

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA  
2:30 o'clock, Wednesday, March 5, 1975

Opening Prayer by Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Presenting Petitions; Reading and Receiving Petitions; Presenting Reports by Standing and Special Committees. The Honourable Member for Radisson.

MR. HARRY SHAFRANSKY (Radisson): Mr. Speaker, on your behalf, I wish to present the Report of the Special Committee on the Rules of the House.

Mr. Speaker, my error; this is just a copy that I received that has not been cleared by all members of the Committee, so I will withdraw.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Any reports to be presented by special committees? Ministerial Statements, Tabling of Reports. The Honourable Minister of Education.

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

HON. BEN HANUSCHAK (Minister of Education) (Burrows): Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day, I should like to make an announcement concerning grants to school divisions for the year 1975.

First the equalization grants . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Does the honourable gentleman have a copy for the House and for the Members of the Opposition?

MR. HANUSCHAK: I'm sorry, Mr. Speaker, it was an oversight on my part.

MR. SPEAKER: That's been our practice. The Honourable House Leader.

MR. HANUSCHAK: Mr. Speaker, I'll make the announcement tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you.

HON. SIDNEY GREEN, Q.C. (Minister of Mines, Resources and Environmental Management) (Inkster): Mr. Speaker, I wish to table the return for an Order for Address No. 6 on motion of Mr. Minaker on June 7, 1974. Copies of this return were forwarded to the mover and to the Leaders of the Opposition parties on July 23, 1974. I trust the member found it to be interesting reading.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Any other Ministerial Statements or tabling of reports? Notices of Motion. Introduction of Bills. Questions. The Honourable Member for Rock Lake.

ORAL QUESTIONS

MR. HENRY J. EINARSON (Rock Lake): Mr. Speaker, I direct this question to the Minister of Agriculture, and would like to ask him if he could indicate to this House whether or not a brief has been presented on behalf of the Cow-Calf Producers Organization to his office in the past two months.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Agriculture.

HON. SAMUEL USKIW (Minister of Agriculture) (Lac du Bonnet): Yes, Mr. Speaker, I believe it's common knowledge that we have had a presentation from the organization just mentioned.

MR. EINARSON: Mr. Speaker, I direct a second question. Could the Minister indicate at what date that brief was received?

MR. USKIW: Well, Mr. Speaker, if the member would recall his own question, he asked me whether it was received in the last two months and I said yes.

MR. EINARSON: I'd like to direct a third question, Mr. Speaker, to the Minister, since he's indicated that he has received a brief. Has he given a reply to that brief?

MR. USKIW: Mr. Speaker, we have considered that brief and the reply is going out very soon.

MR. EINARSON: Mr. Speaker, in view of the answer to the last question, could the Minister give to the House the contents of that reply.

MR. USKIW: Mr. Speaker, I'm not just sure whether the procedures would allow for that kind of thing. I would anticipate that one would have to get the permission of the group to table also the requests that they have given to the Government of Manitoba.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

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HON. SIDNEY SPIVAK, Q.C. (Leader of the Official Opposition) (River Heights): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Attorney-General, and relates to the RCMP report on Schmidt Cartage. I wonder if he can confirm to the House that the RCMP has recommended prosecutions?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable . . .

HON. HOWARD PAWLEY (Attorney-General) (Selkirk): Mr. Speaker, the report has been received and in turn has been turned over to legal advisers within the department who will be making recommendations as to whether or not we should proceed with prosecutions. So that insofar as the RCMP report is concerned per se, it's the array of facts and particulars outlined.

MR. SPIVAK: Well, I wonder if the Attorney-General can give an undertaking to the House to determine whether the RCMP has recommended prosecutions?

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, it's a normal criminal investigation report; in the final analysis the recommendations as to whether or not prosecution should take place or not rests with the Crown Attorneys. Those recommendations are not made in the normal criminal investigation report by the RCMP.

MR. SPIVAK: Well, to the Attorney-General. I wonder if he can indicate whether any public officials will be suspended pending the investigation by his department?

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, it is certainly impossible for me to answer that at this point. If upon examination of the material that has been submitted to departmental officials, that officials should be suspended, I'm sure that they will make such recommendations to me.

MR. SPIVAK: A question to the Attorney-General. I wonder if the Minister will table the RCMP report.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, that would be, as I am sure my honourable friend is quite aware, an unheard of event insofar as an RCMP criminal investigation is concerned.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

MR. HARRY J. ENNS (Lakeside): Mr. Speaker, I direct a further question to the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture. I wonder, recognizing the limitations within the House, but is he considering favourably the request being made to him at this time by the members of the Cow-Calf Producers Association?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Agriculture.

MR. USKIW: Mr. Speaker, the Member for Rock Lake had asked whether I would table the reply and I said that I would undertake to consider that, but with it I would also want to table the presentation made to the government. So at that stage in time I think I will be prepared to answer my honourable friend's question.

MR. ENNS: A supplementary question . . .

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

MR. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, I shouldn't touch this question, but I know the Minister knows that it's a critical situation with the cow producers, and time is of essence. Can he indicate . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Order please.

MR. ENNS: . . . what time . . . ten days, two months? A lot of people will be out of business by then.

MR. USKIW: Well, Mr. Speaker, I think I should recall for the benefit of the Member for Lakeside that if such a request were ever made to a provincial government here in Manitoba before, that the time would be of no consequence because they always said that it was a national responsibility.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. L.R. (Bud) SHERMAN (Fort Garry): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Honourable the First Minister, and I would like to ask the honourable gentleman if he or representatives from his office will be holding meetings in the immediate future with the University of Manitoba Students Union on the subject of campus overcrowding at the University of Manitoba?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

HON. EDWARD SCHREYER (Premier) (Rossmere): Mr. Speaker, we have a Minister responsible for Colleges and Universities and I have no reason to think that he has not

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(MR. SCHREYER cont'd) . . . . already made arrangements to meet with appropriate persons in order to try to plumb the depths of the allegations of inadequacy of space. For those of us who attended at the University of Manitoba in years gone by, certainly we find it hard to understand what the relative lack of space allegation is all about.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Speaker, in a supplementary vein, then, may I redirect the sense of the question to the Minister for Colleges and Universities Affairs, and ask him if he can advise the House how many timetables are scheduled for meetings with UMSU representatives on that subject.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Education.

MR. HANUSCHAK: Yes, Mr. Speaker, it was arranged late last week, prior to yesterday, to meet with representatives of the University of Manitoba Students Union tomorrow at four o'clock.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge.

MR. LLOYD AXWORTHY (Fort Rouge): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to ask the Minister of Urban Affairs a question. Has the government yet decided on a cost-sharing arrangement with the City of Winnipeg on the Osborne Street bridge?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Urban Affairs.

HON. SAUL A MILLER (Minister of Urban Affairs) (Seven Oaks): Mr. Speaker, the arrangements are the same as have always been in effect. It's 50 percent of a predetermined cost.

MR. AXWORTHY: I would like to direct a question more pointedly. Can the Minister say when or if a decision has been made on cost-sharing with the City of Winnipeg for the Osborne Street bridge?

MR. MILLER: Mr. Speaker, the province indicated some time ago that they were prepared to cost-share on an Osborne Street bridge. There has been some discussions with regard to the nature of the bridge, but more importantly with the access to the bridge along the Legislative grounds. That is what has held it up.

MR. AXWORTHY: Mr. Speaker, to the Urban Affairs Minister. Is the Minister prepared to tell the House what the nature of those objections or counter proposals are, and would he table such in the House so that the public or residents of the area would know exactly what the dispute is?

MR. MILLER: No, Mr. Speaker, I'm not prepared to. This will be made known by the City of Winnipeg. I've met with the City of Winnipeg, I made certain suggestions to them; they've now taken it back, they have to work it out amongst themselves, and in the course of doing it of course it will become public knowledge because it will be handled on the floor at the City Council, and those meetings of course are open to the public.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Arthur.

MR. J. DOUGLAS WATT (Arthur): Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct my question to the Minister of Labour, or the Minister of Agriculture, or the First Minister, whoever would like to answer. In last night's Tribune, the headlines "Shutdown Threatens Farm Sales" because of strikes . . . --(Interjection)--

MR. SPEAKER: Question please.

MR. WATT: My question is - then directly to the Minister of Labour. Has he made any representation insofar as the shutdown of the Vancouver port where now we are advised by the Canadian Wheat Board not to deliver any more wheat because there is no shipment out of the Vancouver port?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

HON. RUSSELL PAULLEY (Minister of Labour) (Transcona): Mr. Speaker, I'm sure my honourable friend, the Member for Arthur, is aware that this is a matter under Federal jurisdiction. The Minister of Labour in Manitoba has his problems, the Minister of Labour at the Federal level has his, and I would suggest to my honourable friend that seeing as that there are one or two Conservatives who are representing constituencies in Manitoba, he direct his question through them to the Minister of Labour at Ottawa.

MR. WATT: A supplementary question then. I ask the Minister of Labour, I ask the First Minister and the Minister of Agriculture, whichever wants to answer, has the Government of Manitoba made any representations insofar as the strikes are concerned at Vancouver right now that are affecting the farmers in Manitoba? This question, Mr. Speaker, came up

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(MR. WATT cont'd) . . . . in 1969 when we were not supposed to be affected by the ports in Vancouver.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Order please. The Honourable Minister of Labour.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, I've not made direct representations to the Minister of Labour or the Federal authorities. I do recall that my honourable friend when he was Minister of Agriculture, went out to Vancouver to see if there were ships there or not. I do not think that the present government would send somebody out on a witch hunt like that. There are proper procedures to be taken and we will take them when required to.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

MR. STEVE PATRICK (Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the First Minister. I wonder if the First Minister can inform the House if the claims of the northern native people have been settled with respect to the reserve lands at Nelson House with respect to flooding by Manitoba Hydro?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, there have been some meetings take place on that subject matter with representatives of the community and communities involved. I think it would be fair to say that some progress has been made in terms of meeting of minds, understanding the problem, but no definitive conclusions have been reached.

MR. PATRICK: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Can the First Minister tell the House when will the land be flooded? Is there any special date that the power has to come on stream -- what is the date estimate that it will come on stream?

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, the diversion works will be operational some time approximately twelve months from now, and that's about as close as I could give an indication just offhand.

MR. PATRICK: A further supplementary. Has the government any intention or will it be contemplating expropriating land on Indian reserves?

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, it's not a case of expropriating per se. It is more a case of proceeding on the basis of the precedent in circumstances analagous to this. For example, in the case of the Grand Rapids construction the requirement is that the Government of Canada by Order-in-Council transfer whatever lands might be involved. I believe that in this case it is far, far less than the amount of land that has been transferred on previous cases in similar circumstances.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Riel.

MR. DONALD W. CRAIK (Member for Riel): Mr. Speaker, I direct a question to the First Minister. I wonder if the government would undertake to table the agreement between Manitoba Hydro and the American Power Companies with whom the export agreement has been drawn.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: Well, Mr. Speaker, I could undertake to do that, I'm sure, although I would want to establish with the Honourable Member for Riel that what he refers to as an agreement is more in the nature of an exchange of Letters of Intent which are predicated upon a National Energy Board approval, and until that approval is received really those letters cannot purport to the agreements.

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the First Minister could indicate when the National Energy Board hearings will be held?

MR. SCHREYER: Well, Mr. Speaker, as the Honourable Member for Riel is I'm confident well aware, the timetable facing the National Energy Board is fraught with difficulty. They, I understand, are now facing a series of hearings with respect to an application for Mackenzie Delta Gas Pipeline Construction, which I understand is running into some difficulty with respect to land claims. I really couldn't say when the National Energy Board will be in a position to commence hearings.

MR. CRAIK: Well, Mr. Speaker, just a matter of clarification. Has the First Minister then indicated that the letters of exchange would be tabled?

MR. SCHREYER: I undertook to see if that is possible. I offhand see no reason why it couldn't be done as long as it's understood that they are Letters of Intent, dependent upon National Energy Board clearance.

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

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MR. GORDON E. JOHNSTON (Portage la Prairie): Mr. Speaker, I address my question to the Honourable, the Attorney-General. Could the Attorney-General inform the House as to why there's been no prosecutions or civil litigation against people, or individuals, or companies who were involved in the CFI affair?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, certainly there have been, as the Honourable Member must know, prosecutions against various people that have been involved in the CFI matters. If the member is referring to civil actions, the legal department which is --(Interjection)-- Yes, which I would like to remind the House Leader of the Liberal Party is - in fact I believe the Leader of the Liberal Party is presently reviewing the files to ascertain whether or not there should be any civil action brought to bear. (Applause).

MR. G. JOHNSTON: Mr. Speaker, the Attorney-General being a lawyer knows full well that any respectable lawyer will not divulge information that has to do with his client on a confidential basis. I'm asking as a representative of the Legislature, and it concerns the duties of the Attorney-General. And I ask again, is the Attorney-General's department -- can he give a reason, or can he give a report on the stage of the prosecutions that he's just now admitted, are being carried out, either within Canada or outside of Canada?

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, it is a matter of public record. Certainly the Arthur D. Little firm has been sued civilly and we are awaiting a report rising in precise nature to the letter that I received from the Honourable Member from Portage la Prairie as to whether or not legal action, civil action is warranted against any number of other individuals which the Member for Portage had named in his letter, as well as others. So, Arthur D. Little, there has been action commenced - there may be some others on the public record but certainly against Arthur D. Little, and we're awaiting legal advice as to whether or not civil action should be commenced against any other individuals. I think, Mr. Speaker, that it's very likely if we receive recommendation to proceed civilly against any one or more individuals, that that action will be commenced.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rock Lake.

MR. EINARSON: Mr. Speaker. I'd like to get back to the Minister of Agriculture and ask him one further question. Could the Minister advise this House whether or not he's going to bring, or can bring in legislation providing for funds that the cow-calf producers have requested, which is a similar legislation that he brought in a few years ago in regards to acreage payments? Can he state whether he's going to bring in this kind of legislation to provide those funds to that organization in this session?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Agriculture.

MR. USKIW: Mr. Speaker, I think the Honourable Member knows the procedures of the Legislature and if there are to be funds made available in that way that he will be duly advised.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Brandon West.

MR. EDWARD MCGILL (Brandon West): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the minister responsible for the operations of McKenzie Seed Company. In the matter of the operating agreement with the Mexican seed company Bon Jardin negotiated on behalf of McKenzie's by the Minister of Industry and Commerce, could he tell the House if in fact there is an addition to the projected loss of some \$230,000 an additional short-date cancellation penalty, a cancellation penalty clause, facing the seed company now if this unfortunate arrangement is now terminated?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Industry and Commerce.

HON. LEONARD S. EVANS (Minister of Industry and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, let me correct the honourable member. The Minister of Industry did not negotiate an agreement with a Mexican seed company. Officers, the former Chairman of the Board, and the officers of the company negotiated an agreement with the Mexican seed company.

However, the agreement does include a normal penalty clause which applies to either party. But I'm advised that there is no danger or no imminence of such a penalty clause being implemented. And the agreement, I'm also advised by the Chairman of the Board, remains intact and they still are hopeful that possibly some fruitful arrangements may ultimately come from this agreement.

MR. MCGILL: Could the Minister then tell the House if he has received the financial statements for the McKenzie Seed Company for the year ending the 31st of October, 1974 and

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(MR. MCGILL cont'd) . . . . if so, is he prepared now to table that statement?

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, we have received the report and unlike practices for many years when this company was in the charge of the Government of Manitoba going back to 1945, we have made this information available publicly and last year I would remind the members we did have the officers of the company, Chairman of the Board, report to the Economic Development Committee. I would hope that the Chairman of the Board and officers of the company could also appear this year before the Economic Development Committee, bringing forth the report and allowing members to ask some detailed questions. This is something, I would remind members of the House, that was never done many years ago when McKenzie Seeds was the property of the Government in Manitoba, back to 1945.

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

MR. MCGILL: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the same Minister. Since he has now received the financial statement from McKenzie Seeds for the last year, could he tell the House if this statement does in fact contain an error of some \$620,000?

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, the error that the honourable member alludes to does not refer to that particular financial statement, as I am advised.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Lakesdie.

MR. ENNS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I direct a question to the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture. I wonder if he can indicate to me in the House whether or not he himself or the department is contemplating the setting up by the Marketing Board for the marketing of beef cattle in this province.

MR. USKIW: Mr. Speaker, I believe the member knows very well the procedures that are usually followed in that respect, namely that there's usually some support or request for such agencies to be established. I don't believe that we have had such a request and therefore there's no consideration being given.

MR. ENNS: I'm happy to hear the Minister indicate that. Would he give a further undertaking to the House, and indeed to the cattle producers of the province, that he has no intention of imposing a cattle market without an explicit vote being held by the producers affected, in lieu of the situation with hogs, which he remembers that there was no question then of support or no support?

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Order please. The Honourable Minister of Agriculture.

MR. USKIW: Mr. Speaker, I think the honourable member should recall that the Manitoba Hog Marketing Commission was established during the Conservative years of administration, without a referendum, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge.

MR. AXWORTHY: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Welfare. Can the Minister tell us whether the Provincial Department of Welfare . . .

A MEMBER: Department of Health and Social Development.

MR. AXWORTHY: Well, I'll try it again. Would the Minister of Health and Social Development be prepared to answer a question? Would he be prepared to tell us whether the provincial Department of Welfare is making provision for suitable accommodation for the family of Mrs. Angela Courchene and her ten children who are presently living in two rooms in a Main Street hotel?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Health and Social Development.

HON. LAURENT L. DESJARDINS (Minister of Health and Social Development)

(St. Boniface): Mr. Speaker, I'll have to take this as notice. I'm not aware of the case at all.

MR. AXWORTHY: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to ask the same Minister a question as to whether his department has investigated charges made by the North End Community organization that the provincial Department of Welfare has intimidated Mrs. Courchene because of her association with the North End Community Tenants Association.

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Speaker, it would be very difficult to ask for an investigation. There has been no complaint coming to my . . .

MR. AXWORTHY: Mr. Speaker, I have a further question for the Minister. Is the department planning to provide for any special program for emergency housing for welfare recipients who are evicted from housing because of City of Winnipeg building by-laws closing

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(MR. AXWORTHY Cont'd) . . . . down decrepit older homes in which welfare recipients are now compelled to live?

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I could have leave of the House to table this report: copies of all regulations made under the Regulations Act since the last report to the Legislature, Regulations 19/74 to 336/74 inclusive and Regulations 1/75 to 39/75 inclusive.

MR. SPEAKER: Agreed? Thank you. The Honourable Member for Roblin.

MR. J. WALLY MCKENZIE (Roblin): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Honourable the Minister of Tourism, Recreation and Cultural Affairs. I wonder if the Honourable Minister can advise the House if he's intending to table the Dr. Harry Newsome report on regional libraries.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Tourism.

HON. RENE E. TOUPIN (Minister of Tourism, Recreation and Cultural Affairs) (Springfield): Mr. Speaker, I can take that under advisement.

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

MR. WATT: Mr. Speaker, I direct a question to the Minister of Industry and Commerce. I wonder if he could tell the House if McKenzie Seeds in Brandon is licensed as a -- a seed company -- (Interjection) -- All right, seed company, if you want to call it that -- under the name of the government, or McKenzie Seeds. The licence comes from Plant Products. Can he tell me, or could he tell the House who has the licence to advertise certified seeds?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Industry and Commerce.

MR. EVANS: I'm not sure whether I fully understand the honourable member, but the government, you know, is in possession of the majority of the shares based on provincial legislation passed in 1945, and the company operates as a normal commercial enterprise with all the rights and privileges thereto that an ordinary private company, as a matter of fact, would have, including registration rights, such as the right to the name, etc.

MR. WATT: A supplementary question. Can the Minister now tell the House who holds the licence from Plant Products to advertise certified seeds?

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, perhaps there may be something very deep and very intricate about this question that I don't understand, so I will take it as notice.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rock Lake.

MR. EINARSON: Mr. Speaker, in view of the very serious economic situation this matter's having over, not only western Canada but the whole of Canada, I would like to direct this question to the First Minister, and ask him if he has used his good office in the last week or two to consult with his colleagues, the Premiers of Saskatchewan and B. C., to discuss means of trying to bring the strike to an end in order that the grain can be moved out of the Vancouver ports.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, we have never proceeded on the basis of consulting only with two of the three western provinces. When we consult, all four provinces would be involved.

MR. SPEAKER: Orders of the Day. The Honourable House Leader.

MR. GREEN: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I just wonder whether we can agree to have a meeting of the -- a short, I think, very short meeting of the committee involving the setting up of committees, to establish what will occur immediately after the House adjourns today. I believe it will be a very short meeting.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Morris.

MR. WARNER H. JORGENSEN (Morris): I wonder if the Minister would indicate where he intends to hold that meeting.

MR. GREEN: The usual place.

ORDERS OF THE DAY - THRONE SPEECH DEBATE

MR. SPEAKER: Orders of the Day.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I believe that the debate is now on the speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor.

MR. SPEAKER: I agree, but unless someone asks for the floor I can't proceed. The Honourable Member for Thompson.

MR. KEN DILLEN (Thompson): Mr. Speaker, it has been the practice of the House, at least last year, to move the actual motion at the end of the speech, and I would like to carry on in that fashion if I can receive leave of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: Agreed? (Agreed)

MR. DILLEN: First of all, Mr. Speaker, and I would like to apologize to both members from Brandon, that I am going to take this opportunity to get the jump on them for the Canada Winter Games in 1979 for Thompson, and if you will check the front of the desk you will notice that there is a symbol, either to be a plate placed on packaging or a badge. And for those of you who haven't received it, I will be getting more. There's been such a tremendous demand on these symbols over the past couple of weeks that we're even running short in Thompson. I have also given press information packages to the press and I hope that they can report accurately on them.

I would just like to very briefly describe the symbol. It is an evergreen branch - the symbol is in essence the evergreen branch and it best describes the area of Thompson and northern Manitoba where the games will be held - that's if Brandon does not make a very substantial bid for it. The evergreen branch is in the shape of a maple leaf because the games are a total Canadian sporting event. The series of spaces in the symbol creates an optical sense of movement, movement that is indicative of a sporting event. The top of the symbol is in the shape of the letter "M" for Manitoba, the province that has been awarded the games. Portions of the evergreen branch are used as arrows that point towards the centre and reflect the coming together of athletes and visitors from all parts of Canada. The colour of the symbol is green, which reflects a healthy, vigorous evergreen branch, and also describes a healthy, growing Canada Winter Games, and I would request that the members of this Assembly join with me in wishing success to Thompson for their bid for the Winter Games in 1979. (Applause)

Mr. Speaker, and fellow members of the Assembly, I would like to thank the Honourable First Minister for extending me the privilege of moving the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne. While I am personally gratified by the honour, I accept it on behalf of the people of the Thompson constituency, and specifically and in more general terms to the people of northern Manitoba.

In accepting this honour it is, I believe, appropriate to congratulate the First Minister for his exemplary conduct of his very demanding office. The leadership he has provided to all members of this Assembly is recognized by people of all parties all across Canada, and stands out in sharp contrast to the internal wranglings and power plays being endured in other quarters. Continued recognition of party status for the Liberal Party in this Legislature, even though their members do not necessarily warrant party status, is further evidence of statesmanshiplike leadership that should be recognized and supported by all members of this Assembly.

Mr. Speaker, as an elected representative of a northern constituency and as a long-time resident of the North myself, I would like to describe as briefly as possible the nature of some of our problems, the hopes, the fears, the aspirations of our people, and the difficulties some of us face in adequately representing the people who have chosen us to represent them.

As in past years, I expect the issue "inflation" will be foremost on the minds of members of this Assembly, as it is foremost in the minds of the construction worker, the logger, the fisherman, the miner, the refinery and smelter worker in northern Manitoba. The workers in my constituency are under a double burden on this issue. First of all, their earnings and savings are being stolen from them by inflation, and secondly, are being singled out as the major culprit contributing to the inflationary spiral. This contradiction does not go unnoticed by my constituents. If it were not so serious it would be comical, but it is a well-established fact that Canadian newspapers will print a sober editorial one day complaining about how inflation is eating away at their earnings, the earnings of working people, and will come right back the next day condemning working people for causing the inflation that is



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(MR. DILLEN cont'd) . . . robbing them. In other words, the media would have us believe that the workers have stuck a gun in their own backs and held themselves up.

Inflation is not an act of God, it is an act of man. It is not part of some immutable law like the law of gravity, but is rather the consequence of those with wealth, power and privilege exercising their wealth and power with the support of the Conservative and Liberal Parties across Canada, to gain more control over the world, including the working class, for taking dues for their advantage. In Canada we import inflation in the same way we import grapefruit and oranges, and we do it for no other reason than a fear to determine our own destiny and policies, our total unwillingness to come to grips with Liberal and Conservative administrations, who have acted as a servile, political action committee for foreign and mainly American-owned multi-national corporations. The corporations have co-operated with Liberal and Conservative administrations to make room at the trough of taxpayers' hard-earned dollars to the tune of billions, and then jointly expound, beating their chests on the virtues of the free enterprise system.

If we followed that reasoning, it could be said that the Mafia and organized crime was a pinnacle of the free enterprise system, and the working class should worship at that idol. Even a bunko artist would hesitate to attempt to convince people in this country that what it evolved is free enterprise. Free for whom? Certainly not free for the consumer, not free for the working class, who must foot the bills, as the saying goes.

The petroleum industry in Canada, because of rigged prices in other parts of the world, can be singled out as a major contributing factor to inflation, inflationary practice far beyond the cost of home heating or driving a car. Any increases in Canadian crude oil prices reflect an immediate increase in the consumer prices of fertilizers, pesticides, plastics, clothing, indeed everything we must purchase, including transportation. If there is a devastating effect on agriculture in urban sectors of this province, it should be remembered that the effect will be doubly devastating on the opportunities for the economic development trust in northern Manitoba and its people. It is in this context that we welcome continued emphasis on the development by publicly-owned Hydro of the renewable resources of our North.

As the MLA for Thompson constituency, I am only too conscious of the tremendous wealth produced by our workers in our northern mines. Our people are acutely aware of the fact that due to increasing production and escalating prices for minerals, the owners are in a position to reap windfall profits unless adjustments are made to the existing system of royalties. I see no reason why those who own the mines should be unduly rewarded from the sweat, toil and hazardous conditions endured by so many. I was extremely pleased to note that a new system of royalties will be implemented, directed towards returning more revenues to the province from the increasingly profitable extractions of our non-renewable resources.

It is not, however, enough to simply make arrangements to reap the rewards of higher profitability of the mining industry. We have a responsibility to ensure that the workers whose lives are actually devoted to producing the wealth are adequately rewarded, to ensure that they work in a safe, healthy environment and the work they do is given recognition. In this connection I am pleased to note that during the past year our government through the guidance of the Minister of Labour established standards recognizing mining as a trade in the Province of Manitoba. In addition to adequately rewarding and protecting the rights and lives of the workers I must urge all members of this Assembly to take a firm stand in protecting our environments against the damaging effect of mineral production.

At this time, Mr. Speaker, I want to draw your attention to the results of a federal survey compiled by R. A. Ball and D. Hocking employed by Environment Canada Forestry Service. The report completed in October 1974 states there have been severe and possibly irreparable damage done to the area surrounding Thompson which can be traced back to the International Nickel Company. According to the report in one 15-mile area 70 percent of the Jack Pine, a similar portion of the underbrush and nearly all the lichen and mosses are dead. Furthermore, the authors of the report warn us that the destruction is progressive and will expand at an increased rate in the coming years unless steps are taken to check it immediately.

We should remember that when Rachel Carson wrote *Silent Spring* in 1962 most of the experts refuted her charges against the dangers of pesticides. There is a parallel between her charges, the denials of the experts in the mining industry, the denial of INCO, to charges

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(MR. DILLEN cont'd) . . . made last year by myself that their operations were destroying vegetation in the vicinity of Thompson. Just as insisting on better wages and working conditions for the workers will impose higher costs in the industry there will be higher costs in forcing the industry to clean up its mess. Nevertheless, it is a price they must be forced to pay for the privilege of operating in Manitoba.

Mr. Speaker, I have a growing uneasy feeling that many people tend to think of Northern Manitoba as a place north of Winnipeg where everything is the same. Nothing could be further from the truth. There are many differences between Pikwitonei and Thicket Portage, just as there are many differences between Minnedosa and Brandon. Similarly there are many differences between Nelson House or Wabowden, just as there are many differences between North Main and Tuxedo. Some of the differences are simply matters of location, some are differences related to occupation, some have something to do with the size of the community and the primary means of earning a living.

The point I'm making here is that Northern Manitoba is not just one big area on the map that is all the same. There are obvious differences that I have referred to and then of course there are the less tangible ones that no one likes to talk about, but nevertheless do exist and must be dealt with. The differences I am referring to are differences in the socioeconomic aspect of our lives. That is a class difference. These are the differences which determine whether a person or a group of people have some power or whether they are the subjects of others who have power. They are the differences which determine whether a person or a group of people have certain advantages over others or whether they are the disadvantaged in our society.

While there is no single cause for these class differences, Mr. Speaker, there are definitely a number of easily identifiable factors. A person born in a remote northern community where the primary source of income is a welfare cheque supplemented by some trapping and fishing, whose parents are Indian or Metis, where the hunting and fishing grounds are being destroyed by flooding, where a one room school that only teaches to Grade 8 and who is deprived of medical and dental care, certainly cannot be said to have the same advantages in life as a child of the teacher, the hotel owner in the same remote community, or the manager of a northern mine or a stock broker playing the market in the Winnipeg commodity exchange. A person who is disadvantaged in these ways does not have the opportunities of those who have the advantages. He is not in a position to exercise any measurable influence or control over the factors that govern their lives and becomes virtually a subject of those who do not have the advantages of those who are able to exercise influence and power - of those in short who are in the upper class of our society.

The description I have outlined to you, Mr. Speaker, while all too common and visible throughout the north is not confined to the north. I'm certain that all members of this Assembly will attest to the fact that the same conditions exist to a greater or lesser degree in urban and rural Manitoba as well as in the north.

Given this view of Manitoba society I want to emphasize that it is not my intention nor that of my colleagues representing northern constituencies, nor that of our constituents, that we should attempt to solve the problems of the north at the expense of those in the south. It is our view that we are engaged in a class struggle, not a geographical struggle. By the same token we expect members of this Assembly to refrain from attempting to solve the problems of the south by colonization and exploitation of northern people, or by denying the people of northern Manitoba the advantages and privileges they are attempting to secure for themselves. The history of mankind is dotted with sufficient evidence to teach us that no society can endure by denying some of its citizens the right to fully participate in and enjoy the advantages that society has to offer. In practice this means that we in Northern Manitoba have a right to expect even members of the Opposition to spend as much time considering the reasons why so many of our people are disadvantaged and to objectively attempt to use reason and logic to seek solutions as they devote to their misguided missions aimed at trying to expose little scandals where none exist. It should be pointed out here, Mr. Speaker, that it is not my practice to meddle in the internal affairs of other political parties, but I must add this note of warning. I don't want the opposition parties to use the people of the north in an attempt to divert people's attention away from their own problems. (Applause) This simply will not be tolerated.

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(MR. DILLEN cont'd)

The task facing all members of this Assembly, Mr. Speaker, is primarily to decide on broad policies that will best serve the people of Manitoba in the coming years. In approaching this task I am forced to consider the legacy that was left to us by governments back to the time that Manitoba became a province. Particularly of course I must consider the legacy of the north. I must say that in some ways I am proud of this legacy. It is a tribute to the strength of our people that they survive the combined factors of colonization, exploitation, paternalism and benign neglect that was a feature of government policy in the north for so many years. However, I do support the concept that it is the function of government to create conditions whereby most people are grateful simply to be alive, while a handful are protected and receive rewards for doing nothing except to invest and reinvest the wealth created by others.

With this legacy in the background, hopefully forever, our government shortly after coming to office in 1969 began to analyze the condition of our society in Manitoba and to formulate plans for the orderly development and sharing in the fruits of this development by all Manitobans. The description of this analysis, the principle and goals are contained in three volumes entitled "Guidelines for the Seventies".

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to note that in the Speech from the Throne His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of Manitoba outlined a program consistent with the principles and goals stated in "Guidelines for the Seventies". This places the debate squarely where it should be, in the realm of these basic principles, the philosophies we believe in and presumably are willing to struggle for openly and honestly. The four basic principles stated in "Guidelines for the Seventies" are all reflected in the Speech from the Throne. Briefly described, "These principles are directed towards maximization of the well-being of all Manitobans, greater equality of the human condition, the stay option and widened participation.

As Members of the Legislative Assembly we all have the right and responsibility to present our ideas, to fight for the things we believe in and to oppose those policies that run counter to our beliefs. To have any meaning, however, the debate must always be routed in an expressed set of beliefs, such as "Guidelines for the Seventies". If the debate is guided by our respect for the rights and responsibility of one another to promote or oppose particular policies on the basis of principle rather than simply what may seem opportune at the moment, we will be doing what we were elected to do. We will in fact be illustrating the fundamental issues and presenting the electorate with basic choices. While I for example, firmly believe that we should be developing policies which will make the stay option become a reality which Manitobans can rely on, and while I would vigorously oppose any member of this Assembly who promoted policies which would jeopardize that stay option, I would nonetheless respect their right to oppose the stay option. I would defend their right to voice their opposition to the stay option and I would respect them for voicing their opposition to the stay option, in spite of the fact it would be diametrically opposite to my own belief. On the other hand, I cannot respect a member of this Assembly, or anyone else for that matter, who professes to agree with the principle of the stay option yet objects to policies specifically designed to make a stay option become a reality. In this context I would like to refer to a few specific items in the Throne Speech.

Mr. Speaker, the people of my constituency and the rest of Northern Manitoba will welcome continued expansion of services. While it's easy for us to forget the convenience of a road or a telephone or the new world that can be opened by a television screen, the advent of these essential services are eagerly awaited by those who have never enjoyed them. The priority assigned to programs designed to provide livelihood earning options for more northern residents is a boon to people from the south as well as Northern Manitoba. It is no secret that many residents of remote northern communities must at present have their incomes supplemented by social assistance. These conditions are not the fault of northern or southern residents. Furthermore, northern residents do not like being the recipients of social assistance any more than the taxpayer enjoys paying the bills. Those who receive social assistance are dependent and feel dependent on others. It is a feeling they find difficult to express but often manifests itself in many undesirable ways, such as alcoholism, drugs and violence.

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(MR. DILLEN cont'd)

The recently announced detox and rehab centre for Thompson is further evidence of a concerned government. The decision is welcomed by city and remote residents alike. Through programs like the Brandon University Teacher Education Project where residents of remote communities are gaining teacher accreditation in the north, our people are gaining a new sense of purpose in mastery of their own destiny.

The reference in the Throne Speech to the increasing number of mature students re-entering the educational system at the post-secondary level is welcome news to the people of Northern Manitoba. Programs like . . . PEP, IMPACTE, FOCUS and the Winnipeg Centre Project are making it possible for more and more people from remote areas or the less fortunate class to engage in higher education in situations away from the university campus. This method of delivering post-secondary education has a great deal to offer. A careful assessment of these programs is causing me to arrive at the conclusion that it represents the wave of the future and certainly provides the only possible means whereby the vast majority of people in Northern Manitoba, in rural and indeed urban Manitoba, can ever hope to enter post-secondary studies.

While I know some of the members opposite were gratified by the demonstration by some students from the University of Manitoba yesterday demanding increased funds for that institution, these demands should be weighed in terms of the total amounts of money available for education in this Province. Personally, I favour equalization of educational opportunities for the many rather than creating ever more elaborate institutions for the few.

With that in mind, Mr. Speaker, I want to serve notice on members of the Opposition that if you chose to support demands for more money presently being made by a handful of students and administrators at the University of Manitoba you are really saying to the people of Northern Manitoba that you support the status quo on post-secondary education. That you are opposed to taking more funds from the provincial budget for the purpose of making it possible for people in the lower class and remote areas to receive higher education. And that you are opposed to pursuing proven innovative methods designed to equalize educational opportunities. If that's what you believe in, let's hear it.

The establishment of a new ministerial organization responsible for renewable resources under the stewardship of the Honourable Member for Rupertsland is an important step that could logically result in creating new relationships at the community level by working through the Northern Teacher Training Program. In this case I think it would be important to consider agricultural experts from the university working with educators from the university in programs designed to teach future students techniques for food production in the north. In this way it will be possible to integrate various classes of life in the community, to build stronger school community links, as well as to develop the capacity for people in remote communities in the north to produce their own food.

In a similar manner, many other programs can and should be developed for the north. Our basic principle as enunciated in the "Guidelines for the Seventies" means that remote communities must develop an economic base which they control and that self-sustaining enterprises must be developed in these communities. In this way, and only in this way will their dependency on the rest of society and all the problems created by these circumstances come to an end. There are many more specific points that I could elaborate on at this time, Mr. Speaker, but I feel confident all other matters will be adequately dealt with by my colleagues during the days ahead, with aggressiveness and determination.

On this note, Mr. Speaker, I would like to move, seconded by the Honourable Member for St. Matthews, that a humble address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor as follows: "We, Her Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba in session assembled, humbly thank Your Honour for the gracious speech which Your Honour has been pleased to address us at the opening of the present session". (Applause)

MOTION presented and carried.

MR. WALLY JOHANNSON (St. Matthews): Mr. Speaker, I'd like to thank the Premier for doing me the honour, and for doing my constituency the honour, of allowing me to second the reply to the Speech from the Throne.

Mr. Speaker, in the past I have disagreed at times with my Premier and I will undoubtedly disagree with him in the future. But, Mr. Speaker, this I do know, that my

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(MR. JOHANNSON cont'd) . . . Premier is the greatest Premier in the history of this province. (Applause) And Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.

MR. JOHANNSON: Mr. Speaker, consider the alternative that is being offered to the people of this province. On the other hand, what is the alternative? Is it the Honourable Member for River Heights? Is it his seat mate, the Honourable the former Deputy Leader of the Conservative Party sitting beside him? Is it the Honourable Member for Riel? Is it the Honourable Member for Morris? Is it the Honourable Member for Sturgeon Creek? Mr. Speaker, some time during this session, or during this year, we would like to find out what the alternative is.

Mr. Speaker, this is going to be my nice speech for the session, so I would like to pay compliments to a number of people. I would like to wish you, Mr. Speaker, well in this session. You've had a difficult time produced by the members of this House in past sessions, and I hope the members of this House are more co-operative in this session. I can't promise that, but I can hope.

I would like to welcome back the Deputy Speaker. We're all very glad to see him back with us, the Honourable Member for Logan. I would like to also welcome into our ranks a number of new Ministers. One of the Ministers, the Minister of Health, is back after a short absence, and I must say, I must say we welcome him back. He's going to be a valuable addition to the government front benches, and I can see already a great improvement in the representation from the constituency of St. Boniface.

Our second new Minister is the Honourable Member for Winnipeg Centre, the new Minister of Corrections and Rehabilitation. With his background in reading the Greek philosopher Plato, with his knowledge of the . . . philosophy or methodology, I'm not sure which it is, I'm sure that he will be ideally suited for this portfolio. And, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker, in his field he would probably agree that perhaps the first place that he could start in corrections and rehabilitation is in this very House.

I would like to also welcome into the ranks of the front bench the new Minister of Co-operatives, the Honourable Member for Rupertsland, and I'm confident that he's going to do a good job in that portfolio.

There are a number of members who are missing from the House from the last session, and there's one member in the Opposition backbenchers usually missing, period. The Member for Crescentwood is not in his seat now, but we trust that he will be back within a few months. The former Member for Wolseley is missing and we trust that we will have a fine representative sitting in our ranks within six months from the constituency of Wolseley. --(Interjection)-- That's true. He's a good man.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to deal with two central thrusts of the Throne Speech. The first thrust is in housing and urban renewal, urban renewal in the central part of the City of Winnipeg. When you consider this is in addition to our regular housing program, we are talking about a commitment of probably over \$100 million in the field of housing and urban renewal, which is an immense thrust in a very crucial social area, and this is proof that this government has the will to proceed with essential reforms, that it has drive, that it has vigor, that it's a living government that is going to move forward. This is a government that has drive.

The second major thrust, in my opinion, is in the Act to bring in a new system of taxation on minerals, and this second thrust proves that this government still has guts, it still has courage to raise taxation, it has courage to raise the taxes necessary to provide the needed services for the people of this province.

Now, in our housing and urban renewal program there will be the commitment of housing through the centre part of the City, there will be the commitment of public buildings, and I would hope that this is part of a comprehensive package which will involve recreation facilities, which will involve commercial components necessary to provide a good life for the people in that area, which will involve educational facilities, perhaps new traffic systems, new arrangements of traffic systems, so that neighborhoods, real neighborhoods can develop. I would hope that this can be worked out with the City of Winnipeg. Now one member of the City has already expressed some alarm, which I find rather strange, that the City will not be

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(MR. JOHANNSON cont'd) . . . consulted. The City has been consulted. I understand there is a continual process of consultation going on and I would hope that that continues, and I would hope that the City co-operates in carrying out a major renewal of the central part of the City.

I would hope also that this is only the first part of a much larger program to provide renovation of housing, not only in the central part of the City but in other parts of the City where it's required, and in other parts of the province. And, Mr. Speaker, I trust this government will do that much more likely than that group ever would do.

A MEMBER: You'll never know.

MR. JOHANNSON: Yes, I'll never know, because they won't have the opportunity to disprove me.

Mr. Speaker, I'm interested in being part of a government that does things. If I were not interested in doing things I would have become a Conservative, because then I could sit on my brains, draw my pay, and do nothing. I'm interested in being part of a government that does things. I'm interested in taking even a little part in bringing about great achievements, and this government has brought about great achievements and it's going to bring about further great achievements. Frankly, last session I was a little concerned that we were running out of steam. Not any more. Not any more. I know that this government has the will to do things and it has the guts to do things. You know, Mr. Speaker, we've done things. We've made mistakes, but if I may quote Teddy Roosevelt, Teddy Roosevelt said . . .

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A MEMBER: He wasn't an NDP though.

MR. JOHANNSON: No he wasn't. Roosevelt said: "Show me a man who doesn't make mistakes and I'll show you a man who doesn't do things." And you know, Mr. Speaker, that would have been a beautiful epitaph, a beautiful epitaph for the Walter Weir government: "Show me a man who doesn't make mistakes and I'll show you a man who doesn't do things."

I want to also discuss, Mr. Speaker, Autopac. The Opposition has criticized Autopac. It's going to criticize it throughout this session. The media has criticized Autopac and will continue to do so. And frankly, Mr. Speaker, I welcome that criticism. Autopac has made mistakes, and the Premier has mentioned that probably the decrease in premiums in 1973 was a mistake. Mr. Speaker, I'm not overly enthused about the two percent gasoline tax, not because I don't think it's equitable - it is. But it tends to complicate things a bit. And I'm not worried about our trying to hide anything because that revenue will be shown as Autopac revenue, there's no question about that. But it is a complex procedure in trying to determine what individual premiums are. So I don't think our operation of it has been perfect, but it's an improving system and it will be an extremely efficient system. It already is.

Mr. Speaker, one of my great prides, and I don't care if I'm defeated in the next election or if I stay in this House for another 30 years, but one of my great prides will always be that I was one of the members who stood up in this House and voted for Autopac. I was one of the members who stood up to the greatest opposition attack that has probably ever been launched on any government in this province, and we passed the legislation establishing Autopac.

Now Autopac rates are rising. So are insurance rates across the country. And if the Opposition expects people to believe that Autopac rates aren't going to rise with inflation, they're crazy. An insurance system must take in enough revenue to pay out in claims. That's the nature of a private system, that is the nature of a public system. Costs have been rising, the cost of repairs has been rising, and the public insurance system must collect the premiums in order to pay those costs. But, even though premiums have risen and inflation continues, they will rise. Autopac is still immensely superior and immensely more efficient than any private system.

I'd like to look at a few simple points to illustrate this: No. 1. The administrative costs of Autopac are 18 percent. The administrative costs of the private system, the private companies in the rest of the country, according to the G. . . reports in Quebec, is roughly 40 percent. So even if we take a lesser figure than that 40 percent, which is the figure given by the . . . Commission, we still have in Autopac a system of auto insurance that has half the administrative costs that the private system has, and this is the most fundamentally important measure of any insurance system, what the administrative costs are. So ours by the most important measure of all is twice as efficient as a private system. Twice as efficient. Any auto insurance system, whether it's public or private, basically is a conduit. Any system of auto insurance is basically a conduit, in which premium dollars are paid in at one end and come out the other end as claims paid for damages to property and to life. The measure of efficiency of that system is how much of that premium dollar that goes in sticks to the conduit, and how much comes out in claims paid, and according to the most important measure of efficiency, our system is twice as efficient as the private system. Now, Mr. Speaker, I have said that Autopac isn't perfect, but, you know, that's not too bad. Not too bad.

The second point, Mr. Speaker, I had the figures checked for costs for premiums paid in Manitoba and in the private companies in the rest of the country, and the last year for which I can get comparable figures is 1972, but when I get the new figures I'm quite prepared to debate this question again. But, based on that year - and this comparison flatters the private companies, because I'm taking the calendar year 1972 for the private companies, the fiscal year 1972-73 for Autopac, which includes three years of 1973 - but according to that comparison, the per capita cost was \$40.00 per capita in Manitoba, \$60.00 per capita in the rest of the country. You know, Autopac's not perfect, but my God, that's not bad. That to me, Mr. Speaker, means that it's roughly 50 percent cheaper here. That's not bad. Now even if the figures change, the comparison changes in the coming years, I would be willing to bet that Autopac will do pretty good in the comparison, and I'm willing again to debate this

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(MR. JOHANNSSON cont'd) . . . . subject when we get the new figures. And we will debate it, I'm certain.

The third point, Mr. Speaker. Under the private insurance system in this province, 20 percent of the premiums, according to the Superintendent of Insurance figures, 20 percent of the premiums were paid to companies based in Manitoba, 80 percent to foreign companies. Now, Mr. Speaker, 100 percent of the premiums in this province are paid to a Manitoba company, owned by the people of Manitoba and controlled by the people of Manitoba.

There's been a great deal of debate on Autopac in this province over the last four years and there'll be a great deal more, and, Mr. Speaker, I welcome this debate, because this is one of the proofs of how good the system is. Never before has this industry been debated by the people of this province like it is now. Never before have the people of this province had the ability to control the system like they do now through their elected representatives. Never before have the people of this province had the ability to change the system like they can now through their elected representatives. (Applause) Mr. Speaker, we democratized this system. It is now owned by the people of Manitoba and controlled by them through their representatives.

We're often accused, Mr. Speaker, of being doctrinaire leftists, dangerous radicals, among other things -- (Interjection) -- yes, yes. Mr. Chairman, the Member for Lakeside says that we've been accused of being Communists. I was accused of being one by the former Member for St. George.

A MEMBER: What happened to him?

MR. JOHANNSSON: What happened to him? The people of Manitoba in St. George made their decision. They kicked him out. And they kept him out in the last election, Mr. Speaker. So we know what the people of Manitoba think of accusations like that.

Mr. Speaker, our party is a party basically that operates on principles and on the basis of a philosophy. We operate on the basis of a philosophy which means that ego and political considerations are suppressed, largely, and that principle prevails in policy-making. Mr. Speaker, Thomas Jefferson in 1824 -- (Interjections) --

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please.

MR. JOHANNSSON: Excuse me, Mr. Speaker, can I have some order please?

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. I should like to suggest to the honourable gentlemen who are so exuberant that they can always have a real tête-à-tête in quiet surroundings in the coffee shop and iron out their differences there. The Honourable Member for St. Matthews.

MR. JOHANNSSON: Mr. Speaker, Thomas Jefferson, who was not a Socialist, in 1824 said that there are two kinds of men: those who trust the people and those who don't. That is basically the thing that separates the two sides of this House. This group, this government, this party, trusts the people. "They" don't trust the people. (Applause)

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Riel, the debate be adjourned.

MOTION presented and carried.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable House Leader.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, may I remind the honourable members of the meeting just across the hall, and I move, seconded by the Attorney-General, that the House do now adjourn.

MOTION presented and carried.

MR. SPEAKER: The House is adjourned and stands adjourned until 2:30 tomorrow afternoon. (Thursday)