that he was in public life.

So, Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my colleagues and others in the Liberal Party throughout the province, we send our condolences to the Garson family recognizing, of course, that Mr. Garson lived a full life and lived to a good age. And when the time came, I'm sure the family were prepared for it. But in any event, our sympathies go to them at this time.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. LYON: Mr. Speaker, I would like to join in the sentiments expressed in the Motion and the words that have been expressed by the First Minister and the Honourable the Member for Portage.

Like the previous speakers, I was not a close acquaintance of Mr. Garson although I did know him and had met him on a number of occasions. One of those occasions, which was a rare one indeed, I would imagine, in any province, was a luncheon that was given by Premier Roblin for all of the Premiers of Manitoba who were living at that time. And Mr. John Bracken was robust and very much present at that luncheon, as was Mr. Stuart Garson, along with Mr. D. L. Campbell and Mr. Roblin. They presented, I think, an uninterrupted span of some 45 years of service in the First Minister's portfolio to the Province of Manitoba.

Mr. Garson, I remember also in another connection. He was Minister, as they called it in those days, of Dominion-Provincial Relations, and he was one of those quiet, competent gentlemen who felt the responsibility of his negotiating field very keenly. So much so that on one occasion that I recall, he came to open the Annual Fair at Portage la Prairie, at which time I think the host had expected him to speak for just a few moments and officially declare the Fair to be opened. Mr. Garson was not to be deterred by that kind of an invitation because he had something important to report and he felt very deeply about the state of Federal-Provincial relations in Manitoba. I don't recall the time but the remarks by Mr. Garson went on for some considerable time on the topic of Federal-Provincial relations. The remarks were cogent, the remarks were sensible and he was giving a reasoned position of the attitude that he was taking in those negotiations with the then government of the day which would be the government of the late Right Honourable Mackenzie King.

He was a man who was distinguished in his tenure as Premier as being noted for the fiscal prudence that he demonstrated toward the Treasury of the Province of Manitoba, a quality that one would wish would be more apparent on all members of the House at this time — all members of the House — the kind of fiscal prudence that perhaps we don't collectively feel toward the Public Treasury. Mr. Garson did feel it and felt it very very seriously and ran a very confident administration at the time for the few brief years that he was Premier. Actually, he was Premier for three years during the war and three years just after so he had the tough period during the war; he had the period as the First Minister has mentioned of reconstruction to deal with as well before going on to what one can only describe as a distinguished career in Ottawa as the Federal Minister of Justice.

So, here is a man who has demonstrated in a way that should act as a beacon for all of us, the kind of dedicated service to the people of Manitoba; the kind of service that is of the highest quality in all respects and a man who leaves behind him a record of service and a reputation in the public service that is second to none in the history of our province. So I am pleased to be able to address these few words to the motion today to join in the condolences that are expressed to his family.

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

MR. GRAHAM: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to associate myself with the remarks that

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have been made today because I, as a young man, was a constituent of the former Premier of this province when he served as the Minister of Justice representing the constituency of Marquette and I, at that time, did have the honour of knowing Mr. Garson fairly well. The prestige and the dedication that he exemplified in his service to his country was one that impressed me very much at that time and, who knows, it may have had a beneficial effect on my life and I am sure that it had a beneficial effect on the lives of many others. So Mr. Speaker, I would like at this time to associate myself with the remarks that have already been said.

MR. SPEAKER: In accepting and agreeing to the motion of condolence, would the honourable members please rise for a moment of silence.

ADJOURNED DEBATES ON SECOND READING

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable House Leader.

HONOURABLE SIDNEY GREEN (Inkster): Mr. Speaker, would you please proceed with the Adjourned Debates on Second Reading.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Adjourned Debates, Second Reading, Bill No. 5. The Honourable Minister of Public Works.

HONOURABLE RUSSELL DOERN (Eimwood): Stand, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Bill No. 39. The Honourable Minister for Municipal Affairs. (Stand)
Bill No. 51. The Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

MR. STEVE PATRICK: Stand, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Bill No. 56. The Honourable Member for Portage la Prairie.

MR. G. JOHNSTON: Stand, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Bill No. 59. The Honourable Member for Swan River.

MR. BILTON: stand, Mr. Speaker, please.

MR. SPEAKER: Bill No. 61. The Honourable Member for Gladstone.

MR. JAMES R. FERGUSON: stand, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Bill No. 62. The Honourable Member for St. James.

MR. GEORGE MINAKER: stand, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Bill No. 68. The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge. (Stand)

SECOND READING

BILL (NO. 60) — THE FAMILY MAINTENANCE ACT.

MR. SPEAKER: Bill No. 60. The Honourable Attorney-General.

HONOURABLE HOWARD PAWLEY (Selkirk) presented Bill (No. 60) The Family Maintenance Act for second reading.

MOTION presented.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, the Family Maintenance Bill follows generally the recommendations of the Law Reform Commission and the Committee of the Legislature which considered the recommendations of the Law Reform Commission.

The Marital Property Act is a statement of the law confirming that marriage is an equal partnership of two spouses even though one may earn all the income for the family, while the other maintains the home and raises the children. It is a statement of the law that applies to every married couple in the Province of Manitoba. The Family Maintenance Act applies to all married persons in the province and where there are children of the union, to persons living in common-law union.

The Family Maintenance Bill provides that the spouse, while living with the other spouse, is entitled to periodic reasonable amounts as personal clothing allowance, personal expense allowances and the right to sole discretion, free from all interference from the other spouse, in the use of those allowances. The bill also requires spouses to provide upon request reasonable information as to their financial affairs, including copies of income tax returns, assessment notices, itemized statements of gross and , and net earnings, showing all deductions itemized statements of any debts and liabilities.

The Family Maintenance Bill provides for a spouse to apply to the court for an Order of Support and Maintenance from the other spouse. The factors that the court can consider in determining whether an Order for Support and Maintenance should be made and, if so, the amount of the support and maintenance, are restricted to a consideration of what support and maintenance is necessary in each particular case.

The bill establishes the factors that the court shall consider:

1. The financial needs of each spouse and any children of the marriage.
2. The financial means, earnings and earning capacity of each spouse.
3. The standard of living and the life-style of each spouse.
4. Any existing obligations for the support and maintenance of another person. In this regard we

must keep in mind that in this day and age it is not uncommon for persons to be married on more than one occasion.

5. Extent to which each spouse is fulfilling their part of the marital contract. For example, in maintaining the household, taking care of the children, providing the family income.

6. Whether there is to be any property settlement between the spouses.

7. The extent to which one spouse is financially dependent upon the other spouse.

8. The extent to which the income earning capacity and financial status of either spouse has been impaired during the course and as a result of the marriage.

9. The extent to which the income earning capacity and financial status of either spouse has been impaired by circumstances under which the dependent spouse has been living following separation.

10. The responsibility that each spouse has for the support, the maintenance and the education of the children.

11. The length of time that the marriage has subsisted. In this regard, persons who have been married for a brief period of time should not expect generous or long-term maintenance and support.

In bringing forward this Family Maintenance Bill, our desire has been to avoid giving married people direct financial motives to pursue their recriminations in public after love and trust and understanding has vanished from their personal relationship. Our purpose has been to require maintenance and support where necessary and as necessary.

The court need not make any finding of fault in its determination as to whether one of the spouses require maintenance and support. Heretofore the spouses have defended their interest by attacking the other's character, personality, fitness as a parent and general performance as a spouse. Their testimony has often been found to be unreliable. The selective memory and biased evidence in these cases has often made it difficult for the courts to weigh the conflicting and often confusing versions of past events in the arrival at a factual conclusion.

In the Family Maintenance Bill we have determined that we should deal with the present and try to avoid the regurgitation of the unfortunate past. However, we stress that the Family Maintenance Bill is not going to provide never-ending support and maintenance for a spouse so that a spouse can retire and live on maintenance for the remainder of their lives. The bill requires that each spouse take all reasonable steps to become financially independent of the other spouse. If the spouses are financially independent at the time of the separation or if the dependent spouse does not become financially independent subsequent to the separation, the obligation of the other spouse ceases permanently upon the expiry of three years from the date of separation even if the dependent spouse subsequently loses that financial independence.

In considering whether to make an Order for Support and Maintenance the court must consider the measures available for the dependent spouse to become financially independent of the other spouse or to restore the income earning capacity that may have been impaired during the course of and as a result of the marriage, or as a result of the circumstances under which the dependent spouse has been living after the separation. The court is to consider the length of time and the cost involved in making measures available to become financially independent or restore income earning capacity, for instance, refresher courses, upgrading classes, etc., in making an Order for Support and Maintenance.

The Act provides that a spouse who has or is given custody of children of the marriage may be allowed to occupy the family residence and any proposed partition or sale of the residence will be postponed subject to the right of occupancy contained in the order of the court.

The bill applies to common-law marriages where there are children but only while one of the persons in the common-law union has custody of the child or children.

The bill provides that parents are obliged to provide reasonably for the support, maintenance and education of each child until the child obtains the full age of 18 years. Where an application is made for support and maintenance of a child, the court shall consider all factors that are relevant, including the cost of accommodation, housekeeping, food and clothing, recreation, supervision, the need for and cost of providing a stable environment; and the financial circumstances and other financial obligations of the persons who are required to provide for the support and maintenance education of the child.

The bill provides that any application for relief, pursuant to the Family Maintenance Bill, may be made in the Court of Queen's Bench, the County Court or the Family Division of the Provincial Judges Court.

While the bill provides for full answer and defense to any application, including the right to an examination for discovery or interrogatories or particulars from the other spouse, the court is empowered to make interim orders where delay may prejudice or work a hardship upon either spouse or a child.

While the application is made in the Family Division of the Provincial Judges Court, the order may be enforced as if it were an order of the County Court thereby allowing process under the Executions Act and the Garnishment Act to effect enforcement of any order of the court.

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In conclusion, I want to advise the House that it is our intention to change the present Section 39 in the bill the transitional section, to provide that applications brought under the Wives' and Children's Maintenance Act prior to this Act coming into force, will be continued under this Act and not as the section is presently worded.

I want to just say again, Mr. Speaker, with this bill as with the one introduced last week, that we look forward to the debate in this House and to the public submissions in Committee and it may be very well as a result of the debate in the House and the submissions that we receive that there will be some changes. I would hope that they would not be substantial but certainly we are open and we would, in fact, encourage as much response as is possible to this bill.

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

MR. GRAHAM: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Member for Fort Garry, that this debate be adjourned.

MOTION presented and carried.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Agriculture.

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

MOTION presented and carried and the House resolved itself into Committee of Supply with the Honourable Member for Logan in the Chair for the Department of the Attorney-General and the Honourable Member for St. Vital in the Chair for Urban Affairs.

CONCURRENT COMMITTEES OF SUPPLY

URBAN AFFAIRS

MR. CHAIRMAN, Mr. James D. Walding (St. Vital): We have a quorum gentlemen. The committee will come to order. I would refer the attention of honourable members to Page 61 in their Estimates Books, The Department of Urban Affairs, Resolution 109 Administration (a) The Minister's Compensation. The Honourable Minister.

HONOURABLE SAUL MILLER: (Seven Oaks): Mr. Chairman, I'll keep my comments short as I understand that's the desire of most members.

There are two Resolutions 109, which contains the Estimates for Urban Affairs Ministry proper and Resolution 110, which is the Emergency Measures Organization. As members know the role of Urban Affairs Ministry is really to co-ordinate, not to duplicate the work of provincial line departments with each other and both the Federal and City Governments on matters which affect the Greater Winnipeg area. The Ministry staff complement consists of 15, including clerical.

With regard to EMO, the Emergency Measures Organization, the co-ordinating body and the planning body for the safety and survival of citizens and disasters and emergencies, they co-ordinate, they activate, they advise and mostly they advise the various levels of government to plan for disasters and emergency as they may occur, because their role really is to try to develop plans with the local governments so that in case something does occur there will be a plan that they could follow. Mr. Chairman, with those very few comments I really feel perhaps the members would rather go into detail if any when they touch the various sections in the Estimates themselves.

MR. CHAIAN: Resolution 109(b) Administrative Salaries. The Honourable Member for Sturgeon Creek.

MR. J. FRANK JOHNSTON: I thank the Minister for his comments. I might say that there is a Bill in the House at the present time that will give us ample opportunity to be involved with the urban affairs as far as the City of Winnipeg Act is concerned. The only question I would ask at the present time, Mr. Chairman, is in the small few words above the Minister's Compensation, it says the Provincial Government as a whole in its relationship with urban areas of Manitoba. Now there has been criticism regarding the Urban Affairs Department, saying it's the ministry of the City of Winnipeg. What work is going on with other areas such as Brandon, Thompson, Dauphin, Portage La Prairie in that respect?

MR. MILLER: Mr. Chairman, I've never used the term, the ministry of Winnipeg. It is Urban Affairs. We certainly work with the City of Brandon as far as transportation is concerned and transportation grants to the City of Brandon. We undertook with them and assisted them in a study of the Transit Transportation System. We cost-shared I believe in a study which was taken of the Transportation system. As well, we're working with other communities thinking in terms of the transportation system where they exist now, in the case of Fliin Flon. We cost-share there, therefore, we are in touch with them on that. The City of Thompson has indicated an interest in looking at their transportation system and Urban Affairs was instrumental in launching or undertaking assistance in a study that will be taking place in Thompson, so it's that sort of relationship that we have with other urban areas.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Mr. Chairman, other than the transportation, is there any format for meeting with the other areas if I'm not mistaken many of them do come under the Department of Municipal Affairs in some aspects I might say that I don't think I ever did hear the Minister of Finance say it was the ministry of Winnipeg; I'd heard it said by other people. I was wondering basically, is there anything being started to meet with the other urban areas in any way regarding their problems that come up that the department can be of help to them, I guess in working with other departments of government? I'm sure that they would need assistance from your department in that respect.

MR. MILLER: Mr. Chairman, no we don't pretend to have as close a contact with the other urban areas as we have with the City of Winnipeg. And of course the City of Winnipeg is much larger than all the other urban centres combined. I am available, certainly, if the Brandon mayor wants to see me. He has seen me and he has no difficulty in contacting me on something he feels I may be of assistance to him. They do work more closely with Municipal Affairs because the structure of Municipal Affairs lends itself to that far more than Urban Affairs, because ours is really a co-ordinating ministry. As you can see by the Estimates there is very little in the way of dollars that flow through the department itself.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Brandon West.

MR. MCGILL: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if in addition to these transportation projects has the Minister of Urban Affairs had any input into Brandon's core redevelopment program that's called the Mall project in the Brandon area. I think it relates to a rebuilding of the downtown area of the City of Brandon and has been in the planning and project stage for several years. Is there any input in that area from the Urban Affairs Department?

MR. MILLER: Mr. Chairman, no there is no input from Urban Affairs. I would suspect that they

probably use the Planning Branch of Municipal Affairs in the City of Brandon for that sort of project. I know the project of course. It's a very extensive one and they've been working on it for some time. But I suspect, as I say, it's the Planning Branch of Municipal Affairs that have the planning capacity in-house that's probably working with the City of Brandon.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I wonder — if the honourable members have any further questions on these lines they might be better asked under 109(d) Urban Projects and Transportation. We're on (b) Administrative Salaries. Resolution 109(b)— pass; 109(c) Other Expenditures. The Honourable Member for Sturgeon Creek.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: In the Accounts that we get presented to us for the year ending 1976 I had a glance at them and the professional fees and other fees seem rather high in those particular areas. What does the department — I'm not asking what is estimated — but what would be estimated for professional fees this year and what do they actually go out to get this professional advice for?

MR. MILLER: Mr. Chairman, I wonder whether I could get clarification? Is it consulting fees or — what information is being sought, I'm not sure.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Well, in the '76 one it had professional fees. I imagine that's consulting fees, Mr. Chairman.

MR. MILLER: The salary for departmental solicitor, we have to pay to the RG's department. AG's We pay the fees for the additional zone representatives on the zoning and planning hearings where they are represented.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution 109(c)—pass; 109(d) Urban Projects and Transportation. The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. SHEAN: Mr. Chairman, through you to the Minister, I wonder if the Minister could give us an up-date on the south-west corridor project and concept and the rapid transit concept for transportation in Winnipeg, particularly through the area of Fort Garry.

MR. MILLER: No, I wouldn't even attempt to give you a report on it, except to say that the province is involved in a three-level study, Federal Government, Provincial Government, Municipal Government on what is known as the south-west corridor, that's a corridor to parallel the CNR-Letellier Right of Way, Phase 1 has been done. The consultants have made their report to the officials of the three levels. They're going into Phase 2 of the report. I don't know when that is due for a resolution but it shouldn't be too long. And that's about all I can say at this time.

MR. SHERMAN: Phase What is 2 in terms of the work being done in comparison to phase 1?

MR. MILLER: Well, Phase 2, I believe deals with the choice of routing into downtown Winnipeg. As I said earlier the corridor along the railway south of the river, is pretty well determined, but once you cross the river, how the crossing will take place, where it'll take place, and routing into the city proper; as well the mode of transportation, they will be looking at different modes of transportation, whether it be by rail or diesel or electric bus, at what point in time certain modes might be introduced into the system, and perhaps even Monorail, I don't know . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. SHERMAN: Well, is the Minister saying that at this point in time the whole thing is an abstract study? I infer from the Minister's remarks that there haven't been any decisions made, then. It is just a study to determine what might be looked at in the way of rapid transit through that area of the city leading back and forth from the downtown core. Is that correct?

MR. MILLER: Yes, that's true. Eventually it will go to the city government, certainly, and to the federal level as well, and of course to the province, but at this point in time, all that's been done is to simply look at the feasibility of certain things, possibilities, probabilities.

MR. SHERMAN: How many phases are there to this study?

MR. MILLER: Two.

MR. SHERMAN: Two? So we're into the second and final phase now. Would the Minister have any estimate of time as to when that phase might be completed?

MR. MILLER: No, I don't have that. My experience is that it usually takes a little longer than what people estimate, but I really can't tell you definitively — probably within 1977, certainly.

MR. SHERMAN: Are the Minister and his department participating in this study? Are they funding it or are they putting conceptual input into it?

MR. MILLER: We are funding it and one or two urban staff members are on the advisory committee, if you want to call it that, or sit in on the advisory committee. The firm that is doing the study is a consultant firm that was hired for the purpose.

MR. SHERMAN: Could the Minister advise the Committee whether he or his department favour any specific position or any specific solution?

MR. MILLER: No, at this point, frankly, I wouldn't want to second-guess what might come out of it. It would be a question of what is the best procedure to follow, taking into account the cost involved, the cost benefits that might flow, and the timing for the total development of a southwest corridor.

MR. SHERMAN: Is a bus lane being considered as one of the possibilities for the transportation along that route?

MR. MILLER: Well, it is a bus way, yes. When you say bus lane, it implies that there is other traffic in addition to buses. This would be a bus way, a transit corridor. There would be no, as I understand it, private vehicles on it at all. It is confined and limited to transit, whether it be as I say a bus or on a rail or on concrete, but basically it would be a bus way confined to transit and for transit.

MR. SHERMAN: In other words, they are not considering taking the curb lane of Pembina Highway, for example, and turning it into an exclusive bus lane.

MR. MILLER: No, the southwest corridor envisages a corridor paralleling, or a roadway or a busway paralleling the CNR-Letellier Right-of-Way. And as you know that is something quite apart from the highway.

MR. SHERMAN: Has anything been done yet, Mr. Chairman, with respect to the preliminary work on the expropriation of the right-of-way that would be necessary? That's all private property backing on to that railroad right-of-way.

MR. MILLER: No, I don't believe there is any expropriation required. It is my understanding that the CNR Right-of-Way is sufficiently wide, has enough land on either side of the existing package, that a bus way could simply proceed along it.

MR. SHERMAN: Whatever corridor is determined or chosen would be constructed on the CNR Right-of-Way, not on property fronting on the right-of-way or backing on the right-of-way.

MR. MILLER: No, it is my understanding that the bus way itself wouldn't require any acquisition of land. Now it could be at either end, you know, at the beginning or the end, let's say, if there is going to be what's known as a park, you drive and park, then take the expressway through. There may have to be land assembled so that people can park their cars, let's say at the southern end of the bus way coming to the City of Winnipeg, and then go pick up their cars on the way home at night. So there may have to be a large parking facility built sometime in the future, and that may require land other than what is CNR land. But the bus way itself would be following the Letellier Right-of-Way pretty well all the way in.

MR. SHERMAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Sturgeon Creek.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Mr. Chairman, I just wonder if the Minister, under Urban Projects, could elaborate on to whether his department works with MHRC and the city regarding the core area of Winnipeg that is being presently worked on?

MR. MILLER: Yes, Mr. Chairman, to the extent that we try to use the good offices of Urban Affairs to bring together MHRC and the City of Winnipeg, we do sit in on meetings that occur between, let's say, the Environment Committee, and MHRC. We are instrumental in that respect to work along with them. The decision to build some government buildings in the urban core rather than in other parts of Winnipeg was as a result of the City of Winnipeg approaching through Urban Affairs the province and requesting that any public buildings should be built in the inner city in the old core area, and it was because of that request that the decision was made to build some of the Public Works buildings, as has already been indicated.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Swan River.

MR. JAMES H. BILTON: Mr. Chairman, my question is on transportation, through you to the Minister. I notice from time to time that there is a comment made on the fact that the province assists the City of Winnipeg in the purchase of buses and quite considerably. I wonder if the same privilege is extended to Flin Flon and Brandon?

MR. MILLER: Mr. Chairman, yes, we do participate with Brandon in helping them to acquire buses. In the case of Flin Flon, it's a private operator. It's a somewhat different situation there. We do make grants to Flin Flon but it is a private operator in Flin Flon; it's not a public transit.

MR. BILTON: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the Minister could indicate to the Committee the total amount that has been extended to Brandon under this program.

MR. MILLER: Mr. Chairman, is the question about the buses or are you talking about the grants to operate it, them.

MR. BILTON: The grant towards the purchase of buses that was extended to Winnipeg.

MR. MILLER: Brandon has three buses, \$78,750, that is for this coming fiscal year, those three buses. That's now. Last year there were two buses I believe, totalling I guess, 66 something thousand dollars. That's the buses themselves. In the case of Flin Flon, there was no acquisition; there was nothing last year at all. I am told that a couple of years ago, two buses were purchased and there was assistance made to the Town of Flin Flon.

MR. BILTON: Mr. Chairman, would the Minister take a moment and indicate possibly to the Committee the reason for the adoption of this program?

MR. MILLER: Yes, I can give you the reasons throughout generally because it is the position of this government, as others, that transit has to be encouraged, has to be fostered and has to be supported; that we are wrong to simply depend upon the private automobile for the movement of people, and the time is going to be coming, in my own humble opinion, that more and more effort is

going to have to be made towards mass transit of people rather than the traditional and conventional motive of private automobile.

MR. BILTON: Mr. Chairman, I think the Minister will agree that in the general intake of taxes that the people of rural Manitoba make their contribution. Does he agree with this free ride that the citizens of Winnipeg have, what do you call it. . . this Dash Program? Does he feel that that should be underwritten at taxpayers' expense?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

MR. MILLER: I think Dash was an important innovative concept, which has to be tested out. Again if indeed downtown of a city like Winnipeg has problems of movement of people, then to the extent that you can use buses and encourage people to leave their cars at home, or to in any case, once parked, leave them parked, and not wander around the streets downtown plugging it up, then Dash will perhaps prove that it is a useful device, a useful method to move people without having to clutter up the streets with cars. The alternative is wider streets, more roads, more street parking, so that people can get around downtown, and Dash may prove very useful to people moving without having to use their automobile.

MR. BILTON: One final question. I thank the Minister for his remarks. He seems to be in favour of that program. Would he be in favour of it being a free ride all around the City of Winnipeg under the same circumstances?

MR. MILLER: I think perhaps, if you're asking me a personal question, I might see the day, and you might too, not in the foreseeable future, when transit may simply become a service available just as a means of living in a major city, and I wouldn't be surprised if that day may come. I don't expect to see it in the foreseeable future, but with the problem of moving people it's becoming more and more serious and I can see the time perhaps when governments may move to having transportation, the access to bus in much the same way as drivers of cars have an access to streets.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution 109(d)—pass; Resolution 110 Emergency Measures Organization (a) Salaries—pass; The Honourable Member for Swan River.

MR. BILTON: I wonder if the Minister would take a moment and explain to the Committee some of the responsibilities of this organization.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

MR. MILLER: Well, Mr. Chairman, EMO as I indicated earlier, plans for the safety survival of citizens in disasters and emergencies; it acts as a co-ordinator; it tries to encourage and develop plans, procedures on the part of local authority, because that's really the first point at which any action has to be taken; so it advises and works with municipalities. But in addition to this role, EMO also responds pretty well all year long to a wide variety of emergencies, be they blizzards, be they medical evacuations or mercy flights — EMO is contacted — they act as sort of the contact point. Certainly if we have to call in the Federal Government, it can only be through EMO. They are involved in searches for missing persons, for environmental accidents, if they occur. If there is a threat of a plane crash, EMO is immediately alerted, so that they can make their contacts with the other agencies. Between operations, EMO staff pretty well occupy themselves with development of intergovernmental and interdepartmental plans and procedures for dealing with this kind of emergency; for training of people — setting up training plans with municipalities or with cities, and with training of the personnel assigned by the municipality; and also by line departments, so that the representative from a line department is trained and is known to EMO — they get together periodically, seminars are held, I know every spring the last two or three years I believe — municipalities have sent representatives, and as a result of that, the planning is known, and if something does occur, municipalities already have a plan which they can put into effect. In recent years the staff has been preoccupied with increasing number of operations. For example, in 1974 there were 24 incidents, in which EMO was involved; in 1976 there were over 90. So that they are being called upon more often, and they're responding more often, to assist at the local level to co-ordinate these operations and devise plans in the event that something does occur.

MR. BILTON: Mr. Chairman, in the event of ice conditions and flood, taking from what the Minister had to say a moment ago, Emergency Measures Organization is available to give whatever assistance — I took that from his remarks — is the Minister telling us now that the local municipal authority would have to get in touch with Emergency Measures Organization for assistance, is that correct?

MR. MILLER: No they don't have to, it depends on the nature of the incident. Hopefully the municipality has a plan, they can put it into action, and they may not have to call on EMO at all. There is the water resources department, there's agriculture, that have such capacities certainly in regard to flooding, EMO simply acts as a co-ordinating focal point. In itself, it doesn't undertake to do what water resources can do.

MR. BILTON: I realize that this may be an off-the-cuff question, but were Emergency Measures Organization contacted this spring with regard to flooding of the Swan River?

MR. MILLER: Yes, apparently they were.

MR. BILTON: Could the Minister tell me how long it took them to get there to do the job that they

were called upon to do?

MR. MILLER: I'm told it wasn't necessary to go up there, because there were only six or eight houses involved.

MR. BILTON: Well I can assure you Mr. Minister, that several families were flooded out and suffered because of this to which there is no compensation for them whatsoever, and I feel that if a call had been made, that whoever was responsible for doing what had to be done, did a good job, but it was a little late. There's just one further question.

MR. MILLER: I'd like to respond to that. Mr. Chairman, the basic primary responsibility is the municipality's; to the extent that EMO can advise, can assist, can help co-ordinate, call in other departments where they are required, they do so. But the primary responsibility is the municipality's, and that is why the key is to have a plan ready, and the municipality knows what it should do in the event of different kinds of emergencies or incidents; that much of the work can be done, and a lot of the delay can be overcome if the municipality has a plan, and that's really what EMO is trying to achieve.

MR. BILTON: Mr. Chairman, I want to assure the Minister, that I've been with this organization from Day One, and I'm a great defender of what they are supposed to do and what they ought to do; it's an organization that is money well spent, limited as it may be.

There's just one final question. A few years ago, the government in its wisdom moved an emergency field hospital into the basement of the public building in Swan River, and it's been there for many many years. There are blankets and drugs and equipment of all kinds, and I just wonder, what is the thinking of the department with regard to that material now? Is it being fully inspected, disinfected, and well taken care of, in the event that it may be used?

MR. MILLER: Mr. Chairman, I'm informed that it's inspected every year. There are a number situated across the province. This is a stock of blankets, etc. — well, you obviously know more about it than I do. But it is inspected every year I'm told, and it's in case — hopefully it never has to be used, but in the event that it has to be used it's there, it can be used on the spot if needed or taken or moved elsewhere.

MR. BILTON: My understanding, in the beginning that there were a considerable amount of drugs of various kinds. Are they being checked out and destroyed or are they being used or what?

MR. MILLER: I'm informed there are no drugs. If in fact there were drugs, they've been removed I suppose a number of years ago.

MR. BILTON: Thank you very much.

MR. MILLER: Right.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution 110(a). The Honourable Member for Brandon West.

MR. MCGILL: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the Minister could tell us the role in a practical way, that EMO played in the recent evacuation at Nelson House. I understand their function is to co-ordinate various agencies who have responsibilities, and this would be perhaps one of their more recent activities — the Nelson House evacuation. Could the Minister tell the Committee the specific role that was undertaken by EMO in this emergency?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

MR. MILLER: Well, Mr. Chairman, when it goes beyond the municipalities, when EMO is called on, and I understand the Premier I believe did report on it during the question period. This is the incident that occurred this weekend I gather, and as he indicated, everyone was back in their communities this morning. EMO was contacted I believe Saturday about 5:30, six o'clock, something like that. They immediately contacted other agencies, Health and Social Development, RCMP, people in Thompson themselves, and were instrumental in that way, in pulling together various agencies that had an interest and a need to be co-ordinated. Their man did fly up there yesterday afternoon. I gather there were meetings yesterday and today with federal representatives, because they have an interest in this whole matter, as well as of course, the City of Thompson. Incidentally, a plan was being worked on with the City of Thompson, and so by coincidence, it was very fortunate that when this did hit, the City of Thompson personnel were geared up for it and could respond.

MR. MCGILL: Well in a remote area as is Nelson House, how are communications handled? Does EMO have its own communications organization or do they depend on RCMP for that?

MR. MILLER: Well initially I suppose it's RCMP or whatever communication there is — EMO does have some radio equipment, which can be used if required, but in the initial instance certainly 'it's the existing communication, whether it's telephone or radio or whatever the communication is between RCMP and the municipalities or the local airport, if there is one there.

MR. MCGILL: I have nothing further, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Sturgeon Creek.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Mr. Chairman, I just have one brief question. The increase of a little over \$20,000 — and it's in both areas of salaries and other expenditures — I wonder if the Minister could say if that's just standard increase, or has the complement of people been increased at all?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

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MR. MILLER: It's an increase of one man on the EMO roster, and the rest is just the normal increases.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: Fine. Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution 110(a)—pass; 110(b) Other Expenditures—pass; Resolution 110: Resolved that there be granted to her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$256,800 for Urban Affairs—pass. I would refer honourable members back to 109(a) The Minister's Compensation. The Honourable Member for Sturgeon Creek.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: I would only ask this question, and I ask it because we have had several Ministers of Municipal Affairs in the Province since the government decided to have this department. I noticed the salary is still there, and the Minister is carrying two portfolios— can we expect another Minister of Urban Affairs coming along, or does the Minister plan to be holding on to this for a while?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

MR. MILLER: Well, Mr. Chairman, I can't tell you whether or not or how long I will be in this portfolio. It's normal to vote the Minister's compensation, even though he's not going to get it, unless you want to vote it for me, and instruct the House that I should get paid two salaries. I can see my colleagues supporting that one. No, it's a normal way of showing it, although of course it will not be paid while there is another salary being paid. A few months ago, that was my source of Minister's Compensation, because MHRC which I was in charge of, had no compensation attached to it at all. So that it's just the way of presenting it, but if the Member for Sturgeon Creek is concerned about my getting double the compensation, I wish it was so. Well as a matter of fact, I'm informed that my salary is coming from Urban Affairs, and not from Finance.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution 109(a)—pass; Resolution 109: Resolved that there be granted to her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$1,012,000 for Urban Affairs—pass. That concludes the consideration of the Department of Urban Affairs.

Committee Rise and Report.

ESTIMATES — ATTORNEY-GENERAL

MR. CHAIRMAN, Mr. William Jenkins (Logan): I would refer honourable members to Page 12 of their Estimates Book. Resolution 24(j) Sheriffs and Bailiffs. (1) Salaries. The Honourable Member for Wolseley.

MR. ROBERT G. WILSON: Under the Sheriffs and Bailiffs, last year I had asked the Minister if he was considering a reclassification of this department because of the new danger pay that was involved in their taking over the transporting of the prisoners. When I read in the paper the other day that there was another fellow had bust out of a van, I immediately phoned the Sheriff's department to be very critical, stating that making all this new money that they should have a better system of guarding the prisoners. However, it turned out that they said their jobs had not been reclassified and I wonder if the Minister could indicate if they are going to continue to transport prisoners, if there is any indication that the reclassification is forthcoming.

It was also mentioned to me that the newspapers had inadvertently made another mistake and had said that it was the Sheriff's Department when, in fact, it was a Headingley Jail van and I realize some government departments come under a lot of criticism but they were not to blame for this particular break.

I would like the Minister also to indicate the role of the Sheriff's office pertaining to service of documents. What I am saying is basically, if the government opposite has about six or eight of the staff serving these documents, at what point in time do they become public record? For instance, if there was a number of people to be served in the CFI investigations or in the investigation of a one-man commission, at what point in time is the public able to find out who was served in these particular cases?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Chairman, the staff should be here which would, I think, be more helpful in respect to answering the first question pertaining to reclassification of the Sheriff's officers and I hope they will be here very shortly to provide us with that assistance.

Insofar as the second question and that is one pertaining to when it becomes a matter of record as to whom I gather a document has been served upon or upon whom a Writ of Execution, for example, is served upon, upon the return of a copy of the Statement of Claim or Petition, an affidavit is attached to the document which would indicate upon whom the document was served and the date of that service, upon the return to the Court of the copy of that document. So, it would be within a matter of hours or days, a few days after the service of the document. The same thing would hold true for the documentation which would be deposited in the pocket of the court pertaining to the issuing of Writs of Execution, etc., so that anyone could, by simply searching the pocket, I think, Mr. Chairman, obtain all that information and it would all be there and available within a short period of time after the actual act had taken place.

MR. WILSON: Then, in other words, everything pertaining to government as a public record, however, if an investigation is carried out by the Law Society, and they serve people that appear before their Discipline Committee, it seems that it is very hard for the — I hate to use the word "victims" of the lawyer — but it is very hard for the people who have been aggrieved to get together and form a common front. In other words, if there was a particular case where a lawyer had been disbarred, it would seem that these people should be able to find somehow or other where they could get their stories . . . maybe have a meeting or something along those lines, to be able to get at what went wrong and so on and so forth. I am saying, it seems to me that these people subpoenaed to appear in front of the committee, this doesn't appear as a public record anywhere and I wonder, does the Law Society not require it in any way, shape or form. What you are saying is, unless there is an actual suit in the courts, that there is no record kept of people subpoenaed to appear in front of a Law Society to deal with the disciplinary committee or that type of thing. In other words, when these people who have been victimized by a lawyer that's been disbarred, they seem to have to appear in front of this board of inquisition, or whatever, by themselves, with or without legal counsel but they don't have the ability somehow or other to be able to find out who else has been out of money or out-of-pocket and be able to compare notes and be able to possibly look at some means of recovery. So, it was basically, at what point in time do subpoenas become a public record?

MR. PAWLEY: Well, Mr. Chairman, in the matter which the member is dealing with, there would not be the filing — and I am asking staff just to listen, just in case I am wrong — but in any matter involving discipline of a lawyer and a hearing resulting from the lawyer's actions involving the Discipline Committee of the Law Society, then I suspect that there would be no tabling anywhere of the documents pertaining to the service of individuals called in for a hearing before the discipline body because it is a professional group established by law to deal with the discipline of its own members so there would be no tabling or filing of those documents within the court process. I think in answer to the honourable member that there would be no record in a public sense, maybe there

should be. The honourable member may have raised a point that we should be examining further because I don't want to be placed in a position of trying to defend that. Maybe there should be, but to my knowledge there would be no place now where that type of information could be obtained.

MR. WILSON: Again, just so I can back up. The Minister the other day, I had asked him a question. If I could, before we go on to the next item, because he didn't answer it and then we adjourned, the other day, I talked about what I considered was a very questionable policy on the part of the government and, of course, I got into a bit of a debate with the Minister of Mines — but a policy that you have that after six years you swallow all the collected moneys from suits filed, called the Suitors' Trust Fund and there's no recourse or no reopening of the file to be able to recover this money. It seems to me if the banks print a list of unclaimed deposits, is there no possibility — if the banks have to list all the people that have money sitting in their deposit — that the courts have this large amount of money sitting there called the Suitors' Trust Fund and after six years the government swallows this money and the people have if they happen to wake up — I refer to if a creditor moves away or a person dies, his estate would be entitled to this money. It seems to me that at some point in time, maybe the heir to that estate would stumble upon the suit file and find out that he had been successful, only to find out that the government swallows the money after a period of six years. I wonder if the Minister could comment on that.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Chairman, it would be my understanding that it would still be possible after the six year period has lapsed, even though the money has been transferred to consolidated funds for an individual or the estate that the honourable member has referred to, to apply for those moneys and if they can establish that those moneys are in fact their moneys legally. It is my understanding that that moneys can still be claimed from the Court.

In respect to the sheriffs' officers, I'm glad that the honourable member raised the question pertaining to sheriffs' officers because the big increase here, in fact one of the largest percentage increases in our entire Estimates deals with the acquiring of sheriffs' officers because of the easing away by the Federal Government of the responsibility pertaining to RCMP escorting prisoners. This certainly has imposed additional expense on the province. There is consideration being given presently to a reclassification of sheriffs' officers in view of the additional responsibility that has been imposed upon them.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Wolseley.

MR. WILSON: Except on the one hand the reclassification has not taken place yet and where in opening his Budget, the Attorney-General alluded to a 22 percent increase in funding by the Federal Government for police protection, so I just wondered when it was going to take place.

MR. PAWLEY: I'm afraid I didn't grasp what the honourable member said — a 22 percent increase in the amount of funding made available by the Federal Government for policing?

MR. WILSON: In your opening remarks on Page 2988 in the Estimate Book, you talked about law enforcement, an increase from \$8 million to \$10 million and you said an increase of some \$2.6 million, 22 percent. So in other words you're estimating an increase in revenues from your negotiations with the Federal Government. Is not that correct?

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Chairman, the increase of \$2.6 million relates to the increased expenditures that we must bear provincially. It doesn't relate to increased receipts of moneys which we expect to receive from the Federal Government.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution 24(j)(1) \$732,500—pass; Other Expenditures \$170,200—pass; (j)—pass. (k) Personal Property, Security Registry (1) Salaries, \$32,500. The Honourable Member for Birtle- Russell.

MR. GRAHAM: Mr. Chairman, when we're dealing with the Personal Properties Security Registry, can the Minister indicate at what position that program is at the present time? I understand this office was set up three or four years ago and I know there was a great deal of difficulty in setting up the registry. I notice also that there is a significant decrease in the amount allowed for additional expenditure. I would assume from that that probably most of the problems have been ironed out and this thing may be operating well right now.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Chairman, we expect that the detailed testing of the system will be completed by the end of this year because the process of developing of the system has increased. It was slowed down for a period of time because certain moneys were deleted during the restraint exercise so that the staging was slowed down to some extent. We do expect that the system should be brought into use shortly after the December 28th test point. So early in 1978 the system should be in operation.

MR. GRAHAM: Mr. Chairman, then I take it from the Minister's statement that the system is not in operation yet, but does he foresee any further delays in the implementation of this registry or will it be fully operational before the end of this calendar year?

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Chairman, the only thing I want to mention here, that for the actual implementation which expect early in 1978 we don't have funds here covering that actual implementation so that we will have to go for additional funds prior to implementation which could be prior to the expiry of this fiscal year. I don't foresee any problems in obtaining the additional funding

as same is required to ensure the commencement of the program and mechanically we don't foresee any difficulty in completing the testing and the development of the program.

MR. GRAHAM: Well, Mr. Chairman, the remarks of the Minister probably lend confirmation to a suspicion that has been prevalent on this side of the House, not only in these particular Estimates, but in various other departments too that seems to be a common recurrence where we find that figures have been placed in the Estimates Book which are totally unrealistic. The Minister has already admitted that they're going to probably need additional funds. He was probably fully aware of the fact that they would need additional funds when he made up the Estimates but in order to make the Estimates look good some of these figures have been deliberately eliminated. This has caused some concern on our side of the House. We've seen it happen in other departments and we're finding it happening here once again, that this will probably need Special Warrants signed to provide the additional funds necessary to make a program operational.

Of course, Mr. Chairman, there is always the other side of the coin that the program could be further delayed because we haven't got the additional funds. We knew we needed more but we didn't put them in the Estimates and so because we haven't got the funds the program is going to be delayed for a further period of time. I have to say, Mr. Chairman, that I am somewhat concerned because this is not a new program. It is one that has been in the works for several years and so far it hasn't got off the ground yet. I think that the community at large is looking forward with some anticipation, some apprehension toward the operation of a proper registry of this nature. So I have to say that I'm a little concerned when the Minister tells me that he needs additional funds to operate it but he hasn't got them in the Estimates.

MR. PLEY: Mr. Chairman, maybe I can again relate to this. A test we expect to have complete by the end of the year. We expect the commencement of the program to be sometime in early 1978. The indication which I have just received, it is expected that the chances are it will be April of 1978 before the funds will actually be required. Our fiscal year for estimate purposes is March 31st. So that is our expectation and I regret that the honourable member feels that somewhere or other, I was trying to put something over on him because that would be the last thing which would enter my mind, that I would want to do a trick like that; I wouldn't consider it for a moment, especially my Honourable Member for Birtle-Russell.

But here we are, we expect and staff will confirm this, we expect in April that the program will go into operation. Now if we can get it into operation in late February-March, which doesn't seem to be the expectation, then we will go for special warrant. If it's April, then of course, it will work itself into next year.

There was one other point I wanted to make reference to that the honourable member raised. Oh yes, I wanted to just mention to the honourable members that this will be, once it's in operation, it will start to carry itself as well because of the receipt of revenues by the users of the system.

MR. GRAHAM: Mr. Chairman, now that we've got it . . . down in the matter of the last two or three minutes, we've got it moved from December to March or April, so . . .

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Chairman, on a point of privilege because I don't want the honourable member to work under any illusions. I said the testing would be complete by the end of December. I had, right from the beginning, indicated the commencement would be some time during the early part of 1978 which is the case. In further relating to staff, that early 1978, we would expect to be some time in April of 1978. There is the chance that it could be in late February or March, but the chances are it will be April that the actual commencement is under way.

MR. GRAHAM: Well, can the Minister then indicate that all of the start-up costs that have been anticipated have already had allocations and commitments and those start-up costs have already been covered by appropriations that have been granted in the past?

MR. PAWLEY: Yes, they have all been included except for additional staff, which again, we don't know when that will be required at the operational stage.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution 24(k)(1) Salaries \$32,500 — pass. Other Expenditures \$6,700 — pass. (k) — pass. 24(l) Fatality Inquiries Act, (1) Salaries \$23,800.00. The Honourable Member for Birtle-Russell.

MR. GRAHAM: Mr. Chairman, quite some time ago, in the Province of Manitoba, we had a rather tragic fire in the Portage area, and at that time the Minister had indicated that there would be an investigation under The Fatality Inquiries Act. He indicated at that time that that inquest would probably be held within 30 days. Can the Minister indicate to us now when that inquest will be held?

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Chairman, we are just as anxious to be able to indicate to honourable members because of the interest in this House, as to when the date can be announced. I'm just advised that we have again contacted the police and have indicated that we would appreciate receiving the report just as soon as they can reasonably complete the reports and provide them to us. It is my understanding that we have not received the full police report yet. Again, let me assure the honourable members that as soon as I receive word that we have the full report, complete report, that we will lose no time in indicating the establishment of the date for the inquiry.

MR. GRAHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would also like to ask the Minister if there is any requirement under The Fatality Inquiries Act that makes it mandatory that no inquests can be held until he receives all the reports from the various commissions, such as the police report, the Fire Commissioner's office and all the rest of it. The people of Manitoba, I think, would like this inquest to be held as soon as possible. If it is absolutely essential that it be held off, then call the thing and have it deferred until the report is forthcoming. But I suspect that that should be the judgment of those that are holding the inquest in this respect. If they need additional information, they have the right to postpone the thing until they get the information they require. But I would hope that the office of the Attorney-General would give the people of the Province of Manitoba the earliest opportunity to present evidence in this particular respect.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Chairman, there is nothing, I believe, in the statute in front of me that requires that we receive all the police reports first. I think it would be assumed that it would be the most responsible conduct on the part of the department and the Minister that we would have all the appropriate, relevant information at hand before the calling of the inquest. That has certainly been the practice in the past and I would assure the honourable member that we have no intention of departing from the normal practice in this case. I also understand that, as I mentioned earlier, that we are trying to expedite the receiving of the police reports.

MR. GRAHAM: Well, Mr. Chairman, the Minister can make all the assumptions he wants, but I think that I can also make an assumption that the people of Manitoba want this thing to proceed as quickly as possible. I think it is quite properly the field of the judge who is carrying out the investigation. If he feels that there is additional information that is necessary, he then has the right to postpone the inquiry until he receives that information. I don't think it should be delayed any further; I think it should proceed as quickly as possible.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Chairman, I just want to clarify one point that we have not at any time — and I wouldn't want the inference to be left in record — that we have asked any judge, nor would we intend at any time in the future to ask any judge to delay any inquiry into this matter. We want to proceed in the normal fashion as happens every week, every month, insofar as the holding of Fatality Inquiries report and I don't see any reason that we should depart from that rule. In fact, I would be concerned that if we departed from that rule because of debate in the Legislature, that we would be establishing a rather improper precedent.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution 24(1)(1) \$23,800 — pass; Resolution (1)(2) Other Expenditures \$401,600 — pass. (1) — pass. Resolution 24: Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding \$7,136,100 for the Attorney-General — pass.

Resolution 25 Legislative Counsel, (a) Salaries \$154,000 — pass; 25(b) Other Expenditures \$23,500 — pass. Resolution 25: Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding \$177,500 for the Attorney-General — pass.

Resolution 26 Law Enforcement, \$10,878,500.00. The Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

MR. PATRICK: Mr. Chairman, in this item, I see there is a substantial increase and I am not critical of it. Perhaps the increase should have been even larger because on the Minister's Estimates, if anything is important, I would say that this item is perhaps the most important item in the whole Estimates is the law enforcement. Mr. Chairman, if you haven't got law and order in any community or any village, I don't believe that anything else is very important. In my opinion, this is very important. I know that a few years ago, the Attorney-General's Department set up an advisory committee created to improving the relationship between the, say, police officers in the community and the people itself. I wondered if that got off the ground and what has happened with that advisory committee. Has it been functioning? I know this community committee was supposed to do other studies for the community, establishing sort of junior police officers or to do crime research and so on. Has anything developed in that area or not? I know there is, I believe, a 12-member member

I would be interested to hear from the Minister under this item to give us the statistics in respect to crime in various areas of crime, be it theft or fraud and so on which, I think, he did do last year and the year before. So, I would like to see what . . . is there an increase in as far as offensive crimes, be it criminal crimes, be it theft, and so on, increased over last year and I am sure that he has a list or statistics that he would give to us. There may be some decrease in some respective areas. But, I think it is most important for us here, the members, to sort of assess how effective the Attorney-General's Department is coping with the law enforcement in this province; if we have some area of something to gauge to . . . is our crime increasing at the same rate that it is rising perhaps in other provinces? I know we are not industrialized to the extent that perhaps some of the Eastern cities are and I don't think that we should be able to compare ourselves with some of the other large industrial cities. But, certainly, Mr. Chairman, it does give me some concern when we start getting letters, and I know some have been written to the Attorney-General and I will just quote a few lines. This person writes to me and says, "It's a fact that here is a case where we have a 29-year-old man who is suspected of indecently assaulting three infant children and who, upon arraignment before the court, is released

on his own undertaking to appear at a subsequent date." This is the kind of real concern that is raised in the minds of many people. In fact, I know in my own constituency, I have received considerable amount of phone calls.

Now, I am sure I will not relate the case because I know it is before the courts at the present time but the most recent case just . . . the one up here south of Winnipeg where there was sufficient proof and there seems to me again, I am concerned that perhaps this advisory committee that was set up is perhaps not doing the kind of work that it should be doing because there seems to be apathy amongst the people reporting certain crimes or instances that they are aware of. The most recent — and I will just be very brief and I will just mention it in passing because I believe it is before the courts — but where there was a rape situation and this person was injured quite badly, stabbed with a knife and, you know, left up there and still the neighbours next door realized that the car was repainted and they realized the kind of the car and somehow they haven't reported this situation much quicker. It took the police quite some time to get on the case properly. Now, again, in that same situation, this man was released and thanks to the Attorney-General's Department, where the Crown appealed the case and said, "No, this person should not be free on his own will because of what happened." It was the most serious situation that happened.

It is not the first time or the second time. Year after year after year, we get the same thing; the same notices in the papers that with a serious situation, there's a person that's been stabbed many times, left to die and the person appears before the courts and he is released on his own to appear at a later date. Well, I think that's a sad situation. That same person may be . . . of course, I should — (Interjection) — Well, it could be. I know I shouldn't relate to the case because the man hasn't been found guilty but, really, there is sufficient proof as far as I know because the car must have had sufficient proof to put the man back and to wait his case. That same person may have been involved in a situation in East Kildonan where it seems to me there is very little that the police have to go on, almost the same case where . . . except in that case the person was murdered as well, a young lady, in her twenties, and ran down by the car a couple of times before he left. Except in that case, apparently, there wasn't a rape involved and that was just a few months ago. Now, that same person may have been involved in both cases but, still, you know, the thing that I cannot accept — how can a judge let him out to appear at a later date? So, I think that it is time that we get ourselves concerned with the law enforcement in this province.

The other point I would like to raise. Perhaps there should be some more money spent in the training of our police officers, the training of our policemen. Again, it was the that was set up here a few years ago that was supposed to look into the training of the policemen and to set some standard and regulations and rules for the operation of the police forces. Is enough money spent because, again, I am going on hearsay, but I have talked with some of the policemen from my area and they tell me that, at that time, St. James-Assiniboia had a better training system than we have for the whole City of Winnipeg now. Surely, if that is the case, that's not good enough and if we are spending \$2 million more than we did last time, perhaps we should spend \$4 million more because I want to indicate to the Attorney-General, if you haven't got law and order in the community, there's not much more to offer in that community. The community is not worthwhile residing in and I am concerned.

I believe that we are not keeping with the times. It seems that when you see conditions and you see letters that are written — I am sure that the other members are getting these same letters that I have — they can't understand when there is such proof that some of these people should get off and not be locked up — that's the words I want to describe — and released perhaps to injure somebody else. I think that society has a right to protection.

I am concerned that the government must tighten its parole system as well. I think that it is the federal responsibility but I think that, if I was the Minister or the Attorney-General, in the strongest terms, I think that the parole system should be tightened. That doesn't mean that I am against rehabilitation. There are people that can be rehabilitated but certainly you don't let out dangerous people. When somebody is injured and somebody is killed, you don't let them out on the street. There is great concern.

I think that police standards as well, Mr. Chairman, must be reviewed and if the Attorney-General said to this House today, "Look, I need \$5 million more for law enforcement," I say that's the best place we can spend it and let's spend it and improve the police training, the system, so that they have an opportunity, a chance to apprehend the criminals.

Mr. Chairman, I have taken a strong position and I want to take a strong position because I think that there is just too much concern — there is just too much concern — in the citizens of this City and the citizens of this province, that we're just being too light. I haven't taken this strong approach before because I, as well, believe in rehabilitation. But, I believe that we are just too light in this. We have to give the police an opportunity, the know-how, the techniques, how to apprehend the criminals and I hope that the Minister can give us some statistics and see if we're holding our own or are we losing ground.

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

MR. GRAHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is most heartening to hear those words from the Member for Assiniboia and I want to say that I also agree that law enforcement in this province is probably the greatest single factor that we are facing at the present time. When we were dealing with these Estimates, the Minister indicated the other day that there was a shortfall of slightly over \$1 million in the Estimates that were presented a year ago because the negotiations with the Federal Government on a contract were not complete at that time. When he was giving his explanation, the Minister didn't tell us that now that that contract is completed, he didn't tell us the length of the contract that has presently been negotiated. Is it a three-year contract or a five-year contract? I would hope that when he arrives in his place, he will tell us the length of the contract, the most recent contract that was signed with the Federal authorities in respect to policing the province.

At the same time, when he is giving us this information, Mr. Chairman, I would hope that the Minister would be able to give us a rough breakdown on the various law enforcement activities and the relative strengths in percentage figures. I don't have to have the exact numbers but roughly the percentage figures of the activities of the law enforcement body in the Province of Manitoba. I will be more specific. For instance, what percentage of the total law enforcement that we have in the province are involved in the field of violent crimes? What percentage are involved in the field of, say, highway traffic and law enforcement in that particular field? What percentage of the law enforcement is in the field of drug abuse and investigation in that particular field? I think it is imperative that we know the direction that our law enforcement people are aiming their activities at and does the Minister, can he foresee increased activity on the part of law enforcement, for instance, in the field of so-called white-collar crime? Is there an increasing importance being placed on that particular field of law enforcement?

I think it is important that the people of Manitoba should know what direction we are going in the field of law enforcement because I have to say, Mr. Chairman, that I would be somewhat concerned if I was to find out that roughly 50 percent of the money we spend in law enforcement is spent in the field of say, highway traffic violations, because we aren't using our own particular police force. Here, we are signing contracts with the another police department, people that are exceptionally well trained and it's costing the Government of Canada and the people of Canada a tremendous amount of money to train these law enforcement officers in a very sophisticated schooling system and I would be a little apprehensive if I found out that we were using, say, \$50,000 employees to do a \$10,000 job.

I think that we have to put a priority on the quality of people that we use for a particular job. It may very well be that if we do an exhaustive study in the field of law enforcement, that there is a field — it may very well be that there is a field for a provincial police force to be handling some of the less intensively trained personnel. For instance, highway traffic — I am just using this as an example — could be done, I think, with a very little bit of training by possibly people from the Highway Traffic or the Highway Department. It is possible that law enforcement in that respect could be done by that particular department. I'm not advocating that; I'm saying that we should perhaps be doing a study in that respect. If we are spending \$50,000 or whatever amount we are to train a highly sophisticated individual in some very intensive highly technical field, should we then be tying those people up in relatively simple methods or make-work projects such as highway traffic violations?

I think that we have to look at the whole program and make sure that we are getting a dollar's value for the dollar that we are spending and I would hope that the Minister may be able to enlighten us in the directions that the government is presently taking in the type of contract that we have signed for a long term or a short term or whatever term we have signed and the directions that he feels we should be taking and the priorities that we have placed on the various fields of law enforcement in the province.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Gladstone.

MR. FERGUSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think this is possibly the proper headings to bring this matter forth. It has to do — and the Minister and I have had a few discussions over this — a form letter that I have had circulating, or tried to have circulating, for the past year or two, this authorization or prohibition for hunting rights on private land. I think that the Minister has to be aware of the fact that at the present time, there is another disregard for the right of the individual, the private property owner — I am talking about the Indian population of Manitoba — I am talking about in my own particular area and in many areas of Manitoba. I am sure that the Minister is aware that the Department of Indian Affairs are busy renting and purchasing abandoned homes in the rural area with the idea of moving our native population out of the hard-core City of Winnipeg and from various other points and they are being distributed through the Province of Manitoba.

Now, for the Minister's information, I would like to draw it to his attention that on Easter weekend, within three miles of my farm, there were six carloads of Indian people. The normal amount of people involved living in that establishment are about two. There is one old fellow and a family of about six kids. This is fine but on the weekends, we are running into anywhere from five to six cars of these people. These people were actively involved in jacklighting deer in our area on that particular weekend. They

were doing it on private property and I can bring an affidavit and I can bring witnesses to prove to the Minister that this has taken place. Up to this point, we have had nothing but a shuffle-off. I was involved in the turkey hunt that was held at Manitow in the La Riviere area within the last two or three weeks as the case may be and, at that time, I thought the thing was very well organized. You had to have a signed authorization from the owner of the land. You had to have it stamped by the Conservation Officer. You had to have the authorization stamped when you obtained it from the farmer then consequently when you were leaving the hunting area you had to have it stamped again and whether or not you had any luck hunting or not. Whatever the case may be. But I do think it was a very well run hunt. There were roughly 68 hunters in the field at one time. There was no great influx and the thing turned out, as far as I would be concerned, I think the general public would be very happy with the way the thing went.

Now we've had many occasions and I have gone to considerable effort to draw up a form and I would like to point out to the Attorney-General that the form that was used on this turkey hunt is just about word for word what the authorization or prohibition form that I have had drawn up and I would like to read back to him a letter from his department: "I am writing to advise that the Department of the Attorney-General is unable to make a ruling in regard to the legality of this form."

Well if this form is illegal, then how come we're using another one to go and hunt turkeys on. Now someplace along the line somebody has got to make the ruling. Here again we were shuffled from the Attorney-General's to the Department of Renewable Resources. Well, consequently the Department of Renewable Resources or the Attorney-General doesn't have to be told, don't make the laws or don't enforce the laws for this province and I can't understand why the Attorney-General is so hesitant as to make a move.

Now, as I said, I would certainly appreciate it if the Attorney-General would, if he can't do anything else, would at least give us the information as why he will not accept this form, why he will not protect the private land owners to the degree that if this form is filed with the Conservation Office and the RCMP, it is not a legal form whereby a person does not have to go to court. That if the authorization is there, fine. And if the prohibition is there it's fine. But someplace along the line the Attorney-General has got to make a ruling and I would like to see him make it right now, or else explain why he is so loath to make a move on it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Swan River.

MR. BILTON: Mr. Chairman, I would like to make a few general comments. Law enforcement is very very close to my heart, for obvious reasons and I'm sorry to say that a policeman today is considered nothing but trash in the eyes of the public. How this has come about, I don't know. But it seems to me for \$10,878,000 that the province is putting forward toward law enforcement and that which the communities put forward themselves, it looks to me like a colossal figure that the people are paying. I would like the Minister to tell us to the best of his ability and with short notice, just approximately what it is costing to police the province of Manitoba.

Somehow or other, Mr. Chairman, I have appealed from time to time over the sessions for something to be done to enlighten the people as to what a policeman is all about and what he is endeavouring to do. But it seems that as month follows month and years follow years, that crime is getting to a stage where it is almost unmanageable by the men that are put there to protect the life and limb and property of the populace. What is the answer, I don't know, but somehow or other, it seems to me, that the public have got to come on to the side of the peace officers. I believe that human rights have a place. The organizations that are emphasizing human rights around the province have a job to do, but my god, when we see some of the things that are happening in the interests of human rights for a criminal, it's beyond my comprehension that things should be allowed to happen the way they are. And the sympathy of the people is with the criminal or those that have the responsibility of enforcing the law, that is the Attorney-General in his office if I may be permitted to say so and I hope I'm not misunderstood in this, because somehow or other everything is in favour of the criminal rather than the peace officer. In my day and age you looked them straight in the eye and if they winked they got it and the sooner we get back to that stage, the better it's going to be.

We heard the other day about the Juvenile Detention Centre, Mr. Chairman, built for 150. A small palace in itself. The people and the government are not to be faulted for the premises they developed and we're told that it's over 200 that are there and it's over-populated in Headingley jail. There's got to be a drive, Mr. Chairman, however it is developed, to try and curb crime. As I've said before that a lot of it begins with lack of parental guidance over young people and we're suffering the consequences now. These young people, I think it was said at some stage of the game, that some 4,500 juveniles went through that institution last year. Mr. Chairman, that's a public disgrace and I don't hear the Attorney-General or any of these officials or the department in itself doing anything about it to cut this back. We have the free Legal Aid Society and to me that's just a great big laugh. They just pile up the cases one after the other and if you come before the court within twelve months, you're lucky.

But to get back to this law enforcement, Mr. Chairman, somehow or other a way has got to be found to bring it home to the criminal population of this province, which is developing every day,

harshness if you like. I know the Minister of Mines will condemn me but if harshness is going to remedy this situation, we've got to be cruel to be kind.

Something has got to be done to arrest this situation before it gets out of hand. In my humble opinion, Mr. Chairman, it's out of hand now. When you think of the City of Winnipeg that a person can't go out after dark, or can't take a stroll down the street for fear of being muzzled or ripped or raped or what have you, this is a terrible situation and I want the Attorney-General to give us some answers. I want him to say to the people of Manitoba that we are going to be harsh to be kind, if that is the remedy. At least let's give it a go and see what happens and somehow or other a way will be found to overcome this situation. I would like to hear his feelings with regard to it and I also want to know if he can tell us, in ballpark figures, just approximately what it is costing the people of Manitoba to police this province.

MR. WILSON: Well, in one section I don't know if I'm going to add that much more. I've spoken about it many times in the past. We did raise concerns and we were able to have the Minister of Finance put \$1.50, I believe, per capita grant to the municipalities to fight crime at the local level. Unfortunately he fell short of my expectations, what I had pleaded for with the government in my reply to the Throne Speech and he did not put a rider on it that this money must be used to fight crime. The result was that the municipalities, if there was a political project that might help them get re-elected, possibly may take this \$1.50 per capita and apply it to other than fighting crime and I would have liked to have seen money earmarked specifically for fighting crime and I'm sure that many of the local politicians did act responsibly in the fight against crime and use these funds for it. I know I have seen a vast improvement in what is probably, on the basis of per capita, one of the real heavy crime areas and that's the area that I represent in that we now have additional patrols and the usual Saturday night fights at the Westminster have been slowed down a little bit.

I think the revolving door — there has to be something said about that because we've got a real problem here and I had suggested and even cut out some articles from different crime enforcement situations where there should be no bail for attempted murder whether it happens to be the most celebrated one, which is the Grey Eyes one where he was finally held in custody with a revolving door aspect. But you look at so many of them in which a fellow by the name of Henry was, on three separate instances in Fort Rouge, strong-arming and beating up women and each time he got out on bail and he was released on \$3,000 and you just go through the list.

The Rondeau (?) case that I referred to last year on Furby and now we have before us the Campbell case where a fellow from a half-way house got out and stabbed three women in my district, I believe last month, I shouldn't prejudge the man. They might have made wrong identification but the point was that he was not only out of jail, he was living in the comfort of a private home and was able to go out and cause some problems in our area which were, to my neighbour's daughter, a very very serious situation, you know, involved with her mental outlook as to walking the streets of Winnipeg safe.

You've got the problem of the trial lawyers who, at least three of them, made over \$100,000 each last year from Legal Aid versus the Crown and the one particular case we had on Sherburn Street where the man was originally arrested for attempted murder, then it was taken down to a manslaughter charge and he was sentenced for three years. The neighbours were absolutely up in arms. Only three years for murdering that young fellow. Now, of course, because I guess he's on legal aid and has the use . . .

MR. PAWLEY: A point of order, if you don't mind. We are under law enforcement and we don't want to be too restrictive, it seems to me that the honourable member is dealing with subjects which more properly come under the judiciary and Legal Aid.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The point is well taken. The Honourable Member for Wolseley.

MR. WILSON: Well, what I'm basically saying dealing with law enforcement, which would seem to be . . . well, all right we'll talk about preventatives and suggest that maybe some of the staff should be specializing, but there is things that I will bring up. One particular case, we had a man who was convicted and fined \$500, a male prostitute case, and when he appealed the Crown failed to show up. So it doesn't seem to be anybody ever gets fired from the government's department for a very questionable performance and these are the kind of things that really get to me. I think a lot of this mandatory parole stuff is nonsense but again I'm straying a bit, so I'll leave it at that for there.

But I did want to talk about the white-collar fraud and I think that we've had many promises from this Minister pertaining to white-collar fraud. I've got something here from the news service dated October 3, 1975, where a commercial prosecution's branch has been established. They talk about how the victims of white-collar fraud, all the costs are passed on to the consumer and when corporate and white-collar criminals defraud governments and government agencies, all the taxpayers must bear the costs. The Attorney-General said he was prepared to increase the number of Crown prosecutors in this special section as the conditions warrant. However, it's like doing something after the barn door has been left open because I understand the Minister of Mines is not making the

amount of MDC loans like he made in the past and so the result is most of the suggested white-collar frauds pertaining to ripping off the government, took place prior to this Minister's statement. I can't help but look at some of them, I remember in the headlines in this thing, King Choy charges possible, dated December 20, 1971. All of these particular things whether it's King Choy, St. Jean Sportswear, lightings, materials, I believe all of these, some form of enquiry or investigation has taken place in one or more of these and yet the result of these are never made public and the government shows again this year that they lost a considerable amount of money from these companies. One wonders at what time, at what point in history the Minister is going to deliver his promise to perform in a better manner in this particular section. So, I'm very concerned about white-collar fraud not only from the point of . . . I'm sorry.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. PAWLEY: . . . it would certainly be of assistance to me. I'm wondering what promise the honourable member is referring to that I made.

MR. WILSON: Again I have a file on this but there was several newspaper articles appeared, but this is from the news service, it comes from the Attorney-General Howard Pawley — I'm sorry I'm reading from this — but it indicates that he said the new branch was required because of the seriousness of commercial criminal activities and rising numbers of such cases. So obviously the Minister recognized the problems that existed and issued this news service to tell the people in Winnipeg that they could relax. —(Interjection)— Well, maybe they can't relax, but the point is that there is a wrong attitude —(Interjection)— well, whatever, but it just seems to me, and I respectfully suggest that somebody has to hire an efficiency expert or a work evaluation expert because I would respectfully suggest that maybe a lot of people are just shuffling paper around because none of these particular charges ever come to light. It seems to me that no one in his department ever wants to offend the Minister or take a chance that they might lose a case. The result is, none of these cases ever seem to go forward and, you know, again I take the media to task because they put these headlines in the paper, "King Choy charges possible," and they put all these headlines in the paper but nothing ever happens.

I had an occasion to draw a matter the other day to the Minister's attention where I pointed out my concern because of the number of thefts by conversion that were taking place and the answer that I got back was that —(Interjection)— and I can read from the reply, "May I suggest that you contact Mr. Dangerfield." You see the problem is that what you have with all of these things is nobody wants to get out from behind their desks and go out and visit you and come and say — a person is a citizen, everyone is — they've got information to supply to reduce the number of crimes in this province and no one will get out from behind the desk. The citizen is willing to come forward with the information and maybe they are short staffed, I don't know, but the problem seems to be the emphasis is always put on . . . pardon me —(Interjection)— No, I'm talking about the attitude. The attitude is wrong when people come forward with information, or have in their possession information, and it is not accepted or not sought. They don't go out and say, Aha you've got something. Let me give ' you an example. This is prior to my political life where I came up with over 40 NSF checks from one firm that was under investigation for a commercial fraud. I took it down to the former Attorney-General prior to yourself. They sent a fellow around, I believe his name was Jack Hunter — I may stand to be corrected — and he said, "You mind your own business," and they returned all the stuff to me. Here I was a citizen before my political days trying to draw a commercial fraud to the government's attention and they told me, "No way; it's none of your business to be examining documents." That is the kind of response that the small businessmen and people of this province get. It seems to me that the onus is on them to do all the homework, document all the cases. What if a person has no vested interest? Why should they go to this trouble if the authorities don't seem to care? So in the area of commercial fraud, I respectfully suggest that the amount of MDC loans have been so reduced that maybe these people will now be able to go out and protect the public.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the honourable member would submit to a question.

MR. WILSON: Surely.

MR. PAWLEY: I would like to know if the honourable member would provide to me the date in which Mr. Hunter from our department went to him with 40 NSF checks and indicated to him, "Mind your own business." Mr. Hunter is still with our department. I want to check that out and ascertain whether or not that actually occurred. —(Interjection)—

MR. CHAIAN: Order please. The Honourable Member for Wolseley.

MR. WILSON: To be very factual, I believe that the exact number of checks that I gave to Mr. Hunter . . . I know there were eight exhibits, so we'd have to say there's anywhere from six to eight exhibits. How many checks were attached to each exhibit, I could not tell. I will undertake to supply the Minister with my file.

Now that I am here in this particular arena, I can express the concerns of the particular promise that I say — maybe it wasn't a promise, but maybe a desire of this current Attorney-General — to look in the area of white-collar fraud. These particular cases are not beyond the Statute of Limitations.

Surely, if these particular — again, I guess maybe I should ask for an Order for Return — but if these particular firms have been investigated, why is there no information as to the reasons why they have not proceeded because the newspaper articles indicated that something was there. And you know, if you take a case — that's a citizen taking a case to the government the people put the onus on the citizen — if you take a case to the Law Society against one of their members they tell you to hire a lawyer. So this is the other problem that you have. They have a system of writing letters. I think it's time that the leaders of our community . . .

A MEMBER: Why are you against all professionals?

MR. WILSON: I am not against professional people. —(Interjection)— All right. I'll give you another case here. About two years ago — and again, I can only speak from what I know best — about approximately a year and a half ago, a fellow who was — and I'll read from Mr. Goodman's report: "With regard to Mr. Roussas(?), he has been charged with two counts of assault causing bodily harm, one count of assault and one failing to comply with an appearance notice." I want to suggest that maybe something is wrong because somehow or other this particular trial and thing was stayed by the Crown. So I thought I'd do a little investigating. I found out that the firm that was representing Mr. Roussas was a firm called Wilder, Wilder and Frost. So that's fine. I am going to suggest that possibly, when somebody leaves a particular private firm and comes into a government department, that they've got to either give a darn good reason for not proceeding with the case or leave aside all suspicion of a conflict of interest because Mr. Frost is now employed with the Attorney-General's department. So these are the kinds of things that seem to bother us in the private sector. I am just very disturbed that a particular case involving assault was stayed when the particular lawyer was in private practice acting for this man and then gets into a particular government employment and the case is stayed. I mean, it just doesn't sit right with the people out there trying to have a window to look in. —(Interjection)— I don't know what Mr. Lyon did, I am only speaking for myself.

So when we have a \$10 million item for law enforcement, I just want to get the feeling that I am . . . Well, somebody says crime doesn't pay, but it sure is costing the taxpayers a lot of money.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister of Mines.

MR. GREEN: Is the honourable member suggesting that it is cause for investigation that a firm is representing someone, a member of that firm becomes a member of the Attorney-General's department, and charges are stayed, that that is cause for an investigation? Is that what the honourable member is suggesting, that the previous lawyer who was a member of this firm, who has now joined the Attorney-General's department, had something nefarious to do with this action being stayed? Is that his suggestion?

MR. WILSON: Mr. Chairman, I am only reading into the record, things that I think under law enforcement could be looked at by the Minister. He has promised to look at the Variable Metal Forms file that I am going to present him with, and he may even want to look at the Roussas matter that I am going to deal with. He may even have Mr. Dangerfield pick up the phone and say, "Mr. Wilson, what have you got pertaining to the increased amount of conversions in the Province of Manitoba?" I am just simply saying that I feel the onus should be on the government when citizens come forward. And the Member for Swan River is saying: The attitudes towards the law, and the attitudes towards law enforcement and the attitudes towards preventing crime, you need the citizens of the province behind you and you need a feeling that they're going to get — if I can use the term — some action. They don't want paper being shuffled around the desk and everyone picking up their salary and nothing happening. I think maybe it's time the Minister gave the members opposite a progress report, a positive report of what's happening that is good. I'll tell you what.

In the private sector, a baseball team or a hockey team, they're always out there telling you how great they are doing. The Bombers print a statement and they say, "We're in the black." There is always something of a positive nature and I think that we should have some evaluation of what we are getting for the \$10 million; that's all I'm suggesting. I leave it at that; I read it into the record and I leave it at that.

MR. GREEN: I wonder if the honourable member could tell us whether he investigated or found out the stated reasons for the stay of proceedings in connection with the case that he is referring to. Was there a stated reason? It is quite often the case that the court will be told that for reasons of the unavailability of a witness or some other reason of that kind that a charge was stayed. Is the honourable member aware or did he investigate the stated reasons for the stay of proceedings before he came in and suggested that it is cause for an inquiry or cause for concern on the part of the Attorney-General that a member of a firm that is defending somebody now works for the Attorney-General's department and charges have been stayed with regard to a pending prosecution against him, a person who is represented by that firm. I would like to know whether he investigated or tried to find out why proceedings were stayed.

MR. WILSON: Mr. Chairman, the only thing I do is read into the record matters which are before me. I look after my employees; I think that the Minister is very capable of asking for explanations from anyone in his particular department. Or I raise a matter of a file; one maybe unrelated to the other, but

the point of it is there, it's there; it's there for an examination, it's there for a decision to be made. That's basically my concern in that area. I did want to talk — as I say, I felt that white-collared crime is definitely — I am glad that they have strengthened up the Securities Commission across the road there, that was long overdue. And I really think that I am pleased maybe in a sense, that the Minister of Mines has stopped making all those MDC loans because . . . but again, I said it's like closing the door after the horses have been gone.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Roblin.

MR. MCKENZIE: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the Minister could give us some idea of the amount of crime that is related to drugs or alcohol. And this of course brings us into the bill which the Member for La Verendrye brought into the Chamber and which of course is still under debate. It appears that the NDP have sort of a special position on this bill which relates to the fact if the . . . I think it's if the person is old enough to fight for his country, they're old enough to have the privilege to use alcohol. Of course, the answer to that question, Mr. Chairman, comes out real quick. It's not really relevant as the answer doesn't carry through because if a person is in the Armed Forces they're involved in a very disciplined life and no one joins the Armed Forces nor do they do just whatever they would like to do; with the privilege of being in the Armed Forces comes responsibility. So the answer which we are historically getting from members opposite about the drinking age, it's relevant to a person being in the Armed Forces, it actually doesn't carry water. So, I just wonder now, the Minister's position on this bill and also now the amount of crime that is related to drugs and to alcohol under this item that we are dealing with.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution 26. The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Chairman, I could deal with as many of the areas that were a raised as possible. I would like to just say in general, if we could place in perspective the relationship our department plays with the judiciary and crime, that I think that one must understand the entire system and when references or frequent references are made in connection with — and here I'd like to deal first with the statements by the Honourable Member for Assiniboia — to crime, I think there are a number of items that one must keep in mind insofar as those that are released.

First I think that the honourable member should submit briefs to his counterpart and his political conferees in Ottawa, the Minister of Justice, pertaining to The Bail Reform Act if he is concerned about the present legislation, re The Bail Reform Act. So I want to say part of, as a result of submissions by the Attorneys-General, The Bail Reform Act has been tightened up, I think about a year ago, in which additional onus is being placed now upon the accused. He has to establish certain facts before he is released, whereas prior to the amendments of a year ago by the Federal Government, The Bail Reform Act provided for greater leeway than it does today. So there's been some improvement.

If the honourable member is still unhappy, then he should itemize the various areas of The Bail Reform Act which he is still displeased with. But I want to emphasize here, of course, that there is a presumption of innocence and any and everyone is presumed to be innocent till approved otherwise by the courts, and the courts are placed in that very difficult position of attempting to balance public interest as against individual liberty, and the court has to deal with each case based upon the facts presented to it working within the framework of the existing Bail Reform Act. It's true and I want to indicate very clearly that there are times that the police and certainly our department, and there has been at least two incidents that honourable members must be aware of — I don't want to make reference to them by name because they're presently before the court — in which we appealed against the lower court's decision to release someone from bail and we appealed successfully against those releases. Both cases dealt with matters of indecent assault within the last couple of months, two very clear-cut cases in which there was, in our view, improper finding by the lower court and the higher court certainly dealt otherwise with it than did the lower courts. So it's a question of bail reform; it's also a question of which we have to test out the findings of the courts from time to time as to the exercise of their discretion pertaining to release on bail.

Statistics: I have some statistics here which, if honourable members would like, I could release to the House. In view of the high-risk factor in releasing statistics, I am somewhat hesitant, and if honourable members didn't press me, I would be glad to set them aside, but they are interesting. "Comparative Crime Statistics, Calendar Years 1976 to 1975, Criminal Code Offences" — and here I am dealing with reported offences, 1976 as compared to 1975 in percentage over or under, and that if you would just make a note of. . . . In each case I will read out the type of offence. Next, I'll read out the number for the reported cases in 1976, next column, reported cases in 1975 and the percentage change. I'll do that for both the RCMP, Manitoba-wise, and also for the first half-calendar years 1976 and 1975 in the City of Winnipeg. That's the most recent figures that we have.

Homicides — 30, 31, down 3.3 percent. Sexual Offences — 246, 271, down 9.3 percent. Assaults — 3,172, 3,073, up 3.2. Robbery — 94, 89, up 5.4 percent. Break, Enter and Theft — 4,015, 4,140, down 3.1 percent. Theft, Motor Vehicle — 1,442, 1,462, down 1.4 percent. Theft, over \$200 — 1,436, 1,322,

up 8 percent. Theft, under \$200 — 6,738, 6,438, up 4.5. Possession of Stolen Goods — 221, 184, up 16.7. Frauds — 1,710, 1,313, up 23.3 percent. Offensive Weapons — 663, 624, up 6 percent. Other Criminal Code Offences — 9,849, 8,925, up 9.4 percent. Total — 29,616, 27,871, up 5.9 percent.

And before leaving that, I would want to emphasize that offences against people seem to have decreased and I refer there to the homicides and the sexual offences, there has been a decrease. On the other hand, offences against property have increased. The most startling increase has been in fraud which relates to the white-collar crime where there has been a very significant and sharp increase.

City of Winnipeg Police homicides, this is only six months here, not the entire year. Homicides — 23, 23, no change. Sexual Offences — 164, 190, down 13.7 percent. Assault — 720, 629, up 12.7 percent. Robbery — 299, 298, no change basically. Break, Enter and Theft — 3,476, 3,256, up 6.3. Theft Motor Vehicle — 1,390, 1,429, down 2.8. Theft over \$200 — 1,325, 1,123, up 5.2. Theft under \$200 — 8,334, 7,319, up 12.3. Possess of Stolen Goods — 94, 70, up 25.6 percent. Frauds — 1,291, 1,188, up 8 percent. Offensive Weapons — 150, 87, up 42 percent. In Other Criminal Code Offences — 4,490, 3,640, up 19 percent. Total 21,756, 19,252, up 11.6 percent.

So the tendency on both the Manitoba, provincewide and the city, seems to be a decrease in offenses against persons, and an increase in the number of offenses against property. — (Interjection)— For the City of Winnipeg, 150, 87, an increase of 42 percent, a very high increase. Reference was made to the increase in police costs, and this has been a worry that we've worked under for the last two years, because of the difficulty pertaining to negotiations. There has been increase in police costs, because of the fact that the province and the municipalities, must pick up a greater share. The Federal Government is now picking up a smaller share than previously. That is why there is that increase in police costs, plus there is now the involvement of the 3B Project, which involves native and Métis people, and police in northern communities, plus the Ojibway Tribal Council Private Project for southern Reserves, which is also part and parcel of that police budget item.

The question was raised I think by the Honourable Member from Birtle-Russell as to the term of the agreement. The agreement started April, 1976, and continues for five years, the province now picking up 52 percent of the cost, and that escalates by 1 percentage point during each term of the contract. With municipalities, the same thing, except with municipalities, if the number of police officers exceed five, then we start at 77 and move up by 1 percentage point during each year of the term of the contract that the Federal Government has with the municipality. The concern which I must mention that we have had as Attorneys-General, in our discussions with Ottawa, not only related to the cost, but also we do feel that insofar as training and expertise that the RCMP are I think second to none. We were worried that there could be a trend to move away from RCMP services in the larger centres, and in Manitoba that would affect us for instance in Thompson, or possibly Dauphin. But I must say, in fairness to the Federal Government, the impression I had is that you know, places like Thompson and Red Deer. . . — (Interjection)— possibly, but there is that danger. The impression that we had, that there might be some easing away, and our own view is that the police services provided in the larger centres can best be provided by the RCMP, than through a Municipal Police Force, and we have made strong representation that that situation not be altered. And I might say, we would hope from the provincial point of view, that if larger centres request RCMP servicing, that contracts be entered into by the Federal Government to provide RCMP services in those larger centres. But the impression which I think would be confirmed by the Solicitor-General is that they want to provide less such RCMP policing in the larger centres.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Swan River.

MR. BILTON: I wonder if I can ask the Honourable Minister a question on that particular point. I think there's something like 14 men in Swan River, four of them are chargeable to the community — we pay for that — the rest take care of rural policing. Do the rural people contribute toward that service of those ten men?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Chairman, the rural municipalities do not contribute toward police costs. The province picks up the entire police cost there, so that the item before us relates basically to the costs of providing RCMP service in the rural municipalities. The police costs that the centres 500 to 1500 receive policing as to the larger centres. We provide some grants under one formula to communities 500 to 1,500, a different formula by \$2 and \$3 per head, to communities 1,500 and more. But insofar as road patrol and the rural detachments, the province picks up the entire bill.

MR. BILTON: On the same subject, where the mounted police in the rural part of the area that I'm talking about collect for highway infractions, where does that money go to?

MR. PAWLEY: The moneys or the receipts from the fines would go to the province, as we are the employing force there. If we're dealing with the incorporated town or village, then most of that would result to the municipality, again the employing force.

MR. BILTON: One more question if I may, Mr. Chairman. Can the Minister tell me whether or not

you contribute to the policing of Swan River as such, and of course there could be Steinback, and many communities such as ours that are policed by the RCMP, is it a total charge to the local taxpayer, or do they get any assistance at all?

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Chairman, our contribution to the Town of Swan River would be by way of the Per Capita Grants, which in the case of Swan River, I believe because of its population, would be \$3 per head of population.

The Member for Birtle-Russell asked me to obtain information for him in connection with the breakdown in the amount of time spent by the law enforcement officers in various types of criminal activity, and all that I can ask the honourable member is to give us a little bit more time, so we can see what information we can obtain for him on that. I suspect that we'll be carrying on for some time, and we'll try to get a better breakdown of that, than what we could provide him now.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Birtle-Russell.

MR. GRAHAM: While he's getting that information, could the Minister also indicate to us, the number of RCMP personnel that are employed within the City of Winnipeg, because we realize the City of Winnipeg also has their own police force too.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. PAWLEY: Yes, we'll get that information. That would be the RCMP officers that are basically engaged — some are federally engaged and some provincially engaged in drugs and fraud, and we can get as much information as is possible on that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Roblin.

MR. MCKENZIE: One question on the RCMP report. The Minister mentioned that the offenses against people have decreased in the RCMP report. Do they give any reasons or is the statistic just there?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. PAWLEY: No, it's very very difficult, and I would hate to theorize, although it's rather interesting, they have decreased in the past year. I don't think any of us would dare take credit for that, because next year those figures might reverse and yes, you have an opportunity to blame us next year if it changes. So I'm going to be very very careful not to take any credit for that development. I suppose if I did take some credit for that development, then you could accuse me of being responsible for the increase in crimes as against property, so I dare not venture into that area.

The Honourable Member for Swan River asked me to comment pertaining to why . . . or maybe it was the Honourable Member . . . to highway traffic matters, and why for Birtle-Russell, pertaining RCMP officers were being used in traffic matters.

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

MR. GRAHAM: Perhaps I should clarify, I didn't say why. I just wondered what percentage of the RCMP police force, who are highly trained people, are used in highway traffic, and perhaps we should be looking at some time in the future towards using people perhaps from the Highways Department, in highway traffic offenses, rather than tying up highly trained individuals, who are fairly expensive, in a role that could be equally done by those with less professional qualifications.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Chairman, a lot of thought has been given to the possibility of auxiliary officers being involved. The RCMP have not been enthusiastic about that, because they feel that their officers would be better dealing with general matters, rather than being restricted to one area only. For instance, a police officer, if he only had to deal with . . . a comment was made, "drive nuts," and probably that would happen. They want to spend some time on drugs or on other matters that don't relate to Highway Traffic Act offenses. Fifteen to 20 percent I'm advised, of the RCMP strength is engaged in highway patrol matters, for the information of the honourable member. The officers that are engaged in the Highway Traffic Act matters of course, are the constables not the higher priced individuals within the force.

The Honourable Member for Swan River asked if I could guess what the total amount of police costs in Manitoba is. I'm going to again skate on some thin ice, and it's only a guess, I could be out considerably, but in attempting to be as helpful as we can, we would approximate the cost to be thus: provincial costs - \$20 million, municipal - \$8 million, City of Winnipeg about \$17 million, again we may be out a little there, Brandon - \$1 million, and then other miscellaneous small towns - possibly \$1 million. So we would have to say, it's likely somewhere in the neighbourhood of \$45 to \$50 million, would likely touch the total cost figure.

The Member for Gladstone, I know that he's disappointed in what he feels to be the lack of response that he's obtained, on the question that he posed to us and to the department. I want to say to the honourable member that I think that it's very very difficult to establish ahead of time, or to provide ahead of time, an opinion in connection with a form such as that which he has, without it being tested out. Now I know that's not too helpful to him, but it's a judiciary in the long run that would have to interpret the Act, as to whether or not the form that I think he's referring to, would provide relief insofar as a person is concerned. And that is a danger for us on any matter in the Department of

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the Attorney-General to provide legal advice ahead of time, because in the final analysis the officers of our department, certainly only present the facts to the court. In the final analysis, it has to be the decision of the judiciary, whether or not those facts warrant the particular charge, and in this particular case, we act in the prosecutions on behalf of the Department of Renewable Resources and the game wardens, within that department, who initiate the charges in the first place.

I would say that the honourable member should for instance take up that matter — they referred to the jack-lighting — with the local game warden, giving him complete documentation for investigations. . . — (Interjection) — Pardon? Well the game warden initiates the charge, he looks to the department. If important, certainly he's not going to initiate a charge unless there's a legal basis for him to launch the charge. If he has any doubt as to whether or not there is a legal basis, he would of course consult the appropriate Crown Attorney as to whether or not there is a case. But honourable members would not want me to have to double the staff of our department, because we launched a whole series of cases, where we have no chance of obtaining a conviction on in the courts. I'm sure the honourable member would not allow me to increase, or is the honourable member requesting permission of the House, to increase the amount of moneys allocated to this department to increase the number of our Crown Attorneys, to launch a number of actions which might not be soundly based?

I want to just say in general again, with reference to a number of comments that have been made, that I would not want there to be a misconception as to the system again. A great deal of comment was made about people being released earlier than they should be. A comment was made again about sentencing and I think the Honourable Member for Swan River used the term "harsh" again and again and he asked that the department be "very, very harsh." I would like to just emphasize that within our British Judicial System, the Crown is there to present the facts to the court and to be as helpful to the court as possible in presenting all the facts to the court. We are not there to persecute but to prosecute. In the process of presenting all those facts to the court, the final determination must rest with the court after they have heard all the facts and the Crown, of course, will attempt to establish its case to the court, providing to the court all the ingredients which ought to substantiate the alleged offence.

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

MR. GRAHAM: Would the Minister also not realize that it is the equal responsibility of law enforcement officers to prosecute and not to persecute?

MR. PAWLEY: Certainly. And certainly that is not being disputed. I don't know whether the honourable member is suggesting that our law enforcements officers are persecuting. If he has a specific complaint in that respect, it certainly should be looked into. They are to . . . both the police and officers within our department are to act as the friends of the court, providing to the court all the relevant information in order to assist the court in arriving at the determination. Certainly, our department does not act as a judge, jury and prosecutors all rolled into one. We have a particular responsibility to the criminal justice system if the criminal justice system is to work successfully and fairly in any matter.

The Court of Appeal, in the final analysis, really establishes the tone as to the sentencing that will take place throughout the province. We, of course, monitor very closely the sentencing that is handed out by our Provincial Judges and through the other courts in the province, the Assize Court, and if it seems that a sentence that is handed out, in view of the circumstances pertaining to that particular conviction is too light, then let me advise honourable members that we appeal to the Court of Appeal. The Court of Appeal will make that final determination as to whether the sentence that was handed out in the lower court is too light or sometimes the accused has appealed it is too harsh and in that way, a pattern is established throughout the province, a guideline that is established by the highest court in the province, the Court of Appeal. It is on that basis that sentencing really can be gauged. It is the only basis by which sentencing, the pattern for sentencing, is established throughout the province within the criminal justice system.

The Member for Wolseley . . . first, I am very very concerned about an accusation which I fear would reflect upon the work of Mr. Hunter in the department because, knowing Mr. Hunter, he is not an individual that . . . I have had some personal acquaintance with him and he is certainly not the type of individual that would tell anyone to go mind their own business. I am amazed at the Honourable Member for Wolseley's suggestion in that respect and it certainly doesn't reflect the personality of Mr. Hunter or I must say the spirit or the philosophy of our department. We would want to be most helpful in a situation such as that recounted by the Honourable Member for Wolseley. I would like, in fairness to him, to the Honourable Member for Wolseley and to the employee with the department, to obtain much more information in that regard and to check that out.

The other matters pertaining to referring matters to the department pertaining to possible frauds. I want to emphasize here that I think again that if the honourable member has a matter which he feels indicates a fraud and he has facts which appear to prove the commitment of a fraud then, rather than relating that information to Mr. Dangerfield, really that information should be presented to Inspector

Docker of the Fraud Squad of the RCMP. I think that would be most helpful in any particular case. If it is provided to Mr. Dangerfield, then he will end up . . . if it gives reasonable cause for a police investigation, he, of course, will relate that information to the RCMP Fraud Squad.

I would like to also express some concern in connection with the charges that a solicitor in the department may have been engaged in some conflict of interest. I would hope that the honourable member . . . he left that inference in the House. I don't know whether the honourable member was asking for a full-fledged inquiry into this because it is certainly a very serious allegation if there is a suggestion that a solicitor within the department permitted his previous role as a solicitor in a private firm to interfere with his carrying out his responsibilities within the department. I would hope that the honourable member is not suggesting that simply because someone was a solicitor in a private firm that was engaged in defending somebody, leaves that private firm and joins the staff of the Department of the Attorney-General and shortly thereafter the charge is stayed, that that individual had something to do with the staying of those charges. I would be even hesitant to give credibility to that charge without more facts because it reflects upon a young man who I am sure is attempting to establish his own professional career and it reflects upon the individual's integrity for such a charge to be made in the House. Now, if the honourable member is asking for a full-fledged judicial inquiry or something some other type of inquiry, then I will have to consider it but to leave it as it is, it's, I think, a very unfair way probably for us to leave it in view of the fact that a young legal counsel is left with some doubt cast upon his professional integrity. I just want to leave it at that for the Honourable Member for Wolseley to consider because I am concerned about the reflection upon the individual in question.

Insofar as the Honourable Member for Roblin, I believe he asked for some figures on drugs and alcohol. We can try to get more information on that. I don't have it in these statistics that I released earlier except I had the Liquor Control Act figures which show for the rural but not for the City which showed a 23.7 percent increase in the number of convictions under the Liquor Control Act. Yes, it has been pointed out to me by staff that if you will refer to the Liquor Control Act Report filed in the House, there is a great deal of detail and figures for each specific offence under the Liquor Control Act, including that one dealing with consumption under age.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Wolseley.

MR. WILSON: Yes, I just wanted to put a couple of things on the record. One pertaining to law enforcement. As I say, I referred to an article of June 28, 1975 in which the members of the Edmonton police force said that, "Break-Even Units said that bail reform laws, legal aid, softjails, make it easier for people like John Smith to commit crimes. Our biggest enemy is the man on bail. He gets out on bail and it is like a licence to commit more offences." I think the general pattern that's been happening is an indication that the revolving door is very, very present in our Manitoba system.

Pertaining to the commercial fraud section, I would like the Minister, if he could, to stand up and tell us how many charges under the commercial fraud section were laid last year to give an indication as to the priorities that his government may or may not be giving to that department.

I wanted to also help clear Mr. Hunter's name if I've said something in a wrong way. I said Mr. Hunter attended upon my office and I did, as I say, give the Minister the forms that I have in which I wrote a letter as a young businessman concerned — the letter was dated April 20th, 1971 — in which I talked about this firm that had floated 80 NSF cheques to the business community and rural community, and I enclosed several samples, but I have saved over two boxes of information which I believe will reveal the seriousness of this industrial fraud. I sent that as a small businessman to the government — and I was not a politician at that time — and that was April 20th. On May 25th, Mr. Hunter attended upon my offices and told me, "It's none of your business to seize documents. You're in the business of seizing and you have no business to seize and grab hold of documents." So I got a lecture from him on the basis of acquiring those documents.

MR. GREEN: Does the Honourable member think that he does lawfully have the right to seize other people's documents? Does he believe that he is law and order in the Province of Manitoba? That's quite a different thing from stating that Mr. Hunter told you to mind your own business. He told you you had no right to seize documents.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please. The Honourable Member for Wolseley.

MR. WILSON: As I say, it is unfortunate that so many people have to be so sensitive when somebody reads facts into the record and I say I have the facts. The enforcer over there who keeps interrupting has no facts at his disposal.

MR. GREEN: I want to know from the honourable member, does he believe that private citizens should have the right . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please.

MR. GEN: . . . to go in and seize other people's documents without a court order? Because, Mr. Speaker, that . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please. The Honourable Member for Wolseley.

MR. WILSON: In 1971 — (Interjection) — No, I'll answer that. In 1971, many businesses — they call them fly-by-night businesses, they call them businesses that are insolvent; they call them businesses that may or may not at some time go bankrupt — and a particular private bailiff under the Landlord and Tenant Act at some point in time holds a public sale, what is left after that sale is boxes of documents. The income tax, in some cases, insists that we hang on to those so that they can pick them up, and in many cases we have walked away, because of this very thing happening because nobody cares and they probably sit there for months or whenever until the landlord re-rents the premises. I resent the word "seize." We do not seize them; they are left behind.

If curiosity is a crime, and I am sorry for having read them, but that was back in 1971 and I can assure you the attitude of the particular government, at at this particular juncture, indicates to me that I don't think — knowing what I know today — that maybe I shouldn't be reading other people's files or what have you, but when there is a wrongdoing, I felt, as a citizen, I had a right to bring it forward. I did not appreciate the fact — and this is maybe one of the reasons that I entered political life — I do not appreciate people . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. PAWLEY: Could the honourable member advise us how

MR. WILSON: I believe Structural Dynamics and Variable Metal Forms Limited skipped and the premises were sold at public auction. The desks had to be emptied out and the papers thrown into cartons. Anyway, that's that one out of the way.

Now, pertaining to — (Interjection) — Well, why should I be under a court of inquisition I'm here bringing facts forward? All right.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister of Mines.

MR. GREEN: The honourable member said that a civil servant told him to mind his own business and we asked him to bring that material to us, and now we are trying to find out how he obtained the material. Because, he now says that Mr. Hunter didn't tell him to mind his own business; he told him it is not his business to seize documents. So we are trying to find out how he obtained the documents.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please. The Honourable Member for Birtle-Russell.

MR. GRAHAM: On a point of order, I think the Attorney-General of this province is a pretty level-headed man and knows how to handle his own affairs but it is interesting to note that we now have two Attorney-Generals in the Province of Manitoba.

MR. GREEN: On a point of privilege. I am a member of this committee just as is the Honourable Member for Birtle-Russell. I have a right to discuss the matter and when somebody levels a charge at a civil servant saying that he told him to mind his own business, then I, as any other member, have a right to ask him how this occurred.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Wolseley.

MR. WILSON: Well, I think by presenting the Attorney-General these documents and I am quite prepared, as I say, to wait for his answer. I brought the matter forward as an indication because I wanted and I had hoped the October 3, 1975 news service release had indicated there was going to be some renewed emphasis to stop commercial crime. What I have done is documented several experiences in which people bringing commercial crimes forward and I say — maybe I had better use the word "suggested commercial crimes" forward — have been subject to anything less than co-operation. I talk about King Choy in the December 20th, 1971 Tribune, "Assets from the firm to pay off some of the debts of an unrelated company," and the Tribune listed all these charges against the directors of King Choy, and what happens? Where were the results of this investigation? Nothing seems to have been done and I believe at the time that thing cost us about \$200,000.00. I am just looking to see. I am trying to think of how much they took the government for but . . . yes, \$200,000.00.

Well, all right, but then there's another one that got \$595,000 in 1977. Was Lighting Materials Limited under investigation by Sergeant Docker's department? How about St. Jean's Sportswear Limited — \$215,267.00. I understand there were some grave questions raised about that particular situation.

So these are the particular problems and then, I think maybe somebody should get an interpretation as to what the Province of Manitoba Attorney-General's Department considers fraud and compare it to what the Federal Government of Canada considers fraud or possibly the Province of Ontario, because maybe there is a difference in provincial meaning, as a citizen considers what commercial fraud really is.

So those are the points, I also wanted to talk to the Minister because he obviously got it mixed up a little bit and I would like to clarify it. I was talking about Mr. Dangerfield because I had raised a grave concern — I didn't raise it in the House I raised it privately — about the amount and the increasing number of automotive and equipment conversions. I talked about people who are generally going about selling property that does not belong to them and not paying off the people that they borrowed the money to. This has become so commonplace. At one time, you could pick up the paper and somebody was being sentenced to two years in jail for converting their car.

I documented a case of a Mr. Gobert who bought an airplane and found out that the Yugoslavian fellow he bought it from hadn't paid for it so it cost Mr. Gobert something like \$9,000 or \$11,000.00. I talked about Mohammed Liaget(?) who had sold the car to a Mr. McKutcheon.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order. I wonder if we could just have a little less noise. The honourable member.

MR. WILSON: And what I am expressing is a concern that the government would . . . there's an old saying, if you release a story about somebody converting and being charged and you make a particular public issue of it, it's amazing how the amounts of automotive and equipment conversion seem to decrease. I remember one person was brought to trial over a student loan questionable activity and all of a sudden, the people borrowing money under Student Aid all of a sudden started filling out their forms and realizing they were making an affidavit under The Canada Evidence Act.

Last year, under Legal Aid, I brought forward that they were signing a particular document, a legal document, which would subject them to a charge under the Canada Evidence Act if they continued to lie under their particular application for legal aid. This is the kind of question that I'm asking. It seems to me we've got to get tough, because if you set an example with one or two people you don't need to hire anybody. People are basically honest. At least I think 95 to 97 percent of them are.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

MR. PATRICK: Mr. Chairman, the Attorney-General, when I talked about parole and parole restrictions, perhaps they should be tightened and the Minister said, well, you know, "Talk to your friends in Ottawa." I was very disappointed because, really I'm sure he has the information, he has the staff, he knows where the problems are as far as the law enforcement problems are concerned in this province and surely, the people in Ottawa, the similar department will co-operate and look much closer and listen to him much better as an Attorney-General than they would to any MLA or any backbencher in this House. So I didn't believe that was the kind of, you know, answer that I would have liked to receive when he says you talk to your counterparts in Ottawa. I think the person to talk to in Ottawa is the Attorney-General, I'm sure he'd listen you, to I'm sure he would.

Mr. Chairman, I do have some concern. The Minister was indicating and surely if we only listen to what's happening in every province, and I'm sure that there are the same problems. What the police chiefs have to say, what the police enforcement officers have to say and they do have problems. I was just looking at one of the articles here and that's a year old, "Crime on the Rise," and it's from the Canadian Press and the Executive Director in Halifax of the Nova Scotia Police Association, he blames ineffective laws, liberal parole policies and correctional facilities geared to rehabilitate convicted murderers, as causes for much of the increased crime. The Chairman of the Toronto Police Commission indicates that Canada's lawmakers are gutless and for a long time the Canadian cities are now crime ridden or will be crime ridden like Detroit and some of the other cities and I know, I've travelled through one of the cities, Buffalo, New York, where I stopped and asked some information of a police officer and he says, "Well, keep your doors locked and don't go through the city, go around the city." So that's what is happening in some of the cities in U.S.A. The Chief of Toronto was as well concerned that Toronto was one of the safest cities and today he is quite concerned because the crime is on the increase. The Chief of Police of Calgary is concerned about the increase in crime as well. The Edmonton officials as well.

There is no question that violent crimes are on the increase and the number of murderers have been increased substantially. It was a very high percentage and that's the reason when I ask the Minister to give us some statistics and, of course, the statistics are not in all respects, but at least in some respects, they are encouraging that crime has not increased. In some instances it has and I think it should really concern us. I know the one, I believe, offences with weapons increased something like 42 percent and that should be a concern.

What I'm trying to indicate to the Minister, that he has some of these statistics, he has the information after four years in the department and as the chief law enforcement officer in this province he knows where the problem and where the pressure is coming from. Is it crimes committed, is it mostly people from outside the province that are coming into this province or is it the people within the province? I know that there has been great concern by many people in very respected and high positions and, in fact, by some of the police were concerned that perhaps the media, to some extent, is responsible and maybe they've got a point. By that I mean, media — by the way the news media handles some crime, some incidents of violence — they are handled sometimes like entertainment. I believe that the press and the media has to report news, that's their responsibility, that's their duty and they have to do it. But on the other hand, I think that violence, when there is violence and crime involved with violence, that news at that time must be presented in a very cool manner and in a cool way, so that's a good concern, it's a good point.

So, Mr. Chairman, again, I am concerned and when I raised the points at the start, I wasn't raising the points that our costs have increased so greatly that I was concerned about the cost. I indicated to the Attorney-General, if the costs had to be increased, if the costs have to be increased to maintain law and order, to have good law enforcement, then I say let's increase the cost and I'm sure that he would have unanimous support from all the members in this House if that's what is required, and if

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that's what is required he'll certainly have support from this side and I'm sure everybody would support him. So I hope the Minister, the Attorney-General will give serious consideration to this department and about the law enforcement particularly.

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

MR. GRAHAM: Well, Mr. Chairman, while we are dealing with law enforcement, I think the Attorney-General has been very candid and open with us in the discussions so far and that's why I want to raise with the Attorney-General now a problem that I think is of a fair degree of importance in the Province of Manitoba at the present time, and that is the position that the law enforcement officer holds in society. Anyone that comes from rural Manitoba knows full well that in the past your law enforcement officer was the man that was held in the highest regard in his community and he was the friend and father-confessor to all. He was very fair and yet, at the same time, he was the man that impressed on everyone the importance of law and the respect of the law. In today's society, Mr. Chairman, I see a drastic change in that atmosphere in the rural community, where the law enforcement officer today is viewed with some degree of suspicion. In fact, in many cases I would say that the law enforcement officer is looked down upon by society and that, Sir, causes some concern to me because the position of law enforcement is imperative to the well-being of society. Our law enforcement officers must command the respect of the community in which they serve. There was a time when your law enforcement officer was on duty 24 hours a day, whether he was in uniform or not. Today's society we find that he is working on a 40-hour week and probably negotiating for a 36-hour week . . .

A MEMBER: Plus overtime.

MR. GRAHAM: . . . and anything he does after that he figures is quite properly his own business.

But, Sir, that really should not be the case. A law enforcement officer is always a law enforcement officer and the command that he respects in a community is dependent on his conduct at all times, whether he is in uniform or not, and that is something that I view with some degree of sadness because, if there is no respect for law enforcement then crime increases at a dramatic rate. We find people taking a different, completely different attitude towards law and respect for the law and when that attitude prevails or becomes an increasingly important factor in society, Sir, then the morale of society degenerates. When that occurs then those that are charged with the responsibility for law enforcement, instead of conducting their duty in an atmosphere of respect find out that they are conducting their duties in almost an adversary position which does not tend . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please. Order please. The hour of adjournment having arrived, Committee rise and report. Call in the Speaker.

The Chairman reported upon the Committee's deliberations to Mr. Speaker, and requested leave to sit again.

IN SESSION

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Order please. ORDER PLEASE. The Honourable Member for St. Vital.

MR. D. JAMES WALDING: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Gimli, that the report of the Committee be received.

MOTION presented and carried.

MR. SPEAKER: The hour of adjournment having arrived, the House is adjourned and will stand adjourned until 10:00 a.m. tomorrow morning (Tuesday).