

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

8:00 o'clock, Monday, April 2, 1973.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

MR. SPEAKER: Before we proceed I should like to direct the attention of the honourable members to the gallery where we have 50 students of Grades 10, 11 and 12 standing, of Jarvis Collegiate from Toronto, and their hosts Elmwood Collegiate of Winnipeg. They are under the direction of Mr. Derry and Mr. McCully of Toronto and Mr. Miller of Elmwood Collegiate. Elmwood Collegiate is in the constituency of the Honourable Minister of Public Works. On behalf of all the honourable members I welcome you here today.

The Honourable Member for Swan River.

BUDGET DEBATE

MR. BILTON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Sir, in rising to take part in this Budget Debate, I trust I will not be too repetitious, for much has been said on both sides of the House. This, Sir, is a very important debate and I am sure you were as disappointed as I was this afternoon to notice that at times there were less than five people on the government side. Serious problems, Mr. Speaker, have been mentioned, and I suggest from here on that the members of the government side, and particularly the backbenchers, would be in their places at all times and they'll probably learn something of the problems of this province.

SOME MEMBERS: Hear! Hear! Hear!

MR. BILTON: Mr. Speaker, my colleagues from rural Manitoba have without question mentioned the serious problems confronting our people. Sometimes I think that the day is not far distant when a big wall will be built around this city and those of us will be taking to the ox carts again with our hat in our hand and asking for handouts. It won't be too long, Mr. Speaker, the way things are going. Mr. Speaker, when will this government and its members realize that the dollar bills will not solve all the problems of our people, but rather understanding, stability and good management are more important?

My friend from Roblin put the facts on the line last Friday, more eloquently, Mr. Speaker, than I can ever hope to do, but I challenge every member of this House to read what he had to say and reread it, and remember that in their deliberations in the affairs of this province, what he had to say -- and for heaven's sake, act. That's all I ask you do, is act. He gave you the problems; do something about it.

I listened to the Member for Osborne this afternoon, and for a treat, what a fancy opinion he has of things. He was the best, and insofar as the Honourable Minister for Tourism is concerned, he and I are old friends and we've matched wits before. I don't intend to match wits with him while I'm speaking. If he has anything to say, get up in the Budget Speech and speak. Sit down. Sit down. Sit down. -- (Interjection) -- I am now speaking.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. Will the Honourable Minister state his matter of privilege.

MR. DESJARDINS: Sir I haven't said a word since he started speaking. I don't know what he's talking about. I don't think he does either.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Swan River.

MR. BILTON: Mr. Speaker, I doubt that that is a point of privilege but nevertheless he's only got to mutter and I hear it, and I heard him mutter. -- (Interjection) -- When will the Member for Osborne come down to earth? Come down to earth to the ordinary people? I don't suppose he's been beyond the borders of the City of Winnipeg. He doesn't know what goes on in this vast province of ours or he wouldn't have said the things he said today. -- (Interjection) -- Here we go again.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Osborne state his matter of privilege.

MR. TURNBULL: Mr. Speaker, I would like the member to know that I've been beyond the boundaries of Winnipeg. I've lived in the north for two years. I've been as far west as Vancouver, as far east as Halifax, and as far north as Churchill.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. That too is not a matter of privilege.

MR. BILTON: Mr. Speaker, it's not my purpose to cause you any problems. The only problems you're going to have is for these people jumping up like jack in the boxes when someone hurst them a little bit. But that's fine with me. I'll sit down when you tell me to, Sir.

But in dealing with the Budget, Mr. Speaker, in the beginning it indicates that there are

BUDGET DEBATE

(MR. BILTON cont'd) some \$78 million available for the upgrading of social services. Not the least, Mr. Speaker, is the upgrading and the taking care of Medicare charges. What government with a so-called windfall would not move in that direction? And Sir, I take this opportunity to compliment them for doing so. But you know, Mr. Speaker, it was no windfall at all. It came about by over-taxation, which in the first place should have never been charged to the people in the beginning. Who earned that money? The man at the benches, the people in the offices, and the people behind counters. They are the people that should have had the privilege of spending that money as they saw fit, not by this bunch over here that doesn't know where the next dollar is coming from.

I was very happy to see, Mr. Speaker, that neglected mothers and children are to receive more, and so they should. But, Mr. Speaker, I would emphasize that the men responsible should be routed out, the men responsible that create this misery for women and neglect them should be routed out and found, if they've got to go to the end of the earth, and compelled to support their offspring, or, Mr. Speaker, suffer the consequences and go to jail with hard labour. A stop has got to be put to this.

I get so up-tight when a widow comes to me with five or six children and she has to put up with the bureaucracy of this government to get what little support she needs, brought about by somebody that could care less. That man should be found, Mr. Attorney-General, and brought to justice. -- (Interjections) -- When you're all finished I'll continue with my speech.

Important to me, Mr. Speaker, is the fact that the estimates last year totalled \$573 million. This year, Sir, that budget has risen to \$694 million in round figures, an increase, Sir, of \$121 million, and these people over here have the audacity to say that the taxes have not been increased. How crazy can you be? And don't think for one moment that the people don't realize this. And when you go to the hustings they're going to be asking you questions, and you'd better have them.

Mr. Speaker, the figure I've just outlined is a staggering figure, as I'm sure you will agree. A staggering figure for only a million souls in this province. That's what they need to run it.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please.

MR. BILTON: You see, you're getting called to order but not . . . Mr. Speaker, one cannot help but ask, where are we going? And the people are asking the same thing. Every department of the government according to the Estimates, Sir, is constantly on the rise. And we have from time to time to time pointed out the unproductive departments in the government that should be eliminated. But, Sir, they're keeping them and adding to them. -- (Interjection) -- Which ones? Wouldn't you like to know. We'll be dealing with the Estimates. They say we have no debt, no debt and I'm looking at the Auditor-General's report here and he tells us that the standing debt of the Province has risen 4.9 million dollars this year, to a total of \$536 million. Gentlemen, you'd better be addressing yourselves to that problem because it's got to be met sooner or later.

Mr. Speaker, a glance at the revenues expected in 1974 suggest an increase in tobacco from \$12.5 million to \$13.1 million, an increase of \$600,000. Gasoline, Mr. Speaker, \$1 million over and above what they normally collect. Individual income tax from \$141 million last year to \$166 million this year, up \$25 million, and they tell us we're not being taxed. Do you think we're nuts?

A MEMBER: Yes.

MR. BILTON: Who said that? Do you think the people of Manitoba are nuts? You tell them that on the hustings.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please in the gallery.

MR. BILTON: Everywhere, Mr. Speaker, throughout the revenue listings for 1974, as I have said before in this House, these are being increased by the thousands upon thousands of dollars, and who do you suppose pays? Mr. Speaker, a very amusing thing in this Budget. The only item that's down is \$1,000 they received last year from ferry tolls. This year they don't expect anything unless the Lord Selkirk goes down. In the anticipated expenditures, Mr. Speaker, we find \$100 million going to Hydro. Leaf Rapids Co-operation are receiving \$8,500,000, a government experiment, Mr. Speaker, we will hear a great deal about in the years ahead -- and it won't be all good.

Something has been said this afternoon about this introduction to economic analysis,

BUDGET DEBATE

(MR. BILTON cont'd) Mr. Speaker, for the Province of Manitoba. Guidelines, they tell me. And on page 92 it says, "The 35,000 farm operators in Manitoba in 1971, more than 16,000 had gross sales below \$5,000; about 9,000 farmers had sales of 5,000 to 10,000, while the remaining 9,500 farmers sold over \$10,000 worth of agricultural products." These are only the gross receipts net farm income, and must take into account all farm costs such as depreciation and labour. "If the level of income in rural Manitoba is to be increased, particular programs will have to be designed to assist those farmers in lower and medium income categories."

Mr. Speaker, it's almost too late, it's almost too late, Sir, for rural Manitoba. This government has been paying lip service to agriculture. They talk about the preservation of the family farm. What is happening, Mr. Speaker? The farms are disappearing by the score, Sir, I am sorry to inform you. The listing in Swan River last week reads like a railway guide. Farm sales, Sir, equipment, homes, everything going. April 5th, Markwell; April 6th, A.; April 7th Sifton; April 13th Minitonas; April 14th Shellmouth; April 16th Bowsman; April 19th Bowsman; April 23rd Bowsman; April 26th Benito; April 27th Swan River; April 30th Bowsman; May 4th, Sir, Minitonas.

A life's work, Sir, a life's work has gone into the building of those farms and the bringing together of that equipment, and they're going out of business, Sir. These are the sort of things, we are seeing up and down the valley and in every community in the Province of Manitoba. Look at them! Auction sales. I'd like the Member for Osborne to watch me and see what I've tried to show him. This is going on all over this province, Mr. Speaker, and they get bigger all the time. Auction sales. And you heard what he had to say this afternoon, and tonight he told me I was nuts. -- (Interjection) -- that people were nuts.

A MEMBER: That's what he said, people were nuts.

MR. BILTON: Mr. Speaker, I don't wish to be interrupted any more. If you've got any questions I'll be glad to answer them later. You know, Mr. Speaker, the little weekly newspaper that I handle and the printing press, we can't keep up with these sale bills. This is only for the month of April. The month of March has gone by and the month of May is even bigger for sales. Mr. Speaker, we have a problem in rural Manitoba and I brought them along for what they were worth. These bills of sale, Mr. Speaker, are everywhere, and a sorry sight indeed for those of us that represent rural Manitoba. Yes, Sir, there's almost as many of these bills around the Swan River Valley as there were NDP posters in the last election and God knows how many they had, and this is a serious situation. Put you posters up in the next election and see what happens. This situation, Mr. Speaker, in a good farming area that has never known a crop failure, does it suggest anything to you? I shudder to think what is happening elsewhere in the province. Is this great revolution that we heard of a little while ago coming to pass? I've got a feeling it is. And if I may, Sir, with your permission, I'd like to quote from a newspaper clipping. "The only kind of social revolution I could ever be associated with or see working, is one based on the general will of the people. Revolution is coming. I don't know what form it will take but I assume that it is the destiny of the future of socialism for the province." Who said that, Mr. Speaker? The Honourable Member for Crescentwood. He looks as though he's boring in, he's boring in and he said that in 1970, according to this newspaper report. What a sad situation.

As I said a moment ago, I appreciated what was being done towards health benefits, but as I go around my constituency taking care of my problems, I want to remind the Minister of Health and Welfare of one or two little problems. I have a young woman in my constituency suffering from a crippling disease, almost a wheelchair victim, living with her aging parents who can ill afford to keep her. For months both she and I have battled not only the bureaucracy but everyone else, to try and get her a little subsistence. -- (Interjection) -- The question was asked, Mr. Speaker, what did the Conservatives do for her? Fortunately the poor girl was not afflicted at the time the Conservative Party was in office. Had she been, she would have not gone through the anguish she's going through. Apparently it's typical, it's typical. You're all laughing and grinning as though it's a monkey in a cage but this is a poor girl, 35 years of age, who is almost ready for her grave. In the meantime all I get is grins.

I fought the bureaucracy but I'm bringing it up before this Chamber in the name of that girl. Something should be done for her. You know, Mr. Speaker, any help is being denied her simply because her husband, a laborer, earned \$3,000 last year. He's now on unemployment

BUDGET DEBATE

(MR. BILTON cont'd) insurance. If this good girl was in the hospital you'd be paying \$1,000 a month to take care of her. All she wants is her little bit of independence and a little bit of assistance to take care of her for her remaining days, and she can't get it and hasn't got it to this moment, and I've got the facts and figures to develop it too.

We talk about health and welfare, I have knowledge of a patient who has spent \$3,000 to \$4,000 over the last two years travelling down to Winnipeg to take her monthly treatment because of a disease, a terminal disease, all the time hoping that some miracle would happen to save her, but in the meantime she's been spending \$3,000 and \$4,000 a year in hospitals, car expenses. You wouldn't even buy her dressings, but nothing is mentioned in your budget for those people from rural and northern Manitoba that need this attention and need this expense.

I have a wheelchair victim receiving a disability pension from the Federal Government of \$161.00 a month. She has a small mortgage to pay off. With normal expenses she pays a person \$40.00 a month to call in daily and take care of her, and the province puts up \$20.00 a month toward that expense. But the clincher, Mr. Speaker, is this, that when the Federal Government awards a cost-of-living bonus to this poor widow -- \$6.00 it was in January -- my friends over there that are all for the weak and the lame and the blind and the poor, they deduct \$6.00 from her \$20.00 Very charitable, I would say, to say the least.

Now, Mr. Speaker, my colleagues of Virden and Roblin mentioned earlier about rail abandonment and gave the facts and dates when the boom is to be lowered in their areas. I believe they said the target date was 1975. My concern, Mr. Speaker, and I've mentioned it before, is the rail link to Manitoba north from Dauphin, in Manitoba north from Dauphin, Hudson Bay Junction, through the Swan River Valley. Major grain companies and others are showing alarm these days at the shut-down of rail lines in western Canada, and well they might. I noticed with interest the western Premiers have discussed this matter and I hope they will come forward with a solution. But you know, Mr. Speaker, last session about this time, and each of the previous sessions, I've warned the Minister of Labour of the impending situation in my area. And with his usual bombast: "We will fight." Where he's been fighting he must have a bow and arrow and hasn't got it sharpened yet. But I can tell him once more that we're tired of his idle promises. In fact I believe, Mr. Speaker, the position of the provincial Commissioner of Railways was abandoned by this government. What a time to do this. The people are worried and getting desperate.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. I do think that the noise around the total Assembly is getting excessive. I'm having very great difficulty hearing the Honourable Member for Swan River. Would the honourable members cooperate please. The Honourable Member for Swan River.

MR. BILTON: As I was saying, Mr. Speaker, a moment ago, it's my understanding the position of the provincial Commissioner of Railways has been abandoned by this government, and what a time to do this when the people throughout rural Manitoba are up tight and really up tight. They're worried and they're getting desperate about the continuing decline in service in so many directions. The Minister said a year ago and he said the year before that, that we will fight, and I suggest to him fight what? The railway situation, in my area at least, is slowly but surely, Sir, grinding to a halt.

You know, Mr. Speaker, I'm talking about eleven communities along this line. We recently had a group of CN officials telling the people of Bowsman and Benito that the station and the agents would be abandoned in favour of a developing service centre from Dauphin. Other stations, Mr. Speaker, have already gone. This, Sir, I suggest to you is killing our rural towns. The people were told that freight and express would be trucked in from Swan River. If persons in the area require a train ticket they will have to phone Dauphin, and this of course collect, where arrangements will be made for the train to stop. Train crews, I am told, will be alerted to be on the lookout for passengers at the station platform.

Mr. Speaker, need I say any more? Doesn't this bring us back to the early days when the prairies were opened up and the train was flagged down? Gentlemen, this is happening in northern Manitoba, central and northern Manitoba, and you are allowing it to happen. You could care less. Progress, it's terrific.

Mr. Speaker, a serious telegram is directed to somebody in my area -- in the Bowsman area -- being handled by the CNR system, there's no other way. It will be phoned to them from Dauphin. If the recipient doesn't have a telephone, Mr. Speaker, it will be forwarded by mail --

BUDGET DEBATE

(MR. BILTON cont'd) in 1973. It will be forwarded by mail. Added to this confusion, Mr. Speaker, much of my area is favored by party lines in the telephone system. Can you imagine what this will add to the confusion and the frustration of the proposed plan of dealing from Dauphin 110 miles away? This is in the cards, it's going to happen. The people are told that they're going to have to take it and this government sits idly by and doesn't do a damn thing about it. The main line between southern and northern Manitoba to Churchill is being neglected by this government and they'll regret the day. I told the Minister last year and I told him the year before of the apparent indifference of the CNR in the up-grading of the 200 miles of line that I'm referring to and the constant deviation in service by this company in favour of the Dauphin-Kamsack, Saskatchewan and Hudson Bay run. When I challenged the CN officials on this point, I was told that the excellent standards had to be maintained over the routes particularly if a passenger line ran over them.

I say to that old CNR eager beaver -- and I want him to take note and remember -- why is it, why is it that most of the traffic, including passenger trains with sleepers, have apparently to travel 30 miles an hour over that 200 mile region? This in this day and age, and it costs \$14.00 for me to take a sleeper down here and they travel 30 miles an hour. You know why? They could care less. Write it off. Where have you been these last two years. You didn't care.

Mr. Speaker, I want to add to this, I want to add to this deploring state of affairs that the people of central and northern Manitoba are not to be blamed for the lack of business with the CNR, but rather the CNR itself, who has lacked the interest in the people and the opening up of the country. The CNR for years has shown the back of their hand to the people and all they have stood for. They now have a complete monopoly, they have bought up the truck system from here to The Pas, and what happens, Mr. Speaker? As of March 15th merchants and shippers have to pay a delivery charge, a delivery charge from the ware house at Swan River, if you like, to a store downtown. They don't only have to pay that, they have to pick it up here at the warehouse and take it to the CN, and they charge for that too. And the business people in northern Manitoba, Mr. Speaker, for up to 100 lbs. have to pay \$1.25 to pick up in Winnipeg and \$1.25 for delivery in Swan River, which is almost as much as it costs to take care of the entire shipment from Winnipeg to Swan River. How on earth can we prosper under these circumstances? And for 2,000 lbs., Mr. Speaker, to 5,000 lbs. it's \$5.00 to pick it up here and it's \$5.00 to deliver it in Swan River, plus the charge between Winnipeg and Swan River.

Mr. Speaker, these are the sort of things that are going on. Telephone rates are going up. We've been promised that Hydro's going to cost us more; the delivery of goods is costing more; and what is this government doing about it? Not a thing. For a Minister of Railways he's been a farce, just a face. You know what the railways say, Mr. Speaker, to justify this charge? This is what they say. To justify the mentioning of the fact of these rates is that a professional mover of a piano charges \$50.00 to move it across the street. I don't give a damn about moving a piano across the street.

A MEMBER: That's unparliamentary.

MR. BILTON: Sir, you've got to do something about these rates in the interest of the people of northern Manitoba, not making a joke of anything I'm trying to say to emphasize those facts.

Mr. Speaker, I challenge this government to get behind this protest and I tell them here and now the people and the councils are doing their best and they're submitting briefs to the Transport Board in their own particular way to do something about it. Where is this government? Where are you, Mr. Minister? Nowhere. You're not with them at all. Come into the hustings and tell them where you are. Playing tiddly-winks, playing tiddly-winks. Mr. Speaker, -- (Interjection) -- That's a British heart, boy -- the lion's heart. Don't you ever worry about my heard, worry about your own.

Mr. Speaker, surely, surely if the CNR can spend \$21 million to build a railway tower in Toronto and \$50 million for Turbo trains between Toronto and Montreal, this should not be at the expense of the people of central and northern Manitoba. What is an agent, what is the keeping open of a station compared with expenses such as this, when it's good for the community and all it stands for? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

BUDGET

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Northern Affairs.

MR. McBRYDE: Mr. Speaker, since this is sort of one of the first formal occasions I've had a chance to speak . . .

A MEMBER: Formal, this is the comedy hour.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please.

MR. McBRYDE: . . . at any length in this session, I would like to congratulate you on your position of looking after this House. I hope that your patience is able to continue as long as our mouths are.

Mr. Speaker, some of my colleagues wish to ask the Honourable Member for Swan River if he would table some of the auction documents that he was talking about . . .

MR. BILTON: He can have the whole works if he wants.

MR. McBRYDE: He is very interested in those.

A MEMBER: He'll just print some more.

MR. McBRYDE: Mr. Speaker, before I get into some of the things I really want to speak on this evening, I would like to make a few comments on the remarks of the previous speaker, the Member for Swan River, and it seems very difficult for me, Mr. Speaker, to understand the Conservative Party, the Conservative Opposition. Because, Mr. Speaker, it is that Conservative Opposition that sits across that is the biggest critic of the welfare system, of any welfare payments in this province. And, Mr. Speaker, that would have to rank, I would have to rank it at least the second biggest mistake of that party, the first one we just heard from. Mr. Speaker, those people who sit across there are the biggest critics of anyone receiving welfare with the let-them-starve speech and others that we've heard from across. And yet, Mr. Speaker, they are the biggest pleaders on individual cases in the Province of Manitoba. Now, Mr. Speaker, I think it's right that people should have a chance to appeal to have some rights in terms of receiving welfare, but let them not be hypocrites. Let them say where they stand. Before . . . welfare recipients they're the biggest pushers of welfare.

A MEMBER: Organized hypocrisy.

MR. McBRYDE: Mr. Speaker, let them try and be honest when they deal with the people of Manitoba and say where they stand and not say one thing in this House, not say one thing to the general public and say another when they speak to people in receipt of social assistance. The leader, the leader is one of the prime examples. When there was a demonstration by welfare recipients he was all of a sudden on their side, and yet when his members get into the rural area of Manitoba they wouldn't give out one cent of welfare, Mr. Speaker. The welfare is a complicated problem, let them deal with it as a complicated problem. But let them try and be honest, Mr. Speaker, let them try and be fair, when they talk to the people of Manitoba.

Mr. Speaker, the Member for Swan River also talked about the problem of railways and railway service in Northern Manitoba, Mr. Speaker, it seems kind of strange that the member who was making the most complaints about no one being here to listen has now left the House.

A MEMBER: As usual.

MR. McBRYDE: Mr. Speaker, the problem of railway services in Northern Manitoba is a serious one and one that this government has been pursuing actively with the Federal officials in an attempt to get that situation rectified. Mr. Speaker, the Member for Swan River stood up very elegantly and hollered "What are you, and what are you doing and where are you?" Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask that member for those constituencies that happen to be represented by two Conservative M.P.'s, where are they and what are they doing about the railway problem in Northern Manitoba in the Swan River-Dauphin area.

Mr. Speaker, it was last Tuesday that the Premier presented to this House his Budget and there have been lots of general comments on that Budget; and, Mr. Speaker, just to add to the record I would like to review some of those comments as reported in the Winnipeg Free Press. The Member for Rhineland is quoted as saying he was pleasantly surprised with some points - on the whole the budget was good. Liberal Leader Izzie Asper said his party's reaction was relief and gratitude and applause for the government. Councillor Robert Steen, vice-president of the Manitoba Association of Urban Municipalities said I am pleased with everything, but of all the good news, the best was the municipal toehold in the area of growth taxes through a revenue sharing scheme and the promise of 5 percent of the -- Mr. Speaker, my colleagues are having a good laugh amongst themselves after the Member for Swan River's elegant speech about auction sales. Two of the auction sale notices happen to be within the Province of Saskatchewan and not in the province . . .

BUDGET

A MEMBER: Shame, shame.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. Order, please.

MR. ENNS: It merely demonstrates, Mr. Speaker, that the same problem exists in Saskatchewan . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. Order, please. Let me first of all speak to the Point of Order. I would like to indicate that it was not. Secondly, let me say this: I enjoyed the oratory of every member in this House. The only problem is that some people are thwarting me in my effort to hear by talking over the top of the orators. Would they kindly cease and desist so I can hear. The Honourable Minister of Northern Affairs.

MR. McBRIDE: Mr. Speaker, I guess we are going to have to admit that the ploy by the Member for Swan River in trying to find more auction sales and having to use Saskatchewan is not that untypical of members opposite as they talk to the people of Manitoba.

Mr. Speaker, in regard to the budget, Councillor Robert Steen, vice-president of the Manitoba Association of Urban Municipalities said "I am pleased with everything but of all the good news the best was the municipal toe-hold on the area of growth taxes through revenue sharing income and a promise of 5 percent of the province's income tax revenues starting next year." The access to provincial income tax revenues is very welcome news Councillor Steen said. I don't think so, Mr. Speaker -- somebody asked if he was a New Democrat, I don't think so, Mr. Speaker.

Reeve R. S. Adrain of the Rural Municipality of Portage la Prairie, President of the Union of Manitoba Municipalities, was also largely pleased. He was delighted with the end of Medicare premiums and said rural municipalities have not got the fear that they have to pick up the fees for those who couldn't pay. Of the \$100 homeowner grant he said, "I didn't like homeowner grants last time and I don't suppose I'll like this one". He was however pleased with the increase in education property tax rebate. "That's more fair he added."

Mr. Speaker, I suppose the one that's very amusing for those of us who know the Mayor of Portage la Prairie, and the smiling member from Portage la Prairie, I don't know if he's still a fellow Liberal with the honourable member these days or not.

Mayor Lloyd Henderson of Portage la Prairie was so enthusiastic about the Manitoba Government's 1973-74 budget Tuesday that he crashed a press conference after the Budget Address to give Premier Schreyer a Happy Face lapel pin. "I expected marvels and I got more than I expected" he told the Premier. "For municipalities, schoolboards and lower and middle income groups, it is the best budget address in 103 years." To quote him further, "Really, Mr. Schreyer, I'm just amazed at what you have been able to perform."

Mr. Speaker, it is entirely likely that the member would like to be an NDP candidate in any community of Manitoba and especially the riding of Portage la Prairie. I think though, Mr. Speaker, the quote that I like best from Mr. Henderson was after it was all over he said, "All the Opposition can do now is to ask the government for some money so they can buy white flags." (Hear, Hear) Mr. Speaker that was the general reaction of the members of the Opposition and I think that the Member for Fort Garry was commenting this afternoon on the glee or, he has a lot more fancy words than that, Mr. Speaker, of Members on this side when the Budget was presented and I suppose that our pleasure at hearing the Budget Address was only exceeded by the pleasure of watching them hearing the Budget Address. (Hear, Hear)

Mr. Speaker, the fact about this Budget, the comments about this budget, I think was about the fact that the Schreyer administration has shown its ability over the past four years to run a very sound and efficient government; a government that has had the ability to build up a budget surplus that will allow for a number of tax reductions, Mr. Speaker, I don't think we need to go into detail with all of those reductions that were announced in the Budget Debate, members are well familiar with those, Mr. Speaker, it was one year ago - I hear my friends opposite - when the Leader of the Opposition stood in his place and said that the government of Manitoba had overestimated its revenues and underestimated expenditures and that there was going to have to be a tax increase in the Province of Manitoba. Mr. Speaker, that's their leader, that's what he said; that's his prediction. Mr. Speaker, it was about as accurate as all the other predictions he's been making in this House. Mr. Speaker, exactly the opposite was true. Mr. Speaker, because the economy of Manitoba is in good shape, Mr. Speaker, the people now are fortunate to be in a position to have a budget surplus . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please.

BUDGET

(MR. McBRYDE cont'd) . . . use the surplus to have their taxes reduced. Mr. Speaker, what is the opposition attempting to do as they think we are approaching the hustings? Mr. Speaker, I think that their approach, their approach and, it is something like their approach that I mentioned on welfare, something like the approach of the Member for Swan River in using out of province auction sales. Mr. Speaker, they are trying to convince the people of Manitoba of three things: They are trying to convince people that Manitoba taxes are higher; they are trying to convince people of Manitoba that the economy is suffering - and we heard some of that again tonight, Mr. Speaker; and they are trying to convince the people that we have ignored some of the major problems and one they singled out, leaders of both opposition parties, and especially the problem of employment amongst northern people, our Indian and Metis people in Manitoba.

Mr. Speaker, I'm not sure if the members opposite, what state their hearing is in, but, Mr. Speaker, I'm going to have to just read a few quotes from the Budget in case some of them must have missed it, in the light of the comments that they've made.

Mr. Speaker, when the Government of Manitoba through its effective and efficient management was able to produce a budget surplus and use this to reduce taxes for the people of Manitoba, we had a choice Mr. Speaker, we had a choice of following the recommendations of members opposite and reducing, a flat income tax reduction. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to quote from page 27 of the budget debate: "A flat percentage cut in income tax say of ten percent, a figure which has been suggested from time to time, would cost the government about \$17 million in fiscal 1973. If such a reduction was implemented it would mean a tax cut of only \$8 a year for a family of four with an annual income of \$5,000." Mr. Speaker, that is the kind of social justice that the Member for Swan River was talking about tonight. Give his constituents in Swan River on a \$5,000 income \$8 and give the constituency of the Leader of the Opposition, whose annual income is \$50,000, \$650 a year; \$8 for the poor constituent in Swan River, \$670 for the constituent in River Heights. Mr. Speaker, that's what he would call equity. That's what he would call equality for the people of Manitoba.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please.

MR. McBRYDE: Mr. Speaker, I keep getting asked the same question over again. Mr. Speaker, it is the purpose and role of government ever since people in communities bound together to put a road between their farms to do various services amongst themselves, it has been the purpose of government at municipal, provincial, federal level to decide how and from whom tax moneys are raised and how and for whom tax moneys are spent, and Mr. Speaker, that is what any government does regardless of its political philosophy. The difference Mr. Speaker, is how and for whom we collect the money and how and for whom we spend the money. The money, Mr. Speaker, the money all has to be raised, Mr. Speaker, but the members opposite, and the Member for Sturgeon Creek especially, would like to raise that money from the working man and leave his business associate alone.

Mr. Speaker, that party opposite would like to give \$8, \$8, Mr. Speaker, for the person earning \$5,000 a year, and \$670, Mr. Speaker, to the person earning \$50,000 a year. Mr. Speaker, that is their policy.

Well, Mr. Speaker, they want some percentages so I'll go on, there is percentages mentioned in this Budget and I guess they missed this section as well, Mr. Speaker. The tables reveal the taxes for low and middle income groups in Manitoba are now of course even lower than before in comparison to those in all other provinces which continue to level premiums. In the case of a family of four, for example, Manitoba's personal taxes after premiums are eliminated are lower than those in any other province where premiums are still in effect up to the \$10,000 a year income level. Since 75 percent of Manitoba families have income below this level, the figures indicate a substantial tax advantage for the majority of families in our province; they prove conclusively that Manitoba's personal taxes for most people are amongst the lowest in Canada. (Hear, Hear)

Mr. Speaker, maybe if the honourable members would like to review the Budget, I think we all have a copy, and they could gather these statistics for themselves. Mr. Speaker, I don't think they want to pay attention to the Budget, Mr. Speaker, I think they would rather pay attention to the things they would like people to believe rather than pay attention to the way things are. But, Mr. Speaker, I have to admit, Mr. Speaker, that the Opposition to some extent is right, Mr. Speaker. They are right, because some people in Manitoba will be paying more taxes, Mr. Speaker. Corporations will be paying more taxes, the Member for River

BUDGET

(MR. McBRYDE cont'd.) Heights will be paying more taxes, the Member for Wolseley will be paying more taxes, Mr. Speaker; but 75 percent of the people in Manitoba will be paying less taxes, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, it is my hope that the member and my colleagues will continue to remain in the upper income bracket. Mr. Speaker it is our hope to remain there. Mr. Speaker, our being there is not going to affect our decision and our wish to lower taxes for people in the middle and lower income brackets. (Applause)

Now, Mr. Speaker, the biggest hoax that the members opposite, and I include all of them, Mr. Speaker, would like to put on the people of Manitoba, is the hoax that the economy of Manitoba is suffering. Mr. Speaker, I suppose I feel a little bit frustrated or a little bit - I know it's hopeless to go against, to go against what the honourable members want to believe; Mr. Speaker, they want to believe that the economy of Manitoba is in bad shape. I am sure, Mr. Speaker, I am sure, Mr. Speaker, that when the Leader of the Opposition Party goes to bed at night and he kneels down at night, he prays for a recession, Mr. Speaker, he prays for something to happen to the economy of Manitoba because he knows that's the only way he's ever going to become the premier of this province. I'm afraid, Mr. Speaker, that this strong wish, this strong desire on the part of members opposite influences all their thinking; they can no longer allow facts to come into their minds Mr. Speaker. They are like the members of the Flat Earth Society who want to believe one thing and won't listen to the facts when they are presented.

But, Mr. Speaker, I suppose in order to help me try and get through to honourable members, in order to try and let them know what the facts are and what the truths are in our province at this time, Mr. Speaker, I would like to quote briefly from the Winnipeg Tribune. Mr. Speaker, you know this is traditionally a Conservative paper, but Mr. Speaker, I don't know out of what reason, why the Winnipeg Tribune is going to admit, actually admitted in January that the economy was in good shape. Maybe it was some twinge of conscience, Mr. Speaker; it was certainly some problem that members opposite don't suffer from because, Mr. Speaker, they have no desire to set the records straight. The Winnipeg Tribune of January 18, 1972, "A Quiet Boom". "Despite the doom and gloom talk of the rabidly anti-NDP element," - that's you guys over there - "Manitoba enjoyed a particularly good year economically during 1972. In fact in a number of key sectors Manitoba out-performed the national growth rate by some handsome margin. The areas of greatest growth were the total value of factory shipments, farm cash receipts, retail trade and employment. Through the first ten months of 1972 factory shipments increased almost ten percent ahead of 1971; retail trade was almost 12 percent to 1.182 billion. However, the biggest improvement was in farm cash receipts which were a whopping 24 percent higher. This large increase in cited by the Provincial Government as one of the main reasons for the good improvement in retail trade by giving consumers more cash to spend and spent it they did."

Mr. Speaker, I'll just interrupt that quote for a minute because it's about time honourable members realized that by following their policy of giving tax rebates, tax concessions to the upper income group in our province, they are doing very little to stimulate the economy, Mr. Speaker, because it is that upper income group that is more likely to save the money. By returning tax moneys to the middle and lower income, Mr. Speaker, you stimulate the economy, you cause the retail trade to improve, you cause the general economy to move ahead, Mr. Speaker.

"On the social side the most heartening news was that unemployment during the January to November period averaged 4.5 percent compared to a national average of 6.3 percent; and the average weekly wage increase from about \$127.00 in 1971 to just over 140 in 1972. All of these statistics indicate Manitoba's economy experienced a vigorous forward thrust in 1972 and the outlook for 1973 is believed to be excellent provided there is no general business recession at the national level." Mr. Speaker, then here a little bit of the Tribune philosophy breaks through but I think it's worth reading: "Although the NDP Government cannot claim to have arranged the last year's strong performance it obviously is not acting as a deterrent. The government's pragmatic approach to most situations appears to be helping create a healthy economic climate which business firms have exploited to everyone's advantage."

Mr. Speaker, I would recommend to the members opposite that they read this and that they put it in their election material when they come up to an election campaign, Mr. Speaker,

BUDGET

(MR. McBRYDE cont'd.) because they would like to I'm sure be honest and truthful with the people of Manitoba. Mr. Speaker, they don't wish to mislead the people of Manitoba; I'm sure they wouldn't want to do that, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, the other aspect I would like to get to -- and, Mr. Speaker, it is very strange and it was almost funny to listen to the Leader of the Opposition the other evening or the other day when he spoke. Mr. Speaker, during our other budget he said "look at the hard economic indicators, look at the hard economic facts, you guys aren't doing good enough." Mr. Speaker, when we presented all the hard economic data, all the hard economic facts, then all of a sudden the Leader of the Opposition forgot about these, Mr. Speaker, and he said well what are you doing about some of the social problems that exist in the Province of Manitoba.

Mr. Speaker, both the Leader of the Opposition and the Leader of the Liberal Party in the last week or so have been looking at and making comment on the problem of employment for Indian and Metis people within our province. And, Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased that they are looking at this problem, Mr. Speaker, because the government, the present Government of Manitoba has a record that we can be proud of. Mr. Speaker, this government has been aggressive and dynamic in attempting to deal with the unemployment problem - under employment in Northern Manitoba. Mr. Speaker, I wished we still had, I wished we had all the hard statistics, all the hard figures so we could do a comparison between the effort and the work and the accomplishments of this present government and the dismal performance of past governments in the Province of Manitoba. Mr. Speaker, what was it like, Mr. Speaker, -- Mr. Speaker, I got another comment from the Member for Lakeside who has found more comfortable quarters. I understand, Mr. Speaker, is it a relative of his that is employed by Health and Social Development after he left the federal

A MEMBER: Who hired him, Harry? Who hired him?

MR. McBRYDE: Mr. Speaker, when it comes to the area of employment in Northern Manitoba - and, Mr. Speaker, we speak quite generally - the main employment problem, the main difficulty to overcome is employment amongst Indian and Metis people, but we are concerned, Mr. Speaker, with insuring all northerners of opportunities and access to northern jobs. It's kind of funny I guess, Mr. Speaker, because the Leader of the Opposition and myself were being interviewed on TV the other evening and some of the things the Leader of the Opposition said about northern development, Mr. Speaker, are things that I would agree with. A few of the things that the Leader of the Liberal Party has been saying about northern development are things that I would agree with. But, Mr. Speaker, I don't think the people in Northern Manitoba are going to buy it. Mr. Speaker, they're going to judge those people by what they did when they were in office. That's how they're going to judge. Not by what they say, not they would like to say to people, well this is what we would do if we were in office; they're going to remember, what did you do while you were in office. Mr. Speaker, that is the kind of comparison that I welcome, that I like to see and it's the kind of comparison that's going to send five northern New Democrats down here next time we have a provincial election.

SOME MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

MR. McBRYDE: Mr. Speaker, I want to speak for some short time on the employment of Indian and Metis people in the Province of Manitoba. But first, Mr. Speaker, I've given some attention to the Leader of the Opposition, I should give some attention to the Leader of the Liberal Party -- about as much as he deserves so I'll be quite brief, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it was kind of funny last year, I travelled out to some of the reserves in my constituency just after the Leader of the Liberal Party had raised some fuss about Indian-Metis people employed at a line clearing job in the Ilford area. Mr. Speaker, it wasn't one of me but some of the Indian people came up and they started to laugh and they said, it's kind of funny that the Leader of the Opposition has discovered Indians. He's found out that there is Indians in the Province of Manitoba. -- (Interjection) -- I'm sorry, the Leader of the Liberal Party. Mr. Speaker, that was his big discovery last year and I don't know if he's been able to carry forward that discovery in any dynamic manner.

Mr. Speaker, the biggest discovery of the Leader of the Liberal Party this year was he discovered the local government district system in the Town of Gillam. Mr. Speaker, that was quite an amazing discovery. Mr. Speaker, since we were elected to office, since we were elected to this government the Member for Flin Flon, the Member for St. George, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and myself and many others have been concerned and actively striving to

BUDGET

(MR. McBRYDE cont'd.) do something about the local government districts structure throughout the Province of Manitoba not just in Northern Manitoba. Mr. Speaker, that has been going on for a number of years. Mr. Speaker, for the last two years members of this House or members of the Municipal Affairs Committee, including members opposite, including members of the Liberal caucus, have been travelling throughout the Province of Manitoba listening to the problems of local government districts, trying to understand the problems of local government districts, and trying to come to some solution, some ways to overcome the limitations of that system of government. Mr. Speaker, that committee has made its recommendations. Mr. Speaker, the Minister has indicated that a bill will be forthcoming in this session of the Legislature to attempt to deal with those problems and to follow the recommendations of ourselves and members opposite and of the people that we listen to, and yet the Leader of the Liberal Party takes one trip to Gillam and he discovers this is a problem. This is an issue.

A MEMBER: On the monorail.

MR. McBRYDE: Mr. Speaker, this is really incredible. Mr. Speaker, it's pretty hard to believe. Mr. Speaker, it might interest the Leader of the Liberal Party that there has only been a small group at Gillam that has had the sort of the courage and the fortitude to raise criticisms and problems with the local government district system and to attempt to deal with those. Mr. Speaker, I think we can take some pride in the fact that that small group happen to be the New Democratic Party Association in that community.

Mr. Speaker, the monorail member, the Leader of the Liberal Party, has some advantage in comparison with his colleagues who sit opposite with him because he has no record, Mr. Speaker, he hasn't been around long enough to have a record. But, Mr. Speaker, as the Attorney-General just mentioned he is rapidly overcoming that advantage.

Mr. Speaker, before I jumped over to talk about the Leader of the Liberal Party I was talking about employment and employment programs. Mr. Speaker, in northern Manitoba this government has shown more interest, more involvement and brought forward more programs than has ever been brought forward in the history of Manitoba. Mr. Speaker, there are many many things to talk about, Mr. Speaker, Roads, TV communication services, air ambulance service, mine inspectors, Mr. Speaker, all departments of this government, and I would remind the Leaders of the Opposition who mentioned it that it's not the Department of Northern Affairs that only deals with northern Manitoba, it's all departments of government that deal in northern Manitoba and they all deal --(Interjection)-- Mr. Speaker, the Honourable Member for Lakeside would like to talk about CFI. Mr. Speaker, that's what he wants to do. Mr. Speaker, there is no one on this side of the House who doesn't agree that there should have been some economic development taking place in the area of The Pas, that such a development was necessary. Mr. Speaker, the thing we agree with is the way they carried it off, Mr. Speaker, the way they threw money --(Interjection)-- Mr. Speaker, it's really funny, Mr. Speaker, it's really funny but it is a little bit irritating to hear the members opposite who wanted to take a little credit for CFI because it caused economic development and who would like to put all the blame for that development on this present government. Mr. Speaker, how ridiculous can you get? How ridiculous can you get when they signed the contract, they made the deal, they didn't tell the people of Manitoba what they had done and then they tried to pass it off on to us. Mr. Speaker, that is absolutely crazy.

Mr. Speaker, the question that was raised by the member was in terms of employment at CFI. And I will tell the Honourable Member for Lakeside that before this government took over that operation the employment at CFI was for people from outside of the Province of Manitoba. It was not until after receivership that the people of Manitoba were able to get into those jobs. Mr. Speaker, it was not until after receivership that the people in The Pas district and the people of Manitoba were able to get employment at that site. Mr. Speaker, let not them try and fool the people of Manitoba. The records are there, the history is there, the few Indian and Metis people that were there were laid off, Mr. Speaker, and they had to protest to get back on again.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Killarney.

MR. McKE LLAR: What province did Mr. Stothert come from?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Northern Affairs.

MR. McBRYDE: Mr. Speaker, I believe the man who we got to manage that firm at the

BUDGET

(MR. McBRYDE cont'd) time of receivership was from Canada. The people they brought in weren't even from this country, Mr. Speaker. The people they gave all the money to weren't even from this country. Mr. Speaker, I ask honourable members to go to that site today and look at the hiring records of that company; because, Mr. Speaker, I do that on a regular basis. Mr. Speaker, the management was very embarrassed one day, they found one labourer that hadn't come from northern Manitoba. They were very embarrassed about that and they promised to rectify that, make sure it never happened again.

Mr. Speaker, that doesn't mean that things are perfect at that site in terms of employment, Mr. Speaker, I'll just throw out for my honourable friends opposite that it was actually one of the labour unions that caused the most advantage for the people of The Pas and gave them opportunity to work at that mill. Mr. Speaker, because traditionally in the past - historically Indian and Metis people in northern Manitoba, in Manitoba, in Canada in general, they would start at the lowest job and they would stay there until they left when they were old enough to retire. Mr. Speaker, that has been the tradition, that has been the past history, that is what has happened. Mr. Speaker, at that mill in The Pas since the International Woodworkers Union came in, Mr. Speaker, the Indian and Metis people have the best jobs in that facility. They have the opportunity to get the best jobs in that facility. Mr. Speaker, I have very little time left . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please.

MR. McBRYDE: . . . I'm going to try to proceed without listening to the honourable members opposite. Mr. Speaker, I have a lot to say on their comments but I have some other comments I want to get to sooner.

Mr. Speaker, basically the policy of this government has been to attempt to provide northern Manitoba with the same access or equal access to services, and this applies to all the people of northern Manitoba. Mr. Speaker, we have had to make special efforts in terms of the isolated communities in northern Manitoba and basically our policy is to attempt to develop the local and traditional industries the best way we can. Mr. Speaker, that falls a lot on the jurisdiction of the Department of Mines and Natural Resources . . . -- (Interjection) --

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. Order, please.

MR. McBRYDE: If the honourable member could contain himself for a minute . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. Order, please. Order, please. I believe this is not the incendiary hour, we don't want to get hot. Let's cool off. The Honourable Minister.

MR. McBRYDE: I'm going to explain what we did do, Mr. Speaker. I would like to explain one thing that we didn't do. We didn't send the Minister of Mines and Resources to the north to tell the miners that production is more important than safety, Mr. Speaker; that we did not do. (Applause) Mr. Speaker, the second thing in terms of dealing with the isolated communities is the development of new industry and employment in these communities such as logging and tourism, Mr. Speaker, the Department of Co-op, the Communities' Economic Development Fund, ARDA IIB and Bill 17. Mr. Speaker, I can never remember the official name for that Bill 17 which was supposed to be the coming of socialism in Manitoba according to the former Leader of the Conservative Party.

Mr. Speaker, the other thing is to allow people to take advantage, Mr. Speaker, to allow people to take advantage of local projects that are going on in their area, Mr. Speaker. To allow them to take advantage of hydro projects that are going on. To allow them to take advantage of road clearing projects. To allow them to take advantage of housing repair projects. To allow them to take advantage of construction that is going on, of airstrips and of the winter road program, Mr. Speaker, of which I am quite proud and quite satisfied.

Mr. Speaker, now the Honourable Member for Lakeside is admitting that the Minister of Highways has something to do with getting northern people involved in road clearing. Mr. Speaker, that is one of the definite accomplishments of the Minister of Highways of carrying this government's program to the people of northern Manitoba and dealing with them on a man to man basis so they could have that contract themselves and do something with that contract. It was quite unlike the policy of the Conservative Government and the member never even went back to it. Because, Mr. Speaker, when they let hydro contracts at Grand Rapids, the final result had to be an official government inquiry because the Indian and Metis people got screwed in that deal, Mr. Speaker. (Applause) Mr. Speaker, we've also had to put in some make-work projects in some of these communities when there were not enough of the other programs to

BUDGET

(MR. McBRYDE cont'd) provide employment, Mr. Speaker, because I believe that the make-work kind of project is at least better than a welfare subsistence.

Mr. Speaker, the main thing I wanted to get to and probably won't have time to get to is our attempt to assist people to obtain industrial jobs and relocate the growth centres. Mr. Speaker, . . . -- (Interjection) --

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please.

MR. McBRYDE: Mr. Speaker, in the past, Mr. Speaker, the people of northern Manitoba have had to stand on the sidelines and watch, had to stand there and watch while the economic development took place around them. Mr. Speaker, it is our hope to give people the opportunity and the ability to take advantage of those employment opportunities. Mr. Speaker, we are doing this by assisting people to register, and both leaders of opposition parties have been saying well the unemployment figures, Mr. Speaker, don't show the Indian and Metis people. Well, Mr. Speaker, in northern Manitoba in the first time of our history we have gone into an intensive program to register all Indian and Metis people -- all people in northern Manitoba with Canada Manpower. Mr. Speaker, we could have not done this, Mr. Speaker, and our unemployment figures would have been lower than they are now, Mr. Speaker. But we went around and made sure all people in isolated communities, in all communities in northern Manitoba are registered, Mr. Speaker, and these people do show up in unemployment figures; but, Mr. Speaker, now that they're registered they have the opportunity to take advantage of jobs as they come available.

Mr. Speaker, we have done this through information and through placement; we have done it through relocation; we have done it through counselling and we have done it through training. Mr. Speaker, the Northern Manpower Corps is the main instrument of the Government of Manitoba in attempting to get the people of northern Manitoba access to those jobs in the north. I hope, Mr. Speaker, I hope, Mr. Speaker, that the leaders of the Opposition Parties say in the north what they've been saying here about people - Indian and Metis people especially - having access to these employment opportunities. Mr. Speaker, it used to be, under the previous administration, where there might have been from three to six people attempting to do placement as well as other kinds of work in northern Manitoba. Mr. Speaker, this has been expanded so that people can now have this service in a way that's meaningful. It has been done in a way, Mr. Speaker, to hire local people in these communities who are accepted in these communities, to assure people.

Mr. Speaker, there's a system that job orders go out daily to communities in northern Manitoba and that people are hired on a daily basis. Some 52 communities, Mr. Speaker, receive this service of daily job information services and assistance to relocate if they so wish to do.

Mr. Speaker, what we've had to do in Northern Manpower Corps is spur on, encourage Canada Manpower, who have been slow to take advantage of these opportunities, have been slow to register people and, Mr. Speaker, this we have done. So, Mr. Speaker, as I say in my closing sentence, I see that my time must be up, I would like to say that if the Opposition wants to judge this government on its attempts, Mr. Speaker, to place Indian and Metis people, to place northern Manitobans in employment, Mr. Speaker, we welcome this because we've done more than any other government in Canada.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Charleswood.

MR. ARTHUR MOUG (Charleswood): Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Northern Affairs delved quite deeply into CFI tonight and I have no intention of doing that. He placed responsibilities around the room and I ask him to have the page bring him over the Manitoba Development Corporation Act, to study Section 8 subsection (1): "The Corporation should supervise the expenditure by each borrower the moneys loaned to him in order to ensure that the moneys are duly expended for the purpose with which they were loaned." Skip one and go down to Section 8 sub (3) which says, "At any time that the government or MDC is not satisfied with the way the moneys are being spent, they shall be returned, interest paid to the time they were borrowed as though the loan had become due and payable." So let him not try to convince the people of Manitoba that that government handled that money with any sense of responsibility whatsoever. The Premier at a luncheon meeting said that CFI was a good thing.

A MEMBER: Who ran MDC?

MR. MOUG: I don't care who ran it. That government was responsible for the Rex Grosses

BUDGET

(MR. MOUG cont'd) or anybody that was running it. They were the responsibility for lending that money and they should have stopped the lending of that money. There was a very very small percentage lent out when they took over, and you can sit back with your high school economics and that don't convince the people of Manitoba that that money was lent out properly. I say to you that if you went into the problem and just study in the Manitoba Development Corporation Act, you'll find out who's guilty of lending that money and to what extent. You brought that subject up, I had no intention of bringing it up. - - (Interjection) - - Pardon? He did not, you did. It was your side of the House.

Well, Mr. Speaker, I don't intend to go over item by item in the budget as it's been gone over too many times now. I think that of anybody that spoke on it on that side of the House, I think the House Leader did a real good job. He explained to us what the situation was during his younger days when his dad had a coalyard and a small lot in the north end on Selkirk Avenue, and he was quite proud to say that out of that they had raised a son such as him and I think they have a lot to be proud of.

It goes from there to the Member for Logan when he said, "I would like to have seen any government previous to ours, previous to our government, lead this province out of the depression of the 1930s. Well, I would like to have seen any government, including the New Democratic Party, try and lead any province out of the depression of the 1930s. I've listened to the Member for Logan from time to time in here and he would indicate to me that he was old enough that he may have lived through the 30s, but I question after what he said here on Friday afternoon that there was any possibility of any government locally in Manitoba, and I don't care what he thinks the leader of this Party or his Party's doing, there's nobody in this province or any government up till now in the past 103 years that was strong enough to single-handedly lead the province of Manitoba out of the doldrums we were in in the 30s. - - (Interjection) - - The Minister of Labour was trying to polarize us, I think, the other day and say that we were trying to put together something that could defeat the socialists in this province, in a way of a GGG, which apparently means a Group for Good Government, but I think if the Minister of Labour was here now I just wonder who does go to - - just who does go, I just wonder who goes to bed with who? If you look at Ottawa - - (Interjection) - - Well I say that you want to stop polarizing the way you're doing and just take a look at your own party in the East, who's down there and huddling in with the Liberals. Now who's going to bed with who in the East? That's what I want to know. I don't see anything going on here in Manitoba. I don't see any way at all. The Liberals and this side of the House, our caucus, have voted together from time to time when we think it's better for the people.

But there's no way that anybody can tell me that we're bunched together to defeat the socialists, because we don't have to bunch together very heavy to beat you on that side of the House. When you can get yourself elected with 33, 34 percent of the vote, don't sit back there heckling and trying to feel good on a Friday afternoon, which seems to be the habit of the Minister of Labour. But I say to you - - (Interjection) - - Well, you can't collect 40 percent of the vote in the province, no, no, you can't and any time that anybody decides to make this into a two-party province you back in Transcona, the Premier in Rossmere - back you go, fellows, you start heading out looking for a railroad job and him back to Ottawa because that will be the end of it all. There's no way, no way will you ever win a seat.

To get to something that seems to be a bit of a problem with that side of the House, is contracting out to the City of Winnipeg. It seems that after the government putting this council together and a nice non-political group, not politically dedicated or convicted in any way, the ICEC, that has hold of our city and our 537,000 people, they're as I say non-political and I'm sure they're going to come up with a decision on the contracting out that will be for the betterment of all. I think that when they look at the budget that they look at and there's 80 percent of it goes into salaries and wages, the public works, the administration across the board, it's time that that council looked to see where the open ends are and see what they're going to do to cut those taxes. Charleswood area - and I'm talking about the middle income and low income group - took a jump from 47 mills up to 67, which is a 40 percent increase to us, and we're looking at something between 25 and 30 coming out this year. I'm not talking after the goodies that you try to hand out to mask it and smokescreen it, I'm talking about the net tax, what the actual tax bill is before you start handing out to cover up the mistakes you made. And it's quite easy to see that that council has responsibilities; the Chairman of the Public Works has

BUDGET

(MR. MOUG cont'd) the responsibility of Public Works in the City of Winnipeg; he says that we're faced with a 10 to 12 mill increase across the City - that's corner to corner - and they're trying to do everything they can to stay away from that, to keep us in a position where if they can save a half million dollars by cutting out the city construction, if it's a thing that's going to do that for us, they intend to do it.

Now it's odd that a member in the backbench on the government side has to come in and want to debate it in the House one day in an emergency debate. He felt that those 37 non-political group of people that was elected weren't responsible enough to carry on and make a decision for themselves. And I wonder, I just wonder how long the Member for Osborne is going to sit there. I can see just the way he's hackling at the bit this session, he just can't sit there. He just goes every day. He'll stand up 15 times if necessary to see if he can get a question in Hansard to see if the press will copy it. He just cannot sit down, and it seems funny to me that - - he's been waiting patiently for four years and I just wonder how long the First Minister can expect him to sit there without giving him that Cabinet post. After all, big wheel, a Master's Degree, and sitting there just waiting and waiting - - and there's others, there's others over there. There's the Member for Crescentwood and he doesn't wait so patiently. Pick up Hansard on Thursday, March 1st, and read that. He's not waiting as patiently as the Member for Osborne is. - -(Interjection) - - And then there's a funny thing, there's a funny thing about those two guys. There's a funny thing, Mr. Speaker, about those two members. The Member for Osborne, he's a member of the Manitoba Telephone System board, and the Member for Crescentwood, he's a member of the Manitoba Housing and Renewal Corporation Board, and both of them were cut off Utilities, both of them off Utilities Committee. Why is that? On account of flooding South Indian Lake? It can't be the reason. The Premier would never do it. The Premier would never do it for that reason.

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BUDGET DEBATE

(MR. MOUG cont'd)

Mr. Speaker, the Member for Osborne when he spoke in here, he seemed to think that Unicity is a group of individuals, the Unicity council is a group of individuals, and this was -- it didn't seem to me it was qualified before or after. He just says, "What we have now on the Unicity Council is a group of individuals who pose in the most hypocritical fashion as Independents." Well, I just wondered, does that take in the 50 or does that just take in the 37 that he wasn't so pleased to see being elected? This is where they come out of there and he said that the ICEC belonged to the Liberal and the Conservative Party and real estate interests in the City of Winnipeg. He says there are only a few NDP in there. Some New Democrats there, five or seven; they're not overly affected. Well I agree with him, they're not overly affected. They're not overly affected. -- (Interjection) -- Well, he goes on to say, "There are a few Democrats Party's, five or seven of them, they are not overly affected when you -- they are not overly affected, Sir, when faced with an overwhelming majority." Well what's the matter with democracy? All of a sudden now, because the NDP's cannot elect over 25 or 26 of the 50, democracy's no good. You throw it out the window all of a sudden and tell the people that, well, it's okay if we get 30 seats or 29 seats or 30 seats and we can govern; after we get a guy in, sell him a little bit of French Cultural Centre's in St. Boniface and get him in there to carry us through the insurance debate. This is one story, but then when you get 37, well they're a group of real estate people, all bring in a bill, all bring in a bill so they'll have to expose their interests.

A MEMBER: Good point, Arthur.

MR. MOUG: I say any man be he welfare -- and you look back in your records and I voted for it -- that a welfare recipient could take a spot on council, a welfare recipient could sit in this Chamber. I voted in favour of that in committee; I see nothing wrong with it, but also this place should also be open that a member for a real estate board can come in here and sit in here, or sit in City Council. There's something you don't like about that. I don't know what it is. I'll show you, I'll show you a lot of real estate men that make under \$10,000 a year, and you make more. I know some real estate men that haven't got their wives working. -- (Interjection) -- Well that could be.

A MEMBER: He thinks there's something wrong with anybody that can made a dollar.

MR. MOUG: Also you try to take council's rights away by calling for an emergency debate, and I say that fortunately, Mr. Speaker, the rules in the House doesn't allow for that; but that is not the first time that that council has been threatened with having their rights taken away. Buy your buses from Western Flyer, Flyer Coach or else. Buy your buses from Flyer Coach. This is exactly what they're faced with in this area and I'm sure that's the reason why council couldn't make a decision that night; they referred it back; they're afraid that the government's going to take some more goodies away from them. It's like you send a kid to the store, you take five minutes to get back here, give you two jaw breakers; if you take ten minutes you're only to get one. This is what the City Council is threatening with once again and that's the second time in less than two years since they were elected that this government says, "if you do it our way you're going to get what we want to give you, and if you're going to make up your own mind and be truly democratic, you mightn't get anything at all." A half a million dollars -- that only spreads like wildfire. The City of Brandon wants the same concessions now. They want bus money; they're not going to buy their own buses when Winnipeg's getting theirs for half price, and anybody knows it. Thompson wants theirs; The Pas going to want theirs; Churchill going to want theirs; they're not going to have people down here running around in buses that they pay for and they buy their own.

Mr. Speaker, I think that the taxes throughout the city is plenty high enough now without having the Member for Osborne try and coach our council into spending more and putting them in a position where we're going to have taxes higher again than what they were in the past -- up till this year. -- (Interjection) -- Member for Osborne, I should say. What did I say? -- (Interjection) -- Oh, Member for Osborne, pardon me.

I had something here that I wanted to read in regards to -- it was brought up by I think the Minister of Public Works -- (Interjection) -- No, no, this wasn't biffies, this wasn't biffies, this was to do also with the City of Winnipeg. Anyways I can't find that, but it brings me back to February 10, '72 when the Premier was apparently out in the St. Stephens Lutheran Hall, I think it was in the St. James constituency, speaking at a meeting there, and he

BUDGET DEBATE

(MR. MOUG cont'd) commented on the political scene at the local civic level in Winnipeg attacking the Independent Citizens Election Committee as nothing more than amalgamation of Conservatives and Liberals in which the Conservatives dominated using the Liberals to wipe the floors. Well now what's going on in Ottawa, what's going on in Ottawa right now. The New Democrats are exactly wiping the floors of the Liberal Party. They've got no way out of it.

Mr. Speaker, I was listening to a by-line the other day and oddly enough they had a cartoonist on it from somewhere in the States, his name was Al Capp. I have a question, Sir, that I would just like to pose to the government side of the House. Al Capp was asked somewhere in 1962 if he would create a character for the Town of Flin Flon and I would like to know and I wish the Premier would let us know, is that who they elected to represent Flin Flon in this Legislature? I'm sure that that's what's happened because I noticed the other day with interest that -- I had something I wanted to mention about -- Anyway, Mr. Speaker, the taxes in the City are hard on those that are using it for residential purposes but also those that are caught in the amalgamation and form part of the farms, be it agriculture in the true sense of the word where they're growing grain or raising cattle or even those in five acre properties, just on vegetable growers, market gardeners, they're getting hit real hard. I haven't any figures that I could cite to the Assembly simply because any of the tax bills that I've seen meant some working back and I didn't have any on hand this afternoon so I picked up pieces, material that talks about the fringe areas that takes in the Municipality of East St. Paul, and in 1965 a parcel of 43.2 acres was assessed at \$1,630 with taxes of \$76.61. Now they haven't been hit by anything to do with the amalgamation, this is outside the City but just in the fringe area where assessments are creeping and climbing, because any time that anybody sells a piece of property, be it for real estate or those that are anxious to get out of the City, move out there and just build the one residence, they find themselves adjacent to property that they're trying to farm and live off either one way or the other in agriculture, and that has gone, on the 43.2 acres, assessment of \$1,630, taxes of \$76.61 in 1965 to 1970 that -- 1969 I should say -- they paid taxes of \$1,246 in 1969 -- from \$76.61. In four short years that's how increased costs came to those that are trying to live off the land in that area and nothing to stop it.

I wanted to mention, Mr. Speaker, as well that in the fair constituency of Charleswood I am proud to say that we have Bobby Hull there as a resident now and he's doing a great job both for the City of Winnipeg on the overall, the Province of Manitoba in a good many instances and of course, even for the Dominion of Canada. Come in here, go down through the States to show his skills and bring us back the first place in the Western Division of the World Hockey Association. Bobby does a lot of good work. His son plays from time to time in the arena in Charleswood with one of the clubs and Bobby avails himself to all the other teams and will come in the dressing room and talk to the boys and spruce them up, give them autographs and so on.

I noticed in the Tribune, it's some time ago, it was last spring, an item from New York. It said Bobby Hull presumably received his one million dollar bonus in the United States because of the highly favourable tax rate. All the money will be paid to him this year. Under a new income tax revision for '72 the maximum tax on earned income for an individual in the United States is 50 percent; in Canada it is between 80 and 90 percent; thus Hull stands to keep a half million dollars but possibly more, depending on whether he has losses in other businesses.

Well, Mr. Speaker, what first brought to my mind on that, is the Dominion of Canada and the Province of Manitoba were not quite so selfish and say to him that they want 80 or 90 percent, or 8 or 9 hundred thousand dollars out of the million; we could have picked up a half million dollars in this country and had the contract signed right here at Portage and Main, where they put on the charade that it was being done. I say that possibly we are taxing ourselves right out of a position to keep going here, that's why we have hit our own people in the area that we have to, because I know they'll probably tax me from now until the day I die and there's no way they're going to going to get a half million dollars out of me and yet they just refused to take it from Bobby Hull; they just said no, go on down to Minneapolis and sign down there, because we don't want to deal with you. But that's the type of thing that I say the province is doing wrong and the Dominion of Canada is doing wrong, it's something that should be looked into and see where we're losing and to what great extent.

Mr. Speaker, one thing I did want to mention about the Budget was Pharmicare. I am pleased to see it come along. I am sure that a good many over 65 are going to be pleased with it. I think there's very few people in the province realize how little they are going to get in

BUDGET DEBATE

(MR. MOUG cont'd) Pharmicare. We are dealing with older people and I think it should be spelled out to them more clearly than what it was, but the only concessions they get -- they get 80% on that over \$50 and I don't think there's that many people that age group is aware of how small an amount they are going to get. I know that my mother who is well up in years figures that her drugs are free from this day on. She doesn't realize the amount that she's got to pay before she gets any concession. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Radisson.

MR. HARRY SHAFRANSKY (Radisson): Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Winnipeg Centre. . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. The Honourable Member for Point Douglas wish to go?

MR. SHAFRANSKY: Yes.

MR. SPEAKER: Very well.

MR. DONALD MALINOWSKI (Point Douglas): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to offer a few comments on this year's Budget Debate.

As a New Democrat I am proud of this budget and the way in which it brings needed tax relief to low and middle income earners in Manitoba. I know that the people in my own constituency of Point Douglas will benefit in a far more substantial way from our program than the nonsensical economics being proposed by the opposition party leader. The Conservative Leader says the budget does nothing good for the poor.

What disturbed me from the tone of his remarks last Thursday afternoon, it seemed to me that he took considerable satisfaction from the fact that there were "only 25 percent poor in Canada," -- only 25 percent in Canada he said. He never clearly said we must reduce this percentage nor did he offer any real means of counteracting this panorama. He did propose a 10 percent cut in personal income tax which would benefit higher income earners plus similar assistance corporations. Under his spurious taxation policy the family with an annual income of \$4,000 would save \$1.10 a year, which means nine cents a month, not even enough to buy a package of cigarettes. The \$6,000 income families would save \$16.40, which is another big deal, big save for a low income class. But the family with an income of \$50,000 a year would enjoy a net tax cut under the Conservative proposal would be \$673.00. That is how the Conservative would help the poor. Mr. Speaker, we have done better and we will continue to do better. The \$4,000 income earner under the new changes, the elimination of medicare tax and the increased property tax credits benefits will have estimated tax savings of \$441.00 over 1969 year's rates. The \$6,000 income earner will similarly save an estimated \$377 because of our tax reform measures. Re the family with \$50,000 annual income will only save \$203.00.

It is apparent to me, Mr. Speaker, that the Leader of the Opposition is blinded by the interests of economics that he and his party worship and serve every day. His proposal clearly does nothing for low and middle income earners, is a sort of thoughtless bankrupt policy which his party has proposed and implemented when in government for many years and which have proven to be ineffective in providing tax relief for those in great need.

How can a man tell a wage earner that if I am elected premier I will give you a tax cut of \$1.10 a year and that he would benefit more than under new government proposals.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear to me that when people say talk is cheap, we are talking about the Leader of the Conservative Party. He has the nerve to say also that as a premier he would lead a humane government, a humane government -- one that gives the working poor \$1.10 a year in tax cuts, that in the past as a government, never wanted to provide public housing for our low income families and senior citizens. Mr. Speaker, I don't believe him. All he would do is implement the sort of tax policies which would increase corporate tax advantages. He doesn't care about working people.

I now wish to comment briefly on the proposals of the Leader of the Liberal Party. He too amazes me with his compassion and concern for people. Somehow I doubt the word of this man who has spent a working lifetime finding tax loopholes for the corporations and high income earners. No doubt he would give them similar advantages if by some miracle he were to become leader of the government -- I mean premier of the government.

I do not know quite where to begin in commenting on Mr. Asper's proposals. The problem is, he says so much, so often, that I find it increasingly difficult to discern his exact position on issues. He is offering voters a generous three percent reduction in personal income tax as

BUDGET DEBATE

(MR. MALINOWSKI cont'd) well as corporate tax reductions. It seems to me that his principles are not very different from the Conservatives. I can also conclude that in spite of the protestations to the contrary, the Liberal Party has not changed much in the last four years. Their tax policies would still benefit higher income earners most.

I believe, Mr. Speaker, that the policies we have followed by providing tax relief to low and middle income earners has greatly enhanced our province's economic development. I am confident that we will be able to do more in the future. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Radisson.

MR. SHAFRANSKY: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Gimli that debate be adjourned.

MOTION presented and carried.

MR. GREEN: I wonder whether the honourable members wish to call it ten o'clock? Ten o'clock.

MR. SPEAKER: The hour of adjournment having arrived the House is now adjourned and stands adjourned until 2:30 tomorrow afternoon.