

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA
8:00 o'clock, Thursday, April 23, 1970

MR. CHAIRMAN: We're dealing with the Department of Cultural Affairs. The Honourable Minister.

MR. PETURSSON: Mr. Chairman, I had reached that point in my presentation at which I mentioned two or three outstanding events that were to take place including the coming of Her Majesty the Queen to Winnipeg, the Mounted Police Musical Ride. I spoke of the lotteries and so on and the enthusiasm with which the people in Manitoba were entering into the Centennial celebrations. Then I was on the point of suggesting that there are other areas that must be given serious consideration besides these, the ones of celebration and so on, and I was going to follow that up by saying that we can't but recognize the need to adapt to a society of fast paced transformations. We are in need of redrawing our economic blueprints to correspond to the reality of the world of multi-national corporations. We have to find the means to overcome social ills. Solutions must be found for the problems of poverty, of alienation of youth, of decay and crowding of life in our cities. Of prejudice and exploitation, of the deep crisis on our farms. We have to find a way for defining our role in a world of global revolution.

Manitoba has a rich heritage contributed to by many people of many nations. It has gone through the experiences of good times and bad. During its one hundred years, it has faced many challenges and its people have met them with courage and with fortitude. Its people have enjoyed the happy results of living in a very favoured land. During the past several months, on occasions when I've been called on to address groups from out of the province, that is out-of-province visitors, I've made a point of impressing upon them that here in Manitoba we enjoy such things as blue skies, bright sun, clean air, pure water, beautiful women and rugged men. Therefore, why shouldn't we celebrate this Centennial year. I know of no place that has any fewer shortcomings than we have in this province. And so we celebrate -- (Interjection) -- now you mean? It has been suggested, Mr. Chairman, that I sing a song. Instead of that, Mr. Chairman . . .

MR. MCKENZIE: What key would the song be in before we can get tuned up?

MR. PETURSSON: I don't sing by key, I sing by chance. Instead of singing a song, Mr. Chairman, I can suggest that by leave of the House when I have completed my presentation, we could adjourn for about ten minutes and look at some slides, promotional slides, promoting Manitoba and promoting Centennial. They will be shown in Room 254, if the members agree to adjourning for a few minutes and then returning to the House and continue with the business.

In the meantime, I wish to give recognition to the members of my personal staff in the addition to the tribute that I paid to the Chairman of the Centennial Corporation and all the people involved in the Centennial. I would give recognition particularly to those who are nearest to me -- and there's a great temptation to say "nearest and dearest." Mr. Guy Moore who until recently was my deputy in part only, the other part being in Tourism and Recreation, has now become full-time Deputy Minister in my department and I have occasions when I wonder how I managed to get along without his full-time services before. He is proving to be of invaluable assistance. Then there are the girls. What else? My secretary, Mrs. Jocelyn Pruden is one of the best organized people I have ever encountered. In spite of her diminutive size, she has proven to be a tower of strength. And Mrs. Carol Fogel, my executive assistant, the only female executive assistant in the government of this province.

MR. CHAIRMAN: . . . the secretary was well organized or well built?

MR. PETURSSON: Well you can put your own interpretation on organized. But Mrs. Fogel in many ways has done much to ease the load of office from my shoulders. I would also mention Miss Marjorie Morley, the Provincial Librarian, and Mr. John Bovey, Provincial Archivist, Mr. Merlin Newton who is the Chairman of the Censor Board. And more about that later. I take this opportunity to express my appreciation to all of these good people and the staffs that work under them.

I would like to give my attention for a few moments to history and archeology. The name of this section is almost self-explanatory. It has to do with the locating, the preservation and the marking of historic sites - for the benefit of the uninitiated "sites" is spelled s-i-t-e-s. Manitoba is rich in history, not only during the period of its 100 years but history from a couple of centuries or more preceding the formation of this province, during the time in which the white man had travelled these plains, and then history before that again, to the time of the

(MR. PETURSSON cont'd) Indian tribes when they roamed the plains, not only hundreds, but several thousands of years before our time. Artifacts have been found at archeological sites in the north which in some instances are claimed to date from as early a time as 7000 years ago. From this we readily understand the history did not begin with the coming of the white man; but even during the time of the white man here, there is much that has become of historic value, much that is important for preservation, whether in memory or in records from earlier times.

The romantic days of the buffalo are not far removed from us or we are not far removed from the romantic days of the buffalo. Men and women live among us who lived and experienced all the trials and tribulations of pioneer days of 75 or 80 or 100 years ago. Our story, that is the story of Manitoba, is their story. They laid the groundwork for those of us who came after.

Many sites of historic significance, early cemeteries, early trails, the Dawson Road, the Colonization Road that runs north to St. Laurent and Oak Point and north along the shores of Lake Manitoba, and so on. There are burial mounds; there are log houses; there are early farmsteads; there are forts that were built in the early days; there are written records; there are pictures; there are paintings; many sites of historic significance have been tabulated. The Historic Sites Advisory Board has had these under study and is faced with the task of setting priorities on the basis of which to endeavour to preserve and which to place in a lower priority level. It is never an easy decision, but with very limited funds decisions have to be made, particularly when the need for a crash program of one kind or another develops such as the saving of the archeological sites on the shores of Southern Indian Lake last year. In that area of Manitoba there are not only rich deposits of artifacts to be found; there are also pictographic sites, which according to some authorities date back several thousand years.

In other areas in the province where markers can be used to designate a point of historic significance, markers will be placed with suitable inscriptions. They are being made now of metal and many of them will be used to replace the old wooden markers which are fairly rapidly falling into decay and served only a temporary purpose.

Now what is all this for, some may ask. Why all this concern about things that are past and gone? And I would reply, Is it not to remind ourselves that we have come a long way, that we are building on what has gone before, that we are an intelligent and understanding people conscious of the past and of the present and of the time to come. We have a deep appreciation of all that has gone before as we trace the steps of those who preceded us and bequeathed to us a heritage which enables us to build better, to reach higher and to travel farther than our forebears did. Our markers are memorials to men and women and times and occasions which, as a civilized people, it would be less than worthy of us and our heritage to forget. We are deeply indebted to the past and of course to the future; we have an obligation to build at least as well as our forebears built. So as we preserve our historic past we give recognition to our obligation to the future and we look ahead to the possibilities that await us during our second century.

After a prolonged period of inactivity, the Manitoba Historic Sites Advisory Board was reconstituted in 1969 and held its first official meeting that year on May 8th, with other meetings held on June 26, September 22, and December 11. At the present time these people serve as members of the Board: Chairman, Mr. J. D. Herbert, who is the Director of the Manitoba Museum of Man and Nature; Dr. Ross C. Mitchell, representative of the Manitoba Historical Society; Professor W. J. Mayer-Oaks, Head of the Department of Anthropology, University of Manitoba; Mrs. Nan Shipley, writer and historian; Mrs. Cecelia Kyle, local historian from rural parts of Manitoba; Mrs. Margaret Clark, local historian also from rural parts of the Province; Mr. John Bovey, the Provincial Archivist; Mr. Guy Moore, Deputy Minister of my department, formerly Deputy Minister of Tourism and Recreation, and the secretary of this Board is Mr. J. D. McFarland of the Provincial Parks Branch.

Having spoken these few words about history and the records, this leads me very logically to a brief statement on the subject of the Provincial Library and Archives. These are in the main the repository of documents and records from early and from later times, preserving much of the history of this land that we live in, and most particularly centering on the province we live in, its people from early and from later times. And yet in its capacity of preserving the treasures of the province, it is also the most deprived and neglected of departments in terms not only of financing but also in terms of the allocation of space. This is the department that was most prominently mentioned as an argument in favour of the purchasing of the Civic

(MR. PETURSSON cont'd) Auditorium just a few days ago. With that purchase space will become available in adequate amounts to give our archivist a fair show and to give much easier access to some of the treasures which the archives contain. By moving the Archives to the Auditorium, the library will begin to be able to breathe as it in turns expands into the areas that are now occupied by archives in this building.

However, in spite of cramped quarters, the Library and the Archives have carried on an outstanding and essential provincial function. One of the important functions of the Provincial Library and Archives is to maintain complete files of Manitobiana in whatever form possible; in book form, in films, in pictures, on microfilm, in manuscripts, in journals and so on and so on. To assure that the documents, annuals, reports and reports of special committees of Manitoba as well as other records are placed in the Legislative Library an Order-in-Council was passed in 1952 stipulating that three copies of all documents in any form of the Government of Manitoba should be placed in the library, and to the best of my knowledge this instruction has been followed through.

Throughout the province there are libraries which fall into one of two categories, municipal and regional. The regional takes in a larger area, probably several municipalities. The municipal of course is a municipal library in one municipality. Thus the whole province is served with a public library service through branch libraries and bookmobile service. There is also the departmental library serving the Department of Health and Social Services, a particularly useful adjunct to the other services. Besides this the staff travels to different parts of the province for promotion, establishment and administration of regional libraries. They speak at council meetings, at club meetings and others. The staff assists rural regional libraries in becoming established and give useful information on the ordering, selecting and cataloguing of books. Last year through this service that the Provincial Library provided, 14,000 books were ordered and 61,000 catalogue cards were distributed to these municipal and regional libraries. This whole area is one that is comparatively little known to any except those who are most closely involved in it. This work merits the recognition of our legislators and I take the opportunity of expressing my appreciation to all of the dedicated people who devote time and effort, often beyond the call of duty, to this useful and this very necessary work.

The Archives staff has had an exceptionally busy year during the past year in preparation for Centennial, in handling research enquiries largely stimulated by the Centennial activities and also arising from the increasing numbers of enquiries being made by both graduate and under-graduate university students. A continuing increase is expected during the present year. In illustration of this point of the increasing activity, I may indicate that research inquiries increased by 40 percent during the past year, from 761 in 1968 to 1,066 in 1969. The use of the photograph collection increased by 300 percent. Copy orders jumped from 1,045 in 1968 to 3,226 in 1969, all of which is an indication that more and more awareness is developing of the existence of the facilities that the library and archives offer.

Among notable acquisitions to the archives recently are papers relating to John Bracken's public career in Manitoba, correspondence of the Honourable Colin H. Campbell, who was Attorney-General during the ministries of Sir Hugh John Macdonald and Sir Rodmond P. Roblin, two albums of photographs taken between the years 1873 and 1876 along the 49th parallel from the Lake of the Woods to the Rocky Mountains, numbering in all some 250 prints. Papers and correspondence of the CCF from 1936 to 1968 have been deposited in the archives. The survey notebooks that Captain A. C. Webb was keeping on the 11th of October 1869, when Louis Riel and his supporters forcibly stopped the running of the survey lines, are also preserved in Archives, and this is but a small sample of the material that is being almost daily brought in or sent to the archives, all helping to add to the importance of the archives as the depository of treasures which can fittingly be described as "beyond price." They are irreplaceable. At the same time, the facilities are being taxed far beyond their present capacity and because of this it has become imperative that larger quarters be provided such as will now be provided when it becomes possible to transfer Archives to the Auditorium.

Now, very briefly at this point, Mr. Speaker, I would draw your attention to the Centennial Centre, the Planetarium, the Museum of Man and Nature, the Art Gallery, the Arts Council, and just a bare mention of Manitoba Theatre Centre. The Centennial Centre and the Planetarium have been in use during the past three years, and with growing favour and increasing success. There aren't any places in the west that are any more attractive to come into than the Centennial Centre, and the Planetarium is outstandingly unique in this western country of ours.

(MR. PETURSSON cont'd)

The Art Gallery and the Manitoba Theatre Centre are in process of construction. Both will fill their longfelt need, particularly the Art Gallery, as everyone will agree who has visited the present quarters in the upper hallways of the Auditorium. It is fully expected that the new Art Gallery building will be opened early next year.

The Museum of Man and Nature is already in full process of having exhibits installed and dioramas arranged. The offices and the works of the Administration Building are even now occupied and in full use. The Museum has been described by one man who spoke to me about it as potentially the most outstanding museum of its kind on the continent, and from what I have seen of it, I can believe what he says is true. The opening of the Museum, which is scheduled for July 5th, will be one of the most exciting events of our Centennial year. I hope I may be able to extend an invitation to the members of the Legislature to pay a preview visit to the Museum before very long, so that they too may be impressed by what they see there as I have been impressed.

From here, I wish to look very briefly at the Arts Council although it merits far more time than what I can comfortably devote to it. The Arts Council is a grants-giving body whose aim and objects, as set forth in the Act which brought it into being, are to promote the study, enjoyment, production and performance of works in the arts, and to these ends the Arts Council is empowered to make grants, to provide scholarships or loans for study or research in the arts; to make awards for outstanding accomplishment in the arts. So effective has the work of the Arts Council been, that the Metro Corporation of Greater Winnipeg has decided to entrust to the Arts Council the taking over of the grants-awarding program of the Metropolitan Corporation. It is not without some justification that the council requests that in place of its present part-time director that that position be made a full-time position in recognition of the effective work that the Arts Council is doing.

I would now, Mr. Chairman, draw these comments to a close and I shall do so with a few, very few observations on the subject of the Censor Board, which is charged with viewing all moving picture films that come to the province and of determining their final disposition as far as Manitoba is concerned. -- (Interjection) -- I don't hear what you're saying.

The Censorship Act has been much discussed, along with some of the films that have been viewed, and questions have arisen about the functions of the board and the purposes of the Act. I have myself viewed a few of the films, that is, the questionable ones, and to my taste I would judge them hardly worth the effort of walking across the street to look at them, let alone pay admission. In my judgment, some of these films constitute a form of pollution of the entertainment channels, and I felt that with the growing insistence on seeing all with nothing hidden or even implied, we are not far from the ultimate demand that the doors be removed from every bedroom and that the doors be permanently kept open on every washroom.

MR. BEARD: How about the Red River Community College?

MR. PETURSSON: I didn't hear that. -- (Interjection) -- Oh, I think that my remarks here about the films would apply equally to some of those stags that Gordon Beard seems to enjoy. At least he knows a lot about them.

MR. BEARD: I didn't have the privilege . . .

MR. PETURSSON: There was a time, Mr. Chairman, when moving pictures showed some artistic and acting skill in the delineation of their productions, and every meaning was easily conveyed with a finesse and a subtlety that is unknown in the so-called realism of many of the pictures of today. But that is now no more, and now it seems a bedroom door, or a car door for that matter, is not allowed to close gently as the picture fades out. Instead, the cameras must be inside the door to make sure that the viewer may see all with no need to exercise his powers of imagination.

I say all this and at the same time I know that it is not for me to tell this House or anyone in it or anyone else what I will permit them to view and what not to view. It is not my place to prohibit anyone from seeing any picture of form of entertainment that he may wish to see. And in saying this, I call to mind the ringing words of John Stewart Mill when he said - and mark this: "If all mankind minus one were of one opinion, and only one person were of the contrary opinion, mankind would be no more justified in silencing that one person than he, if he had the power, would be justified in silencing mankind." That's an interesting thought. And so what do we do? Perhaps the old Censorship Act is outmoded; perhaps it needs a good looking at. No major change of any kind has been made in the Censorship Act since it was first enacted in 1923. There have been several minor amendments but they've been very minor.

(MR. PETURSSON cont'd)

Now because of this, my department has suggested that a committee be set up to study the Act and bring in recommendations dealing with it and with the principle of censorship in general. Members have been appointed to this committee and a study will be made and recommendations put forward for the consideration of this House at, I hope, a fairly early date although it will in all probability not be during this session.

The makeup of the board that we have set up is as I read it here. These are the people who have been approached and asked to sit on the board and who have agreed to sit on the board. The first is Mr. Paul Morton who is interested in the motion picture industry - he operates a theatre; Dr. Robert W. Brockway, head of Religious Studies at the University of Brandon; Dr. Gordon Stephens, psychiatrist at the University of Manitoba; Mrs. Una Decter, housewife; and then a student is to be named by the High School Presidents' Association; and finally Miss Anne DuMoulin, a social worker, will finish up that quota of membership.

On that note, Mr. Chairman, I close my presentation. I wish to thank all the members of my department for their patience and their understanding. I don't believe any department has a finer group of people than my department has. They have all, in whatever area they work, made things very pleasant and very easy for me and I look forward to spending more time in this department with them carrying on their work. But before I sit down, Mr. Speaker, to emphasize the ethnic flavour, not only of this House but of the province, I wish to take the liberty of exercising my bilinguality and say a word or two in the language of my fathers, the Icelandic, following the good example of my friend the Honourable Member for Rock Lake a few days ago. I am sorry he's not here to hear my rendition. So I say:

HERRA THINGSTJÓRI: MÆR VAR SAGT AÐ VINUR MINN, THING-FULLTRÚIN FRÁ ROCK LAKE KJÓRDAEMI, HAFI FLUTT NOKKUR ORÐ Á ISLENSKU Á THINGFUNDI, THESSA THINGS FYRIR FÆINUM DÖGUM. OG VIL EG NÚ FYLGJA EFTIR- DAEMI HANS.

HER, EINS OG MENN VITA, SITJA Á THESSU THINGI MENN AF MÖRGUM MISMUNANDI THÖFLOKKUM OG THESS VEGNA AF MÖRGUM MISMUNANDI TUNGUM.

FORSÆTISRÁÐHERRAN TALAR SJÁLFUR FJÖGUR MISMUNANDI TUNGUMAL OG Í THINGSETNINGAR- RÆÐU HANS FLUTTI HANN NOKKUR ORÐ A THEIM FJÖRUM TUNGUM, NEFNILEGA ENZKU, FRÖNSKU, THÝZKU OG UKRAINZKU. EN THAR SEM THRÍR, ISLENDINGAR SITJA Á THESSU THINGI ER VÞEIGANDI AÐ THAÐ MÁL HEYRIST LIKA, OG EKKI SIZT THAR SEM ER VERIÐ AÐ HALDA UPP A HUNDRÁÐ ÁRA AFMAELI THESSA FYLKIS OG THAR, SEM ISLENDINGAR HAFU NÚ BUIÐ THESSI S. L. NIUTU OG FIMM ÁR. FYRIR NIUTU OG FIMM ÁRUM SETTUST THEIR HER AÐ Á BÖKKUM WINNÍPEG VATNS, OG THAR HAFU THEIR ÁTT SINN THÁTT Í THVI AD BYGGJA THETTA LAND. HER HAFU BÖRN THEIRRA ALIST UPP, --BÖRN THEIRRA OG BARNA-BÖRN, OG HAFU THAU GERST GÖÐIR BORGARAR THESSARAR THJÓÐAR OG THESSA FYLKIS.

OG NÚ EIGA THAU SINN THÁTT Í THVI AD HALDA UPP Á ALDAR AFMAELI FYLKISINS, SEM HEFUR VERIÐ, HEIMILI THEIRRA ÖLL THESSI ÁR, Í SAMFÉLAGI VÞ FÓLK AF ÖÐRUM THJÓDFLOKKUM, OG ÖÐRUM UPPRUNA'.

EN TILGANGI MÍNUM ER NÚ NÁÐ MEÐ THESSUM FÁU ORÐUM, NEFNILEGA AÐ LÁTA HEYRAST ISLENSKT MÁL Í THESSUM SAL ISLENDINGUM TIL VIDURKENNINGAR.

AD SVO SÖGDU, HERRA THINGSTJÓRI, ENDA EG, MAL MITT OG THAKKA FYRIR GÓÐA ÁHEYRN!!

Thank you very much.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

MR. CHAIRMAN: Before we proceed to the discussion on moving, I would like to direct the members' attention to the gallery, the second gallery on my right, where we have a group of 15 students or 15 members of the 3rd Winnipeg Scout Troop under the leadership of Mr. J. Kruger and Mr. M. Empson. This Scout Troop is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Riel. On behalf of all the honourable members of the Legislative Assembly, I welcome you here today.

The Official Leader of the Opposition.

MR. WEIR: I'd prefer it if you'd put it the Leader of the Official Opposition, Mr. Chairman. That's much better. May I say, Mr. Chairman, that I rise to register a bit of a complaint. A little earlier it had been suggested that we might retire from this room to another to

(MR. WEIR cont'd) look at some slides and leave would be required, and I rise to say that I'm not prepared to grant leave. I'm quite prepared, Mr. Chairman, to view the slides after 10:00 o'clock, or something like that, but we have just been through what in my view is probably the worst abuse of the members of this House in terms of the time that is available for estimates. I haven't complained over the fact that the government hasn't given us a complete list of departments, and I'm prepared to live with the fact that it's my view that the opposition should budget their time so that they can work their way through all of the departmental estimates in 80 hours. But to do that, Mr. Chairman, it is absolutely impossible without reasonable cooperation from the government. Mr. Chairman, we've just been all the way through in this department right from the sex life of a buffalo, for something a little better than 50 minutes.

MR. BOROWSKI: Watch your language.

MR. WEIR: Mr. Chairman, if I -- well it doesn't warrant a reply, Mr. Chairman. It doesn't warrant a reply. I've got some complaints that I could make about the Minister of Agriculture and the length of his speeches; I didn't. We made some fun about them. And the opening remarks of the Minister of Education, I've privately done a little kibbitzing with him but I haven't brought it to the floor of the House. But the contents of the opening address here -- Mr. Chairman, with the responsibilities of the opposition to be able to get through all of the departments about the best that could be budgetted for a department with an expenditure of the extent of Cultural Affairs, if you're to cover all of the estimates and to pay the proper attention to those that are spending 150, 160, 170 million dollars, is a couple of hours, it's a couple of hours; and the Minister has taken up the first 50 minutes, which amounts to almost 50 percent of the time that can legitimately be given to the consideration of the estimates, and I'm not going to take any more time now except to say that it's the extra-curricular activity in the presentation of the estimates, from my point of view I'm prepared to provide the time but not within the 80 hours, because we're going to have a difficult time in budgetting the time that is required to give what is considered to be a reasonable scrutiny of these estimates. And I'm one who believes in the 80 hour limitation. I'm one who believes that the Opposition have a responsibility to budget their time so that they can get all through the estimates. I'm one who thinks that it was the Opposition before that was responsible for only getting through five or six departments out of the 12 or 14 or 16. I'm on record in saying this in the Rules Committee and I say it again now. But I say, Mr. Chairman, that if we are to be able to budget our time, and if we are to consider all of the departments within the 80 hours, that we do need, we do need the co-operation of members of the front bench in terms of the presentation of their estimates and in terms of the length of the hours. So I make an appeal at this stage of the game to do what they can to help us, to help us, because you know there's almost as many on this side of the House as there are on that and it becomes very difficult -- (Interjection) -- That's right - almost - I could make another speech there but I'm on estimates and I begrudge the time. I begrudge the time that it would take to straighten it out.

So, Mr. Chairman, I just say that I would hope that the scrutiny of the department's estimates wouldn't take that long. I do think that 50 minutes, when there is a 40-minute rule, when there is a 40-minute rule, Mr. Chairman, in terms of speeches unless there is a government statement being made - it can be interpreted government statement I guess - but I think it's a little long in terms of presentation of the estimates. I didn't interrupt because had I stood up, had I made a comment, the Minister would have been entitled to another 40 minutes in terms of the rules of the House anyway, so in the committee stage, this in my view isn't important, but I do think that it's important that we have co-operation from all sides in an attempt to make a legitimate scrutiny of the estimates of the government, and to do it within 80 hours.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister of Labour.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Chairman -- (Interjection) -- Well it all depends what you say, whether it's 40 minutes or not. So if you just keep quiet maybe it will only take two minutes.

I appreciate the remarks of the Leader of the Official Opposition insofar as the matter of adjourning, to leave the House to go into 254 to view some pictures. I think that it is his prerogative to say that in his opinion if leave is required, it would not be granted. But I regret very much, Mr. Chairman, that my honourable friend has seen fit to chastize the Minister of Cultural Affairs on the length of time in the presentation of his estimates. I think that it is historic as far as the Assembly and this Committee is concerned that the Minister uses his own

(MR. PAULLEY cont'd) prerogative as to the length of the time he takes for the introduction of his estimates. I want to refer my honourable friend to Hansard -- and maybe we should never have had a Hansard, because then I wouldn't be able to substantiate what I'm now going to say -- that some of the past Ministers of the former administration took about three times as long as the present Minister of Cultural Affairs has taken on the introduction of the estimates of their respective departments. I refer my honourable friend to a friend . . . -- (Interjection -- . . . new philosophy). Yes and a change in positions of government. But I want to refer my honourable friend the Leader of the Opposition to a mutual . . .

MR. WEIR: How long did I take?

MR. PAULLEY: You were one of the more brief ones. But I want to refer my honourable friend to one of his colleagues who was also a very good friend of mine, the former Minister of Agriculture, the honourable at that time, he's still an honourable gentleman, but he had the title of honourable, the Honourable George Hutton. If anyone used up the 80 hours, George Hutton used up I would say about one-third of it, and then if he was followed by another former Minister . . .

MR. WEIR: Are you sure that wasn't at a time when we were going to 120 hours?

MR. PAULLEY: Yes, and then may I also recall to my honourable friend's attention another good friend of all of the members of this Assembly who had the privilege of sitting with him -- the Honourable George Johnson, the Minister of Health and Welfare, and the Minister of Education. I recall a few polls that were taken by members of the Assembly. -- (Interjection) -- yes I lost out and I was always considered the longest winded individual that was in this House, except, except for a couple of colleagues of my honourable friend the Leader of the Opposition today, during the regime of the Honourable Duff Roblin, and yours too my friend, so please . . . We appreciate the fact on this side of the House as to the desirability of getting through all of the estimates of the various departments within the 80 hours. We tried . . .

MR. WEIR: I'm getting the impression you don't want to get through them all.

MR. PAULLEY: We tried, but my honourable friend, Mr. Chairman, I want to tell him that when we were on that side of the House we attempted too, to get through all of the departments and we were blocked because of the verbosity of my honourable friend's front benchers, so please allow the same privilege to my colleague the Minister of Cultural Affairs or any other Minister, that was given to your Ministers or front bench at the time that Roblin and yourself led the government. I don't recall, Mr. Chairman, at any time, at any time we complained on the introduction of departmental estimates as to the time that the Minister took; and invariably if the Minister seemed to take a little bit longer in making his statement than seemed appropriate, it followed almost on every occasion that the detailed consideration of the estimates of the department took only half as long as it would have been if every item had to be introduced separately. So I say to my honourable friend, will you no turn the clock back a little whit in memory back to the days when you were on this side of the House. Do you not recall some of your colleagues in the front bench, Red Lyon, George Hutton, George Johnson, and I bet you if you turn back into Hansard and take a look at it, the remarks of my Honourable -- (Interjection) -- and Russ Paulley over there yes -- but you will find at the time that my colleague the Minister of Cultural Affairs was very brief and very concise in the introduction of his estimates tonight.

MR. WEIR: Mr. Chairman, if you're going to turn the clock back I don't want to take any more of the time of the estimates to debate this thing. But if we want to turn the clock back, let's turn the clock back -- and I'm not going to speak for the period of time when I wasn't the Leader of the party -- but during the time when I was Leader of the party at the time we approached estimates there was a list of what we considered would be the order of estimates in our period of time, and the Opposition of the day were asked if that order suited them or if they had any suggestions to make. On the only occasions that I know of where suggestions were made we were able to accommodate the suggestions. And I must say, Mr. Chairman, that in the last few days I've been asking for this additional breakdown without asking for a right to pick the order of the estimates, at least a knowledge of where they would be so that we would know, so we could balance our time within the 80 hours, and the House Leader hasn't been very receptive to even meeting that small obligation. Had we the opportunity of that list -- and I would ask my honourable friend if he doesn't agree that during the years that I was leader of the House that a list prior to entering estimates was given and there was an indication as to whether or not the Opposition would like a change in the order, because of the departments they wanted to

(MR. WEIR cont'd) reach, and that any requests that were made, I think that we were able to live up to, we made a sincere effort to. If that was the situation now and if the order was there, if we even knew the order, it might be a great deal easier as we approach the situation. So if you want to turn it back, let's have a look, Mr. Chairman, at all of these aspects.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Chairman, if may just in reply to my honourable friend, I'll be very brief. You're right, there was consultation, there was a caveat as a result of that understanding, a caveat by the former house leaders of the Conservative Party, that they had the right to change the order as they desired, and they did. I also want to say to my honourable friend, it is my understanding that there has been consultations between the House Leader, who unfortunately is absent this evening due to a death in the family. I don't say that to place any wrong connotation on why I am saying this, but it is my understanding that there has been consultation, it is my understanding that the Leader of the Opposition does know what department is following the Department of Cultural Affairs. I understand that the Minister knew, the member knew that Cultural Affairs was going to follow Tourism and Recreation, and I would suggest to my honourable friend that if he is so anxious to get every department in the 80 hours, let's not further this argument that we are having at the present time, and he knows what the departments are to follow as far as I am aware.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister of Transportation.

MR. BOROWSKI: Mr. Chairman, I'm not going to waste very much time but I feel the type of statement that came from the Leader of the Opposition can't go unchallenged. You know for the first few minutes when he spoke I thought he was kidding, but after listening to him, you know that he's serious.

Here's a minister who seldom speaks, one of the least talkative ministers, one of the least talkative members in the House, for the first time he gets a chance to say something in introducing his estimates, and the Leader of the Opposition has the incredible gall to get up and complain about him wasting time. You know every day, every day without fail we spend half an hour to an hour listening to those leather lunged windbags from the other side cross-examine the front benches of the government.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would caution the member to watch his language.

MR. BOROWSKI: I'm being very kind right now. We have been subjected to cross-examination day in and day out by the Member for River Heights. Hardly a day went by. This time is just as precious. . .

MR. McKENZIE: Do you know you're a Minister of the Crown?

MR. BOROWSKI: You need a breathalyzer, sit down.

MR. McKENZIE: Mr. Chairman, on a point of privilege. Are we not permitted to ask the Minister of this province, Crown Ministers, questions? Is this what the Minister is trying to tell me? -- (Interjection) --

MR. BOROWSKI: I'd ask the Member for Roblin to go back to sleep. Mr. Chairman, I'm not going to waste very much time. I simply rise to object to the Leader of the Opposition making the statement that he has. If he's concerned about conserving time and getting down to the business of the House I would recommend if he is still leader of the party, to tell his backbenchers to stop wasting their time when they get up.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister of Agriculture.

MR. USKIW: Mr. Chairman, I want to say that I'm extremely disappointed that the Opposition has chosen to challenge the right of the Minister of Cultural Affairs on such an important occasion, and I'm talking about Centennial year and its relationship to the Department of Cultural Affairs, this important occasion to outline what his program is and what his views are and what his department is all about. I think that the Minister did a very good job, a tremendous job outlining the role of that department and very timely because of our current celebrations and I was quite pleased to have him speak at some length.

MR. WEIR: I noticed you weren't paying any attention. . .

MR. USKIW: My honourable friend the Leader of the Opposition feels that perhaps I'm not capable of hearing my honourable friend to my left when I happen to be thumbing through some of my papers, but I want to advise him that my capacity is beyond what his imagination is capable of imagining.

I want to say that the Minister of Cultural Affairs has indicated that we have something to be proud of in the fact that we have so many different cultural groups within the Province of Manitoba, and because of that fact I would have thought that the Leader of the Opposition would

(MR. USKIW cont'd) have never chosen this particular department and this particular Minister to rise on the kind of a question, question of the time of the House, because of the importance of that particular department in this particular time in history. I would have thought, Mr. Chairman, that the Leader of the Opposition would have much more discretion, if you like, and recognize the fact that it is important to have a genuine contribution from the Minister of Cultural Affairs in our Centennial Year and I would hope that my honourable friend opposite withdraws his remarks.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister of Cultural Affairs.

MR. PETURSSON: I just rise at this point to assure the Honourable the Leader of the Opposition that I did exercise great restraint in keeping my remarks brief, but I had accumulated time. Did you ever hear of such a thing as accumulative sick leave? I had been accumulating speaking time by not taking part in debates on other estimates, and therefore I think that I deserved a few extra minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It would seem to me that we've had a rather full discussion and perhaps points scored on both sides. The Leader of the Liberal Party.

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MR. G. JOHNSTON: There'll be no passing yet. I'm sorry, Mr. Chairman, that I was late in arriving. I was attending another cultural event and the score was 4 to 2 when I left, for Boston. -- (Interjection) -- The end of the second period. I hope this is not taken off the time of the estimates, Mr. Chairman.

Well, Mr. Chairman, I can recall sitting on the Rules Committee when the 80 hours was discussed and how it should be used, and our chairman was on the committee and I believe he supported me when we said that the departments should be divided in proportion to their importance for the 80 hours, and if I can recall correctly, both the government and the Leader of the Official Opposition voted my motion down, if I stand correct. So I think that something has been proved tonight if the Minister of Cultural Affairs has taken about three-quarters of an hour to introduce his estimates, and I know that he's accumulated sick leave or sick time or speaking time or whatever, so I can appreciate that, but I think that if every Minister were to take three-quarters of an hour to introduce the estimates, this would be about ten or twelve hours off the 80 hours, so I can appreciate some members' feelings when they feel that the time could maybe be spent in a different manner. Enough of that.

I have in my hand the report of the Centennial Corporation, and on Page 1 they've set out their objectives and I would like to quote from a board directive - "An outline program for 1970 was presented to the Legislature. It is designed to encourage art groups in the province and to enlarge 1967 programs." I'm sure the Minister is familiar with the Report of the Manitoba Centennial Corporation for the year ending March 31st, 1969.

Well, Mr. Chairman, I'm not an expert on cultural affairs but one thing that disappoints me is the way the Manitoba Centennial Corporation saw fit to ignore some of our local artists, our local entertainers and local composers, and of course the Minister will know that I'm talking about the offhand manner in which the Centennial Corporation saw fit to deal with the Manitoba Centennial Song that was written by a Manitoban and composed by a Manitoban, and I think this is a shocking turn of events when someone on the Centennial Commission takes it upon himself to devise the method to bring someone else into the province to write another song and pay upwards of \$15,000 for this.

MR. HENDERSON: Oh no.

MR. G. JOHNSTON: Oh I'm told it's \$4,500 for the song and \$10,000 to promote it around the province for a month. Am I misinformed? I don't know.

MR. HENDERSON: Terrible.

MR. G. JOHNSTON: But the winner of the Manitoba Centennial Song Competition, Mr. Gordon Watson, along with other competitors, fought it out for a prize of \$1,500.00, and why wasn't some recognition given to these people? Why wasn't this song that was written by a Manitoban-why wasn't it promoted? And why wasn't some recognition given to the Manitoba artists in this regard? I'm sorry to bring this up at this stage in this Centennial year, but I think that the Centennial Corporation has to re-examine its objectives and what it is trying to do. Surely here in Manitoba we're trying to promote what we have, not what someone else has. Are we not continually subjected to a barrage of culture from south of the line, some of it good and some of it bad, some of it indifferent? Are we not continually trying to reassert ourselves vis-a-vis eastern Canada in this part of Canada? I think that the Manitoba Centennial Corporation has let us down badly in this regard and I think that the Minister should have a meeting with the Chairman and redirect him in the efforts that he is making. Now I'm not taking anything away from his efforts because he's a hard-working person and he has a hard-working board, but when I hear stories that the Centennial Corporation seriously considered paying \$45,000 for a band from another country to come in here and perform for two or three days, I could hardly believe my ears. I could hardly believe my ears, Mr. Chairman, that so-called sane Manitobans would sit and consider a way to celebrate our Centennial year and bring in outsiders and pay them fees that even for New York or London are fairly stiff.

MR. BILTON: What about Lennon?

MR. G. JOHNSTON: There is a dead silence about John Lennon and I don't intend to enter into that. I'm talking about confirmed reports that the Centennial Corporation were seriously considering, and they had a verbal battle and a fairly close vote I understand, to bring in bands from another country and pay them \$45,000. A five-member band for two or three days' work and ignore our local artists? Mr. Chairman, I can hardly believe it. I can hardly believe it, and I would ask the Minister of Cultural Affairs to sit down at the earliest opportunity with members of the Centennial Commission and re-examine the objective, or what they are there for.

MR. SHERMAN: Would the honourable member permit a question? Would the Honourable House Leader of the Liberal Party advise me as to whether he would feel as strongly about the Manitoba Centennial Song as he obviously does if it had been written by someone other than one of his constituents?

MR. G. JOHNSTON: Yes I do. I feel very strongly about this whether the person was from Winnipeg or Swan River or wherever. If a contest was held and it was widely advertised and a prize was put up, well then, that should be the song to celebrate Manitoba's Centennial.

MR. SHERMAN: Whether it's a good song or a bad song.

MR. G. JOHNSTON: Well, Are you saying it's a bad song?

MR. SHERMAN: No. I'm asking you whether you believe that should be the case, whether it's a good song or a bad song.

MR. G. JOHNSTON: Well, when a contest is held amongst Manitobans and a prize was given, I presume the judges had some semblance of sanity and would know what they were doing when they chose the winner.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: Mr. Chairman, in speaking to the estimates of the Minister of Cultural Affairs, I wish to congratulate him and I do hope that the work that he does and carries out this year will be of value to the people of Manitoba and to the government. I also am in complete accord when he mentioned that Her Highness, Queen Elizabeth, and the Royal Family were invited to visit Manitoba, and I'm sure the people of this province are looking forward to this visit by Her Majesty The Queen, and I hope that the Minister and the Premier see fit that the itinerary might be changed somewhat so that they could visit southern Manitoba as well, and probably and most likely include Rhineland constituency as well, and also the neighbouring one of Pembina which I feel has something to offer in many different ways, and I'm sure that Her Majesty would also like to see that part of the country.

However, there is also one other thing that I think I should mention. It might not be a very popular thing to bring forward at this time, but I am referring to the invitation that went out to the Lencons. I note that the First Minister is not in his seat but I feel that this matter should be raised under the Cultural Affairs estimates because his department is in charge of the Centennial celebration and I felt that this was the proper time to bring the matter forward. I have here in possession a petition signed by 322 people in my constituency who are very much opposed to the invitation that went out, and the format used in the petition was used from that that was contained in the newspapers, both the Tribune and the Free Press, and maybe I should read it into the record. It is addressed to the Premier, and I quote:

"As a citizen of this province, I consider it to be my privilege and duty to register my opinion regarding the invitation extended by you to Mr. John Lennon and his wife to attend the celebrations of Manitoba's Centennial. The same as yourself, I applaud Mr. Lennon's stand on the questions of war and use of drugs. I cannot, however, accept Mr. Lennon's views on the question of morality as has been portrayed by the Free Press on the 14th of January in the article 'Sex Photos are on Sale'. Mr. Lennon's private life is of no concern to me as long as it is kept private. Unfortunately, this has not been the case. I am of the opinion that our guests for Manitoba's Centennial should not be people who are as controversial as Mr. Lennon. His presence in our midst could be an affront, not only to other invited guests, but to us too. In view of the above, I, the undersigned, request you, Mr. Premier, to withdraw your invitation to Mr. John Lennon and his wife."

This is the text of the petition and I will ask one of the page boys to deliver the petition to the Minister and if he feels that this should be passed on to the Premier himself, this can then be done.

In addition to that, I had a letter from the ministers of the local community that had written a letter to the Premier, protesting too the invitation, and a copy of that letter -- or the letter was sent to the Premier and a copy of it was sent to me. In addition also, the local school district where I'm resident passed a motion at its annual meeting also to the effect that they protested against this invitation. Now, at the time that these petitions floated around in Manitoba and were gathered, there was a lot of print in the newspapers both pro and con and I think the petition speaks for itself, and while I certainly won't condemn inviting people to Manitoba to help us celebrate the Centennial, I still feel that discretion should be used, especially if we invite Her Majesty out and if these particular celebrations should coincide. Now just what is going to happen, what is going to take place if these people do come down, I don't know.

(MR. FROESE cont'd.) Maybe the Minister can inform us, I do hope, though, that it will be a properly organized affair and that we will not have mob action in this city. I think it would be a black mark

MR. IAN TURNBULL (Osborne): Would the member submit to a question?

MR. FROESE: As soon as I'm finished I will. I do hope that the Minister and the government reconsider this particular invitation and -- (Interjection) -- Well, the Leader of the Liberal Party says it's too late. I think we can always reconsider until such time that the event takes place. -- (Interjection) -- He says the invitation has been issued. I could have probably brought the matter forward a little earlier, but . . .

MR. G. JOHNSTON: Every hippie in the west side of North America will be here.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I wish the honourable members would let us in on their private conversations.

MR. FROESE: Well, the Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party says that every member of the hippie organization of the North American continent will be here. Well I don't know whether it'll be that bad but very likely we can have a large crowd assembled, or a large group assembled here in Manitoba at that time.

MR. G. JOHNSTON: Invite them to Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: I would not invite them to Rhineland, that is for sure. But in all seriousness, I think the first decision came from the Centennial Corporation Committee. I think they made the initial decision and from there on it went to the government, and as a result we have the proposition before us. I think it's not too late; that something can be done, and at least if it still will be carried out, that we make very sure that this will be an affair that will not get out of hand and that our celebrations here in Manitoba will not turn out to be a black mark for the next hundred years. Other members will probably have something to add or to say on this matter since I brought it forward and I do hope they do, because I feel that this should be aired and reach a proper decision.

The Honourable Member for St. Boniface is not in his seat. I don't know how to go about, either deducting from his salary or probably increasing it, or whether he is a dollar a year man, I'm not too sure just what the situation is. Maybe the Honourable Leader could probably inform us as to his exact duties and just what progress are we making as far as the cultural affairs of this province and the work that the government is trying to achieve under this program. I would certainly be interested to hear just what is being accomplished and what are the future plans.

I note that the sweepstake is coming out to be a big success. When the Honourable Member for Elmwood first brought the matter up in the House last year, I think many members were dubious about the thing, and whether it's such a good thing after all I'm not quite sure yet, but evidently it's a success and the people are supporting it. I do hope that whoever the winners are going to be that they feel happy and also that the various organizations that are participating will be rewarded and that they can also accomplish more as a result of the success that is attributed to this sweepstake lottery.

Mr. Chairman, when we look over the various items under this particular department and the lengthy report or the full report that the Minister gave us, I think there is very little left to actually question. There is mention made here of grants; maybe when we come to that item the Minister can give us some breakdowns as to where the various grants are going to and who are going to be the recipients. I do hope, now that the Civic Auditorium has been purchased and it will be renovated that we will be getting more space and as a result will be able to provide better facilities for the people in the department to work in and to give better services.

With these few words at this time I will let other members have a chance to speak too.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Osborne.

MR. TURNBULL: Will the Member now submit to a question? You read a number of documents. Have the authors of those documents ever been associated with you in political campaigns in the past?

MR. FROESE: No, not at all. Well could you elaborate because . . .

MR. TURNBULL: I was under the impression that the documents that you read had been either composed, circulated or advertised by your past campaign manager.

MR. FROESE: No not at all, I haven't got the copies before me but they were gathered by Mr. Peter Heibert who for three years worked in India under the MCC program, which is

(MR. FROESE con t'd.) the Mennonite Central Committee, under a relief project and he did voluntary work for three years. He just came back late last summer and he was very perturbed about this and this is why he took the time and the energy and did this work and gathered them. It was not my instigation at all; it was other people who are very concerned about this. I know the people that have signed it, many of them, and they really mean it, they feel that this should not have happened and that they take great exception to this invitation that has gone out.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Emerson.

MR. GIRARD: Mr. Chairman, although I'm very interested in the area of cultural affairs, I'm going to make my remarks brief, and of course I won't have to explain why. There are a few questions that I would like to direct in the course of these few remarks and I am going to try to make them as specific as I can in the hope that I will be getting specific answers that have not been coming although the questions have been asked in the past.

I was very intrigued by some of the remarks made by the Honourable Minister when he said, one of his friends said Manitoba lacked culture. I think that nothing could be further from the truth. What it lacks is a little bit of development in the field of culture. The Department is responsible for promoting and developing cultural matters in Manitoba and one of its prime assistances in doing this is of course the Centennial Corporation. The Centennial Corporation has been marred throughout the Centennial year in a way that it should never have been for reasons seemingly unknown. I asked a very direct question, Mr. Minister, with reference to one of its members who has recently added to the scars that the Commission has suffered in the past, and that was with reference to the publicity given to the supposed resignation or non-resignation of the Mr. Scott. There are questions asked about who, where, what qualifications and so on, and I feel, Mr. Minister, that we have a distinct right to ask these questions and I hope we have a distinct right to get direct answers which you will provide.

I was quite interested in hearing about the youthful front benches of the government, and I agree with you that youth is attractive and desirable in the front benches, and as well I agree with you that the ethnic differences and so on are all in addition. But, Mr. Chairman, may I suggest that what we are more interested in is active government and in the direction that we would like to see it go. I am not so sure that we are lacking activity but I am concerned about the direction that we are taking.

I think, Mr. Chairman, that in all respect to the honourable gentleman, and I say this very truthfully, I feel that he is a very respectable man, he has not given his department the kind of direction and leadership that the department ought to have had. I can suggest to you that the Musical Ride that was supposed to be at The Pas or at Dauphin was a seemingly haphazard arrangement which provided us with few answers and the answers came out in the paper before they came out in the House, and when they did come out they were ifs and buts and maybes and that's not good enough.

I suggest to you that the Queen's visit to Manitoba is seemingly very poorly organized as far as time scheduling is concerned. I can think of some people in southern Manitoba and more specifically in St. Pierre that have gone out to make this event a memorable one, in not only a provincial way but a national way. They had as an objective to show Manitoba, to show Canada in fact, that there is a great deal of respect for the Monarch, but to their regret they recently found that she will not be visiting St. Pierre. I think that proper leadership ought to have been given and a schedule given out on time so that they wouldn't get false hopes, and that the information given them would be the accurate information and the permanent kind of information. I again say, Mr. Chairman, that I feel in this very important department that we have lacked leadership.

I don't want to reiterate the words offered by the Leader of the Liberal Party, but I agree wholeheartedly with his comments in regards to the song. Maybe, maybe the decision is the right one, but it seems again that we lack definity when we are making this kind of statement. We would like to know just exactly where we are going and why we are going there and that kind of definity should be provided by the Minister.

I suppose, Mr. Chairman, that all is not lost, things might be getting better. I imagine that what really happened was that when the budgetary estimates were divided up in the Cabinet, that the Minister of Tourism and Recreation was out playing pool with the Minister of Cultural Affairs and they both got shortchanged a bit in their estimates. It seems to me, Mr. Chairman, that the allocation of money in those areas is a little bit less than it should have been.

(MR. GIRARD cont'd.) But it's not all bad, things are looking up. The administration of that department, the administration has doubled, or almost doubled, and I am hopeful that the appropriation in the future might double in the other areas of that same department as well.

I would like to suggest to the Minister that we eagerly await some direction as to what will be done about preservation of certain properties in Manitoba. I share the concern of my honourable colleague that asked many questions about the home of Sir Hugh John Macdonald. I realize that we can't preserve all the historical homes that we have in Manitoba, but I think that we should concentrate on at least a few and see that history in that form is retained as much as we can; and to my estimation at the moment we have very little if any. I can think of buildings that the Hudson's Bay used to operate as stores that are crumbling, and the Minister is well aware of them, they are crumbling daily to decay into nothing and very little is done about it. I realize it might be a costly venture but I suggest it's a worthwhile one.

I am disappointed, Mr. Chairman, in the fact that historical publications are not given more consideration. There are people in Manitoba who are providing, I'm sure, high quality historical publications and are getting very little encouragement from the government for publishing these same matters. I know that you have a sub-committee of the Centennial Corporation but their funds are extremely limited and many many applications are turned down. What we ought to do, Mr. Chairman, is encourage cultural development, and we encourage it by encouraging those who want to develop it. I snickered a little, Mr. Chairman, I hope you'll forgive me when we talk about priorities within a department. I realize that it's important in departments to have priorities, but when a budget will permit hardly anything, it seems a little light to be considering the importance of priorities. However, I say this not in disrespect, I say this in the hope that it will improve.

I realize that the Minister has accumulated a lot of time and I don't hold against the Minister the fact that he took a little long in introducing his estimates. As a matter of fact, I thought for awhile that he had the same speech writer as the Minister of Education and the Minister of Agriculture had had and this time he forgot to put the matter in it. I am optimistic, Mr. Chairman, that things will improve and I'm prepared to wait.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

MR. PETURSSON: Mr. Chairman, I have now accumulated several questions and I would like to clear up a couple of things in connection with the song. The impression I get when the song is being mentioned, the Manitoba Song, is that many people seem to indicate almost by implication at least that . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Might I point out to the Minister that he is away from his microphone. I think he is not being picked up properly.

MR. PETURSSON: . . . that by implication many people seem to feel, or give the impression at least, that Manitoba should have only one song during Centennial, and no others. I can't understand this kind of thinking. But in any event, this song that is the Manitoba Song and that's the official Manitoba Centennial Song, was as many members know, and as the Honourable Member from Portage knows, was composed by Mr. Watson and by Mrs. Ann M. Collier, both of Portage. They won the competition over 100 other entries. That song was selected, it has been printed in forms of sheet music; it is to be recorded. I think I mentioned that earlier in the week or last week, it is to be recorded. The choirs taking part are the Rosburn Collegiate Student Choir, the Portage la Prairie Indian School Choir and the choir from the Daniel McIntyre High School here in Winnipeg. These three choirs assisted by a popular - do we call them orchestral group? - at least some kind of, I don't want to be insulting, rock group known as "The Fifth". These three choirs are assisted by "The Fifth" whatever that is, in recording this one song, the Manitoba Centennial Song. It is to be distributed and sold and the revenue from the sale of that song will go to the choirs from Portage la Prairie, the Indian School Choir and the Daniel McIntyre Choir in helping them to take their trip, much hoped for trip to Osaka in Japan, there again to sing the Manitoba Song. The royalties from the song will do much to help these choirs to gain their objective.

Now there is a man by the name of Bobby Gimby that seems to raise the hair on some peoples' heads and I can't understand why. He composed a very popular song for the Canadian Centennial, called "Ca-na-da" and sung by school children across the country from coast to coast. It was a very popular song. Now Bobby Gimby is coming to Manitoba; he is going to record a song that he has himself composed for the singing of very small children in the schools.

(MR. PETURSSON cont'd.) He is going to record the song that he has composed, in a sense a second Manitoba Centennial song, and I can't understand the thinking of people who object to having a second song. The royalties from the sale of this record which will be recorded in Bobby Gimby's studio in Toronto, the royalties from that record will go towards paying the expenses of bringing Bobby Gimby here. All royalties received during the year 1970 will go towards paying these expenses, and it is expected that by the end of the year sufficient royalties will have been collected to not only pay the expenses that will be involved but far more. And then after 1970, that is beginning in 1971, the royalties from the sale of that record will be donated to some Manitoba charitable institution or institutions - there may be several that will benefit. This is the sort of information that people should have before they begin sounding off, whether it's on the hotline or here in the House about undue expenses and about how ridiculous it is to have a second song.

I don't know that there is anything more I can say about this particular thing but if further questions are asked about Bobby Gimby and recordings and about the Manitoba Centennial song, then I shall do my best to try to answer them. So much for that. One other thing if Bobby Gimby is to travel with a group of school children during a period of about 30 days, through many Manitoba communities, teaching other school children to sing this one song, to listen to it as it can be sung by a trained choir of small children, and perhaps listen to some of the recordings along with other entertainment, and I can't conceive of anybody who can be critical of helping to increase the pleasures of living and of enjoying the Manitoba Centennial year. I think that's about all as far as the Honourable Member for Portage is concerned.

For the Honourable Member for Rhineland and the letters that he has submitted to me, there are a great number of names, I think he says three hundred and some odd, 322 signatures, but to complement that, there have been hundreds of letters received in the Centennial offices that favour the coming to Manitoba of John Lennon and Yoko Ono, his wife. According to the story as I hear it, if we delay their coming for a few months there might not just be two of them, there's bound to be three of them, which might require a collection being taken up to provide a perambulator. But I have no doubt that if such a collection were taken up that we would be able to get enough to buy one actually. There are a sufficient number of people who are favourable to their coming. Now somebody, somehow, somewhere along the line is going to have to decide as between the Honourable Member for Rhineland's letters and other letters that are coming into the Centennial headquarters. The decision, I think, has been made and the invitation has gone out to John Lennon although a definite reply has not yet been received, but my feeling about it - I have no particular interest in John Lennon at all. I don't know the man, I know that at one time he was quite a famous individual as a member of the -- (Interjection) -- I don't know Yoko either. She might be more interesting to know than John. He has a very unattractive physiognomy. But I have a feeling that if he were to come and if they were to come to Manitoba, that by the time they come there will have been so many events of all kinds taking place that their coming will simply be one additional event in a great number. If you read the booklet here and go over all of the different events that are taking place all over the province, I don't see how John Lennon or any other single individual could be so completely disturbing to the whole province that it has to be thought of as an impossibility to have him come. If he comes, the entertainment at which he will sing or whatever it is that he does at these entertainments, will be held in the Stadium where there will be strict control and a minimum possibility of things getting out of hand. I think that the local police forces are sufficiently well trained to be able to control crowds. They do it at every football game and curling matches and baseball games, or whatever else that they have. John Lennon poses no problem to me at all. I can't see how he would pose a problem to other people other than just a prejudice against a personality whom they don't know but have read about and probably read the worst . . .

MR. BILTON: Would the Minister permit a question?

MR. PETURSSON: Yes.

MR. BILTON: Would the Minister advise the House as to whether or not he's in favour of John Lennon and his wife coming this year?

MR. PETURSSON: Mr. Speaker, I'm completely indifferent. It couldn't matter less to me whether he comes or not. If he comes, if somebody gives me a ticket I'll probably go and listen to him; otherwise I might have occasion to go down and spend the day at the lake in my cottage. And I think that the same choice rests with everybody else. There is no compulsion

(MR. PETURSSON cont'd.) . . . on anybody to go and see John Lennon if they don't want to see him, and for, say, 10,000 or 20,000 people out of the province of a population of around a million, there must be a great number of other people who would be going about their business in other corners of the province and they would hardly be aware of John Lennon's having appeared upon the scene. He would perhaps have been here and gone before many people really realize it. So I can't be too very greatly concerned.

About the Honourable Member for Emerson and his . . .

MR. FROESE: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Chairman, could I have one question before we leave this subject matter?

MR. PETURSSON: Yes, go ahead.

MR. FROESE: Does the province underwrite the program and the cost of whatever is going to be spent, and what happens -- if that's not the case, what happens if there are deficits? Does the province pick them up?

MR. PETURSSON: I wonder, Mr. Chairman, if the honourable member could speak a little closer to his microphone. I couldn't follow what he said at all.

MR. FROESE: The question was whether the government was underwriting the cost of the program in connection with inviting the Lennons.

MR. PETURSSON: To the best of my knowledge, Mr. Chairman, the program will be self-liquidating. The admission fee to the Stadium would be sufficient to take care of costs, and I understand that John Lennon doesn't set a fee for appearances. It is against his principles, against his religion, against his convictions or whatever you want to call it, as I understand it. So I have no feelings as far as that's concerned that there will be a sufficient number of people who are prepared to come and pay \$10.00, or whatever the admission will be to hear him, to pay for the cost of putting on a Pop Festival or Rock Festival when he appears.

I didn't quite get, and I don't know whether it was a question or not about Professor Nolvert Scott that the Member from Emerson asked; so if it wasn't a question, simply a remark, then I have no need of trying to supply an answer. Professor Scott was mentioned, was he not? But I didn't know in exactly what connection.

MR. GIRARD: Mr. Chairman, would you permit me to ask the question over again so that it's perfectly clear. I was referring to the questions that have been asked in the House prior to today with regard to who Professor Scott is; where he's from; whether he has Canadian citizenship; qualifications that he would have that would encourage his nomination to the board, and this kind of question was what I was referring to. And I think we have a perfect right to ask this kind of question.

MR. PETURSSON: Mr. Chairman, the honourable member has a perfect right to ask, I think, any question that he wishes. I am not compelled to supply an answer if I can't. I know that Professor Scott taught in Brandon College before coming into Winnipeg, then he was given a teaching position in the Winnipeg University when he came to Winnipeg.

MR. GIRARD: What happened to him in Brandon?

MR. PETURSSON: He decided to leave and come into Winnipeg. That's to the best of my understanding and knowledge; I don't know any different. If anybody else knows differently, then they would have to supply the information, but I don't have it.

MR. GIRARD: When was he appointed?

MR. PETURSSON: He has not resigned from the Centennial Board. A resignation has not appeared on my desk; it hasn't appeared on the desk of the Chairman of the Corporation, and at this point I have no further information on that.

MR. CHERNIACK: What about standing up if you want to talk?

MR. PETURSSON: That's right. I can't hear from this end unless you talk in the microphone.

There was a suggestion in connection with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Musical Ride. That, I think, is going according to plan. Whether the Queen's visit was poorly scheduled or not is purely a matter of opinion. I know that the men who have been charged with the duty of drawing up the itinerary for her travels around the province have been pretty completely absorbed timewise in doing the necessary things. It's a far bigger job than many of us imagine. It isn't like jumping into a car and driving off in any direction that we ourselves please, there's a great deal more connected with it, and sometimes very complicated details. But whether the Queen will visit St. Pierre or not I cannot say, but some member of the Royal Family will, I have been given assurances, will visit St. Pierre, and in a few days

(MR. PETURSSON cont'd.) it may be possible to give some more definite information about that. The itinerary has been partly mapped out but at this point I don't have the information, and if I can get it some time during consideration of these estimates, then I'll be happy to supply the information.

Reference was made to the Sir Hugh John Macdonald's house, or home. At this point, I think I would be interested in reading my reply to a letter that I received on that very same subject. I say, even if it's a letter dictated by myself and typed by my secretary, I feel that it's worth reading. I open the letter by saying, "Thank you for your letter. I have become aware of the concern of a great number of people for the preservation of the former home of the late Sir Hugh John Macdonald during the past few weeks, and I assure you that they all have my fullest sympathy, but I must say that it is unfortunate that the concern was not expressed in any noticeable form until a bare few weeks ago. At the time that the matter was raised, the Provincial Government had drawn up its budgeted expenses for the year in all departments. The federal Historic Sites Committee was between meetings. The next scheduled one would not have been held until June. Our local Historic Sites Advisory Board met but for lack of funds felt compelled to defer to the federal Board. The truth of the matter is that time was altogether too short to be able to take effective action. That this should have been so, can't but be a matter of general regret.

However, from this unhappy circumstance we will gain the understanding that an active program must be initiated by which as many sites of historic and other significance may be catalogued and classified and priorities established. Some may be regarded as high priority and some as being expendable under certain circumstances. Plans will be laid and funds may be raised to be allocated as may seem most advisable, or as circumstances may dictate. By doing this it may be possible and altogether more likely that only a minimum of historic sites or objects will be lost. In the meantime, despite a few days' reprieve, I see no possibility at this juncture of saving the house on Carlton Street.

"I wish to assure you, as I say this, that not once to my knowledge during the few weeks during which the Macdonald home has been under discussion have political considerations been involved." (That is, it was injected into the letter that political considerations may have determined the decisions or failure to act.) "At no time have political considerations been involved in any decision that has been made. Indeed it would be a sad commentary on anyone whose interests are wrapped up in the history of our province who would allow partisanship to determine his decisions. I trust that the present loss of a property that had early historic associations in Manitoba may be regarded more as a challenge than as a defeat. If it spurs Manitobans on to an active participation in a recording of and a preservation of matters pertinent to our history, much will have been gained."

Now that was my reply to a letter that I received on the same matter and I think that that, Mr. Chairman, can be my reply to the honourable member across the way. And I don't know that we need continue to flog this particular issue.

As far as the crumbling of Hudson's Bay buildings is concerned, I don't know of any such. There may be some in isolated spots but if the reference is to buildings in the city, then I don't know of any.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, now that the Minister has enlightened the Honourable Member for Emerson on a number of points and a number of errors in the honourable member's presentation, I wonder if he would rise to the defense of the Historical Publications Committee of the Centennial and set the record straight for Hansard and for members, because I'm somewhat disturbed by the scurrilous criticisms of the Historical Publications Committee delivered a short while ago by the Member for Emerson whose comments are completely unjustified in that a very hard-working Historical Publications Committee and a very competent one has undertaken a very imaginative program. So I'm wondering, Mr. Chairman, if my colleague on the Centennial Corporation, in the person of the Minister, will rise to the defense of that committee and set my colleague from Emerson straight on that point.

MR. GIRARD: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if I could ask the Honourable Minister two questions. First of all, I would like to ask him if he would not agree that the Historical Publications is doing a very fine job but they could stand with much more in the way of funds. My second question is: if the -- and I agree with the Member from Portage la Prairie -- if it is distasteful to him to have an American band come and play and celebrate at the expense of

(MR. GIRARD cont'd.) Manitoba during the Centennial year, how do you evaluate a non-Manitoban, a non-Canadian, on the Centennial Commission?

MR. CHERNIACK: I notice the Honourable Member for Lakeside isn't here but his spirit still is with us, and the Honourable Member for Emerson wants to make sure that he wants to continue in this vein. I have met the gentleman that he refers to. I know him better than I know the Honourable Member for Emerson and I have learned that he is interested in Canadian Centennial celebrations and in cultural affairs. I know also that he speaks well and intelligently. I find the same qualifications that the Honourable Member for Emerson has. I know that -- I'm still on my feet, I believe.

MR. GIRARD: On a point of privilege, may I indicate that I was not referring necessarily to any one individual in my comments.

MR. CHERNIACK: Well then, that is -- will the Honourable Member for Emerson wish to inform me that he was not talking about Professor Nolvert Scott? Well if he was not referring to that gentleman, then obviously I don't know to whom he was referring and therefore there is no need to continue this.

MR. GIRARD: . . . any one individual.

MR. CHERNIACK: Stand up. I can't hear you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister of Cultural Affairs.

MR. PETURSSON: If the Chairman of the Publications Committee of the Centennial Corporation would wish me to rise in his defense, then I would be happy to do so.

MR. SHERMAN: It's not in my defense, Mr. Chairman, it's in defense of the committee, which has worked very hard.

MR. PETURSSON: I apologize. I accept that correction. As all of the committees of the Centennial Corporation have been doing, the Committee on Publications has been doing its job too, and doing it well. The problem is that there are so many manuscripts that become available for publication, so many individuals who are prepared to write - some write well and some not so well - but who wish to have their works published, not by themselves but by the Centennial Corporation, that it is almost impossible, it is impossible to do a complete 100 percent thorough job. The committee would have to be very selective, and I believe it has been selective in the books that it has published. I had voluminous manuscripts lying on my desk for quite some time. One man brought them in and they were not without merit but they would have required a great deal of editing, re-writing and correcting, and I just had to tell him that I didn't have the facilities or staff to do that sort of thing; and he accepted it and hasn't come back. There was another man who submitted an enormous book of poetry for which he could not obtain a Canada Council Grant nor other assistance, and therefore that book went unpublished. People have written books about the history of small towns, settlements and so on, and if we were to go over the whole list we would have far more material than we could possibly imagine. I have encouraged some of the people who have written stories of the areas in which they have lived, recollecting pioneer days; suggested to some of them not to give up but to continue, and even though their book is not published, to deposit their manuscript in the archives where someone some day might find it very valuable in researching the background and the story of the certain area in the province.

Now I have a note here informing me that all applications for assistance for publication, historical publications, all applications are closed off on April 30th but otherwise, up to that point, anyone would have been perfectly free to apply for funds for the publication of historic works. The committee, as I have the information, is publishing one book, a History of Manitoba, and that would undoubtedly and without question be a very comprehensive book, very worthy of support, worthy of purchase and of reading.

MR. CHAIRMAN: As it is near 10 o'clock, I would ask the Minister if he could clarify one point for the members of the House. It was earlier suggested he would be showing some special slides. There was also a suggestion that the slides be shown at 10 p.m. Can the Minister explain whether these will be shown this evening or at another time, so that members are aware of the situation.

MR. PETURSSON: It has been suggested to me, Mr. Chairman, that the slides be shown at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning if that is favourably received. -- (Interjections) -- We will have to take a rain check on it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: So the Minister is postponing the scheduling, is he?

A MEMBER: How about 10 o'clock tomorrow night?

MR. CHERNIACK: Well, unless it could be indicated to honourable members when the slides would be available, then I suppose we have nothing else to do now, and if the Minister can make whatever arrangements he can with his staff and notify members of the House, then they have a right to come at that time. I move the committee rise and report.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Committee rise. Call in the Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Committee has considered a certain resolution, requests me to report progress and begs leave to sit again.

IN SESSION

MR. DOERN: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Winnipeg Centre, that the report of the committee be received.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion and after a voice vote declared the motion carried.

MR. SPEAKER: It is now 10 o'clock and the House is adjourned and will stand adjourned until 10 o'clock tomorrow (Friday) morning.