



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

28 Elizabeth II

*Published under the  
authority of  
The Honourable Harry E. Graham  
Speaker*



**VOL. XXVII No. 7A      10:00 A.M. Friday, February 23, 1979**

# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

Friday, February 23, 1979

Time: 10:00 a.m.

**OPENING PRAYER** by Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER, Hon. Harry E. Graham (Birtle-Russell):** Presenting Petitions . . . Reading and Receiving Petitions . . . Presenting Reports by Standing and Special Committees. . . Ministerial Statements and Tabling of Reports . . . Notices of Motion . . . Introduction of Bills.

## MATTER OF GRIEVANCE

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Winnipeg Centre.

**MR. J. R. (Bud) BOYCE:** Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Rule 27, subsection 1, I move seconded by the Member for Churchill, to set aside the ordinary business of the House and discuss a matter of urgent public importance, to wit:

The scandalous conditions of the correctional system in the Province of Manitoba resulting in a threat to public order.

**MOTION presented.**

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Winnipeg Centre has five minutes to explain the reasons for the urgency.

**MR. BOYCE:** In speaking to the urgency of the situation, Mr. Speaker, as I mentioned in the House last night, it had been drawn to my attention by Peter Warren of CJOB that in Headingley Jail, which has a capacity of 250, there was yesterday a resident population of 478 people.

It has been the practice in the past to release from six to ten people on temporary absence passes through the Community Release Centre.

I was advised that last night in a period of an hour and a half, some 40 temporary absences were being issued — or had been issued — and that these were being marked that the reason for them being allowed a temporary absence, there was not room in the institution for these people.

Further to that, Mr. Speaker, we were advised in the press recently, that an arrangement had been made that at any time releases were made on temporary absence, that the police would be informed. I am told that this did not take place.

But, Mr. Speaker, this is just but one manifestation of what is occurring in the correctional system throughout the province.

**MR. SPEAKER:** May I suggest to the honourable member that he confine his remarks only to the matter of urgency for debate.

**MR. BOYCE:** The matter of urgency, Mr. Speaker, is that when asking the Minister what he is going to do about this critical situation, he says that he is going to monitor the situation, study it. It is more crucial than that. As of yesterday I said 478 people were there. The weekend the population usually goes up. It means that we have not got the capacity to remove people from the society who, according to our laws, should be removed from our society.

The situation in The Pas is scandalous. There were plans to construct a proper Remand Centre. They were well on their way two years ago. There were plans for a juvenile facility in the north some two years ago and the Minister, to this day, has not advised this House of what he intends to do, and that the situation is increasing exponentially, Mr. Speaker.

We have an opportunity to discuss this matter, I know, under the Minister's Estimates but time is of the essence and the Minister, I believe, is in a position where he must advise the people in Manitoba how he is going to protect public order.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Government House Leader has five minutes.

**HON. WARNER H. JORGENSON (Morris):** Mr. Speaker, I can assure you that it will not take me five minutes to dispose of the nonsense being spouted by my honourable friend.

Obviously the honourable members opposite are not aware of the fact — and that is evidenced by their performance in this House — that we're in the midst of the Throne Speech Debate, which provides them with all of the opportunity that they seek.

The Throne Speech Debate is an opportunity for any member of the House to speak on any subject that he chooses. That opportunity is in existence right at the moment, I invite them to take advantage of it.

**MR. SPEAKER:** I have carefully perused Rule 27 of the Rules of this House and 27(3) states: "After any explanation made under sub-Rule 2, the Speaker shall rule on whether or not the motion under sub-Rule 1 is in order and of urgent public importance."

I also would like to quote from Beauchesne, 4th Edition, Rule 100 (3). "Urgency within this Rule does not apply to the matter itself but it means urgency of debate. When the ordinary opportunities provided by the Rules of the House do not permit the subject to be brought on early enough and public interest demands that discussion take place immediately."

I would like to inform the members that there are, as yet, many members who have not taken part in the Throne Speech Debate. The scope for debate in the Throne Speech is almost unlimited. The Member for Winnipeg Centre still has an opportunity to partake in the Throne Speech Debate on the main motion. He also has an opportunity when the House goes into Committee of Supply to raise the matter as a matter of grievance on the motion.

He also has the opportunity to raise it as a Private Member's Resolution or he has an opportunity to debate it under the Estimates.

On that basis I have to rule the motion out of order.

### ORAL QUESTIONS

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for St. Johns.

**MR. SAUL CHERNIACK:** Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the First Minister, I would like to ask the Minister of Finance whether any Member of the Conservative Cabinet of 1966 to 1969 has had any interviews with Counsel to the Tritschler Commission, relative to the terms of reference?

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

**HON. DONALD W. CRAIK(Riel):** Did the Member say from '66 to '69?

**MR. CHERNIACK:** Yes, Mr. Speaker, the Cabinet Ministers of the then Cabinet of '66 to '69. Have they had any interviews with Counsel to the Tritschler Commission relative to the terms of reference that it's dealing with? Mr. Speaker, I don't know why it's not clear, but I mean there was no Commission until this last year. There was no Counsel to the Commission until this last year. My question is, has any Member of the then Cabinet had interviews with the present Counsel to the Tritschler Commission? In other words, has the Minister of Finance, the Minister of Government Services, any of the other Ministers, the Minister of Highways, have they had any interviews with Counsel for the Tritschler Commission since its appointment in relation to the terms of reference.

**MR. CRAIK:** Well, Mr. Speaker, I think I understand the Member's question now. I'll take the question as notice.

**MR. CHERNIACK:** I appreciate that, the Honourable Minister will want to confirm with those of his colleagues who were then Ministers and that of course includes the First Minister. Then I would ask if any of the same Ministers have had any interviews with the Commissioner himself, relative to the terms of reference, and I assume the Honourable Minister will want to take that as notice.

**MR. CRAIK:** Well, Mr. Speaker, I think perhaps that falls into the same category and I'll take that as notice.

**MR. CHERNIACK:** Thank you Mr. Speaker, one final question in relation to this subject matter.

Having dealt with terms of reference, I would like to know whether any of these, the Ministers I've already referred to, have had interviews with Counsel or with the Commissioner regarding their policy decisions and their dealings with Manitoba Hydro, during their terms of office.

**MR. CRAIK:** Well, that's in the same category, Mr. Speaker.

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

**MR. LLOYD AXWORTHY:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Health. The Minister made the decision to close down the Alcohol Treatment Centre at the Health Sciences Building in Winnipeg, was proper planning undertaken to ensure that there would be proper and adequate alternative space provided by the Alcohol Foundation in Manitoba. Can you give assurances to the House that there will be full replacement for the caseloads that are carried by the Alcohol Treatment Centre at the Health Sciences Building.

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

**HON. L. R. (Bud) SHERMAN (Fort Garry):** Yes, Mr. Speaker, I can advise the Honourable Member for Fort Rouge that the decision was taken in joint co-operation between the Alcoholism Foundation, the Board of the Health Sciences Centre, the Health Services Commission and my office. It was reached after consultation with all those parties, including the Chairman of the Board of the Alcoholism Foundation. At the present time the AFM feels certain that they can accommodate their caseload. The future is the future. We will have to deal with problems if, as, and when they arise.

**MR. AXWORTHY:** Mr. Speaker, I'm afraid the Minister will find the future rushing upon him very quickly. Considering that the Director of the AFM has indicated that they will be unable to handle the situation and take the caseload within a period of a minimum of four months, what steps does the Minister now intend to take in order to provide for proper adequate replacement for the Alcohol Treatment Centre at the Health Sciences Centre, considering the statement by the Director that he can't handle the situation in four months.

**MR. SHERMAN:** Well, Mr. Speaker, the steps I'm taking are the steps that one normally takes in that kind of situation. The Director has not communicated to me that there is any impending problem on the horizon. We have discussed the fact that down the road, there may have to be additional residence facilities opened and maintained for alcoholism patients and cases. At the moment, the crisis was in emergency psychiatry and that problem was met head-on through the cooperation of the AFM, who advised me that their residential facilities were being under-utilized.

**MR. AXWORTHY:** Mr. Speaker, I would ask the Minister to explain how the AFM, which has a present capacity of 45 beds that can only handle a caseload of upwards of 150 per year, will be an adequate replacement for the Centre at the Health Sciences group, which takes a 400 caseload per year — 400 to 600 caseload per year — how, in fact, he is going to turn that particular loaves into fishes and what particular kind of miracle he has up his sleeve, to provide that kind of replacement without initiating steps now to provide for AFM to expand its bed-capacity in order to, at minimum, just replace the caseload presently handled at the Health Sciences Centre.

**MR. SHERMAN:** Mr. Speaker, all I can tell my honourable friend is, that the Chairman and Director of the AFM have assured me that there is available space in the residential facilities operated by the AFM to meet the needs at the present time. They have also assured me that they will — and as I would expect — that they will continually watch the situation and be in contact, and if we have to open new residential facilities, we will move in that direction at that time. At the moment, they assure me that there is under-utilized space in AFM residential facilities.

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

**MR. JAY COWAN (Churchill):** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question in the the absence of the Minister of Labour, is to the Acting Minister of Labour or the Minister responsible for the Workplace Safety and Health Act. I would like the Minister to confirm that nearly 15 workers at Canadian Bronze, from a period January 1st to the middle of February of this year have had to undergo treatment

for lead poisoning that they had as a result of working in high lead in air levels at that bronze plant.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister responsible for MPIC.

**HON. EDWARD MCGILL (Brandon West):** Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Labour, I will accept that question as notice from the Member for Churchill.

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

**MR. COWAN:** Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to ask the Minister then, if he can confirm that 11 out of 13 sample sites, where lead and air samples were taken at Canadian Bronze this year, have shown an excessive level. In other words, a level over the commonly accepted threshold limit values of lead and air at that plant, and that some of them have approached ten times the acceptable level.

**MR. MCGILL:** Yes, Mr. Speaker, I will also accept that question.

**MR. COWAN:** Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would ask the Minister then to undertake \$

**MR. MCGILL:** Yes, Mr. Speaker, I will also accept that question.

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

**MR. COWAN:** Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would ask the Minister then to undertake to confirm that there are numerous foundries and plants using lead in the province, not only in the city but in the Province of Manitoba that are subjecting their workers to systematic lead poisoning by not . . .

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please. The Honourable Member is making a statement rather than asking a question. I rule it out of order. If he wants to rephrase it, perhaps he has another method of bringing his . . .

**MR. COWAN:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask the Minister to undertake to confirm that many Manitoba lead-using industries are systematically poisoning their workers.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Orders of the day. The Honourable Member for Logan.

**MR. WILLIAM JENKINS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Health. Can the Minister of Health inform this Chamber whether his department, as the Minister of Health, has been monitoring and checking the blood level counts of plants in the province of Manitoba dealing with lead. And especially the schools and the areas around those schools, where I understand that the point level of contamination in the blood is .04. Has any tests been taken on children in the vicinity of at least a mile or half mile of those schools?

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

**MR. SHERMAN:** Well, Mr. Speaker, I'll have to take that question as notice.

**MR. JENKINS:** Follow-up question to the Honourable Minister of Health. Can the Honourable Minister of Health inform this House whether the laboratory testing services of the Province of Manitoba, under The Workplace Health and Safety Act, comes under his department or under the Department of Labour?

**MR. SHERMAN:** Mr. Speaker, responsibility for the Act and implementation of provisions under the Act comes, as my honourable friend knows, under the aegis of the Department of Labour; insofar as the laboratory testing function is concerned, I'll have to take that question as notice.

**MR. JENKINS:** Final supplementary, Mr. Speaker, to the Honourable Minister. In view of the fact that this is a serious situation, would the Honourable Minister use his good offices with the Minister of Labour to immediately call for an investigation into the lead poisoning that is taking place in the plants in the Province of Manitoba?

**MR. SHERMAN:** Well, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to give a qualified answer to that and say that if the Honourable Member will permit me, as he is doing, to investigate his first two questions and supply him with answers to his first two questions, we can then make the determination whether that kind of an investigation is necessary.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for St. Boniface.

**MR. LAURENT DESJARDINS:** Mr. Speaker, to the Minister of Health. This is about the ATU at the Health Sciences Centre, referred to by my friend from Fort Rouge. Could the Minister tell us if this has been closed in the name of restraint and wasn't the Minister satisfied with the good work that was being done by the staff there? Or does he feel that it's going to be done better any other place?

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

**MR. SHERMAN:** Mr. Speaker, the matter of restraint and the matter of staff expertise and commitment had nothing to do with the decision. The decision was taken because of a cooperative recognition of the fact that a major challenge faced the people of Manitoba in terms of the need for emergency psychiatric facilities in the central area of the biggest urban centre in the province; and through co-operation we were able to move to meet that emergency.

**MR. DESJARDINS:** Mr. Speaker, this is quite commendable and I agree that something should be done — had to be done — about the psychiatric emergency. But now one program that's probably not as glamorous is being sacrificed to solve that problem, the first priority that you mean? This is what the Minister is saying, isn't it?

**MR. SHERMAN:** No, Mr. Speaker, I don't feel it's being sacrificed. It's being moved and it may have to be reinforced in new locations, plural, but we'll have to deal with that in the months ahead, as we see how the ability to respond to the alcoholism problem can be met through the AFM's residential facilities.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for St. Boniface with a final supplementary.

**MR. DESJARDINS:** Then, Mr. Speaker, the Minister is saying that something that was working well is now being transferred somewhere else. There will be 24 beds closed. There's a staff who were well-known and very capable. It is a special service that they were giving for emergency, like acute care, compared to long-term rehabilitation that was done by this organization, and we're going to see if something is needed in the future, what's going to happen right now?

**MR. SHERMAN:** Well, Mr. Speaker, my honourable friend can say, "Well, then the Minister is saying, etc. etc." I don't feel that I have said what he alleges I have said. I have attempted to explain the rationale for the decision, the co-operation that went into the decision; the part that the Chairman of the Board of the AFM, himself, played in the decision and the fact that we remain sensitive to the future and the problems that may arise and will be dealt with if, as and when they arise.

As far as staff is concerned, staff will be maintained in one area of service or the other, either acute alcohol treatment or acute psychiatric treatment.

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

**MR. RUSSELL DOERN:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Health and Corrections. In view of the Ombudsman's Report, is the Minister prepared to consider a revision of the government plan to attach a juvenile wing to the Brandon Correctional; and secondly, would he also consider proceeding with The Pas, which would eliminate that problem?

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

**MR. SHERMAN:** Mr. Speaker, options of that kind, and others, are under intensive exploration by the government at the present time.

**MR. DOERN:** Mr. Speaker, I'd also ask the Minister whether he can ensure that the illegal mixture of adults and juveniles at The Pas is not leading to homosexual activity.

**MR. SHERMAN:** I can't assure my honourable friend of that, Mr. Speaker, but the segregation procedures that are maintained there are designed to ensure there is no corruption of juveniles by adults. In fact, that, I think my honourable friend knows, is a component of one of the complaints.

The segregation is so rigid that there is some difficulty in providing recreational opportunities to both sections of the population in The Pas institution.

**MR. DOERN:** Mr. Speaker, I'd also ask the Minister whether he has a solution for the dire problem at Headingley, where we've had dozens of criminals being turned loose on the streets because of overcrowding in the facility. What is his solution for that? Another study?

**MR. SHERMAN:** Mr. Speaker, we have not had dozens of "criminals" being turned loose on the streets. We have had some substantial number of offenders being turned loose on the streets. They are persons who are in the final days of their sentence. They are persons, who are processed for determination as to their sense of responsibility and their readiness to go back out on the streets. The figures provided by my honourable friend, the Member for Winnipeg Centre, with respect to the jail population and the overcrowding, and the number of temporary absences, are incorrect. I know that his intentions are sincere, but I wish to assure the House, Mr. Speaker, that they are incorrect and they are exaggerated.

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

**MR. RONALD McBRYDE:** Mr. Speaker, a question to the same Minister in regards to some further clarification on The Pas jail or the postponement of the construction of The Pas jail. I wonder if the Minister could indicate the present planning, whether the extravagancies that he referred to in the construction of that Court House and Jail complex, whether in fact all that will be eliminated in the construction now is the Court House portion, and that the jail will proceed as it was planned.

**MR. SHERMAN:** I can't confirm that, Mr. Speaker. The final determination as to the facilities in The Pas, in the corrections area, has not been made by the government.

**MR. McBRYDE:** Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Minister could explain the difference in the original costs and the tender costs of \$5.25 million and his figure that he is quoted as giving in the Opasqua Times of February 9, 1979 of \$7 million? I wonder if that drastic increase in the construction costs would be due to the delay and the dilly-dallying around this decision? Is the postponement of the decision costing nearly \$2 million?

**MR. SHERMAN:** No, Mr. Speaker, but the differences developed from the fact that we are discussing, as the honourable member well knows, a concept that has a lot of variables in it. We are discussing a concept that could include an adult institution, a juvenile institution, a courthouse, and judge's chambers. Or we are discussing something that only included one of those components, or anything in between. So that the cost, the price tag ranges over a spectrum of millions.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for The Pas with a final supplementary?

**MR. McBRYDE:** Yes, Mr. Speaker, I have another supplementary question. I wonder if the Minister could indicate then whether in a year and a half of study, whether they haven't made these basic decisions yet as to what kind of facility they want, and also, Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Minister could indicate from his quote in the same edition of the Times Opasqua Times quoting the Minister where he said, "We're prepared to fight with all our energy for the correctional institute." And I wonder if the Minister could indicate to the House who the enemy is, who is he fighting with on this issue?

**MR. SHERMAN:** Crime, Mr. Speaker.

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

**MR. PETER FOX:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, my question will be directed at the Ministry in general since the Minister of Labour is not present. In view of the unenforcement of the Workplace Safety and Health Act, as indicated by the Member for Churchill and the Member for Logan, can one

of the Members of the Ministry inform us whether the Workplace Safety Health Act Advisory Committee has met since February 24, 1978, and supplement to that, Mr. Speaker, whether it will meet if it hasn't before the 24th, and if it won't, if that is not a contravention of the Workplace Safety Health Act.

**MR. MCGILL:** Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Minister of Labour, I'll accept the two questions as notice.

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

**MR. HARVEY BOSTROM:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister responsible for Consumer, Corporate and Internal Services and it rises out of the document which was tabled in the House just yesterday, I believe. I'd like the Minister to answer why, after the fiscal report indicates that in November of 1977 the major administrative development during the year was the introduction of the inventory control systems in November, why a year later the Provincial Auditor reports that there are improper or inadequate administrative procedures being followed, one of those being, and I quote, "There's no adequate accounting procedures manual, no interim financial reports have been produced, no current information is available to demonstrate whether charge-out rates and markup remain as reasonable at the present time as they were when they were established, and why the Queen's Printer has not adopted a formal internal policy respecting control and management of inventory levels. This, Mr. Speaker, is after this department has had no less than two Conservative Ministers, who pride themselves and indicate to the public in Manitoba that they are such good business managers. Why have they not at least provided proper administrative procedures within this Department?"

**MR. JORGENSEN:** Mr. Speaker, I shall take my honourable friend's speech as notice.

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

**MR. AXWORTHY:** I'd like to ask a question of the Minister of Health. In view of the overcrowding at the Headingley Jail, will the Minister initiate a change in government policy or at least give directions to his colleague, the Attorney-General, to ask Crown prosecutors to desist from raising juveniles to adult court, thereby sort of basically referring them to Headingley Jail?

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

**MR. SHERMAN:** Well, Mr. Speaker, I'll certainly refer the question and the intent of my honourable friend's question to the Attorney-General in the course of discussions that he and I are having with respect to the whole court and sentencing system.

**MR. AXWORTHY:** I thank the Minister for his response. I would therefore ask another question. Does he intend to initiate any form of treatment services or rehabilitative services at the Headingley Jail that are directed toward juveniles considering the number of juveniles that already have been sentenced for placement in that institution?

**MR. SHERMAN:** Mr. Speaker, I can only say to my honourable friend that that's a reasonable idea, a reasonable suggestion. I'm not sure how many people we're talking about in terms of total numbers, but I'll discuss it further with the Honourable Member.

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

**MR. COWAN:** Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to address my question to the Acting Minister of Labour. Can the Acting Minister confirm that anywhere from 500 to 1,000 workers in Manitoba are currently working in industries where they may be subject to high levels of lead in air and subsequent lead poisoning?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Acting Minister of Labour.

**MR. MCGILL:** Well, Mr. Speaker, the question from the Member for Churchill seems to relate to the previous series of questions. I'll be glad to take them as well as notice.

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



**MR. COWAN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Would the Minister then take as notice the following question? Can the Minister confirm that government's refusal to adequately deal with the waste and mismanagement of Manitoba's work force is resulting in increased cost to Manitoba's economy through lost production, increased Workers' Compensation costs and medical and hospital costs resulting from the treatment of these workers who are being systematically poisoned?

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

**MR. MCGILL:** Well, Mr. Speaker, I am quite sure that the Minister for Labour will not be able to confirm the statement just made by the Member for Churchill.

**MR. COWAN:** Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to address my supplementary to the First Minister. In light of the serious crisis that exists in lead-using industries in the Province of Manitoba, and in light of the fact that the government seems unwilling to adequately deal with this crisis within existing legislation, is the First Minister prepared to call for a Royal Commission to investigate this systematic poisoning of Manitoba's workers?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please. May I point out to the Honourable Member for Churchill that any question cannot contain a statement of opinion. Therefore I rule the question out of order. Would the Honourable Member for Churchill care to rephrase his question?

**MR. COWAN:** Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker, for the opportunity to rephrase the question. Question to the First Minister. Is the First Minister prepared to call for a Royal Commission to investigate the conditions of work in the lead-using industries in Manitoba that appear to be systematically poisoning the workers in those industries?

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

**MR. STERLING LYON(Charleswood):** Mr. Speaker, without accepting in any way, shape or form the allegations of the Member for Churchill, I'm quite prepared to take his question as notice and to have the appropriate Ministers respond as to actions, studies and so on that are currently going on with respect to that problem.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Ste. Rose.

**MR. A. R. (PETE) ADAM:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I'm not sure which Minister I should address my question to, perhaps the Minister of Consumer and Internal Affairs. But I want to ask the government, has the Provincial Government had any discussions with respect to a rationing of motive fuels?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Orders of the day. The Honourable Member for Ste. Rose, with another question.

**MR. ADAM:** Well, Mr. Speaker, this is a pretty important question. I wonder if whoever is responsible could answer that question. Has the Provincial Government had any discussions with respect to the proposed rationing of fuels throughout Canada if that becomes necessary?

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

**MR. JORGENSON:** Not, Mr. Speaker, not to my knowledge.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for St. Rose with a supplementary.

**MR. ADAM:** Could I ask then, Mr. Speaker, does the Provincial Government have any contingency plans, or do they plan to investigate the possibility of having to allocate fuel for essential services?

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

**MR. CRAIK:** Mr. Speaker, perhaps I should reply to the question by the Member for Ste. Rose and indicate to him that the only action that is under way is the action by the Federal Government

who have brought a Bill into the House to deal with the question to provide the Federal Government with emergency powers in the event that an oil crisis should occur in Canada. It's similar to the legislation that was in effect in 1974 and which expired and has now been re-entered as a result of the problems, primarily on the East Coast of Canada. There hasn't been cause for us to take action in Manitoba. We're probably adequately protected in our opinion, although we don't in any way expect it to extend to this part of Canada.

**MR. ADAM:** Could the Minister then assure the House that, in the event that there is some emergency, that they will look into this immediately. in the event that there is a crisis in western Canada in this respect?

**MR. CRAIK:** The Member can be assured of that.

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

**MR. DOERN:** Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct a question to the First Minister. Is he prepared to undertake any action in an attempt to meet the violations of the juvenile law so as not to be in violation of the law, which his government clearly is, as expressed by the report of the Ombudsman.

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

**MR. LYON:** Mr. Speaker, is my honourable friend referring to the last 15 months or to the nine years preceding, or to the 20 years preceding that, or what period is he interested in?

**MR. DOERN:** Mr. Speaker, I'm referring to the last 18 months, and I'm also referring to the 12 years that his government under Roblin and Weir were in power and when he was Attorney- General and when he was aware of these violations; could he expound on that period?

**MR. LYON:** Mr. Speaker, perhaps for purposes of elucidation, the Honourable Member could clarify for me if he is really concerned about the period 1969 to 1977 as well, which period was mentioned by the Ombudsman in his report?

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

**MR. DOERN:** Can I answer that question, Mr. Speaker? I would indicate to the Minister that our government intended to build and had the plans and released the contract. Your government has done nothing.

The second question I would like to ask to the monitoring Minister, is would he be prepared to take one of the following actions in order to correct the scandalous conditions in this province in Corrections at The Pas, at Headingley and so on. Would he be prepared to do one of the following: either appoint a new Corrections Minister or, secondly, release the funds for the construction of new needed facilities in this province?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Orders of the day. The Honourable First Minister.

**MR. LYON:** Mr. Speaker, my honourable friend, I believe, addressed, or some of his colleagues addressed similar questions yesterday and today to the appropriate Ministers and have received appropriate answers.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Orders of the day. The Honourable Member for Flin Flon.

**MR. THOMAS BARROW:** I address my question, Mr. Speaker, to the Deputy Minister of Labour. Would the Acting Minister undertake to inform the Minister of the importance of getting the lead but and inquiring into all lead conditions which are serious in the mining industry?

#### ORDERS OF THE DAY — THRONE SPEECH DEBATE

**MR. SPEAKER:** On the proposed motion of the Honourable Member for Springfield and the amendment moved by the Honourable Leader of the Opposition, the Honourable Member for Wolseley has 32 minutes left.

**MR. ROBERT G. WILSON:** Mr. Speaker, I listen with interest to the Opposition, and I have a number of suggestions for them and how they might have built all those facilities and how they might have examined some of the questionable decisions that they made which caused untold amounts of money to be squandered by the former government. But because there was some important union officials here, and other people who were interested in what our government has been doing, I thought I would share some of my highlights of the Throne Speech and indicate that in many sections I feel we may not have gone far enough. Some of the suggestions are my own, but at the same time they indicate a thrust that I hope the Cabinet might take to help improve the economy in the province. And certainly, when it comes to the liquor for private vendors, I thought it was an excellent idea, but I feel the sale of beer and wine should be expanded to the corner grocery stores. However, I would stop short of the sale of hard liquor outlets at this time in the large urban centres.

I think we can earmark a share of these increased profits for an additional per capita grant for police protection. Because the area that I represent has one of the largest crime rates because of the lack, it seems, of funding for police protection in the core areas of the city. To get this money I think we are long overdue and certainly last March I wrote to the Minister about modernizing our liquor laws.

I think the citizens have a right to the stand-up bars and other liberal things that are happening across Canada and the United States. I think we have to eliminate some of those ridiculous square footage requirements of that former czar of the Liquor Commission, Mr. Syms, and some of his building requirements. I know of numerous requests to spend large amounts of capital investment in this province if our laws are liberalized. There are many eastern firms waiting to build and expand into the Manitoba section and the Manitoba area of Canada and Manitoba should become a fun place to be again. I think by taking the state out of all these ridiculous regulations will allow a new type of after work atmosphere that prevails across Canada. We could have happy hours available to the people who work so hard in our business section, and the certainly the office workers deserve these cut-rate prices that they could have and should enjoy.

Many areas enjoy the local English pub style; many have what they call peanut bars where you can stand and enjoy a pint of beer together with the foodstuffs that are available at a very reasonable, workingman's price. I think the establishments, these new establishments which in most cases are attached to hotels seem to be a requirement and should be abolished and done away with.

I think it's very important that other areas of improvement be looked by our government. I think we should be training all our ambulance drivers, especially in Brandon and other areas to look at the pulmonary cardiac arrest problem with heart attacks. So many people die because of the lack of training by our ambulance drivers, and I think those precious minutes and seconds are something that we could do if our present government looks at some of the horror stories of Members Opposite, eliminates them and uses those funds for these types of particular improvements.

I am very delighted that the First Minister in his Speech from the Throne has talked about a particular thing, near and dear to myself and which I felt should have been long overdue and which is one of the many questionable and unfair things the former government did, and that's to amend the Metallic Mineral Royalty Act. I can think of no other thing. If our Cabinet could get moving on this right away without wasting another minute we could overcome this lost NDP blunder.

Let us review the past facts and some of the things that are so important to the north, and I am glad the Member for The Pas is here, because that blunder has caused us, because of lack of productivity and other things, just think of the sale of our power that could be sold in the north. If the Thompson smelters were operating at full capacity Inco would buy our power. It has been suggested that they use more, or possibly the equal amount, as purchased by the entire City of Winnipeg. And this commodity that Inco sells is fresh new dollars to our economy. And think about the total new quality of life in the north with these fresh new dollars. The increased retail sales, we've got to look at the entire umbrella, the new clothes and automobiles and the new quality of life. We could reduce the unemployment, the welfare in the north.

Until this amendment takes place zero is going to happen up there, because you know why? The former NDP, they wanted 35 percent of the gross profits, after taxes had been paid, and this was a form of double taxation. What happened? Exploration was curtailed. The profits weren't there so the companies went elsewhere. And don't think that these minerals aren't available in other parts of the world. Mr. Carter, I believe, one of the heads of Inco, on November 9th said the future of Thompson is in the hands of this current government. And this one action, Mr. Speaker, I suggest would stem the outflow of people from the north.

And when you look at the oil part of it, which is one of the horror stories one of my constituents should be partly responsible for, because we can look that in 1974 a number of lawyers in the Boissevain area, and even the Shell people, set up an office to take out leases in the entire area. But guess what? Not one well was drilled because of the taxation by the NDP — and I call it

without compensation." And I think that we have promised in our speech to do something and I think that this immediate amendment would help. Just take for instance, if you could produce — and I know of the recent discoveries by this same Shell company in North Dakota — had almost the bushfire type of enthusiasm to get on with exploration in southeastern Saskatchewan. Why not Manitoba? We've got to amend this Act immediately and hold the former government responsible. And I would think that if you think of the balance of payments to this province, think of a barrel of oil being produced in Manitoba instead of having to import that same barrel from the Middle East, from Venezuela. And that crude oil, marketed here, definitely helps the Manitoba economy.

And I am one who says we can't carry this burden of shame, this banner of shame, any longer. We've got to get on with the job of creating commodities. And I can tell you I've attended meetings with the Minister of Agriculture, and my colleagues will be speaking about the enthusiasm of the new crops and sales and items that are going to take place that are going to cause the boom to agriculture to take place in this province. So I would think, Mr. Speaker, that I am very enthusiastic about our record to date, and I think the Speech from Throne indicates where we're going. I note with interest that our new Minister of Tourism has done something that the globe-trotting Member from Burrows did not do, and that is to sit down with the Federal Government and get those much needed fresh dollars to get a very viable industry moving, namely tourism.

Well, I left off yesterday — and before I get into some of my other suggestions — I noticed Mr. Martin was in the gallery, and I for one am one who, in responding to the questionnaires from my constituents in Wolseley are demanding that there be a ban, and it's a very serious move, but it's one that has to happen that there be a ban in certain essential services in the strike area. We've got to do something to curtail these strikes. The people are saying to me in their questionnaires that they've paid their taxes and why should they continue to pay their taxes without protection and they want the right to strike by the police force ended immediately and this is the question I'm getting loud and clear because the ambulances in certain cases can't get through.

Think of some of the essential services and some of the subversive activities that take place when the police are on strike. I think this inconvenience to the majority of people by certain minority and well-paid union officials, some of who make the heads of some of our so-called free enterprise corporations, their wage-scale and their expense accounts make their particular salaries look sick, and they have the gall to say that they represent the working man. They've long since forgotten about them in the name of justifying their jobs by inciting strikes in essential services and I think this has to end.

Well, I'm sorry that the Member from Elmwood and the former Tourism Minister are not here, because yesterday I could have told them how they could have built The Pas jail and I know it would interest the Member, of all people, to stand up and talk about an addition to Brandon and The Pas jail. How can we forget his electric cars; his two or three plush offices that he had. How can we forget that frozen washroom across yonder? How can we forget the Logan Street garage and how can we forget how he was partly responsible for the 43,000 photographs that were taken in one year, most of them of Members Opposite and how can we forget \$170,000 in art purchases and some of them in most questionable artistic taste? How can we forget that same Member who's yelling for an addition to the Brandon jail, having those fancy and very expensive renovations to the Snowdon Building in his own Constituency? Now, he's a nice fellow but he's very, very expensive and a very expensive Socialist with taxpayers' money. He very conveniently sits next to the Member from Burrows, who, on the one hand, talks about his poor people and working people in his area, and at the same time travels to Ghana and other points of the world and he may be writing a novel on the places I've been as a Socialist because he certainly did enough travelling. In fact, Mr. Speaker, looking at Public Accounts, one thinks in many occasions I'm unfair to the Opposition, but looking at Public Accounts — \$29.8 million dollars on Page 44 and the classification is broken up as accommodation, meals, government vehicles, commercial aircraft use and employees' relocation expenses and the main thing is the travel expenses of the globe-trotting civil servants and members of the Cabinet and those that went in their place by Members Opposite during the period of time and on Page 44, it says that in 1976-77, \$ 15.3 million of taxpayers' money.

Just think of what we could have done with that money. We could have got on with the job of building the jail at The Pas. We could have got the extra bedsheets that the Member from St. Boniface was worried about. Just think of 1977-78.

**MR. DESJARDINS:** Mr. Speaker. On a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for St. Boniface.

**MR. DESJARDINS:** I'm not a bit worried about any bedsheets and I've never mentioned any

in this House last year, so you better get your Member straight' fella.

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

**MR. WILSON:** Mr. Speaker, I have to read Hansard but it seems to me that these questions are cleared in caucus and it would seem to me the Member for St. Boniface could have stopped the person who raised that ridiculous question in the first place. In 1977-78, and I hope my time will not be taken away by these interruptions, but \$14.5 million. I would suggest that our Cabinet has done an excellent job in saying that civil servants must now get the approval of their Minister and I would look forward to this \$29.8 million under our term of office being drastically reduced and I would look forward to our particular government collecting many of the unpaid moneys owing to the government that Members Opposite did not collect when they were in terms of office.

Let's look at the 250 some odd thousand dollars owed by the people that leased our aircraft under Saunders. Let's look at the lawyer down in Colombia, that's sitting with \$25,000 of our money in his trust account. These things can be collected in a very, very easy fashion.

You talk about horror stories — you just have to look at what the Auditor, who is always very kind to the government, said about Venture Tours. Well, even the Member from St. Johns who wants to sell Inco, said that it was one of the horror stories because there was no documentation available. The Member from Burrows who was the Tourism Minister at the time — where was he monitoring Venture Tours and Hecla Island? Well, he was probably at the Olympics. You see, these are the type of things I'm talking about. The lack of dealing to get the grants from the Federal Government, just travelling around espousing to protecting his Constituents. I think with our new enthusiasm and the recognition in the educational sector of increased grants, that I can look forward to his majority being decreased in subsequent elections and maybe there'll be a replacement for him when people realize he truly is Gentle Ben and he truly is not a true Socialist. I would like to challenge the media who refuse to print any of these horror stories, to look at Page 44 of the Public Accounts and to ask questions about Venture Tours and this is why I welcome the opportunity to put this on the record.

Naturally, since the impolite Members Opposite are too reluctant to sit in their seats, but the Member from The Pas is here; the former Minister of Northern Affairs, I want to talk about, if I could for a moment, his famous project, or something that he certainly knew was going on, and that's the Socialist throne project that I started to talk about yesterday. The dealing with composite toilets in the north and what an absolute waste of \$480,000 of taxpayers' money. You know, this same Minister could have got this information from the Institute of Plumbing Contractors; certainly Cranes or Emco or anybody in the private sector would have told him these composite toilets wouldn't work in permafrost conditions; that the fans would freeze up; that the people in the north had to have a fantastic staff incentive educational program in order to tell them how to care for and maintain these. These are the type of toilets that can only stand a limited use and when they had one of their NDP rallies, if these things were used to a great extent, they would overflow, with all the noxious waste and everything and break up their meetings and cause some of their people to leave their homes and this is the type of thing that I'm talking about.

The poor people of Arborg had these people come in who were paid by taxpayers' money. They even had a van, a trailer I believe, and they planted these aquatic vegetation projects, they planted all these bulrushes and cattails and everything, and they're going to break up all the human waste. But they couldn't get any of the local people to harvest the crop at the end of the year, and they couldn't get any of the local farmers to feed the cattle with this type of vegetation. —(Interjection)— Well, this is what happens, you see, because then the Staff Incentive Program had to go out and harvest this crop. This is the kind of absolutely questionable waste of taxpayers' money that is now being avoided, and we're going to put that money to personal care beds. We're going to put that money to helping to build new hospitals and the interim leader will possibly some day get his improvements to his Selkirk Hospital.

And speaking about him and the Member for Selkirk, I'd be remiss if I didn't notice the change and reduction in the famous NDP legal staff that they tried to put into place; and the huge reduction in the spread of legal aid as they went out beating the bushes for business. Our courts are certainly jammed enough; they shouldn't have done this till they had built a new Law Courts Building, or something. So I look forward, indeed, to an improvement — and I think our current Minister, you'll see that the court system is working under him. I've even heard that some of the provincial judges have less time to spend on the golf course.

I really honestly believe — and I support the Member for Selkirk — in looking at some of the many things that him and I shared regarding getting the court system to work, but he was under a great deal of pressure from his colleagues, over opposite, to waste this money.

I would be remiss if I didn't continue to say that these type of projects, the Throne project and

the other projects instituted by members opposite, and we've had such an improvement in the attitude of doctors and it's funny that the research people or the NDP are leaking all these stories to the press about doctors leaving the city. They've long previously made their arrangements. Some of them are halting those arrangements because of our enthusiasm.

Every one of these doctors now has an opportunity to get a decent return and to look forward to co-operation with the doctors. We don't have these horror stories that took place when the Minister was there, where one particular doctor under the MMA — one of his doctors was engaged. I have a document here and I guess I'm becoming sort of the CIA, or whatever it is, of this side because I get so many former civil servants giving me these horror stories of the former government I can't keep up with them, but I've got a letter here where one particular doctor, under the former Member for St. Boniface, was engaged in not medicine, but engaged in the selling of arms to Egypt and Sudan, sort of merchants of death, not medicine. And another headline in the paper said that the interns were fooling the hospitals; that many had come into this province without the supervision of the Minister and the MMA and were actually operating as interns, and what have you, producing doctors credentials from Bombay, and other places, and the headline says: "Intern fools City Hospitals."

I can assure you that under our government and my watchful eye that people are going to get operated on by basically, qualified doctors who have proper certification.

So, Mr. Speaker, if you wrap things up by simply saying that you could go on for many many hours talking about the waste of members opposite, and I particularly would like to assure the Member for Burrows that my concern in examining the \$90 million spent at the University of Manitoba is a deep concern that I had because many of these people in my constituency have a like sort of wage type of scale as exists in Burrows. We have a like constituency.

I have yet to take a trip at taxpayers' expense. The former Member for Burrows took 26 in one year, let alone all the others that were hidden. I'm staying there sending out questionnaires, asking about the needs of my people and attempting to get Cabinet to make some distinctive changes. —(Interjection)—

I would like to particularly say . . . —(Interjection)— the Member for The Pas is chirping from his seat. He'll have a chance to respond to the Socialist Throne product that he pushed in the north on the permafrost. He'll have a chance to talk about that. I get a big kick out of . . . they've interrupted me and changing my train of thought, but I get a big kick out of the Member for Ste. Rose, who stands up there and espouses for the little man of Socialism.

In the meantime we were committed to \$190,000 grant by the former Member for St. Boniface, to put a ski hill in the Agassiz area and they formed a corporation. We went along with this particular commitment. But, Mr. Speaker, I need your advice because the Member for Ste. Rose has offered to sell me his shares in the Agassiz Ski Resort. I want to make sure that now that we have given that resort \$190,000, that if I buy those shares from the Member for Ste. Rose there won't be any conflict of interest.

**A MEMBER:** When did he get the shares, Bob?

**MR. WILSON:** Well, many Socialists under the particular guise of socialism are really free enterprisers. Even the Member for Burrows, after he was defeated, attempted to get some federal grant to get involved in an educational project that would have made him a lot of money.

So these are the kind of things that I am talking about; espousing socialism on one hand and then being free enterprisers on the other. —(Interjection)— Well, I really enjoy and can encourage people to say that there is nothing like leaving people alone to get into the enthusiasm of the work ethic. I think there's many speeches and comments available and I'd like to close by dictating one by Mrs. Thatcher, who says that: "Real jobs are created by skill and energy of those in industry and commerce who seek the market need and to satisfy it. The most useful thing a government can do is to assist and encourage this natural process. Above all, governments must not impede it." And I will do whatever I can to encourage the changes that are going to take place and I've suggested to my ministers, some things and get on with the job. I would think that if some of these things take place we could look forward to a real interesting quality of life in Manitoba.

And I encourage many of our former Conservatives and former Liberal businessmen who are taking so much of our money and investing in other particular areas of the country, in Seattle and other areas, to bring their money back home because we now have a Conservative government. And it looks, by the weak opposition, that we are going to be here for years to come and they can build their plants, assured of at least 12 years of Conservative government.

I would think that the threats of the interim leader to tell them to head back to Toronto, and other particular businessmen that come in here, we welcome the private sector. I would suggest that even our government will be looking at stimulating some extra projects such as The Pas jail,

to help some of the construction industry in the slow period, if they ever get off strike. This is one of the problems we have.

Well I also promised that I would answer the Member for Burrows who is writing that novel of all the places he has been. I would ask him that I am looking at the university likewise, to say that \$90 million in taxpayers' money spent, there must be some fat you could trim off there. We've got to stop them from giving such generous wage negotiations. We've got to stop some of these university professors from only teaching 11 and 15 hours a week. We've got to return that dedication to the education in Manitoba. We've got to encourage the dedication that everybody should have because we now have a Conservative Government that is getting on with job of having an enthusiastic and bright future for the economy of Manitoba.

I will continue to monitor and look at some of the things that our government . . . and I will look for continued horror stories in the government because out of those horror stories our Cabinet is making the necessary changes in policy to put that money to better use. I look forward to the Member for The Pas answering his question that I have raised about some of the projects and about his use of the red airforce and other things that took place and how our government is now saving money. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for St. Vital.

**MR. D. JAMES WALDING:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's always a somewhat dubious pleasure to follow the Honourable Member for Wolseley.

Mr. Speaker, let me first join with former members who have spoken in the House in expressing some satisfaction in seeing you continue in that position as Speaker. We've all come to recognize your fairness and integrity in presiding over the proceedings of this House over the last two sessions.

I'd like to also congratulate the Mover and Seconder of the Speech from the Throne who carried out their duties in a competent manner.

Members of this House also recognize another virtue of yours, Mr. Speaker, and that is your well-known sense of humour so I am sure you will not take it amiss when I draw a conclusion from a recent advertisement in the paper that it would seem that you are going into a commercial enterprise during this session, perhaps to wile away those long evenings when we are in Estimates Committee. I refer to an ad in the Tribune of the 26th of January which seeks the services of experienced transcribers-typists which comes under the Department of Legislation, I understand it's under your supervision, Mr. Speaker, and it says toward the end of the required qualifications, "Incumbents will be required to do 'shirt' work." I'm wondering if you are intending to set up a little tailoring business in the Speaker's Office.

I notice the Member for Roblin began his remarks a couple of days ago, Mr. Speaker, in referring to the Throne Speech as an exciting document. Any member who considers a Throne Speech, any Throne Speech, to be an exciting document should try reading the telephone directory; he'd find it absolutely fascinating, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, one of the main replies from the government side to my Leader's remarks was from the Minister of Mines who came very well prepared to the Chamber with a whole sheaf of statistics which he used to good effect. He had gathered a number of statistics which of course showed the government in good light as opposed to the statistics gathered by this side which showed just the opposite. And that's what much of the debate in this House is about. I don't intend to enter that battle of statistics although any figures that I might come up with this morning I will try to do so on the same basis that the government did, and that is to use 1977 as a base year, and to make their comparisons with the last year of our administration as opposed to the statistics that we brought forward which showed 1978 as a comparison with other provinces. Both comparisons are of course valid.

The Minister of Mines took issue with our Leader's use of the term "efficiency." When we use the term efficiency we mean it in the wider context of the government's handling of the economy over the past year, of its general programs and priorities, of its concern for the well-being of our citizens, their social, economic and fiscal responsibilities, the choices that they have made in handling the public's affairs. Anything of a subjective nature that comes from members on this side is of course suspect by honourable members so I will try to assess their performance and their progress over the last 16 months in terms of conservative standards and one independent observer from down east.

Mr. Speaker, this is an opportune time to review the government's performance for the last 16 months for it is almost 16 months to the day that they took office and if we consider that the normal term of a government is four years then 16 months is exactly one-third of their term. For a government that appears to be ruling on the three envelope theory of government, they have now concluded with the first envelope and it's time to move on to the second one. We hear remarks

from some of the members still that the problems facing this province are still the responsibility and are to be blamed on the previous government. Those arguments are starting to wear just a little but thin, Mr. Speaker, and Manitobans are now looking to the government and saying, well you've been in government now for 16 months, what are you doing about the situation?

I'd like to just refer back briefly, Mr. Speaker, to 1977 and review for members what the position of the Conservative Party was at that time. I do so by referring to a couple of Conservative leaflets, Mr. Speaker. If members on that side would like to thump their desks I'll give them a reason to do so and quote from two pamphlets that were put out shortly before the election, although there is no date on them. They were put out under the name of a well-known Conservative MLA of that time who was subsequently re-elected and is now a member of the Treasury Bench.

**MR. WALDING:** He listed three challenges. Firstly, unemployment, secondly, government ownership of business and third, government waste and high taxes. These were the issues that were identified at that time by the Conservative party, and they said in this pamphlet the government shouldn't own businesses, and I will read it for you. It will sound like music to the ears of gentlemen opposite, I am sure. "The NDP are wasting literally tens of millions of dollars of your money on government owned businesses. That money could be better spent providing services to senior citizens, repairing roads, helping to preserve older neighbourhoods in Winnipeg, or providing adequate recreational facilities in Northern Manitoba. And that's how your money will be spent by a PC government. Doing jobs you want government to do under the PCs the government of Manitoba will get out of business." Further, on the same pamphlet, Mr. Speaker, they say, "We'll save the millions that are now being wasted on government-owned businesses, and we'll use those savings to lower the tax rates — personal income tax rate, increase the Province's share of education costs, to lower property too. We'll eliminate the succession duties in the mineral acreage tax, those will be the first steps in restoring a competitive taxation system to Manitoba."

And one more quotation from another Conservative pamphlet of the same time, issued by the same Member. It said, "A Progressive Conservative commitment is to reduce income taxes and the small business tax so that our people and our companies can compete with those in our neighbouring provinces, thus putting more money into our marketplace, and creating more jobs. It is through the private sector that we will create the kind of longterm employment opportunities that Manitoba desperately needs."

Now Mr. Speaker, the approach of the Conservatives at the last election was obviously a popular one. It caught the imagination of the voters of Manitoba, who could see, if they were to believe the Conservative party, that government expenditures would be reduced, and that there would be savings in the form of taxes. Now that's a very attractive proposition, Mr. Speaker, because we all like to have more money in our pocket. We all like to have our taxes saved. And everyone believes in restraint. Restraint has a nice sound to it; it sounds efficient and business-like. The people of Manitoba obviously thought that if the government was restraining its spending everyone would have money in their pockets, that because of the less involvement in the public sector, that when incentives were given to business, that the economy would bloom, that capital and businesses would flock to Manitoba, there would be a high circulation of money, the economy would boom and everyone would be rich. Well 49 percent of the voters agreed with that assessment. We now have a chance to see what has happened to that Conservative dream of a year ago.

Now, I happen to have a copy of a little report sent out by many of the members opposite, which has been quoted from before, and this one was sent out by a Member of the Treasury Bench, and it had been referred to before by other members on that side, that taxes have been reduced by \$83.00 for every man, woman and child in this Province. Now I wouldn't necessarily believe some of the members on that side that said that, but this particular pamphlet is put out by the Member for Riel, who is the Minister of Finance. And, Mr. Speaker, if you cannot believe the Minister of Finance of this Province, who speaks with all of the authority of the Head of the Treasury Branch, a very prominent Conservative Cabinet Minister, then who can you believe?

Before I go on to deal with this a little bit further, one thing that caught my eye on the back of it, and that is a little quotation from the Premier of the Province, who says, "I want to personally assure you". He should have checked with his Minister of Education before he put that in there, Mr. Speaker, because his Minister of Education would have told him that it's a split infinitive and very poor grammar.

Anyway, the first item on the record pamphlet put out by the Conservative party is one that takes pride of place. "Reduced Provincial taxes by \$83 million for 1978." That was \$83.00 less for each man, woman and child under the last year of the NDP.

Okay, I don't want to go into statistics on this matter, or figures, I'd like to bring it down to a more personal level, something that we can all understand on a personal basis. It so happened, Mr. Speaker, that over the last weekend I sat down to do my income tax return for 1978. I worked



on it for quite some time until I came down to the end of the back page and that is where a filer calculates his federal tax and his provincial tax. What I found when I came down to figuring out my provincial income tax payable was that due to the government's reduction of the personal income tax rate from 56 percent to 54 percent, that I was paying \$19.30 less than I would have done under the other rate. \$19.30, Mr. Speaker.

Now, I am a family of five. I have a wife and three children. So I looked on there for \$83.00 for me and for my wife, and for each of our children, which comes out to \$415.00, Mr. Speaker. And I looked through that form, and I went back right to the beginning and worked through it again to find out where the \$415.00 was that the Minister of Finance says that he will give me. Not only the Minister of Finance, the Member for Pembina, the Member for Wolseley, the Member for Roblin, several other members all want to give me, give my family \$415.00, Mr. Speaker. But I didn't find it. All I found was \$19.30. It wasn't even the \$83.00 that I had been promised. But, ah, there is more to it, Mr. Speaker.

I went back to when these tax changes were made, and I found that the \$83.00 or the \$83 million was more than just income tax. There was in fact a sales tax provision in this taxation package. And then I recalled from the budget last year that the Minister of Finance had reduced my sales tax by one percentage point. The government had put in \$20 million for six months. So in order to be fair about this matter of tax relief for my family I had to go back last year to find out, or to estimate, how much I had spent in sales taxable purchases last year, and to work out what one percent of it was. So I went back to my cheque book, went through it very carefully, eliminating those items in it which were of a non-sales tax nature, such as mortgage and food and things of that type, and I came up with an estimate for those six months of taxable purchases of just over \$1,500.00. Now that seemed to be a little bit low so I rounded it out at \$2,000, of which the Minister of Finance had saved me one percent. One percent for those six months is \$20.00. So I was now up to \$39.30. Now that's getting just a little closer to \$83.00 that the Minister had promised me, but still a long way from the \$83.00 for every man, woman and child or \$415.00 that I had been promised.

So I sat down to try to figure this out and took out a cigarette to help me concentrate, and then it occurred to me Mr. Speaker, that on each packet of cigarettes the Minister of Finance was charging me for the last year, an extra five cents a packet in tax. You will recall at the last budget, the same time that the other tax changes came in, another five cents a packet. On an estimate of one packet a day, that cost me an additional \$18.25 last year in additional taxes.

Not only that, but having finished my tax return, I sat down to fill in my Autopac return application and I found that there was an additional charge this year over last year of \$9.00. Now again I went back to find out why this should happen, and I found out that the Minister of Finance had diverted some of Autopac's revenue, to the tune of some \$7 million, to Provincial revenues, causing the Autopac rates to go up by some 5.5 percent, I believe. So, according to the Minister's tax changes I was being charged another \$9.00. So I put that on the other side too.

Then there was one other thing that occurred to me, Mr. Speaker, and that was that in filling out the income tax form it's necessary to take certain figures off of a property tax form. So I went back to my 1978 property tax bill and my 1977 property tax bill, and I found that my 1978 property tax bill was \$65.00 higher than the year before. Now, I cannot in all fairness attribute that entirely to the actions of this government. Certainly some of the increase for that year was due to cutbacks by this government to the City of Winnipeg, part of it was probably due to increases in other expenses that the City had. But one thing for certain, Mr. Speaker, the amount of the property tax credit, \$225.00, did not increase in 1978, as it did in 1977 and 76 and 75, 74, all tee years before.

It was usual during our term of office to increase the advance on the property tax credit in line with inflation, and you can be sure, Mr. Speaker, that had we been in government last year, that that would have been increased by the usual amount of \$25.00. As part of the government's restraint programme we did not get that \$25.00 increase in the credit. So in order to be fair to the government I won't include the \$65.00 as an additional charge but merely just the \$25.00 that I did not get in an increased credit. So the situation then becomes that the government Minister of Finance, far from giving me \$415.00 for my family, has given me \$19.30 on my income tax form, \$20.00 on sales tax, for \$39.30. On the other hand, I am paying \$18.25 more in tobacco tax, \$9.00 more for my Autopac, and \$25.00 on my property taxes, for a total of \$52.25. So, Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Finance saves me \$39.00 in taxes and charges me \$52.00 in restraint. Well, I have to say to the Minister of Finance, Mr. Speaker, please don't reduce my taxes anymore, I can't afford it.

Now I only mention there two of the restraint measures, Mr. Speaker, but there were other restraint measures that were brought in at the same time, and had I taken a bus to work each day last year it would have cost me more in restraint because the bus fares went up last year. If I'd been a student or a member of my family had been a student, restraint would have cost

me more money in additional university tuition fees. If I'd had a relative in a nursing home, again restraint would have cost me even more money. If I had consulted a legal aid lawyer last year, it would have cost me another \$35.00 as a deterrent fee in more restraint costs. So I got away fairly lightly' Mr. Speaker, as far as the government restraint program and I did get just a little bit of relief on my income tax form.

But over the last few days I have also filled in a tax form for a constituent of mine, a lady of advanced years who is a widow living in her own home. She has a total income for the year of about \$5,000, Mr. Speaker, so she has no taxable income at all and she doesn't pay any income tax to the provincial government. So the reduction of two percentage points in there doesn't help her one little bit. She doesn't get her \$83.00 that the Minister of Finance has provided her. She gets nothing from that.

On the other hand, since she is paying property taxes, she gave up or did not get that \$25.00 in the property tax credit increase that I've referred to before, so she is even worse off than I am.

I'd like to turn now to an independent view of the province's economy and this comes from the Globe and Mail, January 12. It's their report on business by a Mr. Roger Newman, who is not known to be a socialist and it's one of a series of reviews of Canadian provinces that the Globe and Mail ran.

Now, I won't read all of it because of the time, but I've selected a number of specific items in here that I wanted to refer to. And it begins: "A modest improvement in Manitoba's economic fortunes is being forecast this year." A little further along he says: "This lack of opportunities is forcing some of the province's citizens to move elsewhere to earn a living. Statistics Canada has forecast that if present trends continue, Manitoba's population will shrink from a peak of 1,021,000 in 1976 to about 965,000 by the turn of the century. The loss of population through migration could be a real impediment to the province's further growth as a shrinking market will not greatly interest many entrepreneurs."

Further down, and this is the good news: "Clearly, however, it is agriculture rather than any provincial action that is the base of the current modest recovery. Because of good sales of both grain and livestock products, Manitoba farm cash receipts rose nearly 25 percent to \$1.12 billion last year, the first significant improvement since 1975. The declining value of the Canadian dollar has also been a blessing for the province's farmers since the prices of Canadian agricultural commodities have been progressively raised to compensate for the devaluation. This means that in the case of export wheat, for example, farmers are getting about \$1.00 a bushel more than a year ago just to make up for the weakness in the dollar." Then there are a few statistics on amounts.

Then he goes on: "Manitoba's manufacturing industries, meanwhile, are being stimulated to a high level of activity by prairie agricultural prosperity and by increased sales stemming from the depreciated dollar.

"The province's important garment industry, for example, which consists of 100 companies with 7,000 employees is finding that for the first time it can compete with the now higher priced clothing imports from the far east. As a result the industry increased its sales 25 percent to \$200 million in 1978, reaching a volume not expected until 1981."

Now there's a certain irony there, Mr. Speaker, that I'm sure has not escaped your notice. That the two main strengths of the Manitoba economy, one in agricultural products and one in manufacturing, both are as a result of the devalued dollar. Yet it is the Conservative party in Ottawa that is making the loudest noise and is most critical of the fact that the Canadian dollar has gone down to 83 cents and while their colleagues in Ottawa are complaining about the fact, the Conservatives in this province, the government, is benefitting by that very same movement.

I continue. He makes mention here to Manitoba Hydro in one place. "Manitoba Hydro, for example, has suspended work on its \$1.2 billion Limestone power plant on the Nelson River because the province's electrical demand is increasing at less than 3 percent a year, compared with the historical 7 percent. This project would have provided another five years of steady work for contractors and would have employed 2,100 tradesmen at the peak of construction. Instead it has been deferred until 1982 and the costs by that time will probably have escalated to \$1.6 billion."

I pause just at that moment, Mr. Speaker, to let the facts of that sink in to members. Much of the criticism from the members on the opposite side of our handling of Hydro, has been in the matter of the timing of Lake Winnipeg regulation and their claims of alleged losses have had much to do with the timing. Yet here we have an independent observer reminding us that by deferring this project for three years, that it will cost \$400 million more than if it were built this year. Members should bear this in mind for future reference. —(Interjection)— The member may ask me a question when I have finished, if he wishes to.

"In sum, Manitoba's economy will be modestly better in 1979 but the province is a long way from being a paradise. Furthermore, there are a number of serious economic problems that must be tackled by the government to prevent further erosion of the province's market position relative to other parts of Canada.

"One of the difficulties is that Manitobans do not make much money. In the latest Statistics Canada survey of incomes in 100 Canadian cities, Winnipeg ranked 82nd in the list even though it is the fifth largest urban centre in the country. Brandon, the province's second largest city, was even worse off, it was in 98th place." He goes on to say: "Unless more jobs are provided migration will accelerate since the province's unemployment rate may average more than 7 percent this year, if the labour force climbs to the predicted 481,000."

And he says towards the end: "Even if things do go extremely well, Manitoba will still have one of the lowest growth rates among the provinces." Now that is a view from outside.

To deal with just one other matter that members on the opposite side have often expressed concern about and that is inflation, Mr. Speaker. We don't hear the same very lengthy speeches from members opposite about inflation these days. They have been much quieter about it. But I do recall hearing from the Premier and from the Minister from Morris, and I believe it was the Minister of Health who all made reference to the rates of inflation, and this government's concern with adding to that inflation. They used Manitoba's spending and the restraints on Manitoba's spending.

In the context of Canadian inflation they said that they are holding down spending in this province because they do not want to add to the inflation in this country and in North America, ignoring the fact that our budget, our economy, our population is infinitesimal compared, in effect, compared with the rest of the North American continent.

I recall seeing our First Minister at a First Ministers' Conference, boasting there that his increase for this year of 2.9 percent was lower than any of the other provinces and that he was doing this in the interests of inflation and that other provinces should copy Manitoba. Well, it would be interesting, I think, for the members to look at the effect of that, to see whether this fine example that was set by Manitoba had any effect as far as inflation was concerned and what the effect was in other provinces.

It came to my attention recently, a Statistics Canada publication around the end of last year which compared for several cities in the country, the inflation rate as of October, 1978, over October of 1977. So what we see there is exactly the first 12 months of the Conservative administration in this province and we can see the effect of the spending by other provinces on their inflation rates and compare that with Manitoba's spending on our inflation rate. I'd like to quote a few figures for you, all on that same basis of October, '78 over October, '77. You might be interested to know, Mr. Speaker, that in Toronto their inflation rate, the amount that the consumer price index went up for all items, was 8.4 percent. That in Ottawa, the inflation rate was 8.2 percent; Montreal, 7.5 percent and Quebec City, 7.6 percent; St. John, their inflation rate for the year was 8.3 percent; Halifax, 8.1 percent; Charlottetown, 8 percent; St. Johns, 8.7 percent. Now what about high-spending oil-rich Alberta? Well, Calgary's inflation rate for that year was 7.9 percent and Edmonton's 8.5 percent. Vancouver showed an increase for that year of 7.7 percent. The neighbouring province of Saskatchewan, its two main cities, Saskatoon, 6.4 percent and Regina, 7.2 percent.

Now where was restrained Winnipeg in all of this list, Mr. Speaker? Well, for that year when this government was showing a fine example in restraining inflation, Winnipeg's rate was the highest of all of those cities at 9.1 percent. —(Interjection)— 9.1 percent, Mr. Speaker.

I would suggest to the First Minister, the Minister of Finance and other members over on that side, that if they wish to use an argument for restraining spending in this province, that they do not use that argument about inflation because it really doesn't hold water and it's now wearing just a little bit thin.

I'd like to quote one more piece of Conservative literature to gentlemen on that other side. This again was put out by a prominent Conservative member of the Legislature, who was subsequently re-elected to this House and now sits on the Treasury Bench as a Minister. I won't name him but perhaps he will recognize the words.

Under the heading "Opportunity" are the words: "Jobs mean opportunities and this is the biggest single crisis we face. I don't believe any of us want our people to have to look to other provinces and states in order to pursue their ambitions. When we lose our people, young or old, we lose everything.

"One of the most important challenges the next government of Manitoba faces, is to stop the drift of talent out of this province, to create a climate here that offers people a chance to reach their individual goals."

Let me just read one sentence again: "When we lose our people, young or old, we lose everything." Mr. Speaker, over the past year — and I say this particularly for the interest of the

Member for Pembina — the year that we are in now, Manitoba has the highest spending of its history and to use a Conservative argument, Manitobans are now paying more taxes to the province than they have ever done before. The budgeted deficit of this government has been exceeded by 10 percent in one year. This government has the highest provincial debt in the province's history. They have managed to increase it by some \$300 million in one year or 10 percent. We have the highest inflation rate and the highest unemployment rate since the Great Depression. The economy is stagnating, people, businesses, capital and doctors are fleeing from the province.

Mr. Speaker, this government, this party that had much to say about waste and mismanagement has itself wasted the confidence of the people and mismanaged the economy.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please. Order. Before I recognize the Honourable Minister of Education, may I direct the Honourable Members' attention to the loge on my right, where we have the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Victoria, Australia, Sir Kenneth Wheeler. On behalf of all the members, we welcome you here today.

The Honourable Minister of Education.

**MR. KEITH A. COSENS(Gimli):** I consider it a distinct honour to have the opportunity to take part in this particular debate on a Throne Speech that I also consider positive and progressive.

Mr. Speaker, I understand it is customary to congratulate you at the beginning of these speeches, and I would say that is a custom that has considerable merit, and so I would like to add to what has been said by previous speakers and commend you on the very wise and judicious manner in which you conduct your office.

I would also like to congratulate the Mover and Seconder for their excellent contribution. The Mover, the Member from Springfield, is a young man with considerable agricultural experience. He has a great deal of knowledge in that particular area, and appreciation of the problems that confront agriculture. He is a young man who has served on municipal councils and has certainly an appreciation of the problems that are encountered there. The Member from Radisson, the Seconder, of course, is a man of many talents, and his speech this year enabled us to appreciate one more talent that he has developed, the ability to speak French, and I congratulate him not only on his contribution in that regard, but in his contribution to this House generally.

I am sorry, Mr. Speaker, that the Leader of the Opposition has not been able to be here this morning, but I would like to congratulate him on his new position. I think it is always an honour to receive the approval and confidence of your colleagues as he has done. I am sure that he will approach the challenge of his job in his usual conscientious manner. I have had the pleasure of knowing him for many years and have always found him to be a very conscientious individual. I have some concern, Mr. Speaker, in that regard and that pertains to the Leader of the Opposition's initial speech in this session, and the concern is not so much with the Leader of the Opposition, but with the reaction of his colleagues.

As a new member to this Assembly, I had expected to see more enthusiasm, more esprit de corps than was apparent at that time. There seemed to be a certain detachment, certain malais on the other side of the House. Not quite the team spirit that I expected, Mr. Speaker, but perhaps I was expecting too much. I would suggest, however, Mr. Speaker, that if that were to continue that the Leader of the Opposition is facing perhaps a more difficult challenge than he had imagined, and in that regard, I know that the Member from Fort Rouge made some allusion to Shakespeare and politicians in his remarks in this House a few days ago. Perhaps I could say to the Leader of the Opposition that he should also take a look at Julius Caesar and the remarks concerning Cassius. He might heed them well, and those lines, of course, are "Yon Cassius has a lean and hungry look. He thinks too much. Such men are dangerous." Well, Mr. Speaker, I am sure that the Leader of the Opposition will attempt to meet the challenge of his task.

Now, Mr. Speaker, as well as speaking about the new Leader of the Opposition, who I had the pleasure of talking to last night at a dinner that we both shared, I have to look at some of the remarks that the Opposition has directed towards our Throne Speech. And of course, as one would expect, they have attacked our economic policies. I suppose all Oppositions do that. But it's rather ironical that they should attack the policies of fiscal prudence, policy of government reorganization and efficiency, the policy of faith in the private sector. I think that's ironical, Mr. Speaker, because those policies that were initiated by this government some 14 months ago when we came into office received almost immediate vindication in certain other jurisdictions in this country, in fact, I suppose, in this continent, where other governments seemed to find that this was the same path that they deemed advisable to follow.

And so, in criticizing these particular policies, and I might say, as far as the faith in the private sector is concerned, Mr. Speaker, at a meeting of the premiers of this country, all the premiers

echoed that particular sentiment as well, this being one of the hopes for the salvation of the economy of this country. Some faith and support to the private sector. But of course Members opposite can't agree with that because it's so counter to their whole socialist philosophy, in spite of the fact that we're hearing it echoed and re-echoed across this country, even by our free-spending Federal Government, who grudgingly admit that this is the way to cure the problems in our economy.

Well, as I say, that doesn't coincide with the socialist dream that these gentlemen have followed for the last eight years or so, when they were in power, and I say that in those eight years, that dream turned into a nightmare, and the people of this province realize the type of public debt the provincial debt that we have. I suppose it's the highest, if not very close to the highest, public debt in this whole country. That's quite a record, I'm sure they're proud of that particular record, and it speaks so well for the economic policies of their particular government.

And of course in eight years, Mr. Speaker, we also saw what the fruits of that particular economic policy were that they followed so carefully, so astutely. And it was a policy that resulted in a whopping deficit for this province. And I say to them that their great dream that they practised for eight years turned into a nightmare for the people of this province.

Of course the Leader of the Opposition ended his speech with some great socialist philosophy, and I say to him that if we have to look for a socialist experiment, there is one that this world is looking at right now. And that is the situation that is happening in Britain. I say Britain, Mr. Speaker, because, in a conversation that I had with a working gentleman in London a couple of years ago, he said to me, "You know, we don't call it Great Britain any more." He said, "Since the socialists have come in, it's just become Britain." There is another example of the socialist experiment.

Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition, in his comments on the Throne Speech, said that it was thoroughly heartless and that's a term that the gentlemen opposite like to use a great deal. I'm sure that their Commissar of Propaganda has decided that that's a good word to use, that they have to put that forward. I say, Mr. Speaker, that it's a term that the people of this province realize is being used as a con word by the gentlemen opposite. If he says that the Throne Speech is a thoroughly heartless document, then I say to him that perhaps when it was being read by the Lieutenant-Governor, there was too much noise on his side of the House for him to hear what was being said.

Let me refer to that document. Let's see how heartless it really is. Let's look at some of the facts of that particular document. These are the heartless facts, some of them that I'll touch on.

My Ministers inform me that they propose to seek fiscal authority for a number of capital projects in the health field, for construction during the coming fiscal year. Those projects include hospital renovation and construction, personal care home construction and the upgrading of laboratory and x-ray facilities at a number of rural hospitals. That's terribly heartless, Mr. Speaker. I'll tell you that's cold and that's callous. Well, who do they think they're fooling, Mr. Speaker? That type of nonsense.

I can go on — I'm reading from the Throne Speech, Mr. Speaker. "The establishment of an elderly day care program in certain nursing homes for eligible senior citizens." Heartless again, Mr. Speaker, absolutely heartless. Well, certainly the people of this province realize a heartless policy when they see one.

Let's go on with another point. The conversion of an existing building into a new 48 bed psychiatric facility. Heartless, Mr. Speaker, again. Certainly. Well, let me carry on with a few more examples. I don't think the Leader of the Opposition has looked very carefully at this particular Speech.

"A Commission on age and opportunity. A careful, considerate, reasonable look at those needs of the people who are moving into our elderly age groups." Heartless again, Mr. Speaker.

Legislation to protect citizens purchasing services from the travel industry. Nothing considerate about people there at all, Mr. Speaker. Absolutely cold and callous. Yes. Thoroughly heartless.

Well, let's carry on with a few more examples. "A program is being developed in the field of child welfare to overcome difficulties now encountered in the placement of disadvantaged children for adoption." Absolutely heartless, Mr. Speaker.

Amendments to The Child Welfare Act for the purpose of ameliorating the problems of child abuse. Cold, callous, heartless, Mr. Speaker. Absolute nonsense. That type of criticism, Mr. Speaker, I would say destroys the credibility of the Leader of the Opposition or any Member who is mouthing it.

Let me go on with further examples. The mention is made here that you will be asked to authorize expenditure for the Manitoba Children's Dental Program which will be expanded into a number of northern remote communities. Heartless, Mr. Speaker. Once again, cold, callous. "Active steps to promote their full immunization against the ongoing threat of childhood diseases." Same thing, Mr. Speaker. Again, the utterance of a government that has no concern for people if you were

to listen to the gentlemen on the other side. "Increased grants to school divisions in meeting the needs of disabled and handicapped people." Again, again, Mr. Speaker. Not the utterance of a government that has concern for people. And of course, Mr. Speaker, there are countless other examples that I could go into from this particular document. And the gentlemen on the other side of the House would try to tell us that we are a government that doesn't have compassion. Somehow they would like to convince people that they are the only party that has any corner on that particular human quality. I say to them that the people of this province will never stomach that particular concept whatsoever.

Let me say to you, Mr. Speaker, that the members on this side of the House have relatives, friends and neighbours who fall in the category of the elderly, and we have relatives, friends and neighbours who, unfortunately, fall in the category of being ill and severely in pain at this particular time. And, we also have friends, relatives and neighbours who fall into the category of perhaps, in some cases, having children who are not blessed with the mental or physical facilities that we consider normal in our society. They have no corner on that particular market of compassion, Mr. Speaker, and I like to say that loudly and clearly.

So here we have the Leader of the Opposition in the face of some of these facts that I have just put forward, Mr. Speaker, saying that we are thoroughly heartless. I suggest to you, if he can look at this particular document and say that, that we can expect a headline next February 14th. I can see it now, if he says this is heartless, next February 14th the headline will be "Pawley says Valentine's Day is heartless." We can expect that particular one.

Mr. Speaker, mention is also made in the Throne Speech debate about our continuation of the Private Sector Youth Employment Program, and I am very encouraged to see that, probably one of the most successful youth employment programs across this country. It is rather interesting, Mr. Speaker, that those summer employment programs that we put into force last summer in this province employed approximately 1,000 more young people than the previous summer. One thousand more young people, I repeat, than the previous summer, and the cost to the taxpayers of this province was \$1 million less than it had been the previous summer. That is a record, Mr. Speaker, I suggest that we can be proud of. I'm sure that when the Minister of Labour and Manpower approaches his Estimates, he will be providing us with more details and more figures in that particular aspect.

Let me also say, Mr. Speaker, that we have had a spin-off from this Private Sector Youth Employment Program, and of course I understand why that upsets the gentlemen opposite when I mention that, because the word "private sector" upsets them. That gives them great pain when anybody mentions those particular words because it is absolutely opposite to what they worship at, and that of course is the state control, the public sect. But, let me say further, to that private sector program that has done so well, one of the spin-offs has been that some young people who are not students but who are involved in the program were able to find permanent employment as a result of the experience they gained in that particular program. And I say that is a plus, Mr. Speaker.

On top of that particular fact the reaction that we had both from employers and from the young people involved in the program was highly positive. I say it was highly positive because they were doing meaningful, productive work, and they were finding some satisfaction in that job. They were not involved in those pallid, make-work programs that I say were an insult to the very dignity and integrity, and perhaps initiative of the young people of this province. So it is with some amount of pleasure, Mr. Speaker, I see that we are approaching that program once again, and I am sure it is serving the young people of our province very well.

When I speak of the young people of this province, I would like to say a few words in regard to the Student Aid Program. As you realize, last year we increased the amount of money available to students who fell in the most needy category, and of course, I think it was the Member for Burrows that uttered dire threats of what was going to happen. He had all sorts of gloom and doom stories about what was going to take place if we would increase tuition fees. Mind you, they are still the lowest, and among the lowest in Canada, but, that was going to keep students away from universities in this province. Mr. Speaker, it is rather interesting, in spite of these factors, in spite of those dire warnings of the Member for Burrows, we had 20 percent less applicants for student aid this past year. I don't know how the Member for Burrows really explains that particular fact. We have had some drop in our university enrollment, the same as we are seeing across this country. It is a trend, it is a result of declining birth rates in this country, and of course, Mr. Speaker, it's a trend that is going to continue well into the late 1980s.

I have to react to the mumblings of the Member from Burrows a little bit because I can still remember last year very vividly, when he stood in his place and said, "I'm telling the Minister of Education that this summer because of his policies on tuition, and so forth, that there will be a young lad go to his office in bare feet that cannot afford to go to university, who cannot find a

job." And I'd tell the Member from Burrows, I'm pleased to tell him, that in one way he was correct. There was a young man in my office; he was barefoot, he didn't have a job, and he couldn't get into university but he was only three months old so what can you really expect.

**A MEMBER:** That's the start of the breeding program.

**MR. COSENS:** Well, Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition has also said that this government is an inefficient manager of Manitoba's economy. I imagine that every opposition says that, but I find it somewhat ironical that the Leader of the Opposition, who was a Minister in the previous government, should be able to utter a statement about our government in that regard, because the facts of course, will prove him wrong. But, here he was, a Cabinet Minister in the government that was the prime example of waste, mismanagement and disorganization. Not a prime example, a veritable model for it, and yet he can stand here and say, I suppose in a very genuine voice, a poor manager of Manitoba's economy.

Well, Mr. Speaker, I know that some of my fellow Ministers have spoken about the situation that they found in their own departments, when we became the government of this province, and if we're going to talk about waste and mismanagement, and disorganization, I'd like to take a few minutes to do just that from my own department. Let me put forward a few examples.

Mr. Speaker, when we talk about waste and mismanagement, let me mention a case that I ran into that had existed in the department, where a certain professor at one of our universities in this province was being paid \$15,000 a year by the Department of Education, although I don't believe from what I can understand that ever appeared in the Estimates, and I have not been able to find out with any amount of probing, what type of resource, what type of material emanated from that \$45,000 that was invested in that particular individual. That's a small example, I suppose, but \$45,000 is a considerable sum of money. Much more than the couple of hundred dollars that the Member for Burrows was concerned about earlier.

Now we have heard all sorts of terrible stories from the opposition about the staff policies of the present government. Let me tell you, Mr. Speaker, that I found in the Department of Education, that there was absolute chaos in that regard, and there were whole departments made up of contract people who really were there in permanent status but didn't know where they were. This has caused a certain morale problem and in particular, one of the very, very important branches of my department, the Child Development Support Services, that provides services to handicapped children in this province, practically everyone in that branch was a contract person. The type of indecision that accompanies that particular situation, contracts would be the type of not knowing whether their renewed and so on, certainly did not promote any amount of efficiency in that regard.

I suppose that was a policy, Mr. Speaker, that enabled the gentlemen opposite to bring in certain people who they desired to have there. It enabled them to shove certain civil servants aside, in the corner and let cobwebs grow on them. That may have been their motivation. Regardless of their motivation, Mr. Speaker, it existed and we have moved to do away with that particular situation and we move quite quickly.

I found also, Mr. Speaker, in my department, that \$60,000 had been spent for an evaluation of the New Careers Program. \$60,000, and I would suggest, Mr. Speaker, that the job could have been done for \$5,000 but no, \$60,000 but the gentlemen opposite are big spenders, particularly when it is with the taxpayer's money. They had a program in place called the Tip Program, Teacher Induction Program. Well, Mr. Speaker, we have faculties of education in this province who turn out teachers. We provide grants to school divisions for supervisory personnel, superintendents, resource teachers, and so on. But, this government that was in power previous to our arrival on the scene wasn't satisfied with that. They wanted to do a bit of tinkering, so they spent \$120,000 on a program that they called Teacher Induction which amounted to over \$1,000 for every teacher that was in the program. It catered to, I believe it was, some 70 teachers in this province. I say that's duplication, I say it's mismanagement, Mr. Speaker, and I say it's waste.

And then the prime example of all, absolutely the outstanding example of waste and mismanagement, that I found in the department was a program called Focus. And, over what, four or five years, Mr. Speaker, something in the neighbourhood of \$1.5 million had been spent on that program. For what? What had been achieved? It apparently at one time was going to provide university courses to those in more remote areas and so on. But from what I could find on investigation that these became relegated to coffee clutches, and I suggest to you that \$1.5 million is a lot of money for a group clutches of coffee throughout this province. In fact, I understand, that the program was not even that popular with the Minister of the day. I can't understand then why he didn't make a decision to cut it out — \$1.5 million, Mr. Speaker.

And, of course, we had all sorts of weird and wonderful things happening within that particular department that cost the people of this province a great deal of money. Someone in their wisdom

decided, I don't know if it was the Minister of the day because we never heard very much from him - it was usually the Deputy Minister that spoke, someone decided that all employees in the department who had a teaching certificate would spend one week out in the classroom. A very, very interesting development, Mr. Speaker. Not only do we take 60 or 70 people out of the government, put them out in the schools for a week - what happens to the trained professionals out in the schools that particular week? Duplication, overlapping and what did that particular project cost? I would suggest a goodly number of dollars.

Well, there are all sorts of other interesting, little examples that I ran into, Mr. Speaker. I am not going to go into all of them today in this waste and mismanagement area, but we talk about government management of resources, organization, leadership, and I say those things were not present in the previous government. They have unmitigated gall to accuse us in the 14 months that we have been trying to get a leaky ship floating, that we have not been practising that, and I say to them that they have short memories. It does unmitigated gall to even stand up on that side of the House and make that accusation of the people on this side. I'm not going to give them a history lesson, Mr. Speaker, but they must have forgotten, they have very short memories, that on February 6th, 1975 the Manitoba Teachers' Society and the Manitoba Association of School Trustees presented a brief on the role and operation of the Department of Education to the then Minister, and the Premier of this province, and I'd like to read some excerpts from that particular brief.

Let's not forget Mr. Speaker, that those two bodies are made up of the bulk of the people in the educational community of this province, along of course, with those who I consider most important, the students. But these are two responsible groups.

Listen to what they say. They have some rather interesting reactions contained in that brief. They say it is difficult for clients of the department to recognize the lines of authority and areas of responsibility that come under the various branches of the department. There appears to be duplication, overlapping competition and general confusion regarding various functions.

And more, Mr. Speaker. There is a lack of credibility in contact with people working in the field of education. The assistance provided by the department sometimes results in more confusion than logical planning. The perception which trustees and teachers currently have of the Department of Education is one of confusion and these are the remarks directed to a government that now as Opposition, has the unmitigated gall, Mr. Speaker, to stand up and accuse us of mismanagement, lack of organization, lack of leadership,

And I can go on and on, Mr. Speaker, with excerpts from this particular brief that was presented to the then Minister of Education. Another one, The Ranning and Bresearch anch has taken on a major role in the last few years. It is not clear what this role is and much suspicion and hostility exists in the field because of an inability to identify the purposes of the multitude of plans and materials emanating from this branch — an increasingly large number of totally inexperienced, unqualified people are being given responsibility for major projects and programs in education. They are often from outside both the province and the field of education. nd again, I'm quoting from the brief The Manitoba Association of School Trustees and The Manitoba Teachers' Society. They go on to list the number of undesirable consequences that they see resulting. They say there is a lack of understanding of the system they work in both the educational system and Manitoba's specific situation. There is a lack of credibility in contact with people working in the field of education and who have the responsibility for carrying through these programs. There is a high-staff turnover with poor continuity of projects and little follow-through. They are unrepresentative of Manitoba education people. They work in isolation of major educational groups, therefore, we are unaware of what is going on. They do not have loyalty to the department, the province, or the project, as a result of lack of longterm commitments.

Well, Mr. Speaker, that is absolutely incredible. What is more incredible to me, that the same people who sat in that particular government, can now stand up and say: "Aha, but you're mismanaging things; your organization is poor." Well, that's incredible, absolutely incredible, Mr. Speaker. And of course, there were certain other, rather incredible things that seemed to take place there and I find it odd that these gentlemen opposite will stand up and tell us that our personnel policies are lacking, that they aren't adequate. I find out, in looking at a letter that was sent out to members of the Field Services Branch on March 3st, 1976, that they were notified at that time of the official dissolution of that particular branch as of September 30th of that year. They received a letter sometime in February — it's dated February 6th — that they would be laid off, the branch was being dissolved. Then it's interesting, Mr. Speaker, that on May 5th, the Minister of Education asked the House to vote the sum of \$724,800.00 for that same branch. It was a branch that no longer existed, from what I can gather. And of course what happened to those members of that particular branch? They were dispersed to other branches of government; some of them took early



retirement — a rather unhappy scene, Mr. Speaker

Then, of course, it's rather interesting in looking at some of this history. It's quite recent history — that on May 5th, of that year, the present Minister responsible for the Telephone, asked the question: "Has your department terminated The Field Services Branch?" — to which the Minister of Education of the day said for the umpteenth time, Mr. Speaker, "No", although the letter, sent out to the members of that branch, said that it was being dissolved. Well, you know, that sort of position is rather interesting, Mr. Speaker.

Also, I'd like to go back to the reaction of some workshops that were held in 1976 — a few months before our party came into office. These workshops were held among the principals of this province. It's rather interesting to hear what they had to say about the organization and the management of the Department of Education at that time. Principals expressed concern about the department's indecision regarding the status and duration of the student academic record system. The on-off status created much difficulty in interference at the school level. Principals said that request for information not accompanied by a covering letter explained why the information was being requested . . . There were no policies' statement on the status of school register. In fact, principals asked who was in charge of what, and they even had problems getting curriculum guides from the department. They say that there was no consistency in information being disseminated or the target audience of which it is being directed. Different information is being sent to different people. The Deputy Minister sends personal information out to the schools; conflicting information comes from other sources.

I could go on and on, Mr. Speaker, with the remarks of the principals at that time. Northern and rural principals — — we are always hearing from the gentlemen on the other side, how much they did for the north, their concern there, northern and rural principals reacted negatively to the discontinuation of the Field Services Branch. They said it left them no visible department contact, no general perspective, no liaison.

Mr. Speaker, that is only part, that is only part of that sad history, only part of that sad history. I could go on with many other examples and perhaps I will have that opportunity again in this House. But let me say, that when the gentlemen opposite are going to stand up and tell us that we're not managing well, we're not organized well, then, they must remember the people of this province to have a rather long memory. It doesn't take too long a memory to go back two years.

Mr. Speaker, I've appreciated the opportunity of speaking to what I consider, is a very worthwhile and positive document.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order, please. Before I recognize the next speaker, I want to draw the Honourable Members' attention to the lodge on my left, where we have a visitor from Ottawa, the Member for Winnipeg North, Mr. David Orlikow. On behalf of all the Members, we welcome you here this morning. The Honourable Member for Logan.

**MR. WILLIAM JENKINS:** I wonder' Mr. Speaker, if we could call it 12:30?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The hour being 12:30, I am leaving the Chair to return at 2:30.