

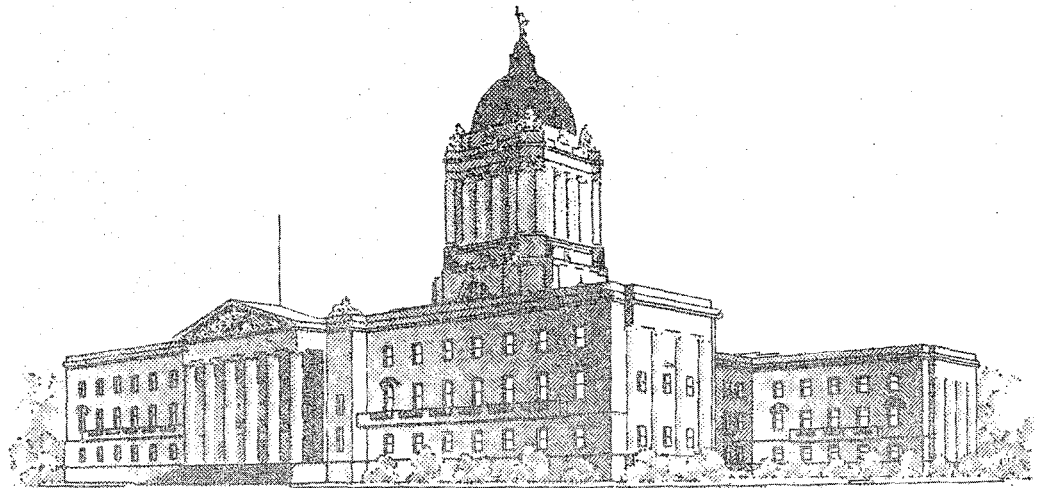


Legislative Assembly Of Manitoba

DEBATES and PROCEEDINGS

Speaker

The Honourable A. W. Harrison



Volume IV No. 45

March 17, 1960

2nd Session, 26th Legislature

DAILY INDEX

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THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

2:30 o'clock, Thursday, March 17th, 1960

Opening prayer by Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Presenting Petitions.

Reading and Receiving Petitions .

Presenting Reports by Standing and Select Committees .

HON. STERLING R. LYON (Attorney-General)(Fort Garry): Mr. Speaker, I beg to present the fifth report of the Select Standing Committee on Law Amendments.

MR. CLERK: The Select Standing Committee on Law Amendments beg leave to present the following as their fifth report. Your Committee has considered Bill No.48, an Act to Prevent Discrimination Against Any Persons With Respect to the Provisions of Accommodation by Reason of Race, Religion, Religious Creed, Color, Ancestry, Ethnic or Natural Origin; No.96, An Act to Incorporate the Winnipeg Board of Trade and has agreed to report the same without amendments.

MR. LYON: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable the Minister of Public Works, that the report of the Committee be received.

Mr. Speaker presented the motion and following a voice vote declared the motion carried.

MR. SPEAKER: Notice of Motion. Introduction of Bills. The Honourable the Minister of Mines and Resources.

HON. JOHN THOMPSON, Q.C. (Minister of Public Works)(Virden) in the absence of The Honourable the Minister of Mines introduced Bill No.123, An Act to amend the Mines Act.

Mr. Speaker presented the motion and following a voice vote declared the motion carried.

MR. SPEAKER: Orders of the Day.

HON GURNEY EVANS (Minister of Industry and Commerce)(Fort Rouge): Mr. Speaker, I would like to lay on the table of the House a Return to the Order of the House No.22, dated February 26th, on the motion of the Honourable the Leader of the CCF Party, and also a regulation under the Business Development Fund Act.

MR. SPEAKER: Orders of the Day.

HON. DUFF ROBLIN (Premier)(Wolseley): Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable the Minister of Industry and Commerce that Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair and the House resolve itself into a Committee to consider of the supply to be granted to Her Majesty.

Mr. Speaker presented the motion and following a voice vote declared the motion carried and the House resolved itself into a Committee to consider of the supply to be granted to Her Majesty.

MR. SPEAKER: Would the Honourable Member for St. Matthews please take the Chair.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Schedule B, Other requirements (5).

MR. D. L. CAMPBELL (Leader of the Opposition)(Lakeside): Mr. Chairman, when we rose last night I was engaged in a little bit of a discussion with the Honourable the First Minister as to whether the Honourable the First Minister had been rather optimistic in a report that he made to the House regarding federal financial assistance in the fall session of '58 and the Honourable the First Minister was quite sure that he hadn't. I was quite sure that he had. I have checked the matter a bit further, and I find that each of us was partially right, because while it was not on the Greater Winnipeg Floodway that the statement was made, it was in connection with the Fairford River works. And the Honourable the First Minister most definitely at that time referred, and I thought in quite optimistic terms to the likelihood of Federal financial assistance, and my comment arose because of the fact that I thought his report of yesterday was less optimistic after a year and a half's time than it had been then. And I just wanted to call to the attention of the House, the fact that the Honourable the First Minister, who is such an advocate of making progress fast and getting things done in a hurry, and not allowing matters to drag, gives us no more information, actually, than he did at that time. And so I'll transfer my question to the Fairford River Works instead of the Greater Winnipeg Floodway, Mr. Chairman, and ask the First Minister now if he has anything more optimistic to report in that regard.

MR. ROBLIN: Mr. Chairman, the Fairford River Dam as far as we are concerned at the present time, is part of the whole flood control complex and any remarks that I make in

(Mr. Roblin, cont'd.) . . . connection with Fairford River would apply to the rest of the scheme as well.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Chairman, it may be part of the whole flood context but it is shown here as a separate item. At least it's one of the three items that were --- one of the three items in the vote that we're discussing now, Seine River, Lake Manitoba and Red River Valley Flood protection. And surely we are entitled to some statement. We had one with regard to the position of federal financial assistance regarding the Floodway, surely we're entitled to some statement as to how the negotiations are proceeding with regard to the Fairford River works.

MR. ROBLIN: My honourable friend will recall, Mr. Chairman, our statement on March 16th of last year, made it clear that we were dealing with the Federal Government in respect of all these matters as one unit. And that is the reason why I say that what I said with respect to the Floodway applies to the Fairford Dam as well. Because our position is, that the whole of these matters are related. They are in terms either of the Red River Basin Investigation and Royal Commission Report, those two reports and the two reports that were made on Lake Manitoba. The reason for that of course, is because the question of the cut-off into Lake Manitoba links these matters together. And the stand we have taken with the Federal Government as outlined in that statement last March was that we wish these matters to be considered by them as a total and our negotiations in connection with all these matters are being conducted in one package at the present time. Now it may turn out that the Federal Government is not willing to consider them as one package, but up to the present time they are and that's the way in which our negotiations are proceeding.

MR. CAMPBELL: The Honourable the First Minister insists on dealing with the statement of March 16th, last year but I am referring to the statement of November of the year before and that's some months earlier. And the point that I am trying to make with my honourable friend is that when he impressed upon the committee at that time, or the House it was, I believe, that he spoke in, that they were moving very quickly in this regard, very quickly, and that he expected to have an answer soon. Now a year and a half later from that, we still have exactly the same kind of a statement with not even the assurance that he expects an answer soon. And to use the term that my honourable friend used to use so frequently when he spoke from this side of the House, Mr. Chairman, this is a most unsatisfactory answer.

MR. ROBLIN: One great difference at least, Mr. Chairman, between the situation then and the situation now. At the present time the Government of Manitoba is actually doing something about the physical works in question which is something that my honourable friend never got around to attempting.

MR. CAMPBELL: We got around to doing the one job which I still maintain is a great protection to the City of Winnipeg, to Greater Winnipeg in general, we got around to doing that job and doing it well, Mr. Chairman, in co-operation with the Federal Government of that day and having the whole job wound up in the time that my honourable friend has been talking to the Federal Government and has made, so far as any report to this Committee is concerned, absolutely no progress. And that job was done within that length of time. And in spite of the opinions that my honourable friend and others may hold, I still say that with the amount of equipment that is always concentrated in this area in the time of the year that flooding takes place if it's going to take place, with the amount of building equipment that is concentrated here in the environs of Greater Winnipeg, with the base already built in the way it is, that this area could fight and would fight successfully a flood of the proportions of 1950. Now I know that the finding of the Commission does not agree with that, but quite frankly I don't agree with their findings in that regard. I hope we don't find it necessary to put it to the test but I say quite frankly that if we do I would have no doubt at all of the result. And that job, with an expenditure of 5 1/2 million dollars or thereabouts, which was thought to be considerable amount of money at that time was done, was done, completed in about the same length of time that my honourable friend has been talking to the Federal Government about this one and we have no more optimistic report than we got yesterday.

MR. ROBLIN: Mr. Chairman, in reply to that I'd just like to say that going back to the Fairford River Dam, I repeat my statement that we are getting on with that job which my honourable friend never saw fit to do. Now I would just like to say one other thing. It's

(Mr. Roblin, cont'd.).....perfectly true that the diking system around the City of Winnipeg was completed and is completed. The only drawback is that the Royal Commission told us that that wasn't good enough. Otherwise, why would we be in the process of these works we are undertaking now? And if my honourable friend tells me now that he doesn't think the Royal Commission was right I want to say that this is a fine time to let us in on that piece of opinion, because if he held that view, surely he should have made some statement about that last March when this matter came up and when the Royal Commission Report came in. And if that is the view of the members on the opposite side of the House I think that we are very interested to know that, and I'm sure other people will be too, because that strikes at the root of the whole thing. If he believes that the Royal Commission report is wrong or is not necessary, or that his works were satisfactory and these works that we're proposing are unnecessary then that puts a completely different complexion on his complaint, and I would understand it if that were the case. But I must say that this is the first time that he's ever intimated to my knowledge that the Royal Commission Report was unacceptable to him. I take the other point of view; I say, Sir, that although it took my honourable friend some three or four years to get around to appointing the Royal Commission, that when he finally did appoint them, they were a satisfactory Commission indeed. I have confidence in that Commission. The work that they undertook was done in collaboration with the very best advice that could be obtained, not only in this country but in the United States. They went as far afield as they thought necessary in order to obtain the information that was required to finalize their report. And I must say that it comes as a bit of a surprise to me to find that my honourable friend does not accept their recommendations. We think that it is the best engineering and financial advice that was available to us and we, ourselves, have come to the conclusion that we would be wise to accept it and that's why we're undertaking the measures that we have in hand.

MR. CAMPBELL: The trouble is, Mr. Chairman, that we haven't got them in hand very well. My honourable friend has been saying ever since the report of the Commission came in that they're going to do, but there is very little done as yet and the honourable the Minister in charge said yesterday that he expected it would be six or seven years before this work would be completed. So whether we like it or not there's another six or seven years that Greater Winnipeg has to realize that it's going to put up with the defences that it has now, and I say as I have said many times in the past, my honourable friend didn't hear me say this for the first time, I've said it many times in the past and I believe those defences to be adequate. On the other hand, the Royal Commission certainly made a much more capable study then -- it's a much more considered opinion than mine could be. They've had expert advice of the very highest order, and I'm not going to set my opinion up against theirs, and I don't oppose the going along with their recommendations. I still say that I hope we don't have to depend upon these works and what can be done to supplement them; I hope we don't have to depend on them to fight a flood in the meantime, but if we do, I say quite frankly I have no fear of the result. In the meantime, for insurance for the long term and in order to give that added confidence that the Royal Commission quite properly speaks of, to achieve that added confidence and a greater degree of insurance and assurance to the people who are here and who will be coming I am prepared to go along with the recommendation for this huge amount of extra work. But we won't have it for a long time at best, and it's a tremendous amount of money and I think that before my honourable friend, the First Minister dashed off with his statement about that he was willing to go it alone, that he should have had a lot better understanding with the Federal Government than he is able to report on as yet.

Now as far as the Fairford is concerned, because my honourable friend seems to want to debate that particular subject as well, as far as the Fairford is concerned we had no such recommendation for this work while we were still in office so that there was no delay as far as that one was concerned. And it's true that we had flooding on Lake Manitoba and Winnipeg and it's true that we didn't get the Commission set up in time for works to be undertaken that would give any relief in that flood but I never pretended that we would. I said to them all the time, that nothing that we could do or would do at that time would be beneficial as far as that particular flood was concerned. All we could do was to set up a competent Commission to survey the situation and make recommendations so that works could be undertaken that would be there for the next time of high water because I suppose it will come again. But that's the difference between

(Mr. Campbell, cont'd.) ourselves and the Honourable the Leader of the government today, is that we didn't pretend we were going to do these things on our own and we didn't pretend that we were getting federal financial assistance until we were assured of some federal financial assistance and we were never assured of it, never. As far as the Federal Government was concerned on the floodway. We never did get that assurance, and that's the reason that we were loath to even pretend that we were going to undertake it on our own.

MR. ROBLIN: Mr. Chairman, that's an interesting change of tune and I'm glad to hear my honourable friend does think the Royal Commission is worth something and that we should go ahead with it as we are. I would simply say to him that we are in a position of having been assured by the Federal Government that they will share in these works, as my honourable friend is well aware. (Interjection). Well, that's coming but we are assured that they will participate. I say to him that if he had exercised some of this concern of his while he was sitting around for his three or four years making up his mind to have the Royal Commission in the first place, the works would be half done by now.

MR. D. ORLIKOW (St. John's.) Mr. Chairman, I must say first of all that I share with the Honourable Leader of the Opposition some disappointment at the rate which this work is being proceeded with. I remember very well the speech which the Honourable Premier made in which he said that the government, this government, would go it alone if necessary. Now I hope, I'm sure every member of the House here and every person in Manitoba hopes that this go it alone won't be necessary; that we won't have to pay this money by ourselves; I also hope that the statements that the work is proceeding, the planning work is proceeding as rapidly as possible, is really true and I hope that the arrangements with the Federal Government will be completed so that when the planning work is ready that the work will be able to begin because I suppose we can all agree with what the Minister said yesterday that this year it doesn't look like we are likely to have a flood but we can't be certain that this will be true in the next two or three or four years and the faster we got on with the job the better, I'm sure, all the people in the Greater Winnipeg area will feel. I must say that I found it somewhat difficult to follow the Leader of the Opposition -- it seemed to me that he was on all sides of the argument in the last ten minutes. First he said that in his opinion and -- I didn't take it down but I guess it will be in Hansard eventually -- first he said in his opinion, he didn't think that the recommendations of the Royal Commission were necessary; he thought the flood defences we have up till now could do the job; then later he said well, they were more expert than he was and he wouldn't want to argue with them. Well I'm not certain that the detailed plans or the general plans which they have elaborated are plans which everybody will accept 100% but I'm certain of one thing, Mr. Chairman, and that is that the people of Greater Winnipeg don't want to go through another period of uncertainty and difficulty like we had in 1950, and I'm certain that 95% of them would not agree with the -- what shall I say -- the suggestion at least, that I read into what the Honourable Leader of the Opposition said that maybe we ought to be satisfied with what we've got and not proceed with a more permanent and better system of flood protection. I don't think the people of Greater Winnipeg would buy that idea for one minute.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Chairman, I'm not attempting to argue that we should try to sell to the people of the area that we should depend on what we have gotten now. We set up this Royal Commission; we purposely picked as good people as we did in order to go into this question most fully and to get the best advice that they could; technical, economic and every other way because we were concerned about the long range implications and we were not prepared to take our own judgment on the matter for all time to come. There are great increases in the economic investment in this area, year after year after year and we didn't want to leave this question undecided and unsettled and therefore we set up this Commission and it's a good commission and I'm not criticizing its work. I say it differed from the opinion that I always held and I say that I still have the feeling myself that with the amount and the kind of earthmoving equipment that we have now, with this five and a half million dollar base that was built after the other flood, that we can muster the amount of earth moving equipment to put this line of defence up to take care of a 1950 flood. I don't think, in my judgement there is much doubt of that fact. When you recall that in the most of the municipalities that we held it even in 50 with no preparations made in advance, no preparations made in advance. Now we have this wonderful base all around, guarding the Greater Winnipeg area and the way that equipment could move

(Mr. Campbell, cont'd.)....in now and build that up, I have no doubt about a flood of that magnitude. But, Mr. Chairman, the Commission says that we can't be guaranteed that there won't be one of twice that magnitude, as twice that magnitude and I'm not saying that one of that kind could be held. Honourable members will not wonder I suppose, when I say that I'm even inclined to doubt the historical accuracy of the size of that 1826 flood but it's hard to me to envisage the fact that there could be a flood with twice the volume of water approximately that there was in the 1950 one. But the records say that there was such a flood, and one of the reasons that the Commission takes the view that they do, is that there might be one. It's a long time it's true but there might come any time of almost twice that magnitude. And so I say, that in spite of the views that I hold that we could contain one of the 50 size. I'm not trying to pretend that we could contain one of the 1826 size, if it should come now or later, so that's the reason that I am suggesting to the Honourable the First Minister that inasmuch as the decision has now been taken and I think generally accepted that for the long term advantage of this area, economic, and the peace of mind that my honourable friend speaks of, that there is justification for going ahead with this huge expenditure, but there's no justification for going ahead with it without some federal participation, because it's too big for the Province of Manitoba alone. My honourable friend should have a better agreement than he is able to report to this committee yet, Mr. Chairman, before he has committed himself to the extent that he has. And so I wanted to raise this question and try and get as definite a statement as possible of just where the negotiations stand. My honourable friend's statement is, as I understand it, that he has a commitment that the federal government will do something. Just what that means I guess you and I will have to interpret, Mr. Chairman.

MR. E. PREFONTAINE (Carillon): Mr. Chairman, I think it is a year ago yesterday, when this matter was discussed in the House and when I got up in the House and objected to the expenditure of \$85,000,000 when nothing in the plan proposed at that time would protect the upper valley towns and villages. And I remember distinctly that the Premier at that time said that some further studies would be made with respect to the upper valley towns and villages. I wonder if the Premier would have a statement to make with regard to these further studies.

MR. ROBLIN: There has been nothing developed so far that is any improvement on what the Royal Commission recommended which was a ring dike around each of those communities. Some general thought has been given to this problem but we are unable, so far, to devise any better solution to their particular problem than that one recommended by the Royal Commission.

MR. E. GUTTORMSON (St. George): Mr. Chairman, during the debate on this item, the First Minister has said that there have been offers and counter offers between the Provincial and Federal Governments. One year ago, I asked for the correspondence to be tabled between the two governments regarding the \$85,000,000 flood program which the Premier announced in this House. That correspondence has not yet been tabled. And the rights and privileges of this House are being trampled on because we have not had that correspondence. In the House of Commons, the Prime Minister has been asked about this correspondence and he has replied that he is waiting for Manitoba, to get permission to release it. Surely we are entitled to that information. It shouldn't take a year to -- for the departments concerned to furnish that information so it can be tabled in this House.

MR. ROBLIN: I want to assure my honourable friend that we've placed no obstacles in the way of that matter being tabled.

MR. GUTTORMSON: Have Ottawa refused you permission to table that correspondence?

MR. ROBLIN: Not to my knowledge. I'll have to look it up and see.

MR. GUTTORMSON: Why isn't it tabled then if they haven't refused you -- if you haven't been refused permission?

MR. ROBLIN: My friend will have to let me go and look at the

MR. GUTTORMSON: But how much longer must we wait? It's a year now.

MR. ROBLIN: Well I have to get their permission.

MR. GUTTORMSON: Well have you asked for it?

MR. ROBLIN: Certainly we have.

MR. GUTTORMSON: Have you got a reply from them?

MR. ROBLIN: I'll have to find out. I don't know.

MR. GUTTORMSON: Has the First Minister had any request from Ottawa since February the 24th?

MR. ROBLIN: The First Minister has a great deal of correspondence going over his desk and I am quite unable to tell my honourable friend what the state of the correspondence is on this matter, but I certainly can find out and I shall.

MR. GUTTORMSON: Well can we stand this item until we get the information?

MR. ROBLIN: I don't think so. But I'll undertake to look into this matter and let my honourable friend know.

MR. GUTTORMSON: Well, Mr. Chairman, that information is very important to this side of the House and I feel we are entitled to it. It shouldn't take the First Minister a year to look after the correspondence. I agree it may take some time but not a year to provide that information. I asked the First Minister in this House at this present session and he said he would look into it and I am still waiting for it.

MR. ROBLIN: That's perfectly true and I did and I was told at that time that the correspondence had not been completely assembled because it is in the hands of several departments, both here and at Ottawa and it was necessary to sort through that. But I know of no reason why my honourable friend cannot get that correspondence. We're not holding it up. I don't believe Ottawa is and if he'll allow me to go and check it sometime today I'll find out about it and let him know. But I assure him that we're not anxious to withhold that information from him at all.

MR. PREFONTAINE: Mr. Chairman, I believe that the Member for St. George is on sound ground. This is an Order of the House that was passed a year ago just about with respect to this information and think he is entitled to get an answer. And we have Beauchesne Rule, 389 and maybe we should take the step that's suggested here to call before the Bar those who refuse to comply with an Order of the House. Rule 389 says this: "If parties neglect to make returns in a reasonable time they are ordered to make them forthwith or so much of the terms as has not been made. If they continue to withhold them they are ordered to attend at the Bar of the House and unless they satisfactorily explain the causes of their neglect, and comply with the Order of the House they will be censured or punished according to the circumstances of the case." I think that the Member for St. George has reasonable grounds. I think the rights and privileges of this House have been not lived up to by the First Minister in one instance, and I believe by the Minister of Education, in another instance that I brought up yesterday.

MR. ROBLIN: Well I don't think so, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to point out that the Orders have to be dealt with in a certain way, reservations are made on those which involve correspondence with other governments and we made the reservations. The first time this was brought up the matter was not completed because we didn't get reply from Ottawa as far as I know, at the time of our previous session, which was a rather short one. The Order lapses. My honourable friend introduced it again this session. We are doing our best to get the information and I am confident that he is going to get it.

MR. GUTTORMSON: A moment Mr. Chairman, will the Minister undertake to bring it in later on today then?

MR. ROBLIN: I will not, but I will undertake to let my honourable friend know when I think it can be brought in.

MR. GUTTORMSON: Mr. Chairman, this is a very important item and I think that we should have that information so we can debate it. How else can we debate this thing properly, if we haven't got that information? Surely a year is enough time to get all that information.

MR. ROBLIN:

MR. GUTTORMSON: Does it lapse?

MR. CHAIRMAN:

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Chairman, was there not an undertaking last year that Orders that had been passed for Returns and that were outstanding would be supplied after the House rose?

MR. GUTTORMSON: Mr. Chairman, in respect to the remark by the Leader of the Opposition, I asked about my Order just before the House rose and the Minister informed me that he would undertake to see that I got it after the House prorogued.

MR. ROBLIN: You'll get it.

HON. GEORGE HUTTON (Minister of Agriculture)(Rockwood-Iberville):There is one aspect of flood control in the province that hasn't received any consideration in this debate and I for one believe it is as important as any other and that is the flood control on the Assiniboine River. We know that the Royal Commission, in making its recommendations, recommended a dam on the Assiniboine River at Russell, and a diversion of the Assiniboine River from Portage la Prairie to Lake Manitoba. Now, since that time, it has been deemed wise and expedient to take a further look at the prospect of constructing a reservoir in the Holland area on the Assiniboine River and this work was undertaken by the PFRA on behalf of Manitoba. As a result of their investigations, they have found that a dam of approximately 600,000 acre feet capacity could be constructed a short distance west of the No.34 highway, and that the approximate estimated cost of this dam would be \$17,000,000. The estimated cost of the Portage diversion at the time of the investigation was 8 1/2 million. Now there are certain factors to be considered in making a decision as between the Holland Dam and the Portage diversion. In the first place the Portage diversion offers an unlimited outlet for 25,000 CFS no matter how long a period the flood crest might cover. On the other hand the Holland Dam offers the prospect of not only flood control but water conservation. It holds out the benefit of sustaining flows in the Assiniboine River and the possibility, as I said yesterday, of firming up flows from the streams in south central Manitoba. And so before a decision, a firm decision can be reached as to whether to undertake the diversion or the Holland Dam it is thought wise to carry out a further assessment of the benefits of the relative structures. I think it is fair to estimate that the present cost of constructing the Portage diversion will be well in excess of the 8 1/2 millions originally estimated and that we must weigh the benefits, the cost of maintenance of the two projects. Now in western Manitoba the people from the Saskatchewan border on through Brandon, are vitally concerned with the Russell Dam, and at the present time, the original site has been discounted because of the cost due to property damage. An alternative site at Shellmouth is being investigated and we have not received the report on these investigations. Personally, I think that this particular project or combination of projects is extremely important to central and western Manitoba, not only from the standpoint of flood control but in the whole field of water conservation. It's a very important decision that has to be made because it's an easy thing to dig a trench and run the water away to the sea but you never get that water back. And I think we have to face the fact that if the Portage diversion were built, that it would put off indefinitely any hope of water conservation on the Assiniboine River. There are indications today that certainly during the next 50 years, possibly in the next 25 years, we are going to see some radical changes in agriculture in the production of special crops, and you're probably all aware of the fact that in the case of some special crops, in the production of the same, there is a movement out of the Red River Valley, to some of lighter opinion of many others, is that we must give every consideration to this decision of whether to take the dam at Holland or whether to construct a diversion to Manitoba. And certainly I believe that if after consideration by those who are trained and have the experience, that they feel that adequate protection can be given to the farmers and property owners in the eastern reaches of the Assiniboine, if adequate protection can be given at flood time then I think we would be loath or should be loath to run away this water to the sea which can in years to come, be of vital importance to the economy of the province.

This is a stage at which the considerations of the Assiniboine Flood Control project are at the present time. We have already asked PFRA to undertake these further studies in order that a decision can be made, and as I say, at the present time investigations are under way to find a location in the Shellmouth area with adequate foundations and which will offer adequate storage with a minimum of property damage.

MR. R. O. LISSAMAN (Brandon): Mr. Chairman, since the Honourable Minister has brought up the matter of flood control on the Assiniboine River, I would like to comment on this. I know that -- fully well realize that the concentration of wealth and industry and people lie in the Greater Winnipeg area, and I can understand from that why this consideration is given to either the Portage diversion or the Holland Dam but I would urge the Minister to look a little further west and I think the Russell dam is vital to the western part of the province. Not nearly so much for flood control, as for conservation and maintaining a steady flow of water in the

(Mr. Lissaman, cont'd.)....Assiniboine. Now I can recall that during the 1930's during the dry years, the Assiniboine River was so bare in spots you could almost walk across dry-shod in many places in the west, and certainly if we would have had at that time the steam stand-by plant that we now have at Brandon I doubt if the water supply would have maintained both the city and the steam stand-by plant; they use a great deal of water for cooling purposes. So I would urge very strongly that consideration be given to the Russell Dam or a dam somewhere further west near the headwaters of the Assiniboine. In my opinion it, if not absolutely necessary now will in a few short years be proven absolutely necessary to the western part of the province as a control measure in assuring the uniform flow of water in the Assiniboine River. And for that purpose, I think we should consider that rather than some closer point. I can see the Holland Dam would give a quicker and better control in protecting the Greater Winnipeg area but there's a great deal to be said the the Russell site not only for the reasons I have mentioned but also it is a control and a protection to the Greater Winnipeg area as well.

MR. HUTTON: Mr. Chairman, I would like to assure the Honourable Member for Brandon that when I was speaking on the subject of water control on the Assiniboine River that the damsite in the Russell-Shellmouth area is an integral part of the over-all water control. There is no doubt in our mind about this. The decision that I referred to between the diversion and the Holland Dam, is aside from the recommendation of the Royal Commission that a dam be built in the Russell-Shellmouth area.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Chairman, I want to emphasize just by agreeing with the points that the Honourable the Minister has made, and that is that we're very fortunate in this particular that water control and water conservation are identical so far as the dams are concerned and I didn't at all understand the Minister to infer -- I'm sure he didn't mean to -- that the building of the Holland Dam in any way washed out the plan to build the Russell Dam. Either or both can be proceeded with. I certainly agree with him also, that as between the two and of course providing that it's feasible and economically feasible to build the Holland Dam, as between the two that it is much preferable to the so-called Portage la Prairie diversion. I agree with him completely that when you hasten the disappearance of water, you're avoiding the flooding factor but water conservation is mighty important in this province as well. Mr. Chairman, the one further question I want to ask in this particular regard of the Minister is, what are the relative capacities estimated for the Holland and Russell Dam? I think the Minister gave the estimated capacity of Holland -- I've forgotten what it was for Russell.

MR. HUTTON: Well this will depend entirely upon the site. As I said for all good purposes they have had to discount the idea of the original site at Russell and they are now investigating the possibilities for another site further upstream and until the report comes in, I wouldn't have any idea as to the capacity as compared to the Holland Dam although I would suggest that it would be much less.

MR. CAMPBELL: That the Holland one would be much less?

MR. HUTTON: No, the Holland would be much larger.

MR. CAMPBELL: Did the Minister, Mr. Chairman, give the figure of 600,000 acre feet for Holland?

MR. HUTTON: We had originally had hoped for a much larger dam but the soils are such that they couldn't get adequate foundations to hold a larger body of water, and because of the fact that you have many communities down stream, it was determined as inadvisable to attempt to build a dam of any larger capacity.

MRS. THELMA FORBES (Cypress): Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Minister if he could tell us just where the Holland Dam might be located -- does he know?

MR. HUTTON: If I am not mistaken, it's about a mile and a half west of the bridge on the No.34 highway. At any rate, it's just a short distance west of the present No.34 highway.

MR. CHAIRMAN:passed. Item 6.

MR. GUTTORMSON: Mr. Chairman, yesterday when the Minister of Agriculture informed us about the structure on the Fairford River I, as well as the many people around Lake Manitoba, was extremely pleased with the announcement because it was of extreme importance to them. Because of its importance, I would like for purposes of clarification if the Minister would be kind enough just to answer me a few questions I have in regard to this matter. 1. Yesterday, he said that they were holding \$448,000 towards the

MR. HUTTON: \$480,000.

MR. GUTTORMSON: I beg your pardon \$480,000 toward this project and in answer to the Member for Ste. Rose he said that the total expenditure expected would be in the neighbourhood of \$1,100,000. Is the complete project expected to be completed within one year? Another question: When will the work start on the dredging; when will the work start on the bridge? Could the Minister indicate those answers please and if it's expected they'll be finished this year, why will further monies be voted at the next session?

MR. HUTTON: It is not expected to be finished this year. We expect to begin construction, or we hope to begin construction by the middle of the summer. As to the timing of the control structure, I can't give you that at the present time.

MR. GUTTORMSON: When you say you expect to start construction -- do you mean the control structure, or the dredging?

MR. HUTTON: I'm not aware of which construction will begin first. I'm only aware of the fact that they hope to begin the construction of the project by the middle of the summer.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 6

MR. G. MOLGAT (Ste. Rose): Mr. Chairman, before we leave Item 5 I would just like to get some clarification from the Minister on this subject. Now on a number of occasions, I have said that my friends opposite are very keen on the publicity and the advertising of such projects and that's frankly what scares me on this one. I just can't understand what's up, Mr. Chairman, because here is what I consider to be a major project on this diversion of Lake Manitoba, and the improvements to the channels of the Fairford and yet I have seen no publicity for my friends, no fanfare of trumpets, no propaganda sheets going out from my honourable friend's department or anything of the sort and I can't understand what's going on. It leads me to wonder what is up in this respect so I would just like to make sure that we understand each other as to what the department proposes to do. As I recall and I have here the report of the Lakes Winnipeg and Manitoba Board; they spoke then of a total expenditure of a million six; that was 1,480,000 for excavation and 120,000 for a new control dam on the Fairford. I believe that when they investigated this they looked at four different channels for the proposed diversion, and they settled on one which was given to us in figure five of this same report. Now the analysis, I presume, was fairly complete at that time, and the reason for choosing this particular one must have been based on engineering studies. Then the fact that they made three other surveys as well, would, it seems to me, indicate that this was the best one. Now I understood from the Minister yesterday that he expects that with a new channel different from the one I presume that was given to us in figure five, that they will reduce the cost of the project from a million six, to a million one, if I remember correctly. Now my question is, is it absolutely certain that this proposed work now will accomplish exactly the same type of regulation that the Lakes Winnipeg and Manitoba Board were speaking about when they made their recommendations? And their statement then was that this type of a channel would reduce the ranges of Lake Manitoba from its natural stages which had been 810.3 to 815.8 to an artificial range of 811.0 to 813.0 and that this particular work for a total cost of a million six would achieve that artificial regulation. Now, is it absolutely certain that if the government is making a change in the proposed work that exactly the same result will be achieved?

MR. HUTTON: My advisors tell me that by excavating in clay rather than in rock that they can save this sum of money and that they can construct a project which will accomplish exactly the same as the original recommendation. I might say that the rock underlay in that area tapers off quite steeply from the present riverbed and that rather than enlarging the present channel and deepening it, and by moving over and constructing an auxiliary channel, they can do so much cheaper and still end up with the same capacity as they would by following the original plan. Beyond that I can't say -- I'm not an engineer myself, but according to the information that I have been given, the Lake can be controlled between 811 and 813 following the plan as a result of the latest investigation.

MR. PREFONTAINE: One has to be very quick on his feet here to be able to carry on a discussion. I'm sorry that I was not able to carry on in time with the First Minister the question of relief for the towns and villages in the upper valley. The First Minister told us that there was nothing new except the recommendation of the Royal Commission that there should be dikes, ring dikes around the towns and villages. I would like to ask the First Minister

(Mr. Prefontaine, cont'd.)....whether he intends to proceed along with this recommendation and build these ring dikes around these villages in the upper valley, or if there is no program at all to protect these towns and villages as far as the present situation is concerned?

MR. ROBLIN: My understanding is, Sir, that there is considerable difference of opinion among the people who live in these towns as to the desirability of this form of protection. Certain representations have been made to me in that respect. While I must say to my friend quite candidly that we have got nothing in particular that I could inform the House about at this moment in respect of that problem but it certainly is one that we're not losing sight of.

MR. GUTTORMSON: Mr. Chairman, the Minister said a while ago that he didn't know whether this Fairford project would be completed this coming year or not. When the appropriation of \$480,000 is set aside he must have -- the department must have some idea of what is to be completed, or why did they choose that particular figure? I mean could he indicate what this money is to be spent on during this next fiscal year because the total project is going to be one million one?

MR. HUTTON: I would like to make it clear that the project will not be completed in 1960. It would be hoped that it would be completed by the latter part of 1961 and I don't think it is any news to this assembly that you don't need the entire funds in order to start a project because of the fact that in all cases you pay when the work is completed, and not when it is begun, and this is sufficient monies to get the work underway, both the control structure and the excavation of the channel. And we will be back asking for more money for all these projects in 1961. And as far as publicity goes, I don't know of a better organ for publicity than the opposition and certainly they gave it to us on other subjects in the Legislature this session and I expect that they will do us the honour of giving us publicity on this present project.

MR. GUTTORMSON: On the one point the Minister said they may not be ready till the latter part of 1961 but we have been told by the Minister of Public Works that all stops have been pulled in an effort to complete the Gypsumville--Grand Rapids road next year, because of the power project that's being at Grand Rapids. Well this road is literally useless as far as highway traffic is concerned, unless that bridge is completed next year because the present bridge is not capable of handling highway traffic of any consequence. The bridge is very shaky; it's a wooden structure and it just won't stand up; so is there no intention to have the bridge structure at least completed this coming summer in order that it will be able to carry heavy traffic through to Grand Rapids?

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Chairman, on this matter of Fairford diversion again. I certainly don't object whatever to my honourable friends saving half a million dollars on the project, all the better if they can. What I can't understand though is the Lakes Winnipeg and Manitoba Board as I had understood it had made a thorough engineering survey of this; that they had examined other possibilities. As we all know as well there was a very considerable survey made of this whole area some years ago, when we were discussing the possibilities of putting the next power plant on the Dauphin River instead of Grand Rapids and the idea then had been investigated, certainly, of a diversion of the Saskatchewan River into the northern part of Lake Winnipegosis and then bringing the water eventually down through its normal course from there, down the Dauphin River. Now there has been in other words, a very complete engineering investigation of this whole area. Now I'm surprised that at this stage the government should find a new method of achieving the same type of thing that was planned by the Lakes Manitoba Board and which they investigated which apparently they didn't recommend. Now what has happened? Did the Lakes Manitoba Board not investigate this particular project that my friends have in mind?

MR. HUTTON: I have read the report. I have a short memory and I don't want to comment on it, but I do know that further sub-soil investigations were carried out in which they discovered that the rock layer had this peculiarity of falling off very quickly from the existing riverbed and after thorough investigations they have discovered that they can construct a channel without working in rock or with very little work in the rock. And my understanding of the report is that it was recommended that in enlarging of the existing channel be carried out. I can't argue, Mr. Chairman, with my honourable friend from Ste. Rose, I can only accept the findings of the further investigations and recommend them to him as being carried out by my own department. I have no reason to believe that they are faulty in any way; they

(Mr. Hutton, cont'd.)....have been carried out carefully; calculations have been made -- careful calculations have been made and it is their recommendation that this auxiliary channel be constructed in place of enlarging the present channel, and if in doing so we can achieve the same capacity and at the same time save ourselves a substantial sum of money.

MR. MOLGAT: Well, Mr. Chairman, I will accept the Minister's statement. I'm surprised that this should develop at this stage. I'm certainly pleased for the province as a whole that this has turned out as it has and does show some saving. I will accept the Minister's statement that this will do the same job and only the future will tell. Coming back to this matter of correspondence with Ottawa, I wonder if the Minister could indicate to us when we can expect the tabling of the correspondence that was asked for, by my honourable friend for St. George in this whole matter of the Lakes Manitoba works? Has he had any reply on that?

MR. ROBLIN: There's nothing to add to what I said to my honourable friend at the time.

MR. J. P. TANCHAK (Emerson): Mr. Chairman, I understand we're still on five. You can't accuse me of saying too much because I haven't. I've been listening. Evidently it seems to be futile to get some kind of a satisfactory answer. Several have tried and we don't seem to be able to get it and to me it seems that it's boiling down or steaming down to a very simple illustration that I can give. If my son, probably, wanted to buy a car for the first time probably, and he wanted to get my permission, I'd simply say, well if think you can drive the car, go right ahead and you can procure the car. But what about the financing of your car, the purchase price of your car? And if my son told me "Oh, don't worry about it dad, as long as I get your permission, I'll go it alone"; and later on, if he did come back to me and said, "Dad, I need some money to finance the purchase of that car," I would simply remind him, "My son, you not so long ago said that you could do it on your own." In other words I think that the Province of Manitoba, if not entirely, but partly has lost the bargaining power that it would have had if that statement was not made in this House that we go it alone.

Now, I think that was discussed quite thoroughly. I'm more interested in the Red River Valley south of Winnipeg. I realize that there is a greater concentration of people as was mentioned before, in the City of Winnipeg and a greater concentration of industry; but at the same time south of us here we also have a certain amount of smaller industry and quite a few people, they are also Manitobans and I presume and I hope and I know it that they are good citizens of the Province of Manitoba; and they are seriously concerned about the lack of action as far as the protection for these towns. I realize -- I know that there was some objection to these ring dikes that were mentioned. Some of the people feel that if these ring dikes were constructed and if something went wrong with these dikes the little towns would actually become a death trap after the water would have risen so far. But I still think that the government instead of just promising that "we'll keep this matter before us," should actually do something to assure the people that there is fair reason to believe that they will be taken care of.

There was an industry at Emerson just a year ago that was contemplating starting in the town; and one of the reasons -- I was on the deliberations there -- given when they decided not to do it -- one of the reasons was that they were afraid that if they did start something at Emerson, and another flood occurred as in 1950, that they might be wiped out, or there would be serious damage. And I think this procrastination of action tends to retard the growth of these towns, because they are not too sure of the future; and when I speak of these towns, I speak of Emerson, the town of Emerson -- it was very hard hit in the last two floods. Practically three-quarters of the town was inundated and almost all of the business section was inundated, in fact it was so bad in one hotel that all you had to do was take a canoe and instead of going through the door you could go through the window into the hotel. Other towns, Letellier-- not so hard hit; St. Jeanne not quite as hard -- but even so they are concerned about this and I would like to see some action. The town of Morris was very hard hit too, and I think that the government should consider some action there, and not simply say that we are going to keep this before us. I wonder if any action is contemplated or any further study is being made? It was mentioned that "we're keeping this before us"-- well we are quite used to this phrase -- "we'll give it serious consideration," and so on, but I don't think that is enough.

MR. HARRY P. SHEWMAN (Morris): Mr. Chairman, the Honourable Member from Morris -- from Emerson I should say -- has brought up the subject of serious action, immediate action. There are very few members left in the House that were here during the 1950 flood;

(Mr. Shewman, cont'd.)....and when we appealed to his Leader for immediate action we waited a long, long time for immediate action; and the members that have been in this House since 1950 will remember quite well that the Leader of the Opposition was saying that they were giving it serious consideration; and it was through the efforts of the Opposition at that time, that we have got to the stage that we have gotten to today. We did ask for a Royal Commission to be established and investigate flood control; and I think if you will read that report that, if my memory serves me right, that it will take further study and a lot of planning to help the people in the valley yet. That Commission in their report came out with no definite policies as far as the Red River Valley was concerned. They did make definite recommendations what could be done to help Greater Winnipeg; and when the Opposition will rise in this House and say that we are making promises, I want the members of the Liberal Party to read the journals, and see the resolutions that came from the Opposition at that time asking for help one way or another, and immediate help. It would be worth their while if they could get some of the debate that took place over these resolutions and such like at the House. It would be well worth their time to read some of the debate that took place in the House asking for immediate help. And I have confidence that we are studying that situation; and it's going to take a while yet; and I believe the help that is forthcoming will be a lot quicker than the help, and the promise that we got from the previous government.

MR. TANCHAK: Mr. Chairman, I disagree with the Honourable Member from Emerson, from Morris I mean, I shouldn't disagree with myself. I made the same mistake as my honourable friend before when he called me the honourable friend from Morris - and I disagree with him, because it seems that we've been talking about the protection for the City of Winnipeg, and the Minister himself said that it would take maybe six years or so before anything is completed; and no mention has been made of further study of the Red River Valley beyond Rat River, south of Winnipeg. So I don't think there is immediate action like the Honourable Member for Morris would like us to believe. I think he is wrong in that and as far as promises and so on and the action of the past government, I think it is time that we stop rehashing old straw.

ASSEMBLED MEMBERS: Hear! Hear!

MR. TANCHAK: We've heard that so often I think it's time we quit being children and say, "You did," "You didn't", "You did", "You didn't". I think the time is past. We should live in the present, not in the past. If there was any error in the past, it's our duty to see that we improve if there is a possible improvement. But I also disagree with him that there was no action. It is too late to act when actually when we are in the flood, but the government at the time -- had a lot to do with it, as a year ago I remember the Honourable Member from Morris did tell us a story here of how busy he was during the flood but he didn't live at home, he lived in Morris -- and I give him credit for that. I am sure he was interested in the people of Morris at the time -- just exactly how much he did, and what he did, I wasn't there because we are farther south. Although I didn't represent the people, I did all I could at the time to help them. But it is now, the present time that we are talking about; and the former government did help those people after the water had receded; and as far as I know that most of the people, most of the residents were satisfied with the help that they did get in that area; and that was immediate action. It's no use saying that when the flood is on, there is not action. There is very little that you can do and I know that there was help given by the government and by the Red Cross and by all the different governing bodies at that time -- any possible help was given to the people. And after the damage of the flood, the government helped to re-establish these people. It is false to say that nothing has been done for those people. But I am more interested in the future and I know that the people of Emerson and Morris and Ste. Jeanne and Letellier are interested in the future to see what protection is forthcoming from the present government. And I'm not quarrelling with what the government is doing, but I would like the government to indicate some action. Every time the survey has been studied -- but simply to say that we keep it before us -- we are seriously considering it -- I don't think that is enough.

MR. SHEWMAN: The Honourable Member from Emerson has spoken, and he makes a statement that he doesn't like to rehash it. Well, I don't like to rehash it myself because it has been rehashed and rehashed. But there is just one word of advice or counsel that I should pass on to him maybe, that if he remembers a passage in the scripture where it states that "the

(Mr. Shewman, cont'd.) . . . sins of the forefathers shall rest until the third and fourth generation." I think he should take that to heart.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Chairman, I must confess to be different because I do like to rehash things and I wasn't going to bring up the question of what happened at the time of the other flood. I purposely left it go in everything that I had to say; but when my honourable friend the Member for Morris decides that this should be mentioned -- then I'm delighted at the opportunity of rehashing it, because I think there are some things that should be kept in front of the people, for it's only by looking at what happened in times of that kind that we can prepare fully for the next difficulty that we might encounter.

Now the Honourable Member for Morris says that -- referring to the Member for Emerson that what his Leader did or neglected to do at the time of the other flood. Nobody in here recently, Mr. Chairman, has given sufficient attention to the fact of who was in charge of flood preparations at the time of the other flood. It was the then minister of Public Works, the immediate predecessor of my honourable friend who sits over here now, and I can -- I didn't bring this material to the House, because I didn't know that this was coming up -- but I can bring if the Committee is willing to let this matter stand, I can bring to this House the verbatim statement taken off the record, of where the then Minister of Public Works stood up in his place in the House when asked about the likelihood of a flood and gave a glowing account of all the preparations that were being made, and that we were ready for one, and he continued to say that all the time. Now when my honourable friend, the Member for Morris wants to incriminate me into this discussion -- in this discussion -- and I have no objection, not the least; and I have to take my share of responsibility but I want him to be just fair and reasonable enough to remember that the man who admitted that he was in charge of preparations; and admitted it even after the flood was over; and admitted it even when he used that as part of the reason for which he was leaving the coalition, admitted on all those occasions that he was in charge of the flood preparations. I would just love to have the opportunity to bring into this House and read the statements that he made to the House about how ready we were to meet a flood at that time. Now my honourable friend wants to blame me for it, so I am delighted to rehash it and let's get the responsibility where it belongs. And I am more than happy to bring in the actual verbatim document in that regard. I didn't bring it with me because I wasn't intending to raise this. My honourable friend should have know better than to raise it, because we did have a word from my honourable friend, too. He was occupying the exalted position of Mayor of Morris at that time, and he made some contribution because I received a communication from my honourable friend, and do you know what the communication was? Right when the flood was in -- not perhaps at its worst but when it was very serious, I got a communication from the honourable member in his capacity as Mayor of the Town of Morris, and what was he asking? He was asking that we should get in touch with the Federal Government to see that the people got an extension in filing their Income Tax Returns. Well did you ever hear of anything more ridiculous than that, at the time that this province was fighting for its life, or this area, fighting for its life in the flood? And I replied to it as I replied to every one of the other recommendations that came to me in those times. Our first job is to look after the lives of the people, that's the first job and every effort by everybody is being made to do that, look after the lives of the people first. Secondly, the property of the people. When those things have been done we will talk about, I don't think I even mentioned Income Tax, but we will talk about the restoration of property after that. Do what we can first to safeguard the lives of the people, and there was a good job done on that, I am not taking any credit but the people who were in charge of it deserve credit for the job that was done in that regard. And then safeguard the property, particularly the livestock, and moveable property, and property that -- insofar as possible, the real estate as well. Do what little could be done in regard to it, too. And when I got appeals, and no wonder I became distinctly unpopular on that occasion, because when I got appeals about these other things, about people -- and we had them from lots of mayors and municipalities, when we got appeals that "what were we going to do?" in the way of restoring the people's property and paying them compensation, and all this sort of thing I replied at all times, "We'll talk about that when the danger of the flood is over. The first thing to do is to look after the people's lives and their property, and we'll talk about that afterwards." And at that time, Mr. Chairman, the estimates of the likely damage of that flood were being quoted in the papers of

(Mr. Campbell, cont'd.) ... the day and by competent assessors as perhaps running to the hundred million. Some had them as high as three hundred million. But I say competent assessors, competent judgment had them as high as a hundred million dollars. And my honourable friend and other people, many other people, many municipal people wanted me to give an undertaking as head of the Government of that day, a blanket undertaking, that we would compensate everybody for all damage. And we said "No, sir, no, sir. We'll pledge every dollar that we have or that we can get hold of, in looking after the lives of the people while the flood is on and their property as well, but as far as pledging the resources of this province alone to take care of all the losses that would result, no sir." And even though I, at one time had in the office around here, the representatives of 14 or 15 municipalities, we continued to say "no, sir." And, Mr. Chairman, there is just one main reason, just one main reason why we were able to get as good a settlement as we did, out of Ottawa at that time was because the Ottawa House was in session. If it hadn't been in session at that time, where this matter was brought up day, after day, after day, and where the government was reminded of it almost constantly, I don't think that we would have received the very generous treatment that we finally got so far as compensation was concerned. And it was a good settlement as the Honourable Member for Emerson has said, it was very satisfactory in general so far as compensation for losses. But everybody knows that no money, no money can compensate for the heartbreak, and the loss of sleep, the worry of the situation of that kind. And goodness knows, nobody wants to see that occur again. That wasn't compensated for, and the reason that it is important now to go the distance of trying to relieve people, relieve people's minds of the likelihood of that kind of thing occurring again. The reason that -- even holding the views that I do -- that I am still willing to see a lot of money expended for insurance, so that the public will have a right to feel that even under the worst of circumstances that kind of thing can't come again, can't happen again, is because I realize the terrible mental, and in some cases physical, anguish that people went through in addition to the monetary losses. Now I have no hesitation in discussing this at any time. I think it's advantageous that these things be said once in a while, and when my Honourable friend from Morris tries to blame me, once again as I have been blamed many times before, and I am quite willing to take my share of responsibility. I had a lot of responsibility and I am sorry, I am very, very sorry that we weren't better prepared than we were. Certainly I've got to take my share of responsibility for not being prepared, as well as we should have been. But I'd be delighted to read the statement of the Minister of Public Works of that day, and he said we were ready and we were in good shape and he didn't have any doubts on the matter at all. And I am sure I still have that statement, I am not certain that I still have the wire that I received from my honourable friend, then Mayor of Morris. If I have it I'd be glad to ...

MR. SHEWMAN: I think I have it.

MR. CAMPBELL: Well, I'd be glad to have my honourable friend read it because I think it's a most interesting document.

MR. SHEWMAN: Mr. Chairman, I always enjoy the Leader of the Opposition, and especially when he gets a little red in the face. Now it's very few times that he does, but if you happen to mention flood he does. And I would just like to rehash a little of this, this afternoon if I could just have the time. And I can remember quite well during this House, I think it was the 14th of April, during this House to discuss this problem of the flood in 1950. We had a flood in the valley in 1948 and we appealed to the then Government of Manitoba for some help. We did get \$800 from the Department of Public Works to repair sidewalks and streets that were damaged in the flood of 1948. In the Fraser River Valley in 1948 they had a flood. The then Premier Johnson of British Columbia, if memory serves me right, I think it was on the 23rd of May that year that he took a plane to Ottawa and was back before the first of June with a cheque of \$6,000,000 to help the people evacuate out of that Fraser River Valley flood with a promise from the Federal Government that more money was coming if necessary. Now I think my memory is right in this point, I don't remember at any time during the stages of our flood in 1950, of the then Premier of this province making any appeal to Ottawa for help of any kind. I don't remember. Then, yes, the Income Tax, you bet and we needed help in the very worst way after two floods. And I remember quite well, the British Columbia Government establishing a fund and putting \$100,000 into it, as a relief fund and they appealed to the people of Canada for help and the British Columbia Government put \$100,000 into the fund to start it off, that's all, just to

(Mr. Shewman, cont'd.) ... start the fund rolling. I don't remember of any such action here in Manitoba. And when the Leader of the Opposition said he felt for the people, I think he did, I'll give him credit for that. He is human like the rest of us. You've got to feel sometimes, there's no two ways about that, you have to feel. Then when he mentions the fact that the first job was to look after the people. I hope that he will give me credit for appealing to the government at that time asking for transportation for the people that were in the flooded area that didn't have the money to pay their own transportation out of the flooded district. I appealed to the government for that kind of help, and the answer was "no". Maybe that's why he means no, that he wasn't doing anything, I am not quite sure on that point. And I remember taking 12 hours to come from Morris to Winnipeg to appeal to the government, the Minister of Agriculture at that time was Mr. Bell, the Honourable Mr. Bell, appealing to the government to get some help to build some barges so we could rescue livestock and get them out. The answer was "no". Now I don't know what you'd call help, or what you were trying to do to save lives and to save property, when the answer was "no" all the time. We had farmers out there that had some of the best dairy cows in the Province of Manitoba, and after a heavy season, the winter season of milking these cows were thin, they weren't in marketable condition. We asked the government at that time to do something so these farmers could ship these cattle out someplace and look after them until the flood period was over. The answer was "no". And these farmers shipped these cattle to the stockyards and sold them, sacrificed them on account of the condition they were in. Now do you spell that kind of help with a small "h" or a capital "H"? I don't know just how you spell that kind of help.

MR. GUTTORMSON: Who was the auctioneer?

MR. SHEWMAN: A fair question but not a very intelligent one. Now, I don't want to misinterpret the Leader of the Opposition, I give him credit. When public opinion forced him into moving, he moved. I wouldn't want to say the word "reluctantly", because I'm just not quite sure what that means, but it wasn't a very speedy movement in any manner or sense. Then he talks about the people being satisfied. Yes the people were satisfied, and I wouldn't want to take any credit away from him that the people are satisfied, but there's a lot of aspects comes into this picture. He doesn't mention the fact that throughout the world there was nine million dollars donated to the Red River Relief Fund, and the money that bought these cows and helped the storekeeper and that kind of thing, came from the Manitoba Relief Fund. And the picture that they had in British Columbia in their 1948 flood, that the BC Government said right shortly after the 1st or 2nd of June: "Take your cattle out, we will feed them; send enough lads along with your dairy cows to milk them; we'll market the milk and we'll settle the proceeds on a pro-rata basis per number of dairy cows that each farmer had." They supplied feed for 30 days after the flood was over, in some cases 60 days, and after 60 days, for the next 60 days they shipped fodder, feed into the Province of British Columbia and gave them 25% reduction on the cost of that feed. I think the Honourable Leader of the Opposition -- I hope I'm refreshing his memory, he will remember that. And all along the line there was that word that I used at that time that I swore I would never use again, and I don't intend to do it -- the callous indifference that that government showed towards the people of the Red River Valley at that time. Now we could go on and as far as rehashing, the Leader of the Opposition charged me when he mentions the group that he had in from the municipality, charged me to debate that question. Well it was the first session that I had had in the House and the Premier of the province was noted for his debating qualities -- and he's still noted. I kind of withdrew but I'd love to debate it with him. I'd love to debate this question any place where he chooses the spot. I'd just love to debate that question with him. So when he talks about rehashing -- I'd love to rehash it too -- I'd love to rehash it.

The people of the Red River Valley still remember the 1950 flood, and when the Premier of the province today tells me that we are giving this serious consideration, I believe him, just the same as I believed the Premier of then in 1950 -- up to a point -- up to a point. -- (Interjection) -- The Premier -- then up to a point -- when he refused to help. Well you can make the speech after. Yes, you can, oh certainly that's a privilege. And then it was the outside help that helped us. When these farmers were shipping the cattle out as I mentioned before, they were sacrificing them, and I think it was sometime in July possibly, around the 16th of July if I remember, before the Premier-then of the province, made any statement as to what

(Mr. Shewman, cont'd.) ...help the people of the Red River Valley could expect to get. Now I don't want to rehash this, but I'm not going to back away from it because facts are facts and we can't deny them.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Chairman, I can't deny them, eh? Well I'm delighted to hear that. I do deny them. I deny the vast majority of what my honourable friend said, because he started off with the first one that he doesn't remember any appeal to Ottawa. What nonsense, Mr. Chairman. He knows that there was an appeal to Ottawa immediately, immediately that this situation was admitted to be out of hand of the provincial authorities. He knows that, surely. He says that he thinks he'll refresh my memory. Well I must refresh his, because what a lot of people had been suggesting to me was that I should declare this, and people continued to press this, that I should declare this as a national emergency. I kept telling that only Ottawa can declare a national emergency and the moment that it got out of hand here -- up to that time I had been assured as the public was assured by the then-Minister of Public Works that we were able to take care of it -- and when we found that we couldn't and the Deputy Minister of Public Works will remember that he and I were over here along the dykes that were abuilding in St. Boniface right near the hospital there, on that night that it continued to rain; we thought things were pretty bad; we could see that some of these areas were losing the fight on the dykes; we came back and at something like 2:00 o'clock in the morning we called the army in and asked them to take over. And immediately then, immediately at that time, the appeal went to Ottawa to declare it a national emergency and to place the forces at our disposal and to prepare to give financial assistance. And the honourable member says he doesn't remember that. Well he wasn't very close to the situation, Mr. Chairman, if he doesn't remember that. And then he says that out in BC there was a fund to which the Government of Manitoba subscribed.

MR. SHEWMAN: No. The Columbia Government put \$100,000 into their own provincial fund.

MR. CAMPBELL: to which the government of that province subscribed. Well does he not remember that the Government of the Province of Manitoba subscribed to the one here. -- (Interjection) -- No, no, no. As soon as the fund was started. They subscribed to the one here, and it was a great fund, and it did a good job and he says that the majority of the work was done there. He quotes it as nine million dollars. I don't remember the exact amount, but the Province of Manitoba and the Federal Government between them spent pretty nearly 20 million dollars in that flood. And I don't ask the House to take the memory of either one of the Honourable Member for Morris or me on this matter. I suggest that you, Mr. Chairman, ask the Minister of Agriculture to find out from the Department of Agriculture officials what was done. Ask the Department of Agriculture officials, because long before, even when the Minister of Public Works was assuring us that everything was all right, we were in receipt or the Department of Agriculture was in receipt of some

MR. ROBLIN: Mr. Chairman on a point of order, I'm rather reluctant to do this, but I think that it would be better, all things considered, if my honourable friend would not refer to the former Minister of Public Works for reasons with which he will be aware. I was holding my piece here in hopes that perhaps that point would appeal to him without my bringing it up and perhaps we would be able to avoid it. I would suggest that he will recognize that he will have to take the responsibility for the acts of his Ministers and his government, just as I do in respect of my Ministers here, and in all fairness I think we should avoid mentioning that. My honourable friend has his opinions -- I know they're very strongly held -- I wouldn't try to dissuade him from them but I appeal to him to refrain from that.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Chairman, there's no point of order here. I'm simply telling the facts about what happened, and the fact -- I don't have to depend on my own memory. I promise to bring the committee the verbatim statement taken off the record here. There's no question about that, and there's no point of order at all. The Honourable Member from Morris tried to raise the question of the flood and what was done in order to embarrass the Honourable Member for Emerson by saying that his Leader had not done this, that and the other thing.

MR. SHEWMAN: On a point of order

MR. CAMPBELL: He tried to insinuate that I didn't want to discuss this matter of the flood. He said my face gets very red when we talk about the flood. Well there's nothing against a fellow's face getting red in this House or else some other people besides I would probably come

(Mr. Campbell, cont'd.) ... in for some criticism once in a while. He tried to question the job that I did. I admit it was not perfect; I admit we were not ready and I simply give the fact and it is the fact that the Minister of Public Works of that day had assured this House that everything was in order and that we were ready for the situation. And even while he was so assuring this House, the Department of Agriculture people were down in the valley making arrangements about the moving of livestock, and he can ask the Minister of Agriculture to check that with departmental officials and he'll find that that was the fact. And the minute that it was necessary to move them, the minute that the flood got to be a real problem -- we didn't need money from Ottawa because all the resources of the Provincial Government here were made available and there was no lack of money to do any of these things. And barges were provided, barges were provided and livestock was moved and the Department of Agriculture officials, aided and abetted by a lot of people, the RCMP and the Red Cross and many others, did an excellent job in that regard. And my honourable friend apparently doesn't remember that help was given on that transportation. Then he says it was public opinion that forced me to do something. Well it was the fact that -- we were not holding back any money from that kind of work, but what we did refuse to do was pledge ourselves until we got a commitment from Ottawa that we were going to underwrite all the cost of that flood, which as I said before, was being estimated by competent people, as high as 100 million dollars, and by some other people as high as 300 million.

And just in passing and in closing, unless my honourable friend wants to continue this discussion, I want to say this, that the marvelous job of organization that my honourable friend did as Mayor of Morris resulted in the fact that while the farmers around the area got their livestock out in very good shape -- it's true some of them marketed them -- but they knew they could have got feed if they wanted it. It's true that some of them marketed them rather than go through all the trouble that they would have to engage in, but while they were doing that with great help on the part of the Department of Agriculture, while they were doing that, the Honourable the Mayor of Morris had things in such excellent shape that a great majority, I think, of the cars of the people of Morris were caught there right in the town. He didn't even get the automobiles out of the town of Morris. They were sitting right around there covered up with water. That was his organization job.

MR. SHEWMAN: Mr. Chairman

MR. ROBLIN: I would ask my honourable friend to make this very short, because my honourable friends have agreed they're willing to discuss this in any forum. Perhaps we've had enough of it in this forum today and they could carry on someplace else.

MR. SHEWMAN: There's only one or two points I want to raise. The Leader of the Opposition accuses me of starting this debate this afternoon. I think he'll read off Hansard where the Honourable Member from Emerson threw the first ball. I think that's a fact, that we can't deny that, and when he mentions the fact that the Department of Agriculture were doing everything they could, I would ask him to state when the Department of Agriculture started to move livestock. It was through the efforts of the boys at Morris and at St. Jean that built these barges. And where did we get that lumber?

.....continued on next page.

MR. CAMPBELL: I think I would want to agree with that last statement of my honourable friend that I think the people of the valley still do remember the flood and that's the one thing he said today that I can agree with.

MR. TANCHAK: since the Honourable Member from Emerson says I started this debate I'd like -- from Morris -- says that I started this debate, maybe the First Minister would give me the permission to close it, and I hope it will close. I do not feel . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Should we consider it closed now? We passed No. 5 and we'll keep on

MR. TANCHAK: I'll be very short, just one minute. I don't feel that I started this debate. I didn't mention the Honourable Member of Morris. I didn't mention anything. I simply spoke for the people who have asked for help and I didn't intend to bring the Honourable Member of Morris into this debate whatsoever.

MR. CHAIRMAN: passed.

MR. HUTTON: Mr. Chairman, agricultural research 6. I would like to say a few words on this item. A year ago, not a year ago but last session, \$800,000 was voted for agricultural research. Of that amount \$200,000 was made use of, which left a carry-over of \$600,000. In addition to the \$800,000 that was voted, there was an item of \$87,695 which was used by the university to purchase and construct equipment in connection with the research program; and of the \$87,695 during the past year, they have used it in the following ways: in agricultural engineering they used \$13,000 in developing and equipping a laboratory for the study of farm machinery lubricants; in animal science they used \$25,900 as part payment towards the erection and equipment of a grain elevator and feed mixing plant; in plant science they used \$44,495 for special experimental equipment for breeding and quality studies in field crops, amongst which are special growth chambers for plant research; in soil science they used \$4,300 for transportation equipment and costs for soil fertility studies in country tests. Now of the \$200,000 that they made use of in 1959-60 \$135,000 went into the new Poultry Nutrition Building; \$15,400 went into the Poultry Equipment Building; \$3,500 went into the new sheep barn; \$35,600 went into the feed mill and equipment; and \$35,000 was used in services to the new agricultural areas, that is, the extension of water lines, sewage lines, heat lines and so forth. In addition to the monies made available to them through the Department of Agriculture they used monies made available through the grants through the Department of Education.

Now in the coming year, there are two major projects under way. The first is a crop research centre which is a wing to the existing plant science building, which will be constructed at an estimated cost of \$600,000. Now it is hoped that this building will be completed before March 31st, 1961. The other major, -- I shouldn't say other major, because it's a much larger undertaking -- is the construction of a new animal science building which is estimated to cost \$1,900,000. This will offer research facilities in the fields of nutrition, animal physiology, animal genetics. It will also offer facilities for research in entomology, with emphasis on physiology, taxonomy, control and the management of injurious and beneficial insects. They have needed new facilities for animal science at the university for some time. This will permit them to extend the general field of research and give the farmers of this province the benefits of such work at a time when we are turning more and more to the production of live-stock.

Now there are other programs contemplated over the next few years and among them are a new swine research barn, dairy barn, poultry confining unit, and the looking forward, looking ahead of the establishment of a new university farm. But for this coming year, the two big projects designated are the new plant research building and the new animal science building.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Chairman, I am really wondering if I caught the Minister's words properly. Did he say that out of the amount voted last year that only \$200,000 had been spent?

MR. HUTTON: available for 1960-61.

MR. CAMPBELL: That is including this vote?

MR. HUTTON: Yes.

MR. CAMPBELL: Including this vote. Mr. Chairman, the Honourable the Member for Morris accused me of my face getting a little bit red at times and I think if there was anything that would make my face get a little bit red, it would be a statement of this kind for which again

(Mr. Campbell, cont'd)...I certainly do not blame the present Minister. But it would be arising from the fact that the Minister when these capital estimates were voted last year, gave a figure as I took it down of \$937,635 for agricultural research; and then we find that \$200,000 has been used. Now, Mr. Chairman, I would like to know how the government possibly justifies a situation of that kind, of asking for that much money, pretending that they had a program for it, and then finding that they spend less than one-quarter of it. I have no complaint whatever of the work that is proposed to be done, but I certainly have a complaint on the fact that \$700,000 or thereabouts of that money was unexpended, if that is the situation.

MR. ROBLIN: Mr. Chairman, I don't think my honourable friend will maintain his criticism if he reflects on the history and the fact of what happened. He will be aware, I'm sure, that this estimate was prepared for the session a year ago now but it was -- the plan was proposed and the amount decided on -- but when was the money voted? Well, it was voted on August 4th of last year. We had a general election in between and we carried on with the same program but we couldn't start in the sense that we would like to have started until the money was voted. Now that surely explains it, a good deal of the difficulty, to my honourable friend.

MR. CAMPBELL: It doesn't explain it, Mr. Chairman, for the simple reason that the vote should have been revised at the second time or else the other thing should have been done that the interim supply that was voted should have included enough to have gone ahead with these projects. It certainly does not explain it.

MR. ROBLIN: I don't think that my honourable friend really thinks that interim supply under the circumstances of last March should have been -- included capital item. I don't think that he would have done it himself had he been over here.

MR. CAMPBELL: I'd have no objection to it being done, Mr. Chairman, because the position taken by my honourable friend the Leader of the House and certainly by the then Minister of Agriculture was that this agricultural research was urgently needed and that they were going to do it and going to do it in a much bigger way than had been done up to that time. The money was needed and so they voted. And the fact is, we vote \$937,000 odd and we find that \$200,000 has been expended.

MR. HUTTON: Mr. Chairman, the government undertook, or gave an undertaking to the university to make this money available. It takes time to plan buildings of this kind. There wasn't very much good weather in which these plans could be undertaken, especially in the late fall, and for that reason and because of the delay in planning the construction wasn't undertaken at that time but I am sure that any thinking person realizes that it does take time to get plans of this magnitude underway and that before any responsible person would undertake them, that they would wait for authorization of this Legislature. And if my memory isn't too bad, that we had quite a little fuss in this Legislature, because of the fact that it was charged that this Legislature had been treated with less than courtesy. Here we are charged on the other hand of asking the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba, away in advance for commitments to do works that are needed in the province. Now, I just can't understand the line of thinking of the Honourable Leader of the Opposition. Certainly we're asking for money ahead of time. I, as Minister of Agriculture, cannot give you an undertaking as to just when this work will be undertaken. There are factors over which we have no control. But certainly it is an act of good faith on our part that we undertake to vote monies and make them available to the interested parties in order that they can go ahead removing the uncertainty at least, of monies that will be made available. At least that one factor of uncertainty can be removed. It doesn't remove the uncertainty of factors over which we of the Government, and myself as the Minister of Agriculture have no control. And in asking for authorization for this sum of money for the works in the coming year I cannot give an undertaking for factors over which I myself, as Minister of the Government, or the University may have no control. We are asking authorization of a sum of money to undertake projects which are planned and where the plans are underway and beyond that we can give no further undertaking.

MR. CAMPBELL: Can I take my honourable friend's word for that completely, and I am aware of those factors and I am not blaming my honourable friend. I'm blaming the government of the day, because I've said it before, I repeat it now, I'll be saying it again, that at the time that those estimates were presented that we pointed out -- I don't know that we did in

(Mr. Campbell, cont'd)...this one specifically but we did with regard to a lot of the estimates, the road program for one, and with some others, we pointed out that the government of the day was building up big estimates, laying before the House plans that they were not likely to implement; that they were laying them before the House in order to create the impression in the province that they were -- that they had a fine program ready to be implemented. And my honourable friend, the Minister, in his honesty, and I give him credit for his honesty and I do because I think he's making a sincere endeavour to do this job -- but in his honesty he said just now that they had told the University that they would have this money available. And I am sure that's just exactly what happened, that the government of the day suggested to the University -- we'll have money available to you -- and the University didn't even have the program laid out at that time. The government wanted to present a program to the Province of Manitoba to indicate that it had a huge agricultural research program that was going to do a fine job for the province, and the fact is with \$937,000 odd voted they spend \$200,000. I am not blaming the present Minister. I know the position he was put in -- the same one that the Minister of Highways is put in -- and I am not objecting to this. I am simply making my observations on the reason that so little was spent. And of course he hasn't control over the kind of weather that we might have, or building conditions or anything of this kind. He expects to get the first one of these done within a year. Well, that's all right. That might run into some difficulties too, but at least he presents an intelligent program to us.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 6. Passed. Section 2 Other Requirements, Highways, etc. Passed.

MR. THOMPSON: Mr. Chairman, I would like to begin at the beginning, which is the occasion when the present administration assumed office. I know that honourable members are interested in the present figure of 20 million which you are asked to authorize and I would like to give the breakdown of available revenue and actual expenditures from the first of July '58 until the present time.

When we assumed office at the end of June '58 there existed a carry-over of \$22,900,692 for road construction. That figure represents the unused appropriation for road building as of that date. (Interjection) \$22,900,692. In the fall session of '58 as we all know there was voted the sum of \$33 million. The expenditure during that portion of the fiscal year '58-9, which was under the control of the present administration amounted to \$17,828,492. So that as of April 1, 1959 there was an authorized carry-over of \$37,181,200. In the summer session of '59 the sum voted was \$19,381,500. The expenditure for the year '59-'60, the year just closing in a couple of weeks, is \$29,557,700, that is the provincial expenditure, the amount of provincial monies expended, actually expended for road construction. So that the estimated carry-over as of the end of this month is \$27,005,000. The estimated net expenditure for the coming fiscal year is \$28,146,964. That, I say again, is the estimated net expenditure of provincial money. So that the estimated carry-over as at the end of the coming fiscal year, will be \$18,858,036. That will be the estimated carry-over after and if this vote of 20 million which you are now asked to approve, is approved.

Now, in referring to those figures I mentioned the actual provincial expenditure in each of the fiscal years. The first was a portion of the '58-9 year, over which this administration had control. I quoted the provincial expenditure. I'd like to give the total which includes the amounts recoverable from other jurisdictions, mainly the Federal Government. The actual expenditure the year ending '59 was \$20,535,765 in the period July 1 '58 to March 31st, '59. The actual expenditure April 1 '59 to March 31 '60 is estimated to be \$32,857,700 and as given earlier, the estimated expenditure for the coming fiscal year, the total estimated expenditure is \$33,856,964. So it simply means this, that of the 20 million which is now before us, for the coming fiscal year we will actually need only about 1.3 million dollars. But in accordance with our policy of planning ahead and in accordance with the established progressive policy of road construction, we are asking for this carry-over for the fiscal year following in order that during the coming fiscal year, it may be possible to plan roads and advertise and so on and prepare the construction for the year which follows. And so that is the reason for the 20-million dollar appropriation which is before us.

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Chairman, what I am trying to reconcile here are the figures that were given out in the publicity sheet of March 11th, when -- it reads: "45,600,000 Highways Program". How --- yes what is the relationship?

MR. THOMPSON: Yes, that includes the current estimate of 14 million. They have included the estimate which we passed in current estimates a few days ago.

MR. PREFONTAINE: Mr. Chairman, I am sorry I wasn't here when this -- when the road program was discussed the other night. I would just like to ask the Minister why two main projects that have been announced last July in the constituency of Carillon are not included in this year's program. They are important projects. They have been approved and announced in this House and I see that they are not included in this year's program. I would like to know the reasons why they were not included, like the paving of 52 highway. I know there is 200 yards that is not ready to be paved but the rest seems to be in good shape and ready; and the reconstruction job on 23 east, of 17 miles. All of it is not absolutely possibly necessary to be done this year, but there is 5 1/2 miles of it where it should be done; it should have been done sooner. There is a drainage problem involved and I would address the Minister in order to ask him whether it would be possible to add at least 5 1/2 miles to his present program which affects my constituency, in view especially of the fact that the two main jobs as passed last July are not included in this year's program.

MR. ROBLIN: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if we should proceed along that line of discussion because I think our general understanding was that that concluded that particular discussion because the explanations are all in Hansard and that we should restrict ourselves to the capital items concerned.

MR. RUSSELL PAULLEY (Leader of the CCF) (Radisson): Mr. Chairman, do I understand from the Minister that, I think this is what he said, that at the end of the fiscal year that we're about to enter into, that we're going to have a carry-over of some 18 1/2 millions of dollars. I think that was the figure that he gave to us. (Interjection). Yes, end of the coming fiscal year, that we're going to have a carry-over on the books of 18 1/2 millions of dollars. I think the Minister said that one of the reasons for that is to enable them to plan for the program for the fiscal year starting a year from the end of March of this year. I wonder why it's necessary to have a carry-over in order to do that. Is it not feasible or possible to still have the program planned for two years hence, which in effect it means as of today, to have the program all planned out in anticipation for construction in the year -- that would be '61-'62, and obtain the authorizations for capital expenditures at the next session. Now as we all know and as I said the other day, we're living in a period of high interest rates at the present time, and I appreciate the fact that we can't hazard a guess, or it only would be a guess if we made one, as to what rates of interest would be a year hence or two years hence as the case may be, in order to obtain this money. In effect it seems to me what we're doing is passing a 20 million dollar capital supply today in order that we'll have a carry-over of 18 million odd a year from now. In other words the planned program as I analyze it, the planned program that the government has for the coming fiscal year would only require an additional 2 millions of dollars. Now it seems to me that it would be far more sensible in view of the high interest rates to only attempt, or to authorize, borrowing to the degree of the 2 million dollars rather than the 20, if all we are going to accomplish is a carry-over of the 18 million dollars at the end of the next fiscal year for the year '61-'62. Because while, as I have mentioned, we don't know what interest rates may be at that time, it seems to me that unlike the viewpoint of my honourable friend the Leader of the Opposition in respect of taxes going up, it would appear to me that the only way which interest rates can go, if we're going to start having a sensibly planned economy, is down. So I would suggest, I'd suggest that rather than asking the Legislature for a 20 million dollar capital supply that it only be a two million capital supply in order that we may fulfill the obligations or plans and programs of the government that they have for the coming fiscal year 1960-61. It may be that the Treasurer or the Minister of Public Works can give me a logical reason as to why it must have the availability of the cash in order to plan their program. Offhand that doesn't seem logical. It seems to me that for the program for 1961-62 that the planning and the calling of tenders for that program can be done without the necessity of a carry-over of 18 million dollars. I can't see any reason why not.

MR. M. N. HRYHORCZUK, Q.C. (Ethelbert Plains): Mr. Chairman, if I may on the same point before the Minister answers. When we were going through this department's estimates Mr. Chairman will recall that I made the statement that it appeared to me that in

(Mr. Hryhorczuk, cont'd) . . . spite of the mileages shown as having been completed in 1959 that the amount of money spent was pretty nearly the amount spent in 1958, and that in my estimate there was a carry-over, or would be a carry-over at the end of this fiscal year of approximately 17 million dollars. Now this has been more than confirmed, Mr. Chairman, because if I have my figures correctly before me as I took them down when the Minister was speaking this afternoon, the carry-over is considerably more than 17 million dollars, and I, like the Honourable Leader of the CCF Party, am unable to comprehend the reason for this type of financing. Why ask this Legislature for money which you know in advance you will not spend? And throughout the consideration of these estimates, this year's estimates, not only in this department but in other departments, we see money left over -- carry-overs. Well to me, for I'm no accountant, it would appear that the government is anxious to show a surplus of one kind or another, because we had predicted that they would find themselves in the red at the end of the year.

Our predictions were made because we were under the impression that this government, like any other government, is only asking for money which it intends to spend. Now we are told that they have been asking for money which they had no intention of spending, because those carry-overs have been going on ever since that government was in power. Now we are asked that we approve of a capital expenditure of 20 million dollars, and in the same breath the Minister tells us that he won't need this money. Well I think in all fairness to the people of the Province, this Legislature should not pass that capital vote, because I say, Mr. Chairman, that the average layman is as well qualified as I am to interpret the actions of this government, and if we did not have this explanation this afternoon, it would never have occurred to me that that is the policy of the government. I would have been left with the impression that the road program is approximately the size that it was last year or was supposed to have been last year. We are no longer in a position in this House to know what the government proposes to do in the coming year. Neither are the people of this province in a position to know what the government is going to do in the coming year, because the estimates as they are put before us are not the amounts that this government intends to use. And it has been said before in this House and it will bear repeating, that as far as this government is concerned, it's publicity first, foremost and always. Leave a good impression with the public of Manitoba in the hope that this will not catch up with us. But it is catching up -- it is catching up. We've seen the same thing happen in the Department of Agriculture and I'm sorry to say we saw it in the Department of Health, the last place that I would expect it. Under the appropriations we made four expenditures under the Social Allowances Act which were not spent last year.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I don't know what the people of the Province of Manitoba are going to think about this. But I do want to make this prophecy or forecast, that the people of this province are going to realize that the whole story is not being told to them; that in order that the people of the province should know the whole story it is necessary for the Opposition to draw these facts out of the Ministers of the Crown. And I don't think that that is what we should be doing. But we have no choice. We were criticized for being too careful in the perusal of these estimates and the time it took in order to pass some of those departments, but if we are going to have this type of financing, Mr. Chairman, then I'm afraid that in the future we have no choice but to double our efforts when the estimates come before this House.

MR. THOMPSON: I think that the latter remarks of the honourable member who has just taken his seat are not supported in fact. I gave to the House the program for the coming fiscal year, road by road. I gave the total figure which we proposed to spend on that program to the last dollar. We haven't withheld any information from this House or the people of the province. Now on the question of whether we could proceed with road construction or make plans for the year following the coming fiscal year without this money being voted, I say we cannot properly do so, because we will be entering into commitments in the coming fiscal year which involve the monies which we are not using in the coming fiscal year. In other words we will be making contracts in '60-'61 and become committed to those contracts on behalf of the province for work which will be done in '61-'62, so that it is not proper to do that without the monies authorized by the Legislature. And the other question. On the question of interest, Mr. Chairman, on the question of interest: this money is not borrowed until it is needed so that we are not piling up an interest debt here. We are calling for the money as it was required

(Mr. Thompson, cont'd)...to complete or to start any contracts so there is no undue interest expenditure. The money is not called until it is required to be spent.

MR. HRYHORCZUK: Mr. Chairman, just briefly on the remarks of the Minister. When the program for the coming fiscal year was laid before this House, before the Province of Manitoba, the people of this province, we were given to understand -- oh we were left with that impression and I don't say that the Minister was to blame for this or anything else. But, we were not told at that time as to how much of the actual program that was laid out for the year 1959, -- and I am talking about the working season of 1959 -- had been completed. We were just generally told that some of the plans for the coming year were work that was not completed in '59; it was a carry-over; that some of the contracts had not been completed and would be completed in 1961, or in 1960, rather. Now, I say in order to give the people of this province a fair and reasonable understanding of what the government proposes to do should have been indicated at that time. And I don't take any credit for the fact that we have been given this statement. But there will be people that will feel that the Honourable Minister came across with this statement today simply because it was pointed out that there must be a big carry-over when his plan was placed before us.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Chairman, I am not quite satisfied with the answer of the Minister. I can appreciate the fact that he has mentioned that this money in effect is not borrowed at the time, but I can't agree with him on the question of the program for '61-'62 requiring a carry-over at all. Surely to goodness at the next session of this Legislature, which met this year in January, approval for the road program does not entail any actual expenditure of money for the program. Or let me put it in another way by a question to the Honourable the Minister of Public Works. Can we conclude from his remarks, because of the fact that they have to have this carry-over so far as capital is concerned because of the commitments they may enter into or the tenders that they may call for for road construction, that it entails any expenditure of actual money for the program which won't start until after the end of the next forthcoming fiscal year? Now it seems to me that the mere calling for tenders of a program doesn't of necessity mean that we have to have the money carry-over in order to do that, and that it is readily available to the Government to obtain at a subsequent session of the legislature sufficient monies for the program that they have planned out. So I can't see the argument of my honourable friend in respect of having to have this money in order to plan their future programs.

MR. THOMPSON: Mr. Chairman, I feel that the explanation is quite obvious. I know the money would not be spent in the coming fiscal year but it would be committed. We probably will meet again in a year from now. Before that time we will be entering into contracts for '61-2. We will be binding the Province of Manitoba. Can we do that without having the authorization of this House? We say, no. We can do it only with that authorization, because we are binding the monies of the province in this coming fiscal year.

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Chairman, when the Minister says that he's going to enter into contracts, does he then propose to let tenders out for the following year's operations before we meet again next year? Well then there'll be no approval such as the one that we have passed here in the House for the program which he presented to us recently in that case. He'll be proceeding on the basis without having told the House of any of this. Is that the method of operation?

MR. THOMPSON: I made it clear on current estimates that those roads and others were approved last summer. They received the approval and endorsement of this House. Those roads, I think, we are authorized to proceed with in '61 and 2. I have already said that that's what we are going to do. That's the schedule for this year. The others that I left out will be carried forward to the next year, and those we intend to make contracts on and have them ready for the year following. Therefore we feel that we can't do that without having the authorization of monies available.

MR. HRYHORCZUK: Mr. Chairman, I am getting more confused all the time here. Are we, in this Legislature, to understand the Minister that this Legislature has approved expenditures on roads to come in the future? Is that what we're to understand?

MR. THOMPSON: I was answering my honourable friend who said, would we be building new roads which haven't been placed before the House. Those roads were placed before the

(Mr. Thompson, cont'd)...House last summer, some of which will be built in '61-2.

MR. HRYHORCZUK: In other words your yearly estimates don't mean anything. They don't mean that the estimates are made for the fiscal year within which we are considering them. They could be for two and three and four years in advance. Is that right?

MR. THOMPSON: I think it's clear enough that the monies we are voting now involve a certain portion for this coming fiscal year and a carry-over for the following fiscal year. Our road program, I think, is clearly set out. I don't understand the confusion. We have given the schedule of roads; we have said it will take 33 million odd to do that job and that is the picture for the coming fiscal year.

MR. PREFONTAINE: Mr. Chairman, may I take it then that the road program announced and passed last July is still the government's road program and might be done this year -- so the two roads I have mentioned might be constructed this year? (Interjection) So that parts of the program that was approved last year is not good for this year and may be good next year? But will it have to be re-voted again next year, or passed again, or approved as we've approved this program for this year?

MR. THOMPSON: Yes it will be set forth in a schedule, that is a schedule of projects for the coming year, coming fiscal year. Next winter I expect we will do the same for the following fiscal year. A schedule of projects.

MR. J. M. HAWRYLUK (Burrows): Mr. Chairman, I am a little vague on this matter too. Does it mean that this Government can go ahead and ask us to pass money like we did at the last session on roads that were supposed to have been built, and then you decide that you'll build this road a year after? I think that's exactly what's happening right now. I can't see the logic there at all. I think if we have agreed to spend so many millions of dollars on roads for the fiscal year of '59-'60, then I think that has top priority as far as building of roads. But the impression you have given us is that the roads that we passed on last year, you'll have them built the year after or two years later. In other words you're not sticking to the schedule at all. And that, I think, is a point that I'm not very clear on.

MR. HRYHORCZUK: Just one more question. I don't intend to ask any more, but I'd like the clarification on one other point. If I have the figure right here the Minister told us that there'll be a carry-over of 27 million as of March 31st, 1960 - that's the fiscal year we're in right now. Just a moment ago he told us that the program, road program for this year is 33 million. Is that right?

MR. THOMPSON: The gross figure.

MR. HRYHORCZUK: That's including recoveries from Ottawa? Could you give us what that figure is insofar as the province is concerned. (Interjection) 28 million? All right then, if we take the 27 million carry-over plus the 20 million that we have in capital expenditure, that makes a total of 47 million that the Minister is asking for.

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Chairman, I'm sorry, I am still not very clear on what the government's program is here. Coming back again to the publicity schedule here, where he says 45 million six hundred highways program. The Minister told me that that included the works covered, I presume, by this green schedule plus the works in the general Public Works Department of 14 million. Is that correct? Well now, in this 14 million though, Mr. Chairman, there is only a portion of it that's highways, because we find here in this total expenditure of 14, that's the total vote for the department isn't it, which...

MR. THOMPSON:figure I think, isn't it? 11 million.

MR. MOLGAT: 11 million being highways, aids to municipalities and public works. Now, that is the 33 million, which is this green schedule plus 11. Is that the figures now? Even in this 11 though, Mr. Chairman, there is a good part of this which can hardly be a highway program, is it? Such things as for example operations of stores and storage yards, district offices and laboratory materials and -- well in fact, most of this with the exception of the actual construction are standard expenses for the department. I don't quite see them as coming into a construction program. They would be there, most of them, even though the government reduced its total expenditure very considerably.

MR. THOMPSON: No, the actual construction program is contained in the 33 million dollar figure. That's construction. The figures to which you are referring which total approximately 11 million for highway expenditure, includes administration, maintenance of trunk

(Mr. Thompson, cont'd)...highways, of secondary roads, aids to municipalities and everything else. That figure has no other significance when added to the 33 million, other than that the total means what is involved in highways and roads in all departments and in both construction and maintenance and aids.

MR. HRYHORCZUK: Mr. Chairman, the statement I am going to make is not in the form of an accusation or anything; it is only for clarification, because I am not satisfied with the answers here. I am not by nature suspicious, but I can't help but be somewhat reluctant in accepting the Minister's explanation. Now I am asking him a question. If we carry on this type of financial policy, would it be possible for the government in a pre-election year to carry out its normal amount of work and reduce taxes because of these carry-overs?

MR. THOMPSON: Taxes have no direct relation -- this is a capital expenditure, not a current.....

MR. HAWRYLUK:Mr. Chairman. For example we have the figures that were given by the Honourable Minister of the expenditures for 1958-'59. There you say it came to \$17,828,492. Have you -- in the planning in 1958 and '59, have you actually fulfilled the outline of the roads for '58-'59? I mean, have they all been built according to the specification figures that we got at that time?

MR. T. P. HILLHOUSE, Q.C. (Selkirk): Mr. Chairman, one point that I'd like to have made clear, Mr. Chairman, is this. It's quite clear that this comprises the scheduled road program for 1960-61. Now you say you're asking this money to be voted and that you will have a carry-over as of April -- of March 31, 1961 and of \$18 million odd and that the reason why you want that carry-over is so as you can commit the government to future contracts. Now the point that I want to be clear on is this. Are any of these future contracts listed in this schedule, or are they in respect of contracts that still would have to be approved by the House after March 31, 1961?

MR. THOMPSON: No, those contracts which you have in your hand are that statement. That was roads which it is anticipated can be built this coming fiscal year. None of those, it is hoped, will have to be carried over into the 61-2. The department feels that they can build as stated there, in 60-61, so that none of those will be carried over, but others will be that were approved last summer. The program for last summer was the 60-61 program and we've rescheduled it as I have stated, and gave the reasons in the discussion on current estimates -- I think I dealt fully with reasons; part of it's been carried over and the carry-over will be constructed in '61-2.

MR. HILLHOUSE:.....the scheduled program in this list you have given us?

MR. THOMPSON: Yes, that we scheduled last.

MR. HILLHOUSE: But there is still that point that is not clear in my mind. You're going to have a carry-over if we vote the amount of money that you are asking for now. You're going to have a carry-over of over \$18 million at the end of the next fiscal year, and the reason why you ask for that carry-over is so that you can enter into binding contracts during the interval for future projects. Now the point that I want to know is this: Has this House been furnished with a list of these future projects?

MR. THOMPSON: You had them in the list of last summer.

MR. PAULLEY: Let's get this clear. It seems to me that the program that the department anticipates for this year, has estimated the cost -- and this just deals with the provincial figures, and not federal -- if I got the figures correctly from the Minister, that the estimate of the provincial share of roads for which approval is requested, is 28 million 146 odd thousand dollars.....--(interjection)-- No that's this year. That's the program for which we have the schedule before us to complete. It is estimated to cost \$28,000,000 odd. It is anticipated that there will be a carry-over as of a few days from now, March 31st of this year, a carry-over of \$27,000,000. Right? In other words, the difference between the two is approximately \$1,000,000; in other words, that the department could complete all of the program as listed on the schedule, for an additional expenditure of approximately \$1,000,000. Now then, the government is not asking us for \$1,000,000 in order to complete their program. They're asking us for \$20,000,000. Now then my question is this -- then we will have a carry-over of approximately \$18,500,000, or let's call it nineteen. Now then, does or does not the government have to, notwithstanding that carry-over, obtain from the Legislature authorization

(Mr. Paulley, cont'd) for the expenditure? In other words if there are carry-overs at any time that are not used for the purpose authorized by the Legislature, has the government the power to use that money without -- for specific purposes-- without the approval of a session of the Legislature? And if it has that power, then as far as I am concerned, they have in the kitty for use for whatever they like this approximately \$19 million. But if they have to, at the end of the fiscal year, or for the forthcoming fiscal year, obtain the approval of the Legislature for additional expenditures, they have to obtain authority for that -- then why a carry-over, if you have sufficient monies to complete the program that the legislature has authorized? I would like an answer on that because it doesn't seem . . .

MR. THOMPSON: Mr. Chairman, I feel that I have explained that. I think I follow your logic right to the last sentence. We need \$1.3 million or so of this \$20,000,000 to complete the '60-61 program. We are carrying over the balance -- we'll have appropriated -- voted by this House the balance of \$18,500,000; therefore, we'll be able to commit a portion of that in entering into contract the coming winter, the coming autumn, for '61-2, in order that we can proceed in a progressive manner with road construction; but we don't have to have any further vote of the House; you're voting for it now; if you pass it now you will have approved of it.

MR. PAULLEY: in point, Mr. Chairman; that's my main point, and that's the question I'm directing to the benches opposite. Do we or do we not, or do you or do you not have to obtain the approval of the Legislature for the expenditures of the amount of money that you have as a carry-over?

MR. ROBLIN:

MR. PAULLEY: Pardon?

MR. ROBLIN:

MR. PAULLEY: But we don't know what you're going to spend it on.

MR. ROBLIN: Yes you do.

MR. PAULLEY: We don't, because the Minister has told us, or the government has told us that they estimate for expenditures of this year \$28,000,000. They've told us that they estimate their expenditures of this year at \$28,000,000, which we of the Legislature are approving because the government has satisfied us as to their program and what they're going to spend it on, and that's what we're approving. . . (Interjection:-- on roads). Yes, right on roads. Now then does it mean -- and here I'm back to my basic question-- does it mean that we're giving approval for the carry-over of the \$18 million odd for something that we don't know what the government is going to do with in respect of roads? I think that is the question. You see I can appreciate it. I can appreciate it for instance, Mr. Chairman, if I may deviate just for a moment -- I can appreciate in respect of the new Hydro development plant where there is a project that is going to take a number of years to build because it is of a specific nature. We know that when we vote a capital supply for \$140 million odd that we have given the power to the government, because of the fact that they are going to build a plant at Grand Rapids, but I suggest, Sir, that there is a difference, insofar as roads are concerned, because it appears to me that it's true, it's a carry-over, and if the supply is granted, the government has the authority to have in the kitty approximately \$19 million for the purpose of roads, but the Legislature don't know for what purpose. That's my point.

MR. THOMPSON: Mr. Chairman, the purpose is as set out in 2 schedule (a), highways, roads, related projects, structures and facilities.

MR. PAULLEY: Isn't the Legislature entitled to know what roads? We are being told in respect of \$140 million in respect of Grand Rapids but we are not being told the program that the government has for the expenditure of the \$19 million odd carry-over which the Minister says will allow them to enter into contract for the fiscal year commencing March 31st 1961; and I suggest, Mr. Chairman, that there is a big difference.

MR. THOMPSON: We have laid before you the program for 60-61. During current estimates I stated that we would stand behind the 60-61 list which was announced at the summer session. Therefore I think it is only logical that the roads which are not in this year's schedule, will be in next year's schedule. We've already said they will be, and they will be there. Now constitutionally speaking, on a constitutional issue of whether we are obliged on this vote to lay before the House in detail, every road, I don't think we would be obliged to give a mile by

(Mr. Thompson, cont'd).....mile survey of roads, statement on road construction. I'm not sure on that point -- but regardless of that, we have said that we will be completing those roads which were left out of the former schedule in 61-2 and they certainly will use quite a portion of this money which is being voted.

MR. PAULLEY:Mr. Chairman, just in connection with this point, am I given to understand then, that the carry-over after the fiscal year 1961 can and will only be used in connection with the construction of roads for which approval has been granted by the Legislature and as outlined by both the present Minister and the former Minister of Public Works?

MR. THOMPSON: No, I think not, Mr. Chairman. We have the responsibility of road building. We are asking for money for road building. I think it's right that if we feel a road should be built in a certain place whether it was in that program or not, that we would have authority to go ahead and build it. I don't think we can give any such commitment as you ask.

MR. PAULLEY:.....in opposition to know where and on what roads the authority is granted. I think that's one of our functions here.

MR. HILLHOUSE: I feel, Mr. Chairman, by the same token we are only obliged to vote sufficient money for a road program for a certain fiscal year and we are under no obligation to vote sufficient money to carry on a program for a year following, unless we know what roads are included in that program.

MR. ORLIKOW: Mr. Chairman, I don't go along entirely with the Honourable Member for Selkirk. I think that any government would need to have some leeway. The Minister has told us that as closely as he can estimate he has a road program that has cost \$28 million. He's given us what was \$27 million, I think, in the kitty; there is so much in the current estimates. It seems to me -- I don't blame the Minister for saying maybe we won't have the wet weather this coming year that we had last year; maybe we'll be able to get on with the job faster than we anticipate -- and if the Minister were to say, "Let's pass two or three or four million dollars extra so that we can get on with the job," I would have no objection, but I must say that I can't understand at all why the Minister needs to have a sum of \$18,500,000 more than the Minister estimates he is going to spend. It seems to me that there is no relationship between what the Minister thinks he is going to spend and what he is asking us to appropriate. It seems to me that what he is doing is in fact saying: "I want to have somewhere between 6 and 9 months more money than I'm going to use, and I'll come back some day next year and tell you what I am going to use it on." And that, it seems to me is asking much too much.

MR. CHAIRMAN:It is 5:30. I leave the Chair till 8 o'clock.