

TIME: 2:30 p.m.

CONCURRENT COMMITTEES OF SUPPLY
ESTIMATES - CORRECTIONS

MR. CHAIRMAN: If the committee will come to order we are on Page 33 of your Estimates Books. Resolution 64(b)(1). The Honourable Member for Roblin.

MR. McKENZIE: I just had one question about the marriage counselling courts. Are they all in the jurisdiction of the greater area of Winnipeg or are there some of these courts of conciliation services

MR. BOYCE: They are all in Winnipeg, St. Boniface, and the north end, all in the city.

MR. McKENZIE: Mr. Chairman, is there any provisions or conditions being looked at so that they could be spread more widely across the province and not have to concentrate all these resources — and I know your resources are limited in the greater Winnipeg area and it may not be feasible — but I was wondering, maybe the north, or just two or three in the near future.

MR. BOYCE: I had asked staff to contain themselves somewhat, because as you are well aware, we have amendments to family law, or will be before the current Session, which quite conceivably will have some impact. I thought it would be better to hold that until this fall to see just exactly what they should do as far as modification. I agree with the member, that we should look at providing . . .

MR. McKENZIE: The whole province.

MR. BOYCE: Yes. But it was for that reason I decided not to have it reviewed until these amendments were dealt with by the House.

MR. McKENZIE: Mr. Chairman, I would ask the Minister on psychiatric referrals, how many psychiatrists are you involving — are they on your staff, are they operating privately, or would you suggest people go to them or do they go on a voluntary basis, or are you employing psychiatrists?

MR. BOYCE: All three. Perhaps I could ask Dr. Tavener to work out on a note where these people are deployed because they are all three of them, some are in Juvenile, some are in . . . so perhaps he could dig them out for you and tell you just how many are located and where.

MR. McKENZIE: Fine.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution 64(b)(1)—pass; 64(b)(2) Other Expenditures. The Honourable Member for Rock Lake.

MR. EINARSON: Mr. Chairman, it's unusual to have a change in Other Expenditures. There's quite a difference from last year. Could the Minister give an explanation for this.

MR. BOYCE: Excuse me, Mr. Chairman?

MR. EINARSON: There's quite a variation in figures here from last year. Could the Minister give us, Other Expenditures in 64(b)(2), that's the one you're on, isn't it, Mr. Chairman? From 64,300 to 16,500. Could he detail the Other Expenditures under this item — 64,300 down to 16,500.

MR. BOYCE: It will take me just a moment to find that. There was a transfer from one appropriation to another department. Staff will have that for me in just a minute.

MR. EINARSON: Mr. Chairman, while the Minister is looking this up, Other Expenditures is one item that I always feel is of interest and I think of concern to us when we're dealing with Estimates, because when we talk about Other Expenditures, one wonders just where the money is going on this particular item. This is one of the reasons why I asked this question.

MR. BOYCE: I'm advised that that specific reduction from 64,300 to 16,500 is the non-renewal of contracts. There were people included on contracts under Other Expenditures during the current fiscal year but they will not be continued in the next fiscal year.

MR. EINARSON: Could the Minister give us a little further explanation on what areas are not being renewed this year?

MR. BOYCE: Yes, they'll find it for me.

MR. EINARSON: In other words, Mr. Chairman, there is a reduction. I understand the First Minister, prior to the opening of the Session, that there is going to be a reduction to the extent of somewhere in the neighbourhood of \$30 million. Is this one of the areas involved here? I just throw that comment out, Mr. Chairman, to find out the reason why. I don't mean it as a criticism, just a point of information.

MR. BOYCE: I heard the member's remarks and I will respond to them in just a moment. I passed out those books which show you where the staff is located and I have another breakdown of the total staff man years and where they appear if it would be of some assistance to the member. The net effect, under that particular appropriation, for example, during the current fiscal year, 1976-77, we had eight staff man years and ten people on contract. The realignments that were necessary because of the restraint program and other reasons, next year, the contracts are cut to four. From ten to four, with an addition of one staff man year. In other words, this year we had 8 staff man years and 10

contracts, next year there will be 9 staff man years and 4 contracts — from a total of 18 to 13.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution 64(b)(2). The Honourable Member for Roblin.

MR. McKENZIE: Mr. Chairman, just before we move on from Administration, I wonder if the Minister or his staff can give us any idea if, in fact, they are making some progress, or if, in fact, the conditions are not going to improve and they're going to get worse. This is one that concerns me, I'm getting rather old and I've been around a long time, but seeing the morals, the . . . morality, which you only have to go to your local CBC screen to find out what's. . . The whole system and the principles which I believed in, I was brought up and raised in seems to be falling down on our shoulders. Certainly the Minister is one of those, and now he has the portfolio and the power to take a look at it from a different view than we do have in Opposition, can he see that we are, in fact, making any progress, or is it worthwhile for us to approve these expenditures, because it may not improve, or is it just a holding position that he feels that he can maintain.

MR. BOYCE: This question arose last year. Really, how do you assess what you're doing, or if you're doing anything. The staff addressed themselves to this question and tried to develop something which would be, you know, rather than airy fairy or some other term, something that you could really take a look at and see whether you were getting a bang for the buck. That's an awful term I suppose. —(Interjection)—

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please.

MR. BOYCE: The comments of the Member for Lakeside are duly noted. But nevertheless, to set the objectives, and that means what you hope to accomplish, in layman's language and in terms which you can actually strive towards, keeping more kids in school, for example, I can best answer your question by a specific program which the next line deals with, and that's through the Probation Directorate in working with the schools to try and deal with the problem of truancy. We have always, across the country, responded in an emergency situation to take care of those kids that get into difficulty. So pretty well throughout Canada, they're coming to the point that they have to really focus on trying to keep them out in the first place. It has been suggested to me in Winnipeg, that on any one day there is some 1,300 children that are truant. This is not all children that are not in school on a particular day. Some children in school get into difficulties so through probation services, they have been working with the school divisions to try and get co-operation with the school so that kids that get into mischief can actually work out something with the school that they'll actually do some meaningful work rather than just going to the youth centre. These things you can actually test to see if it is having some effect because it's almost immediate. But nevertheless in macro terms over the whole scale, I think you have to look at what is happening in the adult system. You take a person who is fifteen years old today say ten years from now, he's twentyfive, but with the number of people who are being incarcerated as related to those people who are in difficulty when they are younger, I think there is about 14,000 in a year. If you go back over the figures of ten years ago and relate that, it's rather a gross way of looking at it because we really haven't got the techniques, we find that they can relate. Those people who were in difficulty 10 years ago are still in difficulty. Nevertheless, that is the kind of techniques that have to be developed if we are going to see how effective our tax dollars are being allocated in this field.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Roblin.

MR. McKENZIE: Mr. Chairman, the reason that I raise the question is that I recall the days of the Roblin Government . . .

A MEMBER: sunny days they were . . .

MR. McKENZIE: . . . nevertheless, three of the MLAs, and we were backbenchers, Joe Jeannotte, the former Member for Rupertsland and Mrs. Caroline Morrison who was the Member for Peina and myself in those days were assigned every Monday morning to go over to Vaughan Street to talk to these kids, and even in a layman capacity, a rural MLA, we were able to communicate with them. I recall an instance of a young beautiful girl being held in there, and all she said was: I just don't want to go to school, I want to be a dressmaker. So word went around and we were able to bring her out of that slot and a year later, she was the top designer in one of the leading department stores. I recall another Indian kid that wanted to be able to fix carburetors in a garage, he couldn't get through the bureaucracy of this wild eyed system which was even there in those days, to get out and fix a carburetor. So finally, at our level as layman MLAs —rural, we were able to move that young fellow and take him over to a well known garage and he's still there today, the top carburetor guy, who could take a carburetor apart and put it together blindfolded. Have you got people without the expertise and this professional attitude, just ordinary people that can talk to ordinary kids and get away from all this rigamarole of psychiatrist and find a slot for these young people and just move them in there at 12 or 14 if they want to go there. Why keep them confined to Vaughan Street, or the other probationary services now which are non existent being the unfortunate thing. But a lot of these young people today could be solved just by somebody with common sense—sure there's some problems at home, but rather than put them through the wringer of all the red tape and that just say—look I'll take you

over there tomorrow morning and get you a job. Is that facility available in the department, do you have those kind of people?

MR. BOYCE: We sure do but I didn't want to stop you because I agree with you entirely. When you say that it was a good system before 1969 I have to agree with you—I was involved with the system as a foster parent at that time, and while I would like to say nothing good happened till after 1969 . . .

MR. McKENZIE: So that system is still functioning.

MR. BOYCE: This is probably more properly discussed under the next item, but the administration in this is to provide support mechanism for those people that you're talking about. The Director of Probations is here with me and he has done a number of good things to get that through and perhaps we could discuss it in detail on the next item. In that regard, I wish more MLAs would visit these places to actually talk to the staff and find out what goes on in the places. I would encourage the MLAs to make arrangements to go and talk to the staff because it's so easy to sit back and criticize but when you go out there and find out actually what they are doing on a day to day basis, it's much easier.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

MR. ENNS: Mr. Chairman, I just go back briefly Honourable Member for a moment to a subject raised by the at for Sturgeon Creek who was that committee this morning. I possibly may not be in order in the sense that I'm anticipating something that we haven't yet dealt with in the House but the Minister is aware that among the major pieces of legislation that we will be dealing with is Family Law, having to do essentially with the problems of marriage breakdown. I'm sure the Minister, his department and his staff must be monitoring that situation pretty carefully because it could, in a very major way change the responsibilities and some of the enforcement problems although the Minister correctly pointed out the enforcement isn't within his department, it's the Attorney-General's department, but in a major way change the rules of the ball game as they are currently being practiced in family courts. Otherwise if we are led to believe correctly that legislation will be forthcoming as a result of committee work, deal with some fundamental changes that spell out rights of parties in marriage breakdown and I suppose will change or give the weight of law, you know will spell out many of the things that are now left to judges' decisions and court decisions in terms of disposition of property, etc., etc. My simple question to the Minister is, recognizing that we have had a Law Reform Committee, we've had a legislative committee working with this, has this particular department, under your ministry, your staff people that are the most expertise in working day in and day out in family court, family law' and in domestic affairs, would of our people that are in trouble from time to time it be a fair question to ask Mr. Minister, to what extent your department is gearing up for that possible change.

The second and in fact, probably preceding that question, is your department intimately involved in putting together the kind of proposals that we will be dealing with? Mr. Chairman, I recognize I'm anticipating legislation that I have yet to see, but it's been well forecast to us by the Speech from Throne. If the legislation were before us now, then it would be more appropriate in discussing this item on the Minister's Estimates at this time, but the Minister's Estimates are up—we haven't seen the legislation yet and really I'm just fishing a little bit.

MR. BOYCE: The Member for Lakeside is a good fisherman. This is the appropriate place to ask the question because it is being looked at specifically by Mr. Grant Webster, the contract money for his salary is in the contract money which is under this appropriation. He is reviewing the whole situation and some of the problems which might accrue as a result of those anticipated changes.

MR. ENNS: What I'm really looking for from this department, quite aside from what we do in the House as Legislators, quite aside the fine and final recommendation that we get from Law Reform Commissions and then as we have, in fact, spent considerable time debating and going through the recommendations of the Law Reform Commission at the Legislative committee set up to deal with the matter, all the fine things we put on paper and all the fine laws that we pass, as proved by our present very inadequate system of maintenance support, of carrying out and enforcing fair and just court decisions with respect to those instances where marriage breakdowns occur or where desertions occur, where we have people not accepting their share of responsibility in terms of child support or wife support depending on circumstances. I'm worried, Mr. Chairman, that we will pass very fine and high sounding legislation and we'll find that essentially, in too many instances, that we've left out that element of practicality of those people that are charged with the responsibility of carrying out day in, day out in the family courts of our province, and going beyond that step to the Attorney-General's department to the enforcement area of seeing that the fairness and the justice of our laws that we pass are in fact applied. I think, Mr. Minister, you would be the first one to admit that the fairness and the justice of the laws that are handed down every day in Family Courts of this land aren't being applied, simply because we haven't put together the mechanics, we haven't put together the co-operation of other jurisdictions, and quite frankly, we just haven't put the necessary teeth in the law to apply it. And the easy recourse, of course, is to have the pressure laid on, well, society in general, the general revenue will pick up the tab and that really is a cop-out in terms of that

individual's responsibility to the extent that he can accept those responsibilities and is prepared to contribute to those responsibilities.

The easiest thing, of course, is and we find ourselves always doing that, we acknowledge the problem, deserted wives aren't receiving their maintenance as prescribed under law, children aren't being looked after as prescribed under law. It becomes a problem when we look at the plight and the situation of these deserted wives or husbands. We are moved by humanitarian reasons for expressing in some form, concern about neglected children under these circumstances, so the next move, of course, is that the general treasury accept the tab, so to speak. And, of course, if that is the only choice, then that has to be done that way, it has to be done that way. But I say this perhaps because there is a general feeling that with a passage of new and enlightened and updated Family Law, marriage law, that we are in fact going to overcome some difficulties in this area. It's my opinion, Mr. Minister, that we are overcoming nothing by the passage of the kind of marriage law that we have been led to anticipate during the session. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

MR. BOYCE: Now, Mr. Chairman, of course the Member for Lakeside and I don't want to be out of order in talking about anticipated changes to family law, but nevertheless I know he has a certain amount of empathy having been here in this particular chair where you try and anticipate, and in this particular appropriation is the contract money necessary to take care of some of the problems which may accrue as a result of anticipated changes in the family law. And the albeit there's philosophy, as I mentioned earlier, some contemplated changes in family law, is in the provision of these services that the most important unit in the community is the family and it is to strengthen this family responsibility concept that anything which is planning to contemplate it will be such to make it easier for parents, no matter where they are, to accept the responsibilities of the children.

MR. ENNS: Just in conclusion then. I notice, for instance, in the Estimates rather more substantial increases than normal in the items such as Other Expenditures from — — pardon me, just the reverse is true, just the reverse is true. But in terms of Salary from \$136,800 to \$194,200, is the Minister indicating to me that when he says that some anticipation of the additional work, does this involve some additional staff, a particular contract employee that is prepared to work in this area.

MR. BOYCE: Just briefly, Mr. Chairman, I gave this information for last year. We had eight staff man years and ten contracts. This year it's nine staff man years and four contracts.

MR. ENNS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Wolseley.

MR. WILSON: Yes, I'm . . . that the Section 7(b)(2) in which the Minister of Corrections is responsible for saving marriages in the province, so to speak, and he's got here that he's got the probation directorate and the Director of Marriage Counselling is his responsibility and I had some criticisms of the objectives when I stated that many of the marriage counsellors were really agents for Legal Aid and I was wondering, I did ask the percentage of cases that had been saved from divorce because if you were to say that there was 6,000 people, and you divide that by the 10 workers, that's approximately a 600 person workload per marriage counsellor. Can they really do justice to saving one of those most important institutions by handling a caseload of 600 people or are some of these just on the phone? What would you anticipate the workload of one of these marriage counsellors would be? Are they overworked as these figures might indicate, or what?

MR. BOYCE: Well, out of the number of cases handled last year, and when you talk about caseloads relative to a conciliation officer, they are responsible for seeing that the case is properly dealt with. It could conceivably be dealt with a member of the Children's Aid Society as far as the specifics are concerned. Last year there were 944 cases dealt with under the Child Welfare Act, there were 2,260 wives and children Maintenance Act cases, there were 112 reciprocal enforcement maintenance orders and there were 26 cases under the Marriage Act itself and, in addition to these, there were 2,018 cases dealt with in which no legal action was necessary and there were 154 that necessitated reporting cases to the courts.

MR. WILSON: Could you mention what those 26 cases under the Marriage Act would be.

MR. BOYCE: That will take time to dig that information up. I'll get it for the member.

MR. WILSON: I wondered if the Minister, I thought that I had been criticizing the Minister of Health when I drew to the Minister's attention the number of these mail order ministers that were out marrying people and they simply send \$3.00 down to the States and it allows them to marry . . . I thought we had some person in government who looked at these particular ministers to see that they were qualified to marry people and I wondered if the Minister might have any comments now. Is this under his responsibility now? The Marriage Act?

MR. BOYCE: Maintenance orders as they relate to the Marriage Act are under my jurisdiction but the question raised by the member, I could only offer a personal opinion, I don't think it would serve the committee any . . .

MR. WILSON: It's not yours, then?

MR. BOYCE: No.

MR. WILSON: I know sometimes when examining a Minister's Estimates, without knowing it you come up with a brainstorm and when he started talking to me about the Maintenance Orders being unable to track down these husbands and collect because of the low priority given by the court and he started talking about a bill collection method and I said to him, well, to save the taxpayers money if we had the same power the government has to go out and collect their business taxes, to go out and collect the taxes where they have the right of seizure, then certainly some of these affluent husbands that are maybe living on Vancouver Island or beautiful British Columbia, that we might have to chase down, if we had the right of inter-provincial seizure we would be able to save the taxpayers a lot of money because most of these fellows that take off, it's usually in a premeditated fashion and they leave with most of the assets. I just throw that out for the record that maybe the Minister could give it some consideration because the government always seems to put themselves at the top of the priority list whenever it comes to collection and I think if they can collect their business tax under some certain Act, certainly they could enforce Maintenance Orders under another Act if they are unable to do it now through the law enforcement the way it is.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution 64(b)(2). The Honourable Minister.

MR. BOYCE: Just before we proceed, the member has twice used the expression, "the low priority given by the courts." I never said that, Mr. Chairman, that the courts give Maintenance Orders low priorities. What I did say is that we are taking a look at it and one of the questions that has been asked is if it should be viewed as a bill collection rather than an enforcement or legal process. But the courts do, in Canada, have reciprocal agreements with the provinces that all the powers of the Crown and the Courts are available, such as seizure, or garnishment, or whatever, as a result of the issuance of the court order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Wolseley.

MR. WILSON: Responding to that, it seems that a motor vehicle has reciprocal arrangements, in other words you can plaster a chattel mortgage on it and have interchangeable things throughout the province. Surely when you're dealing with the human needs of a woman that has been left alone, that you should be able to chase this husband between provinces and have some enforcement method and it would seem to me that it certainly would save the taxpayers a lot of money if we could increase the percentage of recovery in tracking these fellows down, not so much tracking them down but. . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please. It has been pointed out to members of the committee that the matter of enforcement comes under another department, it's not within the purview of this Minister. Would honourable members restrain their remarks to items within this department. The Honourable Member for Wolseley.

MR. WILSON: Well, as I say, under this section the probation directorate has to deal with objectives and I'm sure that one of those objectives is naturally to find these particular people under the Maintenance Order section and to encourage the other Minister responsible to give the enforcement of these Maintenance Orders some priority. So with that, I finish with that particular section.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Roblin.

MR. MCKENZIE: Mr. Chairman, to further the point that the member, the committee raised on the possibility of collecting these Maintenance Orders, I think he asked a fair question. Is this minister, who is before us today, recommending to the Attorney-General's department, that those kind of teeth put in the laws of the Attorney-General's department to assure that. . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister of Agriculture on a point of order.

HONOURABLE SAMUEL USKIW (Lac du Bonnet): It was pointed out that this item is entirely out of order and I suggest that we stick within the ambit of the Estimates before us.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

MR. BOYCE: Well perhaps, to the point of order, Mr. Chairman, I had indicated earlier that there were contract money in this particular appropriation which is under discussion and which we are reviewing the particular situation. That's what I had said and so maybe that is one of the reasons why I opened the door and without being out of order if I could comment briefly, that we're entirely out of order because what we're discussing is under the next appropriation entirely, it's not under this one, but nevertheless, we were moving along well and I didn't want to raise that point.

The questions raised by the Member for Wolseley, of course, are well taken. You can execute against any asset which you can find and this is done. The member I know has had experience in locating assets and seizing them and I also have had that experience. So the processes are being looked at. A goodly number of the cases though aren't under reciprocal agreements because I understand in the United States there are only two states, which are New York and California, which a number of people go to but nevertheless there are a goodly number of others who leave for jurisdictions in which we have not got reciprocal agreements, and we're trying to modify this in co-operation with the Attorney-General's department.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Roblin.

MR. McKENZIE: Well, I thank the Minister of Agriculture for his views and the Minister on the subject matter, it's one that's been kicked around here for part of the morning and it comes under the item that we're dealing and if the Minister of Agriculture wants me to read out the item: Involvement and Maintenance Security, see Income Security, Social Allowances, and so on, on Page 21 at the bottom which is 7(b)(2), the item of the Minister's Salaries we're dealing with at the present time. He doesn't maybe have this that we're dealing with, this document here which spells out Maintenance Orders and all that I was asking the Minister or his staff or somebody to confirm if, in fact, they're using all the facilities that they have and the powers that they have, to impress upon the Attorney-General's department the fact that these Maintenance Orders are a real problem and the Member for Wolseley has suggested other ways and means that maybe some of these Maintenance Orders can be, in fact, collected and enforced and that's wider powers to either this Minister or the Attorney-General and I was just asking the Honourable Minister who was before the committee if, in fact, he has impressed upon the Attorney-General or tried to impress the need for that type of maybe looking at the legislation or better enforcement and that was my only concern in the subject matter, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution 64(b)(2). The Honourable Member for Roblin.

MR. McKENZIE: Well I still don't get any answer. Unfortunately the Minister hasn't answered me if he in fact has carried out all those responsibilities of his office.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

MR. BOYCE: It was rather difficult for me to answer because all I could do is say yes and I agree with what the member has said, you know.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Wolseley.

MR. WILSON: I wonder if the Minister could explain, for myself, "contact with police in domestic cases." What would a sample case be that your workers would be involved with the police?

MR. BOYCE: Well, could we hold your question just for a moment. Could we pass this particular appropriation and then go down to the next line and that's under it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution 64(b)(2)—pass; (b)—pass. Resolution 64(c) Probation and Parole Services, (1) Salaries. The Honourable Minister.

MR. BOYCE: Well, in response to your question, if somebody comes in contact with a probation officer, the section in the Correction Act empowers or sets forth terms of reference, however a person wants to look at it, that they can deal with the families. As has been in trying to resolve some of the problems pointed out in the press recently, an awful lot of the police involvement in the City of Winnipeg is not for law enforcement, it's with social or domestic difficulties and it is in this regard that a goodly number of staff in all of the correctional system, including adults and juveniles and probation services are involved with the families, to try and resolve some of these difficulties.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Wolseley.

MR. WILSON: Under this section, I believe we are on (c) which is \$4 million; salaries \$2.3 million. I notice that you deal with delinquency prevention and the Minister was kind enough to give us this chart which indicates that, if I read it right, that juveniles charged per 10,000 population Winnipeg is leading the hit parade and I wondered if the Minister might comment on these alarming stats that he's presented. I just can't believe that Winnipeg is the hotbed of juvenile crime in Canada, but these figures seem to indicate as such and I'm rather shocked to see that we are really leading everything. Of course, mind you these are 1975 figures that the Minister has presented us with, but I wondered if he would care to comment on that. What does he see the future of Winnipeg and Manitoba with us having the highest juvenile crime in Canada, according to this chart. Is this correct?

MR. BOYCE: I'm glad the member asked that question because there are certain dangers in just straight interpretation. You are probably aware that there is a difference in the ages of juveniles from jurisdiction to jurisdiction. We are up to 18. In other jurisdictions they are up to 16, which skews that particular chart, and that's presented to us through the offices of Stats Canada. There are a number of problems we are faced with in Winnipeg, one of them was the amalgamation of the Police Force, for example. What effect does that have on the statistics? If you can just cast your mind's eye on the situation for a moment, we took several police forces and amalgamated them. Chief Stewart in his wisdom, and I agree with him, to familiarize as many of the suburban policemen with the total Winnipeg scene rotated his constabulary force through the community, and I believe at the time these figures reflect, they were on a six weeks rotation cycle. Subsequent to that the Winnipeg Police had started an affirmative action program and the people who serve in the core area actually do so at their own request, which puts more or less of a permanency into the constabulary which is deployed there. A new policeman, who is unfamiliar with the district, had no other alternative when he apprehended the child because of his own unfamiliarity that they ended up at the Youth Centre. Once they end up at the Youth Centre, they reflect as a statistic.

One of the things that they're doing — in fact I think we just signed a lease, or got authorization from Management Committee to sign a lease, for a facility, 303 Kennedy, which will allow for a 24 hour a day deployment of people. You know, probation officers are peace officers, so it will allow for

24 hour deployment in that area and they will be better able to assess where that child should go, whether it's back home or to one of the other facilities which is in the community, or or if necessary, to the Youth Centre.

So those figures have to be interpreted, (1) in relationship to the rest of Canada that we have a juvenile age of under 18, whereas in many jurisdictions they have 16, and (2) because of that unique situation with the amalgamation of the Winnipeg Police Force, plus a general increase in the number of young people who are getting into difficulty.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Wolseley.

MR. WILSON: Mr. Chairman, he mentions the increasing number of young people getting into difficulty, but here' Winnipeg has almost 8,000 in the chart and the next highest is Toronto with 5,500, Montreal 5,800, which you could see because of the melting pot and the disparities in incomes in those cities could lead to some particular problems, but here we have Winnipeg, who is fairly isolated, either the Police are doing a tremendous job of arresting everyone that breaks the law, and maybe, as the Minister has pointed out, by rotating the policemen, they seem to be either doing their job, because what we have is the alarming case of Winnipeg . . . I remember reading many articles why people came to live here was because of its low crime rate and good police and fire protection, the lack of blue movies and the amount of churches and a good place to bring up a family.

Again, I don't want to attribute it to your government, but in the last eight years, there seems to be a tremendous increase in juvenile crime. My comment is one of alarm. I don't want to dismiss these figures because I'll be asking further questions under the Minister's Salary after I have a chance to ask some professional people their comments as to why we are leading Canada in juvenile crime. You mentioned the age limit, 18, that may have some bearing, but even that, when you have approximately a 3,000 offence difference between some of the major cities in Canada, you can't dismiss it; I have to compare Winnipeg. I remember many of the Ministers, when they are talking about hydro increases or whatever, they always refer to Ontario, they refer to B.C., and if I do the same thing here, Vancouver's only got 1,700 offenders and Edmonton 1,900 and Winnipeg has 7,963, so it's alarming.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Crescentwood.

MR. STEEN: The Minister, in his answer to the Member for Wolseley, mentioned that we have an age difference in juveniles, the juvenile age here, between 16 and 18. Could he tell us, is it just Manitoba that uses the age 18, and if we are, what is the percentage of juvenile offenders that fit that category of over 16, the 17 and 18 year olds? He was using that as a partial answer to the Stats Canada figures that are given in his report. Could he comment on that?

MR. BOYCE: First of all, I don't know if they have the information here, which jurisdictions have 18 and which have 16. I could take it as notice and find out for the member, but in the figures that I presented to you — I don't want to belittle the problem because there is a problem — but in the annual report for 1975, which is the same year as those figures reflect, on Page 62, it gives you a breakdown of the age groups. In 1975, of 3,056, there were 320 under 12; 13 years of age, 269; 14 years of age, 429; 15 years, 634; 16 years, 681; 17 years, 696, and 18 years, 27. Under 18, they go by their birthday.

MR. STEEN: Has the Minister any comment as to whether we should perhaps lower our juvenile age here in Manitoba?

MR. BOYCE: Ouch!

MR. STEEN: I'm sure that the Minister, Mr. Chairman, has given much thought to the question. Would a 17 year old be better off being treated by Adult Court rather than the Juvenile Court in the Minister's opinion, or are we likely further ahead in the long run by keeping our juvenile age at 18?

MR. BOYCE: At this time I can only express a personal opinion, but it appears that this personal opinion will prevail in the present legislation which is proposed by the Federal Government. It will be uniform, 18 years of age.

In commenting on your question, would we be better served by reducing it, I suggest, perhaps not, because there is a process that is used at the present time, even with people under 18, if it decided that a person should be dealt with in the adult system, then a petition is made to the court to raise that individual to adult court, and there is, built into that process, a protection of the individual in that they have to prove to the court in the first instance that it should be raised, it should be considered as an adult offense.

MR. STEEN: Another question, Mr. Chairman, through you to the Minister. The Minister made a comment that through the amalgamation of the Winnipeg Police Departments, some dozen departments, that the Chief was rotating the men so that they would get a broader experience. The former City of Winnipeg had, what I considered, an excellent juvenile department. By going through the amalgamation, in the Minister's opinion, did that Juvenile department keep up with the remaining departments within the police service? Has it been given the same degree of emphasis and strength, so that it can continue its good work that it did in the former City of Winnipeg throughout the total new area of the City of Winnipeg? I'm asking the Minister for an opinion. He's a policy maker and it's not a statistical question. It's something that he's likely followed up on very closely.

MR. BOYCE: First, First of all, Mr. Chairman, I would concur that Winnipeg has, over the years, had one of the finest police forces in the world, bar none.

A MEMBER: Did you forget about the little police force in Roblin?

MR. BOYCE: The RCMP, I really have not that much relationship directly with them. But in the juvenile component, and I'd rather not mention any names in case I miss a few who really contribute, we're all dealing with human systems, and there was a period of a hiatus there while they accommodated other individuals, but here in the past year, that has been strengthened, and once again I think that they will maintain the reputation of being one of the best in the world.

MR. STEEN: Again, another question to the Minister. Is the juvenile problem within the City of Winnipeg primarily still primarily a core area problem, or is it spread out through the various suburban areas because of the affluence that we live under in this day and age?

MR. BOYCE: Well, different communities have different problems. Every community has different problems and the problems in the core area are perhaps somewhat different than the areas in some of the more established communities. The transient nature of people within the core area causes a certain kind of problem. The incident, I'm sorry, I would have to take the question as notice and see if the police have it broken down by community relative offense and the rest of it. But there are special problems in the core area of any city because of the transient nature of many people who are in that area.

MR. McKENZIE: Mr. Chairman, in dealing with this item, which is 2,398 million, I have some questions for the Minister. First of all, I reiterate his sentiments regarding the policing that we enjoy in this great province, not only in the city but across the rural areas of our province and the force has increased considerably in my short time. I came to Manitoba after the war and I recall those days in the town of Russell, there was one small policeman who only worked part-time, one small policeman in Roblin working part-time, none basically in Grandview. You look at the force in those three communities today and we're looking at about a 50-man police force. You go in say 20 years and see where the police force is, it's there, and I think it's the duty of not only him as a Minister in government and us in Opposition and the committee to make sure that law and order and justice does prevail in this province. But on the other hand, you see society changing around, where in those days you never locked your door. You could go away and leave your stuff around in your yard and it would be there, even if you never came back for a month. You can't do that today. So we're involved in a whole evolution of society where the principles and everything has changed, so I do take my hat off to the force who have seen fit to go out and make these kind of charges against society. It's unfortunate the only figure we have here is the juveniles that are charged per 1,000.

I'm wondering that at the bottom of this document that we have before us, it's got "Manitoba All". On the other hand, it tells total offences by city. Now, this "All" does that include rural Manitoba and the urban communities or is it just Winnipeg figures that we're looking at here?

MR. BOYCE: The ones that are specifically for Winnipeg are for Winnipeg.

MR. McKENZIE: Down here it says "Manitoba All" at the bottom.

MR. BOYCE: All offences are all of Manitoba.

MR. McKENZIE: We are just looking at the Greater Winnipeg area. May I ask the Minister now, and this is one that historically comes up, is it maybe not time that we list the names of these juvenile offenders and get it on the record who they are, where they came from, and what they've done. Because there's no better deterrent in the rural areas — I can't speak for the city — but I tell you, there's not many people that like to see their name listed in the local paper for committing some violation or some offence for the law. And the rural papers are now, for the last four or five years, listing those people who have violated, regardless of what the law is, but they've made a violation of the law, and I think it should be public information, that not only the adults are breaking the law, but the juveniles are breaking the law as well. And these young people, it should be known who they are. I'll tell you the young community today are throwing the law right back in our face and laughing about this fact that it's all done in a sort of a vacuum, or behind a closed door, and they're getting off scot-free, and in a lot of areas are habitually committing the crime over again, because they know either their parents will bail them out or the probation service will bail them out, and they're never going to be shown as who actually these faceless people are.

In my constituency, as an MLA, if I don't know who the juvenile offender is, how can I possibly go and use my resources to help him, which I did before when they were over in Vaughan Street, I used to go over and sit down with those kids and try it but when I see it going on and we know the crimes are being committed. . . my God, these kids burn holes in the pavement, those figure 8's out in front of my home night after night after night, and I never find out who they are. I know the police come and pick them up because I phone the RCMP and tell them these violations of the law are going on. So they are removed from the scene, but I never find out who they are. Would it not be maybe time now to take a look on a trial basis for maybe one year, or would your staff not let you do that where we have gone so far for the young people today in letting them off the hook? Maybe it would be time for one 12

month period to try and see if that vehicle wouldn't be more helpful and help the police force today, who are, as you see by the list here, they're certainly picking these people up and charging them but we don't know who they are. Would that be a fair trial period or would the department care to take a look at it on a 12 month basis. Let's try and list some of these areas, or list them all, and see what would happen.

MR. BOYCE: I hope you don't call the Member for Roblin and I to order, Mr. Chairman, because you did look concerned. I'll make the case the next meeting of Ministers when they're talking about this particular point, that consideration perhaps should be given to it. But nevertheless, at the moment we are acting under a Federal Statute which says we can't.

It goes to the heart of the problem that, you know, these youngsters don't grow on trees and it has always been a mystery to me how a youngster can take home a bicycle that doesn't belong to him and some parents for some reason or other don't question where he got the bicycle. Nevertheless, the philosophy of the Directorate is to do just exactly what the member says, to try to deal with these youngsters in relationship to the people who have been offended in some way. They are working towards that; it is a very dicey, delicate area. The philosophy of the Directorate is that youngsters should be encouraged to accept the responsibility to themselves and to other people in the community and of course this is the crux of the whole thing. How do these people learn to behave themselves, that they respect other people's rights and property.

MR. MCKENZIE: Mr. Chairman, committee members, if we go through the list of probation services that we are approving here today, and what a list for this \$2.398 million! It starts out that probation services are directed towards first all those juveniles in Manitoba who are apprehended for delinquent acts as defined by the law. Number two, adult offenders referred by the courts for pre-sentence, social inquiries or for supervision. Number three, residents of federal or provincial correctional institutions and so on and we're looking at detention screening, we're looking at delinquency referral screening, we're looking at court advocacy and communication role, court liaison, pre-disposition of assessments, classification of persistent and serious offenders, probation services, attendance programs, probation placement programs, community treatment, volunteer participation, pre-parole enquiries, parole supervision, after-care juvenile, after-care adult, delinquency prevention, and the list goes on and on and on.

My, has society got to that kind of a stage today that we're that sick and we need all those services to look after our citizens, Mr. Minister? It scares me. It scares me to see that list of things that we in this committee, with the Minister and the government today, have taken upon as part of our responsibilities. I don't see how, in my wildest imagination, nor does the Minister, I'm sure, how you can accept all those responsibilities and expect to do a job. If it's that bad today that we need all that type of services under this one item, Manitoba has got a very dim future and I'm sure the Minister must be as concerned as I am. I just can't believe it, that we're involved in all those fields at this level. Where does the mother or the father come in, or the parents, or the rights of the community to take part and help clean up some of these problems? Because government can't possibly do it; it can't do it. Government was never meant to be involved in those fields. We're meant to look after the people who can't look after themselves, law and order, but to get into all those services, it scares me. Maybe this is what socialism is all about — the socialist dream, the long-range planners where they want to "Get people around their throat and wrestle them," as Trudeau says, "to the ground, and we'll solve all your problems."

If you're going to be in all those fields of a person's private life, I become very alarmed about passing this item that is before us today.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution 64(c)(1). The Honourable Minister.

MR. BOYCE: To the Member for Roblin, I perhaps wouldn't couch my statement in the terms that he does, especially when he makes reference, is this what socialism is all about. There is nothing further from the aims of socialism as I understand it.

In fact, I would draw the member's attention to a letter to the editor that was written by one of the most succinct — it is rather long but yet it is succinct — by a Velta Ultsmith in Rorketon, Manitoba, "Total Upbringing Not School's Role."

Well I think that total upbringing is not the role of any agency of the Crown, including the probation services. I would concur with what the member has said, in that we have to in some way encourage parents to accept their responsibilities in this particular area, that when their children are out and about, that they respect other people's persons and property. I think that that should be one of the goals in our society and I join with the member in expressing concern because that doesn't seem to be the case.

But nevertheless, if you look at the appropriation, and I have to commend Dr. Dragan for what he has done to handle this fantastically-increased workload that is being demanded of us, by putting in place a voluntary probation officer system because I agree that we can't continually hire professional people in every bailiwick in Manitoba. It may well be that the Member of Roblin can proffer his services to become one of these, because who they are looking for are people in the community who,

well, if I can use an overworked term, have got common sense, but know the community, know the children, know what can be done. He has done an excellent job in locating 150 people throughout Manitoba who carry part of that load.

I fully concur that we just can't keep adding more and more people to provide more and more services . . .

A MEMBER: It will go up and up and up.

MR. BOYCE: This is one of the Directorate's priorities, to try to get it back down to the community and the family, to help them discharge their responsibilities.

MR. McKENZIE: Mr. Chairman' the Minister just exactly gave me the subject that I was wanting to raise in my next question and I just ask him, where does the family come in in that long list of pages of activities of the Probation Field Service. Maybe there are no family ties left when the juvenile arrives on the scene, but I was wondering where the church was, I don't see the church involved here in any place and they certainly have a heck of a big input in the rural communities. Now, I'm not that familiar with the city, but there's certainly a lot of work going on in the church groups in our area with young people that have problems and I don't see you involving that facet of our community.

As a responsibility of the local people, it likely will hinge back as long as you fail to list the names of these faceless people who are continually violating the law at that level, it will just go on and on and on. You will build an empire like you are building here right now and instead of getting it back where it should be at the local level and getting these local communities, because when you get into the crunch of a child in a rural community, say, at Camperville, the best people in the world are the local people to get involved there and try and help that guy unravel himself if it can be done. But unless his name is known, you can find out who he is, the whole thing is shifted out of there and he's in Dauphin before he gets time to turn around and then he's in the system and the government has taken it over without the local people even knowing who it is. That's my concern under this subject matter, Mr. Chairman.

MR. BOYCE: As I said earlier, we have to come back to the point that we're dealing with a Federal Statute and we have to comply with that anonymity bit of it. As the member pointed out, 20 years ago when he was in a particular location, I was living in Elm Creek when I was younger and there was one RCMP constable for the whole Rural Municipality of Dufferin and at that time everybody in the community knew everybody who was in mischief and there was kind of a community effort, pressure or co-operation or whatever you wanted, to try to deal with some of these problems.

It's a very complex problem, I agree, and we deal with the results. We have no control over clientele. Our people don't go out and tout for customers. You know, you can predict or get your crystal ball out and anticipate that there is a relationship between the number of youngsters who are in difficulty in marriage breakup; the higher the divorce rate, the more youngsters there are in difficulty. But I would point out that in this particular appropriation we are not asking for additional staff man years; the increase that is being asked for reflects the negotiated agreement with the people in the system.

MR. McKENZIE: One last question. Of these total offenders that we have before us on this, could I get a breakdown of the male offenders and the female offenders of the 9,802 that's listed under what '75? Is '76 not available?

MR. BOYCE: Not as yet, the year doesn't close until the end of the month. Perhaps I could pass the member the report for the last year, it gives all the tables in the annual report of the department and it's broken down as to sex, age, offence.

MR. McKENZIE: Is it 50-50 or close by, I'm just looking for a broad figure?

MR. BOYCE: It's about six or seven males for every female.

MR. McKENZIE: That's all I have, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Wolseley.

MR. WILSON: First of all, I guess I should deal with the Estimate item and ask how many staff people are involved in the \$2.3 million under Salaries? How many people would be involved there?

MR. BOYCE: It's 164, the same as last year.

MR. WILSON: The same as last year, okay. Now, under the activities of the Probation Field Service, it talks about classification of persistent or serious offenders and after you classify them under Probation Supervision, after these are classified, what would the qualifications be for somebody to run one of these probation homes or parole homes or, for lack of a better word, halfway houses, what would the qualifications be for them to be able to run one of those? Would they have to be an autonomous association or what would their qualifications be? Would they have to have some social work background or probation officer, what would their background be?

MR. BOYCE: To take the member's several questions from the top, as far as classification is concerned, it's an attempt to look at the particular case and the individual involved and then to identify the resources which are available. A probation officer, in his particular talents, related to the workload that he or she has at the present time — the thrust is partly an answer to your question and some of the questions of the Member for Roblin. What we are trying to evolve towards is the

establishment of community committees which will actually be involved and we have voluntary probation officers and other volunteers, including the clergy and housewives, taxi drivers, carpenters, anybody else in the community who can be of assistance. We're establishing community restitution committees and then we have programs relative to juveniles involved with alcohol.

Now, to your last question, the Minister of Health, in discussing his Estimates, was mentioning that he is going to establish an Office of Resident Care. There is a little bit of difficulty in identifying the culprit, whether it is the Minister of Health or myself in some areas, because some of the people who are in homes are in there because of the Child Welfare Act and they are placed there by either the treatment panel or the Director of Child Welfare. Those for which I have responsibility are those that are placed in homes as a result of the actions of the Probation Department.

The qualifications of the people who establish these places is at the moment not under stringent administrative control. In other words, there are no established guidelines in the operation of these particular facilities. The judgement of the probation officer is taken into consideration and judgement only is gained by experience in the area. So the probation officer may place a particular child or one or two children in with people who are providing these services under the aegis of some private agency, or some community groups such as church groups or community treatment associations or something like that. If their experience is such that they want to continue that child placed there, they will leave them there. If it is not, then they remove them. So that, as I say, it's a matter of judgement at this time. Hopefully within the next year or so we will have in place a criteria which people who operate these places will have to be.

MR. WILSON: Well, I welcome the news from the Minister that we are going to have some form of qualifications or some form of caring on behalf of somebody in government because certainly the probation officer who has a fantastic workload is pressed to be able to find somewhere to put this juvenile offender. As you know, in your last year's Estimates and since that time in which you accused me of building a cement wall around Wolseley, it became obvious that no one seemed to care about the condition of these places or who was running them. It became evident that this was a void that was missing. So the result is that it fell upon myself and several of the local caring people and some might refer to them as busybodies or whatever, but we got together and we were able to find a particular study and identify some of the premises. The result was it became my responsibility and I don't think it should have been, to go around and find these abuses like the Minister of Health has said we must point out, welfare abuses. It became our particular duty to point out what we considered abuses under the halfway house system.

I'd like to talk about, for instance, the one that the Minister did respond to. Upon searching out 79 Maryland, we found it was run by a fellow who called himself Reverend Hawkins and Reverend Hawkins, it turned out, was one of these mail-order ministers that I talked about. He was getting \$12.00 a day for these boys —(Interjection)— His claim to fame was of course that he had some practical experience but other than that —(Interjection)— Yes, I know the Reverend is here, —(Interjection)— well, no, this reverend is a qualified one.

A MEMBER: A little catechism there.

MR. WILSON: The concern was that it appeared like they were in this for, at the calculation of six or seven boys times 12, obviously, in the condition of the house, it was a reasonably attractive financial arrangement. So the Minister may or may not want to comment. I understand that that particular premise was closed down, but again, why is it incumbent upon the politician to have to go around and do this.

The other one was, we predicted some problems were going to arise out of 234 Sherburn, and the Minister says, "I only fund the place." Well, at what point in time, we've had lots of promises from the people that they're going to move out of there, but in the meantime, they haven't moved, and we still have continuing problems. The family next door couldn't sell their home, so finally they split up and are now divorced over some of the problems because she accused her husband of being a coward, in not putting these juvenile characters in some kind of a behavioral pattern. When we spoke to the people running it, they said, "We have our good days and our bad days," and the point I'm trying to make is, the particular house had, I believe, five professional workers for six convicts, juvenile convicts. They had a housekeeper and a janitor. In other words, a cook and a janitor. They didn't shovel the sidewalk' they just had a nice life where they went out and worked during the day and they came back at night and had their own way.

But they were juveniles, and every problem, up until the time Mr. Henderson was convicted of non-capital murder, were all related to drinking, whether it was beating up some 16 year old girl on the street, whether it was breaking 32 panes of glass, whether it was a riot, the only thing that has happened to the neighbourhood is there's been cases of divorce, the locksmiths have done a fantastic business in the area because everybody's got their house bolted up, and we still have this particular home. Everybody admits that the home is too small, it's not suitable, but this is a joke. You advertise in the paper for these particular . . . you keep building them in the downtown core.

Amusingly enough, some of these great champions of socialism like Joe Zuken and some of the NDP councillors, they won't have them in their area. I think that because in this particular home, these boys are from native problems, we've got to start looking at a rural setting. I think it's time the Minister pressed upon the councillors in the city of Winnipeg that this is a situation where we can't have them all concentrated in one area.

I know social workers and probation officers have a time problem, and it might be easier to have them all in one area so you don't have to drive from St. James to Charleswood and what have you. But I think the time is fast approaching that it's proven, concentration of these experiments in one area is bad for an area. It disrupts the area, and I think in fairness, we're all paying the same taxes. We need a break. And this is what I mean by this section where they talk about planning, they talk about co-ordinating, and I think a little more emphasis should be given in that area.

I wondered at what point in time, if they recognize most of the problems are related to alcoholic problems, would the Minister care to comment on the possibility of maybe raising the drinking age to 19 if alcohol is involved in this particular chart where we have Winnipeg leading the hit parade with 7,963. Would the Minister tell me if these figures are from 1975, what are the number of offences in 1976?

MR. BOYCE: To take the member's questions, once again from the top, why he has to be involved in representing his community, all of us are members of the Legislature and all of us have to respond to complaints or requests from our constituents. With the first particular facility that the member mentioned, I appreciated him drawing it to my attention, because when he did, we immediately took action to remove those people for which I had administrative responsibility. I get many requests and comments from all members of the Legislature relative to the problems in their areas. The regrettable part of it is, and I don't want to be flip in the answer because I understand the problems of which the member speaks, when you try something new, there are bound to be problems. On the specific instances that the member raised, we responded as quickly as they were drawn to our attention, speaking of those people for which I have administrative responsibility.

Because of some of the problems which did arise, it has demonstrated that we have to be more stringent in the licensing of some of these places. When I say, more stringent in licensing, I err, we have to license these places. We have to be more stringent and license these places.

There's sort of a conundrum in that albeit some of the people try to scare some of the citizens that the government's going to take over everything and they're going to operate everything, we're trying to relate our services to community-based organizations and community-based organizations are any group in the community which will accept the responsibility and can demonstrate that they are willing to accept that responsibility, whether it is a community treatment association or a church or a service club, or anyone else that has demonstrated in the past, that they can be responsible. The government is anxious to relate to and with these organizations.

Nevertheless, when some outside organization approaches the government and in the matter of priorities the government decides that they can't fund a particular group, all hell breaks loose in the press that we're trying to emasculate some of these organizations because a number of them seem to think that the solution to their problems is just more money. That's not the case. So the questions raised by the member are real problems and I would repeat, I appreciate him drawing the specific problems as he did inter-sessionally on a couple of occasions and we were able to act on it. But as members of the Legislature, I think each one of us has a responsibility to advise the administration in this regard.

MR. WILSON: Well, then, what I wanted to consider is part of the problem that — I call it the revolving door — part of it is that the courts aren't open long enough. I wondered if the Minister might respond to something they've looked at in Ontario with juvenile courts because of the large number of them, the opening of the court system for about 16 hours a day, sort of rotating the magistrates.

Getting back to my comment about why I advocated a rural setting. It is because, it's very tough to say this, but when you turn around and go down to these particular premises, in the case of 234 Sherburn, you found out that all the boys had a history of a violent past. All the boys were originally native in origin and they were being supervised, one to one, by urban-oriented workers. You bring these to the attention, and somehow or other, it had to take some serious thing to happen before something goes. In a letter that I received from Mr. Moir of the City Health Department, his comment was to me, "Last Saturday night, one of the boys who lives there had too much to drink, came home and went berserk. He smashed 30 panes of glass, two doors, and damaged the TV set." Then the next offence was a guy at 3 o'clock in the morning, beating up some 15 year old girl who was screaming because she had had too much to drink. And third, but not least, a 17 year old boy named Henderson went out, had too much to drink and stabbed a fellow and ended up getting sentenced to 3 years for non-capital murder, as I pointed out.

I think that it's all right to say, "Well, it'll never happen again." We called a meeting with the neighbourhood and the fellows were very understanding and they simply said, "We can't be all places at all times," so my suggestion for those kind of places is, they should be in the country. These people

were brought up in the country, they love the country, they love to get out in the fresh air. I think too many of them are being concentrated in ghetto-ized urban core areas. —(Interjection)— That might be a good idea. The Member for Emerson might want to suggest that later on.

The last question I have and I will then turn it over to one of the other members, is, could the Minister give me the number of people that may have committed suicide in 1976 at the Youth Centre, because last year I asked him the question and I think he said three for 1975. I wonder if he could tell me how many this year.

MR. BOYCE: The staff will get that information. I don't know if they have the figures right here today. If they haven't I'll give it to the member later. The answer to one of his former questions was, the numbers involved in 1976-77 those figures will not be available until the end of the month but the projection is about 14,000.

MR. WILSON: 14,000.

MR. BOYCE: 14,000. It would be very easy to say, "Well I wish I could guarantee all the citizens of Manitoba, to whom I have a responsibility, that the incident to which he relates will not occur again." I can't guarantee that. Anybody that's in any kind of a home, even with their own parents, if somebody molests somebody or causes problems in the community, all I can assure you is I'll try as best possible, to employ the staff which will be able to deal with these people, that it doesn't occur.

We operate ten group homes in the city of Winnipeg and six in the rural communities.

MR. WILSON: How many?

MR. BOYCE: Ten in the city of Winnipeg and six in rural Manitoba. We are, in conjunction with the other side of the department, looking at the establishment of another rural community because of the recent difficulty with the place in Saskatchewan being closed down. These children are being repatriated to Manitoba.

MR. WILSON: I defer to the Member for Lakeside.

MR. ENNS: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I think the questions and positions raised by the Honourable Member for Wolseley bear some further examination, particularly in light of the reports, somewhat disturbing to us, I'm sure about the situations that developed just recently in the case of some of our juvenile offenders' whom we have, I understand on some kind of a pilot program, not a very extended program, have been sent to a different setting, a camp-like setting in the Province of Saskatchewan where they run a home or camp facilities for some of the more difficult juvenile offenders, and unfortunately things do not seem to have gone quite right there. Now I notice the staff member shaking his head. The Minister will correct me undoubtedly, if this doesn't come under the appropriation that we're talking about now.

MR. BOYCE: All of the children who were in Saskatchewan were under Child Welfare. They were placed there by the Director of Child Welfare, or the Children's Aid Society, which can place also.

MR. ENNS: All right then, permit me a further question just for my information. The inference that was at least left in the news media accounts was that these were, in fact, juveniles that had a history or background of difficulty with the law and were juvenile offenders. Is that not true?

MR. BOYCE: I'd have to take that question as notice and look at each specific case and advise the number. It may well have been that they were, at one time involved with the juvenile component, but nevertheless, when they were placed, at that time they were not involved with the probation services. I'm advised that we have no people on probation outside of the Province of Manitoba.

MR. ENNS: Okay, Mr. Chairman. But then, on a more positive note, and surely that's part of our responsibility too, as an Opposition group, has the department, and has this Minister, seriously considered, in the past year, or is he considering in the present year — I don't see any appropriations of moneys for that kind of considerations that I'm going to suggest and I might suggest to him that I may well support an expansion of his budget if I thought the Minister was going to move in that direction — has he considered seriously, a change of venue if you like for the kind of problems that we're talking about, the kind of persons that the Member for Wolseley has repeatedly expressed concern about. It seems very apparent that whatever we're doing isn't really working that well. I'm saying that as gently as I can. It's a very difficult area that we have to work with. I think it's apparent to any one of us as parents ourselves that putting half a dozen or more people, juveniles, into this kind of a setting, in a boarding house or rooming house kind of a setting, really isn't going to, in the long run, improve the situation. I must tell the Minister that there are, in fact, while others may not be prepared to welcome it, but I have a particular instance in my constituency, where I have been approached by individuals representing organizations of which I am prepared to apprise the Minister of with the idea and hope of setting up a permanent kind of camp and facilities that would be prepared to take on wayward youngsters in what I think the Member for Wolseley would agree, in perhaps a more suitable background and more suitable surroundings, namely that of a rural setting. I believe the amount of supervision required would tend to be less, I think the amount of activities available to the persons occupying that kind of a setting would at least be such that there was something else to do other than get drunk every other night, easy access to liquor would be reduced. Certainly the opportunity of participating in some kind of camp life, camp work would be both educational and enjoyable to many

of the people who simply find themselves with nothing to do and idle hands in the situations that they now find themselves in, the situations that the department now placed places them in at no small cost to the general public. Would the Minister, and I'll ask the Chairman this directly, would the Minister entertain a proposal, a program coming say from a group of churches in my community, individuals, people who are prepared to accept the responsibility along, of course I recognize, with what would have to be the support and guidance of trained staff, to set up such kind of a camp within the proximity of say, 40 or 50 miles of Winnipeg, certainly not in the wilderness area. As I suggested, Mr. Chairman, I think that I could even convince my reactionary Tory caucus to support the Minister in some increase in his Estimates if I thought that that was being done.

The point that I'm making, Mr. Chairman, is that we just seem to be putting the necessary dollars in year after year to maintain, to kind of put these people out of sight for a little while, these youngsters away into homes for awhile and although the list of parole and probation programs is formidable that you offer, the statistics prove that we are not gaining, we're losing. And I would think that there's room for some pretty innovative approaches to this and I think the member's suggestion, the Member from Wolseley's suggestion of (a) recognizing that in many instances the backgrounds of the juvenile offenders that we're talking about have a rural origin, that simply the possibilities, you know, one can do so much more in a rural setting than one can on a 50 foot lot on Sherbrook Street or on Maryland Street or wherever, and that the possibility surely of a higher ratio of success is there. I'd like the Minister to consider that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

MR. BOYCE: Well, I'll not only consider it, I'll encourage it because this is exactly the thing that we're trying to do is to encourage people in the community to get involved. In fact, if any member knows anybody in a community that, farmer or anyone else that can act as foster parents, we would be only too glad to entertain. I would caution members to, you know, maybe shouldn't say it, please forgive me for saying it, but slave labour . . . you know, and I say this from personal experience. I got one young fellow a job on a farm and he never had a day off for three months but then I got another fellow a job on a farm and —(Interjection)— well, the Member for Minnedosa is right, he never got into trouble. But nevertheless there was another fellow with a dairy farm, he gave the chap a suite in the basement. Nevertheless if there's people in the community farmers, business men, anyone else, because I'm expressing an opinion which perhaps isn't right but nevertheless the family is the most important and the best if we can keep the youngsters with their families. The next is an extended family or foster care facility. The next is some kind of a community residence which reflects the community and the last is the institutional type of care which we have no other alternative but to place these people in a formal institution. We would encourage that kind of involvement. In fact, there are some organizations in the community, I'm sure the member is familiar with Open Circle and they are quite active in this area.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

MR. ENNS: Well, Mr. Chairman, I haven't been present at the committee all the time and if my question is repetitious, then I withdraw it. But perhaps it's as good a place to talk about what is going on at . . . For instance, earlier on I asked for the population figures of the various correctional institutions and the rehabilitation camps. What is going on at Bannock Point, Egg Lake and Spruce Woods Rehabilitation camps. Are these for adult camps or is any one of them specifically set aside for juvenile offenders?

MR. BOYCE: No. These are all for adults.

MR. ENNS: Well, Mr. Chairman, the information that I gather from the Minister is that we do not have a juvenile facility outside of the urban setting as such, then, one that is specifically dedicated to looking after juvenile offenders and people. Is that correct Mr. Chairman?

MR. BOYCE: The six rural homes that we have are staffed by people from the community, I'm advised. But one of the problems with young people is they have to be related to the educational system, it's not so much work oriented. Perhaps we should take this into consideration with some of the older youthful offenders. But right at the moment it's related to the educational system.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please. Before the honourable member continues, I would draw his attention to the fact that the next item is labelled Care and Treatment of Juvenile Offenders. I wonder if his remarks or questions wouldn't be better asked under that section.

The Honourable Member for Wolseley.

MR. WILSON: I wanted to talk because it is called Program Supervision and I would like to use this opportunity to correct the Member from Ste. Rose who said that juvenile offenders were the product of a capitalistic system because I know the Minister . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please. The Honourable Member for Ste. Rose state his point of privilege.

MR. A. R. ADAM: On a point of privilege, I don't think that the record will show that I made that statement.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Wolseley.

MR. WILSON: All right, I'll withdraw the remark, but I did want to say that this particular Minister has never thrown the problems of juvenile offences into a political atmosphere. I did want to suggest one thing. In my visit to Hecla Island I saw a staff house there that appeared to be empty. I also saw the fact there was no caddies, there was no caddy carts and I also saw a lot of maintenance work that may have to be done up nine million dollar there and I think since one of the ministers built a monument to himself that we might be able to combine a losing cause by at least having it do some good by maybe taking over that staff house for a particular program. I just throw that out as a suggestion because it occurred to me when I was out there that there are no caddies, there are no maintenance people and it would seem to me an excellent rural setting for some of these offenders. Would the Minister have that answer to my question regarding the suicide at the home?

MR. BOYCE: The answer to his last question first this time. No I haven't got the answer to it yet, but I'll get it for the member.

As I said earlier, about this continuing committee of deputy ministers and the ministers getting together once in a while, really, I would agree with one of the statements the member's made, you can't tell who's who without a program. Because really there's no big P politics in corrections, even the committee which was established by parliament and doubtless you've seen some of the comments in the press, the bifurcation, the two-year rule, causes us a problem so all of the provinces, regardless of what administration is charged with the responsibility at the present time, are trying to come to grips with some of these problems.

I have to be candid with the committee and tell them of all of the areas for which I have administrative responsibility, this is the place I have done the least. Now, in saying this, it may be rationalization but nevertheless, that's the case. There are two things which affect this; (1) is the Social Services Allowances Act, which is under review between the Federal Government and the provinces and it doesn't seem to make much sense to rush ahead willy-nilly to try and bring facilities and programs into place if we can get 60 cent dollars from the Federal Government. As I mentioned earlier to the Member for Lakeside, you try and anticipate some of this stuff. So it appeared as if we were going to have a Social Services Allowances Act last October. We still haven't got that.

Another thing which happened, which caused us some problems, was the fact that the first priority of the Federal Government was at one time, "young people in conflict with the law, then capital punishment, then peace and good order, the gun control legislation. Well, this was reversed for some reason or other and they are just now introducing the "young people in conflict with the law" and the relationship between the two things, the Canada Assistance Plan and the other programs relative to cost sharing is under the Social Services Allowances Act which is being negotiated between the Federal Government and the provinces. And the thrust that the Attorney-General and the provinces are suggesting that we put into this crime prevention type of thing, trying to keep youngsters out of the institution because, you know, the more we keep out when they are younger the more we'll keep out when they are older, hopefully.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Rock Lake.

MR. EINARSON: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Minister, since he became the Minister of this portfolio has he and members of his caucus paid any visits to say, Vaughan Street Detention Home and other places where we have our juveniles in sort of seclusion because of their . . . that they've gone through.

MR. BOYCE: Well, Vaughan Street is closed and we use it as a detention facility relative to adult court. In other words, if somebody is going to appear before the court, they are transferred in from Headingley and held there for their court appearance. So the juveniles are all out of there, they are at the Youth Centre. I don't know if the Member for Rock Lake was here earlier, but I encourage all members to visit these institutions and talk to the staff.

MR. EINARSON: No, Mr. Chairman, I'm speaking of the responsibilities. I'm in Opposition, but the Minister, he referred to my colleagues when we were posing questions about the responsibility we all have. I'm asking the Minister if he's taken it upon himself with any members in his own caucus to go and visit some of the places on Kenaston or other places where we have these young people, that is juveniles, serving their time for various things that they have done. I would like to know whether he has ever undertaken this?

MR. BOYCE: My response to the member is, yes, I have. And I think it's important — I wasn't admonishing the opposition at all, my own colleagues included. It's so easy to, through inadvertence, I think some of these things creep in. I can best answer you by giving an example of the Minister of Finance and the Attorney-General and the Director of Remand Services and one of the local constables and I wandered in and out and up and down Main Street on one of the busier nights accompanied by a couple of Winnipeg's constables because it's better if you go and see the places or the things that are happening and perhaps it is just to discuss it. I do encourage my own colleagues and take some of them and have taken some to the facilities. Well, we have a good operation throughout the system, but the operation of I'm sorry that's on adults. I'd better wait until we get to adults. But the answer to your question is yes.

Friday, March 25, 1977

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please. The time of Private Members' Hour having arrived, Committee rise and report. Committee rise.

ESTIMATES - HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

MR. CHAIRMAN: Before we proceed this afternoon, I would like to direct the attention of the honourable members to the loge on my right where we have Les Benjamin, Member for Regina of the Federal House of Commons. On behalf of all honourable members, I wish you welcome this afternoon.

I would refer honourable members to Page 34 of their Estimates Book, Resolution No. 65, Manitoba Health Services Commission. The Resolution is in one total but if it's the will of the committee, we'll proceed with them line by line.

The first line is Administration in the amount of \$8,448,000.00. The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. BROWN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all I would like to say that we are rather in an awkward position. The Minister has not tabled the annual report of the Manitoba Health Services Commission and we really have absolutely nothing to go by, so I was just wondering, would the Minister be able to give us some report on the activities of the Manitoba Health Services Commission at this stage so that we know some of the things that they have been involved with during the past year.

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, this has never been a problem before. If we follow line by line, I'll answer the questions . . . well-defined. I can start giving you the details on Administration; then the Personal Care Home Beds which we are progressing with the five-year program; the Hospital Program is strictly the insurance program; the Medical, the same thing; the Pharmacare — I can't see where we're going to be stuck because the report has not been tabled.

MR. BROWN: I would like to ask the Minister under which item we'll be able to discuss community clinics or community health centres as such? —(Interjection)— Hospitals.

Then I'd like to ask the Minister who the present members are on the Manitoba Health Services Commission. I wonder if there have been any changes in the last year. As you remember, last year we didn't have any rural representation on this committee and I wonder if this has been then rectified.

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, that is not correct, there was a rural member last year, but I'll give you the list in a minute. The Chairman is Mr. Edwards; Dr. Condo, the Vice-Chairman; then there's Dr. Henteleff, Mr. Hank Promislow, Mr. Rankin, that's a rural member, Mrs. Shapiro, Reverend J.J. Strachan, Mr. Teffaine, and Dr. Hildes has replaced Dr. Tulchinsky.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Line 1—pass; Line 2 Personal Care Home Program \$59,251,000.00. The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, this is an area in which there is considerable concern over the government's policies and directions, particularly in the field of hostels and personal care homes.

I note the appropriation we are looking at is substantially higher than the one voted in this area last year and I'm concerned that, notwithstanding that kind of budgetary commitment, there seems to be a serious shortage of hostel facilities; a serious shortage of facilities and beds and living quarters for people who have reached a point in life where they actually occupy a forgotten sector of society. They are not totally independent but they have some difficulty in maintaining themselves in a full ambulatory way. They are not people who can get elderly person's housing, actually they in many cases need something more than elderly person's housing, Mr. Chairman. They are left in too many situations in a room to wither and withdraw into themselves because there is a certain degree of dependency which still surrounds them but for financial reasons, they are not in a position to qualify under the elderly person's housing programs which are available.

In the past there has always been an opportunity for people in this category, in this capacity to be served by the hostel operation in this province. It appears that that operation, largely conducted by volunteers and private agencies, is in a state of confusion and disarray because of the approach that the government appears to be taking to hostels as such.

There is a strong fear on the part of many hostel operators that it is the intention of this government to phase out hostels altogether. The people operating hostels tell me that they are greatly disturbed by the fact that this government has changed the standards of hostels and hasn't told the Winnipeg Personal Care Home Council what the standards now are. I know that in the past, one of the standards was that personal care per day amounted to 20 minutes in a hostel. Well, that condition, that qualifying factor has been eliminated but no one apparently has told the Council and the care home hostel operators whether it's now 40 minutes a day or an hour a day or what kind of time is to be devoted to personal care and still fall within the classification of a hostel.

The greatest difficulty, I think, confronting the opposition and confronting society generally in this area is the one that arises out of the shortage of facilities and shortage of space for persons in chronically ill and semi-ambulatory capacities who find themselves winding up in acute care centres, occupying acute care beds in hospitals. That has created a crisis at both ends of the spectrum.

When we began examination of the Minister's Estimates a few days ago, Mr. Chairman, I made

reference to some arguments that were advanced in the latest copy of the newsletter, Centre-Scope, the newsletter of the Health Sciences Centre, which amounted to a stinging indictment, really, of the bed situation in the province, and I put a few comments from that editorial indictment on the record at that time with the intention of reverting to it at this stage of the Estimates.

I want to go back to that and just confront members of the committee with it and confront the Minister with it for consideration and response at this time.

That article in question, which is in the March, 1977 issue of Centre-Scope, makes the point very emphatically that the crisis in acute care beds in the province and particularly at the Health Sciences Centre — this letter is concerned most specifically of course with the situation at the Health Sciences Centre — that the crisis in acute care beds has reached record levels this year. The Director of Nursing of Adults, Margaret Nugent, is quoted as saying, "What we used to consider a crisis has become the usual." The Head of Admissions and Discharge Committee, Dr. John Wade says this, Mr. Chairman, and I want to put this on the record, "The single largest factor is the number of chronic care patients processed for nursing homes and other facilities that are occupying acute care beds. In November, this figure was 120 and has since risen to 135. It is aggravated by the fact that with nursing homes full, the opportunity for transfer is blocked for most of these patients."

Well, there is considerably more in the article itself, Mr. Chairman, and I don't intend to emphasize the contents of the article at length beyond adding, Sir, that all experts and all opinions sought in putting the editorial thrust of this article together, come to the conclusion very emphatically, that the major problem in emergency bed situations, in emergency facilities and institutions of the health sciences type, is long stay patients who are occupying beds that should be available for acute and emergency care but are there because there is not other place for them to go and because it is to a certain extent in many instances, convenient for them and their relatives to be there.

Doctor Wade concludes by saying, and this again is a direct quote, Mr. Chairman, "the community needs more chronic care facilities"—the overall problem is a community problem, all hospitals are feeling the pinch for beds and the health sciences centre is one of the major referral hospitals and feels the pinch the most. Sir, I believe that that problem is related very directly to the subject we are reviewing in the Estimates at the moment, personal care home program, and I believe that the comments that I suggested in the first few minutes of my remarks to the Minister relate very directly to the problem just outlined in the article I've read from is a gap in the service available to elderly, "Centre Scope."

There persons, senior citizens, who are at a stage in their lives where they are no longer totally independent, there are not sufficient facilities to absorb that community in our society, and as a consequence, other facilities such as acute bed institutions are feeling a very severe pinch as pointed out by the authorities connected with the health sciences centre I've just quoted.

The other major area of concern I think for the Winnipeg Personal Care Home Council and all those in the community who operate personal care homes and hostels is that their own boards feel that they have been left out of the decision making process where their services and their operations are concerned by the department itself. They feel very strongly, I am told, those with whom I've held discussions and they represent the council itself, tell me that what most of these hostel boards and personal home boards want more than anything else is the right to participate in the decision making process and they emphasize the word, participate. —(Interjection)— Well they say that the atmosphere is one, and I put this to the Minister, this comes from personal conversations of mine with the council itself, that the atmosphere is one of suspicion on the part of the Government and the department where the operators of the homes and hostels are concerned. They do not feel they are even allowed to make such basic decisions as to where they should get their laundry done, what kind of laundering and other facilities, other equipment they may be able to have in their institutions, that those decisions are all made as a consequence of either direct intervention or direct pressure from the department itself, and they simply don't feel that they are being left and maintained in a position where they do have some authority to make decisions themselves. This is one of their strongest concerns, that, and the one I mentioned earlier about their fear, their anxiety over the question of whether or not it's the intention of the Government to phase hostels out altogether.

So I would like to put those issues and challenges to the Minister at this juncture, Mr. Chairman, and look forward to his response in that area before examining the subject a little further.

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

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, first of all, my honourable friend would want the committee to think that this is a crisis that has never happened before, that is not correct. This is a crisis that happens every year, and I have all kinds of newspaper clippings from ten years ago, from fifteen years ago and from five years ago, and it's the same thing, there will always be a demand for beds and although we have to have more beds, I think that's a healthy situation. I think that the day that the people will say that there is enough beds here, that will be the day that there will be a bed earmarked for every single Manitoban and that's not possible, and that's not the way to run a system because it would be completely prohibitive. Just a couple of years ago, and in fact, while I was campaigning in

the by-election in St. Boniface in 1974, the big thing was from the opposition, there are not enough acute beds, and I was saying that there enough acute beds but oh no—all of a sudden everybody agrees, everybody is in step.

I know that the situation is difficult, I admitted that last year and we move, the direction that the Government is going is very very clear, we are not building any more acute beds and we have a five year program that will give us more than 700 beds personal care beds. That's very clear, every single member of this committee received the document yesterday, you must still have them, and we are going ahead although it's been a year because of restraint we have had to cut in many ways, we did not cut in this area. You know it's all right to blame the Provincial Government for everything, you must remember, that the set up, the hospitalization program led us in the predicament that we are in today. It encouraged because it helped in the operating costs of hospitals, acute hospitals, we don't do the admitting—if there is people in these beds that shouldn't be there, we don't do the admitting or discharging of these patients at all, it's the medical profession that does. It is a normal thing that the people even now, would much sooner be occupying that bed because they don't pay anything at all.

Now the Federal Government for two years, more than two years because I have been Minister for more than two years and this started with the Minister of Finance and before him the Minister of Co-operative Development, he was the Minister when that first started the discussion and Manitoba has always said well let's prioritize—why are we forced into something we don't need and something very costly. But the only way that you would have cost sharing would be through the hospital. Then we were led to believe as recently as about a year ago, that the Government would prioritize, there would be some trade off in that the Federal Government would help in the financing of personal care beds and now we are told that this is not the case, they will be block funding, and it will look good for the first year or so and then we will be way behind because we have these services.

Now another thing, does my honourable friend realize that we are the only province that has this universal coverage, the coverage under the hospitalization of the personal care beds, that's where the trouble started. The then Minister inherited 7,000 beds, probably the Government moved too fast in those things but the commission then was saddled with 7,000 beds that they were operating. Now, what else can we do, we have announced very clearly, you know our intention, if you want to criticize it, it's your lot, it's your prerogative, but last year you realized where we were going, we haven't changed anything.

We will have 700 more personal care beds in five years, 1981, number one. Number two, we have spent an awful lot more money on home care which has helped enormously. Number three, we have also worked, maybe we are not as advanced as I would like to see it, I'm working with the Minister responsible for housing in enriched senior citizen homes where people can stay there longer. We are working towards a fitness program, we are doing that. I hope that we will be able to remedy a lot of these problems before too long because we are now negotiating with the Federal Government for Deer Lodge and it might be that we will have quite a few beds to be able to play with and that we'll rectify that. But this is not, I repeat, this is not something that has never happened before, at a certain time of the year, doesn't matter who is the Government, you have the shortage of beds. You certainly didn't have the services that you are getting now. I think that this is somewhat exaggerated, there was an article in the paper by a certain Doctor that talked about the waiting list, and so on, and this is not really the case.

We must remember that the waiting list doesn't mean everything, you can have people on the waiting list, we don't prevent people from signing up on the waiting list, it doesn't necessarily mean that they should be in a personal care bed, it means that they would like to be on or they want to be ready in case they have to be on later on and they think it takes quite a while. And there are some that want to transfer, and they might be on a waiting list of different personal care beds.

So, what can I say? If you say there's a shortage of beds, I have to agree. If you say we are doing nothing, I disagree and you know it, but I don't think you'll make that statement because you know what we are trying to do. We hope that something will happen in Deer Lodge that will give us some breathing room. We're in line, even though there's a restraint period, we're going to construct these beds.

So if my honourable friend was trying to make the distinction between a hostel and the other levels of personal care, then he is right, that our first priority when we need so many beds and when there's, in the words of my honourable friend, "there's a crisis," we're not going to start worrying at this stage, our first priority will not be the hostel-type where you need only 20 minutes of care. We will look at the people who should be in the institutions.

Also, we are very seriously looking, and I think we are ahead of the other provinces there, the experts will tell you so, although we've got an awful lot to do, we are going to make an effort to keep the people in their homes where they belong. If we can provide the care when they are sick, if we can provide the care, that they don't feel they'll never be able to get in the hospital and if we get co-operation from the medical profession — and it hasn't been, they will admit it themselves or some of them will admit it, it hasn't been their forte to take care of the old people or to even visit the old people

— if that is done, and with the home care teams, I think that we will succeed.

Another thing, with all this crisis, we are in a better shape than most other provinces. The personal care beds per thousand population for the three provinces that have part of the program, Manitoba, Alberta and Ontario, the current is — we have 7.07 beds per thousand, okay, and the other two provinces that are, this morning somebody said, well, there's a Conservative government. I didn't introduce politics into this or partisan politics, but it happens that the two are Alberta and Ontario and two very rich provinces, especially when you compare Manitoba, and their rate in Alberta is 5.38 beds per thousand, and I'm talking about personal care beds now; in Ontario, it's 6.69. And the Minister went out and closed acute beds in that area and that is what they're saying they are going to have. Our project by 1981 will give us 7.74; it will increase because there will be an increased population over 65; and then in Alberta will be 5.77; and do you know what Ontario is doing, Ontario is going to go down to 6.60.

So let's remember that. Let's compare; let's look at what is going on in the world. Well, if we look at the world, then we're tops. Let's look in Canada, which I feel we have the best program, way better than the States and at least they're receiving care, they're receiving care there. I don't think that we have to apologize at all, but that's not enough. We admit it; I admitted it last year. I gave you the documents, I told you where we were going and if you want to criticize now, fine, be my guest, I'll have to take it because I can't make miracles and it's a five-year plan and next year you can criticize a bit because they won't all be in there and you can do it for five years, repeat the accusations but at least we are going in the direction to rectify that.

As I say, it hasn't been easy because of the system of cost-sharing and because the system has been to build acute beds where you can get participation from the Federal Government and they are not doing a darn thing in this area.

I think I gave you, they wanted to know the care needed: Hostel was 20 to 30 minutes per day; personal care level 2 is 2 hours, and level 1 and 3 is 3.5 hours per day per patient.

There's another one of those general statements and this one I can never win. Lately on every issue I've heard this general statement, "They are not happy, they are this, they are that." These people run their facilities but the taxpayers of Manitoba pay for it and it is only natural and I will not, I certainly do not intend to apologize to say that we are going to do everything possible to save money for the people of Manitoba. I don't think it is a principle that the level of care will suffer because we're going to try to centralize laundry. And we're looking at that very seriously. But we are not doing it in isolation; we are working — there has been committees looking at that. It hasn't been easy. Everybody wants their own, including St. Boniface Hospital, all these groups, we've had this thing at Minnedosa. We don't tell them that they can't have their laundry, but we will say we will only fund this type of laundry. It's not a question that they can't do it if they want to get volunteers, but if the people of Manitoba pay for it, then certainly we will be diligent and we'll be careful to get the best for our dollars. The cost of health is high enough that we're not going to add on because somebody figures they should have this and they should have that.

Now, they are left, there was some talk, I told staff very clearly that they were not going to interfere, they have tried to co-operate on the question of, should I say, placement. There have been some statements by some of the staff that has never been government policy and my instruction was to make sure to bring their papers to me before they announce anything in the name of the policy of the government. I for one have stated repeatedly that I respect the ethnic facilities, the religious groups, that I felt it is very important for older people who are going to finish their days, to finish in the ambience that they have been used to and we will do everything we can to permit that, to allow that. There will not be any regimentation of patients or people or numbers on them; we will give all the facilities to these people. We know that we want more, we're not that worried about the other provinces. We will be ahead of the game; we are ahead of them now but it's not enough and we know by the turn of the century that there will be quite a few more people over 65. Here I go again, that magic number which I don't like at all, but people that might need these facilities.

But it's all part of a program. You can't look at beds in isolation. You've got to look at the fitness, the day care for the elderly well, you've got to look at home care, you've got to look at enriched senior citizens homes where some of the services they can do, they don't need to be in an institution. But I can tell you . . . And the better care, in acute hospital, in geriatric hospitals, and the recognition of geriatricians which we haven't got in this country. We are working with the university, the Faculty of Medicine and the College of Physicians and some of the medical people.

And as I say, I would hope — I don't want to make a commitment, there is no commitment at this time — but I would hope that we could be successful and it will relieve the pressure if we can make some arrangements soon for Deer Lodge. But we are not going to go into this with our eyes closed. Some of the provinces have made bad deals and we want to make the best deal possible because it is going to be costly to the people of Manitoba.

That annoys me, when they are saying that the Board has nothing to do, they are not being

consulted, because that is so far wrong. This is not the case at all. They run; they discuss with us, there is no interference, certainly, from the politicians, I do very little dealing with these people. It is left at the Commission, the Commission has a mandate to get the best possible care for the citizens of Manitoba and, of course, not to spend any more money than they have to, to get the best for their dollar.

So, if the people are saying, "We would like to do this and we can't dictate." For instance last year when that restraint was placed on, we wrote a letter to all of them and asked them to cut down one percent like the government did and most of them did, if that is what you mean by interference. We are managing the affairs of Manitobans, we are responsible for raising the tax, of course, and spending that money, and I hope, and I am very pleased and I congratulate the members, I am very pleased with the Board at the Manitoba Health Services Commission and senior staff who I know personally — Well, I know most of them because I was Chairman of the Commission a few years ago and I am very thankful that I had a chance to spend some time there. I think it has been a good experience for me and I think that because of the chance that I had, I think that I understand the situation, the difficulties and the problems a little more than the average MLA who wasn't fortunate enough to receive that education.

So, in closing, Mr. Chairman, I'll accept the criticism, I'll accept them ahead of time for next year and the year after, until all our beds are in place. I don't intend to advocate a bed for every single Manitoban. I don't think that society can stand that, I don't think that we can support that. We are presently ahead of the other two provinces right now. Right now, in this crisis, we're ahead of the two provinces that are much richer than us and that are in this contract. And by 1981 we will be that much further ahead. If we can make arrangements for Deer Lodge well then it won't take quite that time.

But the only control is, if you can control the beds. Because I guarantee that if we double the acute beds, we would have double the patients in them. There is no doubt in my mind and I am not going to start a battle with the physicians and so on because I would be generalizing something I don't like. But there are some people that are looking at that, elective surgery, more of that, more of that, and I don't know, maybe it is a control on good medicine also that there is not just an open house that anybody can go ahead and perform operations as they wish. Again I want to emphasize that I am not generalizing, but there are certainly some people that find this is a form of generating revenue and I am not interested in that. I am interested in the care of the people of Manitoba.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Brandon West.

MR. MCGILL: Mr. Chairman, in my travels between this Chamber and Room 254, I may have missed some of the explanations given by the Minister but some of his very early remarks in his last explanation interested me. He said that they're not building any more acute care beds. Now, when the Minister said, "We're not building any more acute care beds," has there been some announcement about the Seven Oaks Acute Care Hospital promotion that we had heard of in the past. I may have missed something that was said about that before but how does he reconcile that statement with the proposals that we have heard about in respect to the Seven Oaks Hospital?

MR. DESJARDINS: The Member is pretty cute and he has a point but what I am saying is that we are not announcing any further construction. There will be replacement of beds but there will not be any additional beds when this is finished in the acute section. The program at Seven Oaks has been approved and is approved; there are 100 acute beds there, there will be less acute beds at the Health Sciences Centre after their program is finished also but Seven Oaks will have personal care beds or extended treatment beds also, but there will not be a larger number of acute beds in five years from now than we have now.

MR. MCGILL: Mr. Chairman, I'm asking this now for information because I am not aware, I recall a year ago when we were discussing these Estimates that there were some indication that the Provincial Government were looking toward the ownership of personal care homes and personal care beds. I wonder if the Minister could tell me now: Does the Province own any of these facilities? If so, how many personal care beds do you own in facilities that might have been classified as privately-owned facilities?

MR. DESJARDINS: I don't remember ever having made this statement, maybe somebody else did but it certainly wasn't department or government policy, that we wanted to own personal care beds. What we did say was that we froze the proprietary nursing homes but we are encouraging the non-profit organizations to go ahead and be the sponsor for these beds. Now I don't say that under certain circumstances we would not own beds, that's not the thing that I want to do now. We did buy an institution; we owned it for about a month or so, it was transferred to the Grey Nuns that bought it, that was the Brousseau one on Archibald in St. Boniface, but it not a policy that we would want to own the beds. The policy has been that we do not license any more beds in proprietary nursing homes. Maybe that's what my honourable friend is talking about but we've never talked about purchasing beds, not at this time.

MR. MCGILL: Mr. Chairman, did the department enter into any negotiations relative to the possible purchase of nursing care homes in the Brandon area? Were there any discussions with

owners of nursing care homes in that area between the Department and the present owners relative to the possible purchase?

MR. DESJARDINS: I don't think so. If this is the case, it certainly wasn't the department; it might have been the Commission and if so, I know nothing about it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Pembina.

MR. HENDERSON: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Minister: Where does the Pembina Hospital stand now in connection with its addition of a care home?

MR. DESJARDINS: . . . my honourable friend given the program last year and was that one of the hospitals that was approved? I'm sure that you were interested enough last year to . . . was that on the list of the five year program? If not, we meant that there's no new ones at this time, there's no new one being considered. I haven't got the complete list. Let me see if I can . . . Pembina. That is Pembina did you say?

MR. HENDERSON: Yes, the hospital.

MR. DESJARDINS: Personal care are you talking about or . . . —(Interjection)— I beg your pardon?

MR. HENDERSON: It may be called Pembina, but it is Manitou.

MR. DESJARDINS: Manitou. No, you must remember that I gave everybody a list last year and you must know that it wasn't on that list and none have been added and we're not contemplating adding any until these are finished because that's quite a program for five years, these were the priority . . . Now that doesn't mean that everything is frozen, we're not looking at anything. We're discussing with these different people to see if they want to amalgamate or work together on these clinics as per the legislation that we've made. Those that weren't on the list last year will not be started during the next five years. I'm talking about actual construction . . . or be approved.

MR. HENDERSON: Mr. Chairman, in connection with this hospital and care home, we did have people from the Commission out and we were told that if we got the agreement of the municipality and the hospital district and the local council, that we probably would be able to get a care home. We did go ahead and got all the necessary permission, then apparently the government switched to more home care where they had people go out to the people's homes and we were set back for some time. Now, I remember in talking it over with people on the Commission at that time, they were referring to the number of beds we had in the area and then they said that because of the beds in the area they didn't think that Manitou could have any now, that we'd just have to settle for home care. But what has happened, there's been a home care put up at Treherne and I hear the rumor now that they're extending the facilities down in Morden for a care home, for more beds down there and nothing is still for Manitou. So, I wonder, would you care to comment on that?

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, this is a responsibility, we do have a Commission and my honourable friend might not know this but when I was on the other side of the House in opposition, what we're discussing now took five minutes. Everything was left in the Commission. Now we're giving more information but this has not changed. The priority, the prioritizing is done by the Commission, not by me, there is no interference at all from the government, it is the Commission and they've been discussing this, they constantly discuss this in the areas, they look at needs and so on. What the government did say, we're going to give you so much money, we'll approve so much for five years, they look at those that have been approved and so on and this is it. I can't and I don't intend to start the value of every 57 MLA tell me that the first one should be in his constituency.

Now I might say that I received some bad news. I understand that in Ottawa, I don't know if it's today, an Act was passed, the Government of Canada, where there was a cutback on these things' the things that we were afraid . . . and I'm told that the members of the Conservative Party voted solid with them so that might be your answer. We're being cut on some of these funds. We'll have to pay for that, there is no participation from the Federal Government at all.

There was nothing in the books for Morden at this time. I don't know if they're talking about the hospital. I'm talking about new beds now. I don't know, if somebody can hear me, can give me if there is anything in Morden at all. I'm not talking about repairs or anything like this. That's a possibility. I'm talking about new programs now. Probably, in a minute or so I might have an answer for you.

MR. HENDERSON: Mr. Chairman, did he happen to get the answer just now, because I noticed the Page.

MR. DESJARDINS: I've got the answer to the Brandon Hospital. Apparently it was the Brandon Hospital that was negotiating with Hillcrest Home in Brandon. The Commission was in the discussion and they were encouraging the Brandon Hospital to purchase the home but that's not the government. I think that would be under the unit system that we were talking about. We certainly would encourage that.

MR. HENDERSON: Mr. Chairman, I would hope before you are through, if you would, you would obtain what information you have in connection with what's happening at Morden, because we up at Manitou now hear that there's an extension going on at Morden and still nothing happening at Manitou and I'd like to be sure of whether it's right or not.

MR. DESJARDINS: Well if I have the information, I certainly will pass it on. I would tell the members that there is nothing that prevents them from seeking information from the commission also. The policy is my responsibility. The day-to-day running of the program and so on and the choice of prioritizing is left with the Commission but if I can get the information, I certainly will pass it on to my honourable friend.

MR. BLAKE: Yes, Mr. Chairman, just while we're on that particular subject of care homes, Hamiota received permission to do some studies on a care home in that particular town and I just wondered if the Minister has available to him what particular stage of negotiation the care home in Hamiota is in.

MR. DESJARDINS: I have here, Hamiota as being on the list. I am surprised that people that are interested when they received these documents last year, it seems to me the first thing they would do is look in their constituency to see if there is anything for their constituency and they would remember that better than I. That list was given to every member last year. I have something for Hamiota. Hamiota is on the list. I can't tell you when they're going . . . pardon? Well you'll have to get that from the commission. I don't know of every one. They have certain things to go through, but it's approved in principle, so now it's a question of getting the proper architect design and property and so on, and also as they come along, we have so much staff to do that. The only guarantee that I could give is that it should be finished within five years. It might be this year, it might be in the fifth year, I don't know. Hamiota is at the functional program and it is expected to start in '77-'78.

There is no expansion approved for the Morden Personal Care Home. There are discussions regarding improved lab and x-ray X-ray facilities. Okay?

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, where can older people go whose income is too high to get into senior citizens or elderly persons' housing. Where they go unless they are suffering from debilitating conditions is into hostels, that is where they have traditionally gone, hostels run in the private sector by private agencies, supported, insured now by the Government of the Province of Manitoba, and I'm not arguing with that insurance program. What I'm saying to the Minister is that he says to me that he keeps being confronted with this mythical reference to "they" when I keep saying to him that "they" are unhappy. And he says to me, "Who are they?" Well, I'll tell him who they are, Sir, and I won't identify the individual homes because they're afraid. They've asked me not to identify them because they think that they will then suffer even greater pressure from the government. —(Interjection)— Well, I have been told that in meetings, Mr. Chairman. I'm conveying that information to the Minister. I can tell him who they are. They are members of the Winnipeg Personal Care Home Council, and the Minister could have access to resolutions passed by the Manitoba Health Organizations Inc. at their 1976 annual meeting, resolutions approved by regional councils, one having to do with future of hostel accommodation from the Winnipeg region, one on principles for entry into systems and admission into non-propriety facilities from the Winnipeg region, one on principles of entry into system and one on Psychiatric Services from that same region, one on Facilities and Programs for the Elderly, one on Equipment Approval Limits, one on Criteria Used. These are items of public record that were passed as resolutions at meetings of regional representatives making up the Manitoba Health Organizations Inc. and representing sectors such as that represented by the Winnipeg Personal Care Home Council. There's a raft of resolutions, as recent as a few months ago, from their 1976 annual meeting, which say what I am attempting to say to the Minister, Mr. Chairman.

That is, (1) they don't feel they are involved in the decision-making processes, that they're told what to do; (2) that they don't particularly want me to identify them by Home because they feel the situation is tough enough now without having the government lean on them any further; (3) that they feel the government is attempting and intending to phase hostels out, to get out of the hostel business and get the Province out of the hostel business and move right into the category of Personal Care Homes and extended care, without special facilities for this group that has always gravitated toward the hostel type of institutional living, that doesn't need all the nursing care and all the personal care of the other facilities; and (4) the other thing that they're concerned about, Mr. Chairman, is the whole process of application screening and panelling and the sort of direction of clients into their own facilities.

I know that the panelling for hostels and personal care homes is done through care services, but what happens is that the homes themselves never see the applications at all, Sir. They're merely told by the central panelling agency, who they are getting, and they convey to me the feeling that they're not only merely told who they're getting, but they are told how to run their operations and what they're going to do and how to do it, and I say that that extends even to the choice of whether they will buy a washing machine that will accommodate volume or whether they will take the instructions of the government and buy 20 small washing machines that will use a considerable degree more water and energy than the large one would, but it's because the way the government's got it written down in the book, they've got to buy the 20 small ones. I don't call that being able to make your own decisions and run your own ship.

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, I don't know if my honourable friend is confused or if he is

trying to confuse me. I'll try to straighten out his concern. First of all, I believe my friend is talking about the proprietary nursing homes. If we are talking about nursing homes, here I'll speak for myself, the policy hasn't been established yet, I feel that we should not cover, under hospitalization, the hostel type. I think, certainly not, when we need, when my honourable friend stood up, the first remark on that is all these people that are in acute beds that belong in a personal care home, type I or II, not in a hostel, I think we've got to start with these people.

Now, there is something missing, I'll admit, and I mentioned it in this House before. I think it's wrong and I've started to discuss this in Cabinet. First of all, let's start with senior citizens' homes, and of course the enriched senior citizen home. Now, it's a very bad setup because the people that have money are not allowed in there. I think that's bad because I don't think it is just a question of money, I think that people want to be in that type of home, where they can play bingo, where they can meet with the people that share the same concern and so on, and this is something that is going to be looked at. Now I don't know why, whenever you're talking about care, there has to be some form of licensing, ' but I don't know why. So far the government has not allowed the operators to run guest homes — if you want to talk guest homes, which are in other words, hostels— where you can have board and room, and there might be some good reasons where the board and room is important, but also some type of care. Except that many of the operators that purposely build these kind of homes, I think they're operating them now, we haven't stopped them, some of them have these homes, but they will publicly say they want us to take them over at all times, because they'll say, okay, they'll spend their money and these people will be on your care, they'll be stuck with that.

Now, there is something in financing, in covering which other provinces aren't doing — a certain type of personal care home. I don't think that we can afford it at this time, we have to stop somewhere, and we certainly need beds. I'm not talking beds for hostels, I'm talking about No. 1 type care and so on where you need three or four hours of care a day. This is something that's being looked at.

Now, on the discussion, if my friend is talking about hostel and guest homes, yes, this is something we're looking at. I'm not that happy with the setup, we've got to come up with something. But if my honourable friend is talking about proprietary nursing homes that are running personal care beds, that is something else. It is a two-way street. These people never want to show us their books, to show us the standard that they give, they've refused to do that constantly, and we give them a grant which is the average of what we give the nonproprietary nursing home. This is what they get. I think that someday we'll have to look at the standards, I think that's our responsibility. We're not going to pay somebody for something and say, "All right, here's what we pay in other areas so you get an average of that but you decide on the care of patient, on the hours of care." We're not going to do that, we're on the food. We're not going to do that, and my honourable friend would be the first one to come back and say, "What the hell's going on?" And I think my honourable friend would not be too proud, and would sooner have our system, than the system in the United States. If you remember, not too long ago, the Free Press had quite an article. Unfortunately, a lot of people were led to believe this was happening in Manitoba, but this was somewhere in the States. This is an area where you have proprietary nursing homes. You have read some of the books and you know the racket that is going on there now. That again, is not an ideology hang up that I have. But as far as I am concerned, the public, and as much as possible, they should be non-profit. I think my honourable friend agreed with me on that last year. I'm not going to encourage private hospitals, profit-run hospitals or personal care homes if I can help it. Now a hostel is a different thing. If you have money, you should not be penalized especially when you are ready and if you have to pay for it. I certainly intend to look into that. I mentioned that in the House. As I said, we're going to have our Office of Residential Care also. We are talking with the City of Winnipeg on the and so on and that is an area where we are weak, I'll be the first one to admit that. I don't think it's the fault of anybody, I don't think it's because of bad policy. I think, if anything, this government acted too fast when they accepted the personal care home all in one shot and dumped 7,000 beds on the commission a few years ago and just now the commission is starting to know where it's going. It's been a very very difficult thing.

I think this is constructive criticism. I think it's a valid point and we certainly will look at that, if I understood my friend correctly.

MR. SHERMAN: I wonder if the Minister could tell me, Mr. Chairman, whether the standards for hostels have been changed. That is, my understanding is that one of the criteria for a hostel in terms of that kind of classification was that 20 minutes of personal care was offered per day, and that apparently has gone out the window so that some of these operators don't know what the standards are any more.

MR. DESJARDINS: Well I know that's not correct. I think if there is a misunderstanding it is because of the necessity, if we've got people who really belong in there, and if we encourage them to have people who are just going there because they want to go there, I think we must prioritize and it must be that we have them reclassified from hostel type beds to another type of care. But there is no difference at all. There has been no difference in the standards at all, as far as time, actual hours or half hours of care. I think this is what happened because of the situation that we faced. I'm sure I'm

not going to have an argument on this, that we must prioritize in this area and this is what we are trying to do. As far as people that are panelling, yes, we're responsible for the panelling. They have the applications and those that tell you they have no applications are absolutely wrong, they're misleading you. They have the right to accept the patient they want, within that category. If they want that Joe Blow who could stay at home, if he's a good guy or a friend of somebody, he wants to get in, and you've got somebody that should be in there, and that is the only choice. Either that, if we allow that then, we put him in an acute hospital and then your list that you are complaining about, will increase and we don't want that.

Now, one of these days, I would hope there would be hostels, with or without government support, so that the people will have these hostels, and of course the people that are receiving help on social welfare and so on, would always be assisted. I think this is what we have to do. I don't think we can take too much advice. Now we've got to prioritize with the people that need these beds more than anybody else. I can tell you right now, this is what I've been striving for, this is what I've been fighting for, that we provide these facilities, that we allow these facilities, we license them but we don't fund them. We're way ahead of other provinces now.

MR. SHERMAN: Can the Minister clear up a seeming inconsistency in terms of waiting list totals, Mr. Chairman. At one point on Friday, March 18th, a week ago, we were looking at the number of persons on waiting lists for hostel, personal care and extended care facilities. Quoting from Page 904 of Hansard and quoting from the Minister, Mr. Chairman, the totals were given at that time as Hostels, 729, Personal Care 1,539, Extended Care 801, for a total of 3,069. But earlier in that same afternoon of debate, or morning of debate, the Minister said, on Page 903, "The waiting list in Winnipeg last year at this time was 1,127 now it is 1,114. The waiting list outside of Winnipeg last year was 914, now it is 1,013." So if you take those two figures for this year — (Interjection) — well you gave me 1,114; you gave the committee 1,114 and 1,013 for a total of 2,127. So in one area of the debate we've got a total 2,127; another area of the same debate we've got a total of 3,069.

MR. DESJARDINS: . . . something that changed quite rapidly, it shouldn't change on the same day when I haven't checked but I've been anticipating this and this is . . . now I'm only going by what staff gave me to the best of their knowledge, at the end of February, now that's the latest that we have. In Winnipeg, the number on the total waiting list was 1,119. At the same month last year, there were 1,142. That's in Winnipeg. Outside of Winnipeg, for the same date, the end of February, the number last year was 914, this year it's 990.

The number in hospital awaiting placement in Winnipeg, it is for this year, I haven't got last year's figure, in Winnipeg it was 387. Outside of Winnipeg, it was 318 and that's part of the total.

The acute beds in Winnipeg, those waiting was 175, extended 212, for a total of 387. In the rural area, that's the number that are acute beds 159, extended 159. So that's the total.

Now, you know, it's not that easy, there is pressure and there is pressure for a reason. The people in the hospital quite rightly and the Boards and so on, would like us to go out all in one shot, take all the people that do not belong in this hospital and put them in personal care. Well, we can't just work like that. We've got to look at prioritizing them and some of the people in the community probably need personal care beds more than some of the people that are occupying acute beds. If we ever did and if it was ever found out that we did that, do you know what would happen? Well, the people would go to their friendly doctor and say, "Get me in there, then I'm safe because as soon as I'm there they've got to find a bed for me." And it's being exaggerated, this question of when we talk about the cost. The cost is not the big factor of keeping people. They say, "Well, they don't need that service." But there's always some in there and when you're talking about the averages of cost, the average includes all the services in the hospital, it might be a cardiac arrest or it might be something else, a person that belongs in a personal care bed and it evens up, especially with the staff and so on. It might be that they would need more staff and so on, so a bed is a bed. The main thing, if the cost is not that bad, we're not wasting that much money because of the mixture of the staff in there are receiving less help and, you know, they're probably just receiving their two hours and so on and somebody else is . . .

I'm not saying it's good but the main thing is by doing that, if you would allow that then you would have to build more acute beds because there is a shortage of acute beds but the shortage of acute beds is not for emergency it is mostly for selective surgery and I'm recognizing that this is a fact, that it's not just when you're dying that you need an operation. I'm saying that it has to be checked at times.

I recognize that and we are moving in that direction and eventually . . . but we are not going to start by taking all the people in the acute beds and say, . . . There's going to be a mixture of some of those and some people in the community who have no pull and who are quite patiently awaiting their turn and who have been panelled and it is felt that they should have beds. But it's been said many times that this is a cost and it's a \$220 *per diem* — well, that's not the case.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Brandon West.

MR. MCGILL: Mr. Chairman, while we're still on this item of Personal Care Home Program. The

Minister referred earlier to some recent information, as recently as today, he had from Ottawa on the new Fiscal Arrangements Act and the amount that might be available for this program, so that I think before we get down to Note 1 on Recoveries at the bottom of this item of \$200,532,000 which is calculated on the Act that's about to expire on 31 March of this year, in four or five days' it might be useful if his department would calculate what the actual figures should be in terms of the new arrangements that he refers to so that when we come to finally deal with the net amount of \$224 million on, we should know whether we're really talking about \$324 million or \$260 million. So by giving you notice now of that question in relation to Note 1 on the Recoveries, perhaps we could have a precise figure on this when we reach that stage in our debate.

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, that concern of my honourable friend I share. This was prepared by the Department of Finance. I've asked the Minister of Finance for that information and it will come from him. I want him to explain it because he's the one that has prepared that; he's the one that is negotiating with the Federal Government on that, so I have a memo on him to tell me just this, that he will explain it, so I would hope that this will be explained by the Minister of Finance during his Estimates.

The information that I . . . somebody gave me this in the back, I don't know exactly what happened. Apparently this bill that they had in front of the House was passed and that they would go ahead. We were protesting that because, you know, everybody gets the same, I think it's \$20.00 the bloc that they suggest and in all the negotiations over the few years, it was felt that there would be a trade-off and we were to get help for some programs. Now we have programs that I know other provinces haven't got so we will not cover that at all.

Now, either we're going to have to cut down on these programs or we're going to suffer. We'll have to dig up the money somewhere else. We were anticipating, we were led to believe that we would have more for Home Care for many of these programs that we have that other provinces don't have. So the provinces that are leading the field in this will be in a way penalized or they will have to now, because of the lack of funding — probably the first year there might even be more money. I don't know but eventually this is going to catch up with us and we feel that we're going to lose quite a bit of money. I don't want to guess, I'm not that familiar with it, it's the Minister of Finance who stuck that in there so I told him that he would have to defend it because I can't.

MR. MCGILL: Well, Mr. Chairman, at the time the \$200 million figure was applied, it was based on an Act which the Minister of Finance knew, and we all knew, would end at the end of this month. Now that there is a new Act and there is a new formula available, I presume that the Minister of Finance will be able to give us a more precise figure for Recoveries before we have to vote as a Committee on this amount of \$224 million because it may be a very meaningless figure in the new arrangements.

MR. DESJARDINS: Well, Mr. Chairman, I don't think that we should delay this item. I don't think it's going to change anything, we're going ahead. I don't think that anybody wants to tell us, well, if we don't get the money from Ottawa, we're not going to go ahead and build these personal care homes. We don't intend to change that so I hope there won't be any delay but I can assure you that I, and in turn I have been assured by the Minister of Finance, that any information that he has he will pass it on to the committee and I'm suggesting that should be done. If he should come in before this is finished, fine, I would hope that he can make an explanation; if not, I hope that I'm not kept waiting for this approval before he comes in. It's not going to change anything.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Line 2 — The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, just before we leave this item, I just want to reassure the Minister that I am not in disagreement with him at all as to his philosophy with respect to the proprietary nursing home and personal care field but I do feel that if there is a change taking place in terms of this government's approach to hostels and if, whether overtly or subtly hostels are being turned into personal care homes' then that is related, no doubt in some way, to the overall facility logjam and bed shortage that exists in the field generally at the present time.

That was what I was trying to get at, whether there was a specific intention on the part of the government to change existing hostels into personal care homes and the Minister says that that is not the case and that he feels that the hostel field is a very important one and that there are some gaps in our coverage, in our service programs in that area, and it's something that he's going to be taking a look at so I would accept that at face value, at the Minister's word and hope that that will be the case because I repeat that there is a critical area there that is now a gap in the equation for many many people. They don't want to be put into personal care homes. As soon as they get into personal care or extended care homes, they wither and die. The type of person who goes into a hostel is the type of person who is still pretty bright and independent and wants that kind of life, not to be shunted away into the back corner of a nursing home.

MR. DESJARDINS: I don't think there would be too many changes. Any hostel beds at this time will be reclassified. There's approximately 1,500 hostel beds. If I had my way, and I haven't been successful in that, I would just freeze that, cover the people that are in there but any new ones would not be covered. I'm not saying that these institutions have to be separated, it might be that at time

times we will have to have a mixture of that because of the care and so on, it might be easier. Then you have people — I'm glad the Member for Assiniboia's not here because he wouldn't be very happy to hear me make this statement— but you have a mixture of patients, some that are a little healthier than the others and they help each other out. They save staff and they do something worthwhile that becomes very important to them, maybe help another patient roll a patient in a wheelchair and so on, so this is a factor, all these things. It's not an easy thing to determine. We're looking at that now. Then there's another area, I think we have to have flexibility. For instance, if you have a couple, if you have one person who definitely should be in a nursing home, I think it is the most cruel thing in the world to separate these people if you can keep them together so you must have some way, even though the other one might be just a patient that might belong in a hospital, to keep them together as long as possible. That's all they have left.

MR. SHERMAN: One other point, Mr. Chairman. The Minister did mention earlier in his remarks some initiatives and concepts in the area of what are known as psycho-geriatric persons and I didn't catch the full import of it at the time but I recall and have in front of me here a reminder of a pretty strong indictment by the Manitoba Association of Social Workers levelled a few weeks ago just earlier this month, March 19, 1977 at the shortcomings of the province in the area of facilities for the elderly who have psychological and physical disabilities, the so-called psycho-geriatric defined as being unable to function independently in the community. I believe the Minister did make some reference to that in his earlier remarks but I was checking my own material on hostels and I would ask him for a further comment on that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Line 2—pass.

MR. DESJARDINS: Excuse me, Mr. Chairman, I don't know if my honourable friend is referring to some of this care and some of the projects we had under the department, that is under the Chief Psychiatrist, that is the Provincial Psychiatrist. Now, I know that the idea that many of these people, you know a few years back who felt they should be in an institution that could easily go, they might have a loss of memory, they're not going to hurt anybody and some of them no doubt will be in personal care homes and that is being looked at.

I have concern, I don't want people in there that will bother the other patients and I think that we have that under control, it might not be perfect but you can rest assured that we're looking at that and it might be that in the future that some personal care homes might be equipped with a small ward of a few beds to take care of these people.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. BROWN: A while back there, the Minister mentioned that they were thinking of some enriched senior citizens' homes. —(Interjection)— Okay. The Minister says this is not his department, but my question would be that senior citizens' homes also have long waiting lists and unless they're going to go into an extensive program of building more senior citizen homes, then we're really not going to solve anything because I think it all comes back to one thing that we have a lot of old people who really have no place to go so more facilities seem to be required. But I wonder if the Minister can tell me then if he has been in consultation with the other Minister who is in charge of senior citizens' homes to find out whether they will be building more senior citizens' homes this year.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Line 2—pass. Line 3—Hospital Program — \$264,664,000.00. The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. BROWN: I believe that this is the item in which we can have some discussion on community clinics. I believe that this discussion possibly is overdue. We seem to have quite a few community clinics in Manitoba. Other provinces that had these have seen fit to opt out of this program so I would just like to ask the Minister some questions as far as community clinics are concerned. He must have done some evaluation on them and my first question would be: How many community clinics are there in Manitoba at the present time and I wonder if the Minister could tell us, how efficiently are these clinics operating? What is the cost per patient care unit in a community clinic and how does this compare with a private clinic?

MR. DESJARDINS: Yes, we're very pleased with the clinics. I know a lot of people were concerned about this. They are rendering a service in certain areas. For instance, I visited one that I was quite impressed. They didn't have any other facilities and it was remarkable the work they did there with a small staff. That was at Lac du Bonnet. They are doing quite well. There is eleven of them. There is Gladstone, Hamiota, Leaf Rapids, Churchill — Churchill and Leaf Rapids that's practically like a hospital, that's the only facility they have there — Notre Dame, Lac du Bonnet, Citizens Health Action, that's in Winnipeg; Klinik is in Winnipeg; Mount Carmel is in Winnipeg northwest and Grand Rapids.

We're very pleased with them. I've got no criticism of them. I think that sometimes you might need facilities. They are something that might be developing in part of Manitoba that we might request to step in, and the best way might be to bring a community clinic like this. I think my friend doesn't have to go out in the rural area, his constituency is well taken care of before and I don't say he's criticized that but he's just about setting up to criticize it. I think he should visit some of them, while he's here, he

can go and visit Mount Carmel and see the wonderful things they do, the miracles they do there and also Clinic and Citizens Health Action. I know the Clinic not too far here on Broadway, and as I say I visited Notre Dame, Leaf Rapids and Churchill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. BROWN: We can possibly see a need for community clinics in some areas, and there is no doubt in my mind that the Mount Carmel community clinic, that there is a need for this being in the particular area that they are in. But when we are talking about towns like Gladstone, Hamiota, Lac du Bonnet, etc. then a question appears in a person's mind. Doctors seem to be perfectly willing to build their own clinics and to operate their own clinics. Why would we want to go into a program where we provide a building for them to work in and we provide the staff for them to work with when Doctors are willing to do all this on their own. There must be a considerable cost involved, both capital cost and also cost in providing the support staff, so this is the reason why we would like to have some kind of cost comparison per patient care unit in a community clinic as compared to a private clinic. Now surely the Minister must have done some evaluation on this. Let's take some of the rural towns, it's probably a little easier to evaluate them and it would be a more favourable comparison I would say than if we were to take something like Mount Carmel.

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, sometimes my honourable friend says the Government is interfering and other times he feels that the Government should interfere. We are more and more, and we brought the legislation that you supported, we are giving more say to the people in the community to prioritize what they need and to organize themselves to take care of themselves in the health and all related fields. As I say, we brought proper legislation that will permit that and this is part of it, now if I'm going to go one by one I can take Churchill, it is an isolated area—have you been at the Churchill clinic? Well I think that maybe you should visit the Churchill clinic, that's all they have, and I can't give you the cost—I can give you the cost per clinic, what they are spending, but I can't tell you because it depends on the visits that they have, etc. You can have clinics who might have some Doctor who would want to work on salary, but the community wished to have a Doctor on salary and if they can attract one we are not going to interfere. That doesn't mean because this was done—there's been a big uproar a few years ago that this Government was going to change everything and all the medical profession would be on services, and that's the last thing that I would want to see and I've made that statement repeatedly. The province is in no danger, there are 11 clinics, they are all working quite well. I don't apologize, quite the contrary, I'm very happy with all of them and I don't think that anybody is in danger of losing any rights, etc. If the community, and I would imagine that if Winkler wanted it, if they weren't fortunate in having the facilities that they've got now, and if they say; Why don't you go out, you represent us and tell the Minister we want to prioritize our need, we know of a doctor that can come here." I'm sure that you would be supporting that and I would support you.

MR. BROWN: Mr. Chairman, we still don't seem to come down to the question which I posed. The Minister surely must have done some kind of evaluation as to patient care and what the cost is, compared from a community clinic to a private clinic, and we would like to see this kind of an evaluation done. There is no way that we on this side can do it, there's no way that we can say that community clinics are a good thing or that they are a bad thing until such a time as we have a complete evaluation and we can take a proper look at it. We have a very good clinic in Winkler, operated by private doctors and they are doing an excellent job over there. I'm sure that they have a good clinic in Gladstone, which is a community clinic, or Hamiota—I'm certain that those places are all right, but surely we must do some cost comparison and see whether it is practical to go into that type of clinic.

MR. DESJARDINS: My honourable friend says he can't make an assessment until he finds out the cost, I don't think that / cost is a factor, granted an important factor, but it's not the only factor and there is no way that I can tell him what the cost is per patient because there is different services. There is different services they might get in a clinic that they wouldn't get in an area or they might come into the city for that—I would have to add that, that they might have to be referred in the city. It is the people in the area that express priority, that they make their own arrangements, they get their doctor, they have a doctor that's ready to work under certain conditions, that might be ready to work on salary. I'm not hung up on that at all. I think that is not preventing doctors from setting up a clinic, and if that is the case' if my honourable friend says these are wrong, why doesn't he ask me to look at the Winnipeg Clinic, and those other clinics? Let's be consistent. Maybe the cost' and I think you would be surprised at the cost there, I think it might cost you a heck of a lot more. We leave some freedom, lots of freedom, to the people in the community to determine what is best for them, within a certain amount of money, how to deal with people. We also let the M.M.A. and the members of the medical profession. Why decide if they are ready to work on salary should I stop them. That's different to saying that the government is trying to take over the medical profession because that would not be true. But if an institution or a doctor is ready to work at a salary and this is what community wants, what's wrong with that. And if the people in the area, if this is the relationship that they want with the doctor it's the same care, it's the same man, he's had the same training, but instead of saying, all right,

he's paid monthly instead of being paid piecemeal. In fact, that has some advantages too. I think both have advantages. This is why I'd like to retain both because if everybody was on salary I wouldn't be happy. I think we would lose out but I think that is a good balance. I think that if you're not on salary you're generating revenue and there is no profession — and I'm not making any accusation — but there is no profession that is placed in a better position to generate their own revenue than the medical profession. Because if years ago when you were paying if they said, "I want to see you in six months . . ." "If they tell you, "I want to see you next week", are you going to question them? Am I going to question them? Am I going to say this is not right. So I don't think there is anything wrong with a mixture as long as you don't leave this House and say that the Province of Manitoba and the Department of Health and the Minister are trying to take over and control the medical profession because that is the last thing I want to do.

MR. BROWN: Well it seems, Mr. Chairman, that we are not going to get the answers to some of these questions that I'm proposing. Either the Minister has not done an evaluation or . . . — (Interjection)— Oh, he says he doesn't intend to. Then how can he possibly say that community clinics, as such, are good for the province, that they are giving us a better service at the same kind of cost as any other clinic because he can't say this. Private clinics are giving us excellent service. Community clinics we know are costing a lot of money because first of all there is the capital involved, there is all the support staff involved, there are doctors' fees fees that are involved. Anybody can see that this must be an expensive program. Now all I was asking for was a comparison between patient care units, taking all these factors into consideration.

MR. DESJARDINS: My honourable friend is not consistent at all. He is not consistent at all. If he wants to talk . . . We are talking about two methods of delivering service, chosen accepted methods, recognized by the department, by the government, insured, and the choice of the people. Now if my friend — the question that he should ask is clinics versus hospitals, and private doctors. But he is not saying that. He is talking about community clinics because the community gets together and develops a . . . This is fine, now what does he keep repeating? Doctors can set up their own clinic. Well that's a clinic. One is a community clinic; the other one is privately owned. I don't object to either one but if I'm going to get this information I must compare it with the private clinic who has exactly the same cost as the community clinic. I mean if you go and see the Manitoba Clinic or the Winnipeg Clinic or any of these clinics you'll see the same service, I'm talking about comparing services now. And I'm saying that the service that is given to the people, and so on, is the important thing. The choice that they want, and the information that he wants, there is no way that we can get that. I would need an army of people that he would not be ready to give me, because I would have to find out what is done at this clinic, and if that clinic wasn't there where these people would go to get the service, and it might be that they would travel. Look at the clinic. Go and see. If he's that interested I would suggest very seriously, before the election so go and see the one at Leaf Rapids and he can campaign on it' see what would be the choice, what would be the option. At times that's the only way you can get a doctor. It might be a little costly. It might be the only way you can get a doctor in a remote area like this, who can make a heck of a lot of more money in another area, that you would have to guarantee him a type of a salary. And if this is the way that the community can get him, so be it. What's wrong with that?

Then I would refer my honourable friend to the clinic in Churchill, that's all they have, these are beds, that's the hospital. They are retaining beds, and this is what they have, that's the clinic, and they give different services. Why did my honourable friend say that . . . — (Interjection)— Yes, there are some exceptions. Mount Carmel is a good clinic. Why? Because that's the only one he knows. He doesn't know, he's never seen the other ones. Has he been in any of them? He says, "o". **But apparently he knows what happens to Mount Carmel. What about Mount Carmel, it's the same thing? And in fact there's more services in the area than if you were in Churchill. If there wasn't Mount Carmel, where would they go? They would go to the Health Sciences Centre, and so on. But they have a very small budget for what they are doing. They do a lot of work, a lot of service. Part of it is also services that we would do under, probably, the social development, also family counselling to the native people in the core of Winnipeg, and so on.**

So I am not knocking the private clinics but I say that's a clinic. If my honourable friend doesn't like that method well then maybe we should compare the whole clinic, and there is no way that I intend to go through that work, or to put our staff — we've got better things than that to do. I am satisfied that for the money received we're getting good standard and we are getting good work, they're not going all over the place. It is the choice of the people. We're moving in that direction and you've accepted that. And there has been all kinds of prophets that have been saying, "You know you'll have clinics all over the place." Well this is ten years now and there is eleven clinics. And you've never heard this government or the commission trying to force these clinics on anybody. These people request it, and under certain situations, fine. It might be that at times other clinics will be built. I'm not dissatisfied with them, I'm not on any crusade to have clinics all over the place but I accept them and I don't think

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there is anything wrong with them. And if you don't like that type of delivery well then let's look at all clinics, privately operated clinics also, which would be more costly. If I had my way nobody would have X-rays. The X-rays would be the property of a bank somewhere. They would have X-rays and there wouldn't be any cost on that, that wouldn't be another profit-making thing. Then instead, if my doctor is away on holiday and if I have got a cold and I go to one of those private clinics the first thing I know I'm stripped, I've got a towel around me and I'm going for an X-ray. And then I can't get this X-ray out most of the time. You know there is a lot of things that we can look at. We are trying to do as little interfering as possible and we work with different people on that, including the medical profession. This is not an ideology hang up with me. I think it is working well and I see no reason for curtailing these clinics at all.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Line 3. The Honourable Member for Brandon West.

MR. MCGILL: Mr. Chairman, this hospital program line shows \$264 million. I guess if we had a report of the Manitoba Health Services Commission in front of us we would probably have some more idea of the detailed programs or of the breakdown of this amount. Now I don't know whether the Minister has it in terms of allocations to hospitals or whether he has it allocated to various hospital programs but could we have some breakout of this \$264 million?

MR. DESJARDINS: No, I guess somewhere we'd have that by hospital but I certainly wouldn't have it.

The budget facilities and that includes annualization cost for new programs and facilities started in 1976-77, that's for hospital. There is \$234,126,000.00. The MHSC Diagnostic Units there is \$6,148,000.00. The non-budget facilities is \$12,558,000.00. The Cadman Lab., Provincial Lab., is \$1,767,000.00. The private lab. and X-ray facilities \$10,065,000.00. This includes the transfer of \$1,171,000, a rate increase of seven percent and utilization increase of four percent. That's on the private lab.

MR. MCGILL: One of those items you gave me was \$234 million. What title did you give for that?

MR. DESJARDINS: That budget was all the hospitals.

MR. MCGILL: That was all the hospitals so we don't have any amounts by individual hospitals.

MR. DESJARDINS: That's public general hospitals.

MR. MCGILL: Is it possible to have a list of the general hospitals and the amount which each hospital would obtain from this total amount?

MR. DESJARDINS: I'll have to take that . . . Could you make it easier. Do you definitely want this broken down to hospital, or are you looking for a special hospital?

MR. MCGILL: No. I'm not looking for any special hospital. But I just thought I would like to see how it compares for all the general hospitals.

MR. DESJARDINS: We haven't got this information here but I'll get it for the honourable member.

MR. MCGILL: Mr. Chairman, then I presume that the cost of nursing training and nursing education is included in each of the individual hospital's appropriations. And I also understand that some changes are contemplated in the role of the hospital in relation to the training of registered nurses. I believe that the Minister has been receiving some reports and some recommendations from a special committee that he set up to review the whole area of nursing training for RNs and could he indicate now at what stage these research programs are? Whether he contemplates some changes or some switching of the nursing training from hospitals to educational facilities in the near future?

MR. DESJARDINS: The education of nurses, when this is done in the hospital would be covered in the appropriation of this particular hospital. The member says that there are some changes. This has not been announced. The policy in the books now of the department is the policy that was adopted by Buck Witney a few years ago. There would be a change and the education would be away from the hospital. Now this was phased in, it wasn't too rigid. There's been a lot of requests since then and there's been a brief from the MARN, Nursing Association and I did set up a committee that was representative. That committee is quite active, meeting quite often but I haven't any recommendation from them at this time.

MR. MCGILL: Mr. Chairman, then I gather that the Minister has no particular views in respect to whether or not the present hospital type training for nurses . . . I believe it really is a combined hospital and educational type training program where some of the training is done now by educational institutions and there is still a considerable amount of ward time and lecture time in the hospital itself. Is it likely or is the Minister able to say at this stage whether he would expect a recommendation from this committee that would take the whole of the training out of the hospitals and place it under the Department of Education?

MR. DESJARDINS: I really couldn't say. I would be guessing at this time. I would hope and I don't want to prejudice the funding of this report by giving any department preference because that shouldn't be done if you really mean it when you said "a committee" but I think that we would have to pretty well insist that there would be some practical training at the hospital but I think that this is something that my friend is getting at and I would be very disappointed and I don't know whether I would be ready to recommend anything else. It might be that it would appear it would be taken away

with the Department of Education but definitely it seems to me there has got to be training on the job.

MR. MCGILL: Mr. Chairman, has the Minister received any direct recommendations in respect to this research that is now ongoing? Has he received any direct recommendations from those hospitals that are now conducting the major nursing training programs. I would think of the Winnipeg General and perhaps there are others in Winnipeg and there's Brandon General. Have there been any direct communications from those hospitals that would indicate their feelings in this respect?

MR. DESJARDINS: Not really ' not official. I know that I have discussed with some people that have been interested in this and that is one of the reasons why I set up this committee and I think they're represented on it also. I think in an informal talk that I remember specifically with one person that was quite interested in a hospital run . . . but I think that they pretty well have the same concern because this is what I started the discussion on, the concern that I have that there be on-the-job practical training. It seemed to me unofficially, the one person, not necessarily the official position of that particular hospital, that it was felt that that could probably be accommodated but this would stay, there would have to be clinical or practical training in the hospital, that this would have to be done and I think that's the main concern that some of this be done.

MR. MCGILL: Mr. Chairman, I presume that the Manitoba Medical Association is also being interrogated or requested to present their views as part of the research of the committee that the Minister has set up?

MR. DESJARDINS: The terms of reference were broad and the committee was given all the latitude to invite anybody that they felt should make a recommendation and also to accept the briefs and they are doing that. I haven't had any official report, I'm kept in touch and I know because they're meeting sometimes pretty close to my office, and I know they're meeting quite often and of course I've seen it in the newspaper.

Anybody that is concerned that writes me, I automatically refer them to the chairman of the committee, I send a copy to the chairman of the committee and I suggest to them that they approach them to make a . . . even if it's just a letter, and that will go to the committee also.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Sturgeon Creek.

MR. J. F. JOHNSTON: Mr. Chairman, I would like to follow up just a little bit of the questioning regarding the community clinics and I want to say to the Minister that I fully agree with him that there are areas where the community clinics are absolutely necessary but I would like to refer him back to a statement that I believe he made when we were on Denticare when he said that one of the big problems is that they weren't going to the clinics and possibly the program would be better in the schools and I must say to the Minister if he's monitoring it and that's where it should be, I think it might be a sensible place for it to be.

But in an area such as Winnipeg or in areas where we do have good clinics, are you finding that people are, because their medical is paid, that they're going to their own doctor and not really getting the best use out of the community clinics such as in Winnipeg? Because we do have many doctors and clinics in Winnipeg and as the Minister has stated, people usually will prefer to go there and possibly not use the clinic to the maximum that we would hope it be used with the money we're spending.

MR. DESJARDINS: Well, I would think that normally the place for the clinics would be in the rural area where they might not have the same service and there are not too many in the City. Now, I'm sure that some members will disagree with me but I think we have to look at the history of some of them and the first one that comes to my mind is Mount Carmel. Before even hospitalization, you had doctors that gave their time, voluntary time, and nurses and so on to work without pay, they'd have so many hours to help a certain clientele and I know that I've been at Mount Carmel and to me it's a marvel, you know what they're doing is a miracle. I've had to walk over boxes and people sitting on steps waiting and so on. But they have a certain clientele in the core of Winnipeg, many of the native people and so on and to some of the people, this is their place, this is their clinic, they have confidence and they go there. I can say that that clinic is working to full capacity. I know about the Klinik on Broadway. You know they seem to specialize in different things. Some people that have a tendency toward committing suicide and so on, there's always somebody there that will talk to them and then on the family counselling and so on and they have their clientele.

The third one, unfortunately I'm not too familiar with the third one. Of course, they were all set up before I came in and I would have to look quite seriously and if there were any other requests from the City at this time because of the money that we're spending for the out-patient department in the different general hospitals in the City.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Line 3—pass. Line 4: Medical Program — \$86,540,000.00. The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. BROWN: I wonder if the Minister could give us a breakdown of that figure and tell us where that \$86 million is spent.

MR. DESJARDINS: This is pretty cut and dried. This is the bills that we receive from the doctors. I

can give you this, that what is shareable is that the fee for service is \$75,954,000 and the non-fee which includes provincial salaried doctors, sessional fee arrangements in various institutions, community health centre medical cost is \$6,114,000 for a total of \$82'068,000.00.

The non-shareable, if you remember the Chiropractic there is some coverage, that comes to \$2,384,000; Optometric \$1,118,000; Prosthetic and Orthodontic / \$970,000 for a total non-shareable of \$4,472,000 and the total cost is \$86,540,000.00.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Line 4. The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. SHERMAN: Can the Minister tell us, Mr. Chairman, what the retention rate is of Manitoba trained medical graduates, what kind of percentage we're looking at of graduates coming out of the Manitoba Medical College and remaining in Manitoba to practice medicine here?

MR. DESJARDINS: I gave the figures last year, I remember that, I think it was one in four and then in the rural areas it was even worse than that, but it is improving quite a bit. This is another area that's very important. I think that society and governments and the medical profession will have to cope with this because it's a bad setup now that we're not getting enough people in the north and in the rural areas, especially specialists, and we seem to have at times too many specialists in the City, especially in comparison to what we get. This is something that I served notice that I want to discuss. We have a new committee that was set up to discuss these things with the College of Physicians, the Medical Faculty and the MMA and myself that I hope to discuss. I don't know what the answer is, it might be that we do some recruiting for the people in the medical college from the rural area in the north, that might be one of the possibilities, it might be that, I know that people will yell when we talk about asking people to serve in certain areas. It might be that we'll come to that because the people of Manitoba cannot pay for this service and then train people to go somewhere else. I think that that is certainly a possibility, that would be one of the last things that you would want to do, but I think the main thing' the first priority is that — especially if we're going to have a medical program, if it's supposed to be universal, and everybody is paying for it through their taxes — that we must provide the service for all Manitoba, not only Winnipeg. But it is a problem. It's not a problem that is only in this province, it is not a problem that is only in this country, in fact we're very fortunate compared to the Third World, to the underprivileged countries in Africa and in other places like that, where not only don't they have enough but we go and we have a brain-drain from that area, and I think that that is unfortunate. I think the Federal Government has to look at that also.

Now, the government has tried to make the immigration law a little more difficult for doctors to come in here from outside of Canada but that will never be a complete success. If you don't start doing the same thing with provinces — now Ontario wanted that but if the people can't come to Ontario, they can come in other provinces because some of our people might go to Ontario or B.C. or Alberta where they might like the climate or they might have different reasons, they might want to move or maybe higher pay. They might go to Texas or places like that, we train the doctors and they can come in and offer the moon, something that nobody in Canada can match. So this is something that will not be . . . there is no easy solution but that doesn't mean that we should sweep it under the carpet. We'll have to look at that.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, did I hear the Minister correctly? Did he say that only one in four stays? He made a reference to one in four and I don't know whether that was the direct answer to my question as to how many of our Manitoba Medical College graduates do we retain. Was the answer one in four?

MR. DESJARDINS: I know that I had those figures last year. I know that I used that last year but I can't be sure, I think we'll have to — I certainly don't want to give this as a fact, I might be all wrong. I know that we weren't doing too well and I know that it was worse than that. I had all the figures for those that stayed in Manitoba; then I had the figures for those that went in the rural area, that stayed here to practice. It wasn't very good but that was the last, you know you have to have a pattern, so many years and I know that it is improving. I understand that it's improving quite a bit but it wasn't good.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for La Verendrye.

MR. BANMAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm wondering if the department has done any studies with regard to the legislation that is being passed by some of the neighboring states which would make it even more attractive for Canadian doctors to go down, and namely that they will not be forced to write any exams, they can walk right in there with their Canadian certificates. I wonder if the Minister feels' or if the department has done any studies with regard to that particular thing, will that cause a further drain on the supply that is in Manitoba?

MR. DESJARDINS: Well, there's no study that we can make. We're concerned, those are facts and no doubt as you make it easier you stand a chance of attracting more but this is something that is the responsibility of the College of Physicians and Surgeons. They are the ones that license; they are the ones that determine, not in the States mind you, but this is something they would be concerned with. They are the ones that license the people here and they are the ones that decide what kind of an examination somebody coming from another country must have. Of course we're concerned.

MR. SHERMAN: Could the Minister advise us how we compare in this capacity with other provinces in Canada, or if he doesn't have that information would he be able to supply us with some comparative information the next time the Committee meets? In terms of the brain-drain of our own medical graduates out of our province, how do we compare with other Canadian provinces in that field?

MR. DESJARDINS: Probably we can try and get you this information but I think you'll be comparing in certain cases apples and oranges. For instance, I think you have to look at the total per year that they have in their medical schools, and I know that we were way ahead of B.C. B.C. had it the other way around, everybody was going to B.C., they didn't have to train them, so the comparison might be difficult. I think that even now they have less than we have and I think that Alberta was the same thing. We have room for — what is it 100 — and they had less than that. I can try to give you the information if it's available. I'm not too sure that it's available.

MR. SHERMAN: Is the Minister suggesting also that his department is considering certain things, possibly in the area of incentives, for retention of trained medical practitioners graduating from our own medical college in rural and northern areas, that there's some incentive programs that are contemplated in the immediate future in the government's plans, incentive programs for retention of the Manitoba graduate?

MR. DESJARDINS: Well, I can give you the total numbers in the provinces, but that again is 1974. It takes so long to reach this yet in Newfoundland you had 292, Prince Edward Island 103, Nova Scotia 825, New Brunswick 520, Quebec 6,883, Ontario 9,475, Manitoba 955, Saskatchewan 850, Alberta 1,861, British Columbia 3,116, Yukon and North West Territories 35. I don't think that has changed too much. I think that, you know what incentive can you give them. There is no need to have incentive to . . . we're not in danger in Manitoba. The incentive would have to be up north and in the rural area, if anything. There is no need for incentive here. Of course the fees are an important thing. It goes without saying. I guess that is the best incentive and we are I think exactly where we belong about the fifth province in the average net income.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hour being 4:30 p.m., Private Members' Hour. Committee rise and report. Call in the Speaker.

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

IN SESSION

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The Honourable Member for Logan.

MR. JENKINS: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Point Douglas, that the report of the Committee be received.

MOTION presented and carried.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' HOUR

MR. SPEAKER: Private Members' Hour having arrived, the Honourable First Minister.

MATTER OF GRIEVANCE

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, I should like to rise on a question of privilege. It is perhaps in the order of things no more important than other occasions similar to it but it has to do with a headline in the Winnipeg Free Press of the 25th of March entitled "Schreyer Linked to Germans Over Possible Flyer Sale Talks."

There have been some questions, Sir, with respect to this of a vague kind and I undertook yesterday to follow up, to ascertain the facts, indeed there be any. And I have done so. I have checked both the appointments book for the period allegedly in question, being March and April of 1975, and also correspondence. I find that there has been no basis for suggesting that there ever was a serious prospect of any talks with respect to the purchase of Flyer by some West German firm, and certainly there are no "links" — to use the headline — such as is implied here. There is in fact a telex in which my office attempted to ascertain if indeed such a firm existed and a reply came indicating that there was no . . . I'll read the exact words. "Please give the overseas telex number for Hubner Brothers at a Munich, West Germany, address." The reply came back "No listing."

In any case, the matter was referred by my office to the Minister responsible for the MDC who then brought that to the attention through proper channels of the Chairman of the MDC, Mr. Parsons and the matter was left there.

So there is no basis for (a) suggesting that Mr. Evans agreed to a meeting and then cancelled it. That in fact is not true. Nor is it at all correct to suggest that I had meetings on this matter. In fact all that was done was a conveyance of a vague indication of possible interest, by my office, to the Honourable Sidney Green who then channeled the possible interest to Mr. Parsons.

That about sums up the matter in its entirety. And I resent, Sir, the suggestion of links, whatever innuendo is put to that term.

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MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition have a matter of privilege too?

MR. LYON: No, on the same matter of privilege, Mr. Speaker. I understand that the First Minister has released a full statement to the press with respect to the matter about which he has just spoken and I was wondering if he would favour the House with a copy of that statement.

MR. SCHREYER: Well there is no problem in doing that, Sir. The statement in essence is the statement I am making here. I understood that under the rules the best time to raise a matter of grievance is at the first opportunity. The first opportunity in a sense of the meeting of this House was at 2:30 but you weren't in House, Sir, and the Deputy Speaker being in the Chair. On reflection I thought it could be done at 4:30.

MR. LYON: I reiterate my suggestion to the First Minister. If he could make that statement available now to the House, it having apparently been available to the press for an hour or two, it would be helpful.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, I understand that there is agreement with all parties in the House that we do not proceed this afternoon with Private Members' Bills and Resolutions. If that is correct, then Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Minister of Health, that the House do now adjourn.

MOTION presented and carried, and the House adjourned until Monday at 2:30 p.m.