

## LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

Monday, 22 April, 1985.

Time — 2:00 p.m.

**OPENING PRAYER by Mr. Speaker.**

**MR. SPEAKER, Hon. J. Walding:** Presenting Petitions  
. . . Reading and Receiving Petitions . . . Presenting  
Reports By Standing and Special Committees . . .

### MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS AND TABLING OF REPORTS

#### RETURN TO ORDER NO. 20/84

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Municipal  
Affairs.

**HON. A. ANSTETT:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I have Return to Order of the House  
No. 20 dated January 9, 1984, on the motion of the  
Honourable Member for Emerson.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Notices of Motion . . . Introduction  
of Bills . . .

### INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

**MR. SPEAKER:** Prior to Oral Questions, I should direct  
the attention of honourable members to the gallery,  
where we have 11 visitors from the Kirkness Adult  
Centre. The visitors are under the direction of Miss  
Blain and they are from the constituency of Fort Rouge.

There are 90 students of Grade 9 standing from the  
Carman Collegiate under the direction of Mr. Jones  
and Mr. Johnston. The school is in the constituency of  
the Honourable Member for Pembina.

There are 30 students of Grade 11 standing from  
the Sisler High School under the direction of Mr. Gartner.  
The school is in the constituency of the Honourable  
Member for Inkster.

On behalf of all of the members I welcome you here  
this afternoon.

Also, before Oral Question Period, I should inform  
the House that Hansard has been experiencing  
difficulties with their telecommunication lines to the  
typesetter. Technicians are working on the problem and  
hope to have it cleared shortly. However, this problem  
might cause delays in the delivery of the printed Hansard  
for the next few days. Hansard for last Wednesday and  
Thursday were received from the printers late on Friday.

### ORAL QUESTIONS

#### Grand Valley Park, Brandon Construction of water slide

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Leader of the  
Opposition.

**MR. G. FILMON:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

My question is for the Minister of Natural Resources.  
It has to do with the water slide being proposed for

the Grand Valley Park west of Brandon. My question  
to the Minister is: Was his department aware of the  
existence of the Indian burial ground when permission  
was given to locate the slide there?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Natural  
Resources.

**HON. S. USKIW:** Mr. Speaker, I am led to believe that  
they were fully aware, and within the confines of the  
agreement, there is protection for those things that the  
province is vitally interested in.

**MR. G. FILMON:** Did the department have discussions  
with archaeologists, such as Dr. Leigh Sims and others,  
prior to making that decision?

**HON. S. USKIW:** Mr. Speaker, since this matter evolved  
long before I was involved with the department, I would  
have to take that question as notice.

**MR. G. FILMON:** I wonder if the Minister would indicate  
whether or not his department is prepared to reconsider  
the matter, now that considerable controversy has  
arisen and opposition to the proposal has come forward.

**HON. S. USKIW:** Well, I'm sure the member would  
appreciate the fact that there is an agreement in effect  
at the moment and is binding on both the government  
and the private sector, per se; therefore, I don't believe  
that there is any option for the government but to  
honour the terms of the existing agreement.

#### Advertising campaign, NDP - booking of Vancouver agency

**MR. G. FILMON:** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the  
Premier and I wonder in view of the fact, I'm given to  
understand, that the current advertising campaign by  
the New Democratic Party on radio and billboards is  
being booked by an advertising agency from Vancouver,  
I wonder if the Premier could indicate whether that  
decision to utilize a Vancouver agency is to avoid any  
possible leak to local people of information on it, or  
because there is no Manitoba agency capable of  
handling the work?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please. May I remind the  
honourable member that he should ask questions of  
matters which are within the administrative competence  
of the government.

The Honourable Leader of the Opposition

**MR. G. FILMON:** Mr. Speaker, I'm assuming that as  
Leader of the New Democratic Party, the decisions of  
the party are within the administrative competence of  
the Premier.

My question to the Premier is: Could he indicate  
whether or not the decision to book those ads by an

agency from Vancouver is as a result of the fact that they believe there's no agency capable of doing the work here in Manitoba?

**SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** Oh, oh!

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please, order please. Order please.

The honourable member should restrict his questions to matters which are within the administrative competence of the government, not about an outside body.

### **School libraries - Material classification and approval**

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

**MR. R. DOERN:** Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct a question to the Minister of Education in view of the statement and letter by the Manitoba Association of School Trustees and their policy and attitude toward HERizons magazine, etc.

Can the Minister now clarify who is responsible for classifying material that is in the school libraries and what corrective measure she intends to take to make sure that isn't confusing signals, messages and endorsements sent out from fellow Ministers?

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

**HON. M. HEMPHILL:** Mr. Speaker, I think when this question first came up in the House a number of weeks ago I did indicate at that time that we recognized, both the Minister of Culture and I, that there were some problems with the procedure for approving materials between two departments. I indicated and made a commitment at that time that we were undertaking a review of the policies and the procedures for approval. I will, in the very near future, be announcing and clarifying and updating what the present policy and procedures are, and communicating the tightening up or improved procedures to deal with the problems that arose.

### **HERizons Magazine - Disapproval by MAST**

**MR. R. DOERN:** Mr. Speaker, I'd like to ask the Minister whether she also accepts the comment of the MAST organization that HERizons magazine is unacceptable and inappropriate for students?

**HON. M. HEMPHILL:** Mr. Speaker, what I do accept is the recognition in the letter and the part of the letter that addressed the question of local autonomy and in dealing with that they were raising some concerns about materials in the schools, but very, very clearly saying, Madam Minister, we think that we do not want any interference with local autonomy; we believe that the schools and school boards have both the ability and the right to make to make decisions. So in terms of saying, do I agree? - what I agree with is the school board's indication that they do not want any interference

with local autonomy and they want to be able to carry out their duties.

**MR. R. DOERN:** Mr. Speaker, I would also ask the Minister whether she appreciates the point made by the trustees that in view of the negative tone of the magazine, particularly in the anti-Catholic, anti-male spheres, that the publication is in fact, in conflict with the government's stated intention to promote multiculturalism, harmony, good attitudes and good feelings in our society?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please. Does the honourable member wish to rephrase his question to seek information rather than opinion?

The Honourable Member for Elmwood.

**MR. R. DOERN:** Mr. Speaker, I simply ask the Minister whether she recognizes the comment or criticism that the government's stated aim of multiculturalism is in fact being subverted or destroyed by the kind of material in this publication?

**HON. M. HEMPHILL:** What I recognize, Mr. Speaker, once again, is the ability of locally elected school trustees who are elected to represent their community, to recognize the different traditions and values that their communities hold, and to do the job that they were elected for and to make decisions like that about what is appropriate or inappropriate material for their schools.

### **Midcontinental Magazine - Withdrawal from school libraries**

**MR. R. DOERN:** Mr. Speaker, I then ask the Minister how she can defend her actions where, in the case of Midcontinental Magazine, she immediately ordered all librarians to withdraw it, and for the past 30 days has been dragging her heels in regard to a similar or worse publication.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please. The question is argumentative. Would the honourable member wish to rephrase his question to seek information?

**MR. R. DOERN:** Mr. Speaker, I would simply ask the Minister on what basis she ordered the withdrawal of Midcontinental, if that was not tantamount to interference, as she calls it?

**HON. M. HEMPHILL:** Mr. Speaker, I think I was quite clear on what the reasons were for ordering the withdrawal of Midcontinental the day that I withdrew them. I'd love to refresh your memory, and the memory of the members opposite.

I think they will remember that the withdrawal took place within an hour or an hour and a half of this being brought to our attention, and the reason that I ordered the withdrawal of that was because of the identified confusion about whether or not the Department of Education was, or had reviewed and approved that material. We said, in the Chamber that afternoon, the Minister of Culture stood up in this Chamber and said that there had been a mistake made. The letter that

went out to school divisions that said the Department of Education had reviewed the material and approved the material was not correct, that error was admitted that first day. Because it's on the record and because we did not want any misunderstanding that school divisions would have accepted material that they believed had been reviewed and recommended by the department to take place, we ordered the withdrawal so that it would be clear that were they doing it based on our recommendation. We were making sure they knew that this was inappropriate material and had not been recommended by the department.

**MR. R. DOERN:** Mr. Speaker, I would then ask the Minister, on the basis of what distinction did she order the withdrawal of one magazine and not the other?

**HON. M. HEMPHILL:** Mr. Speaker, I do not believe that we have the same misunderstanding about the other magazine. The material that was brought here, brought to our attention - as soon as we saw it we realized it was inappropriate material. We made that information available to the schools immediately. It had been brought to our attention that there is very inappropriate material on this list.

I then reminded them, Mr. Speaker, that we did not review periodicals and magazines and approve them in the Department of Education, nor have we done it since 1979. I think when the members opposite were there, they were not reviewing material. We leave that up to school divisions; it's the best place for decisions like that to be made and we continue to endorse and support their professional ability to make those decisions.

### **Family Life and Sex Education Course - Status of**

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

**MR. C. MANNES:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

On two occasions in this new Session, I have asked the Minister of Education to provide for me if she could, the schedule with respect to the revision of the new Family Life and Sex Education Course. The Minister has decided not to present that to me.

Mr. Speaker, in the *Scratching River Post*, Monday, April 8th, I read where Miss Brown, Health Education Consultant, indicated that the new revised course will be fine tuned in '86 with full provincial implementation expected in 1987.

Can the Minister indicate whether the statement I just read is government policy and, furthermore, can she indicate how the new revised curriculum will be fine tuned in 1986?

**HON. M. HEMPHILL:** I think first of all the question of fine tuning of curriculum, Mr. Speaker, it's clear that when we develop new curriculum and we put it out into the field, we are either fine tuning or revising or reviewing it for a period of two to three years.

Actually the review period for most normal curriculum is about two years after we put it into the field. In this case, when we're dealing with particularly sensitive material, where there's a lot of public interest and

there's going to be a lot of public involvement, we are extending that period and it will be reviewed and under review for improvement, revisions and consideration for a three-year period before it goes out of the draft stage and is proved into final curriculum stage; so the fine tuning or the revisions, that process, is ongoing with every curriculum that we put out into the field and that's how it will be done.

In terms of the timetable and the policy, I can assure the member opposite that any announcement on policy about timetable of this curriculum or any others will be made in this House, will be made at an appropriate time and will be made by me. Any other statements that are made about timetables or potential timetables or guides toward which they hope to work, are not, in fact, a reality until I have announced them.

As I said to the member opposite when he asked the question a couple of weeks ago, is that things are proceeding and when I am ready and at the point when I am prepared to announce both the timing and the implementation of this curriculum or any other, I will do it in this House.

**MR. C. MANNES:** Mr. Speaker, I think it's high time that the Minister made known specifically her plans on this issue because also in this article, Miss Brown said, "The optional units are not readily available for public scrutiny. If the community wants to have them, they are available, but you can't get hold of them unless you are in-serviced unless the school wants to . . ."

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please, order please. If the honourable member has a question would he kindly pose it and not read from an outside document.

The Honourable Member for Morris.

**MR. C. MANNES:** Mr. Speaker, in light of this comment, could the Minister tell us whether in fact a division can obtain a copy of this new curriculum, or can they only do so after they have made the decision to allow it to come into their school division before having seen it?

**HON. M. HEMPHILL:** Mr. Speaker, I'm interested in the member opposite's quoting from the *Scratching River Post*; there are a few quotes from the *Scratching River Post* that I'd like to read into the record too that we may get a . . . — (Interjection) — let's concern ourselves with the quality of education not political Brownie points.

When the member opposite says that he thinks it's high time that I introduced it or announced it, I want to remind him that they have been raising a number of concerns and a number of questions about the curriculum and about what it's going to say and how it's going to be implemented and surely, Mr. Speaker, they're not asking me to rush it or put it in before we've had the proper amount of time to do it properly. They're surely not saying, put it in before it's ready, before you've given it the thought and the time and the attention. Surely what he wants is a good curriculum, good implementation, protected involvement for the parents and the public, and whatever time is necessary to do that properly, he should be respecting that, not just wanting to push it through when it's not properly ready.

So when we've spent the time that we need to spend developing a good curriculum, we will present it. In terms of whether or not school divisions can now get copies, when the Department of Education is in the process of writing curriculum we do not make it available to school divisions even if they tell us they're thinking of implementing when it's completed. When it's completed and we are ready to put it out into the field, they will be notified and it will then be available for them to see.

**MR. C. MANNES:** Mr. Speaker, I was not quoting the *Scratching River Post*, I was quoting Miss Mary Brown, the education consultant paid for by the Minister.

Mr. Speaker, again, the question is - because the article says that unless the schools are in-serviced, the implementation procedure has continued, school divisions will not be allowed to obtain that material, so the question was rather straightforward.

My final supplementary, Mr. Speaker, to the Minister. I understand the Winnipeg School Division is now teaching the optional Family Life and Sex Education course. Have they received clearance from the Minister, in light of her August 1984 statement in which she indicated that no school divisions within the province were to teach the new curriculum?

**HON. M. HEMPHILL:** Mr. Speaker, I'll remind the member opposite that what I did say when I announced that the department was stopping the piloting of the provincial curriculum, is that there had been for a period of the last, actually 10 or 20 years, a number of school divisions in the province - I think about 20 of them - who have been teaching family life programs for years and have not had any difficulty or problem with it. What I did say was that we were stopping the piloting of the provincial curriculum while we completed the writing of it, but that school divisions that were presently teaching family life programs and who had the authority to do so under the existing regulation and were teaching those family life programs when the members opposite were in government - and I don't remember, did you raise any concerns then?

They were entitled to teach them under the regulations. They can make a decision at the local school board level to have the programs. They taught them then; they're teaching them now. I said in my announcement they are able to, allowed to, and can continue teaching those programs until we complete the writing of the provincial program, at which time, they can then make a decision.

### **Misericordia Hospital - Shortage of beds**

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

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

My question is to the Minister of Health. This morning I received a call from a frustrated Manitoban whose mother was admitted by emergency and by ambulance to the Misericordia Hospital. She is in the hallway of the Emergency Ward and will be there for some two to three days.

I wonder if the Minister could investigate this circumstance and find out whether he can find a way

around the problem at Misericordia so that this patient will not have to remain for some two to three days in the hall when she needs a hospital bed.

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

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank my honourable friend for giving me notice of this. I might say that I had been made aware of this problem, as is the custom through staff, I've asked that an investigation be made and report given to me.

### **Manitoba Medical Services - Coverage outside the province**

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** Mr. Speaker, on another subject matter with the Minister - and I look forward to his report on the circumstance of this patient at Misericordia - could the Minister indicate whether under his policy that was announced several weeks ago about out-of-province medical billings for medical services obtained out of province, there will be any exceptions to the rules that Medicare in Manitoba will pay for health services obtained by Manitobans out of province and out of country?

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** Mr. Speaker, the people of Manitoba have been informed that in such a case they should, first of all, get the approval of the Commission before leaving and certainly there will be some exceptions to that if there's a good reason for it. It's only fair that they should have another look at funding that.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** I thank the Minister for that answer.

Then, a person desiring medical services outside the province which may or may not be available within the Province of Manitoba can receive Manitoba Medicare compensation for those services out of province or out of country if approved by the MHSC, is that the indication the Minister has made?

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** That's correct.

### **Sugar beet industry - Assistance to**

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

**MR. C. BIRT:** My question is to the First Minister.

Now that the Federal Government has resolved the issue of the federal transfer payments and the province has received an additional \$50 million for this year; keeping in mind also that the Federal Government has put at least \$8 million on the table for preservation of the sugar beet industry, have the First Minister or any of his Ministers had a meeting with the Manitoba Sugar Company to ensure that the jobs in that plant will be in effect for the balance of the year and will be able to look forward to a continued operation at that plant?

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

**HON. H. PAWLEY:** First, I think we should rectify a misimpression on the part of the Honourable Member

for Fort Garry. The Federal Government has not remedied the situation by providing additional \$50 million. They provided \$50 million to what was \$72 million owing to the Province of Manitoba. The Federal Government is \$22 million short by right insofar as the Province of Manitoba is concerned.

Mr. Speaker, we have received an indication from the Federal Government that they are proposing \$8 million insofar as the Canadian sugar beet industry is concerned; but Mr. Speaker, what is missing on the part of the Federal Government and what I've outlined by way of Telex to the Prime Minister this past Friday is a clear and unequivocal commitment on the part of the Federal Government that they will ensure a long-term policy insofar as ensuring the stability of the Canadian sugar industry. Mr. Speaker, anything less than that is really an abdication of responsibility on the part of the Federal Government in Ottawa.

**SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** Oh, oh!

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please.  
The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

**MR. C. BIRT:** Thank you.  
Mr. Speaker, in light of planting season . . .

**SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** Oh, oh!

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please, order please.  
The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

**MR. C. BIRT:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.  
A supplementary question to the First Minister. Keeping in mind that planting season for the sugar beet industry, the decisions on that must be taken within the next 10 days, keeping also in mind that his government provided a job preservation loan to Westeel-Rosco, will the First Minister or any of his Ministers be meeting with the Manitoba Sugar Company to ensure that the sugar industry, the manufacturing jobs, the trucking jobs that are associated with it, will survive the short term? What the First Minister is recommending is a long-term solution and we have to solve the problem right now.

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

**HON. H. PAWLEY:** . . . sugar beet farmers of the Province of Manitoba as represented by way of their organization, but Mr. Speaker, I am looking for a long-term solution. I am looking for a long-term solution commitment from the Federal Government now, not, after indeed we continue in an ad hoc way. Mr. Speaker, if the honourable members want to continue to represent the government in Ottawa rather than the people in the Province of Manitoba, let honourable members continue to do so.

Mr. Speaker, I don't intend to permit the Federal Government to get out of their responsibility in respect to the sugar beet industry in Canada.

**SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** Oh, oh!

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please, order please. Order please.

The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

**MR. C. BIRT:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.  
It was a simple question addressed to the First Minister: Had he met with the Manitoba Sugar Company to ensure that the company would be able to operate this year? If he hadn't, the next question was: Was he going to meet in the very near future so that this industry could at least survive 1985?

**HON. H. PAWLEY:** I indicated in my previous response to the honourable member, yes, I am meeting, the Minister of Agriculture and the Minister of Finance is meeting; as to whether or not we can guarantee the continuation of the industry, that depends, Mr. Speaker, on whether the Federal Government responds in the positive to the Telex that was forwarded to the Prime Minister this last Friday, as to whether or not they're going to assume their proper responsibilities as a Federal Government in order to provide stabilization under the agricultural stabilization program to the sugar beet industry in the Province of Manitoba.

**MR. C. BIRT:** The question I have for the First Minister is, when is he meeting and who is he meeting with in these statements he just made reference to?

**HON. H. PAWLEY:** Mr. Speaker, we've already met with the company; we're meeting with the farmers, it's my understanding, tomorrow.

### **Titles to expropriated land north of Portage**

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

**MR. G. MERCIER:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for either the Minister of Urban Affairs or the Minister of Government Services responsible for land acquisition relative to the expropriation of land north of Portage Avenue, not involving the North Portage Development Corporation, but the land north of the Winnipeg Free Press, west of the Free Press and south of the Free Press building and including the Free Press building. Has the province now acquired title to all of those properties?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Urban Affairs.

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** . . . the responsibility of the province to proceed with expropriation and it should be made clear that it is a decision of the partnership of the three levels of government and there is some concern that we have this, and we wish to discuss this with the partners at this time, we have some very true concern.

**MR. G. MERCIER:** Mr. Speaker, then to the Minister of Urban Affairs, could he then inform the House as to whether titles have been acquired to all the property except the Winnipeg Free Press property and if so, what is the concern of the Provincial Government with

respect to obtaining title to the Winnipeg Free Press property?

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** Mr. Speaker, that has not been determined as yet. This was one of the the topics that we discussed - the question of the Winnipeg Free Press.

**MR. G. MERCIER:** Mr. Speaker, could the Minister then indicate that title has been acquired to all of the property except the Winnipeg Free Press property?

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** I'll have to take that as notice; I don't know if we have title of all the property.

### **Driver testing - Gladstone and MacGregor areas**

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

**MRS. C. OLESON:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

My question is to the Minister of Highways. In light of the fact that there has been a reduction in services of driver testing from two people every two weeks to one person every three weeks in the Gladstone and MacGregor areas, and this has caused a huge backlog in driver testing, will the Minister reconsider the service to those centres?

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

**HON. J. PLOHMAN:** Mr. Speaker, there has been no reduction in staff in that program. There was some short-staffing in that area that caused some problems for the MacGregor-Gladstone area but that is being corrected at this time and everything should be back to normal. There was a period of time where they were operating short-staffed until we could fill the positions.

**MRS. C. OLESON:** Then the Minister can assure me that there will be two testers every two weeks instead of every three weeks as it has been and the cutbacks will no longer exist?

**HON. J. PLOHMAN:** As I've indicated, some improvisation was necessary during the period of short-staffing and that has now been corrected. As far as I am aware, the staffing has been put in place and so we should be back to the original schedule. If it was two times every two weeks, that's the schedule it'll be on now.

### **Oil Spill, Red River**

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

**MR. A. KOVNATS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I would like to direct my question to the Honourable Minister of Environment and Workplace Safety and Health.

I am advised that there has been more than 3,000 litres of unidentified oil which has been leaking into the Red River in the Fort Garry area since last Wednesday. Can the Minister advise why it took his

department more than 24 hours to contact the City of Winnipeg to contain and identify this leak?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister for the Environment.

**HON. G. LECUYER:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I don't know where that information comes from. The department advised the City of Winnipeg within the hour that the oil was spilled, there was an oil slick on the Red River, and this was on the basis of calls received by our department. The City of Winnipeg got back to us on Friday, Mr. Speaker, and asked for some assistance. We responded, and within two hours of that we had staff - not within two hours of that - immediately, we had staff on the spot to assess the situation and within two hours of that we had contracted with a firm to start collecting the spilled oil.

**MR. A. KOVNATS:** Can the Honourable Minister advise me the exact time and date that his department advised the City of Winnipeg as to this spill?

**HON. G. LECUYER:** Yes, I can. As I indicated before, the calls came to the Environment Division, Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday. The calls were returned to the city immediately following. The City of Winnipeg got back to us at 11:30 on Friday and by 2:00 o'clock a company was already on the scene collecting the oil that had been spilled on the river.

### **Oil Spill, Red River - Effect on Selkirk water**

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

**MR. A. KOVNATS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I would like to direct this question to the Honourable First Minister, the Member for Selkirk.

Can the Honourable First Minister advise me whether he is aware of any effect of this spill on the drinking water in the Selkirk location?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please. Awareness is not a proper subject for question period. Would the honourable member wish to rephrase his question to seek information?

The Honourable Member for Niakwa.

**MR. A. KOVNATS:** Can the Honourable First Minister advise what effect this spill in Fort Garry will have on the drinking water supply in Selkirk?

**A MEMBER:** Ring around the tub.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister for the Environment.

**HON. G. LECUYER:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't know if the members want the answer, because I'm having a hard time here getting some silence.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please.

**HON. G. LECUYER:** Mr. Speaker, the City of Selkirk doesn't presently draw any water from the Red River for drinking purposes.

**Hydro Labour Agreement -  
Tabling of**

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

**MR. H. ENNS:** Mr. Speaker, I note the question that I asked to the Minister of Energy some time ago, the Attorney-General took as notice a few days ago, I repeat once more. Would the Minister of Energy table the Hydro Labour Agreement with the appropriate affirmative action clauses in it that sets out the programs specially designed for Northerners and for Natives as he had indicated he would some time ago?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Energy and Mines.

**HON. W. PARASIUK:** Mr. Speaker, I apologize for not tabling that sooner. I believe that there's some tidying up on final wording being done and as soon as that's completed, I certainly will table it with the member.

**Tantalum Mining Corporation - Status of  
spodumene mining**

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for La Verendrye.

**MR. R. BANMAN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I have a question to the Minister of Energy and Mines. About a year ago he tabled or had a ministerial statement dealing with a pilot project at Tantalum Mining Corporation, employing some 26 people for the mining and refining of spodumene. I wonder if he could tell us whether or not that operation is continuing.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Energy and Mines.

**HON. W. PARASIUK:** I believe that there's a search under way for markets and there is a continuation of the project in some form, but I certainly would prefer taking the question as notice to bring back exact information for the member.

**Salt water contamination -  
Spill in Virden**

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

**MR. H. GRAHAM:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

Last fall I contacted the Minister of the Environment regarding a salt water spill in the Virden area. Can the Minister give me an update on the salt water contamination that has occurred at that place and whether or not there's been any detrimental effect this spring?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister for the Environment.

**HON. G. LECUYER:** Mr. Speaker, the monitoring and analysis of the situation there is ongoing and has not been completed.

**Grenada Demonstration Inquiry Report -  
Cost of**

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

**MR. G. MERCIER:** Mr. Speaker, last week the Attorney-General undertook to inform the House as to the costs of legal aid incurred in the Grenada Inquiry. I wonder if the Attorney-General has those figures with him today.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Attorney-General.

**HON. R. PENNER:** No, Mr. Speaker, I haven't received them yet.

**Flyer Industries -  
Discussion with Flexible Co.**

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for La Verendrye.

**MR. R. BANMAN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I address my question to the Minister responsible for Flyer Industries and would ask him whether or not the government or the Crown corporation, Flyer Industries, has broken off talks with a U.S. based company called Flexible, who are also in the bus business in the United States?

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

**HON. E. KOSTYRA:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

No, I believe that discussions are continuing with that particular company.

**Flyer Industries -  
Discussion with Ontario firm**

**MR. R. BANMAN:** I wonder if the Minister could inform the House whether or not discussions with the Ontario bus manufacturer are also continuing?

**HON. E. KOSTYRA:** Yes, Mr. Speaker.

**Flyer Industries -  
Instructions re new contracts**

**MR. R. BANMAN:** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In light of the fact that the union president has expressed concern that Flyer is not out actively pursuing orders and that they feel that within a year or two there won't be any orders for Flyer to be filling, has the Minister asked the corporation not to entertain any new contract commitments?

**HON. E. KOSTYRA:** No, Mr. Speaker.

**Flyer Industries -  
Instruction to board**

**MR. R. BANMAN:** In light of the fact that it looks like there will not be very many contracts for Flyer to deal with in the next few years, I wonder if the Minister could

inform the House as to what direction and what instruction he has given the board with regard to the continued operation at Flyer?

**HON. E. KOSTYRA:** The direction that we have given to the board of directors, as the majority or major shareholder in Flyer, is to operate it in the most efficient and cost-effective manner possible and at the same time to explore options for the long-term viability of that industry here in the Province of Manitoba.

### **CCIL Closure - Status of**

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Roblin-Russell.

**MR. W. MCKENZIE:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I will ask a question of the Honourable Minister of Culture regarding Co-op Implements. Is the Co-op Implements deal finalized? Have they decided they're going to remain in Manitoba or are they moving to Saskatchewan?

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

**HON. E. KOSTYRA:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I expect an announcement with regard to Vicon, the company that was looking at operating a similar operation to what was operated by Co-op Implements, I believe an announcement will be made in due course.

### **Tantalum Mining Corporation - Status of spodumene mining**

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Energy and Mines.

**HON. W. PARASIUK:** Earlier in question period, the Member for La Verendrye asked me a question regarding the Tanco facility and what was being done with respect to the spodumene concentrate. I have had a chance to check into that and I'd like to report to him now.

There was a Federal EDP Grant provided in the spring of 1984 which was to help Tanco establish a pilot plan to produce a high purity, low iron spodumene concentrate suitable for the ceramic and glass industries; and approximately 1,050 tonnes of processed spodumene was shipped to Corning facilities for testing. Unfortunately, funding, under the EDP grant was discontinued in January of 1985. However, Tanco is proceeding with the project using company funds and it's a matter now of working to improve the technical and marketing aspects and if that, in fact, would continue, would develop, the plant would process spodumene for sale.

At present therefore it's being tested by Corning facilities in France and we're awaiting their response.

### **Tantalum Mining Corporation - Number of Employees**

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for La Verendrye.

**MR. R. BANMAN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I wonder if the Minister could inform the House how many employees are right now being employed by the Tantalum Mining Corporation.

**HON. W. PARASIUK:** Yes, the information I have is that 26 employees are employed on the project and that there are follow-up discussions taking place with Corning to determine whether, in fact, the spodumene could be used in the U.S. operations as well as in the French operations in France.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The time for Oral Questions has expired.

### **HANSARD CORRECTION**

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

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** Mr. Speaker, before Orders of the Day, I wonder if I could make a correction in Hansard.

On April 15th, last Monday, I was praising the attitude and the determination of the Jets, who had eliminated a very strong team, and I was quoted on Page 851 as saying that this was despite their captain and leader. No way do I want to accept responsibility if the captain doesn't dress and I want to assure all the members of this House that I meant despite the absence of their captain and leader.

**MR. SPEAKER:** I'm sure that will be noted.

### **ORDERS OF THE DAY**

### **ORDERS FOR RETURN**

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

**MR. C. MANNESS:** Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Member for Lakeside,

THAT an order of the House do issue for the return of the following information:

1. The complete advertising budget and advertising costs of the Government of Manitoba including all departments, agencies and Crown corporations showing placement and frequency of all ads in HERizons Magazine and in Midcontinental Magazine.

2. The total amount of all provincial grants made between November 1981 and March 31, 1985 showing the amount and date of each grant made to:

- (i) HERizons Magazine; and
- (ii) Midcontinental Magazine.

3. The number of government staff who gave assistance to HERizons Magazine and Midcontinental Magazine and their job descriptions and their salaries.

4. The number of dollar amounts of paid subscriptions that the government subscribes to from:

- (i) HERizons Magazine; and



(ii) Midcontinental Magazine.

**MOTION presented.**

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

**HON. A. ANSTETT:** Mr. Speaker, I have discussed with honourable members opposite two reservations respecting the order, and I believe that there is agreement to accept it subject to those reservations on the part of both sides of the House.

They are with respect to Item No. 1, Sir, that we're dealing only with, in terms of budget and advertising costs, the specific budget and advertising costs allocated to those two magazines, not the whole of government. The member is asking only with respect to those two magazines and he is asking for all advertising which flows through the advertising audit office, the government vehicle, not through any arm's length agencies which would not use the advertising audit office and which are not under the direct control of the government.

Sir, under Item 3, rather than reference to any phone call or letter, I believe what the honourable member is requesting here is information respecting the direct commitment of staff time from any government staff and has that understanding that assistance refers to direct commitment of staff time, not the answer of an inquiry or the processing of a letter or a request for a grant. We have no difficulty in answering that.

Nos. 2 and 4, Sir, we can answer as provided.

So, with those reservations, if they're acceptable to members opposite, we're prepared to accept the order.

**QUESTION put, MOTION carried.**

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

**HON. A. ANSTETT:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Minister of Health, that Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair and the House resolve itself into a committee to consider of the supply to be granted to Her Majesty.

**MOTION presented and carried** and the House resolved itself into a Committee to consider of the Supply to be granted to Her Majesty with the Honourable Member for River East in the Chair for the Department of Health, and the Honourable Member for Burrows in the Chair for the Department of Natural Resources.

**CONCURRENT COMMITTEES OF SUPPLY  
SUPPLY - NATURAL RESOURCES**

**MR. CHAIRMAN, C. Santos:** Committee, please come to order.

We are considering Item No. 5.(a)(1) Parks, Administration: Salaries; 5.(a)(2) Other Expenditures - the Member for Emerson.

**MR. A. DRIEDGER:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

When committee rose the other day, I'd indicated to the Minister that some of the information that we'd be looking forward to at this stage of the game and I'd like to pursue that now in terms of how many parks or roadside parks were advertised for maintenance and operations under the private sector for this year?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Minister.

**HON. S. USKIW:** Just roadside parks or all parks?

**MR. A. DRIEDGER:** All provincial parks and roadside parks. I believe, Mr. Chairman, the understanding was that there was possibly close to 100. I don't know. I'd like have the Minister indicate how many. I consider the differential between roadside parks and provincial parks and I know that some provincial parks have been in there as well. Maybe we can deal with the provincial parks and then the roadside parks. What we'd like to establish here is exactly how many, the rationale for it, and the process in which it was done.

**HON. S. USKIW:** Well, Mr. Chairman, there are 115 wayside parks in Manitoba in total; 94 of those have been under contract for a number of years, so that really there aren't too many that have been operated by the department.

**MR. A. DRIEDGER:** These are roadside?

**HON. S. USKIW:** Those are roadside parks.

**MR. A. DRIEDGER:** Fine, then we can maybe go into the provincial parks. It is my understanding that some of our provincial parks have been tendered to the private sector for maintenance, and I wonder if the Minister could give us, first of all, the names of the parks; how many maybe, if it's substantial I'd like to have the names; and I'd also like to know the criteria in terms of how this was done.

**HON. S. USKIW:** Could the member repeat the last point he made, the last comment.

**MR. A. DRIEDGER:** I'll repeat the whole thing for that matter, Mr. Chairman.

I'd like to know how many provincial parks have been categorized or looked at; how many were tendered; how many tenders have been accepted; and how many were rejected? I think we can save a lot of questions back and forth if the Minister would explain exactly what has happened and what the rationale for it is and how this process took place.

**HON. S. USKIW:** Mr. Chairman, there are four recreational parks that were tendered. Grand Valley, of course, is already behind us, because there is an agreement in place. Moose Lake, we received three submissions and there's been no decision made with respect to that one. There were no submissions for Norquay Beach, so we will continue to operate that one. There were three submissions for Lynch's Point and there is some discussion under way there yet, it's not final. We're not certain whether or not we will move into the area of private operations this year or perhaps even next year on that one.

Monday, 22 April, 1985

**MR. A. DRIEDGER:** We're getting a little late in the season for something to happen there and it's creating a lot of confusion in people's minds. I've had calls from people in the Moose Lake area and I know that some of my colleagues have had calls from some of the other areas. Maybe we should start from the beginning in this process to find out exactly how this procedure started to take place. Were these parks tendered publicly and, if so, what was actually involved in the advertising? Could anybody make a submission, were there guidelines under which they could make a submission, or how did this process take place?

**HON. S. USKIW:** Yes, there were guidelines; they were advertised; the proper public procedures were employed, the result of which is the answer I gave earlier.

**MR. A. DRIEDGER:** I wish the Minister would elaborate a little bit more. I don't think they have a big secret here. I want to know, and I think the people of Manitoba want to know exactly the reason for the decision to go this route, the process that was anticipated. Is this the start of a new direction that the department is considering? What is happening to the ones, for example, in Moose Lake, where no decision has been made, or Lynch's Point where also it's in limbo? There are major concerns for people who have cottages out there as to exactly what is going to happen, and I'm sure the staff itself is concerned as well because they are in a limbo situation themselves. I wonder if the Minister could maybe give us the story behind this whole thing.

**HON. S. USKIW:** Well, Mr. Chairman, there is no major story there other than budgetary considerations. It was deemed some months ago, perhaps even beyond that, that it might be possible to continue to provide a service in these areas without having direct involvement on the part of the government or the Parks Branch. Consequently, the tenders were opened up for those areas and we have not yet finalized them. It may very well be that we will continue to operate all of them for another year.

**MR. A. DRIEDGER:** Is this decision to go in this direction based on the economics of these parks? If this is the case, are we going to follow through on any park that is not economical to staff and run? Are we going to use that approach or are we ultimately looking at closing these parks? If economics is the reason, then I have a few things I want to pursue along that line.

**HON. S. USKIW:** Essentially, these are low-use parks, Mr. Chairman, and there is a possibility that private sector people may improve upon that depending on the kind of service they might want to provide; but certainly with the level of service that was available through the Parks Branch, these parks were not utilized very well.

**MR. A. DRIEDGER:** Well, in the proposals that the government and the department were looking at, whoever put in a proposal, did they have the option then of charging at the gate whatever rate they wanted, or would they be charging the normal provincial rate?

If a person bought a provincial sticker, would he be able to go into these parks just like any other provincial parks if he had one of these stickers on?

**HON. S. USKIW:** I'm advised that there were no entrance fees so the stickers have no relevance here. The utilization factor has no bearing with respect to stickers and payment of a fee.

The occupancy of Lynch's Point is a case in point that should be perhaps mentioned, by way of example, is only 19.9 percent, so that kind of gives you an idea as to what the utilization factor has been. It's a range of 22 percent to 19 percent over four years.

Perhaps I should allude to the others as well. Moose Lake had an occupancy range of 13 percent to 14 percent over that four-year period; Norquay dropped from 31 percent to 17 percent from '81 to 1984.

**MR. A. DRIEDGER:** Under the proposals the government was considering, would they then allow the successful bidder to charge rates at the gate?

**HON. S. USKIW:** Mr. Chairman, that's the point I was making, that if these are transferred over to the private sector, the utilization factor may change, depending on what the private sector has to offer on-site and, of course, that'll be balanced off by the amount of fees that they charge for whatever service they do provide.

**MR. A. DRIEDGER:** Since this action has been initiated on these three and the Minister has indicated that because there were no enquiries even, I suppose, about Norquay Beach, but on the other two, Moose Lake and Lynch's Point, that there were enquiries and that no decisions have been made. We're getting very close to the middle of May when fishing season opens. At what stage of the game is there going to be a decision made so that these people in the area know what's going on?

**HON. S. USKIW:** The likelihood is that, even if we enter into an agreement with the private sector, that will not become effective till about 1986. That's a likelihood, Mr. Chairman.

**MR. A. DRIEDGER:** So it would be fair to assume that for this year, these three provincial parks would still be the responsibility of government and people could expect service as usual as they've had in the past in these particular cases.

**HON. S. USKIW:** Well, certainly for the duration of this coming summer, yes, I would expect so.

**MR. A. DRIEDGER:** I just want to pursue the intent. If we're now going to have these provincial parks continue on this basis, is the government then going to open up the possibility of a variety, a much bigger portion of parks coming onstream for tendering to the public sector by next year? And how does this process work? Is it based on occupancy, on the economics of it or if somebody enquires that, for example, they would like to put in a bid on the running of Falcon Lake Provincial Park, would they be able to do that, or is it strictly on the dollar value that they're not economical

at this stage of the game that these decisions are going to get made?

**HON. S. USKIW:** No, Mr. Chairman, it's not our intent to look at the major parks at all - campgrounds perhaps - but not necessarily the parks. Parks are intended to be operated by the department.

**MR. A. DRIEDGER:** Obviously, there is no decision made yet on two of these areas. Part of the concern, of course, has been raised by some of the staff that's working there as to what will happen with them. It is my understanding that staff cannot be laid off, that they would be transferred to other areas. Is this what the intention would be?

**HON. S. USKIW:** Mr. Chairman, the staff have been advised that there's no change.

**MR. A. DRIEDGER:** For this year.

**HON. S. USKIW:** Then I want to try and establish what this Minister was asked before.

Will there be an intention to pursue this kind of approach for next year then with these parks and other parks in terms of getting them into the private sector?

**HON. S. USKIW:** Well, Mr. Chairman, the member wishes me to gaze into the crystal ball.

**MR. A. DRIEDGER:** I want to know what the Minister

**HON. S. USKIW:** Everything has to hinge around our capacity to deliver services. If there is a better way of providing a service, I'm sure we are prepared to consider that. On the other hand, we are committed to providing a fair amount of public service to the people of Manitoba through the Parks Branch. I don't think I would want to talk about it in terms of a blanket policy covering all situations. There may be some variation depending on local need, if you like. By and large, the policy is to continue with the public service.

**MR. A. DRIEDGER:** Mr. Chairman, I want to indicate to the Minister, I am not necessarily critical of the approach that is being proposed in this aspect of it. All I'm trying to do is establish how this process is going to take place and I find it rather unusual for this government that they all of a sudden would get conscientious about the cost factor in provincial parks when they are the ones by their own philosophy who would certainly not want to turn something like this over to the private sector, especially when there's a lot of concern from the people utilizing these parks. It seems very strange indeed.

As I indicated, I am not being necessarily critical of it. I just wanted to make sure as we go through this process that the services, if it goes into the private sector, I want to know exactly what's happening in terms of how it will be handled. That is why I have some interest as to exactly how this thing has developed and especially from this government. I find it highly unusual.

**HON. S. USKIW:** Well, Mr. Chairman, I don't know why the member is worried about how government policy

evolves. Pragmatism has never hurt too many people yet, I don't think, and I don't think it will if we continue with a pragmatic approach to that question.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Member for Gladstone.

**MRS. C. OLESON:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

With regard to Lynch's Point, you said there were three tenders. I'm wondering if you're planning on implementing that, say, next year and the staff have been notified that they will still be hired this year, that really isn't too comforting to them when they realize that perhaps next year they won't have jobs. Is there anything being planned to take up the slack there so that those people can be assured of jobs?

**HON. S. USKIW:** Mr. Chairman, I believe that we have a continuing commitment with respect to jobs within the department, that is, if there are phase-outs in certain areas that we work by way of not filling vacant positions or redeployment; so all of that has to be taken into account whenever there are adjustments made.

**MRS. C. OLESON:** In the case of Lynch's Point, some of the staff that currently work there, I understand, did submit a tender, and were rather disappointed that they don't seem to have been hired for that. One of the things they are wondering about is why they were not interviewed and there was no discussion about their tender, because obviously you can't put everything down on the operations and the philosophy of running a campground on paper, in a tender. They felt that before they were let that all the people who tendered should enter into some discussion on it as to just how they were going to operate the campground.

**HON. S. USKIW:** Mr. Chairman, we haven't finalized that decision and it may not finalize till a year from now. In fact, I'm certain it won't be for this season.

Whether we accept a proposal from staff, of course, would depend on the proposal. I'm led to believe that that wasn't the best proposal received in that there was still some suggestion within it that the government subsidize the operation. There are proposals which do not require that but in any event I really don't want to get into discussing the individual proposals here.

**MRS. C. OLESON:** In the case of a private person operating the campground, who is responsible for law enforcement? Would it be considered a private campground, for instance, Lynch's Point, and would the RCMP be able to patrol that as they have always done?

**HON. S. USKIW:** Once we establish a park the operation as a business, then it's the business operators that are responsible for whatever the laws are and the enforcement thereof. The law enforcement agencies of the system, municipal or otherwise or provincial, have to be employed when the need arises.

**MRS. C. OLESON:** Well then, if it was taken over by a private person, is it considered to be private property or government property?

**HON. S. USKIW:** Mr. Chairman, if we have entered into a lease arrangement, then a lease is the same as

ownership, as long as one has rights to the lease. It's the same as renting an apartment; it's really your home until you've decided to vacate or until you've been evicted, one or the other. So, you have virtually the rights of ownership.

**MRS. C. OLESON:** Well, in that way the RCMP wouldn't be able to patrol it as they would a public government-operated campground in that it would then be private and they wouldn't just automatically take a swing through there on a regular basis because they would have to be called that there was a problem before they would be entering into private property?

**HON. S. USKIW:** Well, as the member probably knows, the RCMP detachments throughout the province are concerned about protection of properties in their particular jurisdiction or districts. I would presume they would add this to their catalogue of communities that they would be policing at whatever level they're able to police at. Perhaps some relationship would be established between the operator and the RCMP Police for that service, or the proprietor may have their own personnel on hand for police purposes, if you like, security services, etc.

**MRS. C. OLESON:** What control is your department going to have over standards that are maintained in a campground if it's put into private hands? Is there going to be some agreement as a result of the contract that will say what sort of maintenance, what sort of equipment will be provided and who is it provided by?

**HON. S. USKIW:** Yes, there are standards that are stipulated and if those standards are violated then, of course, they could lose the rights to the lease, if you like, to the park.

**MRS. C. OLESON:** Is the department going to allow someone who is successful in getting a contract to add concession booths and entertainment-recreation facilities on their own? I think there's some concern in this that some campgrounds may then become a sort of an amusement park and the people who go to a campground for a quiet weekend of camping, then their peace and quiet will be disturbed by this other type of thing. I think there's some concern in the area around Lynch's Point that will be what will happen to that particular campground.

**HON. S. USKIW:** Local authority has jurisdiction under The Planning Act as to what happens. We also would have to approve whatever developments take place on leased properties, given the fact that the leases are for a time definite and that the asset may be returned to the Crown either after the lease expires or even before, depending on performance.

**MRS. C. OLESON:** What was the cost of operating Lynch's Point campground? What was the government cost?

**HON. S. USKIW:** I'm told the cost of running or operating Lynch's Point was \$70,000 last year and revenues, I gather, are almost non-existent.

**MRS. C. OLESON:** Was there no process in place of collecting of camping fees and boat launching fees, say, just the way they do at other campgrounds? There's a booth there. Is nobody ever put in it to collect?

**HON. S. USKIW:** Mr. Chairman, the only fees that we charge at Lynch's Point are camping fees so therefore the revenues reflect that.

**MRS. C. OLESON:** The tender that proposes to put it into private hands, how long a contract would be signed for that? Is it a one-year or what's the term of the contract?

**HON. S. USKIW:** That would depend on the nature of their investment, to a large extent. If they are intending to make a major investment into the park, they could get a 21-year lease, renewable; or conversely, a 5-year lease.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Member for Portage la Prairie.

**MR. L. HYDE:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'd like to follow up on the item that the Member for Gladstone was speaking on and that is the Lynch's Point campground.

I have before me several names that have been put on a petition asking that the park be considered a major park facility for that particular area. I say that I have many names here and for the most part they come from the Portage area. That's why I wish to speak on this particular issue.

I understand, Mr. Chairman, that the department has chosen to tender out the campground, effective, is it next year, and I'm wondering what consideration was given to the parties that have been caring for that park for the last 22 years? Was any consideration given to their tender?

**HON. S. USKIW:** Mr. Chairman, the fact is that we have Lynch's Point and we have St. Ambrose nearby and there really isn't a need for both as a major park facility at this present time; so the logic is that Lynch's Point should continue as it is, under public or private operation, whichever.

With respect to consideration to the tenders submitted to my staff, again that tender has to be judged on its merit, Mr. Chairman, in competition with the others that we have received. They usually speak for themselves, if you like, the tenders that is.

**MR. L. HYDE:** Mr. Chairman, did I understand you to say that there's a possibility of closing down either or both of the two parks, St. Ambrose and Lynch's Point?

**HON. S. USKIW:** Mr. Chairman, I responded to the proposition that we develop Lynch's Point into a major park facility. My response was that we have St. Ambrose nearby which is, apparently, adequate for that area and that there really isn't a need for two; so that Lynch's Point would continue as it is, either through our own operations or as a private operation.

**MR. L. HYDE:** I wonder if I could inquire from the Minister as to what is his plans for the Norquay Park.

**HON. S. USKIW:** Mr. Chairman, it's business as usual, since we didn't get any interest on the part of the private sector for its operation, so we will continue to operate that.

**MR. L. HYDE:** Mr. Chairman, was there consideration to tender that Norquay Park, put it out for tender?

**HON. S. USKIW:** Yes, we did, and we didn't receive any submissions.

**MR. L. HYDE:** Thank you.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Member for Turtle Mountain.

**MR. B. RANSOM:** I understand that there have been some little roadside parks, like the one at Riverside, for instance, that have been closed down. Is that correct?

**HON. S. USKIW:** Where is Riverside?

**MR. B. RANSOM:** Mr. Chairman, it's on No. 10 Highway, on the Souris River, north of Boissevain and south of Brandon. It's my understanding that it was closed down last year. It used to be managed by parks staff out of Turtle Mountain, but I believe it was shut down, not maintained any more, but on top of that it seems to me that people have been denied access to it, which strikes me as being most unusual, that even if it's not being maintained, why is it not possible at least for people who might be travelling with a camper to simply pull in there and stop and stay overnight if they want, for that matter, in a self-contained unit?

**HON. S. USKIW:** The usual problem is the answer, and that is that an unattended or unmanaged park area results in local complaints about its mismanagement and misuse, garbage problems and all sorts of things that arise from uncontrolled usage; so the policy is that when we vacate a park or close one down, then we don't leave it in a way that's convenient to attract business, albeit unsolicited.

**MR. B. RANSOM:** Is that really reasonable, Mr. Chairman? If there aren't enough people using it to be worth maintaining it, then surely there aren't enough people using it to create any kind of a problem. There aren't that many places where people can pull off the road with a camper, for instance, and simply make use of it.

The Minister's a practical, pragmatic sort of man, after his several years in politics that have shown him that some of his original ideas didn't function the way he thought they would. Wouldn't he think that this might be the kind of little, practical common-sense thing that might be done that wouldn't cause any great difficulty for anyone?

**HON. S. USKIW:** Well, I guess the real key problem is who picks up the garbage and if it's left there in a way that's unsanitary and so on, people will complain about the environment - people from the local area. Unless we're prepared to have garbage pickup or whatever, then we have to consider whether we want to keep them open.

I happen to sympathize with those views however, but ultimately the public, I think, would get supremely exercised over an uncared for park if it became untenable in the area.

**MR. B. RANSOM:** Mr. Chairman, surely it would be possible to put up a sign - God, this government puts up signs all over the province and all over television and everywhere else - put up a sign and say this park is not being maintained, use it at your own risk, we'd appreciate it if you'd clean it up. Send somebody in now and then and pick up the garbage.

I happen to know, for example, that towards the end of the year - not in this past fiscal year, but the previous fiscal year - that there were funds left over for Parks in the Parks budget in that area. Instead of turning the money back in, then they find ways of using it and spending it before the end of the year, so they had people hired at quite a high rate per hour, several dollars an hour, well above the minimum wage, to sit on the ski trails and count the number of skiers that go by. Now, surely it's more important to get out and pick up some garbage out of a roadside park than it is to count the number of skiers going by on a trail that you already have established and you're already maintaining, and you've already got facilities there for them. I think it just requires a little bit of direction maybe from the Minister to get some priorities set straight.

**HON. S. USKIW:** If the member is talking about the Souris River Park - I gather that's what it is - we are at the moment negotiating a five-year agreement with a private person to look after that park. So, it's intended to be leased out, if you like, if that's the one.

**MR. B. RANSOM:** That may be the one. Locally people call it Riverside. I can understand that bureaucrats come in from the outside and they name it something else, but local people call it Riverside. If it's going to be set up and run - (Interjection) - yes. If it's going to be set up and run, that's great, I'd be happy with that. I believe last year that it was not run and indeed it was closed.

In the same line of questioning, Mr. Chairman. Does the Parks Branch allow people to camp in parks outside of the designated campgrounds? For instance, in hunting seasons can people go if they have a self-contained camper truck, for instance, and park beside a lake where they're shooting ducks and camp there or can they pitch a tent? What's the practice of the Branch in that respect?

**HON. S. USKIW:** I'm advised that normally there are designated camping areas. Apart from that, if they wish to camp elsewhere they can do so by permit. It is permissible but it has to be known and permitted.

**MR. B. RANSOM:** Is that done under a specific regulation?

**HON. S. USKIW:** I'm advised that the act and the regulations they're under allow for permits for special uses. Under that section it's possible to do that.

**MR. B. RANSOM:** Could the Minister cite the regulation for me?

Mr. Chairman, perhaps while they're looking that up I could place another question to the Minister. There is a regulation in place, Regulation 101.77, Section 16(6) which says in effect that no person may ride a horse in a provincial park without written authority of the Director of Parks. I'm wondering, Mr. Chairman, whether the Minister would really regard that as a reasonable restriction on the use of a park like Turtle Mountain, for instance.

**HON. S. USKIW:** I would imagine to give consideration to all the users of a park - I'm not familiar with that particular one, at least not to any great degree - that there would have to be areas over which that might be permitted, but indiscriminate usage I would question because that may impinge on rights of other park users that are involved in other activities. It's a matter of compatibility I presume. Common sense perhaps makes the best rule in that respect, but I would think if it was unregulated completely then we would have as the former Premier said here the other night, he, when he was a child and his children didn't get run over by all-terrain vehicles on the delta, but he's worried about his grandchildren. There is need for some form of regulatory methods, if you like, in order to protect the various interest groups that are using a park. Otherwise, you could have chaos. A herd of horses thundering down on playgrounds. — (Interjection) — It's a matter of respecting the other uses that are being made in the parks. I wouldn't say it shouldn't be permitted, no, but I don't think it should be indiscriminately permitted.

**MR. B. RANSOM:** Mr. Chairman, I don't think that the Minister is going to get any disagreement on the necessity for some form of control. It's pretty standard as I understand it as a layman, that in the British Common Law that people basically are allowed to do anything which is not prohibited by law. The general approach that has been taken in park management in this province is that nobody may do anything in a park unless permitted by the law. That happened to be a regulation that was passed in 1977, a ministerial regulation that never saw the light of discussion around the Cabinet table, let alone ever come before any legislative committee. It seems to me it's a silly regulation. The Member for Inkster asks across the table a perfectly logical question - why didn't I do away with it when I was the Minister. If I had known the son of a gun was there, it would never have lasted.

All I'm suggesting to the Minister is, why can't it be approached in a little more common-sense way, the way it's approached with respect to hunting, for instance, where they say that there are certain areas where you can't hunt - you can hunt anywhere in the park except. Now, surely in a park like Turtle Mountain, where the trails that exist in that park, exist because people use horses in there to get wood out and to get hay out. That's why the trails are there, and surely that regulation should be taken from the books and something else, with a little more common sense put in, because I think when it came right down to it, Mr. Chairman, that if I rode my horse down one of those roads through that park and challenged it through the court system, you couldn't win anyway; so I would hope the Minister would just make one little concession on something like that and have the thing changed.

**HON. S. USKIW:** Mr. Chairman, there's a lot of validity in what the member suggests and I certainly will take it upon myself to examine the regulation because I too am unaware of its existence. I agree that common-sense approaches are always the best ones and I'm prepared to take a look at that.

**MR. B. RANSOM:** I appreciate, Mr. Chairman, that the Minister will have a look at that.

I have just a couple of other questions for the Minister. Has he made any changes in the written policies of the Parks Branch? Perhaps I should have asked, first of all, are there still written public statements about the direction that the government is taking with respect to managing parks and, secondly, has the Minister made any changes in them?

**HON. S. USKIW:** I'm told that the department does function under a policy document which I, quite frankly, haven't seen yet.

**MR. B. RANSOM:** Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the Minister would provide me with a copy of the most up-to-date policy for parks.

**HON. S. USKIW:** I'm advised, sir, that the member who is pursuing the line of questioning enshrined that particular document within this department. It hasn't been changed; it's still the same way.

**MR. B. RANSOM:** I'm pleased to hear that then, Mr. Chairman. I highly recommend it to the Minister for his reading enjoyment.

Just a couple of final, small questions with respect to Turtle Mountain Park. Some of the members, and I know the staff, will be aware of the fact that there are large numbers of moose frequenting that park now in a way that never was the case a decade ago or before; and it is my feeling that the department is going to be faced with some sort of control measure before very long. I'm wondering how they plan to approach that, whether it's going to be approached as an opportunity to make use of the resource that's there, to provide recreation through hunting or whether it will be approached from the point of view of a problem, and as the numbers build to problem level, something will be done to control it. What would the Minister's view be on that?

**HON. S. USKIW:** Mr. Chairman, I'm advised that in Turtle Mountain we treat it as a recreational situation rather than a control problem, with respect to hunting regulations.

**MR. B. RANSOM:** I take that to mean then that the staff will be looking ahead with a view that at some point in time there may, in fact, be a hunting season, whether it's with bow and arrow or muzzleloaders or whatever, as the numbers increase to the point where there is indeed a surplus to be harvested.

**HON. S. USKIW:** I gather the member's referring to the moose population in the area.

**MR. B. RANSOM:** Yes. Thank you.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Member for Roblin-Russell.

**MR. W. McKENZIE:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'd like to ask the Minister what he and his staff have in mind for the Duck Mountains under the Parks Branch for the planning year ahead; and they can take a look at Asessippi as well and give me some idea of those two areas.

The Duck Mountain, Shingoose, Gyles and the Blue Lakes are very popular areas and, as we talked here the other day, they're still looking for hydro services at some future date, if we can ever find the dollars to put it in there - popular places and certainly there's a great potential for growth there if they ever do provide them with electrical services especially.

Asessippi, as I was asking the other day, they're still waiting for showers and it's extremely popular for its fishing. The Shellmouth Reservoir hit the National News last year, I think, three or four times because of the pickerel grounds that have developed in the area. They were coming there from all over the Northern States, Saskatchewan and Alberta, people that never dreamt they would be driving that far for a fishing ground, but it became extremely popular. Yet there's also the possibility of a ski development. They talked about developing an airstrip and those types of things.

Can I ask the Minister, does he ever see the day when they would start collecting fees at Asessippi, because all the people that were patronizing that area last year and there's nobody there to collect a cent from them? These are people that have dollars, can afford to pay to go in and use the service.

**HON. S. USKIW:** Mr. Chairman, the last point that the member raises is a matter that's been under consideration and we have yet to make that decision, whether we will set up a facility for the collection of day use fees. The member perhaps is aware there is a shower facility that's going to be built at Asessippi. With respect to the Duck Mountains generally, there's a management guideline in preparation for the area and hydro services, I don't know - nothing's planned there.

There are some minor projects planned for the Duck Mountain Provincial Park, complete 2A washrooms, an upgrade campground at Blue Lake and silva culture, upgrade and improve fishing access points at Gull, Two Mile and Beautiful Lakes.

**MR. W. McKENZIE:** Can I ask the Minister, regarding the Shellmouth Reservoir and the fishing experiences that were enjoyed there last year, there is a lot of concern in the area now that the department has the resource and maybe the money to put the fingerlings in to replace that huge fish population. We can deal with that under the Fishing section - maybe it will be more appropriate then to deal with it there.

I just wonder, what about the development of skiing facilities at Asessippi? There's been a group working actively, rather than have this private entrepreneur at the Roblin area, to set up one ski facility at Asessippi that would fill the demands of the area. Are there any ongoing meetings? Last year I instructed some of the people in the area that contacted me to get in touch with the department and sit down with them and see

if we can't come up with a plan to fulfill the demands that are there because the ski slopes at Roblin are on the west side, and they don't stand up to the sun that we get sometimes in the wintertime. Has anything been done in that field?

**HON. S. USKIW:** With respect to ski facilities, my understanding is that the department would encourage local groups that might develop ski trails in the area, but that's for cross-country skiing. Downhill, I don't think we're doing anything. I'm not sure how much we should push that because of the ski hill at Agassiz. You know, I think government has to be cognizant of the fact that we mustn't undermine the operators that we do have by way of too many options available, if the ones already there aren't being sufficiently utilized. That's my own off-the-cuff response.

I don't know what the utilization factors are with existing ski slope capacity, but before I would want to encourage the development of new areas at public expense, I would want to be satisfied that we're not undermining others that are already in existence.

**MR. W. McKENZIE:** The Minister likely is not aware - last year the concession at Asessippi was let out, it was tendered to somebody east of Winnipeg here and I got a lot of concern from the local people, some in fact had been involved with the previous concession owner. Are they satisfied with this concession operator? The flak is still flying out there and I was just wondering if it's settled down as far as the department is concerned.

**HON. S. USKIW:** Well, I'm informed that that was the best submission that we had and I guess we have to look at it in that way, Mr. Chairman. Just because one is local doesn't mean that one is able to perform or has put forward the best proposal, although logically, one would want that opportunity to be available to local entrepreneurship, if you like. But in the end, we have the responsibility of looking at all of the applications.

**MR. W. McKENZIE:** Can I ask the Minister if there have been any more protests coming from municipal or Chambers of Commerce on that?

**HON. S. USKIW:** I'm told that there are only a few problem areas that are yet to be ironed out with the concessionaire but apart from that there is really nothing that is happening.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Member for Ste. Rose has a question?

**MR. A. ADAM:** I was wondering if the Minister could advise what the policy is on rental of parking spaces in our parks. I'm thinking particularly of Manipogo - whether there's been any change in policy, whether it's a first-come, first-served, or seasonal, or weekend. What is the policy on that?

**HON. S. USKIW:** Yes, we have two-staged approach, I am advised. One is the draw and then after that, it's first-come, first-served.

**MR. A. ADAM:** Are there any parking spaces kept in reserve for weekend parking? Are they all up for draw?

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**HON. S. USKIW:** I'm told that we do retain some for that purpose; some are seasonal and some are transient sites, so there is that opportunity.

**MR. A. ADAM:** I'm thinking particularly of the senior citizens who may come out on weekends for a couple of days, whether there are sufficient spaces. They may be coming from 60 miles, or 70 miles . . .

**HON. S. USKIW:** If we do run out of space in a given time, we do allow people into the overflow areas. It may not be serviced well, but we will accommodate them.

**MR. A. ADAM:** It is not possible then, for anyone to come in on a weekend and, say, leave a tent or some facility there to come back the following week? Or is it possible to rent just for weekends?

**HON. S. USKIW:** I'm advised that the maximum period that we allow people to be in a campground is two weeks, so they can be reserved for two weeks, at a given time or together, if you like. I'm not sure if the member is pursuing the idea of just reserving weekend use . . .

**MR. A. ADAM:** That's what I was asking.

Mr. Chairperson, while the Minister is discussing with staff, I just wanted to know if a person could come in and say, I would like to rent a parking space for the season, every weekend, is that possible? Is there sufficient space for that?

**HON. S. USKIW:** Mr. Chairman, our minimal rental period is five days. We have nothing shorter than five days; that's where we take reservations; otherwise it's first-come, first-served, for whatever is available.

**MR. A. ADAM:** On another issue, referring to the Manipogo Park - the concessionaire, I believe, is retiring. Has another person been found yet to take over the concession there?

**HON. S. USKIW:** I believe there's going to be a tender out on that, Mr. Chairman.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Member for La Verendrye.

**MR. R. BANMAN:** Mr. Chairman, there was some talk about a ski hill and one that is receiving quite a bit of attention these days and quite a bit of correspondence as far as I'm concerned as well as representations, is the one at Falcon Lake. There is a local group of people who have in this past year I think done a pretty good job of grabbing hold of it and trying to create some more public awareness, have been talking to some local radio stations here in Winnipeg and promoting the hill.

There is the concern that the hill will not operate next year. I have had correspondence with the Minister's predecessor, who outlined a number of options that the government would pursue, namely, leasing it out or trying to form some kind of a group that would be able to operate it on a yearly basis. I know there are a number of people out at Falcon Lake who are exploring that particular operation right now, trying

through the ski club out there to come up with some kind of a proposal or try and work out some agreement with the government so that hill will not close.

I guess my question to the Minister: We're going through the Estimates right now, have we got money included in the Estimates this year for the continued operation of the ski hill at Falcon Lake?

**HON. S. USKIW:** Yes, we do have for the next winter season, Mr. Chairman. In the meantime, we are attempting to find local community groups to take a look at it and perhaps even manage it for us. We're hoping to locate some local means of doing that, but we have budgeted for its operation for the next winter season.

**MR. R. BANMAN:** So the Minister is indicating that it will run this coming year and in the meantime the department is actively pursuing either lease offers or local groups to become involved to try and maintain this over an extended period of time?

**HON. S. USKIW:** Yes, that's correct, Mr. Chairman.

**MR. R. BANMAN:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I look forward to dealing with the different groups and dealing with the Minister to resolve the sort of cloud that's been hanging over the ski hill for the last couple of years. I know that in that particular area if the locals and a number of other people become committed to the facility, we'll probably see a lot of things happen.

The other question I would have is - this would get into the negotiations that we could possibly get into - as far as Destination Manitoba or venture capital, we noticed the water slide got \$130,000 out of venture capital money for that development. One of the things that the Falcon ski hill really needs is a T-bar. I know some of the locals are looking at possibly buying a used one somewhere. Is the department, would they entertain a proposal which would see cost-sharing or a joint venturing with regards to the installation of such a thing? Most people now don't like to use the old rope tows anymore and the T-bar, I think, would really be a boon to that area. It would really increase the number of people that would go out there and ski.

It's a sort of a chicken-and-egg situation, Mr. Minister. It's pretty hard to increase the volume of skiers out there if the facility isn't there and I don't think they're asking for hundreds and thousands of dollars to be spent, but rather that there be some recognition that it is a good facility and that it does need some upgrading in order for even the local groups to make it viable.

**HON. S. USKIW:** Well, Mr. Chairman, we wouldn't mind considering some arrangement with whoever would be willing to invest in a T-bar on the hill and who would want to run that operation.

The information we have is that that investment would not dramatically enhance the attendance and, therefore, is not a good proposition, economically speaking. Statistically, we have 1,600 users up there which generates about \$5,000 worth of revenue against an \$80,000 expense of running it. That's where we are at the present time.

Now, if a private sector group could turn that around, I'd be willing to look at a proposition from such a group, or a community group, or whatever.



**MR. R. BANMAN:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I look forward to working with the Minister with regard to developing such a group and, hopefully, we can maintain that operation out there.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Member for Gladstone.

**MRS. C. OLESON:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I was wanting to mention a couple of things about Spruce Woods Park. Some time ago, I wrote the previous Minister with some complaints I had from constituents and others regarding the fence at Spruce Woods Park along No. 5 Highway. To be really nice about it, it's disgraceful - I could say a lot more. I don't think it's been repaired for some time and the then Minister wrote back and said that yes, it probably should be repaired and this would be something for the Jobs Fund.

I haven't seen any activity there nor any bright green Jobs Fund signs and the fence is still in bad repair. I'm certainly not asking for any Jobs Fund signs out there, but I would consider the repairing of a fence to be maintenance not a special project. It should be an ongoing thing. If you've got a fence there then keep it in good shape. Either don't have one at all or have one in decent repair. That is a rail fence. It was put up, I would say probably at least 12 to 13 years ago. I'm just guessing at that because my son happened to work there at the time and I think he was helping put it up. I don't think there's anything been done to it since and I was wondering if the Minister could enquire of his department if there could be anything done to either remove the thing completely or else repair it.

**HON. S. USKIW:** At the moment, there are no plans with respect to the upgrading or otherwise of the fence. I'm reminded that broken-down fences make for good photography and painters tend to enjoy them.

**MRS. C. OLESON:** I think there are some who would disagree with you, Mr. Minister.

Another aspect of that park, I was wondering if there's been an agreement signed for the services of the riding stable out there for this current year.

**HON. S. USKIW:** I'm advised that the current operations are going to continue, but there's going to be another operation that we've tendered for in the Spirit Sands area.

**MRS. C. OLESON:** Are you indicating that there are going to be two riding stable facilities?

**HON. S. USKIW:** Yes, one is a guided tour and the other one may be just a riding operation, Mr. Chairman.

**MRS. C. OLESON:** Well, last year and in previous years there's been a riding stable and there's also been a hay ride sort of tour out into the sand hills and maybe that is what the Minister's indicating. It was all run under the same contract, I believe.

One problem that I was made aware of was that people were being told that they were charging too much for the ride, that people wouldn't take the ride, when in fact they were taking it; and the government

officials set the price that they could charge and then subsidized them - I don't know whether for sure it was up to what they had been charging, but to a similar rate - and they felt that was rather an odd way to go about things, that people were quite willing to pay the charges and they felt that really, it was a problem of keeping track of everything in order to apply for the subsidy. They felt that perhaps there might be some dispute of their figures and that the whole thing was rather an unnecessary bookkeeping matter for them to have to go through.

**HON. S. USKIW:** Mr. Chairman, I'm advised that we had a guarantee there to provide a minimum return to the operator, but that it was anticipated over time that that would phase out as the operation became more viable with volume. So it's not intended that that be a permanent commitment.

**MRS. C. OLESON:** I think it's a facility that's very popular out there, the rides and the tour into the hills. It's something that a lot of people like to see and it's a good way to see it. I know personally, my family was rather disappointed when the park came in and restrictions were put on going out there because we used to go as a family and wander around at will. But of course I can see, with the fragile nature of that place, you wouldn't want indiscriminate use of it so sometimes things have to be regulated, but it does bother some of us. But I know that ride is popular and I would hate to see that particular part phased out.

I was interested to hear the Member for Turtle Mountain talking about the problems with horseback riding. I imagine it's fairly restricted in the Spruce Woods then; also just exactly where you can ride horses.

**HON. S. USKIW:** Would the member repeat the last comment?

**MRS. C. OLESON:** Is it fairly restricted in Spruce Woods Park as well, where you can ride horses? Would the same regulations as apply to the Turtle Mountain Park apply to the Spruce Woods Park?

**HON. S. USKIW:** I'm told there are designated trails, yes.

**MRS. C. OLESON:** Okay. Thank you.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Member for Emerson.

**MR. A. DRIEDGER:** I want to get back for some clarification on the roadside parks. The Minister indicated there were 115 roadside parks in the province and that last year 94 of them had been private, run by groups, chambers, municipalities or individuals.

**HON. S. USKIW:** Mr. Chairman, just so the member understands, there are year-to-year maintenance contracts on 94 of the 115 parks.

**MR. A. DRIEDGER:** Is that for this year, or are all the roadside parks now going to be maintained by other than government?

**HON. S. USKIW:** I'm advised that the number varies from year to year, but during the last season there were 94 contracts out of the 115 park operations.

**MR. A. DRIEDGER:** The Member for Turtle Mountain indicated the closing of a roadside park in his area. Can the Minister indicate how many roadside parks are going to be closed, along those lines?

**HON. S. USKIW:** There's a probability that there will be some closed this year. We're not sure where they are, although we can get the details for the member. I think Highways is responsible for a few of them. In Birtle, the town took over the park and in Binscarth I think it's the same thing, the local community's taking that over. There are changes that take place, one year over the other.

**MR. A. DRIEDGER:** Before the decision gets made to close a park of this nature, is there an effort made to try and get somebody to look after the maintenance of it, the community, anybody that would be interested?

**HON. S. USKIW:** Yes, that's the procedure that is employed.

**MR. A. DRIEDGER:** In the Minister's opening statements, under Item 7, he has indicated "conversion of campsites from transient to seasonal will save 2.4 staff years and \$60,000.00." Could the Minister clarify that statement?

First of all, could the Minister clarify "from transient to seasonal," what category roadside parks would fall under that . . .

**HON. S. USKIW:** Mr. Chairman, just so the member knows what it is we're dealing with here, those are campgrounds rather roadside parks.

**MR. A. DRIEDGER:** What is the thinking here in terms of changing from transient to seasonal?

**HON. S. USKIW:** Mr. Chairman, that's strictly an economics question. It costs a lot more to handle transient volume as opposed to seasonal volume, so it's a budgetary consideration.

There's one other reason and that is that we were unable to meet the demand for seasonal use last year, so there's a backlog of demand for seasonal.

**MR. A. DRIEDGER:** Which campgrounds, just for an example - is this a wide variety of campgrounds that are being effected or is it certain individual campgrounds that we're talking about?

**HON. S. USKIW:** There are several throughout the province, Mr. Chairman, where we are having problems meeting the demand and where we are expanding the seasonal capacity.

**MR. A. DRIEDGER:** Then I want to deal with Item 6 in the Minister's opening remarks where he said, "Late opening and early closing of some campgrounds will save staff years and \$310,000.00." Can the Minister indicate which campgrounds, how long, when we talk of late opening and early closing? If the rationale is economics on these things, maybe if you didn't close them at all you'd save all kinds of money.

**HON. S. USKIW:** If we closed them all we would save a lot of money.

**MR. A. DRIEDGER:** Further to that, Mr. Chairman, what does the Minister mean by late opening? Does that mean after the May long weekend and closing down at the end of August, that they'll just be open for three months of the year or, specifically, what does the Minister and his staff have in mind?

**HON. S. USKIW:** Mr. Chairman, basically, what it amounts to is that we will attempt to make full use of the remaining ones by delaying the opening of some that are underutilized, so rather than having a vast number of campgrounds underutilized, we will thin some of the weak ones out for the short term, delay their opening, and maximize the use in those remaining - and they're usually within reasonable distance, one from the other, so that the options for an alternative site are always there.

**MR. A. DRIEDGER:** Is the Minister telling us then that for the fishing long weekend in May that there will be some campgrounds that will not be available to the public for use? Usually that is a time when some of the more isolated ones probably get more pressure than they do maybe during July and August because . . . is that what the Minister is telling us, that for the May long weekend certain campgrounds will not be available for people who go out for the fishing weekend?

**HON. S. USKIW:** Yes, the fishing campsites are intended to be open, but it's the non-fishing campgrounds that we are going to delay.

**MR. A. DRIEDGER:** I suspect possibly that the Minister, as well as many others, will probably be getting phone calls after the long weekend in cases where somebody hasn't been able to get into a campground, so we can both, I believe, anticipate action on that and the subject will probably be coming forward again somewhere along the line.

**HON. S. USKIW:** Mr. Chairman, just for the benefit of members, we intend to launch an advertising campaign which will inform the public as to which ones are going to be open, which ones will not for those particular weeks in question.

**MR. A. DRIEDGER:** Mr. Chairman, that kind of advertising I could go along with.

**HON. S. USKIW:** — don't mind that — (Interjection)  
— Paid for by the Jobs Fund.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Member for Roblin-Russell.

**MR. W. MCKENZIE:** Mr. Chairman, I was quite disturbed the other day. Apparently the Department of Tourism have decided to delete Highway 83 as a corridor for the people who like to come and patronize our parks. I don't know why they did it; but they did. Highway 83 goes from the Gulf of Mexico all the way to Swan River, in fact, we were hoping some day to touch the salt water at Churchill. I wonder if the Minister could get the bureaucrats to get their act together and find out why they would do that since it was drawn to my attention.

The other question was, west of Roblin on Provincial Trunk Highway No. 5 where it crosses the Lake of the Prairies, there are a lot of tourists stop there. Is that a tourist camp? Do the Parks maintain or pick up garbage there or is there any indication of new development in there? A lot of people stop at that site.

**HON. S. USKIW:** I wonder if the member would be more specific as to exact location.

**MR. W. MCKENZIE:** There's a bridge that crosses the Lake of the Prairies about 12 miles west of Roblin on the provincial trunk highway on the way to Yorkton and right there is where the traffic comes off that road and they see the lake and they stop there.

**HON. S. USKIW:** Mr. Chairman, at the moment, that is not a controlled area. We do pick up the garbage, but it's our intention to designate it as a park area, close off some of the accesses which apparently are quite numerous, and to channel the traffic into the proper area that we will then manage.

**MR. W. MCKENZIE:** Is there any interest from developers on the west shore or the east shore of Lake of the Prairies? I've heard all kinds of people from Yorkton, Regina and other places - especially last year when they saw all the fish coming out of there - express a lot of interest at coming in there to develop some of that property.

**HON. S. USKIW:** Mr. Chairman, we do have enquiries with respect to the area and we are encouraging private sector development there.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Member for Emerson.

**MR. A. DRIEDGER:** We can either deal with it here under Administration or under Park Planning, I want to pursue the Atikaki Park development and the designation as a wilderness area, we can do it here if the Minister wants. — (Interjection) — Fine. Can the Minister indicate what stage we're at with the Atikaki Park?

**HON. S. USKIW:** It's anticipated that we should have that well under way and behind us within a month, five weeks, six weeks.

**MR. A. DRIEDGER:** That would be the designation then of the Atikaki as a wilderness area.

**HON. S. USKIW:** As a wilderness park, Mr. Chairman.

**MR. A. DRIEDGER:** Is it the intention that there be the same kind of restrictions on the Atikaki Wilderness Park as there is on the Lake Mantario Park? I'm referring specifically to the restriction of motor boats, snow toboggans, airplanes . . .

**HON. S. USKIW:** The answer is no to the question. The access essentially is going to be by air and the rivers are going to be the main areas of usage for recreational purposes or whatever.

**MR. A. DRIEDGER:** So the Minister is indicating that people who want to go sport fishing up in the Bloodvein, for example, starting from the Bloodvein Reserve would still be able to have access to go upstream with motor boats and go fishing and the fishing lodges would still be able to fly in with planes to service their fishing lodges and the traplines would still be able to operate during the course of the winter. Is that what the Minister is telling us?

**HON. S. USKIW:** I suspect the member isn't familiar with the river.

**MR. A. DRIEDGER:** I have been fishing on it, sir.

**HON. S. USKIW:** Because if one wants to motor up the river, one would have to have some craft and some motor with a few wings on it to get over the rapids, and there are very many rapids along the way. But yes, that is not going to be restricted activity.

**MR. A. DRIEDGER:** Just to clarify that, in case the Minister believes that I have not done that, we have done that. And we have portaged around many of the rapids up there and it was very enjoyable. I just want to indicate to the Minister that I was concerned that that would still be available.

In terms of the Atikaki Park area, does the Minister have a map that can indicate the size of this because I'd like to know if this designation will have any effect on, let's say, wild rice harvesting or any of these other things? The mining exploration, is there a limitation on that?

**HON. S. USKIW:** I'm told there's virtually zero mining potential in that area and no wild rice potential in that area and forestry will be somewhat impaired, if you like, but we have been dealing with Abitibi per se on that issue where we want to reserve the forests along the rivers for a certain depth on each side of the rivers for which we are going to give the company another location to extract resource material to offset the reduction that they will suffer in this area.

**MR. A. DRIEDGER:** So the Minister is telling us that the Atikaki Wilderness Park will not have the same restrictions that Lake Mantario has. Is the Minister going to reconsider some of the strenuous restrictions on the Lake Mantario area in view of the many concerns that people have whose livelihood it affects, incidentally, in terms of fishing lodges and trap lines and stuff of this nature? I believe that the people in the general area that are affected are prepared to certainly look at restrictions, but I think that restrictions may be a little too stringent in some areas. All I'm asking is whether the Minister is prepared to review the situation and maybe reconsider some of the tight policies that are in effect on that park?

**HON. S. USKIW:** Mr. Chairman, whether the policy changes or not is here nor there - I suspect it will not although I suppose anything is possible - to be reopened. We are looking at the impact that policy has had on the operations within that area. I'm trying to redress some of the negative impact. We have not

finalized that. It's our hope that we will come out of that discussion in an amicable manner, wherein we have, in my opinion at least, treated those people fairly that are so affected. We don't know where or how long it's going to take to finalize that, but we are discussing that question with a number of people that were operators in the area.

**MR. A. DRIEDGER:** I don't know whether I understood the Minister right. Is he saying that he thinks that the people have been treated fairly or that they're working to try and make sure that they are treated fairly.

**HON. S. USKIW:** The attempt is being made to examine the impact and to try to offset the negative impact on those individuals. There are a few of them. We have yet to determine the extent of any negative impact on each and every one of them and to come up with a solution. There are some discussions under way with respect to that at the present time.

**MR. A. DRIEDGER:** A further question along the same lines.

The Minister, he indicated that the policy or direction of the designation will not change. Is the Minister prepared to possibly consider a permit system for limited use in certain cases? I'm talking of somebody with a trap line, for example. He's indicated fishing lodges. That could be circumstances where a permit system could maybe be worked out to accommodate some of the people that are affected or is this under consideration?

**HON. S. USKIW:** The trap lines are not affected. They are permitted to carry on.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Minister of Municipal Affairs.

**HON. A. ANSTETT:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, I appreciated the interest shown by the Member for Emerson in the Mantario wilderness area because I have shared those concerns in the past but I did not want to leave on the record the impression, perhaps inadvertent, that trap lines were affected. That's why I asked to be recognized. I'm glad the Minister has corrected that inadvertence, although the original proposal dating back from when the honourable member's colleagues were in government included a wilderness area in which no trapping would be allowed in the original drafts. That was certainly changed under the predecessor to the current Minister and a change to provide for trapping was allowed. There has been no impact whatsoever on trapping.

In response to the Member for Minnedosa, I can't advise him as to what the status of that proposal was when government changed. I'm not for a minute suggesting it had official sanction. I can only say that it was changed by our government.

The second point that I think shouldn't be on the record is the suggestion that there are fishing lodges in the wilderness area. My understanding is that there are out camps and boat caches but no actual lodges that are affected by the change in the Whiteshell management plans. I think that should be put in the proper perspective.

**HON. S. USKIW:** Mr. Chairman, I think just to be clear, there are lodges that have been affected by the change in policy. They may not be located within the area, but they have been adversely affected and, therefore, that is the point that I was referring to when I said that we were trying to modify the effect to whatever extent we can.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Member for Minnedosa.

**MR. D. BLAKE:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, thank you. I wonder if the Minister could tell me what the status of the park at Lake Wahtopanah is at the present time?

**HON. S. USKIW:** What about it?

**MR. D. BLAKE:** I wondered the status of the park there, the camping facilities there in the park.

**HON. S. USKIW:** Where is that?

**MR. D. BLAKE:** Rivers.

**HON. S. USKIW:** There's a proposal for a planned cottage sub-division for the area not yet approved.

**MR. D. BLAKE:** A few years ago, they eliminated the resident campers, the ones that came in and parked there maybe for a month or so out of the area along by the lake and moved them up on to the top of the hill where there wasn't a tree or a bit of shelter whatsoever. Has that been relaxed somewhat whereas they can come in and stay for an extended period other than overnight? They were trying to leave those campsites for overnight campers and they were never ever filled. There's not that many overnight campers, but there's a lot like to come out and spend a week or two weeks there with their families and use the boating facilities and the beach before the algae gets so thick that you can walk on it.

**HON. S. USKIW:** I think we should take that matter under advisement. I'm not sure if we're talking about the same area, Mr. Chairman. It's the campsite at Rivers Lake. It's called Lake Wahtopanah.

**HON. S. USKIW:** Okay, we've got it.

**MR. D. BLAKE:** If I can get a report on that at any time, that's fine.

I don't think I've got any other government campsites in my area, so I can't really ask too much.

What is the situation with the roadside camps. I was interested in the remarks the Member for Turtle Mountain with the Riverside - are there any roadside camping spots on No. 10, say, north of Dauphin on the way to Flin Flon? Are there any of those that have been closed or that aren't maintained now? I'm thinking of Red Deer River. I know the one at Mafeking was closed.

**HON. S. USKIW:** I'm advised that the Overflowing Campground was privatized and that person, of course, is also closing off the one across the road so that it handles all of the traffic in the one area.

**MR. D. BLAKE:** But Red Deer is still functioning and Overflowing River, they're still operating as they were?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The hour being 4:30, we are interrupting the proceedings of this committee for Private Members' Hour.

We shall return to this committee at 8:00 p.m.

### SUPPLY - HEALTH

**MR. CHAIRMAN, P. EYLER:** We are considering the Estimates of the Department of Health, Item 4.(a) Children's Psychiatric and Forensic Services, Chief Provincial Psychiatrist.

4.(a)(1) - the Member for Pembina.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** Mr. Chairman, before we proceed on this section, the Minister undertook to provide some answers last time we met. I wonder if he has that information now?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Minister of Health.

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** To refresh my memory - is that the comment on the French newspaper article? We haven't got that yet.

What was the other thing?

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** There was the numbers on your Mental Health, 15.25 a day per diems.

Well, Mr. Chairman, I believe the Minister was going to provide some further information on - I haven't got it written down here - the per diem in the mental health institutions that was newly imposed.

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** About the revenue?

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** Yes.

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** Oh, the revenue. I think I gave that. Mr. Chairman, I later on gave that information of 1.9, but it was global and I'd like to refresh my honourable friend's memory. I was assured that's what he wanted, the global thing.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** Mr. Chairman, since dealing with that section, and the Minister will possibly pardon an additional question on it, one of my colleagues was sent a notice. I think it was just addressed to the patient, to a resident at Brandon, who was under 65, signed by the Minister indicating the new regime of per diems. Within that was the - I don't have it with me - explanation that if your net income was below the 1,825 or whatever. I guess what I want to make sure, that has caused a certain amount of alarm needless to say. That's what stimulated that letter to come to the attention of my colleague, the Member for Virden.

Now, we discussed this issue, as I recall, quite thoroughly in the Estimates on the last two sections and the Minister indicated that there would be no per diems charged unless that individual who was a patient in residence was filing income tax, that was basically what it came down to.

Now, in view of the fact that some of those letters have at least gone out to some people wo, by the

Minister's definition last week, would not be required to pay the per diem, the question I have, and the Minister may want to defer this until his Salary, but did every resident get a letter such as this and, if that is the case, then it is obviously then is up to the resident to prove or the resident's spouse or family members to prove or to demonstrate to the institutions that, indeed, their income is below that \$1,825 or whatever the figure is? Am I making the proper assumption here?

I would just say to the Minister that if everyone got that kind of a letter, I think he can appreciate the concern it would raise immediately, that all patients would be subject to that even though it's explained that they wouldn't be if their income is below. It probably has caused some alarm amongst patients and families or least in families of patients there.

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** Mr. Chairman, during the weekend, this was brought to my attention and apparently there has been some misunderstanding and this is something that I wanted to discuss with staff. It might be that a further letter will have to go. I want to make it quite clear that this letter went to every single person. This was more or less advising the population of Manitoba that there would be a change in policy and that was it.

I happen to have this letter and it says, "If your personal annual income is less than \$1,825 you will not be expected to pay the daily fee." That's this \$150 a month that I was saying would be the same as the people now, how we treat the people that are on Old Age Pension and the Supplement.

It goes on to say, "If your personal annual income exceeds \$1,825, you will be expected to pay all or part of the fee according to your ability to pay." Your ability to pay would be depending - in other words, if they have instead of \$1,825, if they have \$2,000, well then they would pay \$175 of it, that's all. I think we'll have to consider maybe making this quite clear.

This is only announcing the policy and it is the intention of the Commission to be dealing and to be discussing this with every individual home or institutions. That will be made quite clear.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** Mr. Chairman, I appreciate what the Minister is saying today and obviously over the weekend he's received some of the same concerns that we have received on this side of the House. I suppose it stems from the fact that when you get a notice in the mail, you maybe don't always read the fine print. There is, I believe, some confusion going to emanate from the Minister's letter as to who is going to be charged the per diems and what the per diems are going to be. To avoid an onrush of complaints, I think probably, some attempt at clarification might be a reasonable move on the Minister or the Health Services Commission's part. As I follow through the Minister's answer, it's not only residents in Brandon and Selkirk, but residents throughout the province in various institutions, large or small, that probably would have received a similar letter and, no doubt, in some cases faced similar questions and concerns.

So, if the Minister could attempt to clarify, I think, would be most beneficial to those residents and the families.

Monday, 22 April, 1985

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** To complete the picture, Mr. Chairman, I think I should inform the committee that on the same date, all the chief executive officers of the hospitals, medical health centres also received a letter signed by the Executive Director of the Manitoba Health Services Commission. Then, there's been a meeting with the chief executive director already. There'll be more meetings.

Maybe to set the record straight, I should read this other letter:

"Dear Sir/Madam: This will advise you of government's decision to implement residential fees for chronic patients in acute and extended treatment hospitals and mental health facilities. The residential fees will apply (1) to residents of mental health centres who have been maintained for 365 days or more without discharge to the community (2) to hospital patients who in the opinion of their physicians are unlikely to be discharged.

"The residential fee to be based on ability to pay is to be levied against personal annual income only, not family income. It will be identical to that charged residents of personal care homes and panelled patients awaiting personal care home placement. In May, this will be \$15.25 a day subject to quarterly increase. Increases take effect after the quarterly escalation of Old Age Security Benefits plus federal and provincial supplements. The residual annual income of a personal care home resident receiving the maximum Old Age Security Benefit is approximately \$1,825.00. Under no circumstances will the individual be left with less than this amount after paying the residential charge.

"Copies of the Minister's letter notifying patients of the charge are enclosed. Will you please deliver one to each patient affected 30 days before collecting the residential fee. All patients to be charged must receive a minimum of 30 days notice before fees are collected.

"For patients in mental health facilities, the Minister or the Minister's designate may, under special circumstances, waive all or any part of the daily residential charge. In hospitals or extended treatment units, the Manitoba Health Services Commission will waive all or any part of the daily residential charge. Special application forms and protocol will be sent to you in the next few days covering this procedure.

"We are attaching an administrative guideline and a residential fee schedule for implementation of this regulation.

"If you have any questions . . . "and it states who they should get in touch with.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** Mr. Chairman, if my memory serves me correctly, the Minister made this announcement on April Fool's Day, and that would have to make the assumption that that letter, as well as the first letter that we were discussing prior to the letter from the executive director, those letters indicating policy change would have had to go out on the same day as the Minister's announcement, to comply with his 30-day notice.

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** March 29th.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** March 29th - good.

So the Minister recognizes there may be a problem and some confusion and will attempt, by some means,

through the Commission or through his office to, I believe, alleviate the confusion. Mr. Chairman, we can proceed now with the Provincial Psychiatrist.

Mr. Chairman, of the six staff positions, could the Minister indicate whether all are filled and whether any are filled on an acting basis and, for that matter, if the Minister had easily at hand the answer to those questions for the entire category that we're dealing with here, 4.(a), 4.(b) and 4.(c), it would save repeating the question, namely, whether there are any vacancies and if there are vacancies, are recruitment processes in place and, secondly, are there any positions filled on an acting basis. If so, will those positions be bulletined?

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** Mr. Chairman, under 4.(a)(b) and (c), there is only one and that is the Chief Provincial Psychiatrist, who's on contract. The others are all full-time employees. There are no vacancies in (a); there is one, a medical officer, in (b) Forensic Services, and the letter of offer has already gone to a special individual who we expect to fill it fairly soon; and on (c), out of those 20, there again there's one vacancy. It is the community health worker and this is in the process of being filled and all of them, as I said, are permanent employees except the Chief Psychiatrist who is on a contract.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** Mr. Chairman, in (b), to save asking the question when we get there, is the letter of offer a result of a bulletined job interview?

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** This is more than the advertising; this is also active recruiting and I understand this is from the recruiting.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** So, Mr. Chairman, is the Minister indicating that the vacancy in 4.(b) was bulletined, advertised and a number of applicants were interviewed, or did you use some other agency for recruitment? Was it through the normal Civil Service hiring process?

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** There's no outside firm participating in this. I'm informed that the advertising is practically permanent because we're always looking for psychiatrists, as I mentioned earlier, and this is also active recruiting and this is following that, that this letter was sent.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** Could the Minister indicate what is "active recruiting?"

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** I would say that you can advertise and bulletin and then you wait for people to enquire and active recruiting is that you go out of your way to, if you hear of anyone, that you get in touch with them and if you have any leads at all you go after them and apparently both are being done at this time.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** So, in other words, is the Minister indicating that to fill this position, there were not a number of applicants, basis the advertising or the bulletining of the vacancy and therefore there was not a Civil Service hiring panel, that this position is being filled presumably by someone within Forensic Services

actively recruiting an individual to come in and fill the position; and this position would then be filled without competition?

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** This is hardly the problem in this case. As I say, there is continued advertising and we don't seem to get the applications. It's not a question of being fair with the applications. We don't get them, so the Chief Psychiatrist has been in touch with all his counterparts in every province and so on to try to get names and this is how that name was brought about - lead, I should say; and then, of course, the Chief Psychiatrist gets in touch with them and this is the result of that contact.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** Mr. Chairman, it would appear to me that if this is an ongoing advertising process to try to fill vacancies for psychiatrists in the province and, if I understand the Minister's answers correctly, he's not overwhelmed with applicants to fill these positions, can the Minister indicate what is the problem? I suppose I could get into a political rhetoric debate with him about how wonderful things are in Manitoba. This doesn't appear to be the case for attracting this type of trained individual.

Obviously, there are people who have the training and the capability to fill the position because someone is being actively offered the job at present. What is the problem in terms of bringing these people into Manitoba? Is it our salary and benefit package? Is it working conditions? Is it lack of facility? What seems to be the problem in terms of recruitment of qualified individuals in Manitoba?

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** Mr. Chairman, first of all, the problem is not restricted to Manitoba, it's a problem that's all across the nation. Some of the reasons are that there's a scarcity of them; others are that in every province they would much prefer to practice on their own; it's much more lucrative than to work for the government and one of the other issues is that there's no way that we can really compete with the private sector because it is more tempting or more lucrative to practice in that way.

Mr. Chairman, a political explanation would not help because that has been the concern over a change in government; it's been the same thing, so it's not a question of who's in power. I think this is something that we must share the stride or the improvement if there's any that were made and share the concern, because as I say it's all across the country and it has been for a number of years. There is a shortage of them and that's why we're exploring ways of trying to have some kind of course that would qualify some of our people here, maybe general practitioners. That's why we looked at the line that we'll have between Brandon and Winnipeg, in fact there is a committee also that is looking at what would be the best way to improve the situation.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** Mr. Chairman, in view of the fact that at least one of the considerations to attracting staffing for these positions is monetary, can I ask the Minister whether people or applicants filling these positions will be full time civil servants with no

opportunity to have a part-time private practice? Is that a restriction that the department puts in place on departmental staff?

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** That, Mr. Chairman, hasn't been the experience of the department. Again, as I say, for a number of years even full time staff have been going out on their own time and it's been kind of a point of contention; but they've gone out on their own and earned another \$30,000 or so. Now these people are offered to start with around \$70,000, working five days a week or so, at the proper hours. There's no overtime unless it's paid at a pretty high rate. There's a question of the benefits, of the pension and the time off for sick leave and all these things, so it's pretty high. As I say, they have the facilities to earn more money, so it is quite difficult. That's what I meant when I'm saying that each of them are going in their own practice, on their own, so you can just imagine how lucrative it must be compared to this, because that's not bad with that kind of salary and all the benefits of being a public servant.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** But an individual filling this position, I take it from the Minister's last answer, is not confined to Civil Service remuneration alone, that if he so desired after work hours, on weekends, could supplement his income through part-time, private practice. That opportunity exists?

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** It's not something that I personally would like to see as a regular policy of government but because of the situation, because of the urgency of filling some of these positions and also because of the shortage, this is something - and there's been some complaints in some areas - but this is something that we can close our eyes to.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** But the Minister is willing to accept an individual to fill this position who would supplement his income with private sector practice?

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** That's correct.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** Mr. Chairman, I understand the Chief Provincial Psychiatrist is on contract and a few questions in regard to that particular position as filled by contract.

What is the duration of the contract and in terms of duties, the explanation provided in the Estimates is part way there? Can one make the assumption that the Chief Provincial Psychiatrist is highly involved in the co-ordination of delivery of Mental Health Programs, not only institutionally, but also in terms of new initiatives such as Welcome Home and community based Mental Health Programs and involvement with the facility in Winkler, for instance, as well as the facility in Portage which are, I believe, outside of this department's funding? Is that a fair assumption of the role of the Chief Provincial Psychiatrist?

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** Mr. Chairman, the contract is with the University of Manitoba. We are paying the University of Manitoba for his service. In fact, I guess we get the equivalent of a full day's work from him but

it is for part-time work. What we pay the University of Manitoba is around \$80,000 and we've just renegotiated the contract for this year just lately.

First of all, he has nothing to do with mental retardation or Portage at all, nothing at all. It is in the mental health. There's a lot of things I guess we can say. I guess he's a general trouble-shooter and adviser to the department and myself. He liaises also with the university and that's easy because he's involved with the university also on that. He advises us and works with the committees. He has been in research and now is bringing in those programs and introducing these programs and of course he acts as a liaison many times between us with regard to mental health, the medical question between the two institutions and ourselves and also is involved and will be involved also in setting up the community residences and setting up the policies in prevention and in the community mental health also.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** Mr. Chairman, is the Provincial Chief Psychiatrist involved in the ongoing problems that crop up periodically at Brandon, in terms of having psychiatrists on staff? Is that part of the recruiting? But I'm assuming that your Chief Psychiatrist is the one that's doing some of the recruiting indeed, even for Forensic Services, so what I'm looking for is whether there is any light at the end of the tunnel in Brandon that Dr. Moggey would be replaced as soon as possible after June 7th, which I believe is her resignation date, and if the Minister could provide that kind of information it would be appreciated.

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** Mr. Chairman, first of all we're advertising in both Canada and in the United Kingdom. We have one who is a resident in training now and we'll have two coming onstream fairly soon and I haven't got the particulars but I'm told that we might have a lead in somebody to replace Dr. Moggey, but I haven't the details on that yet. I don't want to give the wrong impression that we've got that problem solved.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** Mr. Chairman, I would hope that we can finish this resolution this afternoon. I may not be able to discuss all the things I want to discuss, it may be better discussed in Health Services Commission. But with the Minister's indulgence, if we bounce around from one section to the other and then pass the whole works, if that would fit with his plans this afternoon, hopefully, we can get through this line this afternoon.

Mr. Chairman, is this an appropriate opportunity to discuss some of the problems in the acute care psychiatric beds within our hospitals, or should we make that discussion under MHSC? Do you want to do that under MHSC? — (Interjection) — Okay.

Another thing, can we discuss with the Chief Provincial Psychiatrist here now, some of the potential problems that surfaced in the paper - oh, mid-February - about a potential exodus from Manitoba particularly of our child psychiatrists? I know the Minister has a number of concerns about that and I think those concerns are shared by most Manitobans.

Could the Minister indicate whether, since the middle of February when this problem was very much in the news and very much in the public focus, whether the

Minister has been able to meet and resolve some of the potential problems that were looming on the horizon for the psychiatrists in general and the psychiatrists with a very special focus and practice in child psychiatry?

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** Mr. Chairman, maybe we should address the last question first. This is something that even at the time when these articles were appearing and the criticism was forthcoming, the situation is that we had been informed, were aware, that a program was supposed to be developed at St. Boniface Hospital for children's psychiatry. That has never been submitted to us, so it's very difficult to agree or disagree on anything that hasn't been presented to us. We understand that this should be forthcoming very soon.

Any requests that I've had with the psychiatrists, I've always made it quite clear that I was ready - and I've had meetings with some of them; I've invited meetings with others, this has come just lately, and that should follow my Estimates. When they want to talk about the medical care and so on, I told them I would not, there would be no point in discussing the extra billing.

Now we want to look at this fairly, we must recognize that there is an in-thing group of physicians, and that the most vocal - by that I mean the psychiatrists and they have been organizing a very strong campaign to fight against the introduction of legislation that would no longer allow extra billing.

This is a decision of government. As the members of committee know, this was all ready introduced for Second Reading and it has been adjourned by my honourable friend, who I understand is waiting until the Estimates are finished to participate in the debate. That is the situation.

Now, I think that it is very difficult. If some of these people wish to leave, there is not too much we can do. I wouldn't want to start talking about income and so on, but without naming anybody, I certainly could give an idea, and I think I have. I certainly would not be averse to doing that, to give him an idea of what some of these psychiatrists - in fact some of them who are talking about leaving - what they're making here. I think that that is being very fair.

At no time did we refuse to discuss the situation, but again I want to put everything on the table. It has been very very difficult to do that. I am not a doctor. The College of Physicians and Surgeons should give us some directives and go for the standard.

We have the situation where some of them - first of all, the medical profession themselves, I think I'd want guidelines there. The standards, this is something that should be reviewed by the medical profession and the College of Physicians and Surgeons. Even amongst themselves, the psychiatrists, there is a diversion of opinion. One or two of them feel that nobody in the province knows anything about child care in medical health, which is related by others.

So it is a very difficult situation. I'm not, as I say, the college, nor can I play God and decide who's right and so on. We're trying to get the best information possible.

There will be some meetings with psychologists also. In certain provinces there is part of that, at least, that is delivered by psychologists and we will be looking at that also.



I don't know what else we can do. We'd like to keep all our doctors. If there are some, that for some reason, you can't tie people down. I don't imagine there will be that many leaving. I can't imagine that, because I don't think there's a chance to better themselves that much in other provinces.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** Mr. Chairman, I'm pleased with the Minister's optimism and would ask him if that optimism is based on any recent meetings that he's had to discuss some of the issue that they no doubt as a group, the psychiatrists as a group, have with various government initiatives and moves.

Now the Minister may have indicated whether he's met with them recently or not but, Mr. Chairman, I think a meeting would be beneficial, because I don't know whether the harmonious relations are fostered in the province when, you know, on one day an article is written basically that there are some problems, and whether they are 100 percent legitimate or not is of course always subject to discussion.

My concern is that the Minister in responding, and I realize that the Minister has no control over the headlines that appear in newspaper articles, but when those individual physicians, the psychiatrists, are faced with a headline expressing some of their concerns, faced with the headline such as was in the Winnipeg Free Press, February 18th, "Desjardins Attacks Doctors' Ethics", I would suspect that that isn't conducive to an atmosphere of sitting down and finding out whether the problems are, No. 1, very legitimate; and No. 2, whether they're resolvable within the framework of the Minister's new legislation, which the government will pass, banning extra billing.

I suppose that the only way one can determine whether those problems are legitimate and real, No. 1; and No. 2, resolvable, would be to sit down and discuss the problem with them. I have a copy of a letter from a recruitment agency in the States right now that's once again actively beginning recruitment of Manitoba physicians. I don't know whether that is stimulated by any particular action or reaction within the medical community in Manitoba, but it is a time when I think we don't need to necessarily jeopardize a growing expertise in Manitoba, particularly in the field of child psychiatry.

I would ask the Minister if he's had an opportunity, either himself or members of his staff, to sit down and discuss the problems as indicated by the psychiatrist in an atmosphere which would not allow them to feel as if they were less than valuable to the Province of Manitoba basis headlines where their ethics are questioned. I don't think that's the kind of atmosphere the Minister wants to foster co-operation with the medical profession in Manitoba. I would ask him if he has been able to undertake any discussions over the last two months with members of the psychiatric profession to see whether their problems are resolvable within the Minister's policy framework?

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** Mr. Chairman, I think that there are two different points to discuss here. There is the question of extra billing or no extra billing, and then there is the question of the psychiatrist, the medical part of it, and also the child psychiatry.

There is no doubt that we, as politicians, are criticized quite often and I guess the best thing, that we're supposed to be fair game, not say anything. Everything is fair as long as you attack the politicians, but everything is unfair if you try to set the record straight. I don't necessarily subscribe to that.

The situation is that it is obvious, they made no points about it, there is a discussion and there is a battle - I don't think I can find a better word for it - within the MMA or a group, mostly psychiatrists, who are trying to displace the MMA, who are not satisfied, who are saying, well, if there is that kind of good relationship at the MMA there must be something wrong because the MMA should be there to fight the government.

There is also the situation where some of these people have been saying - and remember these are people who come and see the doctor because of mental stress or concern, not a physical problem usually - some of these people have been told that they've been given a bunch of numbers to phone and it's the end, there won't be anything at all because the government is forcing all the psychiatrists outside the province by not allowing extra billing. My statement and my honourable friend is right, I'm not responsible for the headlines, the statement that I have repeated after weeks of criticism and open letters from some of these people. It was obvious it was an organized campaign to fight this legislation on extra billing that I did call a press conference to set things straight. There's a long letter that I can send a copy to my honourable friend. He probably has it, a copy of my letter to a Dr. Wood. It does just that. I set up the press conference to separate the two, to say there's a question of extra billing, fine; there's a government policy. This is a discussion that with this announcement that was made a long time ago and we accept full responsibility.

Then there were a lot of things that were said that were not correct on the question. First of all, we've had meetings since then and we're still continuing meetings between the staff and Dr. Barry Miller who is at the St. Boniface Hospital. I understand that he agrees now that we've gone as far as we can with what we have to discuss. We've never been presented with his study. He's been commissioned to prepare a study on child psychiatry.

We've been in close contact also with Dr. Prosen whom we've used quite extensively as a consultant in that also and with our chief. There's always contact with the Chief Psychiatrist.

On this question, we've never refused to meet with anybody to discuss the medical part of it; we've encouraged that. I think that's fine. We're caught in the middle of a battle between the MMA. By the way, some of the members have officially, other doctors have told us that they question the ethics of those people that are scaring the hell out of their patients who are coming to see them to be treated for stress and so on. I'm not saying it's the majority of them, but this is something that was done and it's something that I felt that we should warn the public. It's okay to just take this criticism and so on and allow them carte blanche to criticize and make false statements, and that was wrong.

As I say, there is a battle between them. The MMA, in general, is probably the best relationship we ever had. They are not responsible; I've tried to make that

point. Somebody said that I give the kiss of death to the MMA, but I'm saying that it wasn't their fault. Nevertheless, I felt that this is something they were presented with a fact; they did not exchange anything. What they did is say, fine, okay, that's gone, it's no use fighting about it. In the meantime, we should have something else and they brought in this thing that some of them believe is so important. That is binding arbitration, something that they wanted to have three years ago, but the situation was a little different.

The only thing, if there was any bartering, I guess, and I don't think there was. There were some discussions and if it is, well, then everything is in favour of the medical profession, and in favour I would hope of the public of Manitoba. We've agreed that they would work with us on certain research committees to help us to see if we can turn this thing around, not to lose it. There has been some discussion. I'm sure they welcome that and they've always wanted to be part of the planning and advice, consulting with the government and the Minister and that is being done. They're coming at this with a very open mind. They want not to jeopardize; of course, they have a responsibility representing their members. They've talked about binding arbitration and they came back, although we've had an agreement in principle and it was agreed by the larger number as in a democracy of the MMA.

We've even, at their request, looking with the possibility of amending certain things that we could hold them to. I think they've made, that is, some points that seem to be acceptable. We're reviewing this to see if we can facilitate matters and make it better for them. As I say, it's a very delicate situation, some that went all out in their battle with the MMA represent them. In fact, they've gone to court as my honourable friend knows to prevent the MMA from discussing with us.

I might say that I met with them on a number of occasions - not lately - but as a group I met with the Manitoba psychiatrists. They form certainly the largest percentage, part of the independent physicians; the Association of Independent Physicians. That was done on a number of occasions. We've done everything we could to try to work with them.

We've refuted also many of the statements that were made in the letter; that was only one. They would talk about the government being responsible, to look over the doctor's shoulder and so on, because one of them was called in by the committee of his peers to look at his practice. Well, if that isn't done - they were criticizing that. That's done in every province and if that wasn't done, you can just imagine the mixup that we would have if anybody could do whatever they wanted, if there were no rules. That is the committee of their own.

They were talking about the fee schedule and so on, to change that from the psychiatrists. I informed them also that that was not our responsibility. The MMA always wanted to do that; the medical profession wanted to do that and all they had to do is apply to the MMA. There were a few other things. If my friend is interested, I'll send him a copy of this letter I sent Dr. Wood that certainly makes certain points.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** Mr. Chairman, can the Minister basis the discussions that he's had over the last little

while, indicate with reasonable assurance, that Manitoba's numbers of psychiatric doctors will not decrease; we won't see a loss of them. As I say, back in February there was some concern that we would lose up to five or seven child psychiatrists, and that was to Alberta, and the possibility was certainly there with recruitment from organizations in the United States that we may per chance lose some of our other general psychiatrists, if that's the proper terminology to use. Basis his recent discussions with the psychiatrist, is the Minister reasonably certain that the problems identified and in the process of being resolved will not culminate in the loss of any of our psychiatric profession in the province?

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** Mr. Chairman, I'm sure the honourable member doesn't expect me to give him assurance, a firm commitment that this will not happen, it's happened for years, without this concern of this change in legislation. I can tell my honourable friend and the members of the committee that we probably have more doctors in residence now than ever before. We have over 30 and we've never had this number before.

I can tell you this, that discussing with the dean at the university, the Dean of Medicine at the university who happens to be a psychiatrist, and with our own staff and so on, that they are quite a bit encouraged for the future. We feel that this is a political decision. That, as far as I'm concerned, has nothing to do with the practice of medicine. It is some doctors that happen to be in this group, more than anybody else, who are fighting to stop this legislation on preventing extra billing; that's not going to happen. I don't think my honourable friend is advocating that we resort to, call it what you want, I'm hesitant to use words in case they find their way in the headlines tomorrow, but the situation is that we have to be fair with everybody, if that is a decision that we made, we have to live with it.

There are other things that we're ready to discuss. That's a possibility also that we might look at the issue of psychoanalysis because that is one of the concerns, they feel that takes a long time. It might be that we might look at deassuring this and, again, I'm not announcing any government policy but this is something that we might look at and it might be that if it's deinsured, of course, well then they can charge whatever they wish; it's not extra billing; extra billing is only for something that has been insured. So that is a possibility, something that has been suggested to us by some people.

There's not that many that are qualified. There's nothing that I would like better than to sit with some of the psychiatrists and say, fine, let's look at the methods, to have some kind of an agreement where we could go ahead and say, all right, you can get so much of your fees covered by the MMA, but only so much and then the rest will be on very generous sessions and sessional fees and that they could, at least, practice downtown with some private patients, but give us some of their time with the youngsters and with their needs. If there's a genuine interest there and I have no reason to think they're not sincere in trying to help the people of Manitoba and the youngsters,

well maybe they will accept some of their responsibility and are ready to discuss these things.

We're ready to do that, as I say, we've never rejected that, there's ongoing discussions that are going on now, but there was, which in a democracy is done quite often, there was an organized campaign by these groups, they made no bones about it, they were above board. They mentioned that, and the president was Dr. Gordon, and they've had press conferences and they've done everything they could to change the situation, and they had warned me. They had warned me; we had some very friendly meetings. We agree on certain things, but they told me, fine, they understood and I made it quite clear that I wasn't going to keep on arguing, that it was a given, and they said, yes, but we reserve the right to do everything we can to get you to change your mind or to stop this legislation.

As I say, that's fair enough, but it wouldn't be fair that they have *carte blanche*, that we can close our eyes, have all kinds of accusations, some of them untrue or misleading and not say a word or the minute that we try to set the record straight that we're accused of doctor bashing, I think that would be very unfortunate and unfair.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** Mr. Chairman, in the Minister's letter that he's just given to me, indicates indicates on the second page, third paragraph: "I also understand that you were dissatisfied with the hourly rate that MHSC has approved for psychotherapy. Again, I should like to point out that this rate was established by the MMA, and incidentally is the fifth highest rate across the country."

Mr. Chairman, I'd like to ask the Minister, on the basis of how recent an analysis he has drawn the conclusion that the rate paid in Manitoba is the fifth highest across Canada?

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** This was based on the information that I requested and received from the Commission in February of this year.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** Mr. Chairman, I cannot authenticate the information that I received, other than it was given to me by a psychiatrist who had just returned from the national conference some weeks ago, and the information that he had given to me indicates that Manitoba is the lowest paying province, out of Nova Scotia, British Columbia, Ontario, Alberta, New Brunswick and Saskatchewan. He was unable to provide me with figures from the Province of Quebec, Prince Edward Island or Newfoundland. Not only was the information that he gave to me, approximately a month ago, indicating that the hourly rate - and I believe the hourly rate for Manitoba reflected the 3 percent special addition to the rate that was provided by the Health Services Commission, half-million dollar additional block funding, if you will, to the MMA in order that they could internally attempt to remove some of the perceived inadequacies in their rate schedules to different disciplines of their profession, but the information as of about a month ago would indicate Manitoba at the lowest rate per hour of all those provinces that I mentioned, and that when you consider a billing technique which I don't particularly

comprehend, but nevertheless, as it was explained to me, that the Manitoba billing on an hourly rate is the basis of a 60-minute hour, whereas other provinces, for instance, New Brunswick, Alberta, Ontario and Nova Scotia base their hourly rate on a 46-minute time period with a patient, and Saskatchewan differs somewhat in that it has its billing hour at 53 minutes.

Given the information that we are the lowest of those seven provinces, in terms of the hourly rate to begin with, and add in the factor that hourly billing is based on a longer period of time, it would put our rates even further out of whack. To give you an example, for instance with Nova Scotia, which apparently, according to the information provided to me, was the highest rate as of a month ago in Canada at \$99.90 per hour, which was basis a 46-minute hour, and if you roughly add one-third to the rate to come up with a 60-minute hourly billing rate as we have in Manitoba, that would make the Nova Scotia rate somewhere in the neighbourhood of \$130 compared to the newly adjusted rate in Manitoba of \$66.80.

The disparity decreases with other provinces, and Saskatchewan and Manitoba are fairly close - well, Saskatchewan and Manitoba are as close as any if my rate schedules are accurate and I have not checked these out with any central information such as the Canadian Medical Association - but were given to me as very recent information coming from a national conference and making the assumption - and the Minister can correct me if I'm wrong - given the assumption that this rate structure sets Manitoba at the lowest rate for the psychiatrists for psychoanalysis across Canada, lower than New Brunswick, Saskatchewan, Alberta, B.C., Ontario and Nova Scotia, and particularly lower when you consider the time billing requirement, or the time billing guideline, if you will, where some provinces have a higher hourly rate for a 46-minute patient attention, I guess it would be - 46 minutes with a patient, they're allowed to bill the full hour - it would seem to me that quite possibly the attraction, if you will, to our psychiatrists in Manitoba may well be quite great in other parts of the province, let alone possibly into the United States.

I would assume, and I know the Minister will probably indicate that the Manitoba Medical Association are the ones recommending the fee schedules, but if this information which is purportedly quite current, is correct, I can see that the Minister has quite possibly a problem on his hands in terms of Manitoba being a fair distance behind the pack in terms of compensation and fee schedules for psychiatrists in the province. If the Minister would like, I could provide him the information I have in terms of the fee schedules and he could have those checked out by the department.

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** Mr. Chairman, I would welcome this information to see if we have it. There is no doubt that things could change from month to month. I find it difficult also to understand. I always thought that an hour was 60 minutes, and I always felt that Manitobans should receive a full hour of care, but I do agree that we should compare apples with apples and oranges with oranges, and I think we'd want to check these figures the same as they check ours, and that's a possibility. So I will welcome this information to see if we have that in our possession.

Now I think that things will change also in this area. I could say that with the agreement we've had for this year that there is besides the small increase that we've had for the medical profession for fees, there was also half-a-million dollars to correct some of these things. I'm told that the MMA had taken out about \$100,000, which might not seem that much, but to correct that.

But the important point that was made by my honourable friend, that is not the responsibility of government. The total amount is the responsibility of government. Now I could tell you and there is no way that I am publicly going to mention any specialty. I can tell you of specialties that there is no doubt in anybody's mind that they are at the top of the ladder, they're paid the best, and there is no talk about reducing their pay. I think they've tried to get certain money to say, okay, maybe you can do like they do in government, red circle that and say, okay, fine, until the others have caught up.

That is a tough decision, but that has to do with the fairness between the different groups. That has always been their request that the MMA has insisted on doing, and there is the mechanism to do that.

What I have said in this letter is fine. Yes, I did say that our information tells us that you're not that badly off. But in any event, if you want to appeal, if you're not satisfied, go to the Commission and tell them to go to bat for you - not the Commission, I mean the MMA - and the MMA are also saying that they want binding arbitration. So if they arrange things internally, and then if they're not satisfied with the procedure of what is offered in future years, that's exactly what they want to do, to be able to go to binding arbitration and say, fine, we've had to compensate for that. That's one of the areas we said where we are not satisfied with the adjustment, that some are definitely overpaid, and others might be underpaid, that's a possibility. I don't want to argue that.

All I was saying in that letter, because they were blaming and he was blaming everything on the government, that is was all the government's fault. Some of the responsibility and some of the things that the MMA in the past and now also are saying, that it is their responsibility and they intend to deal with it. We're not interested in breaking up the MMA, or in dividing the medical practitioners in this province. We are suggesting that this is something that they should straighten out themselves.

Now if there is any more detail than that in general of the practice and if it's nearly finished, I wouldn't mind that, but if there is more detail, that could be taken up under Medicare also, the principle of the thing, but I would welcome this information and then we will check to see what we have. Then what we would do is make sure that the MMA has this information, but this is something that they would have and they wish to deal with.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** The information I have indicates that in Nova Scotia the hourly rate is \$99.90. They base their hour on a 46-minute billing time; secondly, it appears to be British Columbia with an \$82 hourly rate, basis I understand at 60 minutes, so that may rearrange the - I'm giving it in order of hourly billing - it may be rearranged in terms of by the time you factor out the

time differentials, B.C. may be lower than second by a considerable amount.

Ontario apparently has a billing rate of \$80.10, once again based on a 46-minute billing hour; Alberta is at \$78 with a 46-minute billing hour; New Brunswick, \$72.20 a 46-minute billing hour; Saskatchewan at \$67 with a 53-minute billing hour; and Manitoba at - and I believe this is the adjusted figure basis - the approximate 3 percent increase basis - the half-million dollar discretionary lump sum, \$66.80 in Manitoba per hour for a full 60 minutes.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I don't think we need to prolong the discussion and the debate at this stage of the game on the psychiatrists. We could pick this up later on during MHSC, when the Minister might have that information and can either verify the numbers and the billing procedures, and we could pursue the discussion at that time.

I have to rearrange my material here. Mr. Chairman, if I could go for a moment to the Forensic Services section. I'll tell you what, before we go to the Forensic Services, maybe we could finish off some of the questions of detail on the Chief Provincial Psychiatrist section, Section (a).

The Other Expenditures are up somewhat. Could the Minister indicate, outside of normal office operating costs, what the nature of the Other Expenditures on this line are? And, secondly, could the Minister indicate, the \$25,000 for professional training, whether, No. 1, that was expended in last year's budget, fiscal year ending March 31, '85, and who undertook the Professional Training at the cost to the department last year? Could the Minister indicate the nature of the Professional Training Program that this section plans to undertake this year?

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** I'll give a short definition of the program; I think that's the best way. Funds are provided for a range of psychiatric and mental health training activities. These include specific training for mental health workers, training of general principles of psychiatric care, and training of residents in psychiatry in North and rural mental health consultation. These funds are utilized to promote a general knowledge of psychiatric treatment techniques, so that services are more available to people within their local community.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** That's under the Professional Training.

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** Then I believe there was another question about the expenditure. Yes, the 4.6 was the increase required to offset funds transferred to the Manitoba Health Services Commission for fringe benefits related to transfer of the positions to the Eden Mental Health Center.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** Could the Minister provide a little more detail for that last answer, please?

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** The Commission took over the funding of that program last year and apparently there wasn't enough money transferred, and this is what we're doing now for the fringe benefits, to allow for the fringe benefits of the staff. So there is an additional transfer

this year of 4.6 from the Commission and that's to make up for it.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** The Minister's indicating that he's got \$4,600 more this year because it was under-budgeted last year in terms of staff benefits on transfer of a program service. What program service were we talking about here?

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** There was more money this year transferred from the department to the Commission to meet the needs of this first initial transfer of responsibility and funding from the department to the Commission re the Eden Mental Health; and to make up for this money that came from the department we're asking for 4.6. In other words, we needed more money and it had to go from the department to the Commission. Now the department is asking for it.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** Mr. Chairman, does that follow through then in the reconciliation statement? Is that transfer explained in the details on the reconciliation statement?

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** Mr. Chairman, we'll take the question as notice. It would seem that my honourable friend is right, that it should show up here.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** Mr. Chairman, I don't have last year's Estimate book here, but I'm still unclear as to exactly what program function was transferred to Eden out of this appropriation last year. If the Minister could provide a brief explanation, I'll take a look at last year's Estimates book over the supper hour and maybe it'll be clearer to myself as well.

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** I'll try again, Mr. Chairman. Previous to last year, the funding of the Eden Mental Health Center was done by the department, not our staff. It was like an outside agency. Now there was a change and that funding responsibility was transferred to the Commission.

Last year I'm sure - we'd have to look at last year - but I would imagine that showed up because there was clearly a responsibility taken over by the Commission and the funds that go with it. Apparently we didn't transfer enough last year and it couldn't cover - what it says in my notes - the fringe benefits, for instance, of that staff, although as I say it was like a grant and this is being done now. So I don't know why, if it was hidden, I'll try to get the explanation of that.

I don't know if it's because of the small amount that it doesn't show here, but we'll give that information. But the program was the Eden Mental Health Center that was transferred, the responsibility, from the department to the Commission. It would be just like if we made the change that I mentioned earlier at Brandon and Selkirk, and if they became the responsibility of the Commission we'd have to transfer all the funds to it.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** I look forward to the explanation after the supper hour.

Mr. Chairman, can the Minister indicate whether the Chief Provincial Psychiatrist is working on any legislation that he'll be bringing forward this Session?

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** Just as I mentioned earlier, that he chairs the committee that is reviewing the mental health legislation, but that won't take place this Session. It won't be ready for this Session.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** Unfortunately, I wasn't in the House on Wednesday or Thursday when the Attorney-General introduced his omnibus bill which will allow us to comply with the sections under the Charter of Rights.

Is it safe to presume that when we see that bill there are going to be some amendments in the omnibus bill which will make The Mental Health Act and other acts comply with the Charter of Rights?

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** That's correct. These bills would be of a housekeeping nature, as I mentioned earlier during the debate, and that could come this year, but the major legislation, if we need a bill of our own, this will not be proceeded with this year.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** On Forensic Services, can the Minister give an indication as to whether there is - a trend, I guess, is what I'm looking for - if there is a trend in increased demand for Forensic Services to determine if young offenders, and offenders in general, are more and more getting themselves into trouble, if you will, because of psychiatric problems? Is that a growing and identifiable trend? Is that a trend that appears to be on the increase?

Secondly, whilst the Minister is answering that question, I am not familiar with the facilities that are used for - I'm looking for the right kind of word that sound appropriate in the circumstances. Where are disturbed offenders kept for the period of their analysis, and what facility is used for that purpose?

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** Mr. Chairman, I can give some information, and the committee can make their own deduction as to the increased need. The Adult Forensic Services, the outpatient assessment in 1983-84 was 106; this year, 110. The in-patient admissions were at 115 for 1983-84; and 124 this year. Headingley Correctional Institute, 774 in 1983-84 to 894, so there's been an increase of not quite 150 from 995 to 1,128.

The Children's Forensic Services, the referrals through courts, probation services in 1983-84, 132; of course, the 1983-84 is the actual, and 1984-85, I'm talking about an estimate - that was 132. The estimate in 1984-85 is 137; other referrals, 51 actual in 1983-84, 42 estimated in 1984-85; follow-up sessions, 76 and 69, so from 259 to 248. All in all, it seems to be the same thing.

The adults are placed in the Health Sciences Centre, and the youths in the Youth Centre for Adolescents, the new facilities that we have. There is some community assessment for youth also.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** Mr. Chairman, could the Minister provide me with the Headingley numbers, again? I believe he mentioned three years for Headingley, could he give me those figures again, please?

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** No, I mentioned two years. Headingley Correctional Institute, that's for the Adult Forensic Services, the actual in 1983-84 was 774, and the estimated 1984-85 figures are 894.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** Mr. Chairman, can the Minister indicate the gravity of the offence that, particularly this group in the Headingley Institution for the Adult Forensic Services, has the Minister got any indication as to the nature of the offence? Are these physical offences, i.e. abuse, fights, disturbing the peace, and getting into theoretically fistfights or other activities, or is this an increase in crime, burglary, etc., etc.? Has he got that kind of an indication?

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** No, the only thing that we can go by that the definition for the stay in Headingley is for a sentence of two years or less. We might relate it to the seriousness of the offence, and that's all that we would have. I think that probably the Minister of Corrections might be able to give you that information later on.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** Mr. Chairman, without doing a quick calculation, but it would appear to me that we are looking at approximately an 18 percent increase in the demand for Adult Forensic Services at Headingley. With the exception of two categories in the numbers, if I heard them all correctly in the Minister's rundown, the demand and the number of people interviewed, if you will, by Forensic Services as disturbed offenders is on the increase.

Now, generally, that trend indicates a higher degree of social unrest. With an 18 percent increase for adult offenders over the actual given in 1983-84, to the estimate for this current year - and estimates have a habit of being reasonably close - one could assume, I think, fairly safely that the 18 percent or thereabout increase would be correct. If this is a temporary blip, if you will, on the curve then there may well not be any cause for alarm, but if this has been a trend which seems to be growing, then I think the Minister and, not only this Minister as Minister of Health, but the Minister of Community Services might take some alarm at that kind of a growth, because that would indicate to me one of two things and, once again, it depends upon the nature of the offence.

It could indicate that there are too many people out of work, unemployed, and have been that way for a number of months, possibly even years, and they no longer find they're able to cope with normal lifestyles and end up, either displaying violent behaviour, or indeed breaking the law in ways that they wouldn't have considered had they been living within a so-called normal lifestyle of being employed, etc., etc.

Secondly, and I don't make this as the most probable explanation, I think the former would be more probable than the latter, but secondly, there are always, I suppose, the critics around that would try to point to statistics such as this to indicate that, in the move to make community living a normal part of the mental health treatment program, that in bringing people into the community, sometimes from the institutions, sometimes just making community living available to them, that there is not sufficient staff backup to provide the range of services to make sure that some of these people indeed do not get into trouble for the first time or, in the cases of some, no doubt, don't become repeat offenders.

As I say, I think more likely the first scenario would be more apt to be the cause, but if there was an

indication that a number of these people are repeat offenders it could legitimately draw the criticism that I made indirectly to the Minister a couple nights ago about the number of dollars that are going into Community Health Program delivery. I suppose the Minister might be able to determine whether either of those scenarios is the correct one. But, more importantly, in not having a series of years on which to base this, you can't just base a trendline on two years of statistics, that's highly inaccurate.

But I'm sure the Minister will, no doubt, review the trend lines and if that trend seems to be on the increase, I think he and his colleagues, in particular the Minister of Community Services, might want to see what are the causes or factors of that because it has fairly immense implications for our correctional institutions in their capacity and, indeed, for the general public who want assurance that there aren't people desperate and engaging in desperate acts because of the poor economic circumstances, unemployment or other personal problems that they might have.

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** Mr. Chairman, I suspect that there is certainly some reason or some cause that the two points covered by my honourable friend have been part of the cause, and I intend to double-check this. I think he's forgotten and hasn't mentioned the most important cause, in other words, the No. 1 cause.

First of all, dealing with those two, there is no doubt. I think we all know that with more unemployment and more difficult times, you are going to have more crime. There is no doubt about that. People are desperate and so on and there is more reason, I guess, and they might want to finance their bad custom, in desperation, also.

Now on the other thing, that might be the possibility, not as bad as it was, but I think you remember during this debate on mental health that I talked about the possibility of not being fined, of wanting to get people out of institutions not being ready in the community. I think my friend covered that; and then you haven't got the staff or the will of the community to accept these responsibilities.

But what I am told is the main reason for that, and I am very pleased to say that it is the main reason and I hope that after we've double-checked that it's still the main reason, is that we have improved the services and that is the cost, not necessarily that there is a big jump in more admissions to the jails, but because of the improved services. But we will double-check and I think that it, of course, could be discussed more fully during the Estimates of my colleague, the Minister responsible for Corrections.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** Mr. Chairman, under Other Expenditures, there is an increase once again here of approximately 15 percent. Can the Minister indicate - and this is under Forensic Services - the nature of the increase in Other Expenditures?

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** Is that on 4.(b)(2)?

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** Yes.

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** It provides for non-salary costs of operating Adults and Children's Forensic Services,

which you know was opened not that long ago. The bulk of the operating costs is for sessional fees paid to the two psychiatrists engaged for Children's Forensic Services.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** Now, presumably those are not salaried employees but psychiatrists that are on contract and it's to, say, private sector psychiatrists or private practising psychiatrists? The Minister indicates that's correct.

Mr. Chairman, in terms of the Children's Psychiatric Services, the Minister doesn't indicate an increase in the staff complement this year over last year but yet there is a fairly sizable increase in the Salaries category. Is this a result of reclassification within this department? If the Minister goes back, there is a very modest increase in salaries in most divisions except for additional people.

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** Is this for Forensic?

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** No, I am in Children's Psychiatric Services, 4.(c)(1). The Salaries are increasing from 825,500 to 911,500 with no staff increase.

Can the Minister indicate the nature of the increase?

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** First of all, let me finish. I should have added under the previous thing, on Other Expenditures, there is also an increase in the workload for a security service of \$24,000.00.

Now on the Psychiatric Services, the Salaries - that's dealing with the children - the adjustment reflects the classification change of position, annual increments and adjustment of staff turnover allowance, etc. It's the same number and so on; it is just for those adjustments. It's \$8,000, right - yes.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** Well, Mr. Chairman, that has been the reason given for salary variances in other lines in the Estimates, but yet this represents approximately a 12 percent increase in salary for the same number of staff and the difference here is greater than any other section. Have there been people reclassified in here so that they are now in a higher salary bracket?

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, we were talking awhile ago of the competition between these jobs in comparing with provinces and so on. There were four medical doctors in this, and I think that's the main reason why this is down, because of the schedule that we have for moving from one to the other.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** So then, in other words, in this section it's fair to say that the Minister has had to advance people through the salary ranges and through the classification categories of the Civil Service in order to better reflect their earning powers outside of the Province of Manitoba.

**HON. L. DESJARDINS:** I am told that these are people that we've tried to recruit. Now we have filled all the positions and that's the main reason because we are talking about professionals that are fairly highly paid. It might have been that there was a change - I think that's what I meant - the adjustment of staff turnover allowance and so on. These people might have been

hired at that time but last year they might not have been full time or we might have had more vacancies.

I can give you what we have, first of all the staff breakdown of the children's psychiatrists. There is a director; two psychiatrists - one psychiatrist; two part-time; four medical officer positions, and there was one vacant; there was one program co-ordinator who wanted administrative support; and the community mental health workers for children. The other 10 would be one supervisor, two in Eastman, two in Central, one in Interlake, one in Norman, one in Thompson, one in Winnipeg in the central office, and two at Parklands - one in Parklands but that is made up of two part-time, for 10 also. So that is the makeup when we have hired some of these people because they are pretty high paying positions.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Order please. The hour is 4:30. I am interrupting proceedings for Private Members' Hour. I will return to the Chair at 8:00 p.m. tonight. Call in the Speaker.

## IN SESSION

### PRIVATE MEMBERS' HOUR

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please. The time being 4:30 and Private Members' Hour, Private Members' proposed resolutions, Resolution No. 7, the Honourable Member for Thompson.

## RES. NO. 7 -

### INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE YOUTH

**MR. S. ASHTON:** Mr. Speaker, a number of concerns have been expressed about some of the wording in the BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED. With the leave of the House I would like to make some changes to the wording, changing "Province's" to "Provincial Governments"; and changing to, in the BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, to give serious consideration to acting in response. The resolution would then read as follows.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Does the honourable member have leave to make those changes to his resolution? (Agreed) The Member for Thompson move his amended resolution?

**MR. S. ASHTON:** I would, therefore, move, Mr. Speaker, seconded by the Member for Ellice that

WHEREAS 1985 has been declared the International Year of the Youth by the United Nations; and

WHEREAS the themes of participation, development and peace have been adopted; and WHEREAS the Provincial Government has undertaken a major effort to mark the International Year of the Youth; and WHEREAS groups and organizations of young people throughout the province are organizing activities, programs and events to mark the International Year of the Youth.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Assembly indicate its support for the themes of the International Year of the Youth; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Legislature support the Provincial Government's recognition of 1985 as the Year of the Youth and urge all levels of government to give serious consideration to acting in response to youths concerns in regards to such issues as youth unemployment, technological change, the condition of our environment, and nuclear disarmament.

**MOTION presented.**

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

**MR. S. ASHTON:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

1985 is the International Year of the Youth and throughout the world many activities of an educational, social and political nature are being organized, both for young people and by young people to mark this very important year. As outlined in the resolution, three themes have been developed by the United Nations for the International Year of the Youth, and those are participation, development and peace.

The reason that I moved this resolution today is, not just to mark the occasion of 1985 and the International Year of the Youth, it is also to stimulate some discussion, on the part of legislators in this House, both on the themes of youth year, the activities that are being organized as part of it, and also the concerns that are being expressed by young people, both through these activities and in other ways at the present time.

If there was one general concern I would cite of young people today, I think it's a general concern about what is perceived as a lack of control on their part about their present lives and their future lives. It's a theme that I pick up when I talk to young people, whether it be in my constituency, or elsewhere in the province, and I think it's a theme that is growing, Mr. Speaker, amongst young people today. You know, when I look at the situation facing young people, today, I can see why they do have that concern. To a certain extent, Mr. Speaker, we have a generation that has had much of the opportunities taken away from it, in terms of employment opportunities and, when I even compare it to my own generation, those unemployment statistics then, and compare them to today, I think it's obvious exactly what has happened, Mr. Speaker.

But you know, those young people, even though they're faced with increasing difficulties in finding employment, faced with increasing complexities in society, they're not reacting, Mr. Speaker, with apathy, rather they're reacting with some measure of concern and some optimism about their future. That's something that's very clear if you talk to anybody in the context of International Year of the Youth, or in the context of any other youth activities at the present time.

Let's take the question of youth unemployment. It's a serious problem in this country, Mr. Speaker; it's a problem that has been increasing over the years, and it is a problem I'm sure all members of this House see in their own constituencies. I know in Thompson, I see it quite directly, Mr. Speaker, when I compare the opportunities that are available for people today, as compared to people five years ago or 10 years ago in

my own community. Five or ten years ago, there were jobs available, there were major developments in the North. Inco, the major employer in the City of Thompson was hiring, but today, Mr. Speaker, that is not the situation. Inco's not hiring and you can see the impact that has on my young people in my community. That, incidentally, is one of the reasons why I've been fighting so hard for Hydro development in the North, because it will give an option to people, it will give them employment opportunities, both within their home community and within the North itself.

But it's a situation, Mr. Speaker, as I said, that is growing in terms of difficulty for those young people and, unfortunately, it's a situation that doesn't always receive the attention it deserves. I'm sure a lot of people aren't aware of the particular problems facing people in my community today. I would like to take this opportunity today to just lay it on the record, that they are facing difficulties with unemployment, they are facing difficulties in being able to stay in their home community.

There are some potential solutions, Mr. Speaker, to those problems. I mentioned one which I feel is important, that is renewed Hydro development in the North. But, beyond that, and beyond the traditional job creation programs that we have introduced in this province, and which have been introduced in varying forms in other provinces, I think we have to go beyond that. I think we have to look at the structural problems in our economy, Mr. Speaker, have to look at some innovative ways of overcoming those structural problems, and that's one thing that I've heard from young people themselves. They've been suggesting that we look, for example, at encouraging early retirement. You know, early retirement, Mr. Speaker, is becoming more and more common. In my own community it's been a fact of life over the last number of years as Inco has sought to reduce its workforce. What they've done, Mr. Speaker, is offer incentives for early retirement, both in terms of cash bonuses and in terms of improved pension benefits. What I would like to suggest is that we look, not just at early retirement for reduction of the workforce, Mr. Speaker, but we look at as a way of providing job opportunities for young people. There are some jurisdictions that have tried that, Mr. Speaker, and with some success.

I know of one particular case in Europe where a program was developed which was based on the early retirement principle. What they did Mr. Speaker, was they provided an incentive to individuals who were 55 or over for early retirement, and they then tied that into providing two young people with an equivalent job opportunity. What they did Mr. Speaker, was they had those young people work on a part-time basis, on a half-time basis, and provided them with training for the rest of that week. So they were able to earn an income in valuable job experience and receive training. And, at the same time, another individual was able to retire early and enjoy that retirement and not pay the financial cost of it. I mention that as one example, Mr. Speaker, I'm not suggesting that it's some sort of panacea, but I am suggesting that there is something in that sort of approach that we could all learn from.

I would suggest that if we talk to young people about their own concerns, Mr. Speaker, about this issue and some of their suggestions, you'll find much of the same



sort of suggestions. I've heard from people in my own constituency, they're saying we should be looking at that; they're saying, when we have such richness, Mr. Speaker, in this country, when we do have a fairly decent standard of living, they're saying that there must be a better way of sharing those opportunities, of sharing the opportunities to work.

Another concern, Mr. Speaker, a general area of concern which I pick up from young people today is in regard to technological change. It's a concern, I think, to a large number of people, not strictly young people, but it's particularly becoming noticeable amongst young people themselves. They're finding that because of technological change, employment opportunities are changing very rapidly. Many young people are concerned that, even when they're being trained directly for perceived job opportunities, they're concerned that by the time they graduate, Mr. Speaker, that they will no longer be able to work in that particular sector, and in fact, that's happened in a number of cases, people have been trained. I know in my own constituency I've talked to a number of young people who took training, on the best of advice, and then found that they were unable to find employment in that particular area.

Now, what are the solutions in regard to technological change? I think one of the key elements that we need, Mr. Speaker, is a recognition on the part of all, particularly in terms of businesses, and management and labour, of the concern in that regard. I think if you look at the present situation it's clear that it is beginning to become an area which is becoming more and more discussed, but the reaction to it in terms of collective agreements, for example, is fairly minor. Very few collective agreements have a clause related to technological change, although that number is growing, and I think that has to change. There has to be some mechanism in place to deal with technological change in the workplace.

In regard to the young people, there particularly has to be improved training. You know, I don't know how many times it's been talked about in this country, Mr. Speaker. People have always been talking about the problems we had with training.

For me, the best comparison is just talking to people who come from other areas, from other countries. When I talked to some people from Europe, for example, and compared their training system to ours, I see why we're having the problems. In those countries, Mr. Speaker, they tie the training both into classroom training and also on-the-job work experience which is very very crucial. We don't do that by far enough, Mr. Speaker, in this country.

There are other things they do which we don't do. In Europe, they train many more technologists and they then train them after a certain period of time after they've gained experience for higher positions in that particular field. In Canada, we tend to go into institutionalized training immediately, Mr. Speaker, and we have in fact the reverse ratio of professionals to technologists that they have in Europe.

The advantage of the European system, Mr. Speaker, is it allows much easier entrance for young people and it also allows for flexibility. If they find, Mr. Speaker, that they don't particularly fit into that particular occupation, they haven't invested as much time in the institutionalized training and they haven't invested as

much money into that training, and they can transfer to some other particular field. That happens quite frequently in a number of European jurisdictions. I throw that out again, Mr. Speaker, not as a panacea but as a suggestion as to some of the innovative ways in which we can at least begin to address the problems.

Another general area of concern, Mr. Speaker, which does come up consistently from young people today are concerns about our environment. I think the bottom line of those concerns, Mr. Speaker, is young people are beginning to ask themselves what kind of environment we're going to be leaving them over the next 10, 20 and 30 years. That is a general concern, Mr. Speaker, and in some cases people have particular interests and concerns about such matters as acid rain.

I can say that another matter which is of increased attention over the last couple of weeks based on the PCB incident in Ontario is just the whole question of hazardous goods. But I think generally, Mr. Speaker, there is a much greater consciousness today than there was 10 or 20 or 30 years ago of the potential dangers to our environment if we continue to act in the way we are today.

There is another area, Mr. Speaker, another general area of concern which I would like to highlight and in a way it's perhaps the most important because it relates to the very basis of our continued existence on this planet and that is in regard to peace. You know, it is a concern, Mr. Speaker, of many young people in many different ways. For some, there is concern in a very political way about such issues as cruise missile testing, about the need to make Canada a nuclear free weapon zone. Those are concerns, Mr. Speaker, of what I would say of many active young people today. But it isn't restricted, Mr. Speaker, to those who are active in the peace movement today, I think it's a general concern that's shared by virtually all young people.

I talked to many of them about it, Mr. Speaker, and basically the bottom line is that they're really concerned. They're really concerned about a situation they see developing out there of increased international tension, of a renewed arms race, and they have a certain feeling, Mr. Speaker, that it may be too late by the time they have control over what happens to ensure that we don't end up with a nuclear annihilation.

I'm optimistic, I think we can do it; I think we can tone down the present situation, Mr. Speaker. I think we can move toward nuclear disarmament and peace, and I'm hopeful that young people today will take that attitude because it's going to take their energy and their vision of the future to achieve that. They are the ones whose futures are at stake, Mr. Speaker, and it's very vital that they be involved now in terms of discussion of these particular issues.

Those are what I would consider probably the four general areas of concern, Mr. Speaker. That's why I have outlined them in the resolution today, and I said at the beginning one of the main reasons was to promote some discussion amongst legislators about youth concerns. I think that's important, but it has to go beyond that, and if you look at the resolution, Mr. Speaker, I think you can see exactly what I'm hoping will follow from that. What I'm saying, Mr. Speaker, is that we should discuss youth concerns, certainly, but that we should go beyond those and we should bring in some concrete action based on those concerns.

You know, it would be very nice, Mr. Speaker, if we had an extensive set of activities for the International Year of the Youth. It would be very nice if many young people throughout the province were involved in these activities. It would be very nice if people had a good feeling resulting from those activities, Mr. Speaker, but as much as I hate to say so I think that would be a wasted opportunity. I think it would be far better if we could take that and then move into some action.

Now I've listed some areas, Mr. Speaker, where I think we can act. In regard to youth unemployment, I think we have to act by encouraging all members of society to develop innovative approaches to that particular problem, to address the structural problem that's out there whereby young people have far greater percentages of unemployment than the population as a whole. That's a structural problem, and no matter how many times we stimulate the economy, Mr. Speaker, no matter how much growth we get in the economy, that problem is still going to be there, and that is why we have to address the structural problems. There is no use fooling ourselves that by having renewed growth or continuing the recovery from the recession that we are going to solve the problem of youth unemployment. We may help, but we will not solve that problem until we address those structural problems.

It's the same thing in regard to technological change, Mr. Speaker, we have to have improved training in place. We can't just modify the existing situation; we can't just improve our institutions. I'm not saying we can't improve them, Mr. Speaker, I'm saying we must not stop there. I think we particularly have to move towards changing our training system. I think we have to move towards new modes of delivery so that rural and Northern young people aren't finding that they are being shut out from participation in this training because many are today. I think we have to generally rethink the whole area of training and education generally.

In regard to the environment, Mr. Speaker, I think we basically have to move the present situation in regard to our approach to pollution and environmental problems away from governments regulating the free market system. I think that governments have to accept the responsibility, Mr. Speaker, to go beyond just accepting the marketplace as it is and involving themselves directly in that situation, because what happens - and I know it from my own community - is that action in a community such as Thompson to cut the emissions of SO<sub>2</sub> would cost money. It would have employment impacts, Mr. Speaker, so Inco quite rightly says we're concerned about what will happen out of the regulations.

I say, Mr. Speaker, that society as a whole has to be interested in that question, that we have to, as governments, take a very active role, more than just saying, well, we are going to discuss with you what is economically feasible. We have to look at ways of involving ourselves directly in that and making sure that communities aren't the ones that suffer, that individuals aren't the ones who suffer from environmental control, because I feel, Mr. Speaker, that it's the other way around. I think we all benefit and particularly economically we benefit if we have greater concern over environment. If we only look at the question of acid rain and the impact it's having, for example, on forests, we can see that it's destroying

not only our natural heritage, Mr. Speaker, but it's destroying many productive areas economically as well.

In regard to peace, Mr. Speaker, I would say that as a province, as Legislatures in this province, we can act on that particular issue. We've had various resolutions, Mr. Speaker, in this House in regard to nuclear disarmament. I think we should make a statement as a province of our concern in that particular area. I think we should declare Manitoba a nuclear free weapon zone. I think we can do that, Mr. Speaker, symbolically expressing our concern about that matter, but I think it goes beyond that. I think it's more than symbolism. For the young people of today who look to us as community leaders, Mr. Speaker, I think it's a sign of hope. If we can make a clear statement on these concerns in regard to peace and nuclear disarmament, Mr. Speaker, I think we give a great deal more optimism to the young people of today who are, I think, questioning what kind of future lies ahead of them.

So those are the two things I hope will result from this resolution, Mr. Speaker. I hope there will be discussion of youth concerns, of youth issues, but beyond that I hope there will be real consideration to act in regard to those concerns; and acting not just in the ways that we have in the past, Mr. Speaker, not just in the traditional ways, but of taking some innovative steps not just within government but within society as a whole, of taking some innovative steps of having the government bring other aspects of society together to address this particular problem, Mr. Speaker, because I feel it's of utmost urgency. I feel there is still a fair amount of optimism and hope about the future among young people today. We have to be very careful with the problems in regard to concerns over peace or the environment or technological training or jobs that we don't lose that optimism because once we lose that, Mr. Speaker, we really and truly lose our prospects of progress in the future in addressing those real concerns.

So I hope all members will consider this resolution, will participate in the debate and will then follow from that to look at direct action to address youth concerns.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**MRS. C. OLESON:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's a great pleasure to take part in this debate on this resolution put forward by the Member for Thompson, of course, a very timely resolution in that we are well into the year that's designated as International Youth Year and into some of the programs that are being planned to recognize the special designation of this year.

It almost goes without saying that we all support and feel optimistic about the endeavours of youth. I, as a mother of three sons and as a person who has been involved for many years in a school setting with youth, feel it is rather an understatement to say that I'm interested in the problems of youth. I am interested, of course, in the problems of youth today in a setting and a constituency where there isn't a great deal of opportunity for young people to stay in the constituency and find jobs.

Jobs are difficult for everyone of course at this time with about 51,000 unemployed in the province, and for

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instance in January, a youth unemployment of 16.6 percent. It goes without saying that youth must be feeling very frustrated, and these are the sort of things I hear from constituents. Where are we going to find a job? Some of these are the things that the Member for Thompson mentioned are very worthwhile and very interesting and we're all concerned about them and I'm sure youth are too, but right now they are more concerned about finding a job.

The Member for Thompson mentioned that in his constituency as well there are problems with finding jobs. Of course, in a city such as his where there is one major industry, that of course is a problem and we recognize that.

In my constituency, the major occupation, the major industry is farming and with the picture in the farming field today, there is not much incentive for a young fellow or woman to stay in their community and farm. It's very difficult to get into that. It's very costly. Interest rates are high. And we've talked in this House many times about the problems in that concern.

So many many of them must go away. Of course, they have to go away and leave the rural communities for their education, but very few of them are able to come back and take part in the life of the community and have a job in the community in which they were raised. Many of them feel very upset about this.

I know in my own family, my sons were very - well the eldest one particularly was very upset when he had to go and find work elsewhere. It turns out, of course, that he got into a field which is suitable to him and he's quite happy now, but he always as he was growing up felt that he would prefer to live in his home community, take part in the activities that were part of his growing-up years and be closer to his family.

So it's difficult in constituencies such as the Member for Thompson's and mine and many others across the province. In each their problem boils down to practically the same one, but from a different point of view and a different angle. I suppose if we got into secondary manufacturing and processing of agricultural products, probably it would be a great help to the rural farm communities. Of course, another solution could be found for the problems of an area like that represented by the Member for Thompson.

I have with me a report put out last, I believe it was, November of 1984 on high-demand occupations in Manitoba, put out by the Department of Manitoba Employment Services and Economic Security together with the Employment and Immigration of Canada. It was interesting to note in that report some of the comments on the high demand occupations. In listening to the remarks by the Member for Thompson, I was interested to hear his remarks on training people and his ideas about training on the job.

One of the problems which he mentioned and which, of course, we all realize is that a young person goes into a stream of education and before they've even got their degree or their certificate, the job that they are being trained for has changed so drastically that they go out into the workplace and they say, no, I'm sorry, there's nothing for you.

I was interested to see in this booklet, for instance, that it says "computer programmers and systems analysts," and it says beside that in the comment, "light demand for programmer analysts and systems

analysts." It doesn't seem to me but a moment ago that everyone was being urged, go into the computer field, that's where the future is, that there are jobs and jobs galore. Well you see, this doesn't hold true for very long.

In fact, this leaflet or this booklet says that: "The purpose of this report is to identify occupations which are currently in demand and expected to remain in demand over the next two years." Well that is a very very short term, for instance, when the course you're taking might last four and five, and you're two years into it and you should change your mind to do something else. So it's very difficult for career counsellors and everyone to point students in the right way.

I think possibly the Member for Thompson's idea about training on the job would have the merit, that while you were training, while you were doing the job, you could be learning about the changes within it at the same time and possibly he's right, you would come out better educated because you would be in tune with what was taking place and the changes.

The outlook, as I say, for students coming out of school these days is not good. Due to technology there are fewer and fewer people required to do some of the jobs, so there are problems.

I know in my own family, my youngest son went into a field that we were sure when he went into it four or five years ago that, my goodness, the job market would be terrific, but he is finding it very difficult now to find something to do in order to further the education he's in so that he can get his necessary papers.

So I think all of us as members of this Legislature are bombarded daily with information from people telling us that they just cannot find jobs. So the young people must, as I say, feel very frustrated. It's not a new phenomenon; it's been going on for a long time. I don't think there is any quick fix. You can't suddenly say here we are, we'll do this type of training and it will work, because we know that through experience we have to try new ways, and if they don't work we have to try something else. It's interesting - I haven't got the quote in front of me - but there is a quotation, something that runs along the line of "what on earth is happening to the youth of today" and it turns out that the person who said it was Socrates. So you see, these problems are not new, they are with us and probably, unfortunately, will remain with us for some time.

The Member for Thompson mentioned the early retirement aspect and that certainly, in some fields, would be a good thing. The thing is, of course, when we think of youth and we think of . . . the jobs because of the early retirement, we also must think of the people who have jobs and who may not want to retire early because what are they going to do? Their life must be meaningful and fulfilled and give them pleasure and something to do. So what you would create, if you retired everyone early, then you would be having a secondary job market and you would have middle-aged people unemployed and we would be standing up in the Legislature having special maybe Middle-aged Year or something, you know, to correct that problem. So one thing compounds on another.

Of course, then, also, you get into the field of early retirement and the Human Rights Commission would tread on you very sharply if you forced anyone to retire.

But it does cut down on the opportunities for young people coming into a field of work if the people do stay in beyond retirement years. So we must find some solution for that. I don't think we'll find it here today in this Legislature, but we will certainly be working on it.

I get, every so often, a newsletter from the International Youth Year Committee in Manitoba which is quite interesting. It outlines some of the activities and ideas that the young people are planning for Youth Year. I sometimes wonder a little bit when I look at it, and I am afraid perhaps the Minister of Employment is using it just a little bit as a propaganda tool. I hate to say that, but there are little remarks in it that reflect on what the Federal Government is doing, but praise what the Manitoba Government is doing. Then when I read on the back page that says the views expressed here do no necessarily represent the view of the Manitoba Government, then maybe there is some hope and maybe the youth will be able to run their own show, shall we say, with this newsletter and put in it what they wish.

So I do hope that the Minister keeps at arm's length from it and lets the Youth Year group have their newsletter to themselves without putting in government reports and advertising, shall we say, in it.

Included with that newsletter was a page of ideas of things to do in Youth Year - 35 ideas. I can imagine them sitting around and, by the time they got the ideas down to 35, it must have been quite an interesting meeting, because knowing a group like that they probably came up with well over 200 ideas or more and they had to be condensed into something that was workable. But it is an interesting list and it includes one thing, I see here, is have seminars on interview techniques, resume writing and job application during Career Week. Now I think that is an excellent idea. I think all too often young people and others don't know how to go about writing a resume or going for an interview for jobs. I think that sort of training is a wonderful thing to come out of this sort of program.

There are all sort of social events that they have listed which, of course, is one of the main reasons for the purposes of having a youth committee; it's partly social. Some of the things, of course, are often done in schools and other places. Hold a Career Day - well, I think schools have been doing that for quite some time. So I hope they will co-ordinate that with their schools and work together on that. It's a good opportunity to work together, perhaps to have some input with the schools and the school administrators, to say just what they would like to see in a Career Day. Maybe in some cases, perhaps, the teaching staff and the administrative staff of schools have not asked the youth what they would like to see on a Career Day. So possibly some good could come out of that.

I also noticed that the 4-H Newsletter mentioned International Youth Year and some of the ideas that could be promoted through 4-H. I thought that was interesting to see. 4-H, of course, has always been a very active movement in rural Manitoba, a very important part of the life of many communities in rural Manitoba. It's given young people an excellent training and an excellent opportunity to learn and to take part in various aspects of the community; it has given them an opportunity to travel, to learn how others do things in the same field of endeavour.

There are many leaders in most communities that could write on their resume an affiliation with 4-H and its many facets. It's always interesting to me to read a 4-H Newsletter or a 4-H report, and to read of the many many different things that they do. When I was growing up we didn't have one in our area, but I remember hearing about it, and considering that it must be strictly - the only one I heard of was seed growing for the boys and cake baking for the girls and I thought well really I'm not that keen on that. I probably would be more interested in the seed growing, but now there are so many and varied activities that the 4-H take part in. So you see the rural communities already have quite a good network of clubs for youth. I am not sure what parallel would be in the city to deal with that except, of course, for the sporting clubs.

Also, of course, when you are thinking of organizations for youth, one of the very very great ones in this country and many others is the Girl Guide and the Scout movement. There are many ideas that come from those organizations that have been, of course, thought of. Probably, you know, in the way that things go, the active people in those sort of organizations are also the active people in this one so you will have a cross-fertilization, if you will, of ideas from all those groups which makes them all stronger when they work together.

I do support the resolution by the Member for Thompson. I am sure that it's made with good intent. I haven't covered all the subjects that he has listed. I think we are all particularly preoccupied with the unemployment problem today and I think that probably could be pointed out as one of the most important parts of this resolution. If we had a resolution to the unemployment problem, I guess we would have a resolution to a great many other problems as well. So I think on that note I will conclude my remarks and say that I will be supporting this resolution.

**QUESTION put; MOTION carried.**

#### **RES. NO. 4 - ABORIGINAL RIGHTS**

**MR. SPEAKER:** Resolution No. 4, moved by the Honourable Member for Rupertsland, the Honourable Member for Lakeside has 20 minutes remaining.

**MR. H. ENNS:** Mr. Speaker, I've had the opportunity of doing the usual research that members know me to do when anticipating speaking on an important resolution, and this is an important resolution. Members opposite will know that we, on this side of the House, at least some of us, were occupied pretty well throughout the week, firstly, with the attendance on the part of some of us of the funeral service in Minnedosa, and then, on a more happy occasion, the attendance at a very successful gathering of Conservatives yesterday in the City of Winnipeg where we resolved to do what is necessary to replace this government with a caring government, a responsible government, with a government that will hopefully bring to bear the kind of attention that this resolution deserves.

Mr. Speaker, very seriously, I have a great deal of concern about what governments, all governments,

federal and provincial, and I suppose one has to put it in these terms, although I choose not to for its racist overtones and for what the white community is doing perhaps in the area of aboriginal rights.

Many members who I have heard addressing this question, either at federally sponsored constitutional conferences, the one earlier and the one just concluded, questions that have been asked in this Chamber by my leader, of the First Minister of this province just prior to his attendance of the latest constitutional conference having to do with aboriginal rights, and the central question that the conference was dedicating itself to - Indian self-government. The question that keeps arising is for a definition of that term, and, Mr. Speaker, I'm not so sure that we do our Indian brothers and sisters a service by entering into the debate without at least speaking clearly - to use a cliché that is sometimes applied to people of white ancestry, not to speak with forked tongue - about what it is that we are proposing, what it is we are parleying with, what it is that we are negotiating on the question of aboriginal rights and self-government.

Mr. Speaker, I found it somewhat surprising and indeed somewhat ironic, I suppose, coming from the source, when I happened to read what I thought were some well-penned words by a journalist whom I have a growing respect for. He used to be a member, perhaps still is, of the New Democratic Party. He used to be a Member of Parliament, Mr. Douglas Fisher, who writes regularly, I don't exactly know for which paper, but for one of the eastern papers. I can recall, just after the conclusion of the recent conference on this matter, a short article by Mr. Douglas Fisher that raises the question of what is it that we're doing in Canada.

And, more alarming, perhaps, he raises the question of comparing Canada to South Africa, where in South Africa you have a sizable minority of some 4 million white people controlling the destiny and lives of a large majority of black people and excluding them from their council and from responsible decision-making and a full role, if you like, in South African society.

Then Mr. Fisher goes on to suggest that we are perhaps doing that in reverse here in Canada, because we are talking about extending very fundamental rights along very specific blood lines of a race of people that would make that race of people quite different Canadians than all the other Canadians - quite different than all the other Canadians. I found that article by Mr. Fisher disturbing, to say the least, but yet I read it with considerable interest because, as I indicated a few moments ago, Mr. Fisher seems to have been able to lay aside his personal politics and has in my judgment increased his stature as a journalist of note in Canada in commenting on public and national affairs and I read him with interest.

I really think it ought to be extremely disturbing to any of us if there is even a kernel of truth in what Mr. Fisher is suggesting, that perhaps we are aping South Africa in reverse, and I'm sure all members opposite would share that concern, would share that disturbance.

Now, I don't think that is what is called for, and that is not certainly what the Member for Rupertsland is putting forward in this resolution. There is no concern, no question of our support for Native rights; they have been abused, they have been exploited. They have been parcelled out or they have fallen in between different

levels of governments, federal or provincial, and that there is absolutely no difficulty in myself I think, as other spokesmen for this group have said, in supporting the resolution before us.

What disturbs me - and I think I'm trying to recall who was the last speaker in this House who was asking the same question of the mover of this resolution - was that we are not in my judgment coming out up front and clearly telling each other what it is precisely what we mean when we talk about self-government. You see my concept of self-government is essentially - but I could be wrong because I haven't heard it from Indian leaders, I haven't heard it from the Member for Rupertsland - I believe essentially or at least a good part of what in my mind I view Indian self-government to be is to a large extent the doing away of the patronizing way the Department of Indian Affairs has been responsible and has treated the Indian community in this country.

I don't know, I think perhaps there might have been a time originally for the role that the Department of Indian Affairs played, but I certainly share the concern of many of my Indian brothers who at this stage of the game it's become a self-perpetuating bureaucracy eating up so much of the funds set aside to address Indian concerns — (Interjection) — I will come to that in a moment - that I can understand the frustration of our Indian community in saying that I don't want to be governed by a director or regional head or supervisor from the Department of Indian Affairs. We have developed skills along the way, and we can run programs in our communities, and we can more effectively use the resources that are currently being in a global way set aside for Indian Affairs, but we want to do it our way because we believe, and I share that belief, that they know which way is more important to them. If that is part of what my Indian brothers and sisters mean when they talk about self-government, I have absolutely no difficulty in supporting that and I do believe that is part of the way.

The Honourable Member for Churchill interjects with his suggestion, in trying to question me with respect to the recently revealed or disclosed Nielson Report. Well, Mr. Speaker, I have not read the Nielson Report, I just am, of course, aware of some of the quotations made about it. But, as I understand it, that Nielson Report is part of the old game that's been played with the Indian community for far too long, of one senior government and another government trying to shift off certain responsibilities and, as I understand, a portion of the debate was getting the Federal Government off some of their responsibilities and trying to put it on the shoulders of the Provincial Government. I think that sidesteps entirely what, in fact, the Indian community is looking for and, quite rightly, the Indian community responded to it in the manner and way in which they did. Although, Mr. Speaker, again, let's have it clearly understood, the Nielson Report, has not, has never been, never will be, Federal Government policy. It is a report and honourable members opposite, particularly the Member for Churchill, who has been around for a little while, knows the numbers of reports and task forces, particularly when new governments come into office, and when all parameters, all corners of the government operation are examined, very often probably a very specific point-of-view.

As I understand it, the reference that the Nielson Report was based on was from the very tunnel-vision view of where are their dollars to be saved? We had task forces, I remember my former colleague, the Member from River Heights, Sidney Spivak, was chairman of that task force. I think there was a Mr. Decter that played a role in that task force, along with Mr. Gordon Holland from MTS, if my memory serves me right, and they did much the same in the early months of the then Conservative Lyon administration and examined every possible way of bringing about greater government efficiency, greater value for the dollars expended. Some of those recommendations found their way into government policies, some were adopted. Many, as ought to be the case, were looked at, maybe considered, but set aside because they simply did not stand up to the test of the government will and what, in fact, the government's intention were.

So, I believe, Mr. Speaker, any attempt to mix the draft recommendations of a leaked report, which all members opposite should have some sensitivity to, you know they understand how reports get leaked from time to time. I've not heard of anybody in the Federal Government accuse anybody of stealing anything, it's part of our open democratic society. By the way, with the kind of freedom of information legislation that these gentlemen opposite generally support, you know, one would expect that any document produced at public expense sooner or later has to be made available to the general public.

Well, Mr. Speaker, I set aside any suggestion that some of the proposals in the Nielson Report have any bearing on the resolution before us. The resolution before us calls for us to specifically support the ongoing multilateral discussions between the Government of Canada and the various provinces, including Manitoba, and the various aboriginal peoples of Manitoba, to consider the nature, jurisdiction and powers to be recognized and affirmed for said institutions of aboriginal self-government without delegating from the trust and treaty obligations of the Federal Government with respect to aboriginal people. That says it all, Mr. Speaker. But, in saying that, and in supporting this resolution, the Mover has also come at least a little closer in defining what he means by self-government. The resolution calls for absolutely no diminution or derogation of the Federal Government's responsibility with respect to the Indian community and, therefore, it must acknowledge, without quite saying so, the jurisdiction of the Federal Government in a very big

and meaningful way in the day-to-day lives of the individual Indian brothers and sisters of the bands and communities that make up that community.

I would hope, Mr. Speaker, that perhaps some other speakers who are more familiar with the subject matter than I am, would take a little more time to define what it is that is precisely meant by Indian self-government. I think it would be helpful to all Canadians to know that. I think it's extremely important, however, for those who are negotiating, that false levels of expectation are not raised, that it is clearly understood what it is that we are talking about, and that we in the white community don't add to the abuse that perhaps - I won't say perhaps, it has been - has been directed to our Indian brothers and sisters, not be added to, let's not compile a further list of wrong-dealing by not being absolutely honest and absolutely clear as to what it is that we believe they mean when they say and talk about self-government, and we know what they believe.

On a personal note, Mr. Speaker, I really don't like that definition, they and we, them and us. I'm far happier with acknowledging what we, together as Canadians, ought to be doing to make sure that our diverse, cultural heritage backgrounds are respected and honoured, and I have a great deal of difficulty with the kind of inevitable separation of status of Canadians that's inherent in this kind of move; and I close, Mr. Speaker, by recommending members opposite to take the time to read Mr. Douglas Fisher's column on this subject matter. It was disturbing to me when I read it. I think any Canadian, certainly any Manitoban, ought to be disturbed when a columnist of the stature of Mr. Fisher suggests that we are doing something here that South Africa has done years ago, only we're doing it in a different way, and I would like somebody opposite to assure me that that is not - I take that back, that's not what I mean to say - I'm saying that we want to walk very carefully along this road in clearly spelling out what it is that both parties, all three parties but, more importantly, the white community and the red community, understand what it is that's up for negotiations and what it is that is being asked to be enshrined in rights.

**MR. SPEAKER:** When this resolution is next before the House, the honourable member will have two minutes remaining.

The time being 5:30 p.m., I'm leaving the Chair and the House will reconvene in committee at 8 o'clock this evening.