

JOURNALS  
of the  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY  
of the  
Province of Saskatchewan

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From 4th day of December, 1928, to 2nd day of February, 1929.  
*(Both days inclusive)*

In the Nineteenth Year of the Reign of Our Sovereign Lord,  
King George V.

BEING THE FOURTH SESSION OF THE SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF  
THE PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

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**SESSION 1928-29**

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MEETING OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

H. W. NEWLANDS,  
*Lieutenant Governor.*

[L.S.]

CANADA

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN.

GEORGE THE FIFTH, by the Grace of God, of Great Britain, Ireland and the British Dominions beyond the Seas, KING, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India.

TO OUR FAITHFUL THE MEMBERS elected to serve in the Legislative Assembly of Our Province of Saskatchewan, and to every one of you, GREETING:

A PROCLAMATION

A. L. GEDDES, }  
*Deputy Attorney General.* } **W**HEREAS, it is expedient for causes  
and considerations to convene the  
Legislative Assembly of Our  
Province of Saskatchewan, WE DO WILL that you and each of you  
and all others in this behalf interested on TUESDAY, the FOURTH day  
of DECEMBER, 1928, at Our City of Regina, personally be and appear  
for the DESPATCH OF BUSINESS, there to take into consideration  
the state and welfare of Our said Province of Saskatchewan and  
thereby to do as may seem necessary, HEREIN FAIL NOT.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, We have caused Our Letters to be made Patent, and the Great Seal of Our said Province of Saskatchewan to be hereunto affixed.

WITNESS: Our right trusty and well beloved THE HONOURABLE  
HENRY WILLIAM NEWLANDS, Lieutenant Governor of Our  
Province of Saskatchewan.

AT OUR GOVERNMENT HOUSE in Our City of Regina, in Our  
said Province, this TWENTY-FIRST day of NOVEMBER,  
ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-EIGHT,  
and in the NINETEENTH year of Our Reign.

By Command,

J. W. McLEOD,  
Deputy Provincial Secretary.

**JOURNALS**  
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**FOURTH SESSION—SIXTH LEGISLATURE**

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REGINA, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1928.

*3 o'clock p.m.*

This being the first day of the meeting of the Fourth Session of the Sixth Legislature of the Province of Saskatchewan, for the dispatch of business, pursuant to a Proclamation of His Honour the Honourable Henry William Newlands, Lieutenant Governor of the Province, and dated the twenty-first day of November, 1928, and the Assembly having met.

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor entered the Chamber, and, having taken his seat upon the Throne, was pleased to open the Session with the following Speech:

MR. SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY:

I have pleasure in welcoming you to the Fourth Session of the Sixth Legislative Assembly of the Province of Saskatchewan.

The serious illness of His Majesty, King George V, has cast a feeling of anxiety over the Province. It is the earnest desire of our people that he may be speedily restored to health and strength and that the Empire may be long blessed by his beneficent rule.

Since prorogation Saskatchewan has harvested a crop which in volume exceeds all previous records. Although returns have been lessened by frost damage, they have materially improved the economic situation throughout the Province and 1928 has been a year of sound development along the lines of industrial as well as agricultural expansion.

The last session of the Legislature was partly taken up with a discussion of the questions related to the production, distribution

and consumption of electric power. Since then the Commission appointed to investigate these matters has made its report, providing much information upon which to base further and more helpful discussion. As a result of this report and acting under the authority of legislation passed by this House, steps have been taken to inaugurate a policy of government production and distribution of power. Certain measures necessary for the continuation and expansion of this policy will be submitted for your consideration.

In the year 1922, the then Minister of Highways announced that, when approximately half of the seven thousand miles of road which had been laid out as Provincial Highway had been constructed to the Federal Aid standard for earth roads, gravel surfacing would be undertaken with a view to providing all-weather roads for motor and other traffic. That time was reached during the past summer and the Government then commenced a programme which has to date brought 350 miles of highway under contract to be gravelled. Ideal weather conditions have made it possible to complete this mileage. This, together with the road previously surfaced, brings over four hundred miles of gravelled and thirty-one hundred miles of clay highway under provincial maintenance. An extensive programme of construction and gravelling was made possible by your action last session in passing legislation imposing a gasoline tax, together with the general buoyancy of revenue. Keeping in mind the principle that only construction which will serve the future should be charged to Capital Account, my advisers intend to increase their activities in road construction as much as the collection of revenue from related sources will permit.

It is the intention of the Government to introduce legislation providing for a provincial system of Workmen's Compensation. This has been decided upon after a very careful investigation of the conditions existing in this Province and will result, it is hoped, in a more satisfactory and assured position for employees with a more equitable distribution of costs to employers.

The production of wheat is our greatest industry and Saskatchewan produces annually more than half of the total wheat crop of Canada. It would appear that the present system of grading may be satisfactory in a year when weather conditions are ideal, but when the quality is lowered by wet weather as it was a year ago; or by frost, as during the past season, there is a possibility that a system could be established which would give more just returns to the producer. It is also contended that the mixing of grades at the terminal and transfer elevators is affecting the standard of the certificate in Europe to the disadvantage of the producer in Saskatchewan. Because of these and other contentions it was considered advisable to appoint a Royal Commission to investigate and report to my Government. The work of the Commission is being carried forward as rapidly as possible in the hope that, if conclusions are reached suggesting changes in Federal Legislation, representations may be made to the Dominion Government before the end of the next session of Parliament.

It is with considerable satisfaction that I am able to advise you that this Province secured about 6,000 of the 8,500 British miners who came to Canada last fall to assist in the harvest, but I am even more pleased to be advised that some 3,000 have remained to make their permanent homes in Canada, while many who returned to the old land have announced their intention of returning to Saskatchewan next spring. My advisers in reporting the success of the undertaking, in so far as it affected Saskatchewan, are pleased to acknowledge the splendid co-operation evident between Local Colonisation Boards, the United Farmers of Canada, the Railway Companies, the Department of Immigration at Ottawa and our newly organised Department of Railways, Labour and Industries. Quite recently this Department has completed an agreement with the British and Federal Governments respecting the immigration to Saskatchewan of British boys. In the working out of this arrangement the University of Saskatchewan will render valuable assistance and very satisfactory results are anticipated.

The improved financial position of Saskatchewan and of Canada generally is giving greater and greater encouragement to immigration. In view of the resulting movement of people toward this province, the new Department has been steadily increasing its activities along two lines; firstly: in its co-operation with the Department of Immigration in obtaining and settling a suitable class of immigrant, and secondly, toward securing the return to the Province of its unalienated natural resources, which were withheld in 1905 under agreement that the lands might be used for promoting immigration. Because of the necessity for directing attention to undeveloped resources; other than, as well as, lands; it is the desire of my Government that the House will give its undivided support to a resolution which will be presented during the session and which it is desired should be made the subject for a conference with the Federal Government immediately following prorogation.

The Saskatchewan Legislature has on numerous occasions passed a resolution calling upon the Federal Government to expedite the completion of the Hudson Bay Railway. The construction of this railway will soon be finished and my Government welcomes the opportunity to express its appreciation of the hearty co-operation it has received from many sources toward securing the construction of branch lines of railway necessary to give all parts of our Province adequate connection with the Hudson Bay outlet. The efforts put forward to that end will be continued. In this connection the officials of the Freight Rates Branch of the Department of Railways, Labour and Industries are now engaged in the preparation of a schedule of rates which will be suggested as just and equitable if applied to freight traffic on the Hudson Bay route. This is being done, to assure a consideration of the matter from the producers' and consumers' point of view before rather than after rates have been established.

In accordance with the arrangement announced at the last session of the Legislature the policing of the Province was taken

over by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police on June 1st and the Saskatchewan Provincial Police Force has been disbanded. The transfer of responsibility from one force to the other was effected with general satisfaction to the public.

Among others your consideration will be asked with respect to measures providing for the revision and consolidation of the laws relating to Land Titles, Companies and Rural Municipalities. To facilitate the work of Consolidating the Provincial Statutes, a number of amendments have been suggested by those in charge of that work and these will be submitted to you during the Session. Other amending bills dealing with important public matters will be introduced.

The Public Accounts for the last fiscal year and the Estimates for the coming year will be submitted to you. In the preparation of the Estimates due regard has been had to the need for continued economy with respect to the public service and public works.

Members of the Legislative Assembly, may Divine Providence guide and bless your deliberations.

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor then retired from the Chamber.

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Mr. Speaker informed the Assembly that the Clerk of the Assembly had received from the Clerk of the Executive Council notification of the following vacancy in the Representation, viz.:—

In the Electoral Division of Arm River by the resignation of George Adam Scott, Esquire;

and certificate of the following Election and Return, viz.:—

Of Thomas Frederick Waugh, Esquire, as member for the Electoral Division of Arm River.

*(Sessional Paper No. 1.)*

Thomas Frederick Waugh, Esquire, Member for the Electoral Division of Arm River, having previously taken the Oath according to law, and subscribed the Roll containing the same, took his seat in the Assembly.

Ordered, That the Hon. Mr. Gardiner have leave to introduce a Bill respecting the Administration of Oaths of Office.

He accordingly presented the Bill to the Assembly, and the same was received and read the first time.

Mr. Speaker then informed the Assembly that, in order to prevent mistakes, he had obtained a copy of the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which was laid on the Table.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Gardiner, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Davis,

Ordered, That the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor be taken into consideration on Thursday next.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Gardiner, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Hamilton,

Ordered, That the Votes and Proceedings of this Assembly be printed after having been first perused by Mr. Speaker, and that he do appoint the printing thereof, and that no person but such as he shall appoint do presume to print the same.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Gardiner, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Spence,

Ordered, That a Select Special Committee be appointed to prepare and report with all convenient speed lists of Members to compose the Select Standing Committees of this Assembly, provided under Standing Order (Rule) 45, said Committee to be composed of Messieurs Garry, Tran, Anderson, Uhrich and Patterson.

Such said Select Standing Committees to be severally empowered to examine and inquire into all such matters and things as may be referred to them by the Assembly, and to report from time to time their observations and opinions thereon, with power to send for persons, papers and records, and to examine witnesses under oath.

The Assembly then adjourned at 3.20 o'clock p.m.



REGINA, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1928.

The following Petitions were severally presented and laid on the Table:

By Mr. McNiven—Of the City of Regina.

By Mr. Cross—Of The Agricultural Insurance Company, Limited.

By Mr. Hogan—Of Reverend Sister Jeanne-Micheline and two others.

Mr. Garry, from the Select Special Committee appointed to prepare and report lists of members to compose the Select Standing Committees ordered by this Assembly, reported that it had prepared lists of members accordingly, and the same were read as follows:

ON STANDING ORDERS.

Messieurs

Gamble	Garry	Pickel
Anderson	Latta	Sahlmark

Three shall be a quorum.

ON PRIVILEGES AND ELECTIONS.

Messieurs

Parker	Gardiner	McKinnon
Anderson	Garry	McNiven
Agar	Gemmell	Pickel
Clinch	Hagarty	Ross
Cockburn	Hassard	Sahlmark
Cross	Keelan	Salkeld
Davis	MacPherson	Tripp
Donaldson	McGregor	Uhrich

Eight shall be a quorum.

ON PRIVATE BILLS.

Messieurs

Pickel	Gordon	Patterson
Agar	Hogan	Ross
Baker	Huck	Spence
Buckle	Keelan	Salkeld
Creighton	Lewis	Smith
Cockburn	Marion	Stipe
Cross	MacPherson	Sykes
Davis	McAfee	Therres
Gamble	McIntosh	Uhrich
Gardiner	McNiven	Waugh
Garry	Nay	Whatley

Eight shall be a quorum.

## ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND PRINTING.

## Messieurs

Sahlmark	Hogan	Pickel
Anderson	Latta	Ross
Baker	McClure	Spence
Cross	McConnell	Smith
Davis	McIntosh	Steele
Finlayson	McGregor	Stipe
Gardiner	McNiven	Tran
Hall	Miller	Uhrich
Halvorson	Nay	Waugh
Hamilton	Patterson	Wilson
Hill	Paulson	

Eight shall be a quorum.

## ON AGRICULTURE.

## Messieurs

Hogan	Grant	Miller
Agar	Hagarty	Parker
Buckle	Hall	Paulson
Clinch	Halvorson	Robertson
Cockburn	Hamilton	Spence
Creighton	Hassard	Smith
Dodds	Huck	Steele
Donaldson	Laing	Stipe
Finlayson	Lewis	Sykes
Gamble	MacPherson	Therres
Garry	McClure	Waddell
Gemmell	McGregor	Whatley
Gordon	McKinnon	Wilson

Eight shall be a quorum.

## ON MUNICIPAL LAW.

## Messieurs

Agar	Gamble	Ross
Baker	Gordon	Salkeld
Buckle	Hamilton	Smith
Creighton	MacPherson	Steele
Cross	McKinnon	Tran
Davis	McConnell	Tripp
Dodds	Robertson	Waddell

Six shall be a quorum.

## ON EDUCATION.

## Messieurs

Finlayson	Hall	Ross
Anderson	Keelan	Sykes
Clinch	Latta	Stipe
Creighton	Lewis	Salkeld
Davis	McAfee	Tran
Gardiner	McClure	Therres
Grant	Nay	Tripp
Hill	Patterson	Ulrich
Halvorson	Paulson	Waugh
		Whatley

Eight shall be a quorum.

## ON RAILWAYS, TELEPHONES AND TELEGRAPHS.

## Messieurs

Parker	Gemmell	McIntosh
Agar	Hagarty	Marion
Buckle	Halvorson	Patterson
Cockburn	Hassard	Robertson
Creighton	Huck	Spence
Cross	Laing	Stipe
Donaldson	Miller	Tran
Dodds	McGregor	Wilson

Six shall be a quorum.

## ON LAW AMENDMENTS.

## Messieurs

Gordon	Hill	McConnell
Anderson	Keelan	McIntosh
Cross	Latta	MacPherson
Davis	Lewis	Ross
Garry	McNiven	Tran
		Waddell

Five shall be a quorum.

## ON LIBRARY.

## Messieurs

Mr. Speaker	McAfee	Sykes
Baker	McClure	Steele
Huck	MacPherson	Therres
Hogan	Nay	Ulrich
Laing	Paulson	Waugh
Latta	Sahlmark	Wilson

Four shall be a quorum.

By leave of the Assembly,

On motion of Mr. Garry, seconded by Mr. Anderson,

Resolved, That this Assembly doth concur in the report presented this day of the Select Special Committee appointed to prepare and report lists of members to compose the Select Standing Committees of this Assembly during the present Session.

The Assembly then adjourned at 3.25 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1928.

The following Petitions were severally presented and laid on the Table:

By Mr. Agar—Of Saskatchewan Wholesale Society Limited.

By Mr. McGregor—Of Reverend Sister Marie-Madeline and two others.

According to Order, the Clerk having favourably reported on same pursuant to Standing Order (Rule) 50 (7), the following Petitions were read and received:—

Of the City of Regina, praying for an Act to ratify an Agreement with the General Motors of Canada Limited.

Of The Agricultural Insurance Company Limited, praying for an Act to amend its Act of incorporation.

Of Reverend Sister Jeanne-Micheline and two others, praying for an Act to incorporate the Congregation des Sacres Coeurs de Jesus et de Marie et de l'Adoration.

The Hon. Mr. Gardiner, a member of the Executive Council, laid before the Assembly,

First Annual Report of the Saskatchewan Civil Service Superannuation Board, for the fiscal year ended April 30, 1928.

*(Sessional Paper No. 2.)*

Also, Third Annual Report and Financial Statement of the Liquor Board for year ended March 31, 1928.

*(Sessional Paper No. 3.)*

The Order of the Day being read for taking into consideration the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, at the opening of the Session, it was

Moved by Mr. McIntosh, seconded by Mr. Waugh,

That an Humble Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, as follows:—

TO HIS HONOUR THE HONOURABLE H. W. NEWLANDS,  
*Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Saskatchewan.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR,—

We, His Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Saskatchewan, in Session assembled, humbly thank Your Honour for the gracious Speech which Your Honour has been pleased to address to us at the opening of the present Session.

A debate arising, and the debate continuing, in amendment thereto, it was moved by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Tran,

"That the following be added to the motion immediately after the word "Session":

"But we regret that there is no expressed desire or intention to deal with the question of stricter enforcement of the present liquor laws in the Province; to introduce remedial legislation for the purpose of clearing up troublesome and difficult situations in regard to the administration of our public schools; to encourage and foster a definite provincial immigration policy; to encourage the development of a wider provincial and foreign market for our immense lignite coal deposits, giving the assurance of a more extensive use of our own coal in Government institutions; to introduce a measure of Civil Service reform leading to the establishment of a Civil Service Commission, which shall be non-partisan; and to bring into effect reforms with reference to the administration of the office of the Official Guardian with a view to effecting greater economy."

Said debate was, on motion of Hon. Mr. Gardiner, adjourned.

The Assembly then adjourned at 9.50 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1928.

The following Petition was presented and laid on the Table:

By Mr. Garry—Of the City of Yorkton.

According to Order, the Clerk having favourably reported on same pursuant to Standing Order (Rule) 50 (7), the following Petitions were read and received:—

Of Saskatchewan Wholesale Society Limited, praying for an Act to change its name, increase its share capital and grant certain additional privileges and powers.

Of Reverend Sister Marie-Madeline and two others, praying for an Act to incorporate Les Missionnaires Oblates du Sacré Coeur et de Marie Immaculée de Gravelbourg.

Leave to introduce the same having been granted, the following Bills were severally received, read the first time, and second reading ordered:—

Bill No. 2—An Act respecting Inquiries concerning Public Matters.

Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Tuesday next.

Bill No. 3—An Act respecting Applications to Court for Relief of Widows.

Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Tuesday next.

Bill No. 4—An Act to amend The Court Officials Act.

Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Tuesday next.

Bill No. 5—An Act to amend The Trustee Act.

Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Tuesday next.

Bill No. 6—An Act to amend The Exemptions Act.

Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Tuesday next.

Bill No. 7—An Act to amend The Surrogate Courts Act.

Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Tuesday next.

Bill No. 8—An Act to amend the Magistrates Act.

Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Tuesday next.

Bill No. 9—An Act to amend The Devolution of Real Property Act, 1928.

Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Tuesday next.

Bill No. 10—An Act respecting Suits against the Crown by Petition of Right.

Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Tuesday next.

Mr. Tran asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Patterson:—

(1) What position is held by R. Lister of Pelly in the Civil Service?

*Answer:* Is on the temporary staff of the Insurance-Branch as an Inspector.

- (2) By whom was he recommended for this position?  
*Answer:* Made personal application for position.
- (3) What conditions presented to establish the necessity for this position?  
*Answer:* An inspector had retired from the Service and another had been superannuated.
- (4) What salary does he receive?  
*Answer:* \$150.00 per month.

Mr. Tran asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Uhrich:—

- (1) What disposition was made of the building in the Town of Kamsack purchased to house the Provincial Police?  
*Answer:* Sold.
- (2) If sold, what was the price paid?  
*Answer:* \$150.00.
- (3) What was the net loss to the Province in the transaction?  
*Answer:* Do not anticipate any loss.

Mr. Stipe asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) What was the amount of money in the Moiety Fund accumulated by the late members of the Saskatchewan Provincial Police?  
*Answer:* \$1733.46.
- (2) Have any disbursements been made from this Fund since its inception?  
*Answer:* Yes, the moieties of fines were returned to the members of the Force from whom received.
- (3) If so, what was the amount, for what purposes, and by whom were these disbursements made?  
*Answer:* See answer to question 2.

Mr. Stipe asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) What has been the total cost, legal and otherwise, to this Province in the case of Isaac Braun?  
*Answer:* Counsel fee to J. W. Estey, K.C. for conducting the prosecution at the preliminary hearing at Saskatoon on December 3rd, 8th, 9th and 10th, 1925, \$75.00; stenographer's account for taking down and transcribing 441 folios of evidence at the preliminary hearing, \$66.55; fee for attending on application for bail to H. E. Sampson, K.C., \$10.00; counsel fees and expenses to J. W. Estey, K.C. for conducting the prosecution at the trial at Saskatoon lasting 15 days, from September 22nd, 1926 to October 9th, 1926, at a counsel fee of \$60.00 per day fixed



by the presiding trial Judge, when the accused was found guilty and sentenced to five years' imprisonment in the Prince Albert Penitentiary, \$948.95; fee to H. E. Sampson, K.C. for appearing on behalf of the Crown on February 18th, 1927, upon application to the Court of Appeal by defence to postpone the hearing of the appeal, \$5.00; counsel fees and expenses to J. W. Estey, K.C. for appearing on the appeal before the Court of Appeal on May 2nd, September 19th, November 9th and 10th, 1927, when new trial ordered, \$424.45; fee to H. E. Sampson, K.C. for appearing on behalf of the Crown, January 3rd, 1928, upon application to the Court of King's Bench by the defence for order transferring place of trial from Saskatoon to Prince Albert, \$5.00; counsel fees and expenses to J. W. Estey, K.C. for conducting the prosecution at the trial at Prince Albert lasting 7 days from February 2nd, 1928 to February 9th, 1928, at a counsel fee of \$60.00 per day fixed by the presiding trial Judge, when the jury disagreed, \$563.95; counsel fee and expenses to J. H. Lindsay, K.C. for conducting the prosecution at the trial at Prince Albert, lasting 7 days from February 2nd, 1928 to February 9th, 1928, at a counsel fee of \$50.00 per day fixed by the presiding trial Judge, when the jury disagreed, \$352.46; counsel fees and expenses to W. A. Tucker, appointed by the Honourable Mr. Justice MacDonald to conduct the defence of the accused for 7 days from February 2nd, 1928 to February 9th, 1928, at a counsel fee of \$60.00 per day fixed by the presiding trial Judge, \$558.00; fee to J. H. Lindsay, K.C. for attending on behalf of the Crown on application by the defence for bail on April 17th, 1928, \$10.00; counsel fee to W. A. Tucker upon application for adjournment of trial on April 17th, 1928, \$25.00; taxed costs of application to Court of King's Bench for change of venue of trial to W. A. Tucker, \$102.25; counsel fee on application to Court of King's Bench for adjournment on September 14th, 1928, to W. A. Tucker, \$25.00; counsel fee to J. W. Estey, K.C. for appearing for the Crown upon application by the defence on September 28th, 1928, to the Court of King's Bench at Saskatoon for separate trials of the two charges against the accused, \$40.00; counsel fees and expenses to W. A. Tucker upon application by the defence on September 28th, 1928, to Court of King's Bench at Saskatoon for separate trials of the two charges against the accused, \$57.65; counsel fees and expenses to J. W. Estey, K.C. for conducting the prosecution at the trial at Prince Albert lasting 10 days from October 15th to October 25th, 1928, inclusive, at a counsel fee of \$60.00 per day fixed by

the presiding trial Judge when the accused was found guilty and sentenced to five years in the Prince Albert Penitentiary, \$831.31; counsel fees and expenses to J. H. Lindsay, K.C. for conducting the prosecution at the trial at Prince Albert lasting 10 days from October 15th to October 25th, 1928, inclusive, at a counsel fee of \$60.00 per day fixed by the presiding trial Judge, \$620.28; counsel fees and expenses to W. A. Tucker, appointed by the Honourable Mr. Justice MacDonald to conduct the defence of the accused for 10 days from October 15th to October 25th, 1928, inclusive, at a counsel fee of \$60.00 per day fixed by the presiding trial Judge, \$826.20; E. C. Rossie, photographing exhibits for trial, \$11.60; British Columbia Provincial Police for expenses incurred in connection with inquiries regarding the accused and H. P. Friesen, \$15.10; jury fees and expenses at Saskatoon Court at trial lasting 15 days from September 22nd to October 9th, 1926, \$384.50; jury fees and expenses at Prince Albert Court at trial lasting for 7 days from February 2nd, 1928 to February 9th, 1928, when the jury disagreed, \$211.00; jury fees and expenses at Prince Albert Court at trial lasting for 10 days from October 15th to October 25th, 1928, \$226.50; witness fees at Saskatoon Court, \$1401.20; witness fees at Prince Albert Court, February, 1928, \$2076.05; witness fees, Prince Albert Court, October, 1928, \$2836.15; fees to J. J. Kenny, handwriting expert, making examination of documents and report, \$45.00; interpreter's fees at Prince Albert Court for 7 days from October 16th to October 24th, 1928, \$28.00.

This criminal case was the lengthiest and one of the most difficult and involved in the history of the Courts of this Province and concerned serious charges of subornation of perjury and fabrication of evidence before the Court of Appeal. The large number of witnesses required in this case is shown by the fact that the evidence transcribed for the Court of Appeal amounted to 6000 folios. In addition, the Crown was under the necessity of paying for the attendance of the material witnesses for the defence, owing to the fact that the accused was without funds to procure their attendance. Some of the witnesses were required to be brought from the Provinces of Ontario and British Columbia. It was also necessary for the Crown to pay for the defence counsel appointed by the Court.

- (2) Who were the Legal Counsel engaged?

*Answer:* See answer to question 1.

- (3) What was the amount paid to each?

*Answer:* See answer to question 1.

Mr. McConnell asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Uhrich:—

- (1) Were urinals placed in the men's toilets in the Old People's Home at Wolseley when same was built or afterwards?

*Answer:* Yes.

- (2) If so, is it true that these urinals have been out of repair for the past few years and not in use?

*Answer:* No.

- (3) If they have been out of repair what has been the reason for the delay in putting them in condition again?

*Answer:* One on the upstairs floor, occupied mostly by women and bed patients has been disconnected for sanitary reasons.

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Gardiner:—

- (1) How many ballots were printed for use in the Happyland Constituency in the General Election of 1925?

*Answer:* 10,500.

- (2) How many names were on the lists?

*Answer:* 7,229.

- (3) Who printed the ballots?

*Answer:* Arthur A. Rodgers, of the Cabri Clarion.

- (4) On what date was the printing done?

*Answer:* May 27th—8,000 ballots.  
May 29th—2,500.

- (5) Were all unused ballot papers accounted for and destroyed?

*Answer:* Returning Officer's report does not show that any unused ballot papers were not accounted for. Envelopes and packages containing ballot papers not examined here but kept intact as received from Returning Officer and destroyed with other 1925 election material.

- (6) If they were destroyed, when, where and by whom?

*Answer:* (a) In the Spring of 1927.  
(b) In the incinerator in the old Government Power House, Regina.  
(c) By employees of the Department of Public Works working under the supervision of Mr. George Watt.

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Mr. McIntosh,

That an Humble Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, as follows:—

TO HIS HONOUR THE HONOURABLE H. W. NEWLANDS,  
*Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Saskatchewan.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR,—

We, His Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Saskatchewan, in Session assembled, humbly thank Your Honour for the gracious Speech which Your Honour has been pleased to address to us at the opening of the present Session.

And the proposed amendment thereto of Mr. Anderson,

“That the following be added to the motion immediately after the word “Session”:

“But we regret that there is no expressed desire or intention to deal with the question of stricter enforcement of the present liquor laws in the Province; to introduce remedial legislation for the purpose of clearing up troublesome and difficult situations in regard to the administration of our public schools; to encourage and foster a definite provincial immigration policy; to encourage the development of a wider provincial and foreign market for our immense lignite coal deposits, giving the assurance of a more extensive use of our own coal in Government institutions; to introduce a measure of Civil Service reform leading to the establishment of a Civil Service Commission, which shall be non-partisan; and to bring into effect reforms with reference to the administration of the office of the Official Guardian with a view to effecting greater economy.”

The debate continuing, and the question being put on the said amendment, it was negatived on the following division:

YEAS.

Messieurs

Whatley	Stipe	Anderson
Salkeld	McClure	McConnell—8
Tran	MacPherson	

NAYS.

Messieurs

Finlayson	Patterson	Marion
Cross	Paulson	Grant
Pickel	Parker	Waugh
Hamilton	Sahlmark	Robertson
Davis	Gamble	Laing
Gardiner	Smith	Waddell
Uhrich	Cockburn	McGregor
Clinch	Gordon	Tripp
McKinnon	Hogan	Donaldson
Baker	Gemmell	Hassard
Ross	Nay	Hill

Therres  
Halvorson  
Wilson  
Dodds  
Spence

Sykes  
Hagarty  
Lewis  
Steele  
Miller

McIntosh  
Keelan  
McAfee  
Huck—47

The debate continuing, said debate was, on motion of the Hon. Mr. Gardiner, adjourned.

The Assembly then adjourned at 5.50 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, MONDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1928.

According to Order, the Clerk having favourably reported on same pursuant to Standing Order (Rule) 50 (7), the following Petition was read and received:—

Of the City of Yorkton, praying for an Act to ratify, confirm and validate certain bylaws and an agreement with Mid-West Utilities Limited.

Leave to introduce the same having been granted, the following Bills were severally received, read the first time, and second reading ordered:—

Bill No. 11—An Act respecting Land and the Title thereto.  
Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 12—An Act respecting the Prevention of Fraud in connection with the Sale of Securities.

Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 13—An Act to amend The Telephone Department Superannuation Act, 1928.

Hon. Mr. Patterson, Second reading Friday next.

The Hon. Mr. Latta, a member of the Executive Council, laid before the Assembly:

President's Report of the University of Saskatchewan, including Financial Statements for the year ended June 30, 1928.

(*Sessional Paper No. 4.*)

And also, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor:

Annual Report of the Provincial Secretary, including the Report of the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies, 1927-28.

(*Sessional Paper No. 5.*)

The Order of the Day being called for the Question by Mr. MacPherson, by leave of the Assembly, it was

Ordered, That the said Question stand as a motion for a Return.

The said Order of the Assembly was accordingly issued to the proper officer:—

By Mr. MacPherson, for a Return showing:

- (1) The number of Civil Servants engaged in the Constituency of Arm River between October 1 and 25, 1928.
- (2) The names of such Civil Servants and the Department in which each was employed.
- (3) Their duties in each case while in said Constituency.

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Gardiner:

- (1) Were any charges of irregularities in connection with the Happyland Election in 1925 brought to the attention of the Government or any member of the Government?

*Answer:* No.

At a meeting in Cabri, Saskatchewan, during the Dominion election campaign in 1925 a gentleman in the audience put some questions to the Hon. S. J. Latta at the close of his address. The questioner, Mr. Latta discovered at the close of the meeting to be Mr. Baldwin. The questions referred to the conduct of the provincial election in the constituency of Happyland. Mr. Latta replied that he knew nothing whatever of the matter to which the questions referred and after the meeting closed, he spoke to the questioner in the body of the hall. At the conclusion of their conversation Mr. Latta advised him that if he had any complaints to make regarding the conduct of the election, such complaint should be made in the proper manner as set out in The Election Act, that the courts and the courts only were competent to deal with such matters, that the Minister himself was not, nor were the Members of the Government a court, that he should proceed without delay as the time was fast passing during which the complaint could be made under the sections of the Act dealing with such matters. In reply to a statement from Mr. Baldwin that he had no money to throw away on court cases, Mr. Latta further advised him to lay an information against the person or persons alleged to have violated the law, and that this would cost him nothing.

Mr. Latta heard nothing further regarding the matters referred to until reference was made to it in the newspapers a few weeks ago.

- (2) If so, when, and to whom and by whom? If to a member of the Government, to what member?

*Answer:* See answer to No. 1.

- (3) If representations of irregularities were made what action, if any, was taken by the Government?

*Answer:* See answer to No. 1.

Mr. MacPherson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) In whose building is the Beer Store at Earl Grey located?

*Answer:* The Beer Store at Earl Grey is located in a building owned by Mr. Phillip Gross.

- (2) Is there a retail mercantile business carried on in the same building?

*Answer:* Yes.

- (3) If so, is there any partition separating the Beer Store and the retail store?

*Answer:* Yes. The Beer Store is separated by a partition and a counter. The counter is used exclusively in connection with the beer store.

- (4) If a partition, is there any entrance connecting the Beer Store and retail store?

*Answer:* The entrance to the Beer store is made through the retail store.

Mr. MacPherson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Spence:—

- (1) Was there a concrete bridge constructed in 1928 on the Wood River, South of Coderre?

*Answer:* Yes.

- (2) If so, what was the cost of the bridge?

*Answer:* \$21,751.14 to date; with a payment of \$1,500.00 still pending.

- (3) Were petitions filed either in favour of or against the construction of the said bridge?

*Answer:* One petition, dated April 27, 1927, in favour of construction of the bridge; none received against its construction.

- (4) If so, how many such petitions were filed, were they in favour of construction or opposed thereto and what was the number of signatures to each petition?

*Answer:* See answer to Question 3. The petition in favour of the construction of the Bridge contains 135 signatures.

Mr. McConnell asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) Are any Justices of the Peace in Saskatchewan acting as vendors in Government Beer Stores?

*Answer:* No.

- (2) If so, at what places?

*Answer:* See answer to Question 1.

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Uhrich:—

- (1) Has a successor to Dr. Seymour been appointed?

*Answer:* No.

- (2) If so, who?

*Answer:* See answer to Question 1.



- (3) If not, why not?

*Answer:* Dr. Seymour has been retained on the staff for special work. An Acting Deputy Minister has been appointed temporarily.

- (4) If not, is it the intention of the Government to recognize the principle of promotion in making said appointment?

*Answer:* When the appointment is made the Government will take into consideration all the factors necessary to the selection of the person most suitable for the position.

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Patterson:—

- (1) When was the loan advanced by the Farm Loan Board on a farm near Wauchope known as the Nealand Farm?

*Answer:* 21st of February, 1918.

- (2) What was the amount of the loan and the size of the farm?

*Answer:* \$9,000.00—four quarter sections.

- (3) How much of principal and interest was paid up to time of foreclosure and what was this date?

*Answer:* Principal \$104.22, Interest \$3,307.09—25th of February, 1926.

- (4) Was this farm resold, if so, to whom and when?

*Answer:* Yes. Joseph Chouinard—1st of April, 1926.  
(At which time the total amount of the loan with all costs and interests was \$11,572.97).

- (5) What was the price obtained? How much cash was paid and what were the terms of sale?

*Answer:* \$16,000.00—\$1,000.00 cash, balance one half crop payments, interest 6½%.

- (6) Was any commission paid in connection with this resale, if so, to whom?

*Answer:* No.

- (7) Is it customary to pay commission for the resale of foreclosed farms? Has it ever been done?

*Answer:* Yes, when resale is not made by the Board or its employees. Yes.

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Mr. McIntosh of the sixth instant.

The debate continuing, said debate was, on motion of the Hon. Mr. Davis, adjourned.

The following Order of the Assembly was issued to the proper officer:

By Mr. Whatley for Mr. Stipe, for a Return showing:—

The itemised Expense Account of \$5,580.50 of W. G. McKay, Road Inspector, for the fiscal year ending April 30, 1928.

By leave of the Assembly,

On motion of Hon. Mr. Gardiner, seconded by Mr. Anderson,

Ordered, That when this Assembly adjourns today it do stand adjourned until Wednesday, December 12, at 3 o'clock p.m.

The Assembly then adjourned at 11.45 until Wednesday at 3 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1928.

Leave to introduce the same having been granted; and the Minister introducing the Bills having in each case then acquainted the Assembly that His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, having been informed of the subject matter of the Bill, recommends it to the consideration of the Assembly; the following Bills were severally received, read the first time, and second reading ordered:—

Bill No. 14—An Act to amend The Saskatchewan Provincial Police Act.

Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 15—An Act to amend The Deferred Charges Act, 1923.

Hon. Mr. Patterson, Second reading Friday next.

Mr. McConnell asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

(1) When was a Beer Store opened at Kayville?

*Answer:* September 14th, 1927.

(2) What were the names and addresses of the applicants for the position as vendor in that store?

*Answer:* George Scrimlisk, Kayville, Georg Scrimbit, Kayville, Daniel McGinnis, Dahinda, and Karl Jackle, Kayville.

(3) Was an application received from a man named McGinnis for this position, and, if so, was this application accompanied by a petition?

*Answer:* Yes, an application was received but it was not accompanied by a petition.

(4) Did the man named McGinnis secure the appointment?

*Answer:* No, because Daniel McGinnis requested the Board in April 1927 to advise him whether or not the Store would be opened at once and if it was the intention not to so open the store that he would seek employment elsewhere. The Board advised him that the Store would not be opened at that time and assumed he was abandoning his application.

(5) If not, who did secure the appointment?

*Answer:* Karl Jackle of Kayville.

(6) Was the vendor appointed ever found guilty of any offence under any Provincial statute?

*Answer:* He pleaded guilty on November 28th, 1928 to selling liquor to a minor but stated that he was unaware that the purchaser was under age. The matter is now being investigated with a view to determining whether the accused could have been justifiably mistaken.

Mr. Tran asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Spence:—

- (1) Was a man named Forsythe awarded the contract to build a highway between Norquay and Pelly?  
*Answer:* Yes.
- (2) If so, was his the lowest tender?  
*Answer:* Yes.
- (3) What experience has he had in this connection?  
*Answer:* No previous experience with the Department of Highways.
- (4) On what date was the contract awarded?  
*Answer:* October 18th, 1928.
- (5) How much work has been done?  
*Answer:* None to date.
- (6) Has he any equipment to do the work?  
*Answer:* Contractor has assured the Department of Highways that he is in a position to secure the necessary equipment, and has furnished a bond for \$3,000.00 to guarantee satisfactory completion of the work.

Mr. McConnell asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Uhrich:—

- (1) How many tons of Saskatchewan lignite coal were purchased by the Government of Saskatchewan during the past fiscal year?  
*Answer:* 6,123 Tons.
- (2) How many tons of Alberta coal were so purchased during the said period?  
*Answer:* 21,173 Tons.

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Mr. McIntosh of the sixth instant.

The debate continuing, said debate was, on motion of Mr. Whatley, adjourned.

Mr. Speaker laid before the Assembly, the Annual Report of the Legislative Librarian, which is as follows:—

#### REPORT OF THE LEGISLATIVE LIBRARIAN.

Regina, December 12, 1928.

*To the Honourable,  
The Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan.*

Sir:—

I have the honour to submit to you the Annual Report of

the Legislative Library covering the eleven-month period, January 1, to November 30, 1928.

Completing the re-organisation of the Library staff, following the retirement of three members by superannuation on May 1, 1927, Mrs. Jessie R. Bothwell was appointed clerk and commenced her duties May 1, 1928.

Co-ordination of the work of the Legislative Library and of the Open Shelf and Travelling Libraries branches of the Bureau of Publications, foreshadowed in my last Report, has been carried out to a considerable extent, Mrs. Ramsland, Assistant Librarian, acting as Librarian of the Travelling Libraries, while Miss Andrews, Librarian of the Open Shelf Library, has assisted in the work of cataloguing in the Legislative Library.

For some years past, R. W. Shannon, K.C., as Legislative Counsel, has urged the purchase of the Law Reports of the several States of the Commonwealth of Australia. The early volumes in these series of Reports are now out of print and extremely difficult to obtain, and, as a natural consequence, are increasing in value each year. Sets become available only as private law libraries are disposed of, largely as a result of the estates of the owners of such libraries being wound up. The Legislative appropriation for all Library purposes has, however, not been sufficiently large to make possible, as yet, the purchase of all these sets.

Last year, as noted in my report, the Library purchased "The Solicitor's Journal" from the date of its first publication in 1857 to date, seventy volumes in all, and the New South Wales Land Appeal Cases, thirty-one volumes. Since then the following sets have been secured: New South Wales Law Reports, 1825-1927, sixty-seven volumes and Digest; Victoria Law Reports, 1861-1925, sixty-two volumes and Digest; Tasmania Law Reports, 1905-1924, twenty volumes; New Zealand Law Reports, 1882-1926, forty-five volumes. There has also been secured Mew's Digest of English Cases, twenty-four volumes, and the Juridical Review (British) 1889-1927, thirty-nine volumes.

To complete the sets of Law Reports, which Mr. Shannon strongly recommends, the Library has yet to secure those of Queensland, 1860 to date; South Australia, 1865 to date; West Australia, 1898 to date. The Library is endeavoring to secure these sets, and hopes to do so in the ensuing fiscal year.

No other library in Saskatchewan contains these Reports, and their addition to the Legislative Library will prove of the utmost value and add greatly to the Library's reputation for the completeness of its legal section.

A total of 1,008 volumes have been added to the Library during the year to date, and in making additions care has been exercised to secure only the most authoritative works in all departments.

The increase in the number of volumes in the Library, and the necessity for purposes both of record and reference to keep all old Statutes, Reports, Parliamentary documents, and works of

reference, will very shortly compel serious consideration of the question of additional Library space. Even now there is little available space for additional books. To partly meet the problem, the matter of effecting a re-arrangement of books on the shelving, particularly in the Parliamentary and Legal sections, has been receiving attention. Many of the groups of Statutes, Law Reports, Digest of Laws, Parliamentary Reports, and Departmental Reports, have outgrown the space originally allotted to them, and each year brings additions. Mr. Shannon has kindly given his assistance in a study of this problem, and, following a personal examination of the system followed in the Manitoba Legislative Library, prepared a report as a guide in undertaking this important work of re-arrangement. Following the close of the present Session of the Assembly it is proposed to proceed with this work.

Respectfully submitted,

W. F. KERR,  
*Librarian.*

*(Sessional Paper No. 6.)*

The Assembly then adjourned at 5.50 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1928.

Mr. Gamble, from the Select Standing Committee on Standing Orders, presented the first report of the said Committee, which is as follows:—

Your Committee met for organisation and appointed Mr. Gamble as its Chairman.

Your Committee has duly examined the following Petitions for Private Bills and finds that the provisions of Standing Order 76 have been sufficiently complied with in each case:—

Of the City of Regina praying for an Act to ratify an Agreement with the General Motors of Canada, Limited;

Of Saskatchewan Wholesale Society, Limited, praying for an Act to change its name, increase its share capital and grant certain additional privileges and powers;

Of Reverend Sister Marie-Madeline and two others, praying for an Act to incorporate Les Missionnaires Oblates du Sacré Coeur et de Marie Immaculée de Gravelbourg;

Of The Agricultural Insurance Company, Limited, praying for an Act to amend its Act of incorporation;

Of the City of Yorkton, praying for an Act to ratify, confirm and validate certain bylaws and an agreement with the Mid-West Utilities, Limited.

The Clerk laid on the Table the following Private Bills:—

Bill No. 01—An Act to confirm a Certain Bylaw of the City of Regina and a Certain Agreement entered into between the City of Regina and General Motors of Canada Limited.

Bill No. 02—An Act to incorporate Saskatchewan Co-operative Wholesale Society Limited.

Bill No. 03—An Act to incorporate Les Missionnaires Oblates du Sacré Coeur et de Marie Immaculée de Gravelbourg, Saskatchewan.

Bill No. 04—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate The Agricultural Insurance Company, Limited.

Bill No. 05—An Act to confirm Certain Bylaws of the City of Yorkton and a Certain Agreement entered into between the City of Yorkton and Mid-West Utilities Limited.

The said Bills were read the first time and ordered for second reading on Monday next, pursuant to Standing Order 80.

Leave to introduce the same having been granted, the following Bills were severally received, read the first time, and second reading ordered:—

Bill No. 16—An Act to amend The Town Planning Act, 1928.  
Hon. Mr. Latta, Second reading Monday next.

Bill No. 17—An Act to repeal The Urban Municipal Housing Act.

Hon. Mr. Latta, Second reading Monday next.

Bill No. 18—An Act to amend The Dairy Products Act.

Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Monday next.

Bill No. 19—An Act to amend The Produce Merchants Act.

Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Monday next.

Bill No. 20—An Act to amend The Treasury Department Act.

Hon. Mr. Patterson, Second reading Monday next.

The Hon. Mr. Davis, a member of the Executive Council, laid before the Assembly:—

A detailed Statement of all Remissions made under The Penalties and Forfeitures Act, for the period ended December 4, 1928.  
(*Sessional Paper No. 7.*)

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Spence:—

- (1) Is William McKay still in the employ of the Highways Department?

*Answer:* No.

- (2) If not, when did he sever his connections and why?

*Answer:* December 1st, 1928.

Resigned for the reasons stated in Mr. McKay's letter of resignation as follows:

"In view of the fact that certain dealings which I had with private parties in Regina, but which had no connection with any Government or Liberal party affairs, have been made a matter of public discussion, and because I feel that my association with your department might make it possible for the individuals making the charges to injure the Government through me, I wish to tender my resignation to take effect on the first of December, 1928.

"In tendering my resignation I wish it distinctly understood that I am admitting no guilt in connection with the charges, but I would insist that my resignation be accepted in which case any one having any charges to make can proceed with them without making them a matter of public concern."

- (3) If not at present in the employ of the Highways Department is he at present a Civil Servant?

*Answer:* No.



Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Patterson:—

- (1) How many acres of School Lands are there in Saskatchewan still controlled by the Federal Government?

*Answer:* There is estimated to be in the Province 6,555,000 acres of unsold school lands.

- (2) Has the Saskatchewan Government any knowledge of an intention on the part of the Federal Government to dispose of all such lands before our natural resources are given back to us?

*Answer:* No.

- (3) Has the Saskatchewan Government asked the Federal Government to so dispose of said lands? If so, when and why?

*Answer:* No.

- (4) If said Federal Government intends to dispose of said lands and have not been requested by the Saskatchewan Government so to do, is the Government of this Province prepared to protest against such disposal provided they have reason to expect the early return of our natural resources?

*Answer:* See answer to Question 2.

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Uhrich:—

- (1) What tenders were received for the Prince Albert Sanatorium?

*Answer:*

- (a) General contract—

Wilson & Wilson . . . . .	\$607,250.00
Poole Construction Company . . . . .	612,680.00
A. W. Cassidy & Company . . . . .	644,246.00

- (b) Plumbing, Heating, Power House, Equipment, Laundry, etc.,

Vagg Wilson & Company . . . . .	\$292,689.00
Bowyer-Boag Limited . . . . .	297,740.00
Roantree & Co. Ltd. . . . .	303,500.00

- (2) Who received the contract and at what price?

*Answer:*

- (a) General contract—

Wilson & Wilson . . . . .	\$607,250.00
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- (b) Plumbing, Heating, Power House Equipment, etc.

Vagg Wilson & Company . . . . .	\$292,689.00
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- (3) How much has been estimated for extras or incidentals?

*Answer:* General specifications, clause 55, reads:

“The General Contractor will include in his tender the Sum of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00) for contingencies.

"Any alterations, extras, etc., shall be paid for out of this sum and upon completion of the work any balance remaining shall be credited to the Minister."

Plumbing and Heating specifications, clause 248, reads:

"This Contractor will include in his tender the sum of six thousand dollars for contingencies. Any extras will be paid for out of this amount and any balance remaining will be credited to the Minister."

Mr. McConnell asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Spence:—

- (1) Does the Highways Department always call for tenders before it lets road grading contracts?

*Answer:* It is the practice of the Department of Highways to call for tenders for the grading of provincial highways except for work covering repair, reconditioning or works of minor mileage which the Minister believes can be more expeditiously and economically executed by commission or order. In such cases the work may be carried on by such commission or order as is provided for under section 12 of The Highways Act.

Also contracts are entered into with rural municipalities, without tender, for the expenditure of moneys granted by the government as provided for under section 10 of The Highways Act.

- (2) Is the lowest tender always accepted?

*Answer:* Section 13 of The Highways Act provides that the Minister shall let contracts for public improvements to the lowest bidder except where he may deem it inexpedient to do so, when he shall report the same and obtain the authority of the Lieutenant Governor in Council to award the contract to other than the lowest bidder. It is the practice of the department to conform strictly to the provisions of this section and award contracts to the lowest bidder except where the Minister deems it his duty to report to the Lieutenant Governor in Council that the bidder is not in a position to satisfactorily carry out the contract.

In 1928 all contracts for grading of provincial highways have been let to the lowest bidder.

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Spence:—

- (1) Are any American contractors using imported American road machinery and engaging American labour at present working on Government road gravelling contracts in Saskatchewan?

*Answer:* Stevens Bros., Ltd., of Winnipeg, Manitoba, incorporated under the laws of the province of Manitoba, are working on road gravelling contracts in Saskatchewan. This firm is associated with Stevens Bros., an American firm with office at St. Paul, Minnesota. Have no information as to road machinery used, but it is possible they, as are other road grading and gravelling contractors, are using American made trucks and other machinery. Have no information as to whether or not American labour is employed, but know they are employing local trucks and labour on the work.

- (2) If so, what contractor or contractors, and where are they working?

*Answer:* Stevens Bros., Ltd., of Winnipeg, Manitoba, are working on gravelling contracts Saskatoon east and Yorkton east and west.

- (3) If so, why were said contractors engaged?

*Answer:* Were the lowest tenderers and are a responsible firm.

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Spence:—

- (1) Is Reginald Foulkes in the employ of the Government?

*Answer:* No.

- (2) If not, has he been and for how long a period?

*Answer:* Yes, thirteen months and twenty-seven days.

- (3) In what capacity is he or has he been engaged?

*Answer:* Game Guardian.

The Order of the Day being called for the Question by Mr. Buckle, by leave of the Assembly, it was

Ordered, That the said Question stand as a motion for a Return.

The said Order of the Assembly was accordingly issued to the proper officer:—

By Mr. Buckle, for a Return showing:

- (1) How many Secretaries of rural and urban municipalities have been reported by Government Inspectors or by auditors as being short in their accounts during the past ten years.
- (2) In how many cases there have been prosecutions.
- (3) The amount and the year in each case where shortages have been reported.

Mr. MacPherson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Spence:—

- (1) Who are the officials of the Freight Rates Branch of the Department of Railways, Labour and Industries?

*Answer:* Geo. H. Smith, together with necessary office staff.

- (2) When were each of these appointed to this Branch and what are the qualifications of each?

*Answer:* Geo. H. Smith appointed April 16, 1928. Mr. Smith has had thirty-two years' experience in freight rate work with Canadian Pacific Railway.

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Mr. McIntosh of the sixth instant.

The debate continuing, said debate was, on motion of Mr. Steele, adjourned.

The Assembly then adjourned at 10.20 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1928.

The following Petition was presented and laid on the Table:

By Mr. Agar—Of Frederick Finlay MacDermid and four others.

Ordered, That the Hon. Mr. Spence have leave to introduce Bill No. 21—An Act to establish a Power Commission.

The Hon. Mr. Spence, a member of the Executive Council, then acquainted the Assembly that His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, having been informed of the subject matter of the Bill, recommends it to the consideration of the Assembly.

The said Bill was accordingly received, read the first time, and ordered to be read the second time on Tuesday next.

The Hon. Mr. Davis, a member of the Executive Council, laid before the Assembly:—

Record of Convictions under The Liquor Act, 1925, for the period ended December 10, 1928.

(*Sessional Paper No. 8.*)

The Hon. Mr. Urich, a member of the Executive Council, laid before the Assembly, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor:—

Annual Report of the Department of Public Works for the Financial Year ended April 30, 1928.

(*Sessional Paper No. 9.*)

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Latta:—

- (1) Were any tenders at any time called for during the fiscal year 1927-1928 for Government Printing contracts?

*Answer:* No. All printing is let on standard contract embodying unit prices based on the principles of the Franklin price list. Copy attached.

- (2) If so, in how many cases, what firms or individuals tendered and at what price?

*Answer:* Answered by No. 1.

- (3) To whom was the contract awarded in each case?

*Answer:* The following is a list of the printing firms to which contracts were given during 1927-1928:

Assiniboia Reporter.

Arcola Moose Mountain Star-Standard.

H. K. Brown Company, Regina.

Battleford Press

Barber-Ellis, Ltd., Winnipeg.

Bulman Brothers, Ltd., Winnipeg.

Craik Weekly News.  
 Courier Job Print, Regina.  
 Caxton Press Ltd., Regina.  
 Canadian Bank Note Co. Ltd., Ottawa.  
 Estevan Mercury.  
 Gravelbourg Star.  
 Humboldt Journal.  
 Kerrobert Citizen.  
 Kindersley Clarion.  
 Leader Publishing Co. Ltd., Regina.  
 Moose Jaw Printing Co. Ltd.  
 Moose Jaw Times Co. Ltd.  
 Moose Jaw Western Press, Ltd.  
 Moosomin World-Spectator.  
 Moose Mountain Star-Standard.  
 McInnis Press.  
 Melville Canadian.  
 Melfort Moon.  
 Maple Creek News.  
 G. W. Norman, Saskatoon.  
 North Battleford News, Ltd.  
 Optimist Printing & Publishing Co.  
 Peerless Printing Co. Ltd., Regina.  
 Prince Albert Daily Herald.  
 Prince Albert Le Patriote.  
 Prince Albert News Publishing Co. Ltd.  
 Regina Press.  
 Regina Central Press, Ltd.  
 Swift Current Sun Printing & Pub. Co.  
 Saskatoon Star Publishing Co. Ltd.  
 Stovel Company, Ltd., Winnipeg.  
 Saskatoon Modern Press, Ltd.  
 Saults & Pollard, Ltd., Winnipeg.  
 Shaunavon Standard.  
 University Press, Ltd., Regina.  
 Ukrainian Voice.  
 Weyburn Review Publishers, Ltd.  
 Wilkie Press.  
 Wynyard Advance.  
 Weyburn Herald Printing Co. Ltd.  
 Yorkton Enterprise Pub. Co. Ltd.

Mr. MacPherson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Latta:—

- (1) How many automobiles are owned by the Province of Saskatchewan?

*Answer:* 51.

- (2) What is the number of automobiles operated by each Department of the Government and the number of each make of automobile?

*Answer:*

Department of Agriculture...	2	2 Fords
Department of The Attorney General.....	Nil	
Department of Railways, Labour and Industries...	1	1 Chevrolet
Department of Highways.....	7	4 Chevrolets 3 Fords
Insurance Office.....	2	1 Essex 1 Chevrolet
Liquor Board.....	1	1 McLaughlin
Department of the Provincial Secretary.....	4	1 Dodge 3 Fords
Department of Public Health	9	1 Nash 8 Fords
Department of Public Works	10	5 Chevrolets 3 McLaughlins 1 Ford 1 Star
Department of Telephones...	8	1 McLaughlin 2 Dodge 2 Paige 1 Chrysler 1 Star 1 Chevrolet
Bureau of Child Protection..	Nil	
Bureau of Publications.....	1	1 Chevrolet
Office of The Civil Service Commissioner.....	Nil	
Department of Education....	Nil	
Office of the Executive Council.....	Nil	
Local Government Board....	Nil	
Department of King's Printer	Nil	
Office of the Legislative Assembly.....	Nil	
Department of Municipal Affairs.....	Nil	
Department of the Provincial Auditor.....	Nil	
Department of the Provincial Treasurer.....	Nil	
Saskatchewan Farm and Loan Board.....	6	6 Fords

- (3) What is the number of such automobiles used in the City of Regina by Civil Servants whose duties are restricted to Government offices in Regina?

*Answer:* Nil.

- (4) Are these automobiles insured against loss by fire, theft or collision?

*Answer:* Some.

Mr. MacPherson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Spence:—

- (1) What are the names of contractors who were awarded gravelling contracts in the vicinity of Maryfield?

*Answer:* (a) Gravelling Maryfield east, E. B. Johnson,  
(b) Gravelling Maryfield west, E. B. Johnson.

- (2) Were these contracts awarded in each instance after tender?

*Answer:* (a) Yes, in the case of contract Maryfield east.  
(b) Contract for work Maryfield west was awarded to the same contractor who was awarded the work Maryfield east after tender.

- (3) If so, how many tenders were filed in the case of each contract?

*Answer:* Maryfield east, two tenders.

Mr. Buckle asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Spence:—

- (1) What was the amount of remuneration paid to one W. G. Delong, Road Supervisor, in the employ of the Department of Highways for the fiscal years ending April 30, 1927 and 1928?

*Answer:* (a) For the fiscal year ending April 30, 1927, \$91.56.  
(b) For the fiscal year ending April 30, 1928, \$248.05.

- (2) What was the amount of remuneration paid to one E. Thompson, Road Supervisor, in the employ of the Department of Highways, for the fiscal years ending April 30, 1927 and 1928?

*Answer:* (a) For the fiscal year ending April 30, 1927, \$164.05.  
(b) For the fiscal year ending April 30, 1928, \$375.26.

Mr. Anderson for Mr. Stipe asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Spence:—

- (1) What is the average cost per mile of re-conditioning highways of the present Provincial Highways System, making same suitable for gravelling?

*Answer:* The work necessary varies from careful dragging or planing of the road surface to extensive reshaping, cleaning out ditches, or even partially rebuilding. Final figures for the cost of this work during the present year are not yet available, making definite estimate of average cost impossible at this time. Approximate estimate is at the rate of \$100 per mile.



(2) By whom is the work done?

*Answer:* Government road crews working on day labour basis.

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Mr. McIntosh, seconded by Mr. Waugh,

That an Humble Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, as follows:—

TO HIS HONOUR, THE HONOURABLE H. W. NEWLANDS,  
*Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Saskatchewan.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR,—

We, His Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Saskatchewan, in Session assembled, humbly thank Your Honour for the gracious Speech which Your Honour has been pleased to address to us at the opening of the present Session.

The debate continuing, and the question being put, it was agreed to.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Latta, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Urich,

Ordered, That the said Address be engrossed and presented to His Honour the Lieutenant Governor by such members of the Assembly as are of the Executive Council.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Patterson, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Davis,

Resolved, That this Assembly will on Monday next resolve itself into a Committee to consider a Supply to be granted to His Majesty.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Patterson, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Spence,

Resolved, That this Assembly will on Monday next resolve itself into a Committee to consider the Ways and Means for raising the Supply to be granted to His Majesty.

The Assembly then adjourned at 6.35 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1928.

According to Order, the Clerk having favourably reported on same pursuant to Standing Order (Rule) 50 (7), the following Petition was read and received:

Of Frederick Finlay MacDermid and four others, praying for an Act to incorporate The Saskatoon Mortgage and Loan Company, Limited.

The Hon. Mr. Latta, a member of the Executive Council, laid before the Assembly, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor:—

Annual Report of the Department of Municipal Affairs, for the Financial Year 1927-28. (*Sessional Paper No. 10.*)

The Hon. Mr. Patterson, a member of the Executive Council, laid before the Assembly:—

Annual Report of the Provincial Auditor upon the Accounts of the Administrator of Estates of the Mentally Incompetent for the fiscal year ended April 30, 1928.

(*Sessional Paper No. 11.*)

Also, Annual Report of the Administration of The Agricultural Aids Act for the fiscal year ended April 30, 1928.

(*Sessional Paper No. 12.*)

Also, Annual Report under The Deferred Charges Act for the fiscal year ended April 30, 1928.

(*Sessional Paper No. 13.*)

Also, Statement of Attorney General's Opinions, Treasury Board Decisions, and of Special Warrants and Expenditures thereunder for the fiscal year ended April 30, 1928.

(*Sessional Paper No. 14.*)

Also, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor,

Annual Report of the Department of Telephones for the financial year ended April 30, 1928.

(*Sessional Paper No. 15.*)

And also, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor,

The Public Accounts of the Province of Saskatchewan for the fiscal period ended April 30, 1928.

(*Sessional Paper No. 16.*)

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Patterson, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Spence,

Ordered, That the Public Accounts of the Province of Saskatchewan for the fiscal period ended April 30, 1928, be referred to the Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts and Printing.

The Hon. Mr. Spence, a member of the Executive Council, laid before the Assembly, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor:—

Annual Report of the Department of Highways for the fiscal year ended April 30, 1928. (*Sessional Paper No. 17.*)

And also, Report of the Saskatchewan Power Resources Commission. (*Sessional Paper No. 18.*)

Mr. McConnell asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Uhrich:—

- (1) Has a civil servant by the name of J. A. Kain been transferred from the position of Bursar of the Mental Hospital at Battleford to that of Chief Clerk in the Government Printing Office?

*Answer:* Yes.

- (2) Is this the man who was employed in a Government Liquor Store in Regina; and, if so, was this man dismissed from this position?

*Answer:* Yes. The Liquor Board found, on investigation, that the conduct of the business at the store had not been properly carried out. The Board was also satisfied that Mr. Kain had no personal knowledge of the irregularities which led to the dismissal of the store employees, but as Manager was technically responsible.

Mr. McConnell asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Spence:—

- (1) Did R. J. Fyfe of the Highways Department and Joe LaRoque of the Game Branch spend considerable time taking part in the Manitoba Provincial Election in 1927, working in Russell Constituency?

*Answer:* The Government has no knowledge that R. J. Fyfe of the Highways Department or Joe LaRoque of the Game Branch spent considerable time taking part in the Manitoba Provincial Election in 1927 working in Russell Constituency.

Mr. Hogan asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Gardiner:—

- (1) What was the salary of Dr. J. T. M. Anderson for the years 1920 and 1921?

<i>Answer:</i> January 1, 1920 .....	\$3,000.00
May 1, 1920 .....	3,400.00
January 1, 1921 .....	3,400.00
May 1, 1921 .....	3,600.00

- (2) What were his expenses during each of these years?

<i>Answer:</i> 1920 .....	\$2,599.27
1921 .....	2,847.30

According to Order, the following Bills were severally read the second time and, by leave of the Assembly, referred to a Committee of the Whole this day:—

Bill No. 2—An Act respecting Inquiries concerning Public Matters.

Bill No. 3—An Act respecting Applications to Court for Relief of Widows.

Bill No. 4—An Act to amend The Court Officials Act.

Bill No. 5—An Act to amend The Trustee Act.

Bill No. 6—An Act to amend The Exemptions Act.

Bill No. 7—An Act to amend The Surrogate Courts Act.

Bill No. 8—An Act to amend The Magistrates Act.

Bill No. 9—An Act to amend The Devolution of Real Property Act.

Bill No. 10—An Act respecting Suits against the Crown by Petition of Right.

Bill No. 14—An Act to amend The Saskatchewan Provincial Police Act.

Bill No. 13—An Act to amend The Telephone Department Superannuation Act.

Bill No. 15—An Act to amend The Deferred Charges Act, 1923.

Bill No. 20—An Act to amend The Treasury Department Act.

Bill No. 17—An Act to repeal The Urban Municipal Housing Act.

Bill No. 18—An Act to amend The Dairy Products Act.

Bill No. 19—An Act to amend The Produce Merchants Act.

The following Order of the Assembly was issued to the proper officer:—

By Mr. MacPherson, for a Return showing:—

A copy of all correspondence passing between the Minister of Railways, Labour and Industries and any other person during the year 1928 dealing with the matter of the establishment of an Inter-Provincial Immigration or Colonisation Board.

According to Order, Mr. McNiven moved,

That Bill No. 01—An Act to confirm a Certain Bylaw of the City of Regina and a Certain Agreement entered into between the City of Regina and General Motors of Canada Limited, be now read a second time.

A debate arising, and the question being put, it was agreed to.

The said Bill No. 01 was accordingly read the second time and referred to the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills.

According to Order, the following Bills were severally read the second time and referred to the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills:—

Bill No. 03—An Act to incorporate Les Missionnaires Oblates du Sacré Coeur et de Marie Immaculée de Gravelbourg.

Bill No. 04—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate The Agricultural Insurance Company, Limited.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the undermentioned Bills:—

On the following Bills progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again:

Bill No. 4—An Act to amend The Court Officials Act.

Bill No. 6—An Act to amend The Exemptions Act.

Bill No. 10—An Act respecting Suits against the Crown by Petition of Right.

The following Bills were severally reported without amendment, read the third time and passed:

Bill No. 2—An Act respecting Inquiries concerning Public Matters.

Bill No. 3—An Act respecting Applications to Court for Relief of Widows.

Bill No. 5—An Act to amend The Trustee Act.

Bill No. 9—An Act to amend The Devolution of Real Property Act.

Bill No. 14—An Act to amend The Saskatchewan Provincial Police Act.

Bill No. 13—An Act to amend The Telephone Department Superannuation Act.

Bill No. 15—An Act to amend The Deferred Charges Act, 1923.

Bill No. 20—An Act to amend The Treasury Department Act.

Bill No. 17—An Act to repeal The Urban Municipal Housing Act.

The Assembly then adjourned at 5.30 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1928.

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Patterson for the Hon. Mr. Spence:—

- (1) In what papers, if any, were tenders called for gravelling any road or roads at or near Edam, Saskatchewan?

*Answer:* Owing to the lateness of the season it was not deemed advisable to incur the delay which would have been necessary to have advertised gravelling contract on the road from Edam north. For this reason tenders were not called for this work.

- (2) What tenders were received?

*Answer:* Tender was received from James Hiemstra of Edam.

- (3) What tender was accepted and at what price?

*Answer:* The tender of James Hiemstra was accepted at the following unit prices:

Stripping gravel pit and removing rejected material—30c per cubic yard;

Excavating, screening and loading gravel to trucks at local pit—40c per cubic yard;

Hauling and dumping gravel in windrow on roadway—25c per cubic yard mile.

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Uhrich:—

- (1) Has the Government any knowledge of any person who, though not mentally weak, has, at any time, been confined in Weyburn Mental Hospital?

*Answer:* No, but provision is made under Section 36 of The Mental Diseases Act for voluntary admissions whereby it is possible for any one to secure treatment without being committed.

- (2) If so, what are the particulars?

*Answer:* See answer to No. 1.

Mr. MacPherson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) Is there a Beer Store located at Truax?

*Answer:* Yes.

- (2) Were petitions received either for or against the establishment of a store at that point?

*Answer:* Yes.

- (3) If so, what were the dates of the petitions and the number of names signed to each?

*Answer:* A petition not dated was received by the Liquor Board on November 15th. The petition was signed by 71 persons, 52 of whom were in favour of the establishment of the Beer Store and 19 against. A further petition dated December 1st was received protesting against the establishment of the Beer Store signed by 36 persons, 17 of whom signed the previous petition against the establishment of the Store.

- (4) Was the district in which Truax is situate advertised in 1925?

*Answer:* Yes, in June and July 1925.

- (5) If so, in what newspapers and in how many issues of each?

*Answer:* It was advertised in the Lake Johnston Star and Milestone Mail in four issues of each.

- (6) If advertising was done, did the Government ascertain what the circulation in the district was of the media used?

*Answer:* By Section 16 of The Liquor Act when it is the intention of the Board to establish a Store for the sale of beer the Board is required to publish a notice of its intention to do so in the Saskatchewan Gazette and in a newspaper or newspapers published or circulated in the district. It is to be noted from this Section that the law casts the responsibility for advertising in the press on the Board.

Mr. Waddell asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Patterson, for the Hon. Mr. Spence:—

- (1) How many harvesters were imported into this province for the 1928 harvest?

*Answer:* 33,282.

- (2) Was there a shortage of harvest help?

*Answer:* No.

- (3) Were any harvesters imported from the United States to assist in harvesting the crop?

*Answer:* No! but 1,190 came into the province from the United States.

Mr. Gordon asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Uhrich:—

- (1) How much was paid in grants to each of the Hospitals in Moose Jaw during the fiscal year 1927-28?

*Answer:* The grant paid to the General Hospital, Moose Jaw, was \$16,278.00.

The grant paid to Providence Hospital, Moose Jaw, was \$10,590.00.

Mr. Gordon asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Gardiner:—

- (1) How much was paid in Public School Grants to the Moose Jaw Public School Board during the fiscal year 1927-28?

*Answer:* \$16,843.50.

- (2) How much was paid in grants to the Separate School Board?

*Answer:* \$1,796.97.

Mr. Hassard asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Uhrich:—

- (1) How many people have been treated in our Mental Hospitals during the years 1927 and 1928?

*Answer:* 2,267 people.

- (2) How many have been discharged as cured?

*Answer:* 236 paroled, some of whom would be returned for further treatment.

- (3) How many between the following ages are incurable:

1 to 10 years

10 to 20 “

20 to 40 “

Over 40 years?

*Answer:* This information cannot be given accurately, but about 45 to 50% of those admitted are incurable.

Mr. Paulson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Gardiner:—

- (1) How many students qualified as teachers in our Normal Schools in 1927?

*Answer:* 1,514.

- (2) How many teachers were teaching on permits during 1927?

*Answer:* 12.

- (3) If permits were granted, why were they granted?

*Answer:* Four permits were issued under the special regulations respecting discharged soldiers; three for schools in remote settlements and five for short periods to persons who had taken professional training but were not technically entitled to full standing.

Mr. Salkeld for Mr. Whatley asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Patterson:—

- (1) What has been the actual cost of securing and transmitting money to the Farm Loan Board for loaning purposes?

*Answer:* The cost to the Government is approximately five and one-third per centum per annum.



(2) What rate of interest is charged the Board?

*Answer:* Five and one-third per centum per annum.

(3) What has been the result in profit and loss?

*Answer:* From the inception of the Farm Loan Board in May 1917 to November 30, 1928, there is a loss to the Treasury Department of \$30,022.17.

The Hon. Mr. Patterson delivered a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which was read by Mr. Speaker as follows:—

H. W. NEWLANDS,  
*Lieutenant Governor.*

The Lieutenant Governor transmits further Supplementary Estimates of certain sums required for the service of the Province for the twelve months ending April 30, 1929, and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

*(Sessional Paper No. 19.)*

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Patterson, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Davis,

Ordered, That the said Message and Supplementary Estimates be referred to the Committee of Supply.

Moved by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Tran,

That the School Act be so amended as to make it possible for any municipality to organise the schools in the said municipality under municipal administration, to the end that local differences may be eliminated, educational advantages equalized, the cost of education reduced, the establishment of rural high schools fostered and the consolidation of school districts facilitated.

A debate arising, and the question being put, it was negatived on the following division:

AYES.

Messieurs

Salkeld	McClure	McConnell
Tran	MacPherson	Creighton—8
Stipe	Anderson	

NAYS.

Messieurs

Garry	Agar	Hagarty
Finlayson	Spence	Lewis
Cross	Patterson	Steele
Pickel	McNiven	Marion

Hamilton	Paulson	Grant
Davis	Parker	Waugh
Gardiner	Sahlmark	Robertson
Latta	Gamble	Laing
Uhrich	Smith	Waddell
Clinch	Cockburn	McGregor
McKinnon	Gordon	Tripp
Therres	Hogan	Hassard
Halvorson	Gemmell	McIntosh
Wilson	Nay	Keelan
Dodds	Sykes	McAfee
		Huck—46

According to Order, Bill No. 16—An Act to amend The Town Planning Act, 1928, was read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at next sitting.

According to Order, the Hon. Mr. Spence moved,

That Bill No. 21—An Act to establish a Power Commission, be now read the second time.

A debate arising, said debate was, on motion of Mr. Anderson, adjourned.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the undermentioned Bills:—

The following Bill were severally reported without amendment, read the third time and passed;

Bill No. 8—An Act to amend The Magistrates Act.

Bill No. 18—An Act to amend The Dairy Products Act.

Bill No. 19—An Act to amend The Produce Merchants Act.

The following Bill was reported with amendment, considered as amended, and ordered for third reading at next sitting;

Bill No. 10—An Act respecting Suits against the Crown by Petition of Right.

The Assembly then adjourned at 9.55 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1928.

Leave to introduce the same having been granted, the following Bill was received, read the first time, and second reading ordered:—

Bill No. 22—An Act to amend The Rural Telephone Act.  
Hon. Mr. Patterson, Second reading Tuesday, January 8, 1929.

Mr. MacPherson, for Mr. McConnell, asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Uhrich:—

- (1) Of the 21,173 tons of Alberta coal purchased by the Government during the past fiscal year, what mine or mines did the said coal come from and how many tons from each mine?

*Answer:*

Alexo Coal Co.	Saunders	1,923	tons
West Com. Collieries	Greenhill	1,326	"
Lakeside Coal Co.	Wabamun	408	"
McKenzie & Thayer	Saunders	1,968	"
Saunders Ridge	Mercoal	5,026	"
Tofield Coal		410	"
Canadian Dinant		40	"
Dobell		60	"
Banner		300	"
E. V. Campion	Lethbridge & Taber	4,607	"
Secured from dealers, no check on particular mine		5,105	"

21,173 tons

- (2) What was the total freight paid on said coal from Alberta?  
*Answer:* Approximately \$73,504.30.

- (3) What was the total freight paid on the 6,123 tons of Saskatchewan coal burned by the Government during the last fiscal year?  
*Answer:* Approximately \$10,010.00.

- (4) In what building or buildings was Saskatchewan coal burned and what was the amount burned in each?

*Answer:*

Regina Police Building	378	tons
" Normal School	902	"
" Land Titles Office	704	"
" Gaol	1,753	"
Moose Jaw Court House	168	"
Wolseley Home for Infirm	419	"
Weyburn Mental Hospital	2,649	"
" Police	150	"

Total . . . . . 6,123 tons

- (5) What was the average cost per ton paid for Saskatchewan coal so purchased and what was the average cost per ton paid for Alberta coal so purchased?

*Answer:* Saskatchewan coal—\$4.20, Average B.T.U. value 7,000 B.T.U.

Alberta Bituminous coal—\$5.44, Average B.T.U. value, 11,400 B.T.U.

Mr. MacPherson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Patterson, for the Hon. Mr. Spence:—

- (1) Is W. E. Dennison of Assiniboia a Road Supervisor under the Department of Highways?

*Answer:* Yes.

- (2) If so, what mileage does he supervise and how much was paid to him in the years 1925, 1926, 1927 and 1928?

*Answer:*

In the year 1925, 29 miles and was paid \$220.20.

In the year 1926, 39½ miles and was paid \$278.76.

In the year 1927, 42½ miles and was paid \$348.94.

In the year 1928, 42½ miles and was paid \$423.00.

- (3) How much was paid to Sam Archer, Jr., of Vantage and Mr. McKay of Limerick by the Department of Highways in each of the years 1925, 1926, 1927 and 1928?

*Answer:* In the years 1925 and 1926 Mr. Sam Archer was not employed by the Department of Highways and was paid nothing.

In the year 1927 he was paid \$11.69.

In the year 1928 he was paid \$317.88.

Mr. McKay of Limerick was paid:

In the year 1925—\$127.64,

In the year 1926—\$81.30,

In the year 1927—\$84.88,

In the year 1928—\$142.95.

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Patterson for the Hon. Mr. Spence:—

- (1) When were tenders for gravelling at Melville called for?

*Answer:* October 10th, 1928.

- (2) Who received the contract?

*Answer:* The Tomlinson Construction Company of Winnipeg, who submitted the lowest tender.

- (3) Was a contract awarded and later rescinded? If so, why?

*Answer:* No.

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) What fines have been remitted in the Arm River Constituency during 1928?

*Answer:* None.

- (2) Upon whose recommendation to the Attorney General were such remissions made?

*Answer:* See answer to Question 1.

According to Order, Bill No. 10—An Act respecting Suits against the Crown by Petition of Right, was read the third time and passed.

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Spence,

That Bill No. 21—An Act to establish a Power Commission, be now read the second time.

The debate continuing, said debate was, on motion of the Hon. Mr. Gardiner, adjourned.

The Assembly then adjourned at 6.00 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1928.

Mr. Gamble from the Select Standing Committee on Standing Orders presented the second report of the said Committee which is as follows:—

Your Committee duly examined the following Petitions for Private Bills and finds the Provisions of Standing Order 76 have been sufficiently complied with:

Of Reverend Sister Jeanne-Micheline and two others praying for an Act to incorporate La Congregation des Sacres Coeur de Jesus et de Marie et de l'Adoration.

Of Frederick Finlay MacDermid and four others praying for an Act of incorporation as a Loan Company to be called "The Saskatoon Mortgage and Loan Company, Limited."

Your Committee has received Petitions to the Legislature from:—

Saskatchewan Co-operative Wheat Producers Limited for an Act amending its Act of incorporation; and

William Donald Mackay and three others for an Act of incorporation as the "Saskatchewan Co-operative Live Stock Producers, Limited."

After considering all the facts it finds that while the provisions of Standing Order 72 have not been sufficiently complied with in that they were not presented to the Assembly within the time stated in said Standing Order, yet in all the circumstances and in view of the fact that the interests of the public will not be prejudiced in any way, your Committee recommends that the provisions of Standing Orders 72 to 76, inclusive, be suspended and leave be given to present the said petitions and that the same be now read and received and the Bills proceeded with in due course.

By leave of the Assembly,

On motion of Mr. Gamble, seconded by Mr. Pickel,

Resolved, That the Second Report of the Select Standing Committee on Standing Orders be now concurred in.

The following Petitions were then presented, read and received:

By Mr. McNiven—Of Saskatchewan Co-operative Wheat Producers Limited, praying for an Act amending its Act of incorporation.

By Mr. Parker—Of William Donald Mackay and three others, praying for an Act of incorporation as the "Saskatchewan Co-operative Livestock Producers, Limited."

The Clerk laid on the Table the following Private Bills:—

Bill No. 06—An Act to incorporate La Congregation des Sacres Coeurs de Jesus et de Marie l'Adoration.

Bill No. 07—An Act to incorporate The Saskatoon Mortgage and Loan Company Limited.

Bill No. 08—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate Saskatchewan Co-operative Wheat Producers Limited.

Bill No. 09—An Act to incorporate Saskatchewan Co-operative Livestock Producers Limited.

The said Bills were read the first time and ordered for second reading on Wednesday, January 9, next, pursuant to Standing Order 80.

By leave of the Assembly,

Bill No. 7—An Act to amend The Surrogate Courts Act, introduced and read the first time on December 7th, was withdrawn and a new Bill No. 7—An Act to amend The Surrogate Courts Act, was read the first time, and ordered for second reading on Tuesday, January 8, next.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Gardiner, seconded by Mr. Anderson,

Ordered, That when this Assembly adjourns this day it do stand adjourned until Tuesday, January 8, 1929, at 3 o'clock p.m.

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Uhrich:—

- (1) What steps, if any, have been taken by the Government to prevent the contamination of the Wood River from the sewage disposal plant at Gravelbourg?

*Answer:* Under the provisions of Section 26 of the Public Health Act, the town of Gravelbourg was required to instal a sewage disposal plant to treat the sewage from the town before discharge into the Wood River. The plant has been inspected at intervals by officials of the Department of Health and improvements have been suggested to the town authorities which have been acted upon. On the recommendation of the Department a sum of over \$3,000 has been spent since last year in repairs and improvements.

The Plant is now working satisfactorily.

- (2) What complaints have been received re this situation?

*Answer:* From Harvey B. Smith of Gravelbourg.

- (3) Have the Public Health Inspectors reported adversely on the Gravelbourg Disposal System?

*Answer:* Yes, and as a result, the improvements noted in reply to Question (1) were made.

The following Order of the Assembly was issued to the proper officer:—

By Mr. Anderson, for a Return showing:

Correspondence between the Government or any member of the Government and the City Council of Prince Albert relative to the development of La Colle Falls, during the years 1926, 1927 and 1928.

According to Order, Bill No. 02—An Act to incorporate Saskatchewan Co-operative Wholesale Society Limited, was read the second time and referred to the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills.

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Spence,

That Bill No. 21—An Act to establish a Power Commission, be now read the second time.

The debate continuing, and the question being put, it was agreed.

The said Bill No. 21 was accordingly read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at next sitting.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

*(In the Committee.)*

Resolved, That there be granted to His Majesty for the twelve months ending April 30, 1929, the following sums:—

1.	For Legislation .....	\$	8,100.00
2.	For Executive Council.....		2,750.00
3.	For Attorney General—Registration of Land Titles.....		31,652.00
4.	For Provincial Secretary.....		37,500.00
5.	For Treasury—Administration.....		4,600.00
6.	For Treasury—Audit.....		1,500.00
7.	For Treasury—Miscellaneous (Chargeable to Revenue).....		5,100.00
8.	For Treasury —Miscellaneous (Chargeable to Capital).....		500,000.00

being:

To provide for advances  
to the Power Com-  
mission for the  
acquisition, purchase  
and construction of  
Power Plants.....\$500,000.00



9.	For Public Works (Chargeable to Capital) Public Buildings—Construction.....	\$ 150,000.00
10.	For Highways—Public Improvements (Chargeable to Revenue).....	1,000,000.00
11.	For Highways—Public Improvements (Chargeable to Capital).....	115,000.00
12.	For Education.....	60,300.00
13.	For Agriculture—Co-operation and Markets...	29,565.00
14.	For Public Health.....	36,000.00
15.	For Railways, Labour and Industries.....	28,000.00
16.	For Bureau of Child Protection.....	54,830.00

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The said Resolutions were reported, and, by leave of the Assembly, read twice and agreed to, and the Committee given leave to sit again at next sitting.

The Assembly then adjourned at 6.30 o'clock p.m., until Tuesday, January 8, 1929, at 3 o'clock p.m.

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REGINA, TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 1929.

Leave to introduce the same having been granted, the following Bills were severally received, read the first time and second reading ordered:—

Bill No. 23—An Act to amend The Corporations Taxation Act.  
Hon. Mr. Latta, Second reading Thursday next.

Bill No. 24—An Act to amend The Provincial Secretary's Act.  
Hon. Mr. Latta, Second reading Thursday next.

The Hon. Mr. Latta, a member of the Executive Council, laid before the Assembly:—

Statement of Licenses and Permits issued under The Public Vehicles Act for the year ended December 31, 1928.

(*Sessional Paper No. 20.*)

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Spence:—

- (1) What was the salary and expenses of W. G. McKay for the years 1925, 1926 and 1927?

*Answer:* For the fiscal years:

1925-26—salary \$2,720.00, expenses \$6,084.43  
1926-27—salary \$2,528.14, expenses \$3,913.74  
1927-28—salary \$2,820.00, expenses \$5,580.50

- (2) What was the salary and expenses of A. McCallum and J. G. Cameron for the years 1925, 1926 and 1927?

*Answer:*

A. McCallum

For the fiscal years:

1925-26—salary \$2,720.00, expenses \$6,047.71  
1926-27—salary \$2,528.14, expenses \$3,829.98  
1927-28—salary \$ 235.00, expenses \$ 709.84  
Resigned June 1st, 1927.

J. G. Cameron

For the fiscal years:

1925-26—salary \$2,720.00, expenses \$5,718.60  
1926-27—salary \$2,528.14, expenses \$3,814.65  
1927-28—salary \$ 235.00, expenses \$ 655.81  
Resigned June 1st, 1927.

Mr. MacPherson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Latta:—

- (1) What was the amount paid to each printing contractor by the Government during the year 1926-27?

JANUARY 8, 1929

*Answer:* The following firms were paid the amounts set opposite their respective names:

Assiniboia Reporter.....	\$	109.97
H. K. Brown Company.....		2,094.30
Bulman Bros.....		257.28
Battleford Press.....		195.63
Broadview Express.....		275.00
Central Press.....		4,601.15
Courier Publishing Company.....		9,436.20
Craik Weekly News.....		168.00
Estevan Mercury.....		67.11
Humboldt Journal.....		335.51
Indian Head News.....		3.75
Kerrobert Citizen.....		107.20
Kindersley Clarion.....		96.45
Leader Publishing Company.....		105,343.47
Moose Jaw Printing Company.....		552.79
Melville Canadian.....		94.70
Melfort Moon.....		112.85
Moose Jaw Times Company.....		38,161.72
Moose Mountain Star-Standard.....		251.37
Moosomin World-Spectator.....		230.35
McInnis Press.....		204.37
North Battleford News.....		283.29
North Battleford Optimist.....		159.33
Peerless Printing Company.....		1,104.62
Prince Albert Daily Herald.....		2,009.93
Prince Albert News.....		154.75
Prince Albert Le Patriote de l'Ouest...		62.98
Regina Press.....		362.19
Swift Current Sun.....		1,146.86
Saskatoon Star.....		9,497.36
Stovel Company.....		4,671.24
Shaunavon Standard.....		17.30
Saults & Pollard.....		221.20
Saskatoon Modern Press.....		838.53
University Press.....		1,388.60
Weyburn Herald.....		165.07
Weyburn Review Publishing Company.....		631.91
Wilkie Press.....		135.54
Wynyard Advance.....		86.31
Western Press, Moose Jaw.....		229.17
Yorkton Enterprise.....		1,410.86

Moved by the Hon. Mr. Davis, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Latta,

That, in the opinion of this Assembly, the Government of Saskatchewan should continue to urge upon the Government of Canada the necessity of arranging for the transfer to the Province of the public domain within its limits without further delay, and

That the Government arrange for a conference with the Dominion Government as soon as possible after prorogation to discuss the terms of such transfer.

A debate arising, in amendment thereto, it was moved by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. MacPherson,

That the following be added to the Resolution: "and, in the event of no immediate satisfactory action, that the said claims be referred to the Courts for a final decision upon the rights of the Province with respect to said claims."

The debate continuing and the question being put on the said amendment, it was negatived on the following division:

YEAS.

Messieurs.

Whatley	Stipe	Anderson
Salkeld	MacPherson	McConnell
		Creighton—7

NAYS.

Messieurs.

Garry	Dodds	Lewis
Finlayson	Agar	Steele
Cross	Spence	Miller
Pickel	Patterson	Marion
Davis	McNiven	Waugh
Gardiner	Paulson	Robertson
Latta	Sahlmark	Laing
Uhrich	Gamble	Waddell
Clinch	Smith	McGregor
McKinnon	Cockburn	Tripp
Baker	Gordon	Donaldson
Ross	Hogan	Hill
Therres	Gemmell	Keelan
Halvorson	Hall	McAfee
Wilson	Nay	Huck—45

The debate continuing, said debate was, on motion of Mr. Stipe, adjourned.

The Assembly then adjourned at 6.20 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9, 1929.

Mr. Tripp asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Gardiner:—

- (1) How many public schools were in operation in this Province in the year 1927?

*Answer:* During the academic year 1926-27, 4521 public school districts operated schools, and 126 provided for the education of the children in other schools, in most cases by conveying the pupils.

- (2) How many separate schools were in operation in this Province in the year 1927?

*Answer:* Twenty-seven separate school districts operated schools. One separate school district provided for the education of the pupils in other schools.

- (3) How many Parochial Schools were in operation in this Province in 1927?

*Answer:* 31.

- (4) Under what auspices are the parochial schools operated and where are they situated?

*Answer:* Parochial schools were conducted under the auspices of different church organisations, viz: Roman Catholic, Anglican and Seventh Day Adventist. 22 in Cities, Towns and Villages, and 9 in rural areas.

- (5) How many children attended each class of school during 1928?

*Answer:* Statistics not available. The figures for 1927 are:

Public schools.....	207,316.
Separate schools.....	4,283.
Private schools as reported.....	1,708.
(Of these 190 were above Grade VIII.)	

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Spence:—

- (1) How many towns and villages or other Municipalities have sold their power plants to private companies?

*Answer:* Since the Amendment to The Municipal Public Works Act came into effect May 1st, 1928, fourteen Municipalities are recorded as having disposed of their power plants.

- (2) What is the name of the Municipality, the name of the purchasing company and the amount of purchase price in each case?

*Answer:*

Local Authority	To Whom Sold	Amount Sold For
Town of Broadview	Northern Light & Power Co., Ltd.....	\$ 16,594.21
Town of Melville	Dominion Electric Power Ltd.	175,000.00
Town of Estevan	Dominion Electric Power Ltd.	220,000.00
Town of Davidson	Dominion Electric Power Ltd.	35,000.00
Town of Assiniboia	Dominion Electric Power Ltd.	120,000.00
Town of Radville	Dominion Electric Power Ltd.	35,000.00
Town of Nokomis	Midwest Utilities Ltd.....	17,000.00
Town of Oxbow	Montreal Engineering Co.....	13,000.00
Town of Wilkie	Canadian Utilities Ltd.....	26,000.00
Town of Strasbourg	Canadian Utilities Ltd.....	12,000.00
Town of Wapella	Northern Light & Power Co., Ltd.....	4,000.00
Town of Fleming	Northern Light & Power Co., Ltd.....	2,000.00
Town of Saltcoats	Canadian Utilities Ltd.....	16,000.00
Town of Govan	Canadian Utilities Ltd.....	14,000.00

- (3) How many permits have been issued by the Government to private companies for the erection of high power lines?

*Answer:* 19 as at December 31st, 1928.

- (4) What is the mileage in each case?

*Answer:* The mileage covered by permits issued to December 31st, 1928, is as follows:—

Number of Permit	Route	Mileage
1.	Indian Head-Wolseley.....	24
2.	Shaunavon-Assiniboia-Gravelbourg....	166½
3.	Grenfell-Neudorf.....	23
4.	Regina-Qu'Appelle.....	32
5.	Qu'Appelle-Ft. Qu'Appelle-Lebret.....	26½
6.	Moose Jaw-Rouleau-Weyburn-Briercrest-Avonlea.....	140
7.	Stoughton-Lajord-Carlyle.....	107½
8.	Weyburn-Stoughton.....	38
9.	Watrous-Nokomis-Imperial-Young....	66
10.	Wolseley-Rocanville-Fleming.....	116½
11.	Neudorf-Balcarres.....	34
12.	Nokomis-Semans-Strasbourg.....	52
13.	Frobisher-Carnduff.....	36½
14.	Pense-Lumsden-Gibbs-Bulyea.....	50
15.	Fort Qu'Appelle-Bulyea.....	68
16.	Weyburn-link up Stoughton-Rouleau Lines.....	5
17.	Frobisher-Bienfait.....	23

18. Yorkton-Saltcoats..... 22
19. S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  27-16-27 w 2nd. to house on  
N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  28-16-27 w 2nd..... 2 $\frac{1}{2}$
- (5) Is the Government taking any steps to prevent further sales of power plants to private companies?  
*Answer:* No steps other than those contained in the law are being taken at present.
- (6) How much have the private companies invested in Saskatchewan?  
*Answer:* 68 local private power companies report an investment in plant and distributing systems of \$649,745.00. The Churchill Power Company has not reported any investment to date. The Canadian Utilities Company Ltd., The Northern Light and Power Co. Ltd., The Dominion Electric Power Ltd. and Montreal Engineering Company Ltd. have not reported their investments in Saskatchewan to the Government.

The Order of the Day being called for the Question by Mr. Anderson, by leave of the Assembly, it was

Ordered, That the said Question stand as a motion for a Return.

The said Order of the Assembly was accordingly issued to the proper officer:—

By Mr. Anderson, for a Return showing:—

- (1) The date of the tender of James Hiemstra of Edam for gravelling;
- (2) Whether or not any contracts were awarded after that date, and, if so, what contracts;
- (3) How many contracts for gravelling were let in 1928;
- (4) The name of the contractor and the amount in each case;
- (5) In how many cases tenders were called for;
- (6) Where contracts were awarded without tenders being called for, the date, amount and name of contractor in each case.

Mr. Tran for Mr. Whatley asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Uhrich:—

- (1) Has the Government been requested by the United Farmers of Canada to appoint a commission or committee to investigate the feasibility of establishing free consultative diagnostic clinics in this Province?

*Answer:* Yes, the request coming from the United Farmers of Canada, Saskatchewan Section, and the Saskatchewan Medical Association.

- (2) If so, is it the intention of the Government to appoint such commission or committee?

*Answer:* The Government is giving consideration to the request.

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Davis, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Latta,

That, in the opinion of this Assembly, the Government of Saskatchewan should continue to urge upon the Government of Canada the necessity of arranging for the transfer to the Province of the public domain within its limits without further delay, and

That the Government arrange for a conference with the Dominion Government as soon as possible after prorogation to discuss the terms of such transfer.

The debate continuing, and the question being put, it was agreed to unanimously.

Moved by Mr. Ross, seconded by Mr. Baker,

That, in the opinion of this Assembly, the Government should give early consideration to the question of devising a scheme for the superannuation of school teachers.

A debate arising, said debate was, on motion of Mr. McAfee, adjourned.

The Assembly then adjourned at 5.55 o'clock p.m.



REGINA, THURSDAY, JANUARY 10, 1929.

Leave to introduce the same having been granted, the following Bills were severally received, read the first time, and second reading ordered:—

Bill No. 25—An Act to amend The Wills Act.

Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Monday next.

Bill No. 26—An Act to make Uniform the Law respecting Assignments of Book Debts.

Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Monday next.

Bill No. 27—An Act to amend The Minimum Wage Act.

Hon. Mr. Spence, Second reading Monday next.

Bill No. 28—An Act to provide Compensation for Damage caused by Mining, Smelting and Refining Operations.

Hon. Mr. Spence, Second reading Monday next.

The Hon. Mr. Hamilton, a member of the Executive Council, laid before the Assembly, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor:—

Twenty-third Annual Report of the Department of Agriculture for the year ended April 30, 1928.

(*Sessional Paper No. 21.*)

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Patterson:—

- (1) Has the Government received any offer from the Bell or any other Company to purchase the Government Telephone System?

*Answer:* No.

- (2) If so, what was the price offered?

*Answer:* See answer to question 1.

- (3) If any offer has been made from the Bell Company, did they propose to lower the rates to consumers by 25 per cent?

*Answer:* See answer to question 1.

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Gardiner:—

- (1) What sum is available for technical education in this Province in the year 1929?

*Answer:* \$307,323.07.

- (2) What sum has been allowed to lapse?

*Answer:* \$397,698.73.

Mr. MacPherson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Patterson:—

- (1) Was Frank V. Durrant an employee of the Government at Broadview from 1920 until 1927?

*Answer:* No, but he held an appointment as Commission Agent of the Department of Telephones.

- (2) If so, is he still an employee?

*Answer:* See answer to question 1.

- (3) If not, did he resign or was he dismissed?

*Answer:* His appointment was cancelled in September, 1927.

- (4) If dismissed, for what reason was he dismissed?

*Answer:* The appointment was cancelled because his services were unsatisfactory.

Mr. Waddell asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Spence:—

- (1) What road grading contracts were awarded to R. H. Bond of Assiniboia during the period May 1st, 1920 to December 31st, 1928? State the location, mileage, price for earth excavation, and date of each contract.

*Answer:* See tabulated statement, page 70.

- (2) How was each contract awarded?

*Answer:* See answer to Question No. 1.

- (3) Was any extension of contract granted to R. H. Bond at a price higher than the price in the original contract?

*Answer:* No. In several cases the price was lower.

- (4) Was any new contract awarded to R. H. Bond, at a price higher than the average price for contracts awarded by public tenders in that particular year?

*Answer:* No.

Moved by Mr. Whatley, seconded by Mr. Salkeld,

That this Assembly recommends that the Government take into consideration the advisability of advancing to the Saskatchewan Farm Loan Board considerably larger sums of money than has been the practice heretofore.

A debate arising, and the question being put, it was agreed to.

Moved by Mr. McClure, seconded by Mr. Whatley,

That this Assembly is of the opinion that the single transferable ballot should be used in Provincial Elections in all constituencies where more than two candidates have been nominated.

A debate arising, and the question being put, it was negatived.

Statement of Provincial Highway Contracts awarded to date to R. H. Bond of Assiniboia, Sask. December 31, 1928.

Project.	Location	Price per cu. yd.		Date of contract	Remarks
		Mile- age	for earth excavation		
22-B-c	Stockholm to Dubuc	8.2	25½c	May 18, 1923	Tenders called.
14-A } 8-B }	Marchwell to Langenburg	8.0	27c	Sept. 13, 1923	Tenders called.
36-B-b	Assiniboia South	10.6	26c	Sept. 18, 1923	Tenders called.
36-B-b	Assiniboia South (extension)	6.2	26c	July 23, 1924	Extension, Assiniboia Sth. contract 36-B-b.
36-C	Assiniboia South	3.0	20c	April 24, 1925	Extension Assiniboia South contract with price reduction for earth excavation from 26c to 20c, other unit prices unchanged.
2-A-a	Assiniboia North	11.0	18c	June 8, 1925	Extension Assiniboia South contract with price reduction for earth excavation from 26c to 18c; other prices unchanged.
13-J-d	Meyronne to Kincaid	7.4	23c	Oct. 9, 1925	Tenders called.
36-C	Assiniboia South	6.0	18c	Nov. 13, 1925	Extension Assiniboia North contract, Project 2-A-a.
13-K-b	Hazenmore to Aneroid	8.0	18c	May 5, 1926	Tenders called.
13-I-b	Limerick to Melaval	11.0	18c	Aug. 3, 1926	No tenders called. Prices agreed upon, same as Assiniboia North contract, Project 2-A-a.
36-A	Rockglen South	2.5	18c	Aug. 15, 1926	Extension, same prices as Assiniboia North contract, Project 2-A-a.
36-A } 36-B }	Rockglen to Lisieux	11.43	18c	April 29, 1927	Extension Rockglen South contract, Project 36A.
13-J-b	LaFleche to Woodrow	7.0	18c	May 18, 1928	No tenders called. Prices agreed upon same as Melaval-Limerick contract, Project 13-I-b.
1-A-b	Cadillac North	7.5	21¾c	July 11, 1928	Tenders called.
43-B-b	Gravelbourg West (extension)	5.0	21¾c	Aug. 1, 1928	Tenders called.
43-C	Vanguard East (extension)	5.0	21¾c	Aug. 1, 1928	Tenders called.

Moved by Mr. Creighton, seconded by Mr. Stipe,

That this Assembly request the Government, within the next three years to arrange to use Saskatchewan fuel exclusively in the heating plants in all Governmental buildings situated south of and on the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, east of and including Moose Jaw.

A debate arising, in amendment thereto, it was moved by the Hon. Mr. Uhrich, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Latta,

That all the words after the word "That" in the first line be struck out and the following substituted: "this Assembly request the Government to arrange to use Saskatchewan fuel in the heating plants of all Government buildings as extensively and as soon as possible."

The debate continuing, and the question being put on the said amendment, it was agreed to.

The question being put on the main motion, as amended, it was agreed to unanimously.

*Mr. Speaker*,—With regard to the Notice of Motion proposed by the Honourable Junior Member for Saskatoon City, I have not allowed this to be inserted in the Votes and Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly and the Resolution therefore cannot be proposed.

The proposed Notice of Motion is to the effect that alleged irregularities in the last General Provincial Election in the Electoral Division of Happyland be investigated by the Select Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections. If there were irregularities then some members should be willing to assume some responsibility in the matter and should so state in the motion, but this Assembly should not be called upon to investigate "alleged irregularities" but definite charges.

The matter is not one which now affects the seat of any member of this Legislature as the time limit has long since passed for bringing such a matter into question.

The person most affected by the alleged irregularities would be the defeated candidate; no new light has been shed on the case since the six months following the said election, which would be since December 2, 1925; he obtained all the evidence available and failed to institute any inquiry in 1925.

The official documents, which would furnish the only indisputable evidence, were in the custody of the Clerk of the Executive Council for more than one year after the election, or until June 2, 1926, and were then destroyed according to law.

This Assembly has a duty to perform in the protection of election officials from statements affecting their honour which could be made in the House, or in Committee, where those making them would be protected from action in the Courts for slander, which might not be the case if they were made outside of the Legislature.

According to Order, the following Bills were severally read the second time and referred to the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills:—

- Bill No. 06—An Act to incorporate La Congregation des Sacres Coeurs de Jesus et de Marie l'Adoration.
- Bill No. 07—An Act to incorporate The Saskatoon Mortgage and Loan Company Limited.
- Bill No. 09—An Act to incorporate Saskatchewan Co-operative Livestock Producers Limited.

The Assembly then adjourned at 11.20 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, FRIDAY, JANUARY 11, 1929.

Leave to introduce the same having been granted, the following Bills were severally received, read the first time and second reading ordered:—

Bill No. 29—An Act respecting Water and Gas Companies.  
Hon. Mr. Spence, Second reading Tuesday next.

Bill No. 30—An Act to amend The Union Hospital Act, 1928.  
Hon. Mr. Uhrich, Second reading Tuesday next.

Bill No. 31—An Act respecting Rural Municipalities.  
Hon. Mr. Latta, Second reading Tuesday next.

Mr. McConnell asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Spence:—

- (1) In connection with the Government Provincial Highway building programme for the year 1928, did the Government, or any Department of the Government, or any official of any Department of the Government, make application to the Council of the Rural Municipality of Cory, situate in the Electoral Division of Saskatoon County, for permission to extend its provincial highway beginning at a point four miles south of Evansville School and continuing straight south approximately six miles to the correction line?

*Answer:* The Government or any Department of the Government did not make any such application to the Council of the Rural Municipality of Cory. The Department of Highways is aware that our District Superintendent had been in consultation with the Council or officials of the Rural Municipality re location of the provincial highway in Township 35, Range 4, West of 3rd Meridian, and was advised by letter dated February 11th, 1928, from the District Superintendent that he had received word from the Secretary of the Municipality that the Council approved of the location East of Sections 3 and 10, North of Section 10 and East of Sections 16, 21, 28 and 33 in Township 35, Range 4, West of 3rd Meridian.

- (2) If such application was made was permission granted?

*Answer:* See Answer to Question (1).

- (3) If permission so asked was granted, why did the Government not extend said highway south from a point four miles south of said Evansville School, continuing straight south to the correction line a further distance of approximately six miles?

*Answer:* The Department received a copy of a resolution of the Rural Municipality passed unanimously at its meeting on March 2nd, 1928, approving of the

location of the road East of Sections 3 to 34 and North of Section 34 in Township 35, Range 4, West of 3rd Meridian. The location approved in this resolution was recommended by the District Superintendent, the Superintendent of Highways, and approved by the Deputy Minister.

- (4) Why did the Government begin at a point four miles south of Evansville School, continue east one mile and then continue south to the correction line a distance of approximately six miles?

*Answer:* See Answer to Question (3).

Mr. McConnell asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) Was former Inspector Taylor of the Swift Current Division of the R.C.M.P. granted a gratuity of \$2,000.00, or any other amount, on leaving the R.C.M.P. four months, or any other period, after he had re-enlisted in said Royal Canadian Mounted Police, having prior to this re-enlistment been a member of the Saskatchewan Provincial Police?

*Answer:* Yes. Inspector James Taylor was paid a gratuity of \$1,916.60.

- (2) Has it been the policy of this Government to grant such gratuities or any gratuities to former Provincial Police Officers on any such police officer or officers re-enlisting in the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and then, after such re-enlistment, resigning?

*Answer:* This is the only officer who has so resigned. When the Police change was contemplated it was felt in the interests of all concerned that some of the officers of the Saskatchewan Provincial Police should be taken into the Royal Canadian Mounted Police as they were experienced in police work. Amongst other officers so absorbed was Inspector Taylor. He intimated a desire to retire on June 1st instead of going into the Royal Canadian Mounted Police as he expressed a fear that, as he had no previous Royal Canadian Mounted Police experience, he could not fit in with that Force. It had been strongly urged upon me that Inspector Taylor was one of the most efficient Police Officers in Saskatchewan and that he should be retained. Therefore on my request he remained on. He subsequently advised that as he was entirely unused to Royal Canadian Mounted Police methods he would prefer to resign and he was permitted to do so and was given his gratuity.

- (3) If not, was an exception made in the above case?

*Answer:* See Answer to Question No. 2.

- (4) If exception was made, why was it made?  
*Answer:* See Answer to Question No. 2.

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Spence:—

- (1) Did Benjamin Franklin Baxter of Pense get the Government contract in 1927 or 1928 to build the highway west of Belle Plaine to Pasqua Junction or Moose Jaw?

*Answer:* B. F. Baxter was, on the 22nd day of September 1927, awarded the contract for improvement of road from N.E. corner section 34, township 16, range 25, west 2nd meridian to Moose Jaw.

- (2) If so, at what price?

*Answer:*

Earth excavation	22c per cu. yd.
“ “ overhaul	4c “ “ 100 ft.
Loose rock excavation	85c “ “
Solid rock excavation	\$1.00 “ “
Hauling and installing culverts—	
12' Concrete Pipe	35c per lin. ft.
15' “ “	40c “ “
18' “ “	45c “ “
24' “ “	60c “ “
Timber Culverts	\$25.00 per M.F.B.M.
Guardrail	45c per lin. ft.

- (3) Did the said Benjamin Franklin Baxter have the machinery and equipment necessary to build the road?

*Answer:* Yes.

- (4) By whom was the work specified in the Baxter contract actually done?

*Answer:* Part by B. F. Baxter; part by Riley & Reed, as sub-contractors.

- (5) If done by another contractor, did the Government make payment direct to Baxter or to another?

*Answer:* All payments were made direct to principal contractor, B. F. Baxter.

- (6) If payments were made both to Baxter and to another what was the amount in each case?

*Answer:* See Answer to Question No. 5.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

*(In the Committee.)*

Resolved, That towards making good the Supply granted to His Majesty on account of certain expenses of the Public Service for the fiscal year ending April 30, 1929, the sum of two million and sixty-four thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven dollars be granted out of the Consolidated Fund.



The said Resolution was reported, read twice and agreed to, and the Committee given leave to sit again.

Leave having been granted, the Hon. Mr. Patterson presented Bill No. 32—An Act for granting to His Majesty certain sums of Money for the Public Service of the Fiscal Year ending the thirtieth day of April, 1929.

The said Bill was received and read the first time.

By leave of the Assembly, and under Standing Order 55, the said Bill was then read the second and third time and passed.

According to Order, the following Bills were severally read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at next sitting:—

Bill No. 11—An Act respecting Land and the Title thereto.

Bill No. 7—An Act to amend The Surrogate Courts Act.

Bill No. 22—An Act to amend The Rural Telephone Act.

Bill No. 24—An Act to amend The Provincial Secretary's Act.

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Mr. Ross, seconded by Mr. Baker,

That, in the opinion of this Assembly, the Government should give early consideration to the question of devising a scheme for the superannuation of school teachers.

The debate continuing, and the question being put, it was agreed to unanimously.

By leave of the Assembly the Order "Government Orders" was reverted to.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the following Bills:—

Bill No. 4—An Act to amend The Court Officials Act, which was reported with amendment, considered as amended, and ordered for third reading at next sitting.

On Bill No. 6—An Act to amend The Exemptions Act, progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again.

The Assembly then adjourned at 5.35 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, MONDAY, JANUARY 14, 1929.

Leave to introduce the same having been granted, the following Bills were severally received, read the first time and second reading ordered:—

Bill No. 33—An Act to amend The Liquor Act, 1925.  
Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Wednesday next.

Bill No. 34—An Act respecting the Saskatchewan Association of Architects.  
Mr. McNiven, Second reading Wednesday next.

Bill No. 35—An Act respecting Drugless Practitioners.  
Mr. Garry, Second reading Wednesday next.

The Hon. Mr. Uhrich, a member of the Executive Council, laid before the Assembly:—

Report of the Saskatchewan Anti-Tuberculosis League for the year 1927.  
(*Sessional Paper No. 22.*)

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Gardiner:—

- (1) What is the location of the nine rural parochial schools referred to by the Premier on the 9th instant?

*Answer:* Sunny Grove Seventh Day Adventist School—Section 13, Township 45, Range 4, West 3rd Meridian.

St. Joseph's Parochial School—Section 32, Township 38, Range 23, West 2nd Meridian.

St. Michael's Parochial School—Section 19, Township 39, Range 23, West 2nd Meridian.

St. Angela's Parochial School—Section 14, Township 38, Range 22, West 2nd Meridian.

St. Benedict Parochial School—Section 18, Township 41, Range 24, West 2nd Meridian.

St. John's Lutheran Christian Day School—Section 4, Township 21, Range 26, West 3rd Meridian.

The following parochial schools included in the nine rural parochial schools in operation in 1927 have been discontinued and public schools are now in operation.

St. Boniface Parochial School—Section 14, Township 40, Range 26, West 2nd Meridian.

St. John's Parochial School—Section 15, Township 39, Range 24, West 2nd Meridian.

St. Bernard's Parochial School—Section 12, Township 40, Range 23, West 2nd Meridian.

- (2) In what Provincial constituencies are they found?

*Answer:*

Sunny Grove is in Rosthern Constituency	
St. Joseph's is in Humboldt	"
St. Michael's is in	"
St. Angela's is in	"
St. Benedict is in	"
St. John's is in Happyland	"
St. Boniface was in Vonda	"
St. John's was in Humboldt	"
St. Bernard's was in	"

- (3) Are they regularly inspected?

*Answer:* They are regularly visited and may be inspected in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (a) of section 4 of The School Attendance Act.

- (4) In addition to the thirty-one Parochial Schools referred to by the Premier on the 9th instant, are there any Private Schools in operation?

*Answer:* Yes.

- (5) If so, how many and where situated?

*Answer:* Located as follows:

St. Michael's Private School	Grenfell
Paul Private School	Near Findlater
Hochstat Mennonite	Tp. 40 Rg. 4 W 3rd.
Blumenthal Mennonite	Tp. 40 Rg. 3 W 3rd.
Rheinland Mennonite	Tp. 40 Rg. 4 W 3rd.
Haufnungsfeldt Mennonite	Tp. 13 Rg. 12 and 13 W 3rd
Hambourg Mennonite	"
Schoenfeldt Mennonite	"
Schanzenfeld Mennonite	Tp. 13 Rg. 13 W 3rd.

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Gardiner:—

- (1) Did Peter Brandt of Hodgeville perform any services for the Government during 1928?

*Answer:* There is no record of Peter Brandt of Hodgeville performing any services for the Government during 1928.

- (2) If so, in what capacity?

*Answer:* See Answer to Question No. 1.

- (3) Was he in the employ of the Government during October, 1928?

*Answer:* No.

- (4) How much was paid him during the past fiscal year?

*Answer:* Nothing.

- (5) If any payment was made, where does such payment appear in the Public Accounts?

*Answer:* See Answer to Question No. 4.

According to Order, Bill No. 4—An Act to amend The Court Officials Act, was read the third time and passed.

According to Order, the following Bills were severally read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at next sitting:—

Bill No. 25—An Act to amend The Wills Act.

Bill No. 27—An Act to amend The Minimum Wage Act.

Bill No. 23—An Act to amend The Corporations Taxation Act.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the undermentioned Bills:

The following Bills were severally reported without amendment, read the third time and passed,

Bill No. 16—An Act to amend The Town Planning Act, 1928.

Bill No. 7—An Act to amend The Surrogate Courts Act.

Bill No. 24—An Act to amend The Provincial Secretary's Act.

On the following Bill progress was reported, and the Committee given leave to sit again,

Bill No. 21—An Act to establish a Power Commission.

The Assembly then adjourned at 6.35 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, TUESDAY, JANUARY 15, 1929.

Mr. Sahlmark, from the Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts and Printing, presented the first report of said Committee which is as follows:

Your Committee met for organisation and appointed Mr. Sahlmark as Chairman, and Mr. Baker as Vice Chairman.

Your Committee begs to ask for authority to investigate fully the salaries and expense accounts

of J. Cameron, Archie McCallum, and W. G. McKay, as Highway Inspectors for each of the fiscal years 1924-25, 1925-26, 1926-27 and 1927-28; and

of Dr. J. T. M. Anderson, as an official of the Department of Education, for the years 1920 and 1921.

By leave of the Assembly,

On motion of Mr. Sahlmark, seconded by Mr. Tran,

Resolved, That the first report of the Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts and Printing be now concurred in.

Leave to introduce the same having been granted the following Bill was received, read the first time and second reading ordered:—

Bill No. 36—An Act to amend The District Courts Act.

Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Thursday next.

Mr. McConnell asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Spence:—

- (1) What is the total mileage in the Provincial Highway System which is under the jurisdiction of the Government?

*Answer:* 4423 miles.

- (2) How many miles of this system have been completed to standard earth specifications?

*Answer:* 3638 miles completed or under contract.

- (3) How many miles of these roads have received the first course gravel surfacing?

*Answer:* 386.3 miles.

- (4) How many cubic yards of gravel per mile are used in this first surfacing?

*Answer:* The amount varies according to conditions. The average amount of gravel used in first course is approximately 1,000 cubic yards.

- (5) How many miles have received their second course gravel surfacing?

*Answer:* 21.5 miles.

- (6) How many cubic yards per mile are used in the second course gravel surfacing?

*Answer:* Where additional gravel is required to provide a satisfactory road surface, the amount depends upon the nature of the soil forming the sub-grade, the quality of the gravel, the length of time elapsed since the first course was applied, and the amount of traffic. The amount varies from 500 to 1000 cubic yards.

- (7) What was the average cost per mile of standard earth highway construction in each of the years 1924, 1925, 1926, 1927 and 1928?

*Answer:*

1924—\$2,153.00	1927—\$3,311.00
1925—\$2,319.00	1928—\$3,100.00 (approximately,
1926—\$2,497.00	returns not completed).

NOTE.—The increased cost per mile shown for 1927 and estimated for 1928 is due partly to the fact that in 1927 several large important works were undertaken requiring high earth fills with little corresponding mileage such as the high earth fills forming approaches to the traffic bridge between Battleford and North Battleford, the heavy grade built across Weed Lake south of Morse, and others, but mainly the increased cost is due to construction of a higher standard road since 1926. Previous to 1927 some roads had been built 18 feet wide on top, whereas since 1926 none have been built with less than 20 feet top width. In 1927 the design was changed to provide side slopes to grades of 3 horizontal to 1 vertical instead of 1½ horizontal to 1 vertical, and generally higher grades are being built to insure that the road will be well above flood water and to provide less danger of being blocked by snow. These changes have resulted in a very material increase in the yardage per mile.

- (8) What is the average cost per mile for gravel surfacing?

*Answer.* \$1,900.00 per mile.

Mr. Tran asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Patterson:—

- (1) How many Telephone Buildings were owned by the Government at the end of 1928?

*Answer:* 38.

- (2) In what Cities, Towns and Villages are said buildings located?

*Answer:*

Arcola	Indian Head	Oxbow
Assiniboia	Kamsack	Prince Albert
Cabri	Kerrobert	Regina

Canora	Lanigan	Rosetown
Davidson	Maple Creek	Saltcoats
Estevan	Melfort	Saskatoon
Francis	Melville	Shaunavon
Grenfell	Moose Jaw	Swift Current
Gravelbourg	Moosomin	Weyburn
Gull Lake	North Battleford	Wilkie
Humboldt	Outlook	Yorkton

- (3) How many new buildings were erected last year and at what points?

*Answer:* 1, at Lanigan.

- (4) Was an application made to the Department of Telephones by petition of the subscribers in the Town of Rosthern for a new telephone building at that point?

*Answer:* A petition signed by some of the telephone subscribers in Rosthern was received.

- (5) If so, was said petition supplemented by resolutions from the Rural Telephone Companies of Carlton, Hope Lodge and Bergthal, operated from the Rosthern Central?

*Answer:* A copy of a resolution passed by the shareholders of the Bergthal Rural Telephone Company was received, also a letter from the Secretary Treasurer of the Hope Lodge Rural Telephone Company.

- (6) How many subscribers, town and rural, are serviced from Rosthern Central?

*Answer:* Local 135, Rural 217.

- (7) What action, if any, has been taken by the Department to remedy the situation at Rosthern?

*Answer:* Satisfactory telephone service is being given at Rosthern.

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Uhrich:—

- (1) Did the Provincial Government contribute anything to the cost of the new hospital at Ile a la Crosse?

*Answer:* Not to the capital cost, but furnished equipment for the venereal disease dispensary in the hospital, for the treatment of cases of venereal disease among indigents.

- (2) If so, how much?

*Answer:* Venereal disease equipment—\$405.50, and drugs and supplies—\$94.50, making a total of \$500.30.

- (3) Did the Provincial Government provide any of the material?

*Answer:* Not for the building.

- (4) If so, who transported this material to Ile a la Crosse?  
*Answer:* Arrangements for this were made by the Dominion Government.
- (5) If so, was any material left over after the erection of said hospital, and what was done with said material?  
*Answer:* This Government has no knowledge concerning this.

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) How many Justices of the Peace are there at Wakaw?  
*Answer:* None.
- (2) Who are they?  
*Answer:* See Answer to Question No. 1.
- (3) Who recommended their appointment to the Attorney General?  
*Answer:* See Answer to Question No. 1.
- (4) Is it the practice of the Government to refer to the local Liberal Executives before any such appointments are made?  
*Answer:* No.
- (5) If not the general practice, is this ever done?  
*Answer:* No.
- (6) Is the local member of the Legislature always advised before such appointments are made?  
*Answer:* No.
- (7) What are the qualifications asked for in Justices of the Peace?  
*Answer:* See The Magistrates Act, Chapter 64 of The Revised Statutes of Saskatchewan, 1920.

Mr. Pickel asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Gardiner:—

- (1) Who are the Commissioners appointed under The Education of Soldiers' Dependent Children Act?  
*Answer:* Captain A. H. Ball, Deputy Minister of Education.  
 Mr. W. F. Kerr, Commissioner, Bureau of Publications. (At time of original appointment was Commissioner for the Saskatchewan Division of the Red Cross Society.)  
 Major M. A. MacPherson.
- (2) How many children have received assistance under this Act?  
*Answer:* 531.



- (3) How many are now on the pay list?

*Answer:* 192.

- (4) What is the monthly allowance per child?

*Answer:* \$24. If more than one child receiving assistance in one family second child receives \$18 and third and subsequent children \$12 per month.

- (5) What has been the total cost to the Province to date?

*Answer:* \$215,060.41.

- (6) What is the present cost per month?

*Answer:* \$4,100.00 (average for last three months).

- (7) What was the cost to the Province during the year 1928?

*Answer:* \$40,711.49.

Mr. MacPherson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Uhrich:—

- (1) Has the Government any information as to a farmer of the Neidpath district who, when a patient at the Weyburn Mental Hospital, escaped on or about July 29, 1926, and who has never since been heard of by his relatives?

*Answer:* No.

- (2) What steps, if any, were taken to locate him?

*Answer:* A search was made by Hospital officials over a radius of about twenty miles which was continued for two or three days. The Provincial Police were notified the evening of his escape and given all particulars, description, and photograph. His wife was written to on August 3rd and again on September 3rd. We have not had any further information about this man and our conclusion was that he had changed his name and crossed over into the United States. His main delusion was that he should not use the name he was going under.

Mr. McConnell asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Patterson:—

- (1) Is R. S. Fleury the Telephone Agent at Rosthern?

*Answer:* Yes.

- (2) If so, is this the same R. S. Fleury who is President of the Rosthern Liberal Association?

*Answer:* The Department has no record of any offices or positions held by Mr. Fleury.

- (3) What sums were paid to R. S. Fleury by the Department of Telephones during the past year?

*Answer:* \$2,837.83.

- (4) What were such sums paid for?

*Answer:*

Commissions on Local Exchange Business....	\$ 758.57
Commissions on Rural Connection Fees.....	722.93
Commissions on Long Distance Business.....	1,280.63
Reimbursements for Messenger and Postage..	75.70

Commission Agents are paid a percentage of the Exchange earnings in return for which they must provide all exchange requirements including operators, office space, heat, light, etc.

- (5) What annual rental, if any, has been paid to R. S. Fleury for the premises used as Rosthern Central?

*Answer:* None.

- (6) What rental will be paid him for the new central now under construction?

*Answer:* None.

- (7) What is the size of the new office?

*Answer:* The Department has no record but is advised that sufficient accommodation is being provided.

Mr. McConnell asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) Who is the vendor of the Beer Store at Pleasantdale?

*Answer:* A. H. Young.

- (2) Whom did he succeed?

*Answer:* William Watson.

- (3) On what date was the application of the present vendor received?

*Answer:* April 17th, 1928.

- (4) When was he notified of his appointment?

*Answer:* November 8th, 1928.

- (5) Is he a returned soldier? •

*Answer:* No.

- (6) If not, did any returned men apply for this position?

*Answer:* Yes.

- (7) If so, who were they?

*Answer:* James Montgomery,  
R. W. Moss,  
Fred Walton.

Moved by Mr. Salkeld, seconded by Mr. McClure,

That this Assembly is in favour of prohibiting the appearance of all intoxicating liquor advertisements through any medium within its control.

A debate arising, and the question being put, it was negatived on the following division:

## YEAS.

## Messieurs

Baker	Whatley	MacPherson
Lewis	Salkeld	Anderson
Miller	Tran	McConnell—11
Hill	McClure	

## NAYS.

## Messieurs

Garry	Therres	Hagarty
Finlayson	Halvorson	Steele
Cross	Wilson	Grant
Hamilton	Agar	Waugh
Davis	Spence	Robertson
Gardiner	McNiven	Laing
Latta	Paulson	Donaldson
Uhrich	Parker	Keelan
Clinch	Smith	McAfee
McKinnon	Cockburn	Huck—32
Ross	Hall	

According to Order, Bill No. 08—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate Saskatchewan Co-operative Wheat Producers Limited, was read the second time and referred to the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 21—An Act to establish a Power Commission, on which progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again.

According to Order, the following Bills were read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at next sitting:—

Bill No. 30—An Act to amend The Union Hospital Act.

Bill No. 31—An Act respecting Rural Municipalities.

The Assembly then adjourned at 10.45 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16, 1929.

Mr. Pickel, from the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills, presented the first report of the said Committee which is as follows:—

Your Committee met for organisation and appointed Mr. Pickel as Chairman and Mr. Agar as Vice-Chairman.

Your Committee has had under consideration the following Bills and has agreed to report the same without amendment:

Bill No. 01—An Act to confirm a Certain Bylaw of the City of Regina and a Certain Agreement entered into between the City of Regina and General Motors of Canada Limited.

Bill No. 04—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate The Agricultural Insurance Company Limited.

Bill No. 07—An Act to incorporate The Saskatoon Mortgage and Loan Company Limited.

Your Committee also has had under consideration the following Bills and has agreed to report the same with amendments:

Bill No. 02—An Act to incorporate Saskatchewan Co-operative Wholesale Society Limited.

Bill No. 03—An Act to incorporate Les Missionnaires Oblates du Sacré Coeur et de Marie Immaculée de Gravelbourg.

Ordered, That the Hon. Mr. Spence have leave to introduce Bill No. 37—An Act to validate and confirm a Certain Agreement between the City of Saskatoon and His Majesty the King in the Right of the Province of Saskatchewan.

The Hon. Mr. Spence, a member of the Executive Council, then acquainted the Assembly that His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, having been informed of the subject matter of the Bill, recommends it to the consideration of the Assembly.

The said Bill was accordingly received, read the first time, and ordered to be read the second time on Friday next.

Leave to introduce the same having been granted, the following Bills were severally received, read the first time, and second reading ordered:—

Bill No. 38—An Act respecting Companies.

Hon. Mr. Latta, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 39—An Act to amend The Municipal Hail Insurance Act.

Hon. Mr. Latta, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 40—An Act respecting the Town of Kerrobert.  
Hon. Mr. Latta, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 41—An Act to amend The Public Libraries Act.  
Hon. Mr. Gardiner, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 42—An Act to amend The Conditional Sales Act.  
Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 43—An Act to amend The Creditors Relief Act, 1923.  
Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 44—An Act to amend The Distress Act.  
Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Friday next.

The Hon. Mr. Uhrich, a member of the Executive Council, laid before the Assembly, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor:—

Annual Report of the Department of Public Health and the Vital Statistics Report for the calendar year 1927.

(*Sessional Paper No. 23.*)

Mr. Tran for Mr. Stipe asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Patterson:—

- (1) How many farms are now in the possession of the Farm Loans Board?  
*Answer:* 192.
- (2) How many foreclosures were made in 1928?  
*Answer:* 31.
- (3) How many farms were resold in 1928?  
*Answer:* 45.

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Gardiner:—

- (1) Has the Government granted permission to any person or persons, who are not in the employ of the Government, to visit and inspect any of the Public Schools of the Province?  
*Answer:* No.
- (2) If so, to what person or persons has such permission been granted and for what reason?  
*Answer:* See Answer to Question 1.

Mr. Tran asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) What amount of funds are held in trust by the Official Guardian for children in the Province?  
*Answer:* By virtue of his appointment, none. Indirectly by virtue of Orders of various Courts and otherwise, \$341,551.20.

- (2) Has the Official Guardian yet been bonded, and for what amount?

*Answer:* Yes, \$50,000.00. The amount of the Bond in comparison with the amount of money handled is in excess of amount which would be required in ordinary commercial practice.

- (3) When were the books last audited and by whom?

*Answer:* Last half-yearly audit dated December 27th, 1928, by G. C. Rooke and Company, Chartered Accountants, Regina.

- (4) Is it the intention of the Government that the Attorney General's Department take over this work?

*Answer:* Not at this time.

Mr. MacPherson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Spence:—

- (1) How many British Harvesters came to this Province in 1928?

*Answer:* Approximately 6,000 of the total arrivals of 8,449.

- (2) How many remained here?

*Answer:* A London dispatch dated December 19th credits Right Hon. L. C. Amery as stating in the House of Commons, that 6,876 returned, leaving 1,573 in Canada, of this number it is estimated 900 are in Saskatchewan.

- (3) How many of those remaining were placed by the Bureau of Labour?

*Answer:* The Employment Service of the Department of Railways, Labour and Industries, placed about 4,000 in harvest labour situations, some of whom are still with their original employers and in addition replaced 405 in winter work since October 15th, 1928.

Mr. McConnell asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) Did the Government, during the past fiscal year, purchase any liquor from any distillery or distilleries owned or controlled by Harry Bronfman, or in which Harry Bronfman is financially interested?

*Answer:* The Liquor Board has no knowledge of the financial or other interest of Harry Bronfman in any of the firms with which it dealt during the fiscal period mentioned. The firms dealt with are all Joint Stock Companies and the Government has no record of the shareholders in such companies.

- (2) How much liquor was purchased from the Consolidated Distilleries during said period?

*Answer:* During the fiscal year ended March 31st, 1928, liquors to the value of \$123,172.80 were purchased from the Consolidated Distilleries as shown in the Schedule on page 9 of the Annual Report of the Liquor Board for the above mentioned period. The President of this Company is The Right Honourable Lord Shaughnessy.

According to Order, Bill No. 33—An Act to amend The Liquor Act, 1925, was read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at next sitting.

By leave of the Assembly,

The proposed motion on the Orders of the Day by Mr. Anderson for an Order for a Return showing List of Investors in Farm Loan Bonds, showing amount invested in each case, was withdrawn.

The following Order of the Assembly was issued to the proper officer:—

By Mr. Anderson, for a Return showing:

Copy of the Petition received by the Government from Quill Lake *re* establishing a Beer Store.

By leave of the Assembly, the Order "Government Orders" was reverted to.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the undermentioned Bills:

On the following Bills progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again:

Bill No. 11—An Act respecting Land and the Title thereto.

Bill No. 31—An Act respecting Rural Municipalities.

The following Bills were reported without amendment, read the third time and passed:

Bill No. 6—An Act to amend The Exemptions Act.

Bill No. 25—An Act to amend The Wills Act.

Bill No. 22—An Act to amend The Rural Telephone Act.

Bill No. 30—An Act to amend The Union Hospital Act, 1928.

The Assembly then adjourned at 5.05 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, THURSDAY, JANUARY 17, 1929.

The Hon. Mr. Gardiner, a member of the Executive Council, presented:—

Return, to an Order of the Assembly dated December 10, 1928, showing:

- (1) The number of Civil Servants engaged in the Constituency of Arm River between October 1 and 25, 1928.
- (2) The names of such Civil Servants and the Department in which each was employed.
- (3) Their duties in each case while in said Constituency.

(*Sessional Paper No. 24*).

Mr. MacPherson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Spence:—

- (1) Into what geographical divisions is the work of the Highways Department divided?

*Answer:* Eighteen Divisions as hereunder:

- Division 1. Souris, Cannington, Pipestone, Francis.
- “ 2. Estevan, Weyburn, Milestone.
- “ 3. Bengough, Moose Jaw County, Gravelbourg, Willowbunch.
- “ 4. Notukeu, Swift Current, Morse.
- “ 5. Cypress, Maple Creek, Happyland.
- “ 6. Moosomin, Saltecoats, Pheasant Hills.
- “ 7. Wolseley, South Qu'Appelle, North Qu'Appelle.
- “ 8. Lumsden, Thunder Creek, Moose Jaw City, Arm River, Hanley.
- “ 9. Elrose, Rosetown, Kindersley.
- “ 10. Pelly, Canora.
- “ 11. Wynyard, Wadena, Humboldt.
- “ 12. Yorkton, Touchwood, Last Mountain.
- “ 13. Vonda, Saskatoon County, Saskatoon City, Rosthern.
- “ 14. Biggar, Battlefords, Wilkie, Kerrobert.
- “ 15. Melfort, Tisdale, East part of Cumberland.
- “ 16. Kinistino, Prince Albert, Shellbrook and the West part of Cumberland.
- “ 17. Redberry, Cut Knife, Lloydminster, Turtleford, Jackfish Lake.
- “ 18. Ile a la Crosse.

- (2) Who is in charge of each district for 1929? Who was in charge during 1928?



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*Answer:* The allocation of officials in charge of the districts for 1929 is not yet decided. The officials in charge of the districts for 1928 were as follows:

Dis-  
trict

1.	Mr. Fred McDougall	District Superintendent
2.	Mr. J. H. Stevenson	" "
3.	Mr. Robert Tweedale	" "
4.	Mr. J. D. Munro	" "
5.	Mr. W. J. Reid	" "
6.	Mr. Wm. McIntyre	" "
7.	Mr. Geo. A. Stephens	" "
8.	Mr. W. G. McKay	" "
9.	Mr. D. W. Gibson	" "
10.	Mr. J. L. Doutre	Inspector
11.	Mr. J. R. McLeod	Inspector
12.	Mr. E. F. Hunter	District Superintendent
13.	Mr. Wm. Grant	" "
14.	Mr. Geo. McCallum	" "
15.	Mr. R. J. Fyfe	" "
16.	Mr. Walter Loch	" "
17.	Mr. F. G. Kissack	" "
18.	Mr. C. J. McKenzie	Inspector

- (3) What is the cost of maintenance per mile in each of these divisions?

*Answer:* The average cost of maintenance of Provincial Highways per mile for the Fiscal Year 1927-28 was as follows:

Division	1.....	\$ 76.42
"	2.....	67.43
"	3.....	76.96
"	4.....	75.51
"	5.....	62.56
"	6.....	85.31
"	7.....	74.74
"	8.....	107.91
"	9.....	55.31
"	10.....	77.06
"	11.....	75.99
"	12.....	72.24
"	13.....	78.08
"	14.....	65.59
"	15.....	97.73
"	16.....	85.50
"	17.....	63.65
"	18.....	73.47

- (4) If the cost of maintenance does not include the cost of re-conditioning, what is the average cost of re-conditioning per mile?

*Answer:* For the Fiscal Year 1927-28, \$125.14 per mile.

- (5) How often on the average has each road been re-conditioned after construction?

*Answer:* Of the 3,284 miles of Provincial Highway built at the end of 1928, 887 miles have been re-conditioned once. This is not taking into consideration the annual maintenance and minor repairs.

- (6) What is the average cost per mile of maintenance of gravel surfaced roads?

*Answer:* Saskatchewan's mileage of gravelled roads has been constructed at so recent a date that a definite estimate cannot be given.

- (7) Do any of the gravelled roads require re-conditioning after one year's traffic?

*Answer:* Gravel roads require annual maintenance the amount of which depends upon weather conditions and amount of traffic carried by the road.

Mr. MacPherson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) During the calendar year 1928, what sums of money were paid by the Liquor Board—  
 (a) to Breweries in Saskatchewan;  
 (b) to Breweries outside of Saskatchewan?

*Answer:* (a) \$3,553,553.46  
 (b) \$2,646,587.61.

Moved by Mr. Tran, seconded by Mr. Stipe,

That, in the opinion of this Assembly, the Gasoline Tax be raised to 5 cents per gallon with exemptions as before, and

That the License Fee be reduced to Twelve Dollars, flat rate, on all cars.

A debate arising, said debate was, on motion of the Hon. Mr. Latta, adjourned.

According to Order, Mr. Garry moved,

That Bill No. 35—An Act respecting Drugless Practitioners, be now read the second time.

A debate arising, and the question being put, it was agreed to.

The said Bill No. 35 was accordingly read the second time.

Moved by Mr. Garry,

That this Bill be referred to a Select Special Committee, consisting of Messieurs

Pickel	Gordon	Patterson
Agar	Hogan	Ross
Baker	Huck	Spence
Buckle	Keelan	Salkeld
Creighton	Lewis	Smith
Cockburn	Marion	Stipe
Cross	MacPherson	Sykes
Davis	McAfee	Therres
Gamble	McIntosh	Uhrich
Gardiner	McNiven	Waugh
Garry	Nay	Whatley

(Eight shall be a quorum)

for consideration and report.

A debate arising, and the question being put, it was negatived.

On motion of Mr. Garry,

Ordered, That this Bill be referred to the Select Standing Committee on Law Amendments.

The Hon. Mr. Patterson delivered a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which was read by Mr. Speaker as follows:—

H. W. NEWLANDS,  
*Lieutenant Governor.*

The Lieutenant Governor transmits Estimates of certain sums required for the service of the Province for the twelve months ending April 30, 1930, and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.  
*(Sessional Paper No. 25.)*

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Patterson, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Spence,

Ordered, That the said Message and Estimates be referred to the Committee of Supply.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the following Bills:

Bill No. 33—An Act to amend The Liquor Act, 1925, which was reported without amendment, read the third time and passed.

Bill No. 21—An Act to establish a Power Commission, which was reported with amendment, considered as amended, and ordered for third reading at next sitting.

The Order being read for the Assembly to resolve itself into the Committee of Supply;

The Hon. Mr. Patterson moved,

That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair.

A debate arising, said debate was, on motion of Mr. MacPherson, adjourned.

According to Order, the following Bills were severally read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at next sitting:—

Bill No. 12—An Act respecting the Prevention of Fraud in connection with the Sale of Securities.

Bill No. 26—An Act to make Uniform the Law respecting Assignments of Book Debts.

Bill No. 36—An Act to amend The District Courts Act.

The Assembly then adjourned at 9.45 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, FRIDAY, JANUARY 18, 1929.

Leave to introduce the same having been granted, the following Bill was received, read the first time and second reading ordered:—

Bill No. 45—An Act respecting Sanatoria and Hospitals for the Treatment of Tuberculosis.

Hon. Mr. Uhrich, Second reading Tuesday next.

The Hon. Mr. Gardiner, a member of the Executive Council, laid before the Assembly, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor:—

Annual Report of the Department of Education for the year ended December 31, 1927. (*Sessional Paper No. 26.*)

Mr. Tran asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Gardiner:—

(1) Has W. Hoar of Calder an appointment under this Government?

*Answer:* No.

(2) If so, what is the nature of such appointment?

*Answer:* See Answer to Question No. 1.

(3) What was the date of appointment and what salary does he receive?

*Answer:* See Answer to Question No. 1.

Mr. Stipe, for Mr. McClure, asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Gardiner:—

(1) Does the Government know that certain Civil Servants, while drawing public pay, are using part of their time organising and promoting the interests of the Liberal Party as well as advising the electors how to vote to get the best results by way of road grants.

*Answer:* No.

(2) Does the Government approve of such activities on the part of Civil Servants?

*Answer:* See Answer to Question No. 1.

According to Order, Bill No. 21—An Act to establish a Power Commission, was read the third time and passed.

According to Order, the following Bills were severally read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at next sitting:—

Bill No. 42—An Act to amend The Conditional Sales Act.

Bill No. 43—An Act to amend The Creditors Relief Act, 1923.

Bill No. 44—An Act to amend The Distress Act.

Bill No. 28—An Act to provide Compensation for Damage caused by Mining, Smelting and Refining Operations.

Bill No. 38—An Act respecting Companies.

Bill No. 40—An Act respecting the Town of Kerrobert.

Bill No. 41—An Act to amend The Public Libraries Act.

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Patterson,

That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair, (the Assembly to again go into the Committee of Supply).

The debate continuing,

*4.45 o'clock p.m.*

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor having entered the Chamber, took his seat upon the Throne.

Mr. Speaker addressed His Honour:—

May it Please Your Honour,

This Legislative Assembly at its present Session passed several Bills, which, in the name of the Assembly, I present to Your Honour, and to which I respectfully request Your Honour's assent.

The Clerk of the Assembly then read the titles of the Bills that had been passed severally as follows:—

- An Act respecting INQUIRIES concerning Public Matters.
- An Act respecting Applications to Court for Relief by Widows.
- An Act to amend The Court Officials Act.
- An Act to amend The Trustee Act.
- An Act to amend The Exemptions Act.
- An Act to amend The Surrogate Courts Act.
- An Act to amend The Magistrates Act.
- An Act to amend The Devolution of Real Property Act, 1928.
- An Act respecting Suits against the Crown by Petition of Right.
- An Act to amend The Telephone Department Superannuation Act, 1928.
- An Act to amend The Saskatchewan Provincial Police Act.
- An Act to amend The Deferred Charges Act, 1923.
- An Act to amend The Town Planning Act, 1928.
- An Act to repeal The Urban Municipal Housing Act.
- An Act to amend The Dairy Products Act.
- An Act to amend The Produce Merchants Act.
- An Act to amend The Treasury Department Act.
- An Act to establish a Power Commission.
- An Act to amend The Rural Telephone Act.
- An Act to amend The Provincial Secretary's Act.
- An Act to amend The Wills Act.
- An Act to amend The Union Hospital Act, 1928.
- An Act to amend The Liquor Act, 1925.

The Royal Assent to these Bills was announced by the Clerk:—

“In His Majesty’s name His Honour the Lieutenant Governor doth assent to these Bills.”

Mr. Speaker then said:—

May it Please Your Honour,

The Legislative Assembly has voted the Supplies required to enable the Government to defray the expenses of the Public Service. In the name of the Assembly, I present to Your Honour the following Bill:—

“An Act for granting to His Majesty certain sums of Money for the Public Service of the Fiscal Year ending the Thirtieth day of April, 1929,” to which Bill I respectfully request Your Honour’s assent.

The Royal Assent to this Bill was announced by the Clerk:

“In His Majesty’s name, His Honour the Lieutenant Governor doth thank the Legislative Assembly, accepts their benevolence and Assents to this Bill.”

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor then retired from the Chamber.

The debate being resumed, it was, on motion of Mr. Stipe, adjourned.

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Mr. Tran,

That, in the opinion of this Assembly, the Gasoline Tax be raised to 5 cents per gallon with exemptions as before, and

That the License Fee be reduced to Twelve Dollars, flat rate, on all cars.

The debate continuing, in amendment thereto, it was moved by the Hon. Mr. Latta, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Uhrich,

That all the words after “That” be struck out and the following substituted therefor:

“In the opinion of this Assembly, after having one complete year of experience with the Gasoline Tax, the Government should take into consideration the advisability of increasing the Gasoline Tax and of decreasing the Automobile Licenses Fees.”

The debate continuing, in amendment to the amendment, it was moved by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. McConnell,

That all the words after “Assembly” be omitted and the following substituted therefor:

“the motor license fee should be reasonably reduced and a flat rate of Eight Dollars for each additional car used by private individuals.”

The debating continuing, and the question being put on the said amendment to the amendment, it was negatived.

The question being then put on the amendment, it was agreed to.

The question being then put on the main motion, as amended, it was agreed to.

The Assembly then adjourned at 5.40 o'clock p.m.



REGINA, MONDAY, JANUARY 21, 1929.

The Clerk informed the Assembly of the unavoidable absence of Mr. Speaker.

Whereupon Mr. Garry, the Deputy Speaker, took the Chair pursuant to Standing Order 40 (1).

Mr. Pickel, from the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills, presented the second report of the said Committee which is as follows:—

Your Committee has had under consideration the following Bills and has agreed to report the same with amendments:—

Bill No. 06—An Act to incorporate La Congregation des Sacres Coeurs de Jesus et de Marie et de l'Adoration;

Bill No. 09—An Act to incorporate Saskatchewan Co-operative Livestock Producers, Limited;

Bill No. 08—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate Saskatchewan Co-operative Wheat Producers Limited.

The Hon. Mr. Davis, a member of the Executive Council, presented:—

Return to an Order of the Assembly dated January 16, 1929, showing:

Copy of the Petition received by the Government from Quill Lake re establishing a Beer Store. (*Sessional Paper No. 27.*)

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Patterson,

That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair (the Assembly to again go into the Committee of Supply).

The debate continuing, said debate was, on motion of the Hon. Mr. Uhrich, adjourned.

The Assembly then adjourned at 11.20 o'clock, p.m.

REGINA, TUESDAY, JANUARY 22, 1929.

The Hon. Mr. Spence, a member of the Executive Council, laid before the Assembly, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor:—

Eighth Annual Report of the Bureau of Labour and Industries, for the twelve months ended April 30, 1928.

*(Sessional Paper No. 28.)*

The Hon. Mr. Spence, a member of the Executive Council, presented:—

Return, to an Order of the Assembly dated December 10, 1928, showing:

The itemised Expense Account of \$5,580.50 of W. G. McKay, Road Inspector, for the fiscal year ending April 30, 1928.

*(Sessional Paper No. 29.)*

Mr. Stipe asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) For what reason did the Liquor Board of Saskatchewan permit the Western Brewers Association of Western Canada to reduce the price paid for empty beer bottles from 30 cents per dozen, f.o.b. point of shipment, to 25 cents per dozen point of destination?

*Answer:* The Liquor Board has no dealings in empty beer bottles, and consequently has no control over the purchases by the brewers of such bottles, nor the price paid to the public therefor. Despite this, however, the Board has made representations from time to time to the brewers, and will continue to do so, with the object of endeavouring, if possible, to obtain an increased price to the public.

Empty beer bottle prices are set by the brewers themselves, acting through the Western Canada Brewers Association. The price of 30c per dozen f.o.b. point of shipment, was originally set, but it was pointed out by that Association that the price was unprofitable. It was found desirable to establish throughout the Province, Bottle Exchanges for the purchase of all empty beer bottles, eliminating direct contact between the brewers and the public, and when these Bottle Exchanges came into existence the present price of 25c per dozen, less freight and breakages, was fixed to be paid by the Exchanges to the Public. These Bottle Exchanges purchase bottles from the public, and from the Exchanges the various breweries draw supplies, a spread of five cents (5c) per dozen being allowed the Bottle Exchanges for operation expenses.

The supply of empty beer bottles in Saskatchewan is greater than the demand in the Province, making it necessary for the exchanges to market the surplus outside the Province where additional transportation charges become a factor.

- (2) Is this Government aware of the fact that brewers of Ontario were unsuccessful in their attempt to reduce the price of empty bottles from 36 cents per dozen f.o.b. Brewers' warehouses? If not, why not?

*Answer:* The Government has no knowledge of this as the Liquor Control Board of Ontario does not acquaint this Government with its activities in such matters. It might, however, be mentioned that the consumer in Ontario pays transportation charges on beer, whereas in Saskatchewan such transportation charges are paid by the Board and charged back to the Brewers.

- (3) Is the present price for returned empties in Saskatchewan of 25 cents per dozen, point of destination, covered by contract? If not, why not?

*Answer:* The Board has no contract with the brewers or Bottle Exchanges for the reason stated in the Answer to Question 1. The price is set by the Western Canada Brewers Association, under whose jurisdiction the Bottle Exchanges are operated.

Mr. Laing asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Spence:—

- (1) What mileage was included in the Call for Tenders issued in September, 1928, for gravelling road West from Ker-robert?

*Answer:* 16 miles.

- (2) What tenders were received and what were the unit prices in each tender?

*Answer:*

Name of Contractor	Unit Prices		
	Stripping Cu. Yd.	Exc. Scr. & loading Cu. Yd.	Hauling Yd. Mile
Tomlinson Const. Co. Ltd.	30c	50c	23c
Bryson Bros.	30c	60c	35c
Guarantee Cartage Co.	30c	40c	22c
Stevens Bros., Ltd.	35c	45c	30c

- (3) To whom was this contract awarded? Was it awarded to the lowest tenderer?

*Answer:* The contract was awarded to the lowest tenderer, namely, the Guarantee Cartage Co.

- (4) Was the contract awarded for the mileage specified in the Call for Tenders?

*Answer:* No.

- (5) If not, what mileage was included in the contract and why was the mileage altered?

*Answer:* The contract covered only the 7 miles of road immediately West from the town of Kerrobert. The reduction in mileage was necessary for the following reasons:—

- (a) When the call for Tenders was issued, we expected to secure all the gravel required for this work from pits situated adjacent to the highway at a point eleven miles West from Kerrobert, namely, on the N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  section 13 and the S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  section 24, both in township 34-25-3. Subsequent to the date on which the Call for Tenders was issued and before the awarding of the contract, a thorough investigation of the gravel deposits on said lands revealed the fact that these deposits were not of suitable quality nor of sufficient extent for the proposed work.
- (b) The only deposit of suitable gravel which we were able to find in the district tributary to the proposed work, was located approximately 6 miles Northeast from Kerrobert, on the N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  section 4-35-22-3. As there was a dead haul of 6 miles from this pit to the nearest point on the Kerrobert-Luseland highway, the haulage costs were high, and it was decided to gravel only the 7 miles nearest the pit, namely the 7 miles immediately West from Kerrobert, the surfacing of this portion of the road being particularly urgent on account of the sandy nature of the subsoil.
- (6) Were the unit prices specified in the contract as awarded the same as submitted by the lowest tenderer on the mileage for which a call for tenders was advertised?

*Answer:* Yes.

Mr. Anderson, for Mr. MacPherson, asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Latta:—

- (1) Is J. B. Smiley, Secretary Treasurer of Rural Municipality No. 155 and Secretary Treasurer for the Village of Summerberry, an Issuer of Marriage Licenses?

*Answer:* No.

- (2) If not, was he at any time an Issuer of Marriage Licenses?

*Answer:* Yes.

- (3) If so, was his appointment cancelled? On whose recommendation and when?

*Answer:* Yes, on recommendation of the Provincial Secretary, on May 17, 1927.

- (4) Who are authorised to issue Marriage Licenses in the Towns of Broadview, Grenfell and Wolseley and the Village of Summerberry?

*Answer:*

Broadview	A. L. Brown.
	A. E. Braden.
Grenfell	J. Walker.
	H. Coy.
Wolseley	A. B. Hill.
Summerberry	No Issuer.

Mr. Anderson, for Mr. MacPherson, asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Spence:—

- (1) Is S. J. Bristow Supervisor of Highways between Grenfell and Indian Head?

*Answer:* He is the Supervisor of the section of the Provincial Highway between Oakshella and Wolseley.

- (2) If so, when was the appointment made and on whose recommendation?

*Answer:* He was appointed Supervisor on April 15, 1928, by the Minister of Highways, on the recommendation of the Superintendent of Highways.

- (3) If appointed, what previous experience had this man had on road construction and maintenance?

*Answer:* His previous experience was in a general contracting business.

- (4) What are his duties in regard to maintenance and what salary does he receive?

*Answer:* The supervision of the operators dragging and maintaining the Provincial Highway between Oakshella and Wolseley. For this service he received 60 cents per hour and 12 cents per mile for the use of his car while actually engaged on this work of supervision.

Mr. McConnell asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Hamilton:—

- (1) What were the duties of J. S. Nowosad in 1928?

*Answer:* Promotion of dairying and agriculture generally.

- (2) Where was he located?

*Answer:* Vonda.

- (3) What was paid him in salary and expenses?

*Answer:* Salary—\$1,540.00; Expenses—\$1,188.60.

Mr. McConnell asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Hamilton:—

- (1) How many pure bred sires were recorded by Dr. Fulcher in R.M. No. 280 and 281, in the Arm River Electoral Division in the month of October, 1928?

*Answer:* Dr. Fulcher was not employed in the area mentioned during the month of October, 1928.

- (2) How long was he engaged in this work?

*Answer:* See Answer to Question (1).

- (3) How often is a census of pure bred sires taken?

*Answer:* Once.

- (4) Prior to 1928, when was the last census taken in Rural Municipalities 280 and 281 in Arm River Electoral Division?

*Answer:* In the R.M. 280 in June-July, 1927.

Mr. Stipe asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Latta:—

- (1) What check is kept on the purchases for the Stationery Department of the King's Printer's Office?

*Answer:* An official order is given for merchandise. When goods arrive they are checked as to quantity and price as per order, by officials in the department. A voucher is made out for payment and then passed to the Auditor, who satisfies himself that all the certificates are correct. He then passes the account for payment. The stock is then placed in charge of the stock-keeper, under lock and key, who becomes responsible for its security. The stock-keeper enters the goods in his stock book, delivers to each department as required on requisition of the Department concerned, and charges the same against his stock records. At the end of each year the Auditor examines the stock books and checks with the stock on hand, item by item.

- (2) Has there ever been any discrepancy found between the book accounts and the actual inventory of above Department?

*Answer:* Yes.

- (3) If so, what are the particulars and how was the matter dealt with?

*Answer:* Particulars as per list attached; difference included in loss on trading.

JANUARY 22, 1929

## KING'S PRINTER'S STOCK

30 April, 1928

List of shorts and overs between inventory and stock accounts.

	Short	Over
1 Stenographer's note book . . . . .	\$ .11½	
1 Small receipt book . . . . .	.03	
1 Pass memo . . . . .	.27	
1 Typewriter brush . . . . .	.25	
1 Yd. cheesecloth . . . . .	.06½	
50 Invitation cards and envelopes . . . . .	{ .69½ .90½	
400 Envelopes, No. 8 . . . . .	1.06½	
100 Envelopes, No. 14 . . . . .	.60½	
100 Envelopes, vic. vell., sq. . . . .	.80	
53 Envelopes, vic. vell., No. 9 . . . . .		\$ .47
13 Envelopes, No. 14 linen lined . . . . .	.57	
47 Envelopes, gummed, 7½ x 11½ . . . . .	.30	
104 Envelopes, gummed, 9½ x 15 . . . . .	1.33	
13 Envelopes, G.F. Special . . . . .	.56	
75 Envelopes, No. 9 Kraft window . . . . .	.29	
7 Envelopes, fasteners, 7½ x 11½ . . . . .	.07	
8 Erasers . . . . .	.31	
1 Eraser, circular . . . . .	.04	
1 Eraser, art gum . . . . .	.06	
46 Paper fasteners, 28R . . . . .	.69	
2 Boxes fasteners, 23F . . . . .	.50	
1 Box fasteners, 25F . . . . .	.38	
1 Box fasteners, Hotchkiss . . . . .		.31
62 File backs, 8½ x 13¼, white . . . . .	2.32	
12 File backs, 20 x 26, buckeye . . . . .	1.08	
11 File backs, 8½ x 14, pressboard . . . . .		.18
20 Files . . . . .		.27
1 Qt. black ink . . . . .	.85	
3 ½ Pts. black ink . . . . .	.90	
1 Bot. drawing ink . . . . .	.25	
1 Box labels . . . . .	.11	
1 Pad T.W. . . . .	.77	
1 Pad stamp, No. 2 . . . . .	.41	
1 Pad opaque . . . . .	.50	
¼ Qr. blotting paper, white . . . . .	.29½	
1 Pkt. blotting paper . . . . .	.60	
1 Box carbon paper, rival . . . . .		1.25
3 Qr. ruled foolscap . . . . .	1.20	
500 Sheets express manilla, 8 x 10 . . . . .		.47
500 Sheets mimeo paper, 8½ x 14 . . . . .		1.00
1 Box paper, Royal Bucks . . . . .	2.25	
53 Sheets industrial bond . . . . .	.88	
½ Qr. wrapping paper . . . . .	.13½	
1¾ Qr. wrapping paper . . . . .	1.82	
2 Bots. Higgins' gum . . . . .	.58	
2 Mucilage wells . . . . .	1.16	
1 Box Easywriter pens . . . . .	1.10	
5 Fountain pens . . . . .	14.70	
1 Penholder . . . . .	.08	
2 Pencils, steno H.B. . . . .		.08
1 Pencil, Eagle . . . . .		.15
1 Pencil, drawing . . . . .		.07
2 Pencils, scripto . . . . .	.50	
1 Pencil, indelible radium . . . . .	.06	
2 Pencils, coloured . . . . .	.15	
5 Pencils, Redipoint . . . . .	3.30	
1 Bodkin . . . . .		.30
1 Pt. cleaner and polisher . . . . .	1.50	
1 Bot. liquid veneer . . . . .	.15	
1 Typewriter ribbon . . . . .	.45	
2 Boxes seals, red . . . . .		.20
1 Box seals, green . . . . .	.10	
1 Roll adhesive tape, No. 5 . . . . .	.35	
1 Roll French paper tape . . . . .	.27	
425 Wrappers . . . . .	1.23¼	
	\$49.95¼	\$4.75

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Spence:—

- (1) In the Return showing the names of Civil Servants who were in the Constituency of Arm River during October, 1928, why was the name of William Grant, Road Superintendent, of Saskatoon, omitted?

*Answer:* The name of William Grant was not included in the Return showing the names of Civil Servants who were engaged in the Constituency of Arm River during October, 1928, because William Grant was not engaged in carrying out duties for the Department in the Constituency of Arm River during the month of October, and the Department was not aware that he was in Arm River Constituency at any time during that month.

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Hamilton:—

- (1) How many cows were tested by R. B. Vogen, Supervisor of Cow Testing, in the Arm River Constituency during October, 1928?

*Answer:* Supervisors do not make tests as testing is done by resident official testers.

- (2) How many cow-testing centres are there in Arm River?

*Answer:* Two.

- (3) Where are they located?

*Answer:* Imperial, organised July, 1926.  
Hawarden, organised June, 1923.

- (4) How long was R. B. Vogen engaged in the testing referred to above?

*Answer:* During the month of October, Mr. Vogen spent two and one half days in the Arm River Constituency when he visited the testing centres and checked their records. During one and one half days of this time he was accompanied by Harold Steves of Steveston, B.C., Western Fieldman of the Holstein-Friesian Association and Official Inspector of Advanced Registry for pure bred Holsteins, and with him visited a number of herds where Mr. Steves was making inspections. Mr. Steves paid one half the automobile expenses while with R. B. Vogen.

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Hamilton:—

- (1) How many pure bred sires were recorded by James Brown in Rural Municipality No. 281 in the Arm River Constituency in October, 1928?

*Answer:* One. His work was almost entirely in the portion of the Municipality in Hanley Constituency.



- (2) How long was he engaged in this work?

*Answer:* One day only was spent in October in that portion of R.M. 281 which lies within the Arm River Constituency.

- (3) In what other constituencies was a pure bred sire census taken in the month of October, 1928?

*Answer:* South Qu'Appelle, North Qu'Appelle, Hanley, Last Mountain.

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Patterson,

That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair (the Assembly to again go into the Committee of Supply).

The debate continuing, in amendment thereto, it was moved by Mr. McConnell, seconded by Mr. Tran,

That all the words after "That" be deleted and the following substituted therefor:

"this Legislative Assembly regrets that the Government has made no announcement that it will institute an independent auditing system."

The debate continuing, and the question being put on the said amendment, it was negatived on the following division:

YEAS.

Messieurs

Whatley	Stipe	Buckle
Salkeld	McClure	McConnell—8
Tran	Anderson	

NAYS.

Messieurs

Garry	Dodds	Steele
Finlayson	Agar	Miller
Cross	Patterson	Marion
Pickel	McNiven	Grant
Hamilton	Paulson	Waugh
Davis	Gamble	Robertson
Latta	Cockburn	Laing
Uhrich	Gordon	Waddell
Clinch	Hogan	Tripp
Baker	Gemmell	Hassard
Ross	Hall	Hill
Therres	Nay	McIntosh
Halvorson	Sykes	Huck—41
Wilson	Lewis	

The debate continuing, said debate was, on motion of Mr. McNiven, adjourned.

The Assembly then adjourned at 10.55 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23, 1929.

Mr. Gamble, from the Select Standing Committee on Standing Orders, presented the third report of the said Committee which is as follows:

Your Committee has received a Petition to the Legislature from Sister Marie-Xavier de Sion and three others for an Act of incorporation under the name: Notre Dame de Sion Academy.

After considering all the facts, your Committee finds that while the provisions of Standing Order 72 have not been sufficiently complied with in that said Petition was not presented to the Assembly within the time stated in said Standing Order, yet, in all the circumstances and in view of the fact that the interests of the public will not be prejudiced in any way, your Committee recommends that the provisions of Standing Orders 72 to 76, inclusive, be suspended and leave be given to present the said Petition, that the same be now read and received, and that the Bill be proceeded with in due course.

By leave of the Assembly,

On motion of Mr. Gamble, seconded by Mr. Anderson,

Resolved, That the third report of the Select Standing Committee on Standing Orders be now concurred in.

The following Petition was then presented, read and received:

By Mr. Agar—Of Sister Marie Xavier and three others, praying for an Act to incorporate the Society of Our Lady of Sion under the name of "Notre Dame de Sion Academy."

The Clerk laid on the Table the following Private Bills:

Bill No. 010—An Act to incorporate Notre Dame de Sion Academy.

The said Bill was read the first time and ordered for second reading on Friday next, pursuant to Standing Order 80.

Leave to introduce the same having been granted, the following Bills were severally received, read the first time, and second reading ordered:—

Bill No. 46—An Act to amend The School Act. (No. 1)  
Mr. Anderson, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 47—An Act to amend The School Act. (No. 2)  
Hon. Mr. Gardiner, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 48—An Act to amend The Jury Act.  
Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 49—An Act to make Uniform the Law respecting Bills of Sale and Chattel Mortgages.

Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 50—An Act to amend The Travelling Shows Act.

Hon. Mr. Latta, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 51—An Act respecting the Town of Bredenbury.

Hon. Mr. Latta, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 52—An Act to amend The Pure Bred Sire Areas Act, 1927.

Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 53—An Act to amend The Horse Breeders' Act.

Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 54—An Act to amend The Old Age Pensions Act, 1928.

Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Friday next.

Mr. MacPherson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Spence:—

- (1) Has a contract for construction of highway from Grenfell to Oakshella been let?

*Answer:* Yes.

- (2) If so, on what date was it let and to whom?

*Answer:* August 13th, 1928, to Young Construction Company, Unity, Sask.

- (3) If contract has been let, was tender called for?

*Answer:* -No. This contract was awarded as an extension of the Wolseley-Grenfell contract, which had previously been awarded the same contractor after advertising Call for Tenders.

- (4) If contract has been let, was it advertised and in what papers?

*Answer:* See Answer to Question No. 3.

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Uhrich:—

- (1) What is the amount of air space in cubic feet heated by the heating plant in Weyburn Mental Hospital?

*Answer:* 3,760,821 cubic feet.

- (2) What is the number of feet of radiation attached to the heating plant of said institution?

*Answer:* 47,890 square feet.

Mr. Smith asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Hamilton:—

- (1) How many doses of vaccines were supplied to Veterinarians and farmers between May 1, 1927, and April 30, 1928?

*Answer:* 11,240 doses. Blackleg Filtrate, 2,285 doses; Blackleg Aggressin, 5,790 doses; Hemorrhagic Septicemia, 3,165 doses.

- (2) How many municipalities have requested to form a Pure Bred Sire District in the year 1928?

*Answer:* Six municipalities surveyed in 1927 were established in 1928; eleven more were surveyed in 1928. Twenty-seven additional municipalities have submitted or are circulating petitions.

Mr. Buckle asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) Who is the Beer Vendor at St. Brieux?

*Answer:* J. E. Bachand.

- (2) What is his profession or trade?

*Answer:* Physician and Druggist.

- (3) Who is the Beer Vendor at Raymore?

*Answer:* A. P. F. Nelles.

- (4) What is his profession or trade?

*Answer:* Physician.

Mr. Buckle asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Uhrich:—

- (1) Was the Government automobile, for use at the Weyburn Mental Hospital, used in a trip to Ontario during 1928?

*Answer:* Yes, for the securing of information in connection with Hospital management.

- (2) If so, by whom?

*Answer:* The Superintendent.

- (3) Was permission obtained from the Government?

*Answer:* Yes.

Mr. Whatley asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) Does the Attorney General interpret The Surrogate Courts Act as permitting the sending of applications for letters probate or letters of administration through the mail to the Clerk of the Court?

*Answer:* There is no provision dealing with this in The Surrogate Courts Act.

- (2) Does the Act allow of the deduction of first mortgages on land from gross assets in computing the amount upon which a bond is necessary?

*Answer:* Sections 57 and 65 of The Surrogate Courts Act require that the bond shall be in a penalty of double the amount under which the real and personal estate and effects of the deceased have been sworn. There is no mention made in these Sections in regard to the deduction of first mortgages and it would appear that such mortgages cannot be taken into account. By Section 65, however, it is provided that the judge may direct that the penalty in the bond shall be reduced. It is further provided that the judge may also direct that more bonds than one be given so as to limit the liability of any surety to such amount as the judge thinks reasonable.

Mr. Whatley asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) Was a vote taken recently in District 55 relative to the continuance of Beer Stores in that District?

*Answer:* Yes. Vote taken at the municipal elections, December 10, 1928, upon the Question "Shall the stores in District Number 55 be discontinued?"

- (2) If so, what was the result of the vote, for and against?

*Answer:* 545 votes in favour of discontinuing the stores; 709 votes against.

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Patterson,

That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair, (the Assembly to again go into the Committee of Supply).

The debate continuing, said debate was, on motion of the Hon. Mr. Hamilton, adjourned.

The Assembly then adjourned at 6.15 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, THURSDAY, JANUARY 24, 1929.

Leave to introduce the same, without notice, having been granted, the following Bill was received, read the first time, and second reading ordered:—

Bill No 55—An Act respecting Water, Gas and Electric Companies.

Hon. Mr. Spence, Second reading Monday next.

Ordered, That the Hon. Mr. Spence have leave to introduce Bill No. 63—An Act to provide for Compensation to Workmen for Injuries sustained in the Course of their Employment.

The Hon. Mr. Spence, a member of the Executive Council, then acquainted the Assembly that His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, having been informed of the subject matter of the Bill, recommends it to the consideration of the Assembly.

The said Bill was accordingly received, read the first time, and ordered for second reading on Monday next.

Leave to introduce the same having been granted, the following Bills were severally received, read the first time, and second reading ordered:—

Bill No. 56—An Act to amend The City Act, 1926.

Hon. Mr. Latta, Second reading Monday next.

Bill No. 57—An Act to amend The Town Act, 1927.

Hon. Mr. Latta, Second reading Monday next.

Bill No. 58—An Act to amend The Village Act, 1928.

Hon. Mr. Latta, Second reading Monday next.

Bill No. 59—An Act to amend The Local Improvement Districts Act, 1927.

Hon. Mr. Latta, Second reading Monday next.

Bill No. 60—An Act to amend The Vehicles Act, 1924.

Hon. Mr. Latta, Second reading Monday next.

Bill No. 61—An Act to amend The Child Welfare Act, 1927.

Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Monday next.

Bill No. 62—An Act to amend The Noxious Weeds Act, 1924.

Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Monday next.

Bill No. 64—An Act respecting the Licensing of Electrical Supply Houses, Contractors and Journeymen Electricians.

Hon. Mr. Spence, Second reading Monday next.

Bill No. 65—An Act to amend The Highways Act.

Hon. Mr. Spence, Second reading Monday next.

Bill No. 66—An Act to amend The Public Health Act, 1925.

Hon. Mr. Uhrich, Second reading Monday next.

Mr. MacPherson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Spence:—

- (1) What terms are used by the Department of Highways to designate the various classes of material to be handled?

*Answer:* The terms used by the Department of Highways in the standard "Contract and Specifications" to designate the various classes of material to be handled in grading an earth road are as follows:—

"Earth excavation"  
 "Loose rock excavation"  
 "Rock excavation".

- (2) What is the definition of or the interpretation put upon each of these terms by the Engineers of the Department and the contractors?

*Answer:* The definition of each of these terms is clearly stated in the printed standard "Contract and Specifications", as follows:—

- (a) "Earth Excavation":

Earth excavation will include all loose stones, boulders and other materials except what is defined as "rock excavation" or "loose rock excavation".

- (b) "Loose Rock Excavation":

Loose rock excavation will include all detached rocks or boulders more than 6 inches in diameter and less than one quarter cubic yard in content, and all shale, soapstone or other rocks which can be removed without blasting.

- (c) "Rock Excavation":

Rock excavation will include all rocks in solid beds or masses, or detached rocks measuring more than one quarter cubic yard in content.

The interpretation put upon these terms by the engineers of the Department and by contractors working in this Province must necessarily conform with the definition in the printed standard "Contract and Specifications".

- (3) Are the terms "earth," "hardpan," "loose rock," "rock" or "overhaul" used in such contracts?

*Answer:* The terms "earth", "loose rock" and "rock" are not used by the Department of Highways in the standard "Contract and Specifications" excepting as part of the terms given in answer to Question No. 1.

The term "hardpan" is not used.

The term "overhaul" is used.

- (4) If any such terms are so used, what is the definition of or interpretation put upon each of these terms by the Department's Engineers and the contractors?

*Answer:* Regarding the terms "earth", "hardpan" "loose rock" and "rock", see Answers to Questions

(1) to (3).

The term "overhaul" is not itself defined, but the method of determining overhaul on any contract is definitely outlined in the printed standard "Contract and Specifications" as follows:—

"Overhaul":

The limits of overhaul shall be determined by fixing on the profile two points, one on each side of the neutral grade point—one in excavation and the other in embankment—so that the distance between them shall equal the specified free haul limit and the included quantities of excavation and embankment balance. All haul on material beyond this free haul limit shall be estimated and paid for on the basis of the following method of computation:

All material within the limits of free haul shall be eliminated from further consideration.

The distance between the centre of gravity of the remaining mass of the excavation and the centre of gravity of the resulting embankment, less the limit of free haul as above specified, shall be the length of the overhaul distance and the compensation to be rendered therefor shall be determined by multiplying the yardage in the remaining mass, as above specified, by the length of the overhaul. Payment of the same shall be by the unit of one cubic yard hauled 100 ft. The mass diagram method is to be used in determining the centres of gravity.

When material is obtained from borrow pits alongside the embankment and runways are constructed, the haul shall be determined by the distance the team necessarily travels. The overhaul on the material thus hauled shall be determined by the yardage so hauled multiplied by one-half the round distance made by the team less the free haul distance. The runways shall be established by the Minister.

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Spence:—

- (1). What person or persons are paid for maintaining the Government road from Drake to Lanigan and from Lanigan to Guernsey?

*Answer:* On the Provincial Highway from Drake to Lanigan:

J. R. McLeod, Drake	}	Operators
J. Frank McFarlane, Lanigan		
B. G. Clement, Lanigan, Supervisor.		

On the Provincial Highway from Lanigan to Guernsey:

J. Frank McFarlane, Lanigan, Operator,  
B. G. Clement, Lanigan, Supervisor.



- (2) How much was paid for this in 1928? (Calendar year.)

*Answer:* \$1,509.98.

- (3) Is any of this work done by a hotel-keeper at Lanigan?

*Answer:* J. Frank McFarlane is a large local farmer; he is also a hotel-keeper at Lanigan.

- (4) If not, is he paid for any such work?

*Answer:* See Answer to Question 1.

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Patterson,

That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair (the Assembly to again go into the Committee of Supply).

*Friday, January 25, 1929.*

The debate continuing, and the question being put, it was agreed to.

The Assembly accordingly resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

Progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again.

The Assembly then adjourned at 1.35 o'clock a.m.

REGINA, FRIDAY, JANUARY 25, 1929.

The Hon. Mr. Gardiner, a member of the Executive Council, laid before the Assembly:—

Annual Report of the Local Government Board for the year ended December 31, 1928. *(Sessional Paper No. 30.)*

Mr. Whatley asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) Why was Mike Zahayko, who was fined \$200 and costs of \$11.76 or sixty days imprisonment in default, relieved from the necessity of payment of fine and from serving term of imprisonment?

*Answer:* Because the Department of the Attorney General was satisfied that the accused was not guilty of offence charged. Pleaded guilty through ignorance of offence charged, in which view the Police Authorities and trial justice concurred.

Mr. Whatley asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) Why was one Peverett, who was fined \$250 and costs of \$5.50 or three months imprisonment in default, released from jail after serving thirty-two days?

*Answer:* Because it was felt that the ends of justice had been sufficiently served by the period of confinement of accused, and in view of the fact that remission was recommended by Police Authorities and convicting Police Magistrate.

Mr. MacPherson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Spence:—

- (1) Is Fred Hayes of Rosthern in the employ of the Government?

*Answer:* Yes.

- (2) If so, in what capacity and when did he commence to work for the Government?

*Answer:* As an Inspector under the provisions of the Steam Boilers Act. Commenced work for the Government May 1st, 1928.

- (3) What are his qualifications and what professional certificates does he hold?

*Answer:* Passed his third-class Steam Boiler Examination November, 1912; worked for eight years in the Boiler Shop of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway, Regina, later moving to the Coast where he was employed by the Pacific Steel and Iron Company;

returned to Saskatchewan and opened a machine and boiler repair shop in which he was engaged up to the time of his appointment. He passed his second-class Engineers Examination, December 14th, 1927. Has made application for permission to write his first-class Engineers certificate.

Mr. MacPherson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Uhrich:—

- (1) Is W. F. Surtees in the employ of the Government?

*Answer:* No.

- (2) If so, in what capacity, at what salary and since what date?

*Answer:* See Answer to Question 1.

- (3) If in the employ of the Government, what are his qualifications for the position he holds?

*Answer:* See Answer to Question 1.

The Order of the Day being read for the Second Reading of Bill No. 29—An Act respecting Water and Gas Companies,

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Spence,

Ordered, That the said Order for the Second Reading of Bill No. 29—An Act respecting Water and Gas Companies, be discharged and the Bill withdrawn.

According to Order, the following Bills were severally read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at next sitting:—

Bill No. 51—An Act respecting the Town of Bredenbury.

Bill No. 37—An Act to validate and confirm a Certain Agreement between the City of Saskatoon and His Majesty the King in the Right of the Province of Saskatchewan.

Bill No. 48—An Act to amend The Jury Act.

Bill No. 49—An Act to make Uniform the Law respecting Bills of Sale and Chattel Mortgages.

According to Order, Bill No. 34—An Act respecting the Saskatchewan Association of Architects, was read the second time and referred to the Select Standing Committee on Law Amendments.

The Assembly, according to Order resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the following Bills, which were reported without amendment, read the third time and passed:—

Bill No. 01—An Act to confirm a Certain Bylaw of the City of Regina and a Certain Agreement entered into between the City of Regina and General Motors of Canada Limited.

- Bill No. 02—An Act to incorporate Saskatchewan Co-operative Wholesale Society Limited.
- Bill No. 03—An Act to incorporate Les Missionaires Oblates du Sacré Coeur et de Marie Immaculée de Gravelbourg.
- Bill No. 04—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate The Agricultural Insurance Company, Limited.
- Bill No. 07—An Act to incorporate The Saskatoon Mortgage and Loan Company Limited.
- Bill No. 06—An Act to incorporate La Congregation des Sacres Coeurs de Jesus et de Marie et de l'Adoration.
- Bill No. 08—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate Saskatchewan Co-operative Wheat Producers Limited.
- Bill No. 09—An Act to incorporate Saskatchewan Co-operative Livestock Producers, Limited.

According to Order, Bill No. 010—An Act to incorporate Notre Dame de Sion Academy, was read the second time and referred to the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills.

By leave of the Assembly, the Order "Motions" was reverted to.

Moved by Mr. Whatley, seconded by Mr. McClure,

Resolved, That this Assembly is in favour of the Department of Highways assuming the sole responsibility for all the highways comprising the Provincial Highway System, both before and after construction.

A debate arising, and the question being put, it was negatived.

The Assembly then adjourned at 5.55 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, MONDAY, JANUARY 28, 1929.

Leave to introduce the same having been granted, the following Bills were severally received, read the first time, and second reading ordered:—

Bill No. 67—An Act to amend The Optometry Act, 1924.  
Mr. McNiven, Second reading Wednesday next.

Bill No. 68—An Act to amend The Fire Prevention Act.  
Hon. Mr. Patterson, Second reading Wednesday next.

Bill No. 69—An Act respecting the Rural Municipality of Wolverine No. 340.  
Hon. Mr. Latta, Second reading Wednesday next.

Bill No. 70—An Act to amend The Arrears of Taxes Act, 1926.  
Hon. Mr. Latta, Second reading Wednesday next.

Bill No. 71—An Act to amend The School Assessment Act.  
Hon. Mr. Latta, Second reading Wednesday next.

Bill No. 72—An Act to amend The Hawkers and Pedlers Act.  
Hon. Mr. Latta, Second reading Wednesday next.

Bill No. 73—An Act to amend The Local Government Board Act.  
Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Wednesday next.

The Hon. Mr. Spence, a member of the Executive Council, presented:—

Return, to an Order of the Assembly dated December 17, 1928, showing:

A copy of all correspondence passing between the Minister of Railways, Labour and Industries and any other person during the year 1928 dealing with the matter of the establishment of an Inter-Provincial Immigration or Colonisation Board.

(*Sessional Paper No. 31.*)

Mr. Smith asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Hamilton:—

- (1) How many tests were made on cattle within the Last Mountain Restricted Area?  
*Answer:* 21,871.
- (2) What was the number of herds tested?  
*Answer:* 2,196.
- (3) What was the number of reactors in the first test?  
*Answer:* 176.
- (4) What was the percentage of reactors after the first test?  
*Answer:* 0.84%.

- (5) What was the total number of tests made?

*Answer:* 23,705.

- (6) What was the total number of reactors?

*Answer:* 203.

- (7) What was the total number of cattle slaughtered?

*Answer:* 203.

- (8) What was the value of the cattle slaughtered?

*Answer:* \$8,691.90.

- (9) What was the total amount of compensation paid?

*Answer:* \$5,794.60.

NOTE.—The tests were made and compensation paid by the Dominion Department of Agriculture.

Mr. McConnell asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Uhrich:—

- (1) Did E. Leonard and Sons of London, Ontario, desire to tender on the Prince Albert work?

*Answer:* Tenders to close October 15th, 1928, for the Prince Albert work were advertised for, in the Regina Leader, Prince Albert News, Prince Albert Herald, Saskatoon Phoenix, Moose Jaw Times, Saskatoon Star, and Regina Daily Post.

E. Leonard and Sons, London, Ontario, or any agent representing them did not apply to the Provincial Architect for plans or specifications in order to tender.

- (2) If so, why were they not given the opportunity?

*Answer:* See Answer to Question 1.

- (3) Did W. W. Hicks, Agent for E. Leonard and Sons, protest by letter against not being permitted to tender?

*Answer:* No, but under date of October 30th, W. W. Hicks of Winnipeg, wrote to the Provincial Architect protesting on the way the specifications had been written for the Government building at Prince Albert. Had W. W. Hicks applied for plans and specifications, he would have seen that under Clause 22, Page 10, he was free to tender on the boilers.

In all specifications it is necessary that standards of equipment and materials be set so that contractors are all tendering on an even basis. Clause 22, Page 10, as mentioned, reads as follows and is self-explanatory:

“*SUBSTITUTES* (22)

Where a particular article is described by name such is to be the basis of estimate. When words “or equal” are added, the article shall still be the basis of estimate.

The Architect shall have the right to make choice among original or substitute articles where no difference in price is involved or to adopt any other article in the market at different prices upon adjustment of difference in actual net cost to the Contractor whether more or less than the article named.

Naming a particular article may or may not involve an expression of preference.

Other like articles will be considered without prejudice, and decision as to selection will be made by the Architect with reference to the best interests of the work."

- (4) What answers were sent to him by the Provincial Architect and the Deputy Minister?

*Answer:* In reply to a letter of October 30th, the Deputy Minister wrote as follows:—

"Re: Boilers, Prince Albert Sanatorium.

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter of October 30th, in reference to the boilers specified for the above Institution. I beg to say that we have no doubt that Connelly boilers could be used in connection with the Power plant, but our Engineers report the other type as being more satisfactory."

In reply to the letter of October 30th, referred to in Answer 3, the Provincial Architect replied as follows:

"I have your protest of October 30th re boilers at Prince Albert and in reply would state that we consider it very presumptuous on the part of an agent in Winnipeg to attempt to say in what manner the Saskatchewan Government should spend their own money."

- (5) Did John Inglis and Company of Toronto have a chance to tender on the boilers of the Prince Albert Sanatorium?

*Answer:* Tenders were advertised for in seven Provincial papers. John Inglis and Co. did not at any time apply for plans or specifications.

- (6) If not, why were these real Canadian firms above mentioned not given a chance to tender?

*Answer:* See Answer to Questions 3 and 5.

- (7) Does the Government know the mechanical difference between the stokers specified in the C.P.R. Hotel, Regina, and in the Sanatorium at Prince Albert?

*Answer:* Yes.

Mr. McConnell asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Uhrich:—

- (1) Who drew the plans and specifications for the new Sanatorium at Prince Albert?

*Answer:* The Provincial Architect.

- (2) Who drew the heating and plumbing plans and specifications for the Prince Albert Sanatorium for the Provincial Architect?

*Answer:* J. R. Guildford, M.E.

- (3) Was he paid for doing so and how much?

*Answer:* Has not been paid any sum by the Government.

- (4) Was the person who drew the heating and plumbing plans a member of an American Association of Engineers and an American citizen?

*Answer:* At one time a member of an American Engineering Association. Was born in London, England. Was never naturalized in the United States. Served overseas with Sixth Canadian Engineers.

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Uhrich:—

- (1) Do the plans and specifications for the new Sanatorium at Prince Albert call for American mechanical stokers?

*Answer:* The plans and specifications call for Multiple Retort Steam Driven Jones Underfeed stokers. The stokers were supplied by the Riley Engineering Company, Limited, of Toronto.

- (2) Will these stokers burn lignite coal? If so, where have they done so?

*Answer:* Yes, at Provincial Mental Hospital, North Battleford, Municipal Electric Light & Power Plant, Saskatoon, Power House, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, and other places.

- (3) Did the manufacturers of these stokers give any guarantee of the number of pounds of lignite coal necessary to supply one thousand pounds of steam?

*Answer:* No. The number of pounds of coal necessary to generate a given quantity of steam depends upon other conditions, as well as upon the type of stoker used, namely, type of boiler, design and construction of boiler settings, furnace volume, ratio of heating surface of boiler to grate area, rate of driving, draft pressures, travel of flue gases, etc.

- (4) If they gave no guarantee, what investigation has the Government made as to the suitability of these stokers for this purpose?

*Answer:* The Government has had some years' experience of these stokers at Provincial Mental Hospital, North Battleford, and has data of their performance both in this Province and elsewhere.



- (5) What is the price of the boilers and stokers to be erected in the new Sanatorium at Prince Albert?

*Answer:* The price of the boilers and stokers was included in the general plumbing and heating contract and was not quoted directly to the Government.

- (6) Why was only one type of boiler and stoker specified and others not given a chance to tender?

*Answer:* Boilers and stokers specified are to be taken as a standard. Substitutions would be allowed under Clause 22 of the specifications.

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Spence:—

- (1) Is the Government aware that it costs \$2.00 per ton to bring Souris coal to Regina and only \$2.30 per ton to bring the same coal to Winnipeg, nearly three times the distance?

*Answer:* This question contains two misstatements of facts, inasmuch as it costs \$1.90 per ton to bring Souris Coal to Regina and not \$2.00 as stated in the question; and the mileage from Estevan to Regina is 144 as against 290 miles to Winnipeg, practically twice the distance and not nearly three times the distance as stated in the question. The Government therefore is not aware of the conditions stated in the question.

- (2) What steps, if any, have the Government taken to get equalisation of freight rates on Saskatchewan coal to Regina and other Saskatchewan points?

*Answer:* The Government has taken steps to secure an equitable revision of freight rates on Saskatchewan coal to Saskatchewan points, and the following reductions in freight rates have already been secured:

To	From Roche Percee, Shand and Pinto
Radville . . . . .	10 cents per ton
Brooking . . . . .	10 " " "
Ceylon . . . . .	10 " " "
Bengough . . . . .	10 " " "
Hardy . . . . .	20 " " "
Roe . . . . .	20 " " "
Ritchie . . . . .	20 " " "
Truax . . . . .	10 " " "
Abbott . . . . .	20 " " "
Moreland . . . . .	20 " " "
Parry . . . . .	20 " " "
Dummer . . . . .	20 " " "
Spring Vailey . . . . .	10 " " "
Ardill . . . . .	10 " " "
Galilee . . . . .	10 " " "

Mitchellton.....	10 cents per ton
Ettington.....	20 " " "
Mazenod.....	20 " " "
Palmer.....	20 " " "

These reductions became effective on November 9, 1928.

- (3) If no steps have been taken, why have they not been taken?

*Answer:* See Answer to Question (2).

Mr. MacPherson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Ulrich:—

- (1) Did E. Fox draw the plans and specifications for the plumbing and heating of the Moose Jaw Normal School?

*Answer:* Yes.

- (2) If so, did he receive any payment for said work? If so, how much?

*Answer:* No.

- (3) Was the said E. Fox a qualified engineer or architect, or was he only a salesman for Dunham Company Limited of Toronto and working along with J. H. Leonard as their Winnipeg representative?

*Answer:* A qualified engineer.

- (4) Were the Dunham Company products specified in said plans and specifications for the Moose Jaw Normal School?

*Answer:* Yes, as a standard.

- (5) What was the value of the Dunham products used in the said building?

*Answer:* Approximately \$8,000.00.

- (6) Did J. H. Leonard of Winnipeg, Agent for the Dunham Company, Limited, get the order for the unit heaters used in the Moose Jaw Normal School?

*Answer:* The Government has no knowledge of any order being placed.

- (7) Were these unit heaters made in Moline, Illinois, or elsewhere in the United States?

*Answer:* Those specified as Standard are made in Moline, Illinois.

- (8) Were these unit heaters specified in the contract and no substitution of Canadian goods allowed?

*Answer:* Substitution allowed upon approval under Clause 22.

- (9) If so, why?

*Answer:* See Answer to Question 8.

According to Order, the following Bills were severally read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at next sitting:—

Bill No. 45—An Act respecting Sanatoria and Hospitals for the Treatment of Tuberculosis.

Bill No. 47—An Act to amend The School Act. (No. 2.)

Bill No. 65—An Act to amend The Highways Act.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the undermentioned Bills:—

On the following Bills progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again:

Bill No. 11—An Act respecting Land and the Title thereto.

Bill No. 36—An Act to amend The District Courts Act.

Bill No. 42—An Act to amend The Conditional Sales Act.

Bill No. 43—An Act to amend The Creditors Relief Act, 1923.

Bill No. 38—An Act respecting Companies.

Bill No. 31—An Act respecting Rural Municipalities.

The following Bills were reported without amendment, read the third time and passed:

Bill No. 40—An Act respecting the Town of Kerrobert.

Bill No. 23—An Act to amend The Corporations Taxation Act.

Bill No. 51—An Act respecting the Town of Bredenbury.

The Assembly, according to Order, again resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

Progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again.

The Assembly then adjourned at 11.45 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, TUESDAY, JANUARY 29, 1929.

Mr. Pickel, from the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills, presented the third report of the said Committee, which is as follows:

Your Committee has considered the following Bill and has agreed to report the same without amendment:

Bill No. 010—An Act to incorporate Notre Dame de Sion Academy.

Leave to introduce the same having been granted, the following Bills were severally received, read the first time and second reading ordered:—

Bill No. 74—An Act to amend The Co-operative Associations Act, 1928.

Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Thursday next.

Bill No. 75—An Act to amend The Saskatchewan Insurance Act, 1925.

Hon. Mr. Patterson, Second reading Thursday next.

The Hon. Mr. Spence, a member of the Executive Council, presented:—

Return, to an Order of the Assembly dated January 9, 1929, showing:—

- (1) The date of the tender of James Hiemstra of Edam for gravelling;
- (2) Whether or not any contracts were awarded after that date, and, if so, what contracts;
- (3) How many contracts for gravelling were let in 1928;
- (4) The name of the contractor and the amount in each case;
- (5) In how many cases tenders were called for;
- (6) Where contracts were awarded without tenders being called for, the date, amount and name of contractor in each case.

(*Sessional Paper No. 32.*)

Moved by Mr. McNiven, seconded by Mr. Parker,

That in the opinion of this Assembly, the Government of Saskatchewan should urge upon the Government of Canada the advisability of the Government of Canada undertaking the construction and maintenance of a Trans-Canada Highway.

A debate arising, and the question being put, it was agreed to unanimously.

Moved by Mr. McClure, seconded by Mr. Whatley,

That this Assembly is in favour of compulsory publication of all sources of Election Campaign Funds.

A debate arising, and the question being put, it was negatived.

Moved by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. MacPherson,

That all contracts of \$500 or over for the construction of public works and for the purchase of public supplies and Government printing should be awarded only after fair public tender therefor, and that this principle should apply also to the Telephone Department.

A debate arising, in amendment thereto, it was moved by the Hon. Mr. Patterson, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Hamilton,

That all the words after "That" be struck out and the following substituted therefor:

"where practicable tenders be called for the construction of public works and the purchase of supplies."

The debate continuing, and the question being put on the said amendment, it was agreed to.

The question being put on the main motion, as amended, it was agreed to.

Moved by Mr. Salkeld, seconded by Mr. McClure,

That this Assembly is in favour of a fixed term of years for the life of a Legislature.

A debate arising, and the question being put, it was negatived.

According to Order, Bill No. 05—An Act to confirm Certain Bylaws of the City of Yorkton and a Certain Agreement entered into between the City of Yorkton and Mid-West Utilities Limited, was read the second time and referred to the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills.

According to Order, Mr. Anderson moved,

That Bill No. 46—An Act to amend The School Act, (No. 1), be now read the second time.

A debate arising, and the question being put, it was negatived, on division.

The Assembly, according to Order, again resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

*Wednesday, January 30, 1929.*

Progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again.

The Assembly then adjourned at 12.30 o'clock a.m.

REGINA, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30, 1929.

Mr. Gordon, from the Select Standing Committee on Law Amendments, presented the first report of the said Committee which is as follows:

Your Committee met for organisation and appointed Mr. Gordon as its Chairman, and Mr. McIntosh as its Vice-Chairman.

Your Committee has had under consideration the following Bills and has agreed to report the same with amendments:

Bill No. 35—An Act respecting Drugless Practitioners;

Bill No. 34—An Act respecting the Saskatchewan Association of Architects.

Leave to introduce the same, without notice, having been granted, the following Bills were severally received, read the first time and second reading ordered:—

Bill No. 76—An Act to amend The Schools Grants Act, 1920.  
Hon. Mr. Gardiner, Second reading next sitting.

Bill No. 77—An Act to facilitate the Adjustment of Agricultural Debts.  
Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading next sitting.

Bill No. 78—An Act to amend The Liquor Act, 1925 (No. 2).  
Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading next sitting.

Bill No. 79—An Act to amend The King's Bench Act.  
Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading next sitting.

Leave to introduce the same having been granted, the following Bill was received, read the first time and second reading ordered:—

Bill No. 80—An Act to amend The Mechanics' Lien Act.  
Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading next sitting.

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Patterson:—

- (1) What amounts of money have been received by the Province from the Dominion by way of subsidy in lieu of our lands since the year 1905?

*Answer:* \$12,750,000. See Public Accounts for amount in each fiscal period.

- (2) Is there any written memorandum or written agreement in possession of the Government relating to the payment of these monies?

*Answer:* No.

- (3) If so, is this agreement the agreement on which the Government is proposing to effect a compromise of our rights to our natural resources?

*Answer:* See answer to Question 2.

Mr. McConnell asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Patterson:—

- (1) Has the Government adopted two methods in compensating its Civil Servants for the use of their own automobiles in Government business, namely:

1. Allowance to each employee so using his own car, so much per day regardless of the mileage travelled;
2. Allowance of so much per mile for mileage actually travelled?

*Answer:* Yes.

- (2) What is the determining factor in deciding whether any such employee is to be allowed so much per day while carrying out such duties or so much per mile for actual miles travelled?

*Answer:* The nature of employment and the mileage which it is estimated the employee will travel during the season.

- (3) Do any such Civil Servants placed on a flat rate per day ever cover annually more mileage than other Civil Servants who are allowed so much per mile for mileage actually travelled with their own cars?

*Answer:* As basis of allowance is determined at beginning of season on number of miles which it is estimated employee will travel it is possible that actual mileage will exceed estimate.

Mr. McConnell asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Gardiner:—

- (1) Are there any text books in use in Wolia Public School near Glaslyn, Saskatchewan, other than those of the English language?

*Answer:* A letter dated January 15, 1921, reached the Department on January 21, 1929, signed by Norman Karan of Glaslyn, in which it was stated that the trustees of Wolia S.D. No. 2970 instruct the teacher to teach a foreign language and use unauthorised text books in school hours. A complaint was also received from A. Matmeow, dated January 14, 1929, which reached the department on January 21, 1929, and is in the same handwriting as the former, in which he states that his children brought home unauthorised text books. He also states that he is sending one of the unauthorised text books.

- (2) If so, what is the name of the text book?

*Answer:* An insured parcel dated January 8th, post-marked East Anglia, which contained a book published in Edmonton, Alta., called "Ukrainian Primer" has been received at the Department.

*Note.*—Information on file as the result of a former investigation indicates that Ruthenian has been taught after school hours in this district, but in view of the further complaint Inspector Hicks of Mervin, on January 26th, was instructed to visit the district without delay, investigate the complaint and report to the Department.

Mr. Parker asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Hamilton:—

- (1) What is the number of applications for the Old Age Pension received to January 26, 1929?

*Answer:* 3,396.

- (2) What is the number of pensions granted?

*Answer:* 2,024.

- (3) What is the number of applications refused on account of lack of necessary residence, naturalization, or where the income of the applicant is such as not to entitle them to a pension under the Act?

*Answer:* 187.

- (4) What is the number of applications proved but not issued?

*Answer:* 666.

- (5) What is the number of applications under consideration awaiting further information?

*Answer:* 519.

- (6) What is the number of persons living in the Province of British Columbia and receiving pensions on account of formerly having resided in the Province of Saskatchewan?

*Answer:* 188.

- (7) What is the number of persons living in the Province of Manitoba and receiving pensions on account of formerly having resided in the Province of Saskatchewan?

*Answer:* 67.

- (8) What amount of money has been paid on account of pensions to January 26, 1929?

*Answer:* \$196,130.61.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Gardiner, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Davis,



Ordered, That when the Assembly adjourns this day it do stand adjourned until 11 o'clock a.m. tomorrow, and so on from day to day, including Saturdays; and if the business of the Assembly be not concluded at 1 o'clock p.m., Mr. Speaker do leave the Chair until 3 o'clock p.m.; and

That Standing Order 5 (2) be suspended and that today's sitting be continued at 8 o'clock p.m.

According to Order, the following Bills were severally read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at next sitting:—

Bill No. 50—An Act to amend The Travelling Shows Act.

Bill No. 56—An Act to amend the City Act, 1926.

Bill No. 52—An Act to amend The Pure Bred Sire Areas Act, 1927.

Bill No. 53—An Act to amend The Horse Breeders' Act.

Bill No. 54—An Act to amend The Old Age Pensions Act, 1928.

The following Order of the Assembly was issued to the proper officer:—

By Mr. Gamble, for a Return showing:

Copies of anonymous letters regarding the construction of the Sanatorium at Saskatoon, received by the Premier;

Copy of the report of the Architect retained to investigate the matter; and

Copy of the letter received by the Premier from the writer of anonymous letters above referred to.

By leave of the Assembly,

The Resolution on the Orders of the Day to be moved by Mr. Buckle with regard to the inauguration of a policy of reforestation, was withdrawn.

According to Order, Bill No. 67—An Act to amend The Optometry Act, 1924, was read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at next sitting.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 010—An Act to incorporate Notre Dame de Sion Academy, which was reported without amendment, read the third time and passed.

By leave of the Assembly, the Order "Government Orders" was reverted to.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the undermentioned Bills:

The following Bill was reported with amendment, considered as amended, and ordered for third reading at next sitting:

Bill No. 26—An Act to make Uniform the Law respecting Assignments of Book Debts.

On the following Bills progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again:

Bill No. 48—An Act to amend The Jury Act.

Bill No. 31—An Act respecting Rural Municipalities.

According to Order, the Hon. Mr. Spence moved.

That Bill No. 63—An Act to provide for Compensation to Workmen for Injuries sustained in the Course of their Employment, be now read the second time.

A debate arising, and the question being put, it was agreed to.

The said Bill No. 63 was accordingly read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at next sitting.

According to Order, the following Bills were severally read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at next sitting:—

Bill No. 59—An Act to amend The Local Improvement Districts Act.

Bill No. 60—An Act to amend The Vehicles Act, 1924.

Bill No. 70—An Act to amend The Arrears of Taxes Act, 1926.

Bill No. 71—An Act to amend The School Assessment Act.

Bill No. 72—An Act to amend The Hawkers and Pedlers Act.

Bill No. 55—An Act respecting Water, Gas and Electric Companies.

Bill No. 64—An Act respecting the Licensing of Electrical Supply Houses, Contractors and Journeymen Electricians.

Bill No. 68—An Act to amend The Fire Prevention Act.

Bill No. 73—An Act to amend The Local Government Board Act.

The Assembly, according to Order, again resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

*Thursday, January 31, 1929.*

Progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again.

The Assembly then adjourned at 12.50 o'clock a.m.

REGINA, THURSDAY, JANUARY 31, 1929.

*11 o'clock a.m.*

Mr. Pickel, from the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills, presented the fourth report of the said Committee, which is as follows:

Your Committee has had under consideration the following Bill and has agreed to report the same without amendment:

Bill No. 05—An Act to confirm Certain Bylaws of the City of Yorkton and a certain Agreement entered into between the City of Yorkton and Mid-West Utilities Limited.

Your Committee recommends that the fees paid for the following Private Bills be remitted, less cost of printing:—

Bill No. 03—An Act to incorporate Les Missionnaires Oblates du Sacré Coeur et de Marie Immaculée de Gravelbourg.

Bill No. 06—An Act to incorporate La Congregation des Sacres Coeurs de Jesus et de Marie et de l'Adoration.

Bill No. 010—An Act to incorporate Notre Dame de Sion Academy.

By leave of the Assembly,

On motion of Mr. Pickel, seconded by Mr. Finlayson,

Ordered, That the fourth report of the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills be now concurred in.

Ordered, That the Hon. Mr. Patterson have leave to introduce Bill No. 81—An Act respecting The Saskatchewan Co-operative Creameries, Limited.

The Hon. Mr. Patterson, a member of the Executive Council, then acquainted the Assembly that His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, having been informed of the subject matter of the Bill, recommends it to the consideration of the Assembly.

The said Bill was accordingly received, read the first time, and ordered to be read the second time at next sitting.

Leave to introduce the same having been granted, the following Bills were severally received, read the first time and second reading ordered:—

Bill No. 82—An Act to amend The Horse Racing Regulation Act, 1927.

Mr. McNiven, Second reading next sitting.

Bill No. 83—An Act to amend An Act respecting the Winding up of the Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company, Limited.

Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading next sitting.

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Spence:—

- (1) How much was paid to J. R. McLeod, J. F. McFarlane and B. G. Clement for work done on the road from Drake to Lanigan and Guernsey during the past year?

*Answer:* J. R. McLeod, \$ 256.90  
 J. F. McFarlane, \$1,117.60  
 B. G. Clement, \$ 135.48.

- (2) Were tenders called for in each case?

*Answer:* No.

- (3) Will the Government call for tenders for maintenance work in 1929?

*Answer:* No.

- (4) If so, when and how?

*Answer:* See Answer to Question 3.

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Spence:—

- (1) When was the contract let for gravelling the road from Kandahar to Wynyard?

*Answer:* November 8th, 1928.

- (2) Were tenders called for? If not, why not?

*Answer:* Tenders were not called, for the reason that owing to the lateness of the season it was not deemed advisable to incur the delay which would have been necessary to have advertised gravelling contract.

- (3) Who received the contract? How much work has been done?

*Answer:* The contract was awarded to Thomas R. Vause and S. Indridason, Kandahar, who have completed 2.5 miles.

- (4) From what party or parties was gravel purchased, and at what price?

*Answer:* Gravel was purchased from E. Bjornson of Kandahar, the purchase price being \$200.00.

- (5) Was any money paid to T. R. Vause in connection with this work?

*Answer:* See answer to Question No. 6.

- (6) How much money has been paid to date, and to whom has such money been paid?

*Answer:* \$4,145.63. To Thos. R. Vause and S. Indridason.

- (7) On what date did the work of gravelling begin?

*Answer:* November 15, 1928.

Mr. McClure asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) Who is the Liquor Store Vendor at Maple Creek?

*Answer:* J. M. McLaren.

- (2) Is he also owner of the Commercial Hotel?

*Answer:* The Liquor Board has no knowledge that the Manager of its store at Maple Creek owns an Hotel at Maple Creek.

- (3) Does he actually operate the Liquor Store in person? If not, who does?

*Answer:* Yes, he personally operates the store as Manager.

Mr. MacPherson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Spence:—

- (1) Was a bridge built during the year 1928 within the village limits of the Village of Meyronne?

*Answer:* Yes.

- (2) If so, who was the contractor, were tenders called for and what was the amount paid for the construction of the bridge?

*Answer:* The contractor was the John Kenward Company of Regina.

Tenders were called for the work.

The amount paid the contractor for the construction of the bridge was \$5,810.65. The Department supplied the piles, cement and reinforcing steel used in the work together with engineering supervision, bringing the total cost of the work to the Department up to \$9,589.70.

- (3) If the bridge was built has the Government knowledge as to whom the material was shipped?

*Answer:* The piles, cement and reinforcing steel supplied by the Government were shipped to Meyronne, consigned to H. S. Carpenter, Deputy Minister of Highways. The C.P.R. agent at Meyronne was instructed to deliver this material to the contractor.

- (4) Was all the work done by contract including the grading of approaches?

*Answer:* Yes.

Mr. MacPherson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) Who is the Manager of the Beer Store at Truax?

*Answer:* Malcolm McTavish.

- (2) On whose recommendation was he appointed?  
*Answer:* On the recommendation of the Board.
- (3) How many applications were received for this position?  
*Answer:* Three.
- (4) If more than one application, what were the names of the others?  
*Answer:* There were three applications, the applicants being J. D. Porter, S. L. Thompson and M. McTavish.

Mr. Halvorson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Gardiner:—

- (1) How many teachers were granted new licenses to teach in Saskatchewan in 1927?  
*Answer:* 1,970.
- (2) Of these, how many were trained in our Provincial Normal Schools and how many came from each of the other provinces and from the British Isles?

*Answer:* Number trained in Provincial Normal Schools—  
 1,769.

Number who came from other provinces as follows:—

British Columbia.....	27
Alberta.....	18
Manitoba.....	87
Ontario.....	26
Quebec.....	7
New Brunswick.....	11
Nova Scotia.....	9
Prince Edward Island.....	0
British Isles.....	15
United States.....	1

Total..... 201

- (3) How many teachers were trained in the Provincial Normal Schools from 1906 to 1927, inclusive?  
*Answer:* 19,954.
- (4) How many teachers from each of the other provinces of Canada and from the British Isles were granted licenses to teach from 1906 to 1927, inclusive?

<i>Answer:</i> Province or Country	Number
British Columbia.....	254
Alberta.....	428
Manitoba.....	2,463
Ontario.....	4,043
Quebec.....	315
Nova Scotia.....	961

New Brunswick.....	589
Prince Edward Island.....	459
British Isles.....	1,387
	<hr/>
Total.....	10,899
	<hr/>

Mr. McConnell asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Patterson:—

- (1) How much depreciation is written off or allowed annually in connection with all buildings, stock, lines, equipment and supplies of the Telephone Department?

*Answer:* All the surplus earnings of the Department are yearly transferred to Reserves.

- (2) What percentage of the total valuation of said buildings, stock, lines, equipment and supplies is this annual depreciation written off or allowed?

*Answer:* On April 30th, 1928, reserves amounted to 25½% of total capitalisation.

- (3) Does the Telephone Department maintain a Sinking Fund?

*Answer:* No. Repayments of capital advances and sinking fund charges are made to the Treasury Department.

- (4) If so, how much is in it?

*Answer:* See answer to Question 3.

- (5) If so, what is the average terms of the debentures sold to purchase equipment, etc., and build buildings for the Telephone Department?

*Answer:* See answer to Question 3.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the following Bills, which were reported without amendment, read the third time and passed:—

Bill No. 67—An Act to amend The Optometry Act, 1927.

Bill No. 35—An Act respecting Drugless Practitioners.

Bill No. 34—An Act respecting the Saskatchewan Association of Architects.

According to Order, Bill No. 26—An Act to make Uniform the Law respecting Assignments of Book Debts, was read the third time and passed.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the undermentioned Bills:—

The following Bills were severally reported without amendment, read the third time and passed:

Bill No. 12—An Act respecting the Prevention of Fraud in connection with the Sale of Securities.

Bill No. 42—An Act to amend The Conditional Sales Act.

Bill No. 43—An Act to amend The Creditors Relief Act, 1923.

Bill No. 50—An Act to amend The Travelling Shows Act.

Bill No. 60—An Act to amend The Vehicles Act, 1924.

Bill No. 70—An Act to amend The Arrears of Taxes Act, 1926.

Bill No. 71—An Act to amend The School Assessment Act.

Bill No. 72—An Act to amend The Hawkers and Pedlers Act.

The following Bills were severally reported with amendment, considered as amended, read the third time and passed:

Bill No. 11—An Act respecting Land and the Title thereto.

Bill No. 36—An Act to amend The District Courts Act.

Bill No. 48—An Act to amend The Jury Act.

Bill No. 38—An Act respecting Companies.

On the following Bills progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again:

Bill No. 59—An Act to amend The Local Improvement Districts Act, 1927.

Bill No. 45—An Act respecting Sanatoria and Hospitals for the Treatment of Tuberculosis.

The Assembly, according to Order, again resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

Progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again.

According to Order, the following Bills were severally read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at next sitting:—

Bill No. 39—An Act to amend The Municipal Hail Insurance Act.

Bill No. 57—An Act to amend The Town Act, 1927.

Bill No. 58—An Act to amend The Village Act, 1928.

Bill No. 61—An Act to amend The Child Welfare Act, 1927.



Bill No. 62—An Act to amend The Noxious Weeds Act, 1924.

Bill No. 74—An Act to amend The Co-operative Associations Act, 1928.

Bill No. 66—An Act to amend The Public Health Act, 1925.

Bill No. 75—An Act to amend The Saskatchewan Insurance Act, 1925.

Bill No. 76—An Act to amend The School Grants Act, 1920.

Bill No. 78—An Act to amend The Liquor Act, 1925. (No. 2.)

Bill No. 79—An Act to amend The King's Bench Act.

Bill No. 80—An Act to amend The Mechanics' Lien Act.

By leave of the Assembly, the Order "Presenting Reports by Standing and Special Committees" was reverted to.

Mr. Sahlmark, from the Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts and Printing, presented the second report of the said Committee which is as follows:

Your Committee has had under consideration the question of the printing of any of the Sessional Papers and Debates of this Session and has agreed to recommend to the Assembly:

- (1) That the following Sessional Paper be printed:

Synopsis of the Annual Report of the Local Government Board for the year 1928 (Sessional Paper No. 30);

- (2) That the following be published with the Sessional Papers:

- (a) Speeches of Mr. McIntosh, Mr. Waugh, Mr. Anderson, Hon. Mr. Gardiner, Mr. McConnell, Mr. Whatley, Hon. Mr. Uhrich, and Hon. Mr. Patterson on the Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne;

- (b) Speech of Hon. Mr. Spence on the Second Reading of Bill No. 21—An Act to Establish a Power Commission;

- (c) Speeches of Hon. Mr. Davis and Mr. Tran, on Resolution *re* Natural Resources;

- (d) Speech of Mr. Ross on Resolution *re* Teachers' Superannuation;

- (e) Speeches of Hon. Mr. Davis, Mr. McConnell and Hon. Mr. Gardiner on Notice of Motion *re* Happyland Election, 1925;

- (f) Speeches of Mr. Creighton and Hon. Mr. Uhrich on Resolution *re* Saskatchewan Coal;

- (g) Speech of Hon. Mr. Gardiner on Point of Privilege *re* School Lands;

- (h) Budget Speech of Hon. Mr. Patterson and speeches on Budget Debate of Mr. MacPherson, Mr. Stipe, Mr. Anderson, Hon. Mr. Uhrich, Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Mr. McNiven, Hon. Mr. Latta, Hon. Mr. Spence, and Hon. Mr. Patterson;
  - (i) Speeches of Mr. Anderson, Hon. Mr. Gardiner and Hon. Mr. Davis on the Second Reading of Bill No. 46—An Act to amend the School Act (No. 1).
  - (j) Speeches of Hon. Mr. Spence and Mr. Baker on the Second Reading of Bill No. 63—An Act to provide for Compensation to Workmen for Injuries sustained in the Course of their Employment.
- (3) That 500 copies of the Journals and 5,000 copies of the Sessional Papers, be printed.

Your Committee has examined the Public Accounts of the Province of Saskatchewan for the fiscal year ending April 30, 1928, as published, and finds that the Receipts and Expenditures of the Province have been carefully set forth and all moneys properly accounted for.

Your Committee called for and received all vouchers desired by any Member, and where inquiry was made with respect to Receipts, Expenditures and other matters pertaining to the business of the Province, all necessary papers were produced for examination. The fullest opportunity was accorded to all Members of the Committee to examine vouchers or any documents called for, and no restriction was placed on the line of examination.

By leave of the Assembly,

On motion of Mr. Sahlmark, seconded by Mr. Hagarty,

Ordered, That the second report of the Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts and Printing be now concurred in.

The Assembly then adjourned at 6.20 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1929.

11 o'clock a.m.

The Hon. Mr. Uhrich, a Member of the Executive Council, presented:—

Return, to an Order of the Assembly dated January 30, 1929, showing:

Copies of anonymous letters, regarding the construction of the Sanatorium at Saskatoon, received by the Premier;

Copy of the report of the Architect retained to investigate the matter; and

Copy of the letter received by the Premier from the writer of anonymous letters above referred to.

(*Sessional Paper No. 33.*)

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Spence:—

- (1) Is Max Junker or Yunger of Balgonie in the employ of the Highways Department or any other Department of the Government?

*Answer:* Yes.

- (2) If so, in what capacity, and what sums were paid to him in the years 1927 and 1928?

*Answer:* Maintenance Supervisor of the Regina-Indian Head section of Provincial Highway—53½ miles.  
In 1927 he was paid \$ 980.16,  
In 1928 he was paid \$1,028.28.

- (3) If he is in the employ of the Highways Department, who, under him, during the years 1927 and 1928, did maintenance work, and how much was paid to each?

<i>Answer:</i>	1927	1928
George Binns.....	\$433.95	\$269.90
J. Fox.....	333.50	.....
W. D. Johnston.....	272.30	309.84
W. E. Stewart.....	.....	327.30
G. A. Handford.....	359.15	280.60
C. E. Stone.....	331.70	334.40
Gordon Mabe.....	381.55	250.90
F. X. Grad.....	426.35	334.80
V. Lindenbach.....	398.70	398.25
S. Grad.....	502.20	506.45
A. E. Chatwin.....	290.10	257.85
T. E. Evoy.....	438.05	182.45
M. M. Wagner.....	635.60	410.05

Extra labour employed on Repairs in 1927:

Jacob Wagner.....	\$ 22.00
Chris. Grad.....	49.50
D. Partfield.....	60.50
G. A. Peters.....	11.00
A. E. Chatwin.....	65.25
S. Grad.....	16.50
F. X. Grad.....	33.00
B. J. Brevold.....	8.25
G. Mabe.....	8.25
J. J. Cass.....	8.25
Max Junker.....	159.60

Extra labour employed on Repairs in 1928:

Jacob Tromer.....	\$ 10.50
H. Kattler.....	16.50
S. Legowicz.....	19.25
P. Rinfret.....	15.00
William Gidding.....	359.10
Alex. Wagmann.....	58.00
Joe Grad.....	49.50
X. Grad.....	22.00
Clemence Grad.....	55.00
Chris. Grad.....	33.00
Peter Grad.....	27.50
Manuel Bengert.....	27.50
Max Junker.....	137.88

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the undermentioned Bills:—

The following Bills were reported without amendment, read the third time and passed;

Bill No. 73—An Act to amend The Local Government Board Act.

Bill No. 78—An Act to amend The Liquor Act, 1925. (No. 2.)

Bill No. 79—An Act to amend The King's Bench Act.

Bill No. 80—An Act to amend The Mechanics' Lien Act.

On the following Bill progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again today;

Bill No. 63—An Act to provide for Compensation to Workmen for Injuries sustained in the Course of their Employment.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the undermentioned Bills:—

The following Bills were severally reported with amendment, considered as amended, read the third time and passed;

Bill No. 59—An Act to amend The Local Improvement Districts Act.

Bill No. 57—An Act to amend The Town Act, 1927.

Bill No. 58—An Act to amend The Village Act, 1928.

Bill No. 45—An Act respecting Sanatoria and Hospitals for the Treatment of Tuberculosis.

The following Bills were severally reported without amendment, read the third time and passed;

Bill No. 39—An Act to amend The Municipal Hail Insurance Act.

Bill No. 52—An Act to amend The Pure Bred Sire Areas Act, 1927.

Bill No. 53—An Act to amend The Horse Breeders' Act.

Bill No. 62—An Act to amend The Noxious Weeds Act, 1924.

Bill No. 74—An Act to amend The Co-operative Associations Act, 1928.

Bill No. 68—An Act to amend The Fire Prevention Act.

Bill No. 75—An Act to amend The Saskatchewan Insurance Act, 1925.

Bill No. 54—An Act to amend The Old Age Pensions Act, 1928.

On the following Bill progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again;

Bill No. 56—An Act to amend The City Act, 1926.

According to Order, the following Bills were severally read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at next sitting:—

Bill No. 69—An Act respecting the Rural Municipality of Wolverine No. 340.

Bill No. 77—An Act to facilitate the Adjustment of Agricultural Debts.

Bill No. 83—An Act to amend An Act respecting the Winding up of the Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company, Limited.

According to Order, the Hon. Mr. Patterson moved,

That Bill No. 81—An Act respecting the Saskatchewan Co-operative Creameries, Limited, be now read the second time.

A debate arising, and the question being put, it was agreed to.

The said Bill No. 81 was accordingly read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at next sitting.

According to Order, Mr. McNiven moved,

That Bill No. 82—An Act to amend The Horse Racing Regulation Act, 1927, be now read the second time.

A debate arising, by leave of the Assembly, the said motion was withdrawn.

By leave of the Assembly, the Order for the second reading of the said Bill No. 82 was discharged and the Bill withdrawn.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 05—An Act to confirm Certain Bylaws of the City of Yorkton and a Certain Agreement entered into between the City of Yorkton and Mid-West Utilities Limited, which was reported without amendment, read the third time and passed.

By leave of the Assembly, the Order "Government Orders" was reverted to.

*Saturday, February 2, 1929.*

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 63—An Act to provide for Compensation to Workmen for Injuries sustained in the Course of their Employment, on which progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again.

The Assembly then adjourned at 12.50 o'clock a.m.

REGINA, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1929.

*11 o'clock a.m.*

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the undermentioned Bills:

The following Bills were severally reported with amendment, considered as amended, read the third time and passed:

Bill No. 49—An Act to make Uniform the Law respecting Bills of Sale and Chattel Mortgages.

Bill No. 77—An Act to facilitate the Adjustment of Agricultural Debts.

Bill No. 47—An Act to amend The School Act. (No. 2.)

The following Bills were severally reported without amendment, read the third time and passed:

Bill No. 83—An Act to amend An Act respecting the Winding up of the Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company, Limited.

Bill No. 76—An Act to amend The School Grants Act, 1920.

Bill No. 41—An Act to amend The Public Libraries Act.

The Assembly, according to Order, again resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

Progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the undermentioned Bills:—

The following Bills were severally reported with amendment, considered as amended, read the third time and passed:

Bill No. 31—An Act respecting Rural Municipalities.

Bill No. 37—An Act to validate and confirm a Certain Agreement between the City of Saskatoon and His Majesty the King in the Right of the Province of Saskatchewan.

Bill No. 27—An Act to amend The Minimum Wage Act.

The following Bills were severally reported without amendment, read the third time and passed:

Bill No. 28—An Act to provide Compensation for Damage caused by Mining, Smelting and Refining Operations.

Bill No. 65—An Act to amend The Highways Act.

Bill No. 69—An Act respecting the Rural Municipality of Wolverine No. 340.

Bill No. 66—An Act to amend The Public Health Act, 1925.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 44—An Act to amend The Distress Act, and after some time spent therein Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.

The Assembly, according to Order, again resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

*(In the Committee.)*

Resolved, that there be granted to His Majesty for the twelve months ending April 30, 1930, the following sums:

Vote No.

1.	For Legislation.....	\$ 191,540.00
2.	For Executive Council.....	77,560.00
3.	For Attorney General—Administration.....	66,520.00
4.	For Attorney General—Courts and Judicial Districts.....	283,236.00
5.	For Attorney General—Criminal Investigations.....	134,000.00
6.	For Attorney General—Police and Prisoners....	235,000.00
7.	For Attorney General—Registration of Land Titles.....	286,166.00
8.	For Attorney General—Miscellaneous Services.....	11,500.00
9.	For Provincial Secretary.....	176,210.00
10.	For Treasury—Administration.....	97,300.00
11.	For Treasury—Audit.....	40,830.00
12.	For Treasury—Public Debt.....	2,763,002.00
13.	For Treasury—Farm Loans.....	614,000.00
14.	For Treasury—Miscellaneous (Chargeable to Revenue).....	159,450.00
15.	For Treasury—Miscellaneous (Chargeable to Capital).....	3,000,000.00
	being:	
	To provide for advances to the Saskatchewan Farm Loan Board for the purpose of making loans to agriculturists	\$1,500,000.00
	To provide for advances to The Saskatchewan Power Commission for the acquisition, pur- chase and construc- tion of power plants.	\$1,500,000.00
16.	For Public Works (Chargeable to Revenue)—Administration.....	18,580.00



17.	For Public Works (Chargeable to Revenue)— Lieutenant Governor's Office.....	\$ 8,163.00
18.	For Public Works (Chargeable to Revenue)— Public Buildings and Institutions (Mainte- nance and Administration).....	1,252,438.00
19.	For Public Works (Chargeable to Revenue)— Miscellaneous Services.....	27,180.00
20.	For Public Works (Chargeable to Capital)— Public Buildings (Construction).....	1,717,000.00
21.	For Highways—Administration.....	36,670.00
22.	For Highways—Public Improvements (Charge- able to Revenue).....	2,540,380.00
23.	For Highways—Public Improvements (Charge- able to Capital).....	1,538,000.00
24.	For Education.....	3,889,670.00
25.	For Agriculture—Administration.....	54,280.00
26.	For Agriculture—Assistance to General Agricul- tural Interests.....	174,100.00
27.	For Agriculture—Assistance to Live Stock Industry.....	75,650.00
28.	For Agriculture—Assistance to Dairy Industry.	64,200.00
29.	For Agriculture—Publicity and Statistical Work	13,900.00
30.	For Agriculture—Improvement and Protection of Field Crops.....	60,500.00
31.	For Agriculture—Co-operation and Markets...	29,800.00
32.	For Agriculture—Debt Adjustment Bureau....	10,000.00
33.	For Agriculture—Administration of The Agricul- tural Aids Act..... being	107,500.00
	To provide for the pur- chase and sale of live stock.....	\$ 75,000.00
	To provide for assist- ance to agricultural enterprises generally as authorised by the Lieutenant Governor in Council.....	25,000.00
	Estimated amount re- quired for interest charges (to be re- imbursed).....	7,500.00
34.	For Municipal.....	121,450.00
35.	For Local Government Board.....	35,000.00
36.	For Public Health.....	853,730.00
37.	For Railways, Labour and Industries—Adminis- tration.....	20,300.00
38.	For Railways, Labour and Industries—Railways and Industrial Inspections.....	49,160.00
39.	For Railways, Labour and Industries—Natural Resources Development.....	26,370.00

40.	For Railways, Labour and Industries—Game Protection . . . . .	\$ 60,000.00
41.	For Railways, Labour and Industries—Labour and Employment Offices . . . . .	73,820.00
42.	For Railways, Labour and Industries—Power . . . . .	45,000.00
43.	For Bureau of Child Protection . . . . .	558,620.00
44.	For Insurance . . . . .	13,720.00
45.	For King's Printer . . . . .	33,380.00
46.	For Bureau of Publications . . . . .	82,500.00
47.	For Civil Service Commissioner's Office . . . . .	6,850.00
48.	For Telephones (Chargeable to Capital) . . . . .	800,000.00
49.	For Telephones (Chargeable to Telephone Revenue) . . . . .	2,900,000.00

The said Resolutions were reported and, by leave of the Assembly, read twice and agreed to, and the Committee given leave to sit again.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

*(In the Committee.)*

No. 1. Resolved, That towards making good the Supply granted to His Majesty on account of certain expenses of the Public Service for the fiscal year ending April 30, 1930, the sum of twenty-two million five hundred and thirty four thousand two hundred and twenty-five dollars be granted out of the Consolidated Fund.

No. 2. Resolved, That towards making good the Supply granted to His Majesty on account of certain expenses of the Public Service for the fiscal year ending April 30, 1930, the sum of two million nine hundred thousand dollars be granted out of the Telephone Revenue of the Province.

The said Resolutions were reported, read twice and agreed to, and the Committee given leave to sit again.

Leave having been granted, the Hon. Mr. Patterson presented Bill No. 84—An Act for granting to His Majesty certain sums of Money for the Public Service of the Fiscal Year ending the Thirtieth day of April, 1930.

The said Bill was received and read the first time.

By leave of the Assembly, and under Standing Order 55, the said Bill was then read the second and third time and passed.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the following Bills, which were reported with amendment, considered as amended, read the third time and passed:—

- Bill No. 61—An Act to amend The Child Welfare Act, 1927.
- Bill No. 81—An Act respecting The Saskatchewan Co-operative Creameries, Limited.
- Bill No. 56—An Act to amend The City Act, 1926.
- Bill No. 55—An Act respecting Water, Gas and Electric Companies.
- Bill No. 63—An Act to provide for Compensation to Workmen for Injuries sustained in the Course of their Employment.
- Bill No. 64—An Act respecting the Licensing of Electrical Supply Houses, Contractors and Journeymen Electricians.

*9.30 o'clock p.m.*

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor having entered the Chamber, took his seat upon the Throne.

Mr. Speaker addressed His Honour:—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR,

This Legislative Assembly at its present Session passed several Bills, which, in the name of the Assembly, I present to Your Honour, and to which Bills I respectfully request Your Honour's Assent.

The Clerk of the Assembly then read the titles of the Bills that had been passed, as follows:—

- An Act respecting Land and the Title thereto.
- An Act for the Prevention of Fraud in connection with the Sale of Securities.
- An Act to amend The Corporations Taxation Act.
- An Act to make Uniform the Law respecting Assignments of Book Debts.
- An Act to amend The Minimum Wage Act.
- An Act to provide Compensation for Damage caused by Mining, Smelting and Refining Operations.
- An Act respecting Rural Municipalities.
- An Act respecting the Saskatchewan Association of Architects.
- An Act respecting Drugless Practitioners.
- An Act to amend The District Courts Act.
- An Act to validate and confirm a Certain Agreement between the City of Saskatoon and His Majesty the King in the Right of the Province of Saskatchewan.
- An Act respecting Companies.
- An Act to amend The Municipal Hail Insurance Act.
- An Act respecting the Town of Kerrobert.
- An Act to amend The Public Libraries Act.
- An Act to amend The Conditional Sales Act.
- An Act to amend The Creditors Relief Act, 1923.
- An Act respecting Sanatoria and Hospitals for the Treatment of Tuberculosis.

- An Act to amend The School Act.
- An Act to amend The Jury Act.
- An Act to make Uniform the Law respecting Bills of Sale and Chattel Mortgages.
- An Act to amend The Travelling Shows Act.
- An Act respecting the Town of Bredenbury.
- An Act to amend The Pure Bred Sire Areas Act, 1927.
- An Act to amend The Horse Breeders Act.
- An Act to amend The Old Age Pensions Act, 1928.
- An Act respecting Water, Gas and Electric Companies.
- An Act to amend The City Act, 1926.
- An Act to amend The Town Act, 1927.
- An Act to amend The Village Act, 1928.
- An Act to amend The Local Improvement Districts Act, 1927.
- An Act to amend The Vehicles Act, 1924.
- An Act to amend The Child Welfare Act, 1927.
- An Act to amend The Noxious Weeds Act, 1924.
- An Act to provide for Compensation to Workmen for Injuries sustained in the Course of their Employment.
- An Act respecting the Licensing of Electrical Supply Houses, Contractors and Journeymen Electricians.
- An Act to amend The Highways Act.
- An Act to amend The Public Health Act, 1924.
- An Act to amend The Optometry Act, 1924.
- An Act to amend The Fire Prevention Act.
- An Act respecting the Rural Municipality of Wolverine No. 340.
- An Act to amend The Arrears of Taxes Act, 1926.
- An Act to amend The School Assessment Act.
- An Act to amend The Hawkers and Pedlers Act.
- An Act to amend The Local Government Board Act.
- An Act to amend The Co-operative Associations Act, 1928.
- An Act to amend The Saskatchewan Insurance Act, 1925.
- An Act to amend The School Grants Act, 1920.
- An Act to facilitate the Adjustment of Agricultural Debts.
- An Act to amend The Liquor Act, 1925. (No. 2.)
- An Act to amend The King's Bench Act.
- An Act to amend The Mechanics' Lien Act.
- An Act respecting The Saskatchewan Co-operative Creameries, Limited.
- An Act to amend an Act respecting the Winding up of the Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company, Limited.
- An Act to confirm a Certain Bylaw of the City of Regina and a Certain Agreement entered into by the City of Regina and General Motors of Canada Limited.
- An Act to incorporate Saskatchewan Co-operative Wholesale Society Limited.
- An Act to incorporate Les Missionnaires Oblates du Sacré Coeur de Marie Immaculée de Gravelbourg.
- An Act to amend An Act to incorporate The Agricultural Insurance Company Limited.

- An Act to confirm Certain Bylaws of the City of Yorkton and a Certain Agreement entered into between the City of Yorkton and Mid-West Utilities Limited.
- An Act to incorporate La Congregation des Sacres Coeurs de Jesus et de Marie et de l'Adoration.
- An Act to incorporate The Saskatoon Mortgage and Loan Company Limited.
- An Act to amend An Act to incorporate Saskatchewan Co-operative Wheat Producers Limited.
- An Act to incorporate Saskatchewan Co-operative Livestock Producers, Limited.
- An Act to incorporate Notre Dame de Sion Academy.

The Royal Assent to these Bills was announced by the Clerk:—

"In His Majesty's name, His Honour the Lieutenant Governor doth Assent to these Bills."

Mr. Speaker then said:—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR,

This Legislative Assembly has voted the Supplies required to enable the Government to defray the expenses of the Public Service. In the name of the Assembly I present to Your Honour the following Bill:—

"An Act for granting to His Majesty certain sums of money for the Public Service of the Fiscal Year ending the Thirtieth day of April, 1930," to which Bill I respectfully request Your Honour's Assent.

The Royal Assent to this Bill was announced by the Clerk:

"In His Majesty's name, His Honour the Lieutenant Governor doth thank the Legislative Assembly, accepts their benevolence and Assents to this Bill."

His Honour then delivered the following Speech:—

MR. SPEAKER AND GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY:

It is my duty now to relieve you from further attendance at this the Fourth Session of the Sixth Legislature. I congratulate you upon the work you have done and I feel sure the result of your labours will be of great benefit to the people of the Province.

I join with you in feelings of deepest gratitude that the cloud of sorrow under which the Session was begun, owing to the dangerous illness of His Most Gracious Majesty the King, has been dissipated, and that we can rejoice today in His Majesty's steady progress towards recovery of health.

A large number of important questions have come before you for discussion and decision and I have observed with pleasure the earnest attention given to all of these matters.

The provision you have made for more effectively dealing with the treatment of tuberculosis will, it is hoped, result in still greater progress towards the complete control of this dread disease.

The establishment of a Power Commission is an important milestone in the development of our Province and the public utility thus created will form the foundation for further expansion in the interest of all the people.

The Workmen's Compensation Act is in line with modern practice, changing as it does from the principle of individual to that of collective liability, an advance step in true co-operation between workmen and their employers.

I have noted with pleasure the various amendments to the Municipal Acts, The School Act, and others. These will tend towards more effective operation in the interests of those concerned.

The people of the Province, I am sure, will approve the increased expenditure proposed for highway construction and maintenance, adding as it will to the profit and pleasure of all.

My Ministers feel confident that the people of the Province will approve of your action in adopting certain Resolutions for presentation to His Excellency, the Governor General of Canada and his advisors relating to certain matters of vital Provincial concern.

I thank you for the provision you have made to meet the needs of the public service and I assure you that the moneys thus voted by you will be expended in accordance with the principles of sound and economical administration.

In taking leave of you I express the sincere hope that Divine Providence will continue to bless our Province, and I give to you and all our people my heartiest greetings.

The Hon. Mr. Latta, the Provincial Secretary, then said:—

MR. SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY:

It is the will and pleasure of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor that this Legislative Assembly be prorogued until it pleases His Honour to summon the same for the dispatch of business, and the Legislative Assembly is accordingly prorogued.

W. G. ROBINSON,  
*Speaker.*

# INDEX

TO

# JOURNALS

SESSION 1928-29

## FOURTH SESSION, SIXTH LEGISLATURE

### Province of Saskatchewan

#### ABBREVIATIONS

1 R.—First Reading.	Com.—Committee of Whole or Select Standing or Special Committee.
2 R.—Second Reading.	S.O.C.—Committee on Standing Orders.
3 R.—Third Reading.	S.P.—Sessional Paper.
P.—Passed.	
A.—Assent.	

### A

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Fourth Session of the Sixth

## LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

OF THE

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

---

SESSION 1928-29

---

*PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY*



REGINA:

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1928-29

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# SESSIONAL PAPERS

## SESSIONAL PAPER No. 30.

SYNOPSIS OF REPORT OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD OF SASKATCHEWAN.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1928.

REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN, *January 15, 1929.*

HONOURABLE J. G. GARDINER,  
*President of the Executive Council,*  
Regina, Saskatchewan.

SIR,—The improved condition reached in recent years by Saskatchewan's municipal institutions, school districts, rural telephone companies and hospital districts is not only being maintained but strengthened. Maturing debenture instalments are met with a readiness that has been a factor in securing for current issues a favourable reception on the market. In fact, debentures of Saskatchewan's local authorities are now so well-known as sound securities, within as well as beyond the borders of the province, that the demand for them on the part of local investors is strong. This is a state of affairs which is decidedly encouraging, and as time goes on our local authorities are becoming less dependent on outside money markets.

The better times and steady development enjoyed by every part of Saskatchewan during the last year have resulted in a tendency to expand and to undertake debenture burdens which a decade ago would not have been entertained by the responsible local authorities. To assist in stabilising capital loans at all times, but particularly during periods of inflation, is one of the first duties of the board. In new municipal institutions, or in new school districts which are created while the present is buoyant and the future bright, with no past whatever, the attitude, naturally, on the part of such newly created organisation is to expect that no grief may come and that no retarding influences may ever modify the apparent prosperity of the young institution. In cases of the kind particularly the usefulness of a scrutinising central authority makes itself felt, when such authority has seen through the experience of several years the ebb and flow of good times. The Local Government Board has noticed that, while a proposal to borrow money and to spend it may meet with unanimous approval on the part of ratepayers, there may be an absence of similar zeal and united effort when the time comes for repayment. In the older communities the lessons of the past should not be forgotten by their respective responsible officials, who will naturally hesitate before proposing debenture loans, the prompt repayment of which may be difficult. However, very many of our local authorities have made history for themselves, of a nature which helps to establish their credit. Hundreds of them have paid off their first maturities, and many are entirely clear of debenture indebtedness.

Throughout Saskatchewan, tax collections have been more easily met within the last year than in any similar period. One happy result of such condition is that debenture instalments are often prepared for long before the due date, and the credit of each of such local authorities is thus held and increased.

Particulars of the debentures undertaken by Saskatchewan cities, towns, villages, rural municipalities, school districts, rural telephone companies and hospital districts during 1928 are given in the attached schedules. The amount of the loan, the purpose for which it is undertaken and other details are set out in each case.

As in recent years, it will be noted that of the three hundred and one rural municipalities only a small number undertook capital loans. When it is brought to mind, however, that the assessment in the average rural municipality is approximately \$3,300,000.00, it will be seen that current taxes to substantial amounts are raised without imposing a heavy rate on the rural municipality concerned.

School districts generally are inclined to raise the standard of the buildings which they erect, which is a hopeful sign, but only where there is definitely the ability to pay for the better type.

### SINKING FUNDS.

Sinking funds generally are in most satisfactory standing. In some cases excess interest earnings have been transferred to current account, but in every such instance the Local Government Board makes sure that there is a substantial reserve over and above that required to meet the demands of the sinking fund, lest interest rates on future investments might not be so advantageous as those in the past.

In the last report, mention was made of the fact that Saskatchewan's two largest cities had collected, prior to the time required by *The City Act*, practically every dollar owing on sinking fund investments made. This year a similar fortunate condition exists in these cities. Following is an extract from a report recently received from Saskatoon's city clerk:

"The city is in the same position as last year in respect to the investments held by the Sinking Fund, *i.e.*, all interest and principal is paid up to date, there not being one cent of arrears.

"I wish to say further that the city is now in the happy position of not owing the bank anything on Current Account, having paid off the balance of the 1928 borrowings at the end of December last."

The secretary of Regina's Sinking Fund Trustees states that there is the sum of \$142.37 only in arrears of the total amount payable to the sinking fund. When it is recalled that the latter has investments of over two millions of dollars in debentures of Saskatchewan's municipalities, school districts and rural telephone companies, there will be agreement with Regina's Sinking Fund Secretary when he says:

"I think that the showing of the School Districts and Telephone Companies of Saskatchewan as indicated in our experience reflects the greatest credit on the administration of these local units."

Reports from other municipal and school sinking funds in respect of the year just closed are not yet to hand.

#### THE SASKATCHEWAN CO-OPERATIVE CREAMERIES, LIMITED.

At the 1927 session of the Legislature, the following amendment to An Act to Incorporate The Saskatchewan Co-operative Creameries, Limited, was passed:

"10.—(1) The company shall not acquire by purchase, lease or otherwise any additional plant other than that in operation at the date of the amalgamation, nor shall it make any capital expenditure, nor shall it make any purchase of finished products of any description in which the company deals, without the consent of the Local Government Board;

Provided that the board may from time to time give general consents with respect to capital expenditures or the purchase of finished products, and may vary, alter or revoke the same."

The examination of proposed capital expenditures from time to time on behalf of an organisation so large, added to the duties of the Local Government Board.

#### ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

As provided by statute, there is an Advisory Committee to the Local Government Board, consisting of a representative appointed by the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities and a representative appointed by The Union of Saskatchewan Municipalities. The former consists of Reeves, councillors and secretary-treasurers of the rural municipalities of the province, and the latter of mayors, aldermen, councillors, overseers, clerks, secretaries and treasurers of cities, towns and villages. The first-mentioned organisation has appointed, for some time, its president, Mr. G. H. Hummell, who for years has been reeve of a rural municipality. The latter was long represented by Mr. O. J. Godfrey, F.C.A., a past president of the Union which selected him and for decades an urban municipal official. Later in the year, Mr. Godfrey resigned and was succeeded by Mr. Fraser Stewart, solicitor for the City of Regina. The discussions at the meetings of the Advisory Committee are free and comprehensive. Following are excerpts from minutes recorded in 1928:

*June 15, 1928.*

"The gravelling of streets and roads, and particularly the term of the debenture in case money is thus borrowed for the purpose, comprised the first topic. Mr. Godfrey doubted if debentures should be issued at all for gravelling, while Mr. Hummell was of the opinion that where a proper base is prepared for the gravel, debentures for a period not exceeding ten years might be justified. Mention was made of the placing of oil on the grade before spreading gravel on the latter. This method provides for the water being shed from the road bed. A scheme whereby a stone base could be laid for gravel was agreed on as being desirable, but far beyond the reach of the average municipality. It was pointed out that the absence of a proper base had often caused the expense of grading a road to be wasted.

"It was conceded that no definite rule could be set in connection with arriving at the proper term of debenture issues for the purpose of gravelling, as local conditions and class of construction have much to do with the success or failure of gravelled streets and roads.

"Related to the above, the next subject introduced for discussion was the surfacing with asphalt of gravel roads. This method of road improvement was shown to be so new in this province that it would have to be classed so far as experimental. The committee preferred to await the result of any trials made in this connection before attempting a discussion on its merits.

"Continuing the important subject of road improvement, the question of issuing debentures for road making equipment was then discussed at some length. The representative of The Union of Saskatchewan Municipalities intimated that the Rural Municipality of Indian Head No. 156, had used an engine for eighteen years, although he, and the representative of the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities, thought that a term not exceeding ten years for road machinery should prove reasonable. While ten years would be a proper term for some communities, seven might be estimated as a fairer lifetime for machinery and equipment in others. Mention was made of one caterpillar tractor, which in its operation had saved practically half the cost of road building. Again, it was brought out in discussion that by the use of tractors, road work could be performed at thirty-five cents per square yard instead of one dollar and twenty-five cents by the use of horses. In fact, a finished road could now be produced by use of machinery instead of horses, at a reduction of sixty-five cents to seventy-five cents per yard.

"The question of having work done by contract as opposed to a municipal undertaking was the next topic. Both Messrs. Godfrey and Hummell pointed out that some rural municipalities that are near urban centres can engage contractors much more readily than rural municipalities situated far from centres of population and business. The engaging of contracting firms for extensive road work has often saved the municipality the burden of undertaking a debenture debt for road machinery. Where the municipality is far removed from towns and cities in which contractors have their headquarters, the undertaking by the municipality itself is often the only method of having the work completed.

"The popular topic of 'all weather roads' was referred to as a very desirable achievement, but they are so new in this province that it is doubtful if debentures should be issued for the purpose of constructing them. It was pointed out by a member of the Advisory Committee that urban centres had assisted rural municipalities in keeping roads clear and easy for traffic for the twelve months of the year. While highly desirable, and increasingly so with increased motor traffic, it was thought that municipalities of only average paying ability might watch with interest the efforts of stronger municipal institutions in the securing of 'all weather roads'.

"The selling of municipal franchises for electric light and power was then discussed. The public has become generally aware of the many purchases of such municipal franchises throughout the province. The representatives, as at a previous meeting, intimated that the isolated unit serving a small population could be operated only with economic waste, whereas one or more central plants carrying electrical energy by high-powered lines to farmers and urban centres within a reasonable radius would probably reduce the high cost necessarily charged by the small single plant. The careful and businesslike operation of some municipal plants was cited with gratification. Estevan was spoken of as a centre for almost unlimited power, it being probable that both the coal mines and the briquetting plants in the area in or surrounding the town would be supplied with electrical energy generated from the lignite coal of south-eastern Saskatchewan.

"With reference to the proper disposal of the proceeds of sales of electric light and power plants, it was generally agreed that capital funds should be retained for capital purposes. It was also the consensus of opinion that money received from the sale of such plants should be used to redeem the debentures outstanding against them, if such redemption is at all feasible. Mr. Godfrey thought that it would be good business for many municipalities selling electrical plants to set aside a sufficient reserve each year for at least twenty years to purchase a new plant, if required, at the end of that period. He also averred that the ratepayers should decide by their votes as to the method in which the proceeds of the sale of electrical lighting plants should be used. Discussion on these suggestions brought out the comment that if this money were used to redeem the outstanding debentures the municipality would have the additional borrowing power to issue new debentures for the amount required to repurchase the plant. Farm Loan Debentures were referred to as a convenient investment for monies received from the sale of electric plants, as three months' notice only is required to redeem them. Members of the Local Government Board stated some chartered banks are prepared to accept these funds as deposits on which 4 per cent. interest would be paid. It was understood, however, that such deposits would be more or less of a permanent nature, not to be withdrawn within at least one year from the date of deposit. Mr. Godfrey thought that it might be well in some cases to withdraw the proceeds of the sale of electric lighting plants from the councils altogether, placing such funds in the hands of trustees. It was generally agreed at the meeting that funds received from the sale of municipal utilities should be safe-guarded with exceptional care, lest they should be dissipated with no substantial relief or assets to show for them.

The meeting then adjourned."

#### ELECTRICAL ENERGY FRANCHISES.

An amendment to *The Municipal Public Works Act*, which came into force on the first day of May last, provides in part that "The corporation may, with the approval of the Local Government Board and upon such terms and conditions as the board may prescribe, sell any real or personal property acquired by it for the purposes of this Act when no longer needed, and may,

subject to the same approval, rent or lease the same until sold." The decision as to whether or not a municipal franchise shall be granted for the supplying of electric current rests wholly with the electorate of the city, town or village. As to the terms of the agreement, the Local Government Board in every case insists that the debentures which are still outstanding and yet to be met shall be protected.

Section 247 of *The City Act* provides that "The proceeds of the sale of any lands by the city shall be considered to be held on capital account and may be used for acquiring other lands or invested in the same manner as sinking funds, or may be on such terms as the Local Government Board may deem proper, used for or loaned to any of the city's public utilities." A corresponding section is in *The Town Act*. Each municipality which has sold its electric lighting plant is encouraged to redeem its outstanding electric light debentures from the proceeds of the sale where advantageous terms can be secured for such redemption. Where this is not possible the money received for the plant may be invested in the same class of securities as that allowed for sinking funds. These restrictions provide for the maximum of safety. In this connection it may be noted that the term "public utilities" includes only electric lighting, gas works and water-works. In a few cases an anxiety to spend the money on hand from the sale of the public utility is observed. But as it is a capital fund every precaution is taken by the Local Government Board to see that it is spent on or invested for capital purposes. The following schedule indicates the municipalities which have disposed of their electric lighting plants, and with the approval of the ratepayers entitled to vote granted franchises to companies operating in the province; the names of the purchasers, purchase price and disposition of the proceeds being also included therein:



Local Authority	Date of Board's order approving sale, 1928	To whom sold	Amount sold for	Date of Board's order for payment out, 1928	Amount paid out	Purpose
Town of Broadview . . .	May 19	The Northern Light & Power Co. Ltd....	\$ 16,594.21	May 28 Oct. 1 Oct. 18	\$ 1,800.00 516.02 768.57	Payment on electric light debentures Payment on electric light debentures Payment on electric light debentures
Town of Melville . . . . .	May 19	Dominion Electric Power Ltd. . . . .	\$ 175,000.00	June 29 Oct. 26	\$ 5,800.00 3,075.00	Due account electric light contract Extension to water system
Town of Estevan . . . . .	May 22	Dominion Electric Power Ltd. . . . .	\$ 220,000.00	July 18 July 18 July 18 Aug. 4 Sept. 11 Sept. 18 Sept. 18 Sept. 18 Oct. 6 Oct. 22 Nov. 9 Nov. 22 Nov. 28 Nov. 28 Nov. 28	\$ 1,183.66 3,292.85 14,190.08 3,395.57 7,059.24 11,198.27 3,920.37 1,109.81 5,405.13 1,955.10 313.86 9,592.77 3,361.24 862.50 478.30 1,000.00	Extension to water system Retiring electric light debentures Payment on electric light account Payment on electric light account Purchasing town debentures Retiring electric light debentures Purchasing town debentures Purchasing town debentures Purchasing town debentures Retiring electric light debentures Retiring electric light debentures Retiring electric light debentures Prin. electric light debenture coupons Prin. electric light debenture coupons Prin. electric light debenture coupons
Town of Davidson . . . . .	June 14	Dominion Electric Power Ltd. . . . .	\$ 35,000.00	Aug. 12	\$ 5,517.76 10,682.55	Purchasing town debentures Retiring electric light debentures
Town of Assiniboia . . . . .	June 14	Dominion Electric Power Ltd. . . . .	\$ 120,000.00	July 17 Sept. 14 Oct. 19 Dec. 15	\$ 40,690.10 1,951.17 6,295.92 3,875.08	Purchasing town debentures Retiring electric light debentures Extension to water system Extension to water system
Town of Radville . . . . .	June 15	Dominion Electric Power Ltd. . . . .	\$ 35,000.00	.....	.....	Nothing paid out
Town of Nokomis . . . . .	June 16	Mid-West Utilities Ltd. . . . .	\$ 17,000.00	Oct. 31	\$ 2,336.27	Prin. electric light debenture coupons

Local Authority	Date of Board's order approving sale, 1928	To whom sold	Amount sold for	Date of Board's order for payment out, 1928	Amount paid out	Purpose
Town of Oxbow . . . . .	July 3	Montreal Engineering Co. Ltd. . . . .	\$ 13,000.00	Nov. 5 Nov. 5	\$ 825.67 221.66	Prin. electric light debenture coupons Prin. electric light debenture coupons
Town of Wilkie . . . . .	Aug. 10	Canadian Utilities Ltd. . . . .	\$ 26,000.00	Nov. 30	\$ 169.44	Prin. electric light debenture coupons
Town of Strasbourg . . .	Sept. 13	Canadian Utilities Ltd. . . . .	\$ 12,000.00	Oct. 16 Dec. 22	\$ 737.43 4,000.00	Prin. electric light debenture coupons Purchasing town debentures
Town of Wapella . . . . .	Sept. 14	The Northern Light & Power Co. Ltd. . . . .	\$ 4,000.00	. . . . .	. . . . .	Nothing paid out
Town of Fleming . . . . .	Sept. 21	The Northern Light & Power Co. Ltd. . . . .	\$ 2,000.00	Sept. 27	\$ 2,000.00	Retiring electric light debentures
Town of Saltcoats . . . . .	Oct. 6	Canadian Utilities Ltd. . . . .	\$ 16,000.00	Oct. 26	\$ 4,841.02	Retiring electric light debentures
Town of Govan . . . . .	Nov. 13	Canadian Utilities Ltd. . . . .	\$ 14,000.00	Dec. 20 Dec. 20 Dec. 26	\$ 10,508.24 1,427.02 860.32	Retiring electric light debentures Purchasing town debentures Purchasing town debentures

AUTHORISATION OF THE ISSUE OF DEBENTURES.

As compared with last year, a larger amount of debentures has been authorised, though the increase is confined chiefly to cities, other local authorities showing a falling off from last year's figures, with the exception of rural telephone companies and union hospitals, which are slightly increased, as indicated in the following table:

Local authorities	1928		1927	
	No.	Amount	No.	Amount
Cities.....	64	\$2,087,526.55	48	\$1,123,321.18
Towns.....	14	124,350.00	15	141,900.00
Villages.....	23	63,400.00	34	107,909.00
Rural municipalities.....	5	32,000.00	4	35,000.00
School districts.....	303	1,701,300.00	273	1,743,708.25
Rural telephone companies.....	122	374,667.00	112	249,510.00
Union hospitals.....	2	75,000.00	..	.....
	533	\$4,458,243.55	486	\$3,401,348.43

Particulars of applications and the manner in which they were dealt with follow, and are further detailed in the schedules attached hereto:

*Cities.*

Increased activity in the construction of public works, especially in the two larger cities, Regina and Saskatoon, is indicated. 64 authorisations, aggregating \$2,087,526.55, were granted to four cities from total applications received amounting to \$2,922,049.00.

Purpose	1928		1927	
	No. of authorisations	Amount	No. of authorisations	Amount
Water mains.....	9	\$ 292,161.67	7	\$ 56,756.43
Water meters.....	1	12,000.00	1	7,500.00
Water house connections.....	5	71,314.44	3	39,846.23
Sewer house connections.....	4	34,602.61	5	40,693.77
Sewers.....	8	65,442.56	6	50,861.19
Sewage disposal plant.....	1	55,000.00	..	.....
Storm sewers.....	3	189,680.00	1	25,475.00
Pavements.....	4	275,099.26	4	340,090.41
Boulevards.....	4	35,565.97	3	25,754.33
Curbs.....	1	28,169.00	..	.....
Gravelling streets.....	1	4,704.16	3	20,474.12
Semi-macadam streets.....	1	96,776.50	..	.....
Asphalt surfacing.....	1	48,108.00	..	.....
Concrete walks.....	4	108,550.25	9	88,869.70
Plank walks.....	5	35,082.13	..	.....
Widening lanes.....	1	2,600.00	..	.....
Opening lanes.....	1	4,100.00	..	.....
Retaining wall.....	1	4,970.00	..	.....
Street railway.....	1	114,600.00	2	192,000.00
Street cars.....	1	120,000.00	..	.....
Fire protection.....	1	80,000.00	..	.....
Electric light.....	1	60,500.00	1	40,000.00
Exhibition building.....	1	125,000.00	..	.....
Hospitals.....	3	53,500.00	2	180,000.00
Collegiate Institute.....	1	170,000.00	..	.....
Comfort station.....	..	.....	1	15,000.00
	64	\$2,087,526.55	48	\$1,123,321.18

See Schedule "A"

*Towns*

Fourteen authorisations were granted to towns, the aggregate amount of which was less than in the previous year by \$17,550.00, as indicated below:

Purpose	1928		1927	
	No. of authorisations	Amount	No. of authorisations	Amount
Water tower.....	1	\$ 14,750.00	..	.....
Water extensions.....	3	76,500.00	1	3,000.00
Concrete walks.....	2	8,800.00	3	17,900.00
Plank walks.....	2	4,500.00	..	.....
Street grading.....	1	500.00	..	.....
Fire protection.....	1	1,300.00	2	3,800.00
Electric light.....	1	8,000.00	5	88,500.00
Skating and curling rinks.....	3	10,000.00	2	7,700.00
Municipal building.....	..	.....	1	18,000.00
Hospital.....	..	.....	1	3,000.00
	14	\$124,350.00	15	\$141,900.00

See Schedule "B"

*Villages.*

There is also a considerable decrease in the case of villages, the amount of the authorisations granted being little more than half of those in the previous year, as shown below:

Purpose	1928		1927	
	No. of authorisations	Amount	No. of authorisations	Amount
Concrete walks.....	5	\$ 10,200.00	15	\$ 46,444.00
Concrete walks and street building.....	1	10,500.00	..	.....
Street improvements.....	1	1,000.00	1	1,500.00
Plank walks.....	..	.....	1	1,500.00
Recreation ground.....	1	1,000.00	1	765.00
Water supply.....	3	4,250.00	2	3,000.00
Fire protection.....	3	5,750.00	2	3,200.00
Electric light.....	2	7,200.00	4	30,300.00
Skating and curling rinks.....	6	17,500.00	2	8,000.00
Municipal buildings.....	1	6,000.00	4	11,500.00
Hospital grant.....	..	.....	1	500.00
Drainage.....	..	.....	1	1,200.00
	23	\$ 63,400.00	34	\$ 107,909.00

See Schedule "C"

*Rural Municipalities.*

As in former years, this class of local authority has followed the practice of obtaining such funds as are required to meet their needs almost exclusively from current revenue. Only five applications for permission to issue debentures were received, as detailed below:

Purpose	1928		1927	
	No. of authorisations	Amount	No. of authorisations	Amount
Road machinery . . . . .	1	\$ 6,000.00	2	20,000.00
Municipal buildings . . . . .	2	20,000.00	1	5,000.00
Right-of-way for roads . . . . .	1	3,000.00	1	10,000.00
Hospital grant . . . . .	1	3,000.00		
	5	\$ 32,000.00	4	\$ 35,000.00

See Schedule "D"

*School Districts.*

While there was a greater number of authorisations granted to school districts in 1928 than in the previous year, the aggregate amount is slightly lower. A large proportion is for new schools, principally to replace smaller ones which had become inadequate to requirements.

In all, 305 applications were received, aggregating \$1,793,000.00. Of these, 2 totalling \$83,000.00 were refused. Reductions of \$8,700.00 were made in 12, leaving net 303 authorisations aggregating \$1,701,300.00.

The ratepayers rejected 22 bylaws, amounting to \$81,200.00, leaving 281 effective authorisations aggregating \$1,620,100.00.

Details are given in the following table:

Purpose	1928				1927			
	No.	Amount	Defeated by ratepayers		No.	Amount	Defeated by ratepayers	
			No.	Amount			No.	Amount
New schools, including sites, outbuildings and equipment	180	\$1,140,850.00	14	\$69,000.00	174	\$1,440,358.25	10	\$40,600.00
School sites . . . . .	4	141,500.00	..	.....	1	25,000.00	..	.....
Teachers' residences . . . . .	25	25,050.00	2	2,500.00	25	23,400.00	2	2,100.00
Alterations, repairs and additions to school buildings and equipment . . . . .	94	393,900.00	6	9,700.00	73	254,950.00	9	25,000.00
	303	\$1,701,300.00	22	\$81,200.00	273	\$1,743,708.25	21	\$67,700.00
Less defeated by ratepayers . . . . .	22	81,200.00			21	67,700.00		
	281	\$1,620,100.00			252	\$1,676,008.25		

See Schedule "E"

*Rural Telephone Companies.*

Authorisations to rural telephone companies show an increase over 1927, due principally to the fact that 13 new companies were organised in 1928, as compared with only 1 in 1927. Aside from this, expenditure was practically the same as in 1927, as shown by the following table:

Purpose	1928		1927	
	No. of authorisations	Amount	No. of authorisations	Amount
New systems .....	13	\$125,250.00	1	\$ 16,250.00
Central offices .....	7	6,602.00	3	2,000.00
Extensions of existing systems, including reconstruction, alterations, etc. ....	102	242,815.00	108	231,260.00
	122	\$374,667.00	112	\$249,510.00

See Schedule "F"

*Union Hospital Districts.*

Two authorisations of the issue of debentures by union hospital districts were granted during the year, amounting to \$75,000.00.

## SALE OF DEBENTURES.

Last year the board submitted a statement showing the highest and lowest interest rates at which debentures were sold by the various local authorities and the average for the year. A similar statement is submitted for 1928, which shows that, while rates were slightly more favourable this year in respect of cities, towns and rural municipalities, others were required to pay about the same or slightly higher rates than in 1927. This is due to the fact that while the market was very favourable in the first part of the year, in the latter part the trend of interest rates was decidedly upward, in view of which many local authorities, particularly urban, kept off the market.

	1928			1927		
	Highest interest rate	Lowest interest rate	Average for year	Highest interest rate	Lowest interest rate	Average for year
Cities .....	5.	4.580	4.692	5.184	4.90	5.03
Towns .....	6.	5.	5.	6.233	5.10	5.626
Villages .....	6.275	5.686	5.891	7.	5.476	5.633
Rural Municipalities .....	5.250	5.250	5.250	5.448	5.411	5.443
Rural telephone companies .....	7.	5.372	5.632	7.	5.	5.60
Union hospitals .....	5.176	5.176	5.176	.....	.....	.....
Village and rural schools .....	7.	5.	5.536	7.	5.	5.526
City and town schools .....	6.50	4.819	5.085	5.468	5.10	5.093

Sales in each month of the year 1928 of the various classes of debentures, with the highest, lowest and average rates of interest are given in the following tables:

	1928					1927		
	Number of issues sold	Amount	Highest interest rate	Lowest interest rate	Average rate	Number of issues sold	Amount	Average rate
<i>Cities—</i>								
May .....	6	\$306,000.00	5.	4.580	4.643	5	\$227,675.00	5.034
June.....	2	132,400.00	4.76	4.625	4.737	16	256,796.85	5.067
July.....	13	483,300.00	4.793	4.672	4.710	3	43,600.00	4.989
August.....	..	.....	.....	.....	.....	12	580,558.00	5.020
	21	\$921,700.00	Average for year		4.692	36	\$1,108,629.85	5.620 Average for year
<i>Towns—</i>								
February.....	..	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	\$ 12,000.00	5.898
April.....	3	\$ 7,100.58	5.724	5.50	5.578	1	500.00	5.728
June.....	1	5,000.00	5.375	5.375	5.375	3	69,000.00	5.648
July.....	..	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	21,500.00	5.576
September.....	..	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	12,900.00	5.758
October.....	2	4,700.00	6.	5.394	5.419	4	28,500.00	5.437
November.....	2	11,500.00	6.	5.625	5.614	.....	.....	.....
December.....	1	4,000.00	5.	5.	5.	.....	.....	.....
	9	\$ 32,300.58	Average for year		5.464	13	\$144,400.00	5.626 Average for year

	1928					1927		
	Number of issues sold	Amount	Highest interest rate	Lowest interest rate	Average rate	Number of issues sold	Amount	Average rate
<i>Villages—</i>								
January.....	..	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	\$10,000.00	6.041
February.....	2	2,800.00	5.750	5.750	5.750	....	.....	.....
March.....	..	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	600.00	6. ....
May.....	1	2,500.00	5.686	5.686	5.686	2	7,300.00	5.844
June.....	1	1,000.00	5.886	5.886	5.886	2	4,500.00	5.658
July.....	1	1,200.00	5.886	5.886	5.886	4	11,765.00	5.608
August.....	2	4,000.00	5.797	5.770	5.783	3	4,000.00	5.742
September.....	6	25,750.00	6.008	5.750	5.873	5	13,944.00	5.652
October.....	..	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	39,600.00	5.672
November.....	1	4,500.00	5.920	5.920	5.920	2	2,400.00	5.635
December.....	3	6,000.00	6.275	6.125	6.169	1	1,600.00	6.403
	17	\$47,750.00	Average for year		5.891	34	\$95,709.00	5.633 Average for year
<i>Rural Municipalities—</i>								
May.....	..	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	\$10,000.00	5.448
June.....	1	\$ 4,000.00	5.250	5.250	5.250	....	.....	.....
July.....	1	6,000.00	5.250	5.250	5.250	....	.....	.....
August.....	1	3,000.00	5.250	5.250	5.250	1	1,500.00	5.411
November.....	1	5,000.00	5.250	5.250	5.250	....	.....	.....
	4	\$18,000.00	Average for year		5.250	2	\$11,500.00	5.443 Average for year



	1928					1927			
	Number of issues sold	Amount	Highest interest rate	Lowest interest rate	Average rate	Number of issues sold	Amount	Average rate	
<i>Rural Telephone Companies—</i>									
January.....	8	\$ 26,750.00	6.	5.432	5.430	9	\$ 21,925.00	5.954	
February.....	7	15,900.00	5.771	5.250	5.372	6	9,435.00	5.708	
March.....	7	40,250.00	5.737	5.	5.424	10	30,575.00	5.635	
April.....	5	8,025.00	5.75	5.458	5.487	7	23,645.00	5.532	
May.....	3	7,300.00	5.50	5.417	5.442	8	10,350.00	5.676	
June.....	10	24,450.00	7.	5.321	5.544	12	19,370.00	5.697	
July.....	7	41,400.00	6.	4.795	5.526	10	27,750.00	5.568	
August.....	7	28,200.00	6.	5.419	5.598	15	33,275.00	5.456	
September.....	11	33,675.00	6.	5.434	5.660	19	36,975.00	5.591	
October.....	19	68,150.00	6.	5.	5.941	13	24,800.00	5.589	
November.....	5	8,566.00	7.	6.	6.073	8	14,350.00	5.471	
December.....	16	35,965.00	7.	5.50	5.894	13	31,025.00	5.528	
	95	\$338,631.00	Average for year		5.632	130	\$283,475.00	5.60	Average for year

	1928					1927		
	Number of issues sold	Amount	Highest interest rate	Lowest interest rate	Average rate	Number of issues sold	Amount	Average rate
<i>Village and Rural Schools—</i>								
January.....	11	\$ 35,800.00	6.	5.342	5.534	1	\$ 1,500.00	6.73
February.....	4	9,600.00	6.25	5.345	5.473	4	6,600.00	5.876
March.....	6	20,900.00	5.843	5.375	5.521	2	5,000.00	5.683
April.....	22	72,450.00	6.375	5.	5.413	12	33,500.00	5.948
May.....	32	112,300.00	6.	5.161	5.411	18	76,920.00	5.502
June.....	33	107,600.00	6.5	5.	5.401	38	182,235.00	5.381
July.....	28	96,500.00	5.723	5.	5.491	28	104,700.00	5.505
August.....	24	127,900.00	5.708	4.977	5.455	32	117,500.00	5.461
September.....	21	86,500.00	5.972	5.375	5.591	26	128,800.00	5.438
October.....	16	56,000.00	6.	5.250	5.681	26	107,400.00	5.707
November.....	24	77,600.00	7.	5.478	5.912	19	30,800.00	5.778
December.....	10	18,050.00	6.50	5.375	6.169	9	20,600.00	5.662
	231	\$821,200.00	Average for year		5.536	215	\$815,555.00	5.526 Average for year

	1928					1927		
	Number of issues sold	Amount	Highest interest rate	Lowest interest rate	Average rate	Number of issues sold	Amount	Average rate
<i>City and Town Schools—</i>								
January.....	1	\$ 10,625.00	6.50	6.50	6.50	.....	.....	.....
April.....	1	2,000.00	5.425	5.425	5.425	.....	.....	.....
May.....	2	190,000.00	4.819	4.819	4.819	.....	.....	.....
June.....	2	31,200.00	5.981	5.250	5.953	1	26,000.00	5.375
July.....	3	38,500.00	5.358	5.280	5.306	.....	.....	.....
August.....	1	18,000.00	5.250	5.250	5.250	2	184,000.00	5.107
September.....	2	70,000.00	5.250	4.910	4.958	1	7,000.00	5.349
October.....	1	15,000.00	5.280	5.280	5.280	1	70,000.00	5.282
November.....	1	5,500.00	5.50	5.50	5.50	.....	.....	.....
December.....	..	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	200,000.00	4.97
	14	\$380,825.00	Average for year		5.085	6	\$487,000.00	5.526 Average for year

## RECAPITULATION

	1928		1927	
	Number sold	Amount	Number sold	Amount
Cities.....	21	\$ 921,700.00	36	\$1,108,629.85
Towns.....	9	32,300.58	13	144,400.00
Villages.....	17	47,750.00	34	95,709.00
Rural municipalities.....	4	18,000.00	2	11,500.00
Rural telephone companies.....	95	338,631.00	130	283,475.00
Union hospital districts.....	1	15,000.00	..	.....
Village and rural schools.....	231	821,200.00	215	815,555.00
City and town schools.....	14	380,825.00	6	487,000.00
	392	\$2,575,406.58	436	\$2,946,268.85

## Distribution of sales among various classes of purchasers:

	1928		1927	
	Number	Amount	Number	Amount
Saskatchewan dealers.....	222	\$1,069,500.58	294	\$1,290,079.20
Dealers outside Saskatchewan.....	27	1,176,000.00	22	1,202,829.65
Saskatchewan investors.....	73	174,040.00	67	334,385.00
Investors outside Saskatchewan.....	5	10,900.00	..	.....
Sold direct to Saskatchewan sinking funds.....	65	144,966.00	53	118,975.00
	392	\$2,575,406.58	436	\$2,946,268.85

## SINKING FUNDS.

It will be seen from the following tables that except in the cases of three local authorities, the average yield in sinking fund investments was lower in 1928 than in the preceding year. This is due to the fact that in the early part of 1928 interest rates on the classes of securities in which these funds are usually placed, were lower than for some years past; and while rates ruled higher toward the end of the year, the change was not sufficient to bring the average yield rate on investments up to last year's figures.

The following tables show:

- (a) distribution of investments made by the various funds in 1928 as compared with 1927;
- (b) details of investments approved by the board in respect of each fund, showing the number of approvals, face value of the various securities, purchase value and average interest yield:

	1928			1927		
	Number of approvals	Face value	Purchase value	Number of approvals	Face value	Purchase value
Dominion of Canada bonds . . . . .	9	\$ 206,500.00	\$ 214,257.10	3	\$ 105,000.00	\$ 108,054.00
Province of Saskatchewan bonds . . . . .	5	29,500.00	30,672.20	} 16	177,357.37	169,128.63
Province of Saskatchewan farm loan bonds . . . . .	3	141,498.00	143,786.36			
Province of Saskatchewan registered stock . . . . .	1	16,000.00	14,860.00			
Province of Saskatchewan guaranteed drainage debentures . . . . .	1	5,000.00	5,385.50			
Province of Alberta bonds . . . . .	3	20,000.00	19,958.50	4	10,000.00	11,072.70
Province of British Columbia bonds . . . . .	12	101,500.00	104,495.50	6	81,500.00	85,962.95
Province of Ontario bonds . . . . .	5	39,000.00	43,613.13	2	44,000.00	47,118.75
Province of Nova Scotia bonds . . . . .	1	21,000.00	21,317.10	..	..	..
C.N.R. Dominion guaranteed bonds . . . . .	1	19,000.00	19,142.50	2	28,866.66	28,751.02
Saskatchewan school district debentures . . . . .	90	254,550.00	256,495.42	80	215,300.00	217,769.66
Saskatchewan rural telephone debentures . . . . .	35	97,066.00	98,579.03	51	142,029.52	144,884.50
Saskatchewan city debentures . . . . .	17	187,410.94	190,410.11	8	90,986.37	90,342.20
Saskatchewan town debentures . . . . .	3	3,985.72	4,123.29	2	7,000.00	7,020.00
Saskatchewan rural municipality debentures . . . . .	2	8,000.00	8,000.00	1	1,500.00	1,506.00
Saskatchewan village debentures . . . . .	1	2,000.00	2,048.24	2	4,000.00	4,005.00
	189	\$1,152,010.66	\$1,177,043.98	177	\$907,539.92	\$915,615.41

Details of investments by various sinking funds, showing face and purchase value and interest yields:

Nature of investments	No. of approvals	Face value	Purchase value	Interest yield %	Average interest yield 1927
<i>City of Regina—</i>					
Saskatchewan rural telephone debentures.	14	\$ 71,950.00	\$ 73,067.20	5.416	
Saskatchewan school district debentures.	20	71,200.00	72,136.05	5.282	
City of Regina debentures.	2	132,400.00	134,934.37	4.738	
Province of Saskatchewan farm loan bonds	1	135,998.00	138,092.36	4.41	
	37	\$411,548.00	\$418,229.98	Average 4.837	5.118
<i>City of Saskatoon—</i>					
Province of Ontario bonds	5	\$ 39,000.00	\$ 43,613.13	4.516	
Province of British Columbia bonds	12	101,500.00	104,495.50	4.851	
Province of Saskatchewan bonds	1	2,000.00	2,095.00	4.560	
Province of Alberta bonds	3	20,000.00	19,858.50	4.887	
City of Saskatoon debentures	2	8,010.94	8,204.59	4.70	
	23	\$170,510.94	\$178,266.72	Average 4.762	4.915
<i>City of Moose Jaw—</i>					
Dominion of Canada bonds	8	\$196,000.00	\$203,179.60	4.652	
Province of Saskatchewan bonds	2	24,500.00	25,530.20	4.604	
C.N.R. guaranteed bonds 5%, 1932	1	19,000.00	19,142.50	4.80	
City of Moose Jaw debentures	11	45,000.00	45,269.15	5.056	
	22	\$284,500.00	\$293,121.45	Average 4.719	4.961
<i>City of Prince Albert—</i>					
Province of Saskatchewan registered 4%, 1951	1	\$16,000.00	\$14,860.00	4.50	
Province of Saskatchewan farm loan bonds 5%	1	4,000.00	4,194.00	4.65	
Province of Saskatchewan bonds 4½%, 1958	1	2,000.00	2,033.20	4.40	
Saskatchewan school district debentures	9	40,500.00	40,983.65	5.374	
Saskatchewan rural telephone debentures	9	18,100.00	18,467.50	5.378	
	21	\$80,600.00	\$80,538.35	Average 5.151	4.874
<i>City of North Battleford—</i>					
Province of Nova Scotia bonds 4½%, 1953	1	\$21,000.00	\$21,317.10	4.42	4.804
<i>City of Weyburn—</i>					
Province of Saskatchewan drainage bonds 5½%, 1941	1	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,385.50	4.70	
Dominion of Canada bonds 5½%, 1935	1	10,500.00	11,077.50	4.55	
Saskatchewan school district debentures	7	14,800.00	14,916.98	5.395	
Saskatchewan town debentures	1	2,485.72	2,623.29	5.50	
Saskatchewan village debentures	1	2,000.00	2,048.24	5.50	
Saskatchewan rural telephone debentures	1	700.00	725.33	5.75	
	12	\$35,485.72	\$36,776.84	Average 5.059	5.135

Nature of investments	No. of approvals	Face value	Purchase value	Interest yield %	Average interest yield 1927
<i>Town of Melfort—</i>					
Saskatchewan school district debentures . . . . .	6	\$15,294.00	\$15,325.00	5.364	
Saskatchewan rural telephone debentures . . . . .	2	1,200.00	1,200.00	5.666	
	8	\$16,494.00	\$16,525.00	Average 5.386	5.559
<i>Town of Davidson—</i>					
City of Regina debentures . . . . .	2	\$2,000.00	\$2,002.00	4.754	
Province of Saskatchewan 5%, 1935 . . . . .	1	1,000.00	1,013.80	4.75	
Town of Davidson debentures . . . . .	2	1,500.00	1,500.00	5.50	
	5	\$4,500.00	\$4,515.80	Average 5.047	4.5
<i>Town of Rosetown—</i>					
Saskatchewan school district debentures . . . . .	2	\$2,200.00	\$2,207.00	5.420	5.668
<i>Town of Biggar—</i>					
Saskatchewan school district debentures . . . . .	2	\$1,609.00	\$1,621.00	5.419	
Saskatchewan rural telephone debentures . . . . .	3	841.00	841.00	5.762	
	5	\$2,450.00	\$2,462.00	Average 5.420	5.324
<i>Town of Francis—</i>					
Saskatchewan school debentures . . . . .	1	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	5.171	4.97
<i>Town of Duck Lake—</i>					
Saskatchewan school debentures . . . . .	3	\$1,397.00	\$1,397.00	5.656	
Saskatchewan rural telephone debentures . . . . .	1	200.00	200.00	5.50	
	4	\$1,597.00	\$1,597.00	Average 5.636	5.879
<i>Town of Indian Head—</i>					
Saskatchewan school debentures . . . . .	1	\$6,000.00	\$6,090.00	5.319	
Saskatchewan rural telephone debentures . . . . .	1	1,500.00	1,500.00	5.50	
	2	\$7,500.00	\$7,590.00	Average 5.489	5.754
<i>Town of Arcola—</i>					
Province of Saskatchewan farm loan bonds 4%, 1958 . . . . .	1	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	4.	
<i>Regina Public School District No. 4—</i>					
Saskatchewan school debentures . . . . .	39	\$97,550.00	\$97,818.74	5.40	
Saskatchewan rural telephone debentures . . . . .	4	2,575.00	2,578.00	5.624	
Saskatchewan rural municipality debentures . . . . .	2	8,000.00	8,000.00	5.25	
	45	\$108,125.00	\$108,396.74	Average 5.394	5.444

## RECAPITULATION.

Local authority	1928			1927				
	No. of approvals	Face value	Purchase value	Average interest yield %	No. of approvals	Face value	Purchase value	Average interest yield %
City of Regina.....	37	\$411,548.00	\$418,229.98	4.837	79	\$380,889.99	\$378,966.08	5.118
City of Saskatoon.....	23	170,510.94	178,266.72	4.762	9	81,500.00	90,919.65	4.915
City of Moose Jaw.....	22	284,500.00	293,121.45	4.719	11	190,479.74	193,055.35	4.961
City of Prince Albert.....	21	80,600.00	80,538.35	5.151	9	65,468.05	63,477.39	4.874
City of Weyburn.....	12	35,485.72	36,776.84	5.059	7	39,413.48	39,973.84	5.135
City of North Battleford.....	1	21,000.00	21,317.10	4.42	2	34,000.00	34,134.75	4.804
*Town of Melfort.....	8	16,494.00	16,525.00	5.386	4	6,200.00	6,219.91	5.559
Town of Davidson.....	5	4,500.00	4,515.80	5.047	2	3,500.00	3,500.00	4.5
*Town of Rosetown.....	2	2,200.00	2,207.00	5.420	5	1,813.66	1,828.37	5.668
*Town of Biggar.....	5	2,450.00	2,462.00	5.420	2	2,200.00	2,221.00	5.524
*Town of Francis.....	1	4,000.00	4,000.00	5.171	1	1,000.00	1,063.00	4.97
*Town of Duck Lake.....	4	1,597.00	1,597.00	5.636	3	1,550.00	1,550.00	5.879
Town of Indian Head.....	2	7,500.00	7,590.00	5.489	2	5,900.00	5,900.00	5.754
Town of Arcola.....	1	1,500.00	1,500.00	4.	..	.....	.....	.....
*Regina Public School District No. 4.....	45	108,175.00	108,396.74	5.394	40	73,625.00	73,706.07	5.444
Saskatoon Public School District No. 13.....	..	.....	.....	.....	1	20,000.00	20,000.00	4.92
	189	\$1,152,010.66	\$1,177,043.98	....	177	\$907,539.92	\$916,515.41	....

\*Administered by the Local Government Board.



Pursuant to the provisions of sections 373 of *The City Act* and 351 of *The Town Act*, the following local authorities were authorised to use surplus interest earnings on sinking funds for current or other expenses to the amounts set opposite each:

City of Regina.....	\$65,000.00
City of Moose Jaw.....	30,000.00
City of Weyburn.....	6,000.00
City of Saskatoon.....	50,000.00
Town of Melfort.....	3,000.00
Town of Davidson.....	692.64
Regina Public School District No. 4.....	5,000.00

In sanctioning these withdrawals, the board stipulated that in each case a substantial surplus should be retained over and above the amount actually required to be in the fund for the purpose of providing against possible losses or future reduction in earnings.

#### THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD (SPECIAL POWERS) ACT, 1922.

All of the local authorities which have come under the direction of the board pursuant to the provisions of *The Local Government Board (Special Powers) Act, 1922*, are carrying out the terms of their respective agreements and readjustments.

During the year, the board made the following orders and recommendations in connection therewith:

- January 23:* Revising and finally approving estimates of the town of Humboldt and Humboldt School District No. 1529 and fixing tax rates for 1928.
- March 3:* Revising and finally approving estimates of the town of Canora and Canora School District No. 1152, and fixing tax rates for 1928.
- April 4:* Revising and finally approving estimates of the town of Melville and Melville School District No. 2187 and fixing tax rates for 1928.
- April 19:* Revising and finally approving estimates of the town of Sutherland for the year 1928.
- April 25:* Revising and finally approving estimates of the town of Scott and Scott School District No. 2255 and fixing tax rates for 1928.
- May 25:* Revising and finally approving estimates of the town of Watrous and Watrous School District No. 1334 and fixing tax rates for 1928.
- June 7:* Authorising the town of Canora to disburse the sum of \$6,000.00 to pay debentures and debenture coupons maturing prior to March 31, 1927.
- June 27:* Revising and finally approving estimates of the town of Battleford, Battleford School District No. 71 and St. Vital of Battleford School District No. 11 and fixing tax rates for 1928.
- December 21:* Authorising the town of Canora to disburse the sum of \$12,000.00 in paying debentures and debenture coupons maturing prior to March 31, 1928.

Recommendations as listed below were made under sections 16 (1), 16 (2) and 22 of *The Local Government Board (Special Powers) Act, 1922*:

- (a) Section 16 (1), providing for issue of tax sale titles to lands sold for arrears of taxes and purchased by the municipality without payment of school taxes by towns under the operation of the Act:

March 30,	Town of Scott,
August 3,	Town of Battleford,
November 27,	Town of Humboldt,
December 8,	Town of Sutherland.

- (b) Section 16 (2), providing for remission of public revenue taxes in respect of lands sold for arrears of taxes by local authorities under the operation of the Act:

March 30, Town of Scott,  
 August 3, Town of Battleford,  
 August 28, Town of Watrous,  
 December 8, Town of Sutherland.

- (c) Section 22, providing for issue of titles to lands sold for arrears of taxes and purchased by local authorities under the operation of the Act without payment of fees in land titles offices:

March 30, Town of Scott,  
 May 15, Town of Melville,  
 June 19, Town of Canora,  
 August 28, Town of Watrous,  
 October 31, Town of Melville,  
 November 27, Town of Humboldt,  
 December 8, Town of Sutherland.

#### ASSESSMENT APPEALS.

Appeals from decisions of Courts of Revision in cities are made to the Local Government Board, as provided by section 467 of *The City Act*.

Three appeals were heard:

March 28, City of North Battleford,  
 April 5, City of Regina,  
 August 6, City of Prince Albert.

#### SALE OF SHARES ACT.

During the year 31 applications for certificates under *The Sale of Shares Act* have been dealt with. Certificates were granted in respect of 20. Four were refused and seven are still under investigation:

#### *Applications Dealt With:*

File No.	Name of company	Head office	Authorised capital	Certificate granted	Certificate refused	Remarks
9345	The Great Western Finance Co. Ltd....	Saskatoon.	170,000	Aug. 22	.....	700 8% cum. pref. @ 100; 50 com. @ 100; com. not exceeding 10%.
9401	Renards Argentés de Gravelbourg Ltd...	Gravelbourg...	50,000	Feb. 17	.....	120 @ 100. No com.
9407	Engineers' Oil & Gas Co. Ltd.....	Biggar....	500,000	Sept. 10	.....	Certificate to sell 5,000 shares dev. stock cancelled and certificate for 20,000 shares dev. stock @ \$1.00 issued in lieu thereof.
9430	The Western Importing Co. Ltd...	Wymark..	.....	.....	July 12	
9431	Thrift Soaps Limited	Vancouver.	100,000	.....	Feb. 28	

File No.	Name of company	Head office	Authorised capital	Certificate granted	Certificate refused	Remarks
9425	The Empire Life Ins. Co.....	Toronto...	2,000,000	Mar. 13	.....	Bal. of cert. issued Oct. 14/27 cancelled and new cert. for 1,500 shares @ 135 issued in lieu thereof.
9434	Sterling Finance Ltd..	Saskatoon.	50,000	Mar. 16	.....	480 @ 100. No com.
9437	Commercial Airways Ltd.....	Regina....	20,000	April 24	.....	200 @ 100. No com.
9438	Sovereign Theatre Co. Ltd.....	Sovereign..	6,000	April 18	.....	600 @ 10. No com.
9439	Diversified Standard Securities Ltd.....	Montreal..	1,000,000	July 10	.....	1,000 8% cum. pref. @ \$26.25. Com. not to exceed 10%.
9440	The White Bear Silver Black Fox Co. Ltd.....	White Bear	20,000	Aug. 13	.....	1,800 @ \$11.00.
9441	Alexandria Gold Mines Ltd.....	Toronto 2	5,000,000	.....	June 8	
9442	Western Hemp Products Ltd.....	Rhein....	25,000	June 19	.....	200 @ 50. Com. not to exceed 5%.
9443	General Bond & Investment Co. Ltd.	Regina....	503,000	June 11	.....	3,000 cum. pref. and 1,500 com. @ 115 for 1 of pref. & half of 1 com.
9444	Clydach Gold Mines Ltd.....	St. Catharines....	3,000,000	.....	June 27	
9445	Consumer's Oil Co. Ltd.....	Moose Jaw	60,000	July 24	.....	500 7% cum. pref. @ 50 and 2,500 com. @ 1 @ par. Com. not to exceed 10%.
9360	International Clay Products Ltd.....	Estevan...	150,000	Mar. 26	.....	750 7% first mtge. debentures @ 100. Com. not to exceed 10%.
9382	Orpheum Theatre Co. Ltd.....	Prince Albert...	75,000	June 18	.....	250 5% cum. pref. @ 100. Com. 5%.
9447	Regina City Homes Ltd.....	Regina....	220,000	Sept. 13	.....	1,000 6% cum. pref. \$100 @ par. Com. 1 ord. share @ \$10.00 for each cum. share.
9449	United Stockmen Ltd.....	Winnipeg..	10,000	Oct. 18	.....	200 @ 10. Com. not to exceed 10%.

File No.	Name of company	Head office	Authorised capital	Certificate granted	Certificate refused	Remarks
9450	Manitou Lake Sanitarium & Mineral Products Mfg. Co. Ltd.....	Watrous...	510,000	Oct. 5	.....	750 8% cum. pref. @ 100 and 750 com. @ 1 in units of 1 pref. and 1 com. @ 101. Com. not to exceed 10%.
9452	The Battleford Skating Rink Co. Ltd...	Battleford.	5,000	Oct. 16	.....	Whole issue.
9454	The People's Investment Co. Ltd.....	Saskatoon.	170,000	Nov. 26	.....	Whole issue.
9455	Leader Curling Club Ltd.....	Leader....	2,500	Nov. 28	.....	Whole issue.

*Applications Pending:*

1927

File No.	Name of company	Head office	Authorised capital	Certificate granted	Certificate refused	Remarks
9422	New England Investment Trust Inc....	Boston, Mass.	.....			
9423	The Steppe Silver Black Fox Co. Ltd.	Theodore..	50,000			
9428	Assiniboia Curling Rink Co. Ltd.....	Assiniboia.	10,000			
1928						
9429	Purity Dairy Limited.	Regina....	100,000			
9432	Koyl Securities Ltd..	Saskatoon.	200,000			
9433	Tri Cities Transportation Co. Ltd..	Regina....	25,000			
9435	Farmers' Own Supply Co. Ltd.....	Burstall...	20,000			
9436	Mutries Bakery Ltd..	Regina....	100,000			
9451	Mortlach Consumers' Oil Co. Ltd.....	Mortlach..	12,500			
9453	Keeler Consumers' Oil Co. Ltd.....	Keeler....	12,500			

The following certificates previously issued have been revoked:

File No.	Name of company	Date of revocation	Why revoked
9210	Western Debenture Co. Ltd.....	Sept. 24	Wound up.
9292	The Saskatchewan Mortgage & Trust Corporation Ltd.....	Sept. 24	Own request—In liquidation.
9298	Indemnity Agencies Ltd.....	Oct. 9	Own request.
9363	David J. Dyson Ltd.....	April 13	Failure to file annual report.
9371	Van Slyck's Limited.....	Oct. 9	Failure to file statement.
9424	The North Parkside Silver Fox Co. Ltd...	Jan. 27	Wound up.

Following is a list of 66 companies holding the Board's certificate at December 31, 1928:

File No.	Name of Company	Head office	Authorised capital
9113	International Loan Co. Ltd.	Winnipeg	\$20,000,000
9115	The Agriculture Insurance Co.	Regina	500,000
9189	United Grain Growers Ltd.	Winnipeg	5,000,000
9212	Northern Saskatchewan Co-operative Stock Yards, Ltd.	Prince Albert	100,000
9216	Regina Agricultural & Industrial Exhibition Association, Ltd.	Regina	
9219	Yorkton Curling and Skating Rink	Yorkton	20,000
9221	Regina Silver Black Fox Co. Ltd.	Regina	200,000
9242	Pelly Electric Light and Power Co. Ltd.	Pelly	15,000
9244	Scottish Provincial Investment Co. Ltd.	Regina	100,000
9253	Sterling Securities Corporation Ltd.	Regina	1,000,000
9265	W. E. Mason Discount Co.	Regina	100,000
9312	The Cameron Securities Ltd.	Saskatoon	50,000
9318	Western Homes Ltd.	Winnipeg	5,000,000
9321	P. Burns & Co. Ltd.	Calgary	10,000,000
9330	Rosthern Creamery and Produce Ltd.	Rosthern	25,000
9336	Scandinavian Silver Fox Co. Ltd.	Prince Albert	35,000
9340	Guardian Investment Co. Ltd.	Regina	20,000
9342	Moose Jaw Co-operative Society Ltd.	Moose Jaw	40,000
9345	The Great Western Finance Co. Ltd.	Saskatoon	170,000
9347	Big Lump Coal Co. Ltd.	Estevan	50,000
9349	Sunrise Milling Co. Ltd.	Biggar	25,000
9351	Citizens' Rink Co. Ltd.	Swift Current	20,000
9355	Kelliher Silver Black Fox Co. Ltd.	Kelliher	25,000
9360	International Clay Products Ltd.	Estevan	150,000
9364	Retailers Trust Co. Ltd.	Saskatoon	50,000
9366	St. Maurice Valley Corporation	Shawinigan Falls, Quebec	11,800,000
9372	Kyle Hall Co. Ltd.	Kyle	10,000
9374	The Outlook Silver Fox Co. Ltd.	Outlook	40,000
9375	Riley & Hooker Ltd.	Regina	100,000
9378	Queen City Oil Co. Ltd.	Kevin, Montana	500,000
9380	Regina Hat Manufacturing Co. Ltd.	Regina	25,000
9382	Orpheum Theatre Co. Ltd.	Prince Albert	75,000
9387	Swift Current Oils & Gas Co. Ltd.	Swift Current	20,000
9389	The Standard General Investments Ltd.	Meyronne	100,000
9396	W. W. Cooper Co. Ltd.	Swift Current	250,000
9400	Neal Bros. Ltd.	Winnipeg	40,000
9401	Renards Argentés de Gravelbourg Ltd.	Gravelbourg	50,000
9402	Canadian Fur Pool Ltd.	Regina	50,000
9403	Estevan Rinks Ltd.	Estevan	20,000
9404	Central Canadian Insurance Co.	Winnipeg	500,000
9405	The Maxim Valley Oil Co. Ltd.	Weyburn	100,000
9406	Eatonia Silver Fox Co. Ltd.	Eatonia	20,000
9407	Engineers' Oil and Gas Co. Ltd.	Biggar	500,000
9411	Davis Dairy Co. Ltd.	Saskatoon	30,000
9414	Lake St. John Power and Paper Co.	Toronto	24,500,000
9415	New Regina Trading Co. Ltd.	Regina	500,000
9417	Moose Jaw Community Hotel Co. Ltd.	Moose Jaw	393,750
9418	The United Merchants Ltd.	Saskatoon	250,000
9419	Canadian Western Natural Gas, Light, Heat and Power Co. Ltd.	Calgary	8,000,000
9420	Sterling Silver Black Fox Co. Ltd.	Regina	50,000
9425	The Empire Life Insurance Co.	Toronto	2,000,000
9426	Forward Land and Development Co. Ltd.	Swift Current	75,000
9434	Sterling Finance Ltd.	Saskatoon	50,000
9437	Commercial Airways Ltd.	Regina	20,000
9438	Sovereign Theatre Co. Ltd.	Sovereign	6,000
9439	Diversified Standard Securities Ltd.	Montreal	1,000,000
9440	The White Bear Silver Black Fox Co. Ltd.	White Bear	20,000
9442	Western Hemp Products Ltd.	Rhein	25,000
9443	General Bond and Investment Co. Ltd.	Regina	503,000

File No.	Name of Company	Head office	Authorised capital
9445	Consumer's Oil Co. Ltd.....	Moose Jaw.....	\$ 60,000
9448	Regina City Homes Ltd.....	Regina.....	220,000
9449	United Stockmen Ltd.....	Winnipeg.....	10,000
9450	Manitou Lake Sanitarium and Mineral Products Manufacturing Co. Ltd.....	Watrous.....	510,000
9452	The Battleford Skating Rink Co. Ltd.....	Battleford.....	5,000
9454	The People's Investment Co. Ltd.....	Saskatoon.....	170,000
9455	Leader Curling Club Ltd.....	Leader.....	2,500

#### THE UNION HOSPITAL ACT.

The following applications under *The Union Hospital Act* were dealt with:

*Rosetown Union Hospital*.—Extensions to present hospital buildings, \$60,000.00.

July 7.—Order made fixing division of cost among the units comprised in the district, as follows:

Town of Rosetown.....	8%
Rural Municipality of St. Andrews' No. 287.....	28%
Rural Municipality of Pleasant Valley No. 288.....	18½%
Rural Municipality of Marriott No. 317.....	22%
Rural Municipality of Mountain View No. 318.....	23½%

*Wadena Union Hospital*.—Extensions to present hospital building, \$7,000.

July 31.—Order made fixing division of cost among the different units, as follows:

Town of Wadena.....	4%
Rural Municipality of Sasman No. 336.....	50%
Rural Municipality of Lakeview No. 337.....	46%

This scheme was rejected by vote of the ratepayers.

*Wynyard Union Hospital*.—New district—Scheme provided for expenditure of \$43,000.00.

September 28.—Order fixing division of the cost as follows:

Town of Wynyard.....	\$ 5,596.02
Part of Rural Municipality of Emerald No. 277.....	2,124.63
Part of Rural Municipality of Elfros No. 307.....	10,670.45
Part of Rural Municipality of Big Quill No. 308.....	24,608.90

This scheme was rejected by vote of the ratepayers.

*Wilkie Union Hospital*.—New district—Amount to be expended \$27,000.00.

November 15.—Order fixing distribution of cost as follows:

Town of Wilkie.....	\$ 3,275.10
Part of Rural Municipality of Reford No. 379.....	6,963.30
Part of Rural Municipality of Prairie No. 408.....	4,976.10
Part of Rural Municipality of Buffalo No. 409.....	11,785.50

*Milden Union Hospital*.—This district was formed with the object of taking over the assets of the Milden Community Hospital Association.

November 21.—Order made dividing the cost as follows:

Village of Milden.....	3.69%
Village of Bounty.....	1.936%
Part of Rural Municipality of Milden No. 286.....	63.481%
Part of Rural Municipality of Fertile Valley No. 285.....	30.893%

This scheme was rejected by vote of the ratepayers.

#### THE SUBDIVISIONS ACT.

Under section 3 of *The Subdivisions Act*, four applications for permission to enter upon and cultivate portions of subdivided areas were received and dealt with as follows:

February 27.—H. D. Stewart, Simpson, Saskatchewan.

Portion of the south-east quarter of section 2, township 37, range 5, west of the third meridian, as shown on a plan of record in the land titles office for the land registration district of Saskatoon as number G.219.

Hearing was fixed for April 11, 1928, and on that date an order was made granting permission in terms of the application.

May 2.—Albert Thomas Brook and William James Allison, Regina, Saskatchewan.

Portion of north half of section 27, township 17, range 19, west of the second meridian, known as Balmoral Gardens, registered in the land titles office for the Assiniboia land registration district as Plans numbers AN. 1691 and AC. 6035.

Hearing was fixed for May 25, 1928, and on May 26, 1928, an order was made granting permission in terms of the application, with the exception of lots 14 to 53, block 13; all of blocks 14, 15, 16 and 29; Third and Fourth Streets between First and Second Avenues, and all of Second Avenue, in respect of which permission was rejected.

May 1.—Louis T. Dust, Humboldt, Saskatchewan.

Portion of the subdivided area known as Parkview Subdivision, registered in the land titles office for the Humboldt land registration district as Plan G. 247.

Hearing was fixed for June 15, and on June 16, 1928, an order was made granting permission in terms of the application.

October 16.—Arthur L. Davies, Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan.

Portion of north-east quarter of section 3, township 17, range 26, west of the second meridian, known as Silver Heights Subdivision, registered in the land titles office for the Moose Jaw land registration district as Plan No. I. 5045.

Hearing was fixed for January 11, 1929.

#### COMPROMISE OF TAXES.

##### *Village of Halbrite.*

August 3.—Order approving of compromise of taxes on lands subdivided in accordance with registered plans Numbers C.4547 and K.5668.

Amount of municipal and school taxes for the years 1922 to 1926, inclusive.....	\$264 48
Compromised for.....	50.00

#### APPROVAL OF SCHOOL SITES.

##### *Regina Public School District No. 4.*

March 30.—Block 389, Plan Old 33, Regina.

May 28.—West half Block A, west half Block 3, west half Block 4, all Block 5, adjoining Connaught Crescent, Regina.

May 27.—Block 215, Plan Old 33, Regina.

##### *Graton Roman Catholic Separate School District No. 13.*

April 30.—Lots 1 to 12, lots 29 to 40, Block 166, Plan Old 33, Regina.

November 8.—Lots 1 to 15, lots 26 to 40, Block 78, Broder's Annex, Regina.

##### *Saskatoon Public School District No. 13.*

April 13.—Lots 1 to 14, Block 19, Plan F.F.1; Block 33, Plan G.229;  
Lot 5, Block 1, Plan E.N.; Lot 7, Block D, Plan D.E.1; Saskatoon.

May 9.—Lots 79 to 107, Block 3, Plan G.K., Saskatoon.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

January 1.—Approving of use by the City of Regina of the sum of \$1,599.92, being unexpended balance of debentures issued under bylaw No. 1358 (Library), for paying part of cost of cement basement on lots 18, 19 and 20, block 9, East View library.

December 30.—Approving the use by the City of Regina of the sum of \$14,648.75, being unexpended balance of debentures issued under bylaw No. 1389 (Street cars), for paying the cost of one additional car.

September 20.—Permitting the City of Moose Jaw to proceed with the construction of sidewalks as a local improvement on the north side of Athabasca Street, West, from Second Avenue N.W. to Third Avenue N.W., notwithstanding a petition against such work having been filed, it being shown that the work was in the interests of the city.

January 2.—Extending time for presentation of claims against the towns of:

Humboldt,  
Battleford,  
Sutherland,  
Scott,

under agreements between these towns and their respective creditors to December 31, 1928.

May 14.—Extending time for third reading of bylaw No. 233 of the town of Gravelbourg to June 1, 1928.

February 29.—Extending time for third reading of bylaw No. 172 of the town of Vonda to March 31, 1928.

August 5.—Extending time for third reading of bylaw No. A22 of the town of Biggar to August 31, 1928.

August 22.—Extending time of third reading of bylaw No. 6 of the town of Delisle to November 1, 1928.

April 1.—Changing interest rate on debentures to be issued under bylaws 1670, 1705, 1706, 1707, 1712, 1714, 1720 and 1724 of the City of Saskatoon from 5 per cent. to 4½ per cent.

August 28.—Approving of withdrawal by the City of Regina from property sales account of a sum sufficient to construct an air harbour in compliance with Air Regulations of 1920 in terms of section 254 of *The City Act*.

January 31.—Approving a bylaw of the town of Gravelbourg to fix the rates to be charged by way of rental or service charge for use of the town sewers against persons owning or occupying premises drained or which by bylaws are required to be drained into such sewers.

November 16.—Approving a bylaw of the town of Melfort for the same purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

C. O. DAVIDSON,  
Secretary.

### SCHEDULE "A."

#### APPLICATIONS TO BORROW BY WAY OF DEBENTURES.

from

JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1928.

Cities

REGINA.

Amount	Purpose	Reduced	Refused	Previously authorised less reductions	Net amount of authorisation
\$ 24,500.00	Domestic sewers .....	\$ .....	\$ .....	\$ 19,305.00	\$ 5,195.00
176,009.00	.....	.....	.....	150,053.41	25,955.59
34,600.00	Concrete walks .....	.....	.....	34,600.00	.....
15,900.00	Water extensions .....	.....	.....	15,900.00	.....
79,950.00	Storm sewers .....	8,100.00	.....	.....	71,850.00
26,700.00	Water house connections .....	.....	.....	.....	26,700.00
125,000.00	Waterworks extension ..	.....	.....	.....	125,000.00
80,000.00	Fire protection .....	.....	.....	.....	80,000.00
301,580.55	Pavements .....	119,103.75	.....	.....	182,476.80
49,562.10	Concrete walks .....	23,790.12	.....	.....	25,771.98
19,791.95	Boulevards .....	9,282.83	.....	.....	10,509.12
33,805.00	Domestic sewers .....	20,250.00	.....	.....	13,555.00
68,380.00	Water mains .....	25,380.00	.....	.....	43,000.00
200,000.00	Exhibition ground .....	75,000.00	.....	.....	125,000.00
8,800.00	Pavements .....	.....	.....	.....	8,800.00
10,700.00	Plank walks .....	.....	.....	.....	10,700.00
11,700.00	Boulevards .....	.....	.....	.....	11,700.00
2,600.00	Widening lanes .....	.....	.....	.....	2,600.00
4,100.00	Opening lanes .....	.....	.....	.....	4,100.00
13,023.55	Plank walks .....	2,964.30	.....	.....	1,0059.25
5,070.00	Water mains .....	.....	.....	.....	5,070.00
1,080.00	Domestic sewers .....	.....	.....	.....	1,080.00
448.20	Plank walks .....	.....	.....	.....	448.20



Amount	Purpose	Reduced	Refused	Previously authorised less reductions	Net amount of authorisation
\$ 1,996.70	Concrete walks.....	.....	.....	.....	1,996.70
3,615.00	Water mains.....	.....	.....	.....	3,615.00
2,450.00	Domestic sewers.....	.....	.....	.....	2,450.00
57,866.87	Pavements.....	.....	.....	.....	57,866.87
4,675.00	Domestic sewers.....	.....	.....	.....	4,675.00
9,205.00	Water mains.....	.....	.....	.....	9,205.00
11,600.08	Plank walks.....	.....	.....	.....	11,600.08
2,274.60	Plank walks.....	.....	.....	.....	2,274.60
120,000.00	Street cars.....	.....	.....	.....	120,000.00
20,000.00	Sewer house connections.....	.....	.....	.....	20,000.00
20,000.00	Water house connections.....	.....	.....	.....	20,000.00
55,000.00	Sewage disposal plant..	.....	.....	.....	55,000.00
\$1,601,983.60		\$283,871.00		\$219,858.41	\$1,098,254.19

MOOSE JAW.

Amount	Purpose	Reduced	Refused	Previously authorised less reductions	Net amount of authorisation
\$ 12,500.00	General Hospital.....	\$ .....	\$ .....	\$ .....	\$ 12,500.00
45,200.75	Concrete walks.....	.....	.....	.....	45,200.75
3,882.00	Water mains.....	.....	3,882.00	.....	.....
4,750.00	Water mains.....	.....	.....	4,636.00	114.00
10,550.00	Sewer mains.....	.....	.....	7,606.00	2,944.00
2,050.65	Concrete walks.....	.....	.....	2,050.65	.....
2,708.09	Sewer house connections.....	.....	.....	.....	2,708.09
3,495.56	Water house connections.....	.....	.....	.....	3,495.56
\$85,137.05			\$ 3,882.00	\$ 14,292.65	\$66,962.40

SASKATOON.

Amount	Purpose	Reduced	Refused	Previously authorised less reductions	Net amount of authorisation
\$ 16,894.52	Sewer house connections.....	\$ .....	\$ .....	\$ 16,000.00	\$ 894.52
28,118.88	Water house connections.....	.....	.....	24,000.00	4,118.88
4,704.16	Gravelling streets.....	.....	.....	.....	4,704.16
18,295.42	Concrete walks.....	.....	.....	18,295.42	.....
20,077.05	Sewer extensions.....	.....	.....	20,077.05	.....
22,267.51	Water extensions.....	.....	.....	22,267.51	.....

Amount	Purpose	Reduced	Refused	Previously authorised less reductions	Net amount of authorisation
\$ 154,904.00	Street railway.....	\$ 40,304.00			\$ 114,600.00
12,000.00	Water meters.....				12,000.00
65,000.00	Water system.....				65,000.00
4,970.00	Retaining wall.....				4,970.00
25,000.00	Hospital.....				25,000.00
60,500.00	Electric light.....				60,500.00
42,830.00	Storm sewers.....				42,830.00
180,000.00	Collegiate Institute....	10,000.00			170,000.00
49,644.02	Cement walks.....	14,063.20			35,580.82
56,494.89	Domestic sewers.....	26,707.33			29,787.56
61,903.13	Water mains.....	27,489.46			34,413.67
6,500.00	Boulevards.....	1,698.49			4,801.51
133,741.00	Semi-macadam roads....	36,964.50			96,776.50
99,375.55	Asphalt surfacing.....	51,267.55			48,108.00
11,000.00	Sewer house connections.....				11,000.00
17,000.00	Water house connections.....				17,000.00
8,555.34	Boulevards.....				8,555.34
31,653.80	Curbs.....	3,484.80			28,169.00
75,000.00	Storm sewers.....				75,000.00
\$1,206,429.27		\$211,979.33		\$100,639.98	\$893,809.96

## YORKTON.

Amount	Purpose	Reduced	Refused	Previously authorised less reductions	Net amount of authorisation
\$ 16,000.00	Aid to hospital.....	\$ .....	\$ .....	\$ .....	\$ 16,000.00
6,744.00	Water mains.....				6,744.00
5,756.00	Sewer mains.....				5,756.00
\$ 28,500.00					\$ 28,500.00

## SUMMARY.

City	Applications		Reduced		Refused		Previously authorised less reductions		Authorisations	
	No.	Amount	No.	Amount	No.	Amt.	No.	Amount	No.	Amount
Regina....	35	\$1,601,983.60	8	\$283,871.00	..	.....	4	\$219,858.41	33	\$1,098,254.19
Moose Jaw	8	85,137.05	..	.....	1	\$3,882	3	14,292.65	6	66,962.40
Saskatoon..	25	1,206,429.27	9	211,979.33	..	.....	5	100,639.98	22	893,809.96
Yorkton...	3	28,500.00	..	.....	..	.....	..	.....	3	28,500.00
	71	\$2,922,049.92	17	\$495,850.33	1	\$3,882	12	\$334,791.04		\$2,087,526.55

SCHEDULE "B."

APPLICATIONS TO BORROW BY WAY OF DEBENTURE

from

JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1928.

Towns.

Name	Amount	Purpose	Reduced	Refused	Authorised
Strasbourg.....	\$ 9,000.00	Skating and curling rink....	\$ .....	\$ 9,000.00	\$ .....
Delisle.....	1,300.00	Fire protection.....	.....	.....	1,300.00
Delisle.....	500.00	Street grading.....	.....	.....	500.00
Biggar.....	9,071.00	Water extension.....	2,571.00	.....	6,500.00
Alsask.....	3,800.00	Concrete walks.....	.....	.....	3,800.00
Wilkie.....	7,900.00	Water extension.....	2,900.00	.....	5,000.00
Wapella.....	2,000.00	Part of cost of skating and curling rink.....	.....	.....	2,000.00
Hanley.....	3,500.00	Part of cost of skating and curling rink.....	.....	.....	3,500.00
Gravelbourg....	14,750.00	Water tower.....	.....	.....	14,750.00
Melfort.....	65,000.00	Water extensions.....	.....	.....	65,000.00
Strasbourg.....	4,500.00	Part of cost of skating and curling rink.....	.....	.....	4,500.00
Davidson.....	4,000.00	Plank walks.....	.....	.....	4,000.00
Delisle.....	500.00	Plank walks.....	.....	.....	500.00
Morse.....	8,000.00	Electric light.....	.....	.....	8,000.00
Cabri.....	5,000.00	Concrete walks.....	.....	.....	5,000.00
	\$138,821.00		\$5,471.00	\$9,000.00	\$124,350.00

SUMMARY.

15 Applications.....	\$138,821.00
2 Reduced.....	5,471.00
1 Refused.....	9,000.00
14 Authorisations.....	124,350.00

SCHEDULE "C."

APPLICATIONS TO BORROW BY WAY OF DEBENTURE

from

JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1928.

Villages.

Nome	Amount	Purpose	Reduced	Refused	Authorised
Dubuc.....	\$ 3,000.00	Village hall.....	\$ .....	\$ 3,000.00	\$ .....
Kinley.....	2,000.00	Village hall.....	.....	2,000.00	.....
Herschel.....	2,500.00	Concrete walks.....	.....	.....	2,500.00
Theodore.....	5,000.00	Village hall.....	.....	5,000.00	.....
Climax.....	4,000.00	Fire protection.....	.....	.....	4,000.00
Cupar.....	8,000.00	Village hall.....	.....	8,000.00	.....
Sceptre.....	2,000.00	Water supply.....	.....	.....	2,000.00
Rush Lake.....	1,200.00	Concrete walks.....	.....	.....	1,200.00
Brownlee.....	2,000.00	Concrete walks.....	.....	.....	2,000.00

Name	Amount	Purpose	Reduced	Refused	Authorised
Elbow.....	\$ 2,000.00	Assisting in paying curling and skating rink.....			\$ 2,000.00
Leroy.....	3,000.00	Concrete walks.....			3,000.00
Raymore.....	1,500.00	Concrete walks.....			1,500.00
Luseland.....	15,000.00	Cement walks and street building.....	\$4,500.00		10,500.00
Coronach.....	1,000.00	Street improvements.....			1,000.00
Coronach.....	1,250.00	Fire protection.....			1,250.00
Coronach.....	750.00	Water supply.....			750.00
Birch Hills.....	3,750.00	Part of cost of curling and skating rink.....			3,750.00
Brock.....	2,000.00	Village hall.....		\$ 2,000.00	
Cupar.....	6,000.00	Village hall.....			6,000.00
Marcelin.....	4,200.00	Electric light.....			4,200.00
Kipling.....	4,500.00	Part of cost of curling and skating rink.....			4,500.00
Bruno.....	2,750.00	Part of cost of curling and skating rink.....			2,750.00
Ponteix.....	3,500.00	Part of cost of curling and skating rink.....			3,500.00
Glenavon.....	1,000.00	Part of cost of curling and skating rink.....			1,000.00
Punnichy.....	1,000.00	Recreation ground.....			1,000.00
Dunblane.....	3,000.00	Electric light.....			3,000.00
Dunblane.....	500.00	Fire protection.....			500.00
Sceptre.....	1,500.00	Water supply.....			1,500.00
	\$87,900.00		\$4,500.00	\$20,000.00	\$63,400.00

## SUMMARY.

28 Applications.....	\$87,900.00
1 Reduced.....	4,500.00
5 Refused.....	20,000.00
23 Authorised.....	63,400.00

## SCHEDULE "D."

## APPLICATIONS TO BORROW BY WAY OF DEBENTURE

from

JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1928.

*Rural Municipalities.*

Name	Amount	Purpose	Reduced	Refused	Authorised
Chester No. 125	\$ 6,000.00	Road machinery.....			\$ 6,000.00
Cory No. 344...	15,000.00	Municipal building.....			15,000.00
Bratt's Lake No. 129.....	3,000.00	Right-of-way.....			3,000.00
Hart Butte No. 11.....	3,000.00	Hospital grant.....			3,000.00
Hazel Dell No. 335.....	5,000.00	Municipal building.....			5,000.00
	\$32,000.00				\$ 32,000.00

## SUMMARY.

5 Applications.....	\$32,000.00
5 Authorisations.....	32,000.00

SPEECHES  
ON  
THE ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

MR. CHAS. MCINTOSH, M.L.A.,  
(*Kinistino*)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1928.

*Mr. McIntosh*, in moving,

That an Humble Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, as follows:—

TO HIS HONOUR THE HONOURABLE H. W. NEWLANDS,  
*Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Saskatchewan.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR,—

We, His Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Saskatchewan, in Session assembled, humbly thank Your Honour for the gracious Speech which Your Honour has been pleased to address to us at the opening of the present Session.

said:

Mr. Speaker:

My first word this afternoon is to acknowledge the honour so kindly paid by the Prime Minister and his colleagues to the Constituency I represent in extending to its member the privilege of moving the Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne. I am not sure that this distinction has ever before been conferred on a member sitting for the Constituency of Kinistino, and it is a pleasurable duty to express appreciation.

The Speech from the Throne and the ceremonies associated with the opening of the Legislature always remind us that at the head of the British Commonwealth of Nations is our gracious Sovereign to whom all the peoples of the Empire, without distinction of race or language, or creed, or colour, are proud to proclaim their unswerving loyalty and through him their common National brotherhood. These sentiments have been drawn forth again lately in another way by the occasion of His Majesty's serious illness. The earnest solicitude and anxiety of the people of the Empire for the well-being of the King bear impressive witness to their respect and love for his rank and person. Millions of hearts throughout the Empire will rejoice, with unspeakable joy, when the news comes of a definite improvement in His Majesty's condition.

Since the close of the last Session, the Legislature has suffered the loss by retirement of an esteemed member in the person of Hon. George Scott, who for the long period of twenty years occupied a seat in this House and for two terms of the Legislature held the important office of Speaker of the Assembly. Mr. Scott gave his time and his talents in the service of the people of the Province, and I am sure I may say that he has gone to his new post with the good wishes of every member of the House.

May I be permitted to extend the congratulations of the members of the House to the gentleman who takes his seat in this Assembly for the first time—to the honourable member for Arm River (*Mr. Waugh*) who will presently second the Address. His election is a tribute to high qualities of character and personal worth, and may be justly regarded as a fitting recognition of a life devoted to the service of his community.

I wish also to conform to the traditions of this and other Parliaments in congratulating the honourable, the senior member for Saskatoon City, who has been re-selected leader of the Provincial Conservative Party. I shall refrain from using an expression somewhat hackneyed in this Province when applied to Conservative Leaders "that he may be long spared to lead His Majesty's Loyal Opposition." Rather shall I express the hope that, in devotion to the public service and notwithstanding the difficulties that are inseparable from his position, he may rise to the high level set by so many illustrious leaders of the great Conservative Party in this country and in the Old Land; that his mind and his heart may unite in an effort which concerns us all to knit more closely the elements of our population into one community living in amity and for mutual protection.

Members of the House would observe that the honourable member for Last Mountain and Minister for Municipal Affairs, was not in his seat when the House opened and they are aware of the reason for his absence. I am sure the members will desire to extend their sympathy to the honourable gentleman in the loss of his brother.

During the past year, the Province has had the pleasure of a visit from the British Empire Parliamentary Association. I am sure the public men of the Province duly appreciate the value of meeting distinguished representatives from the Mother Land and Sister Dominions, and the advantages to be derived from consultation and from the opportunity of first-hand discussion of common problems.

Mr. Speaker, the Speech from the Throne and the debate arising from it always leads us to bring under review three important considerations: (1) the condition of the people, (2) the state of affairs of Government and (3) the course to be pursued by the Government and the people.

I believe the consensus of informed opinion will support the statement that, taking Canada as a whole, the country is enjoying a period of general prosperity and progress. Abundant evidence of the growth and development may be observed on all sides, and I believe investigation will prove that production, distribution, manufacturing, transportation and foreign commerce are exceeding all previous records. Confidence, which is at the basis of business and of credit and which was conspicuous by its absence during the dismal years following the war, has been fully and firmly restored and, throughout Canada, optimists are as plentiful nowadays as were pessimists then. Undoubtedly, there is a suitable atmosphere for future progress, and if there be a determination on the part of the people to continue to conduct their affairs on sound lines, to avoid overbuying and excessive speculation and extravagance, we can look forward to a further period of reasonably good times.

In the general conditions prevailing, Saskatchewan has made a considerable contribution, not only in the great production of wealth, but also by providing an excellent market for other parts of the country and by providing freight to swell railroad and steamship earnings. When our present position is compared with that of a few years ago, we are bound to admit that the Province has also shared in a marked measure the rewards of better times. The general improvement is reflected in increased business activity and in definite growth and expansion in almost every field of Provincial effort. That conditions are fundamentally sound is shown by reference to the position of rural and urban municipalities. The finances of these public bodies have never been in better shape. Provincial Government revenues have also been well maintained and our finances continue on a satisfactory basis.

As further evidence of healthy economic conditions in Saskatchewan, reference may be made to the incoming of manufacturing and distributing plants and to the activity in building operations. Building permits issued in the city of Regina for the past eleven months, show a total exceeding \$6,000,000 as compared with \$3,500,000 for the year 1927, \$4,000,000 for the year 1926 and \$5,000,000 for the period of four years 1922 to 1925, inclusive. Development of this kind and on a large scale has taken place in other cities and considerable building has also been done in the towns and villages of the Province. I am glad to say, also, that better homes have been erected on many farms in the Province and that other improvements have been effected. As an indication of how the physical assets of the people have increased, I may say that the total amount of fire insurance policies current, this year, is nearly double what it was ten years ago. A comparison of the amount of premiums collected in this Province on all classes of insurance is as follows: 1913, \$5,000,000; 1918, \$10,000,000; 1923, \$17,000,000; 1927, \$22,000,000. In 1927, also, the people of the Province paid over \$11,000,000 in life insurance premiums.

The increase in the number of automobiles owned by the people of the Province is also significant. In 1924 the total number of private livery and truck licenses issued was 70,000; 1925 it was 78,000; in 1926—96,000; in 1927—105,000; and in 1928 approximately 115,000, or an increase at the rate of more than 10,000 a year. At the present time there is a motor vehicle in the Province for every seven persons.

An article in the press a short time ago announced that, unlike most of the other Provinces, Saskatchewan had no millionaires. I think, however, that this circumstance is scarcely likely to occasion much worry, for in the view of our people it is more important that sufficiency and comfort should be diffused throughout the mass of our population, than that a few rich men should be unable to enter the Kingdom of Heaven. But it will be obvious to every one that, if contentment is to be the portion of the mass of the people of Saskatchewan, conditions must be favourable for the largest class of our population, for the 73 per cent. of our people who actually live on the farms. If the farmers are prosperous all the other elements of our population will likely be doing well and if the farmers are having hard times all branches of business and industry will suffer. Agriculture is our basic industry and will be our largest industry for some time to come. And field crops continue to be the backbone of agriculture in this Province, with wheat as the chief product.

While discussing agricultural conditions it is well for us to remember that in the wide area under crop, yields as a rule are likely to be somewhat uneven. This is true this year, and it may be added that in many districts where the total volume is considerable, the crops were patchy, some good and some poor. We rejoice to know, however, that some parts unfortunate in other years have had good results this year. As a matter of fact, the wheat crop, this year, is the largest Saskatchewan has ever produced. It will certainly run between 250,000,000 and 275,000,000 bushels but, even that, you will observe, is considerably less than the estimates that were in circulation during July and early August. And I think there is public approval of the terms of condemnation applied to the highly coloured reports that had the effect, whether so intended or not, of depressing prices.

It is true that the frost was unexpected and that the damage was much more extensive than at first surmised, resulting in a serious lowering of grades. More than that, and it is this that has given rise to great dissatisfaction, there is a wide spread suspicion that the financial loss suffered by the farmer is greater than the actual deterioration in the value of the wheat. There is deep-seated distrust of our present grading methods and of the practice of mixing, and I believe there is general satisfaction with the action of the Government in appointing a Royal Commission of competent men to thoroughly investigate the whole subject. We are hopeful that the bitter experience of this year will give the impetus needed to press this long outstanding problem to a satisfactory solution.

There is no use disguising the fact that the frost caused serious loss that is not fully made up by the additional bushels, or by the favourable harvesting season during which operations were conducted at reasonable costs. I think I may say that in the district in which I live many of us believe our losses would have been greatly reduced had we sown Garnet instead of Marquis. Fortunately, we escaped the wet weather which, a year ago, made most of the wheat tough or damp. The level of prices this year, however, is lower than last year and the Wheat Pool found it advisable to advance on the basis of 85 cents instead of on the basis of \$1.00. What the final returns will be cannot be stated now, but it is a reasonable expectation that, on the lowest grades, the interim and final payments should nearly equal, if not exceed, the initial payment.

Another factor to be considered is that purchases were made and commitments entered into when a bountiful harvest seemed assured, not taking into account the possibility of extensive damage from frost. The results have undoubtedly caused many farmers difficulty in financing. As it is, I think they have met their obligations in a fairly satisfactory manner.

In a conversation, the other day, with a man closely associated with loan companies he told me that two years ago, before current interest was charged on November 1, his company, in a certain district of the Province, had \$250,000 interest in arrears. This year on November 1, the arrears amounted to less than \$15,000. The same company two years ago had 200 parcels of land on hand; today they have not one.

Despite the disappointment in the crop in many sections of the Province and a measure of discontent arising therefrom, the liabilities of the farmer have been reduced. With many farmers it is a case of "mark time" this year, but with conditions fundamentally sound and with care and a fair crop next year, a further advance will be registered.

It is a pleasure to record the fact that the Saskatchewan Wheat Producers, Limited, marketed a greater quantity of wheat and a larger percentage of the crop than in any other year since its inception. The following comment made by the General Manager of the Imperial Bank at its last annual meeting may be of interest:

"The current loans in the fall months are being affected by the operations of the Western Wheat Pool, which borrows against the grain it buys from the farmer only enough to pay him a portion of its cost, and by its regular methods of marketing is able to move the crop with minimum borrowings from the banks."

I believe the public will commend the intention of the Minister of Agriculture to convene a representative body in January to discuss the weed situation in the Province and to consider means to cope more effectively against their aggression. The invasion of noxious weeds constitutes one of the most serious menaces confronting the agriculturist.

In reference to coarse grains, oats yielded an average of 35 bushels as against an average of 30 bushels over the ten year period between 1918 and 1927. Barley averaged 27 bushels per acre as against 24 bushels over the same ten year period. We produced more barley this year than in any other year in the history of the Province.

So far as livestock is concerned, our cattle population has decreased 120,000 during the year due to the favourable demand and satisfactory prices. It now stands at about 1,200,000. Sheep have increased 13,000 and swine have decreased 14,000. As to dairy products, I think I may remind the House that 1926 was the 'peak' year in our history. The year 1927 saw a reduction of six per cent. and the production of 1928, so far, is slightly less than 1927. There was, however, an increase of 18 per cent. during October over the corresponding period last year, and there is a fair prospect, by the end of the year, of reaching, if not exceeding, the figures of 1927. There is a keener demand for dairy stock than ever before and for better stock.

I have offered a few remarks pertaining to matters affecting the largest class of our citizens. There is only one other class which I wish at this time specifically to mention. Ten years have passed since the end of the War and every member of the House is aware that there are thousands in this Province who did their part nobly during the terrific struggle and who are now doing their part just as manfully in the development of our Province. I would remind the House, however, and I think the people of the Province should remember, that there are many of these returned soldiers who bear in their own bodies the marks of that War. Indeed, there are at present nearly 4,000 pensioners of all classes in this Province and in reference to this question, the striking feature of the past year is the number of men applying for pensions who had not

applied before, but who were wounded overseas and are only now beginning to feel the effects of their wounds. The efforts of the Legion, of the Official Soldiers' Adviser and of many citizens, in having these cases properly presented, are worthy of commendation.

Now, Mr. Speaker, standing as we do on the threshold of an era of expansion and development it is our duty to know where and how it is to take place. Perhaps I may be permitted to express the opinion that no part of the Province will enjoy a greater activity than what is known as Northern Saskatchewan. It is already well known for its wide belts of fertile wheat land and of these none is more famous than the Carrot River Valley, within which a large part of the Constituency of Kinistino is situated. I should remind the House that in Northern Saskatchewan there is still a large area of unoccupied land available for settlement. The other day in the Dominion Land Office in Prince Albert, I saw a crowd of men making application for homesteads. Upon inquiry, I learned that during the month of November more than 600 entries were made. Indeed, since April 1, this year, 500,000 acres have been taken up and in that acreage 125,000 acres were second homesteads under the Legislation passed at Ottawa last spring. It is worthy of mention that those settlers are mainly farmers and sons of farmers, who have been resident in this Province for some time. The balance of the settlers come from other parts of Canada. Virtually none of them are new immigrants from Great Britain or the Continent.

I should also tell the House that in Northern Saskatchewan there are about 2,500,000 acres surveyed and at present available for settlement. In the Battleford, Turtleford, Meadow Lake and Witchehan districts, there are 8,100 quarter sections; in the Canwood, Big River and Prince Albert districts there are 2,700 quarter sections; in the Nipawin, Tisdale and Hudson Bay Junction districts 2,500 quarter sections and in the Wadena and Kelvington districts 1,200 quarter sections. A large percentage of this land is parklike, but in some parts there is a heavy timber growth which will involve considerable work in clearing.

It is in the northern part of our Province that most of our forest wealth is to be found. At the present time the annual output exceeds 50,000,000 feet and of this about 65 per cent. is exported from the Province. There is still a vast quantity of timber in the north, but I have some doubt whether 25 years from now, at the present rate of cut, there will be any virgin stands of good saw timber in areas now accessible. With proper conservation the younger growth will be coming to maturity in 40 or 50 years, but in my opinion, there is a possibility of a gap of some years when there may be a definite scarcity, unless some new areas become accessible. In any event I think the time has come when a decision should be arrived at whether certain spruce areas (I might mention that spruce grows on land fit for agricultural purposes) should not be made permanent forest reserves for the reproduction of spruce.

It may not be generally known that fishing on a commercial basis is an industry in our northern lakes and that whitefish and other species, to a total weight of 3,000 tons and of the value of \$500,000 were shipped out, last year, chiefly to the United States.

It is in the north, too, that most of our fur wealth is to be found and last year furs of the value of about \$2,000,000 were sold by the people of the Province.

I have a word to say of our mineral wealth. It may not be generally known that much of the prosperity of Canada at the present time is due to the steady progress in the development of her mineral resources. In 1907, the production of Canadian mines was valued at \$86,000,000 and for the year 1926, \$240,000,000. An appreciation of these facts cannot fail to impress us with the possibilities of the mineral area of northern Saskatchewan. It is not necessary for me at this time to describe the conformation of the country, but no one doubts the presence of large and precious ore bodies in that vast region. I may say, however, that within a generation I think we shall see development on a scale which, if it does not satisfy the most sanguine, will at least amaze the most doubtful. At the present time the pioneer of the industry, the prospector, is busy playing his part and I was informed recently that hundreds of claims have been staked this year.

With regard to the coal deposits in the southern part of the Province, I noticed in a report some time ago an important statement by the President of the British Mining Congress to this effect:

"If the present endeavours to change coal into a fluid fuel capable of displacing petroleum and all its products are successful, the advantage of the United States in having the richest oil deposits in the world will be killed and Canada will take the place of the United States as the world's provider of liquid fuel."

At the present time, the subject is receiving considerable attention both in England and Germany. Experiments are being conducted and we hope that, ere long, the process will have reached the stage of commercial practicability.

Let me sum up my remarks on these subjects by saying that, in the minds of all people enthused over the possibilities of our Province, there will be genuine satisfaction that the Government is continuing its efforts to secure the return of our unalienated natural resources on terms fair to the Province; and they will look forward to a successful termination of negotiations at an early date.



Now, Mr. Speaker, from the survey of conditions which I have attempted to make, there are three deductions I wish to draw:

First, that it is the duty of the Government to safeguard the interests, and to move in sympathy with the needs of the people and to aid in every legitimate way the development of the Province. It is not my intention at the present time to criticise or unduly praise the Government in power. I hold an opinion, and I am happy to express it; that the affairs of this Province have, on the whole, been well managed by successive Governments, and that the affairs of the Province are being well managed today. And I am convinced that the people will continue to place their confidence in the same Government to initiate and execute fresh schemes, at seasonable times, and in an effective manner. I think I can carry the people of the Province with me when I say, that no western Province is in a better position "to take occasion by the hand to make the bounds of our prosperity wider yet;"

Second, that we will come to realise that our geographical position is not so unfavourable as we have sometimes thought. Trade with the Orient is developing. In 1926 Canada's exports to China totalled \$25,000,000, an amount greater than we exported to any European country except Great Britain and Germany. And trade with Japan, China and other Oriental countries is only in its infancy. With a new trade route through the Hudson Bay, and I am glad to note from the Speech from the Throne, that the Department of Railways, Labour and Industries "is now engaged in the preparation of a schedule of rates which will be suggested as just and equitable if applied to freight traffic on the Hudson Bay route. This is being done to assure a consideration of the matter from the producers' and consumers' point of view before, rather than after, rates have been established." With this new trade route and lying as we do in close proximity to the United States and approximately equidistant from Asia and Europe, I think the "Bread Basket of the World" is perhaps very fortunately situated, and I believe this fact will become more and more evident as the years go by;

Third, that, under our conditions and with our alluring prospects, the flow of immigration will continue and increase. As in the past, we shall continue to welcome warmly our kinsmen from the British Isles and our Sister Dominions. And we shall continue to welcome immigrants from the United States, Norway and Sweden, Denmark, Holland, Germany, France, Austria, Hungary, the Ukraine and other countries, if they are sound physically, mentally and morally, and willing to play their part in developing our great Province.

Mr. Speaker, I have already trespassed too long upon the indulgence of the House, but there is one word I would say in conclusion. Every member of the House knows that we hold a splendid heritage and that the record of our Province is one of progress and achievement. But I am wondering if I may venture to say that the greatness of Saskatchewan cannot be measured merely in terms of material prosperity. The people of Saskatchewan require more than a wide distribution of wealth and a stream of industrial prosperity. Progress must touch the hearts of our people. Without religion, without obedience to the moral law, without a gracious measure of that "fellow-feeling" which we are told, "makes us wondrous kind," there can be no adequate plan of life. Larger incomes, better farms, bigger houses, six cylinder cars, do not carry in themselves the essentials of human happiness. If the people of Saskatchewan would live the fuller life they must stimulate the mental and spiritual thirst, strive to become inspired with noble ideals and seek to add to their material prosperity, the blessings of moral grandeur.

MR. THOMAS F. WAUGH, M.D., M.L.A.,

(*Arm River*),

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1928.

*Mr. Waugh*, in seconding the motion that an humble Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, thanking His Honour for the gracious Speech, which His Honour had addressed to the Assembly at the opening of the Session, said:

Mr. Speaker:

It is with no small degree of timidity that I arise to address this House to second the motion so ably moved by the honourable member for Kinistino (*Mr. McIntosh*). I crave the indulgence of all honourable gentlemen, and I promise that I shall not detain you long.

I have been honoured, indeed, in being returned in the recent by-election to represent the constituency of Arm River. It is indeed an honour for any man to be elected to a seat in the Legislature of this Province, and to my mind it is more than an ordinary honour to be elected to succeed a man who has made for himself such an enviable record as my predecessor, Hon. George Scott. From 1908 to 1928, he was a valued member of this House, as representative of the constituency of Arm River, and one whose opinions on public affairs were appreciated and sought by leaders in the Government during the past fifteen years. On two occasions he was singled out for the special honour of presiding over this Chamber as Speaker of the House. I may say, speaking as one of them, that his constituents considered him an excellent representative. No one could have been more attentive to the requirements of his constituents than Mr. Scott was, for, by frequent visits to every poll in his district, he kept in close touch with his people, assisting them in every way that was in his power and he was guide, philosopher and friend to all of us. It was with no small degree of regret that we learned of his resignation and I am sure he will carry into his present position as Income Tax Collector the same characteristics that marked his labours here. I feel, too, that those who work under him will take real pride in their chief. It entails a great responsibility to follow such a man and I feel that the task may be beyond me.

There are many complimentary things that can be said regarding the policies pertaining to all the Departments of the Government. While this is true of all Departments, in my constituency the Departments of Highways, Education, Agriculture and Health are those in which most interest is manifested.

The Highway policy of the Government is generally accepted as being safe and sane. We have some miles of Government-built road in our constituency, but we need a lot more, which, I feel satisfied, we will get as soon as time and money will permit. Those of you who travel the roads of the Province must have noticed that since the Government embarked upon this highway construction policy, there has been a marked, a notable, improvement in municipal roads. It must be remembered that though the Government has planned to build one-seventeenth of the road allowances there remains a large proportion to be built by the municipalities, and they have been making rapid advancement in this work since the inauguration of the Government plan of making roads. In the course of my work I travel from 12,000 to 16,000 miles a year, and when you consider what the roads were in 1911 and what they are today, if you are unbiased in your opinions, you will have nothing but words of commendation for our Provincial Highway policy.

The policy of giving assistance towards the construction of main market roads leading into the urban centres of the Province cannot be too highly commended. At the present rate it will not be long until we have a network of roads second to none in any other province of the Dominion of Canada. Since the enunciation of the policy that after one-half of the seven thousand miles Provincial Highway System had been brought up to the required standard, the Government would embark upon an extensive gravelling programme, this work has been started on a large scale, and it must be a matter of gratification to all to witness the rapid progress made during the past summer on this work.

With reference to the Department of Education, so long as my memory goes in Canada, this Department seems to have been the storm-centre for political controversy. The great difficulties foreseen by the Fathers of Confederation have not been completely eradicated. The Department of Education has recommended much valued legislation which the Legislature has been pleased to enact into law. I am going to refer to that legislation which made it possible for us to have continuation schools.

The Government grants allowed, have made it possible for us who live in the smaller localities to teach high school work to the end of Grade XI, thereby enabling the parents to keep girls and boys at home until they are ready to enter the University, at a time in their young lives when parental care and guidance count for so much. We have in Imperial, such a continuation school, the principal of which received all his education in the schools of this Province, and eleven of

his graduates are today attending the University of Saskatchewan. This is an example of what can be found all over this Province. My work carries me into the homes of our people, and my observation is that the average standard of education is high, beyond dispute, that the work done in the public schools is deserving of the highest commendation, and that our schools are turning out a very creditable product.

I now come to the Department of Public Health, which, naturally, is that in which I am personally most interested. We are prone at times, when we are reviewing the resources of our Province and of our country, to think of only those things the value of which can be estimated in dollars and cents. It is true this Province has great resources in its farms, lakes, forests and mines, but, to my mind, the greatest asset our Province has is a healthy population, and anything that has to do with the prevention of those things that tend to undermine or weaken the general health of our people is to be much commended and deserving of our support.

Now, my observations lead me to conclude that we are most fortunate in having men of the calibre of the honourable, the Minister of Public Health (*Hon. Dr. Ulrich*), his Deputy Minister and corps of assistants, who manage this Department and its different branches. Their work is known, and favourably known, far beyond the boundaries of the Province.

Preventive medicine has done wonders for our people. It is not so very long since typhoid fever was a menace to us all. Our laws on sanitation making for a pure water supply and milk supply, coupled with the vaccine now known as a preventive measure, have made typhoid one of the rare diseases. The assistance given by the Department in supplying free vaccines has been a real boon to our people. As I say, they are all provided free—all you have to do is to write in for them. Since the advent of the use of vaccines in preventive medicine, the infant mortality rate has been much lowered. The so-called 'baby clinics' held in various parts of the Province, at which children are examined and defects pointed out, have made this a source of great satisfaction and benefit. Then the money grant to expectant mothers has been a source of great relief to many, while the promptitude and accuracy of the work done by the officials in the Provincial Laboratory in the examination of blood and other specimens, is worthy of the highest praise. I am pleased, indeed, to have the privilege of speaking a word of commendation for this Department.

Now, Sir, it will be expected of me, and I ask you to permit me, to make a few observations on the recent by-election in Arm River. At the first meeting held in that campaign I advocated and urged that the campaign should be conducted on a high plane, without personalities being injected of any kind whatsoever. And I called on those who were in the opposite camp that we should confine ourselves throughout the campaign to a discussion of the record of the Government and a comparison of the policies advocated by the Government with those which were advanced by the opposition. To my mind that was what the people needed and what they really desired to arrive at a correct conclusion upon the issues before them. I urged that for the period of this campaign both sides should put under the ban anything in the nature of insinuation, misrepresentation or mis-statement of fact.

Members of the opposition were at that meeting and it was agreed that the campaign should be conducted on the plane that I had suggested. But what happened? There developed a campaign which for nastiness, misrepresentation, innuendo or untruth has never been equalled in the history of this Province. Here are some of the slogans which were used by my opponents in the campaign:

"A Vote for Waugh is a Vote for the Pope."

"A Vote for Waugh is a Vote for More Foreigners from Europe."

"Catholics Are Controlling the Government and Running Our Schools."

It developed, Mr. Speaker into a campaign setting race against race, creed against creed. Now, Sir, amid all the development and the progress of our time is it not amazing to find the spirit of intolerance, of racial arrogance and sectarian bigotry still alive and rearing its ugly head? This is not so much to be wondered at when found among those new-comers from lands where the principles of tolerance and liberty are still striving for recognition. But, when our own British people, instead of setting a more excellent example, themselves set an example of racial and religious bigotry and hatred, we are prone to doubt the reality of modern progressive thought. It surely should be clear to all that no programme of organised hate will solve any existing problem. Surely our experience from 1914 to 1918 taught us that!

Greatest among all harmonising agencies is the public school. We want our children to be playing together, studying together, conversing together and working together on a common playground, and the great bulk of them are. But in a few places where disruption has taken place, the leading minds in the community are becoming increasingly aware of the great detriment to community goodwill and school efficiency entailed, and the day of the union draws nigh. I think, Sir, we can trust the good sense and goodwill of our people to solve all our problems in the established and traditional British democratic way.

This is a great day in human history—a day when the nations of the world have signed the Pact of Paris, but surely in this day we can live together on these wide prairies in neighborliness and hearty unity though we have a diversity of creeds and nationality! Intolerance still lives but in spite of all these little 'back-eddies' goodwill among men still plods on its way. To my mind, if the Province of Saskatchewan ever achieves the full development to which it is entitled, we must banish all bigotry and hate and catch the spirit of that eminent Canadian who admonished us all "to lift ourselves to the level of our destinies, to rise above all low limitations and narrow circumscriptions, to develop that true catholicity of spirit that embraces all creeds, all classes, all races, in order that we may make this Province of ours the brightest gem in the galaxy of provinces comprising this great northern nation."

Mr. Speaker, I am privileged, indeed, to second the motion.

MR. J. T. M. ANDERSON, M.L.A.,

(Saskatoon City)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1928.

Mr. Speaker,—May I first of all join with the mover and seconder and my honourable friend, the leader of the Progressive group, in extending an expression of grief and sorrow on account of the serious illness of our beloved Sovereign. We join with the other members of this House in asking the Creator of the Universe that his recovery be speedy.

Let me also express the regrets of this group in the House in view of the departure from membership in this House of the former member for Arm River, Mr. Scott. He was a man held in high esteem by all in the House, keen-minded and clear in debate, and one who, I believe, while in this House, did credit to himself and justice to the constituency he so long represented. Let me add to the expressions of good will of the leader of the party which has the honour to sit to your immediate left, by extending congratulations to the present member for Arm River (Mr. Waugh). We, of course, regret very much that the representative from that constituency is not sitting on this side of the House but we are quite prepared to join with others in congratulating the member who sits on the Government side of the House.

The mover of the motion (Mr. McIntosh) talked about the conditions throughout the Province and in his usual clear style gave us some very valuable information, and in his usual concise manner gave us some interesting suggestions as to what might be done or what the Government might do towards improving some of the provincial conditions that obtain. I think it would be well if the Government gave consideration to his suggestion and information regarding the great unpopulated spaces in the Northern part of the Province. That has been referred to from this side of the House, and we have suggested and urged that the matter of an immigration policy was one which should receive the serious consideration of the Government. We are pleased to have him refer to the question of the attitude of our people towards the men who went overseas, as I think we can claim some of the credit for having brought to the attention of the people that many of these men have not received a square deal at the hands of this Government and we are glad to know that in his fair-mindedness he has not been deterred from giving expression to the absolute truth.

Now, in connection with the remarks of the honourable member for Arm River: I want to answer some of his insinuations in the brief address he gave regarding the manner in which that campaign was conducted. He claims that on the first evening at the first meeting of the campaign at which I happened to have the honour to be present it was intimated by him and others that the election campaign would be conducted on a high plane, that there would be no misrepresentation, insinuation or untruths. Let me tell this House and the honourable member for Arm River that so far as the Conservative party was concerned there was no misrepresentation, there were no insinuations, and there were no statements of untruths. Let me tell the honourable member for Arm River if any member of the party I have the honour to lead or any workers on behalf of the Conservative candidate circulated such slogans as he has repeated here, then I should be as strong as he, indeed stronger than he, in my denunciation. This is the first intimation I have had that these slogans were supposed to have been spread by my party or myself in that campaign. Let me tell him that neither he nor any one on his side of the House has any right to point to this group and say that they are guilty of such practices as that and that absolute innocence surrounds every official and every member on the Government side of the House. I am not going to take the responsibility—I would not dare to insinuate that the honourable member for Arm River (whom I hold in the highest esteem and I believe he is a man of integrity and the highest honour) assumed that responsibility, but he has no right to insinuate that all these practices he suggested came from the group which I have the honour to lead. I want to tell him, that men, and women, too, in some cases, supporters of his candidature, went around and carried on a whispering campaign reflecting not only on the character of the candidate but on the character of the leader of the Conservative party. I do not claim that he was the instigator, but I do maintain that this sort of a campaign has been carried on against the party I represent, against myself, and against the Conservative candidate in every previous campaign and I want to say to the leader of our Government that he should get up in this House and be just as prepared as I, to repudiate and condemn all such tactics on the part of the great machine that has been built around him, on this occasion, and any other occasion in the future.

The honourable member for Arm River probably did not think of the meaning of his words, but he virtually charged the British people in the constituency with fomenting racial strife and encouraging bigotry and hatred. I, as a British subject protest most strongly against this charge. I have not seen any indications of hatred, bigotry and bitterness among British subjects in Arm River or elsewhere. When you speak of British subjects, you must remember that the vast majority of our people are British subjects. Most of this talk about hatred and distrust and bigotry has been carried on more especially by the Government party leaders and workers and through the columns of the Government press of this Province for a number of years; but

it has been charged and claimed in lengthy news items, and in ponderous editorials that have appeared in the Government newspapers that we are similarly guilty, thereby trying to lay the blame for expressions of hatred and bigotry on the party that I have the honour to lead. Members of the Government, including the head of the Government himself, have gone up and down this Province trying to poison the minds of the people who have come here from foreign lands, trying to poison their minds against the members of my party and myself. I am prepared, here and now, to throw these charges back in their teeth. The charges are entirely wrong. The charges are entirely unfounded. Let me say in commenting on election campaigns that a member of a government, more especially the head of the Government, if an opponent gets up and says what he conscientiously believes to be true, should be absolutely sure of his ground before he gets on his feet and declares his opponents' statements are false. If one speaker, whether government or opposition says what he believes to be true, then I say, unless the succeeding speaker is absolutely sure of his ground, it is rather a serious thing for him to get up and publicly charge that the preceding speaker was making statements that were false. I made certain statements one night which I conscientiously believed to be true. A few nights after, the head of the Government (*the Honourable Mr. Gardiner*) came along and said that the statements I had made were untrue, and that I was not worthy to lead the Conservative Party or any other party if I resorted to tactics like that.

We believe in fair play in politics. We have tried to practise it irrespective of the charges thrown against us after the conclusion of a campaign. We find the Press that so loyally supported this Government charges us with "mud-slinging." That is the expression that was used. Now, Mr. Speaker, I would like the First Minister to explain to this House what he means by "mud-slinging." I would like him to give examples of "mud-slinging" in the Arm River by-election. I take it that fair and just criticism of a government is not "mud-slinging." I take it that "mud-slinging" would include attacks on a man personally, or reflections upon his personal character. I take it if a Minister of the Crown gets up and calls his opponent "a political bully," that is "mud-slinging." I take it if a Minister of the Crown gets up and makes the statement that if the Leader of the Opposition belonged to a tribe of Indians, he would be called "Almighty Voice"—that is "mud-slinging." I take it if one of the Ministers of the Crown gets up and casts reflections on the academic qualifications of an opponent—I say that is "mud-slinging." But the smiling gentlemen opposite do not seem to appreciate the meaning of the word. I hope I shall never be guilty of getting up and making personal remarks about members of this or any other Government. I do not think I have been when I have found it necessary to criticise my honourable friend, the Premier. When I criticise him, I speak of him in his public capacity. We went to the same University together, and graduated together. I respect him as a citizen of this Province and while I have taken exception to him in his public capacity, I have been ever ready to defend him against any personal attack made; and I shall be ever ready. That is my attitude towards every member of this House. So I want to say to my friend from Arm River that there was no programme of organised hate by the party I have the honour to lead, and there will be no such programme.

There has been a very serious situation in this Province during the past summer. It has caused the Premier as much concern as it has caused me and as it is causing every sensible member in this House; and I want to say right here that, as far as I am concerned, I am not going to lay myself open to the charge of bringing the matter of religion onto the floor of this Legislature. There has been too much of it during the past year and there is no use of any member opposite trying to point a finger at us on this side and saying that we are responsible for the situation that obtains in many sections of this Province at the present time. I am rather seriously handicapped as I have not the material here that I expected to have, in order to deliver this speech. However, I am not going to finish at the time for adjournment so I shall be in the position to continue at the next sitting.

*Premier Gardiner:* Would the Honourable Member be prepared to go on tonight?

*Mr. Anderson:* I would like to ask, Mr. Speaker, whether it is the intention to hold a sitting of the House, tonight?

*Premier Gardiner:* Yes. If you are prepared to go on tonight.

*Mr. Anderson:* This is somewhat short notice, Mr. Speaker, but I'll accommodate the honourable gentlemen.

*Mr. Speaker:* Six o'clock!

On the House re-assembling at 8 o'clock p.m., Mr. Anderson said:

Mr. Speaker,—I think in connection with this Debate it will be expected that I should say something in connection with a statement I made in the now famous by-election. At one meeting of the electors in Arm River, I was stressing the sacred nature of the franchise, and emphasising the fact that any Government, no matter what it might be, had, in my opinion, a peculiar duty to perform in making every effort to see that no mean advantage was taken of any elector in this Province and more especially of those who had come to us from other lands and who for that reason are more or less unfamiliar in many cases with our laws and customs and language. I said I had reason to believe that in the general election of 1925 in this Province in the constituency

of Happyland, there had been certain irregularities. I said at that meeting that I held in my hand the names of a number of people who were evidently, from their names, German-speaking Canadian citizens and that these names were on the Poll Book in Poll Number 28 conducted at the Westerham School in the constituency of Happyland and according to my information a number of these people had indicated, in signed statements, that they had not voted at that Poll and that in one case a man, who had been a school teacher, was shown as having voted, while presumably he was confined in one of our mental hospitals during the period of the election and for some time before it and for a period afterwards.

A few nights after that the Premier of this Province in addressing an audience at Elbow, according to the newspaper report which I hold here, made statements indicating that I had given voice to suspicions only, and I should be prepared, from every platform, to prove these statements. According to this report he says, "I will be prepared to answer him in kind and show there is not one word of truth in the suspicions he gives public utterance to." I want to say, Mr. Speaker, that I was acting in perfectly good faith and in answer to the charge why I have not brought these matters up in this House, I wish to inform the members and you, Sir, that had I had the information before the end of the last session, I certainly would have brought it before this House. I hope the Premier did not try to give the electors of Arm River or the public of the Province, generally, the impression that I was afraid to do my duty—a duty that falls to those on this side of the House, to advise the people of irregularities of any kind, because these matters are not likely to be disclosed by the Government or by members on that side of the House, because the disclosure might reflect against the Government. A leader of any group here has a right to do his duty in that regard and has a perfect right to do so without laying himself open to vicious attacks.

The defeated candidate in Happyland, a few days afterwards sent a letter to the press which some of you have read. I do not know that I have ever met Mr. Baldwin, but as I had received certain information, I wrote to him on two occasions and received no reply and that is the real reason why the matter was not brought up last session. I want to say we are here now, and I am quite prepared to take my part and to assume my responsibility in clearing the situation up before the people of this Province, and I hope that will be done before the end of this session.

In his letter to the press, Mr. Baldwin substantiates the so-called "statements of suspicion" made by myself. He says in part:

"I deem it my duty to let the public know something of the actual facts in connection with the situation in the Happyland constituency at the time of the last Provincial election, facts which the Hon. Mr. Gardiner failed to give although he seemed to think it necessary to drag my name into the political controversy now being waged between him and Dr. Anderson."

And he goes on to say something about what happened at Poll 28, referring to the signed statements from people who were shown to have voted but did not vote. With reference to the individual whose name appears on the Poll Book but who, at the time, was in the Weyburn Hospital, he quotes a letter dated August 24, 1925, signed by the Superintendent of that institution in which he says:

"In reply to your letter of August 17, I beg to advise you that the above named (Fred E. McPherson) was admitted to Weyburn Mental Hospital on May 2, 1925, and has, since that time, been an inmate of this institution.

(Signed) R. M. MITCHELL,  
Superintendent."

The election was on June 2 so that he was, according to the Superintendent, an inmate of the institution between May 2 and August 24, (the date of the letter) and in the meantime, on June 2, the election was conducted and his name appears clearly on the Poll Book as having voted in Poll 28. He (*Mr. Baldwin*) says further:

"I have still in my possession these copies of Poll Books; I still have the original letter signed by the Superintendent of the Mental Hospital at Weyburn; I still have the signed statements mentioned and, although the Government officials may have destroyed all their records in connection with the election of 1925 after the lapse of the necessary time called for in *The Elections Act*, the documents in my possession are open for inspection by any responsible committee composed of equal numbers of Progressives, Liberals and Conservatives."

Now, Mr. Speaker, we are quite prepared to have responsible members of this group act on such a committee and, if the Premier is prepared to name responsible men on his side of the House and the leader of the Progressives (*Mr. Tran*) is prepared to do the same thing, we might proceed along the lines suggested by Mr. Baldwin.

*Mr. Hagarty:* I would like to ask the honourable gentleman a question, Mr. Speaker: Is he suggesting that this Government is responsible for any indiscretions that may have been committed by individuals in Happyland or is he making the statement for political effect?

*Mr. Anderson:* The honourable member for Elrose should realise that we are living under a system of responsible government in this province and that a government is responsible to the people for the activities of its agents. Now, so much for that. We shall hear more of these irregularities before the end of the session.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* You certainly will!

*Mr. Anderson:* Let us hope we hear the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth.

A great deal has been said to-day about co-operation. We believe in that principle on this side of the House, and I must say that since coming into this House we have had very few signs from the large group opposite that talks so much about co-operation to-day. There has been no desire to admit that there ever is anything of a constructive nature advanced from this side of the House. Nevertheless, session after session, the ideas which have originated over here have been made use of and have found a place in the Speech from the Throne; yet the Government claim credit for the same. We are not worrying about that at all. Our work as an opposition is before the people of the Province. We are quite prepared to let them judge as to what contribution we are making.

I take it that it is the duty of the opposition in any British Parliament to assist in the passing of any legislation that is in the best interests of the people, and I defy any member to show where we have not been ready to co-operate in the enactment of any legislation that has been for the welfare and benefit of the majority of the people of this Province. In addition to that, an opposition has a duty to perform in criticising the activities of the Government, in bringing to light things not disclosed by the Government, and we are trying to do our duty to the people of the province in that regard also. I do not think that the members of the Government should be so anxious to give the impression that we are not sincere, and that we are not trying to do our duty.

In the recent by-election it was stated that the Liberal party had been in power for twenty-three years and there was not a single dark page in the party's history. Well, it was necessary for us to object to that statement and to illustrate present situations by dealing with what might be called past history. We are not anxious to drag the skeletons from the political closets of the Government, but to vindicate ourselves we had to mention the famous Bradshaw charges and it was done for that reason and no other reason—not that we wanted to make a charge, but to show that the party that has been in power for nearly a quarter of a century has a few rather shady pages in its political history. Followers of the members opposite are indicating that if the Conservatives are successful in forming a Government, they will be just as bad. That is hardly a fair criticism. We on this side of the House have no dark pages in our political history and because some Conservative Government in some other Province has been guilty of certain things, to attach any odium to us in this Province, on that account, is ridiculous. We are not trying to blame the Gardiner Government for the sins of the Ross Government many years ago. They have enough sins of their own to account for. Let me remind the Government when they say that the Conservative Party would not be able to form a Government if called upon, that I have every reason to believe that I am stating what is the exact truth when I say that there are not hundreds but thousands of men and women who have been supporting the Liberal Government who are not prepared to do so in the next election for reasons best known to themselves. I shall give members of this House some very concrete illustrations of this, later in the session.

Now dealing more particularly with the Speech from the Throne: I was very pleased indeed to find that reference had been made to the placing before the people during this session an extensive and comprehensive scheme of power development in this Province. There is nothing we are more prepared to adopt, than a scheme that would mean the development of power on a large scale. We have not yet seen any serious indication of any scheme such as that, but we have the words of the Government from the Premier in this House that such a scheme is going to be placed before us. I am reminded that as I sat in my place last session here, I referred in one instance to the possibilities we had of developing power from our own resources, our coals in the south, and hydro power in the north, and I remember the minister (*Hon. Mr. Spence*) getting up in his place and saying: "I don't know that we have much water power in this Province," and we assured him then that we had over one million horsepower, and we prophesied that in the not far distant future and probably sooner than some of us realised some portion of that hydro power would be available for use in this Province. And our prophecy is coming true because we know now that the Whitney interests have begun to develop some of our northern waters in order to secure power and provide energy for the great Flin Flon mining area in the sister province of Manitoba which they are opening up on a wide scale. I have noticed, too, that the honourable Minister in addressing the Mortgage Association, and at other times has remarked on the great possibilities of this undertaking so far as power development in this Province is concerned. And so, Mr. Speaker, it is hardly fair to say that there has been a lack of vision on this side of the House, in view of the statement made by the honourable Minister in the House, last session. I am quite prepared, so long as we are occupying our present position, to co-operate with him in the development of the great Northern portion of our Province, and of our resources there which were so ably set forth by the member for Kinistino. He spoke of



our pulpwood resources and I should think that every member in this House would be prepared to endorse the idea that we should all look forward to the time when our great pulpwood resources will be manufactured into paper right here, on Saskatchewan soil, using the water power nature has bestowed on us rather than ship it out in the raw state. By doing so we would give employment to a great many of our own people and other people who might be brought in. This is an all important question. We must be prepared to act for the future rather than to live and act solely in the present.

In connection with our coal resources the honourable Minister made the statement during the present year that some time there would likely be great development of power from large plants erected at the mouth of our coal mines. That would appear to be the logical future to look forward to. This has been done in North Dakota and on a large scale in Germany, New Zealand and Australia, where lignite coal, inferior to ours, has been used to produce power distributed by means of high power lines, and utilised on a large scale. We would like the Government to let us know what they have done in the way of development of our coal mines. We have in this Province, we are told, sixty billions of tons, one of the largest deposits of lignite in the whole world, and I was very much surprised the other day, when I read a newspaper report of a great conference that was held at Washington—an International conference at which 20 countries were represented and with experts from practically all the leading nations of the world. They discussed the use of coal, bituminous and lignite coal, and I found that though twenty countries were represented and among these most of the Provinces of Canada, the great Province of Saskatchewan, with one of the largest deposits of lignite coal in the world, was not officially represented. We find the Minister of Highways complaining because I was not at the Good Roads Convention here. I would like to know why he was not at Washington. It is very fortunate, Sir, that the opposition can claim some credit for being represented there, unofficially, for there is one member now sitting in the opposition who went there at his own expense, and for purposes of observation, sat in that great convention. The member for Estevan (*Mr. Creighton*) was there as an interested citizen of this Province, and the Government would do well to listen to the report he may make on that conference.

Before we discuss the development of our coal mines or hydro power on a large scale, there is one thing we must do and that is to get control of our natural resources and I do not think this Government or any member opposite can very well get up and say that they have not endorsed anything of the Conservative platform after the resolution so hastily introduced by the honourable, the Attorney General (*the Honourable Mr. Davis*), yesterday, in connection with this problem, because the very first plank in the Conservative platform reads as follows:

“In the best interests of Confederation and the economic development of Saskatchewan, the Province of Saskatchewan should be granted its Natural Resources free from restrictions within the legislative competence of the Parliament of Canada but in compliance with the letter and spirit of the Constitution and that the claims of this Province to compensation for loss of lands and resources alienated should be granted.”

So we are prepared to support the resolution because it is the first plank in the Conservative platform. Since, 1905, session after session, members opposite have got up and moved and seconded resolutions dealing with our Natural Resources, and premiers came and premiers left and still the resolutions went merrily along until the year 1925, I think it was, and we on this side thought there was a change of feeling on this question and for some reason or other there was not the same eagerness on the part of the Attorney General in presenting the resolution for the return of natural resources as there was yesterday. The same occurred the following session and the last as well, and for that reason we had the matter presented in a resolution from this side of the House, and, if I am not mistaken, that may explain why we find it mentioned in the Speech from the Throne. We are glad to find it there and if not quite so glad as we might have been were it to be introduced from this side of the House, at least the Attorney General has been forced to exhibit one of the advantages of youth and agility.

We notice that there is a proposition whereby some form of committee will be appointed to present this to the Federal Government. Now, Sir, I think we are justified in being very suspicious regarding this presentation of these resolutions to the Federal Government. Year after year we find we can get no satisfactory report as to how these resolutions were received at Ottawa. It seems to be just force of habit, year after year. Now, I am going to suggest to the leader of the Government that if the Government is sincere that he might well have the opposition in this House represented when that resolution is being presented. But you may suggest that is not the way we do things in party politics. I am not so much concerned about party politics, but I am very much concerned about our natural resources and if that representation is on the delegation I would be quite prepared to say on behalf of the Opposition that we shall be quite fair to the Government and to their friends at Ottawa.

I do not think our people should be fooled any longer on the natural resources question. What we want is not resolutions but action, and we want it right away. The other provinces are taking action. It may be inferred from the Speech from the Throne, that the Government has something in mind. We want to know why this sudden change on the part of men who

emphatically stated, on this subject of natural resources, that we were better off with the cash subsidy than if we actually had control of the resources. Why the change of heart—the delirious desire now, to take up this matter? Well, I think, Mr. Speaker, we should perhaps not be too harsh in our criticism but when I say we are suspicious—

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* Might I ask the honourable gentleman a question? Would he have any objection to having both the resources and the money?

*Mr. Anderson:* The Premier knows the answer to that. By no means. We should have both.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* That is the answer.

*Mr. Anderson:* In connection with the second plank in our platform which is that of "economy," I know that our friends at election time are going to say: "How are they going to economise. Let them illustrate in what way they are going to economise!" Let me tell you the first step toward economy is to get rid of the present Government. That is the first economical move to make in the interests of this Province.

Let me call your attention to the fact that in the year 1917, in the platform of the Conservative party, there was a plank dealing with the restoration of the Mounted Police, no reflection being cast upon the Provincial Police. In the interests of economy, it was our view that it was not in the best interests of the Province to have both forces operating and so we urged the return of the Mounted Police. But this suggestion received no attention. It was argued that it was in the interests of economy to continue as things were. Then we find a sudden change of heart, and the Government finally adopts the 1917 platform of the Conservative party, and this year "The Mounties" are back and we are told that their restoration will mean a saving of \$280,000 per year. Now, it was eleven years ago that we first made that suggestion, so it is only necessary to multiply \$280,000 by eleven to get the amount of money that would have been saved had the Conservative policy of 1917 been carried out during the past eleven years—a saving of over \$3,000,000!

One other point I would mention in this connection and it is that it will be in the interests of economy if there is a Civil Service Commission appointed and established in this Province and the Civil Servants freed from the political influence that surrounds them at the present time. One Civil Servant, fully qualified, will do the work of two poorly qualified. We believe there can be economy effected in the erection of public buildings. We fail to see how it is necessary that the final cost should be many thousands of dollars more than the contract price. We fail to see why, in connection with the erection, there should be so much allowance for "incidentals." We shall have more to say about that later on.

With regard to agriculture we are quite prepared to give the Minister (*The Honourable Mr. Hamilton*) all the credit due him, in fact a little more. But there are certain things in regard to which a wider and more comprehensive policy is required; as our friend from Kinistino to-day announced there were 120,000 fewer cattle than there were a year ago. There is a reason for it. He said something about better markets. It would seem to me if there was a better market, that there ought to have been more cattle here. There ought to have been more at the present time, than a year ago. It would appear there's something wrong.

Much good work has been done by the Department; much helpful legislation brought down. The Minister is sincere in the discharge of his duties but at the same time it appears to me that this Government has shown lack of ability to cope with some of the great farming problems. When the farmers were groping around for some successful method of marketing their wheat, and when they conceived the idea of organising the wheat pool, they naturally looked for guidance and leadership to these Buildings and to the gentlemen in this Government who by the support they commanded and presumably by their abilities held these positions, and we know what happened. There was not much encouragement in the initial stages. The leadership expected was lacking, with the result that they went to another country and secured a great co-operative expert to advise them in connection with the marketing of their grain. You will remember with the advent of Aaron Sapiro, the Government-controlled press, the Liberal press of this Province, began to attack him and even to cast reflections on his personal character. No members of the Government denounced the *Regina Leader* for its attitude at that time. Why? Simply because they depend for their political existence largely on the *Regina Leader*. The only people who denounced him at that time were men who occupy seats or support the party represented on that side of the House. Well, now we know what happened. We believe the Government of the day failed miserably in helping the farmers at that time. It is true that when the carrying out of the idea was outlined to them, the Government came forward and offered to loan them money. We give them credit for that, but they dare not do anything else.

In connection with the weed menace in this Province, considerable has been done and is being done. But we have a special reason for criticism here—the weed inspectors are chosen largely because of their political influence in their districts. The weeds are getting beyond control, and there is only one way of properly combatting this menace and that is for this Government to ask the Federal Government to assist in the eradication of weeds in this Province. The

State authorities receive considerable aid from the Federal Government in the United States for this purpose and I believe it has worked out very satisfactorily. Tremendous losses have been suffered in this Province. This fact is well known to all the members of this House. Some of you will remember that in travelling over some of our provincial highways, there are great hedges of noxious weeds lining the sides of the roads. It ought to have been an easy matter for those who are being paid for the supervision of those roads to see that these weeds should be destroyed. They have draggers on the roads and it should be made part of their duties to destroy these weeds.

We also believe in a policy of land settlement based on a survey of the unused lands of the Province. I hope the Premier will be able to tell us how much unused and uncultivated land there is and if there is a very large acreage in the Northern part of the Province as referred to by the member for Kinistino, as suitable and available for settlement. Let us try to institute a settlement policy that would bring this land into use.

Now we come to the question of education. Members will know that we have discussed this on many occasions from this side of the House and we are not satisfied yet. During these past discussions we have criticised the administration severely. We have had the present Minister of Education get up and say everything was going along satisfactorily, that the majority of the people were satisfied and that he was sick and tired of hearing criticisms. A session later, he gets up and contradicts that statement, and intimates he is not satisfied with the results obtained from the amount of money that is spent on education. And the *Regina Leader* which mirrors this restlessness and dissatisfaction, admits that he is not content—the very thing we had been contending from this side of the House and it was said we did not know what we were talking about. Let us hope something will be done to satisfy the people of this Province to whom it is a matter of very serious concern at the present time.

We are not anxious to prolong or protract these conditions that bespeak a weakness in our school system. We are just as anxious to see that these wrongs are righted and these weaknesses are eliminated, but we are not content to get up and tell the people of this Province that out of some 5,000 school districts only a mere handful are not functioning properly. We shall not be satisfied until we see every school functioning 100 per cent. adequately. It seems to me that is the only attitude British people can take. It seems to me that any reasonable Government in any British country should take that attitude and I do not think the difficulties are nearly so great as they are imagined. It seems to me it requires the exercise of careful thought and determination on the part of the head of that particular Department and I want to assure him again he will receive the co-operation of this group in carrying it out.

Last session, it will be remembered that provision was made for setting up what were called Winter High Schools and Community Schools. I supported the Bill outlining these. I thought the scheme was not based on sound principles, that in practice it would fail, and you will remember that the Premier stated that it was more or less of an experiment and that he would be satisfied if there would be six established before the end of the year. Well, he will likely tell us how many there are before the end of this session. I think he will be prepared to say that the scheme has not worked out as he expected. What was wrong? I would say that the scheme was fundamentally wrong. The spirit was willing but the flesh was weak. The idea underlying the proposition was weak. The method was not sound. And I would advise him that he confer with the educational experts of his Department who are quite capable of giving him expert advice, and that he obtain their ideas of Winter High Schools.

As regards Community Schools, if the Act were changed to read "one or more" instead of "three or more" then you could have night schools operated, or afternoon schools in the winter time with the schools taught by the public school teachers, who are the logical persons for the position. I can see the possibility of large night classes in this Province where people anxious to get a wider knowledge of the English language would congregate. This is an important matter and I would urge that the legislation should be changed to read "one or more" schools may constitute a Community School. If that were done you would get some results, but it is only a waste of time sending inspectors out to try to arouse interest in these schools under the present legislation.

With regard to Education we want to provide equal educational advantages to all. You say we have that. I say we have not! There are people outside the School Law in this Province. Let me suggest to the Government that they consider the feasibility of having compulsory government inspection of all schools in this Province, private, and parochial as well as public and separate. I understand that schools like the Regina College and Moose Jaw College ask that the Government inspect their institutions. Then, I think it is only a step further to make all private schools subject to government inspection. There are certain areas that are not organised into school districts so that the School Attendance law does not operate in such districts and I have an idea that if we went to these people and told them that we wanted our inspectors to go through their private schools, the people would likely agree. But, as the situation is at present, if the school inspector went to some of these schools he would be denied admittance unless he had a permit signed by somebody in authority. All these little weaknesses that exist should be ironed out and removed in the interest of that co-operation and unity mentioned by honourable members in this debate.

We want uniformity of text books in the West and revision of the text books with a view to eliminating all denominational bias and to see that all unpatriotic sentiments are kept out of the text books. We are glad to compliment the Minister in that a more suitable book is being provided for the teaching of French. I would like to remind him in a kindly way that other books were available when these books containing the objectionable material were authorised. I do not think that he would accuse me of saying what is not right, when I say that the books so authorised were not suitable.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* Will the honourable gentleman permit me? I would like to say that the books that are now authorised are not considered suitable for our schools either, but books are being prepared which will be suitable.

*Mr. Anderson:* The books that are now in use are not so objectionable as those being used when the complaints were made. We are very glad to know even better books are being prepared and I suggest that they be carefully scrutinised so that there will be no further difficulty.

The question of changes of text books is worrying the people of this Province more than some of us imagine. Now, I do not think it is necessary to have so many changes in the text books. Take the matter of English literature! The Grade XI book for the year 1928 was the "Merchant of Venice." This has been adopted for 1929. Now it seems to me the "Merchant of Venice" is just as suitable in 1929 as in 1928, and the same with any other literature book. I think the Government might consider the advisability of considering this matter so that parents might economise on school books by passing them on from one pupil to another. Another change is coming next year. There are altogether too many changes in all school books but more particularly in high school text books. If you will permit a personal reference, Mr. Speaker, I had a boy start to University this Fall. He wanted a certain Latin book, and I had approximately \$200 worth of classical books. I looked up seven or eight Latin books, but did not have one suitable to teach my boy Latin in the University of Saskatchewan! I think this illustrates what I mean to a very great extent.

In connection with the literature selections, the Department of Education is not notifying the publishers and the dealers early enough, and letting them know what books will be required, and the result is the school term comes along and the book stores have not the books in stock, and the pupils start without them. I, personally, think that if the Government of this Province desired to encourage economy it could do it in the matter of text books. At a probable saving of hundreds of thousands of dollars to the parents of this Province. In another way also, the government could encourage economy: If we could provide text books to the boys and girls of this Province at cost, even if we made it cost plus the administrative charges, there would be a very material saving to the people of this Province—a saving as I say, in the aggregate, running to a very considerable sum. This is something the members of this House might consider.

In connection with educational reform, as I promised last year, we are prepared, if necessary, to introduce a Bill calling for or permitting the setting up of what are commonly called municipal units. At the present time there is a strong feeling in favour of this in some parts of the Province. The Trustees in Convention have practically unanimously endorsed the idea. There is nothing compulsory about it. We are only asking that the people of our municipalities be given the privilege of voting whether or not they will introduce the Municipal School Board System. There might be 20 rural schools operating in a municipality. That would mean 60 trustees and 20 secretaries—that is a total of 80 officials responsible for the maintenance of, and for buying the equipment for 20 schools and for the engagement of 20 teachers. Now, if we had one board elected to make the purchases for all 20 schools and for the engagement of teachers, I am told they could save at least \$200.00 per school and that would be some \$4,000.00, which would be a considerable saving and would be sufficient to pay the salary of a school superintendent or supervisor for all the schools of that municipality. As I said last year, if the Government does not take action and give the people an opportunity to vote as to whether they want that system or not, I shall take action later on in the session. I shall await the pronouncement of the leader of the Government in this regard.

In connection with immigration: No matter how bitter you may be against my party; no matter how biased you may be, you will remember that we urged from this side of the House a greater provincial interest in the subject of immigration. We suggested that we might have an Agent General in London, as other Provinces have, looking after the interests of this Province so far as British immigration is concerned. The stand taken at that time, and the stand taken by members of the Government in various addresses since, is that immigration is a Federal matter and that, until we get our natural resources we, as a Province, should not take any action. I advocated here, last year, that we ought to follow the example of Alberta by bringing in British boys, and training and preparing them for future citizenship as farmers in this Province. There was no response from the Government, and what do we find? We find this Opposition is given credit for no constructive ideas at all but they have at least struck a responsive note for, following the visit of Lord Lovat, our Honourable friend the Minister of Labour and Industries (*Hon. Mr. Spence*) announced that he was going to bring British boys to Saskatchewan and train them here for farming. In fact he has already appointed Prof. Rayner, Director of Agricultural Extension, to superintend the work and let me now publicly thank him for carrying out the

suggestion we offered him last year. We shall give him all the co-operation he needs. We should, though, have some definite understanding. We should have a sane and safe policy of immigration. We should in no uncertain terms let the Federal authorities know exactly what we want in the matter of immigration. I do not see why the Government should hesitate. It has been the accepted idea—the idea that has been circulated by the friends of the Liberal party, Federal and Provincial—that it is hard to secure British immigrants. Well, I hardly think they can continue in that opinion in view of the response when the call went forth for harvesters from the British Isles. I am told that in a short space of time no fewer than 30,000 men volunteered and only some 8,500 were accepted. I was glad to hear that according to the Minister of Railways, Labour and Industries some 6,000 of them remained in Canada. It does not say in the Speech from the Throne how many remained in Saskatchewan but we hope that many did remain here. We would be glad to hear, in the course of this debate, what efforts the Government made to keep them here. We know something has been done but we would be glad to know what was done. At the time they arrived, there was some misunderstanding and a good deal of uncertainty. I offered some mild criticism at the time and was rebuked by the Minister.

I think we should have a Department of this Government to deal with this question of immigration. You will say "We have." You have not, because you have no immigration policy, unless you call the bringing in of British boys a policy. But, now that you have recognised that immigration is a Provincial matter, I would urge that some very competent official be placed in charge of this work of looking after and fostering this matter of immigration.

Considerable has been said regarding the attitude of the Conservative party towards people coming from other lands. I have been held up as the enemy of these people by members of the government and supporters of the Government. The charge is absolutely unfounded, and absolutely false. I am not going to labour that point any further at the present time. I have indicated on many occasions that I have had a great deal of experience with these people and have a warm spot in my heart for them notwithstanding anything that was said by any speaker of the Government to the contrary, I think I can still say that a very large number of these people know the statements made by emissaries of the Government are absolutely without foundation.

We believe and always have believed that we should have a more balanced industrial development in this Province. We urged in advocating technical education that the Government had made a very serious blunder in allowing to lapse the \$300,000 offered by the Federal Government to encourage technical education; and we said that some day it would be found to be a serious blunder, and we think that, in allowing this offer to lapse, the Government has shown great lack of foresight. Now we find that we have great industrial development along other lines than agriculture, in this Province. At Regina, great industries have come in and after they arrived, the citizens became stirred up with the thought that there should be some means provided for technical training in this Province. Let me urge the Government to give serious consideration to the establishment of technical schools in the Province of Saskatchewan. We know of many individual cases of lads seeking industrial positions who have had to go to some other country to get their technical training. If we have any hope or faith at all in the future of the Province, I think we should be prepared to acknowledge that we are just on the threshold of great industrial development with the prospect of an early development of great mining and pulp industries, I think we are justified in taking an active part in promoting every activity that will result in preparing our people for this development.

In connection with our Public Welfare activities, these should be co-ordinated under one head in order to avoid overlapping and unnecessary expense. A Departmental survey of social welfare institutions with the object of providing more adequate accommodation for the aged, the infirm, the deaf, the dumb and the blind, and so on, should be conducted. Now, I thought that some action should be taken to have the training of deaf, dumb and blind carried on right in this Province. Some initial steps, I believe, have been taken but it seems to me the progress has been rather slow and I would like to find out from the Government during this session if they know how many deaf and dumb and blind there are in this Province. I recently received a letter with the statement that a child of eleven years of age, deaf and dumb, was not receiving the attention of the authorities and I know of another child nine years old who is receiving no training. I have just received this information and I shall pass it on to the Minister concerned. I am not saying it is so, but it would appear to be a case that has been overlooked. I should like to know in what way a survey has been made and I would urge that action be taken without delay in connection with their training in this Province.

Now there will likely be considerable said during this Session in connection with power. As I indicated at the commencement of my address, I don't want to say anything by way of criticism until we find out what the Government has in mind. Let me say as member for Saskatoon, that the scheme as it affects that City has been well received by the majority of the citizens. I am quite prepared as leader of the Conservative party and as member for the City of Saskatoon to endorse the work the Government has done so far as Saskatoon is concerned. The plan is to build a \$1,500,000 plant in the City of Saskatoon. Every citizen of that City believes that this to be the start of a great power scheme, that transmission lines will radiate out through surrounding territory which will be supplied with power from the Saskatoon plant. Farmers in the locality have visions of their homes being electrified under the scheme they think the Gov-

ernment has in mind and I hope they will not be disappointed. Let me say that I take exception to a statement of the Premier made in Arm River in connection with this matter. At one meeting he made a statement to the effect the Government would not stand by and let American capitalists come in here and get a stranglehold on power in this Province.

*Government Members:* Hear! Hear!

*Mr. Anderson:* I am glad to see that some of his supporters say, "Hear, hear." Well, you would infer from that that private companies would be discouraged from coming in, but at the time that statement was made, most of the plants in the Arm River constituency had been sold or a vote of the people had been taken to sell and there was no effort on the part of the Government to discourage the sale of these plants. Private capital had control of a large number of these power plants in that constituency, that control having passed from the hands of the people.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* Would you permit a question? Would you mind giving the places in the Arm River that have changed from Municipal to private control?

*Mr. Anderson:* The town of Craik.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* The town of Craik was owned by a private concern before.

*Mr. Anderson:* The town of Davidson.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* The same.

*Mr. Anderson:* Loreburn.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* I'm not sure of Loreburn.

*Mr. Anderson:* I am sure of it, and the vote was 22 to 2. Moreover the plant in the home town of the Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs (*The Honourable Mr. Latta*) the town of Govan, was sold the other day, the vote being 60 to 1 in favour of selling, I believe.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* That is not in Arm River.

*Mr. Anderson:* We are outside Arm River now. The point is, the statement was made that private capital was to be discouraged. What do we find? We find that considerably over one hundred plants are now under the control of private companies, financed by outside capital. Now the Minister of Labour and Industries will probably speak later on. He was more practical in some of his statements. He says:

"We cannot play dog-in-the-manger and say to these private companies 'you cannot come into our Province.' Their rates are under control. We have surrounded their operations with conditions which have placed the users of their power in a favourable position, all looking to the time when we, as a people, would go into the power business if the investigation of the Power Commission showed that such a thing was a practical possibility."

It was, I think, in the town of Girvin where the honourable Minister assured them emphatically that the Government of this Province was not asleep—although, at the time, the chairman of the meeting and the Liberal candidate both were sleeping peacefully. In connection with the subject of power, let us hear what the Government is doing in this connection.

The honourable Minister disagreed with another statement I made during this now-famous contest, in connection with the issuance of permits for the erection of power lines. The members will understand that the people can sell to a private company and the Government cannot stop them. I said that if they wanted to extend their power lines beyond the municipal limits, they could not do so unless they had a permit signed by the honourable Minister—I should call him Minister of Power. I ascertained through his kindness that permits had been granted covering almost one thousand miles. I misread the statement received and read it as 1,003½ miles, apparently that was 92 miles too much. I should have said 911½ miles. Well, I was told by electors that it was stated that I did not have this letter from the Minister. However, I satisfied the people that I actually did have it and they saw for themselves that I was right. I do not think there was mention made in the Minister's letter of a line to Saltcoats from Yorkton, but I understand that line was under construction when this information was sent me from his Department. As regards Yorkton, I would like him to ascertain whether the Canadian Utilities Company started to construct this line from Yorkton without a permit over his signature. Why are they not discouraging to a greater extent the work of the private companies at the present time? That is a question that we should expect to be answered by the Honourable Minister some time during this session.

Now let me speak for a moment on our coal resources and let me complain of the lack of attention on the part of the Government to the development of this great resource as shown by the bad example they are setting in their own institutions in connection with the use of Saskatchewan coal. We are informed that the Government of Manitoba is obtaining two-thirds of its coal supplies from the Province of Saskatchewan, and only one-third of the coal used by our own Government is obtained from our own mines. We have seen public buildings erected and

not furnished with suitable furnaces to burn Saskatchewan coal. I charge there has been gross carelessness and lack of foresight shown in this connection. Let us hope the Government has changed its ways and that in future it will show a better example so far as our own Provincial coal industry is concerned.

In connection with the question of law enforcement we believe we are justified in criticising some instances of lax law enforcement. We have said something about the qualifications of Justices of the Peace, but we have not seen much improvement. I remember, the honourable Member for Willow Bunch (*Mr. Cross*) saying that the Session before last would go down in history as the "J.P. Session." We remember the haste with which the new commissions were rushed through after a question was asked by the Member for Tisdale (*Mr. Buckle*) regarding the J.P.'s who were engaged in liquor stores. Conditions like that should not exist, but there is no question about it, they did exist. There are some men who are acting as J.P.'s in this Province who are not properly qualified and political preferment enters too much into their appointments. We had an instance brought to our attention here, last session, when a certain man was relieved of his commission on the ground that it was in the public interest. That was Mr. Pattison, of Delisle, but shortly after there was a petition signed by responsible citizens of that section of the country who had confidence in Mr. Pattison which urged his re-instatement and his commission was reissued, showing that the statement publicly made in the House inferring that he was incompetent was entirely incorrect. I have a sworn copy of a letter, from a J.P.; I have not it with me so I will not mention his name. He writes this letter in very broken English and he says something like this: "If you don't stop stealing wood off ——'s farm you will be prosecuted." Truly justice is wonderful when it functions in that way! But I am quite convinced that a better system of appointing J.P.'s could be evolved. The Government is leaving itself open to very serious criticism in this connection. There was another instance of our courts being used for political purposes during the past year. I shall refer to that in greater detail later on in this Session.

In connection with the building of highways, the present Premier, who occupied the position of Minister of Highways for some years, has taken upon himself the responsibility of trying to prove to the people of this Province that no one outside his Highways Department can build good roads. They are taking upon themselves, as a Government, the responsibility of trying to impress upon the people of this Province that those who are in opposition who advocate permanent roads don't know what they are talking about.

*Government Members:* Hear! Hear!

*Mr. Anderson:* Some say, "Hear, hear." I think it was stated by the Premier that the leader of the Conservative party when he discussed highways was travelling around in circles. Let me tell him that on his roads after a good hard rain you cannot travel any other way than in circles and every member of the House will agree to that. I have here the Liberal Platform issued at 10 cents a copy (and very expensive at that) in the year 1925. In the Section dealing with Highways, the word "gravel" does not appear. Graveling was not included in the policy of the Government in the year 1925. There's no talk here of all-weather or permanent roads. The present Premier has been reminded of a chance remark made by himself away back in 1922 regarding gravelled roads, and is making use of that remark on which to base a policy to meet the needs of the present occasion.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* May I be permitted? The honourable gentleman states that the chance remark made by myself on the matter of highways in 1922, is being used by the Government as a means of getting out of the criticism made by the opposition. That remark has been made in every session of the Legislature since 1922.

*Mr. Anderson:* Well, if the Honourable Minister would just be calm he will probably get the full explanation later. If it has been said in every session, all the more reason why it should have been contained in this book as being the policy of the Government rather than try to make out now that it was part of the policy of 1925, on which they were returned to power. Well, here is what they said was the policy of the Government with regard to roads:

"First to construct the 928 miles of bad road in order to place the whole system of 7,000 miles in passable condition, then to construct the 2,890 miles of fair road, by which time we shall have 7,000 miles of good main road in the Province, then to construct the 1,475 miles of good road, when we shall have 7,000 miles of excellent road in the Province."

Now, Sir, the only thing about this is that 99 per cent. of the electors who read that over would not know what it meant, it is so complicated and so confusing. But with all this talk about fair and bad roads, of passable roads and excellent roads there is not a word about gravel roads and now we hear it has been discussed every session since that time. I quite realise that the Government, when it reaches the end of the road, must find an excuse or loop-hole and as usual has done so on this occasion by adopting the policy of the Conservative Opposition. And they started out when they expected to call an election in Arm River, when they had only 95 miles of gravel road to lay down a programme for 500 or 1,000 miles, for no other reason than to smother criticism in a great shower of gravel. That is why they started in to gravel after the roads were dry, and not prepared for it, with the result that when traffic passed over it, the gravel in many

cases was thrown to the side of the road and into farmers' fields. Honourable members who have been travelling lately over the roads will bear me out in this; and the first thing you know you are going to have gravel pits in every field along the road. In their anxiety to get the gravelling done they even went, I understand, down to the United States to bring contractors with American machinery and labourers in, and in some cases we find them working night and day and even breaking the law in this Province regarding Sunday work. Just to show you how complete this whole scheme is let me show to you a poster advertising a dance that was put on by the Provincial Highway Gravelers—a new service organisation recently inaugurated and I presume that when we see the list of the officers it will include the name of our genial friend, the Minister of Highways. This dance was held at Honey's Hall, Maryfield, on the 30th of November. I was down there, and found this new organisation a very energetic body of men. The Conservative candidate was also there and made good use of the opportunity, I can assure you.

So much for the Highways. But just before I conclude let me say to this Government what the majority of the people of this Province will endorse, and so too will the commercial travellers who travel over the roads, and what the farmers will endorse—they have made a failure of their policy of building highways. I want to say to the Premier of this Province that he should be the last man in the world to point his finger at the leader of another party and say: "He does not know what he's talking about." That is my statement. I leave it to the people to judge.

*Hon. Mr. Davis:* How would you expend the twenty million dollars, you intend to borrow?

*Mr. Anderson:* We have never stated that we intended to borrow \$20,000,000. It is very significant that in what we have advocated in connection with scientific research we have again provided the Government with a very valuable suggestion. One of the things we advocated in our platform was research to ascertain the most satisfactory method of grading grain and other farm products. There is no doubt at all that the Government conceived this idea of appointing their recent Commission on the grading of grain when they had scrutinised this "plank." At any rate, we are glad to know they have appointed this Commission. We wish it well and pledge our co-operation and offer them our thanks for carrying out our party programme.

While my honourable friend, the member for Pelly (*Mr. Tran*) was discussing the question of Government contracts one of the Ministers seemed to be quite uneasy and resented the suggestion that contracts were let without tender. However, when it was shown that contracts were let without advertising for tenders, the enthusiasm was not so marked. Now, this is our stand in connection with all Government contracts: That all people should be given an opportunity to tender. It is my opinion that (although I have the highest regard for the Clerk of this Legislature) it would be much better if he were directed to call for tenders in connection with the printing of the "Votes and Proceedings." We have now in this Province a new daily, the *Regina Star*, and I would suggest now that it has just as much right to secure some of the Government printing as any other newspaper. They all know what I mean and I suggest we consider the question of calling for tenders. Is it fair that the *Regina Leader* should get such fine contracts without tenders being called? The principle of public tender should be followed in every phase of our public business. This should apply to every Department of the Government. It is not reasonable to think that merely because a newspaper supports the Government consistently it should get thousands and thousands of dollars of the money of the people of this Province. At any rate, it is only fair that tenders should be called for. It should be understood that every contractor in the Province is entitled to consideration and has a perfect right to tender for the erection of any of our public buildings. Perhaps that is the situation now. Let us know if it is.

Now, it is also part of our policy that there will be reform in connection with the Civil Service. We stand for a Civil Service free from political interference. That is not the case at the present time. I am not going to labour that point but in view of certain omissions from the Speech from the Throne, I deem it my duty to move, seconded by Mr. Tran:

"That the following be added to the motion after the word "Session":

"But we regret that there is no expressed desire or intention to deal with the question of stricter enforcement of the present liquor laws in the Province; to introduce remedial legislation for the purpose of clearing up troublesome and difficult situations in regard to the administration of our public schools; to encourage and foster a definite provincial immigration policy; to encourage the development of a wider provincial and foreign market for our immense lignite coal deposits, giving the assurance of a more extensive use of our own coal in Government institutions; to introduce a measure of Civil Service reform leading to the establishment of a Civil Service Commission, which shall be non-partisan; and to bring into effect reforms with reference to the administration of the office of the Official Guardian with a view to effecting greater economy."



THE HONOURABLE J. G. GARDINER,

(Premier and Minister of Education)

THURSDAY AND FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6 AND 7, 1928.

*The Honourable Mr. Gardiner*, in speaking to the amendment to the motion, proposed by the senior member for Saskatoon City (*Mr. Anderson*), said:

Mr. Speaker,—On arising to speak on the Address and deal for a few moments with the amendment, I may state that I have grave doubts as to whether it is in proper form for an amendment to the Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne. The matter will be given consideration by the Speaker and by the Clerk and I shall go on for a few moments to address the House.

I may say that I join with those who have already addressed the House in expressing the deepest regret that we have learned of the very serious illness of His Majesty the King. Because of his illness, the Legislature meets this year with the realisation that our people are hoping with an intense desire that he may be returned to health and strength. Since the coronation of the present King his every act has tendered to endear him, and to increase the goodwill and esteem in which all members of the Royal family and particularly the Prince of Wales, are held in all parts of the Empire.

Listening to the story of the development of the constitutional relationships between Throne and people we are brought to a realisation of the spirit of justice and tolerance throughout the Empire which is the essence of real democracy. Because of this experience this House and the people of the Province will be in accord with His Honour's earnestly expressed hope that the Empire will be long blessed by his beneficent rule.

The honourable member from Kinistino, (*Mr. McIntosh*), in moving the Address spoke in his usual clear, concise and very acceptable manner and we on this side of the House are proud to be able to state that with everything to which he has given expression, we are in hearty agreement. In the address delivered by the Seconder (*Mr. Waugh*), the member for the constituency of Arm River who has been returned to this House since it last prorogued as the result of an election which took place there, we have heard the remarks of a man who has already impressed himself on the membership of this House. He has impressed himself on the membership of this House because of the sterling manner in which he delivered that address, because of the very acceptable manner in which he conducted himself in the recent by-election and also because of the fact he was successful in being returned in spite of the type of campaign which was carried on against him.

The election which took place in the constituency of Arm River was one which was surrounded by conditions which were somewhat different from an ordinary election. It was not absolutely necessary that there should have been a by-election in that constituency. Hon. George Scott, the retired member for Arm River, had served his constituency in the Legislature for twenty years and he had served the people of his constituency well. He had served the party to which he belonged well, but what is more important he had served the people of the whole Province of Saskatchewan as Chief Commoner for two different terms of this Legislature. By reason of the fact that he accepted the offer to become a civil servant with the Federal Government, Mr. Scott was not, thereby, excluded from membership in the Legislature or legally compelled to resign his seat.

There have been precedents in other Provinces where an individual already occupying a seat in the House of Commons, upon getting a position as a provincial official, was not required to give up membership in the Federal House. The most outstanding case of that nature in recent times was the case of Dr. Manion who had been a Minister in the Government of Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen and who was still a member of the House of Commons while holding a position with the Province of Ontario, drawing down a considerable salary as a Commissioner of the Liquor Board of that Province.

So, when Mr. Scott assumed a position with the Federal Government as Inspector of Taxation, it was not necessary that he should have resigned his seat. But the Liberal party, expressing its views through the Government of Saskatchewan and the Federal Government, and those views being agreed to by the member for Arm River himself, took the position that in cases of this kind, where a member of this Legislature is asked by the Federal Government to take a salary for a position which would require all his time, it would be proper for the member to resign in order to give all his time to that position. For that reason, Mr. Scott resigned and the seat was declared vacant.

It was not necessary, for another reason, that there should have been a by-election in Arm River. We, as every member realises, were drawing nearer and nearer to the end of the term of this Legislature to which we were elected in the year 1925. It is generally the custom of most of the Provinces to hold an election sometime during the fifth year of the Legislature; that is, sometime between the fourth year after the Provincial election and the fifth year, where the legal term is five years. Therefore, in all probability, sometime in the near future—though not so

soon as some have prophesied—there will be an appeal to the Province of Saskatchewan and there could not have been any more than two Sessions go by without the constituency being represented in the House had there been no by-election held.

It was not necessary, so far as the Government is concerned in order to retain a majority in the House for us to have an election in Arm River. That will be obvious to everyone in the House, and even to the leader of the Conservative party (*Mr. Anderson*). We could have conducted the affairs of this Legislature during the present Session and the next (if there is one) without any difficulty at all in securing a sufficient majority to carry the different matters of legislation which are to be proposed to the House. But, in spite of that fact the Government of this Province did not hesitate to call upon the people of Arm River to elect another representative to sit in the place of Mr. Scott, in order to take part in the passing of legislation in the interest of all the people of this Province as well as that of the constituency of Arm River.

There has been something said, tonight and this afternoon, with regard to the contest that did take place in Arm River and before I have finished with what I have to say, I intend to deal somewhat fully with the remarks made. I have considered the remarks I have to make very carefully since listening to the members (to the leader of the Progressive party in this House (*Mr. Tran*) and the leader of the Conservative Party (*Mr. Anderson*), as to whether or not it would be wise for me to go into any detail in connection with that by-election. Had either one of them stated, during the time they were addressing this House, that they were through with that type of campaign which was carried on there and during the past six months, I think I would have hesitated to the extent of not making any remarks at all about the Arm River by-election. But the remarks of the honourable gentlemen have convinced me that there is no intention on their part of doing anything different from what they have done during the time previous to this Session, in the way of attacks upon this Government.

As a matter of fact, some of the questions on the Order Paper would indicate that the same plan of campaign which was started in the Legislature at last Session and continued through the summer, is going to be pursued after the present Session is over. At the very first opportunity for questions to be put, there were questions asked of the same type as were printed on large sheets and spread throughout Arm River. This year, no doubt, there is the intention of again distributing these sheets with the answers upon them if, and when an election is brought on.

Something has been said with regard to personalities. Well, if I were to go back over the speeches delivered by the Conservative leader beginning with his first address of the Arm River Campaign, or better still, his address at his first meeting in the village of Dubuc, last spring, and review all his speeches down to the end of the Arm River by-election, and if I were to give the personal references that were dealt with by him, I would be addressing this House for a week. Just to indicate the extent to which this kind of campaign has been carried on in the Province of Saskatchewan, before I have finished my remarks, I am going to deal with sufficient numbers of personal references with regard to the members of this side and more particularly with regard to members of the Government. I will do this, I say, to indicate to every other member of the House that there has been a campaign of personal attack carried on throughout this Province during the greater part of the last six months and that that campaign is only being discontinued in order to lull into sleep members of this side of the House, until such time as the Opposition get out to the country again. Then all these statements with regard to Happyland, all these statements with regard to members on this side of the House, all these statements with regard to campaign funds, all these statements with regard to civil servants, will be carried up and down the country for the purpose of influencing the vote of the people of this Province—statements which I will show you as being absolutely false.

At this hour of the night it is not my intention to go at any length into these matters. I am going to ask leave to adjourn this debate at this time, to carry on at the next sitting of the House.

Continuing the debate on Friday, December 7, 1928, the Honourable Mr. Gardiner said:

Mr. Speaker,—The amendment moved by the Leader of the Opposition (*Mr. Anderson*) to the Address reads as follows:

“But we regret that there is no expressed desire or intention to deal with the question of stricter enforcement of the present liquor laws in the Province; to introduce remedial legislation for the purpose of clearing up troublesome and difficult situations in regard to the administration of our public schools; to encourage and foster a definite provincial immigration policy; to encourage the development of a wider provincial and foreign market for our immense lignite coal deposits, giving the assurance of a more extensive use of our own coal in Government institutions; to introduce a measure of Civil Service reform leading to the establishment of a Civil Service Commission, which shall be non-partisan; and to bring into effect reforms with reference to the administration of the office of the Official Guardian with a view to effecting greater economy.”

I intend, Mr. Speaker, at the end of the remarks which I have to make to ask this House to vote down this amendment for the following reasons:

Dealing with the first matter it is proposed to add to the Speech from the Throne: "But we regret that there is no expressed desire or intention to deal with the question of stricter enforcement of the present liquor laws of the Province." I wish to state that the Government of this Province believes that the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, who have been entrusted with the duty of enforcing all the laws of the Province, including the liquor law, are quite competent to deal with this law and to enforce it in the best manner possible. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police carried out the policing of this Province from 1905 to 1917 and during that entire period there was at no time any insinuation, charge or inference that this force would not properly enforce the laws of the Province of Saskatchewan. Because of conditions which arose during the War period necessitating the changing of the Mounted Police into a military force, the policing of this Province was done by a force organised under the Attorney General's Department, known as the Saskatchewan Provincial Police.

In the year 1927, it was decided by the Government of the Province that it was in the best interest of all concerned to bring the enforcement of the law in this Province under the administration of the Mounted Police. We made representations to the Federal Government and, as result of the negotiations that took place, it was finally agreed to place the enforcement of all law in this Province under the Mounted Police. That has been done and under the arrangements agreed to, as stated to the members at last Session, the enforcement has been taken over by the Mounted Police and we are told that they are now organising a special squad for the enforcement of the liquor laws which will satisfy at least the majority of the people of this Province.

The second part of the amendment is this: "To introduce remedial legislation for the purpose of clearing up troublesome and difficult situations in regard to the administration of our public schools." Well, of course, it is very difficult to know what the leader of the opposition had in mind when he used those words. I wish to review the last six months in this Province to determine what was definitely in his mind at the time the suggestion was made.

Remedial legislation has a peculiar meaning in this country. Does the teaching of religion require remedial legislation in our Province? No doubt the matter which the opposition had in mind was to bring before the people of this Province a suggestion that, if they were in power in this Province, they would do something different from what the present Government is doing in connection with the teaching of religion.

Unfortunately for the Opposition, since the last Session of the House there was a Conservative convention held in the City of Saskatoon. I am reminded that, on that occasion, the leader of the Progressive party (*Mr. Tran*) sent a telegram to the convention which was being held in the City of Saskatoon in which he agreed to the fullest possible co-operation with his Conservative friends in this regard. At the same convention, a gentleman who has been going about the Province talking on education and who was particularly active in Arm River, (*Mr. J. F. Bryant* of the City of Regina), was chairman of the Resolutions Committee and, as chairman, I presume he had a good deal to do with what was proposed by the Resolutions Committee to the main convention being held. At any rate he is the only person who is officially in a position to state definitely what discussions took place in the Resolutions Committee and by what means they arrived at the conclusion that was handed down to the Convention. But we have the result of the considerations that were carried on, in the report made to the convention by the Resolutions Committee, in this Section of the Conservative platform having to do with Education:

"Believing that our present educational system is too indefinite, is in many respects obsolete and out-of-date and has not kept pace, etc., the Conservative Party pledges itself to revise the whole educational system with a view to providing as far as possible—" and then they go on to enumerate, and under clause "F", they state this:

"The Conservative Party pledges itself as far as possible; 'F, to prohibit the use of any religious emblem in the public schools where there are mixed denominations and to prohibit the holding of school in buildings used for religious purposes, except temporarily.'"

I wish to state, Mr. Speaker, that is the only section in the platform of the Conservative party dealing with emblems in our schools, with the teaching of certain individuals in the schools or having anything to do with the religious aspect.

What does the section mean? Let us read the section again: "To prohibit the use of any religious emblem"; if it stopped there it would be perfectly clear that after this section had been converted into legislation, in no school in Saskatchewan would there be permitted any emblems having to do with religion. But they do not stop there. They go on to say: "Where there are pupils or ratepayers of mixed religious denominations and to prohibit the holding of public schools in buildings used for religious purposes except temporarily."

I wish to state that the section of the Conservative platform dealing with emblems and teachers in the schools and having to do with the buildings themselves, is in conformity with the practice of our Department of Education from 1905 to the present time.

*Mr. Anderson:* No, No!

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* "No!" my friend says. I will prove it. I would like to ask you this: How are you going to legislate to bring this into effect? Are you going to say that you would go over this Province and separate all our schools whether public or separate, under two groups? It certainly could not be done by law, and anyone reading this section carefully will admit that what it asks for cannot be done by law. The only way the spirit of that resolution can be carried out is not by legislation, but by regulation through local school boards all over the Province, and the Department is seeing to it that the spirit of that particular section is carried out. That is exactly what the Department of Education has been doing from 1905 to the present time.

Saskatchewan is not the only Province that believes that cannot be done by law. I have here in my hand a report taken from two Ontario newspapers of a case in that Province and it is being dealt with by no less a person than Hon. Howard Ferguson, Minister of Education and at the same time leader of the Conservative Government in the Province of Ontario. What is the question before him? Well, it is the same old question as we have in the Province of Saskatchewan, having to do with children in a school in the district of Sandwich in the Province of Ontario. This is a news item dated November 29, 1928, from Windsor:

"An absolute denial that the Roman Catholic catechism had ever been taught during school hours was made today by Miss Edna Murphy, the Catholic teacher of S.D. No. 6, Sandwich East, where a religious controversy is now raging. The majority of pupils at the school are Catholic, although it is not a separate school, and Miss Murphy does not deny that she did teach the catechism, but flatly says that she never did so during school hours, the teaching being confined to recess and to lunch hours, Miss Murphy claimed. She admitted, however, that some of the pupils might have studied their catechism at their desks in school hours, while they had a few minutes of spare time, and she claims that Inspector Thomas Preston was fully cognizant of the fact that she taught the catechism, although she says she told him she never used school time for that purpose.

"As for pictures which the Inspector ordered removed when Mrs. Violet Coombe, a Protestant, who has a small boy in the school, complained that there were pictures having a distinct Catholic meaning on the walls of the school, Miss Murphy denied that they were Catholic.

"Mrs. Coombe denies this. She claims that the pictures were of the Sacred Heart, the Virgin Mary and Christ, and there was also a crucifix on the wall. The latter statement, however, is denied by the teacher.

"Means taken by the School Board to quiet the fuss have been anything but successful. At the request of the board, Armand Racine of the firm of McTague, Clark & Racine, township solicitors, wrote to Mrs. Coombe and several other women, telling them to discontinue persistent visits to the school. These the women deny. Mrs. Coombe in particular says she was there but twice, once in September to take her little boy to the school, and once later when she went there with Inspector Preston to see about the pictures on the wall which the Inspector later ordered removed.

"Among the accusations made by Mrs. Coombe against the conduct of the school was that her little boy was forced to do obeisance to a Catholic priest by way of saluting him when he visited the school; that he was obliged to study the Catholic catechism, and that he had been obliged to repeat prayers in French.

"Miss Murphy says that French and English prayers are used, the prayer in question being the Lord's Prayer, and the English version the one authorised by the Department of Education."

I may state that, in the regulations of the Department of Education in Ontario, it is definitely stated that religious emblems are not to be placed upon the walls in public schools. This is a public school and the claim is that the crucifix was there and that religious pictures were upon the wall. The important thing about the whole matter is this. When Mr. Ferguson was asked his opinion with regard to it he stated this:

"There will be no action taken by the Provincial Board of Education in respect of the two religious pictures, said to be Roman Catholic in character, displayed in Public School Section No. 6, Sandwich East, Premier Ferguson stated yesterday. It was a purely local matter, he declared, and action had already been taken by the School Inspector."

It was "purely a local matter" to be dealt with by the school board of that district!

Now, there is a distinction as between the type of separate school which they have and the type of separate school we have in this Province, and I believe a regulation such as they have in Ontario would not satisfy the people of Saskatchewan and does not satisfy the conditions which exist in our schools.

The practice of the Department has been from 1905 to now, to investigate wherever a charge is made by anybody complaining about the activities of the school board having to do with religious matters, with the placing of nuns in the schools or with the placing of the crucifix on the walls of the school. An investigation is first carried on to find out whether or not the school

board is complying with the laws and the regulations governing the conduct of schools within this Province, whether they are separate or public schools. When they have satisfied themselves on that point, the investigation is carried further, to determine whether the spirit of the law is being carried out so as to get the best possible results in that district from the standpoint of the children in the school. If after careful enquiry into the whole matter it is found that the crucifix has been hung on the walls or that nuns have been engaged the school inspector goes into the district and if he finds the matters complained of interfering with the conduct of the school, the inspector then uses his best services in order to see that the source of irritation is removed. In nine cases out of ten—I will say in 999 cases out of 1,000—our school inspectors have been successful in seeing that no further disputes over this matter come up. Inside of a few weeks' time the matter is settled to the satisfaction of the people in the district, and there is seldom further trouble. I submit, therefore, it is inadvisable to do by law or regulation some of the things which are being suggested by members of the opposition. We are in the position in this Province today where we have less controversy in the local districts of our Province on these matters than any Province in the Dominion with the possible exception of the Province of Alberta, and to be in a position to state to the opposition that as large a percentage of our children are playing on a common schoolground as anywhere else in Canada. In answer to some of the remarks made yesterday, I would state that not one half of one per cent. of the children of the Province are in parochial or private schools.

*Mr. Anderson:* It has been stated that all the attempts have been made to satisfy the majority. Has any attempt been made to satisfy the minority?

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* I will indicate in two very different cases in this Province just what efforts have been made to satisfy the minority and I think I will be able to prove that we have done so.

I was stating that less than half of one per cent. of the children of this Province are in parochial or private schools, and I can state, further, that less than two per cent. of the school population of Saskatchewan is attending separate, parochial and private schools combined—a total of slightly over 4,000 out of the 220,000 pupils in the whole Province, attending in all three types of school.

What are the conditions in the old Province of Ontario? In the old Province of Ontario they have 716 separate schools and they are separate in every sense of the term—separate in this way, that when a public school inspector is appointed he is appointed by the County Council and when he is appointed to examine separate schools he is appointed by the Government. When he is appointed to inspect public schools, one third of his salary is paid by the County Council. When he is appointed as a separate school inspector his salary is paid by the Government. When the French language is taught in the schools, the school is not inspected by the ordinary inspector but by two inspectors, one being English-speaking and the other French, and these two inspectors actually count heads in the school to decide and determine as to how much of the time is to be given in that school for the teaching of French and how much for the teaching of the English language. We have nothing like that in this Province. When you begin to speak of remedial legislation to correct conditions existing in this Province it is well to remember that we already have the most acceptable conditions existing in any province.

I might review the Maritime Provinces, from which many of the people of this Province come. What are the conditions down there? Go into the City of Halifax and you will find school after school with the cross upon it, and when you ask the Superintendent of Schools in that Province whether or not that is a private school, he will tell you it is a public school. I was down there last summer and asked the Superintendent that question and he said: "This is a public school." I asked him who built the school, and he said, "The Roman Catholic Church built it." I said: "Who is operating it?" He said, "The school board of the City of Halifax."

I asked: "Who are the teachers in those schools?" and he said, "Some of them are lay teachers, some nuns, and some brothers." I said, "Are they all qualified to teach school through the Government institutions of the Province?" He said, "No." I asked: "What percentage of the teachers in the province are fully qualified by taking a regular course of instruction in a provincial institution?" and he said "About forty-two per cent." Well, I said to him: "Not all are properly qualified who are teaching in these schools?" He said, "Quite a number of those are qualified, but a number of them have not been trained in the State institutions of the Province of Nova Scotia." Then I said: "You have no separate schools here. Have you had any trouble in these matters?" He answered: "No, we have never had any trouble." He said it was a condition laid down at Confederation, expressed time after time by Joseph Howe, that the schools in the Province of Nova Scotia would be under the control of the local school boards to the extent which they are out in the Acadian settlements. The French people in the Acadian settlements decide what teacher they will have. The Scotch people over in Pictou decide what teacher they will have teaching their sons and daughters, and he said, because of that, these people get along very well. I said, "Why is that?" He said, "Because the divisions are more or less clearly defined. You can travel along the old Annapolis Valley and in one section of it you will find the Acadian settlement well defined while in another you will find the descendants of the U. E. Loyalist stock, each living by themselves and controlling their own school matters."

Another thing I found in the Maritime Provinces was that in the first four grades in the schools when the school board so decides, the French language is the language of instruction and that one hour is given to English. This is a possibility and actually carried out in many cases. Then I found, in addition, that in the last four grades, the English language is the language of instruction with one hour for French. It is a very different condition from what we have in Saskatchewan, under our law which our friends by "remedial legislation" want to change. Well, I do not think it is necessary that I should go into further detail to prove the strong position already held by Saskatchewan.

*Mr. Anderson:* Is it the idea of the Premier that this system is to be introduced in this Province?

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* Mr. Speaker, I am telling you what the actual conditions are in different parts of the Dominion of Canada in order to illustrate to the opposition that we have the best system of schools in the Province of Saskatchewan that can be found in the Dominion of Canada. I am going to tell him that leading men in the House of Commons who opposed the introduction of the Autonomy Bill in 1905 and took a very strong stand in connection with the type of legislation which was introduced in this Province and in the Province of Alberta, are willing to admit to-day that we have the best school law with respect to the teaching of language or religion that can be found in any province of the Dominion of Canada.

Not only have we a law outstanding in the Dominion but we have a school law in this Province that will stand the test of comparison with school laws of the United States. I had the good fortune to attend a public school there. I am proud to state that I attended public school in the United States. I received, as a matter of fact, the greater part of my education in the great republic to the South and when this discussion started in Saskatchewan advocating National Schools I was able to allow my mind to run back to the different States in which I had lived and to compare the conditions there with the conditions that exist here. Now, in one of the towns which happened to be a lumbering town in Michigan where I lived, there was a German Catholic school, a French Catholic school, an Irish Catholic school and a Polish Catholic school.

*Mr. Anderson:* What about the Scotch?

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* Possibly there was a Scotch, too, but they might have attended with the Irish. All these different types of school were not supported, it is true, from the taxes that were raised, but the important fact to my mind is that, in the Province of Saskatchewan, but two per cent. of our children are being educated in schools other than our public schools, and of that two per cent. no more than one half of one per cent. are being taught in parochial schools while the others are being taught in minority schools which are under the same law and regulations as our public schools.

I was somewhat interested in these reminiscences. I went down to the United States and visited the old states—the State of New York and the State of Massachusetts, and when I was sitting in the office of the Superintendent of Education in the City of Boston, I put this question: "How many parochial schools have you in the City of Boston; have you very many?" He said: "I could not tell you, but there is one thing I can tell you and that is that there are 89,000 children in the City of Boston being educated in private and parochial schools." I said, "How many are being educated in the public schools?" and he said, "107,000", and if you figure that out you will find that 45 per cent. of the children in Boston are being educated in Roman Catholic parochial schools. You will find, also, 18 per cent. of all children in the State of Massachusetts are being educated in parochial schools and in the Province of Ontario that 95,000 are being educated in the 716 separate schools and the private and parochial schools of that Province.

In comparison with that you have, in this Province, over 97 per cent., almost 98 per cent., of our children being educated in our common public schools, playing on the common playground and learning the one language, the same ideals and customs. I say our system will compare in the matter of religious instruction and language, law and regulation, with any school system on the North American Continent.

For that reason I would ask you to vote down that section which has to do with the amendment to the Speech from the Throne by the introduction of this clause: "That there is no remedial legislation for the purpose of clearing up troublesome and difficult situations in regard to the administration of our public schools."

I said, a few minutes ago, that I was going to deal with a few specific cases that my honourable friend had in mind,—I think the same cases as he referred to, day after day, in Arm River, cases having to do with the school in Wakaw and the school in Gouverneur. These, after all, are the only two cases in the Province of Saskatchewan from which there has been coming any considerable amount of controversy with regard to religious teaching in the school and the greater part of the controversy in respect to Gouverneur school came during the sitting of this Legislature, last January. I think it was on the 23rd of January, last, that I received a telegram indicating to me that if we did not see that the crucifix was down by the 26th day of January, all the Protestant children would be taken out of the school. Now, Mr. Speaker, with the House in session

and with the City of Regina situated some little distance from the hamlet of Gouverneur, in the middle of winter it is a rather big order to get down there and settle a question like that and do it in three days. But we had to do the best we could. We had Inspector Jean go down there. We wired down that he was coming and had them withhold action until he reached there. He took the matter up with the school board and the teacher, and got them to agree to take down the crucifix. When he arrived back in Regina, he reported the matter to me and I said: "That is quite satisfactory." Inside a day or two, however, I had another message from Gouverneur wanting to know when this crucifix was going to be taken down. We sent them word that we understood it had been done. Now I am going to follow quite closely here the record of the Department, because there has been considerable discussion with regard to this matter.

On January 27th, Mr. Jean visited the school and reported that the Board had given instructions to the teachers, in his presence, that in future no religious emblem should appear on the walls of the school. The teacher and the board assured Mr. Jean that the provisions of *The School Act* were being complied with regarding the teaching of French. On January 31st, Mr. Frank Jackson wired the Department that the crucifix was still being placed daily in the school by the teacher and again, on February 2nd, he wired to the same effect, adding that conditions were exactly as they had been before the matter had been brought to the attention of the Department. On February 7th, we received a letter signed by three trustees, suggesting that the dissension was caused by one or two trouble-makers, and requesting advice as to whether the placing of a crucifix in the school was sufficient reason for parents to keep their children away from school. The Department replied on February 9th that the Minister did not intend to give instructions one way or the other but requesting the trustees to give the matter of removing the crucifix their earnest consideration, in order that the school might be operated at its maximum efficiency. That was the effort we were making to see that the minority should get the consideration to which they are entitled.

*Mr. Anderson:* Not a very strong effort.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* You will see how strong the effort was before I am through. On the same date on which the Department wrote to the trustees, a letter to the same effect was written to Mr. Jackson, with the suggestion that, as the Department was not in a position to interpret the law it might be advisable for the complainant to seek legal advice with respect to the action of the board.

On February 9th, the trustees wrote the Department referring to a Mgr.—to whom, it was stated, an answer had been given officially stating that it was lawful for a school commission to install crucifixes in class rooms, and also suggesting that the Ku Klux Klan was creating the discord in the district. On February 13th, Mr. Jackson sent us a lengthy telegram advising that six children had been withdrawn from school for nearly two weeks and that the remaining Protestant children were being taken out that day, making a total of 15, and that they would not return until the crucifix was removed.

The action of the trustees in having the crucifix at the school was brought to the attention of the Provincial Police by James H. Chapman, of Gouverneur, in a letter dated February 22, but the file does not disclose that any steps were taken by the Police in the matter. A copy of a Crime Report of the Provincial Police, dated March 7, 1928, however, gives what purports to be an account of the hearing before a Justice of the Peace, on charges under Section 21 of *The School Attendance Act*, laid by the Truant Officer of the school district, against five persons. The J.P. dismissed the charges without costs. The report of the School Inspector, dated September 22, 1927, gave 31 present out of an enrolment of 41, while the inspector's report of April 24, 1928, shows 38 present out of an enrolment of 45. Previous to March 16th, the district was visited by a representative of myself as Minister. The crucifix was removed and the children returned to school, accounting for the fact the attendance was greater on the second than the first date. In addition, on March 16th, Mr. Ball, acting on my instructions, telephoned the chairman of the board with respect to the use of the crucifix in the school. The board was holding a meeting and proposed that the Protestant children should return to the school and that the crucifix should remain in the school for two or three days, after which it would be removed. When this was reported to me, I declined to accede to the proposal and I instructed Mr. Ball to telephone the board again advising them of this. Finally, the Board undertook to remove the crucifix immediately so that the Protestant children should have no further reason to absent themselves from school. This was on a Saturday, and the Protestant children were back in the school on the Monday morning.

Now it is necessary that this matter should be followed still more closely in order to show what has been said in the Province with regard to it, and what action had previously been taken by the Government. I am reading now from an article which appeared in one of the newspapers, the *Saskatoon Star-Phoenix*—No! I will take it from *The Regina Daily Star*, which, as you know, Mr. Speaker, is "Regina's Independent Newspaper." This is the account, "Exclusive to The Star," of what was told in one of the little schoolhouses in the constituency of Arm River, by no less a personage than Mr. Bryant himself. In this article he says this:

"An insidious programme for French and Roman Catholic political control is going on quietly but surely in Saskatchewan and the people are kept in ignorance of the true situation by the Government and the press. For a temporary political advantage, the Saskatchewan

Government has sacrificed the future of this Province and has sown seeds which will bear fruit in discord and strife in generations yet unborn. They have considered the success of the Liberal party of more importance than the future of the Province.

"Now French alone has the official sanction. It may be used as a language of instruction in the first grade in case of French speaking pupils—It may be used as a subject for a period of one hour when authorised by resolution of the school board—In many districts, the Roman Catholic French trustees have a French teacher and French is used as a language of instruction in all the grades in spite of the protests of the English and other nationalities in the district.

"The French people keep on agitating for equality of language rights in Saskatchewan, believing that the persistence of the agitation will wear down opposition and each concession weakly granted by the Government becomes a starting point for further encroachments."

No misrepresentation in the Arm River by-election, no insinuations were made! Listen!

"Bilingualism is fostered and encouraged by the Government. The French in Saskatchewan are claiming certain rights to the use of their language under the British North America Act. No such right exists in Saskatchewan. Canada is not bilingual. Quebec alone is bilingual under the Act. No other province other than Quebec can become bilingual except by the Act of its Government."

Now, Mr. Speaker, what I want to state in reply to that is: If there is any member of the Opposition or any Conservative candidate, including Mr. J. F. Bryant, who can bring to the attention of the Government one single instance in which the Department of Education has permitted the teaching of French or any other language outside of the law of this Province, I will place him in the position, by opening a constituency in this province, to contest that constituency on the issue which he raises. Then he goes on to say:

"The Government has permitted the use of French in the schools. They have authorised the use of the French text books used in the Parochial schools of Quebec for the teaching of religion to the members of their faith. These books were used for years. Then de-authorised on account of protests, again re-authorised because a comparatively few people were protesting and again withdrawn in the face of a storm of indignation as the facts leaked out."

Now, the leader of the opposition knows better than that. Mr. J. F. Bryant knows better than that. These books were not re-authorised as a result of any protest. These books never were re-authorised in full at any time, but only to the end of the term, with certain sections deleted. Both these gentlemen knew that because I have stated it in their presence on several occasions.

"The Government has appointed French school inspectors to inspect the French schools."

A statement that is absolutely false and contrary to any records that can be found in this Province. No inspectors of any nationality have been appointed by the Government to inspect French schools.

"Take the Gouverneur school district No. 4557 of Saskatchewan to see how the regulations work out. The French Catholics are in majority and the trustees are all French Catholics—a French teacher was hired—French was used as a language of instruction at times in all the grades. It was taught one hour each day. The Catholic religion was taught one-half hour. The English speaking pupils, 13 in number, lost one and one-half hours of instruction each day,"

which, of course, they should not do according to the law and regulations of this province.

"At the suggestion of the Inspector, Father Auclair, a crucifix was put in the front of the school near the blackboard and the flag which was originally there, was put on the back wall."

In connection with that statement, Mr. Speaker, let me say that Father Auclair never has been an inspector of schools in this Province and is not now.

"I heard Premier Gardiner misrepresenting the situation to the Conference of the United Church of Canada in Regina. He claimed that the Government had used its good offices to have the crucifix removed, that it was removed, the children were back to school, and all was peacefully settled. Premier Gardiner, as Minister of Education, had the power to remove the crucifix and he refused to act.

"The statement made by Premier Gardiner to the ministers of the United Church of Canada was quite different to the statement made by him at Dysart and Cupar a few days before. He is reported to have said at Lipton that he knew the crucifix was being displayed in the schools and, so far as he was concerned, it could stay there as he did not intend to take any steps to have it removed."

I have never at any time, at Dysart, Cupar or anywhere else, made any such statement. If I was so reported, then I can only say with my friends of the Opposition, that I am sometimes misquoted.



Mr. Bryant went on in that campaign and elsewhere to claim that it was as a result of an injunction that he took out, that the crucifix was removed. I have here all the legal documents in connection with that injunction. Do you know when it was started? It was started on the twentieth day of March and the crucifix was down three days before that action was even started.

No misrepresentation, no insinuations in Arm River?

With regard to the Wakaw case, it is still being dealt with by the Department and when the conclusion of the negotiations is reached there, the result will be as satisfactory to the people of Wakaw and to the people of the whole Province, as was the solution in the Hamlet of Gouverneur. I would say more with regard to it were it not for the fact that the discussion of this matter, either inside or outside the House, while the negotiations are being carried on, is very likely to create misunderstandings in the district. I believe, by the spring of this year, there will not be a single case, under the provisions we have in this Province for dealing with the teaching of religion or language, that our friends of the opposition will be able to hold up as an example of the troubles that arise under the school law of this Province.

*Note.—The Wakaw Separate School has since been dis-organised and an agreement reached.*

The next matter that is dealt with in this amendment has to do with "encouraging and fostering a definite provincial immigration policy."

We on this side of the House have always taken the position since 1905, that immigration was a matter that should be looked after by the Federal Government through its Department of Immigration, so long as the natural resources of the Province are under the control of the Federal Government. That policy has been continued down to the present time. We are hopeful that, in the very near future, the unalienated resources will be returned to this Province for administration and when that time comes, we will be prepared to establish as active an immigration policy as any Saskatchewan Government could have. I may say that no Provincial Government can have full control over the ports of entry at Vancouver, Halifax or the Port of Montreal through which comes the greater number of the immigrants from overseas. The Federal Government can and does control entry at these ports, but once the immigrants have entered Canada we cannot prevent them from passing our borders whether on the Manitoba side or the Alberta side, and for that reason, for all time to come, it will be necessary for the Federal Government to exercise control over immigration.

The next point in the amendment has to do with coal: "To encourage the development of a wider provincial and foreign market for our immense lignite coal deposits, giving the assurance of a more extensive use of our coal in Government institutions."

The Government has had a very definite policy on this matter for many years. It has been recognised by everyone who knows the nature of the coal that is taken from the mines in the southern part of the Province, that about 35 per cent. of the coal is water. So, in shipping coal with that percentage of moisture you are placing the person who is going to use it at a disadvantage in the burning of it, as compared with others using other coals on the market.

We have been attempting in this Province, in the first instance with the assistance of the Federal and Manitoba Governments, and latterly alone, to devise a scheme whereby the water and other elements not necessary in a first class coal, can be dispensed with, and briquettes made of that coal which it would be possible to place upon the market at a price to compete with Alberta coal. We are glad to be able to report that, during the present week, the endeavour on the part of this Government has eventually met with success. After Christmas, British capitalists who have invested \$600,000 (half of that capital being obtained from British Isles) in remodelling and equipping the plant at Bienfait, completed erection of their plant, and are now in a position to proceed to produce briquettes at the plant at the end of this year. At first the briquettes will be produced at the rate of 100 tons a day, and it is probable that the output will be increased to 200 tons a day, within a month. In other words, there will be produced from the time the plant starts and the Spring, somewhere between 15,000 and 20,000 tons of briquettes at the mine-mouth at Bienfait. We have entered or are entering, into an arrangement with the Company whereby the Government will take the entire production of the plant in the initial stages, and will consume the same at the different heating plants of Government buildings in the Province. That arrangement has been, more or less, completed with representatives of the Company. The thing we emphasised and that weighed with us most was that it is in the interests of the people of this Province to have this industry established, and that it is a very important thing not only for the Province of Saskatchewan but for the whole of Canada, that we should encourage British capital to come here and have British capitalists satisfied with their investments here.

When the proposition was made to us that these people were prepared to expend \$600,000 on the Bienfait plant to fit it for the manufacture of this product, we stated to the Company that, on the day that expenditure was completed, we would turn over the Bienfait plant to them at an initial price of one dollar—the same price, by the way, that some of those farms were sold for. But this is not only the initial price. This is to be the final price for, if they turn out from the Bienfait plant 100 tons a day for twelve months, they are to get the entire result of the expenditure made on the plant by the Federal, Manitoba and Saskatchewan Governments, without further cost.

Now that they have fulfilled their part of the contract and expended that money on the plant, the Government has undertaken to take the entire output of the plant for consumption

in the public institutions in the Province until such time as they have established themselves in such a way as to warrant their putting those products upon the general market. That is the effort we have put forth not only to see that Saskatchewan coal is used in the different public buildings, but also to see to it that Saskatchewan coal can be readily used for commercial purposes and in the homes all over the Province. For that reason, I am going to ask the House to vote down this amendment in that particular.

Then he (*Mr. Anderson*) is going to introduce a measure of Civil Service Reform. I am going to content myself with reading to the House a letter which was written to me, unsolicited, by no less a personage than Mr. Fred Telford, whom anyone who knows anything about civil service knows, is perhaps the greatest authority on Civil Service organisation on this Continent. He is an authority who works under the organisation in the United States, known as the Bureau of Public Administration, Mills Building, Washington, D.C. In his letter dated October 5, 1928, he writes as follows:

"I have recently returned from an extensive trip I made in order to visit the various civil service commissioners in the western part of Canada and the United States and to attend the meeting of the Assembly of Civil Service Commissions which was held in Denver early in September. I had the privilege of spending one day in Regina and talking over matters of mutual interest with Mr. P. G. Ward, your own civil service commissioner. I formed a very favourable impression of the work Mr. Ward is doing and while I have no doubt that you appreciate his efforts more than it is possible for an outsider like me, yet I feel impelled to write you briefly, setting forth some of my own observations and conclusions.

"In a service as large and as geographically scattered as the Province of Saskatchewan, it is always necessary in order to bring about anything like uniform and equitable treatment of the employees and in order to see that the considerable sums of money contributed by the tax payers for the payment of the salaries of public servants is well spent to have some form of central control. It seemed to me from my observation that this control in the Province of Saskatchewan is being exercised with considerable discretion. You have your positions classified and a salary scale for each kind of work which are the first steps in any intelligent attack on the personnel problem in a public or private organisation. You pay less attention to the formal selection of employees than is common in some of the British Dominions and in the United States, but at the same time you are taking steps to assure the employment of the right kind of persons. I was particularly interested in the work being done to fix the hours of work, to regulate salary adjustments, to control the size of the civil establishment, and to provide for such working conditions that the employees can do their work effectively. Mr. Ward displayed a considerable interest in service or efficiency ratings in order to get some fairly accurate estimate of the methods by which the various employees are performing their work on the job and we spent some time in going over the difficulties involved in work of this sort. I was much interested, too, in the retirement system which has been installed; this is a subject in which I am much interested and regarding which I am not well informed and the opportunity to learn about the work being done in Saskatchewan was to me most illuminating.

"I was astonished to note the low cost at which this administrative control over personnel problems and work is being done. It seems to me you are getting a large return for the money being spent in this fashion and that you would fare still better if you spent still more. In particular, it seems to me that you would be justified in increasing your expenditures somewhat for the purpose of doing more intensive work in the recruiting of your personnel and in working out and installing a system of service or efficiency ratings so as to tell better than is possible at present how well the persons selected are performing on the job.

"I should like to repeat that I am writing this letter with some diffidence but at the same time with the feeling that perhaps you would like to have a brief account of the observations and conclusions of an outsider, who for the best part of one day was given every opportunity by Mr. Ward to observe the work being done. The day to me was both interesting and profitable and I cannot forbear from expressing to you my appreciation not only of the courtesy shown me but my feeling that the Civil Service Commissioner's work is of such character that you may well feel proud of it."

Now, an ordinary person would not learn very much about the administration in one day but an expert such as Mr. Telford is acknowledged to be, would learn more in one day than most persons would in a month. You will note that he was "astonished at the low cost of administrative control over personnel problems." In other words, we are not over-spending in this Department to get results, but, he said, we would get better results if we were to spend more money on it. Well, now, I think that, possibly, that gentleman is a better authority on civil service control than even the leader of the Conservative Party.

Finally, we are asked to add to the Speech from the Throne "to bring into effect reforms with reference to the administration of the office of the Official Guardian with a view to effecting greater economy." If the honourable gentleman has been reading the newspapers this last week he would have read that the matter was being considered by the Government and that the Attorney General, sometime during this Session, would discuss this matter.

For all these reasons, Mr. Speaker, I am going to ask the members on both sides of the House to vote down this amendment.

*(Amendment voted upon and negatived upon a division).*

MONDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1928.

*The Honourable Mr. Gardiner*, continuing in the debate on the Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne, said:

Mr. Speaker,—I feel quite confident that each and every member of the House will agree with me when I state that all members are pleased, this afternoon, to have on the floor of the House no less a personage than the man who sat as Prime Minister of the Province for four years of its political existence. We have learned to honour him in this House because of his ability as a member of the Government. We have also learned to honour him as the leader of the Government of the Province and, since he left us to perform further duties in the Dominion House and in the Federal Government, we have learned to know him as a man who represents Saskatchewan in a manner most acceptable to the great majority of the people of this Province. We are pleased at the same time to have with him two of the members of the Federal House who have represented their constituencies since 1925 and represented them well.

The occasion upon which we have met is one which has still within it considerable concern to the people of our Province because of the continued severe illness of the King which was referred to by all speakers in the earlier stages of this debate.

On this occasion, Mr. Speaker, I have no desire to refer further to the Mover (*Mr. McIntosh*) and Seconder (*Mr. Waugh*) of the Motion otherwise than to recall the fact that I had referred at the beginning of my address to the attitude assumed by both these men when presenting the motion now before the House, and in this connection I would refer to the speech of the Seconder—to certain remarks of his which have been objected to by the leader of the Conservative opposition in the House (*Mr. Anderson*) and upon which some comment has been made by the leader of the Progressive party (*Mr. Tran*) in the House.

I am going, for a few moments, to deal with some of the comments of the Progressive leader, the member for Pelly, who stated that a great deal of time is lost because of Party discussions having to do with matters which have taken place between sessions outside of the House and also having to do with matters merely because they are party matters.

I might state that the matters in the discussion referred to were not particularly party matters. That is, it is not a matter of party consideration at all that certain individuals throughout the length and breadth of Canada, at different times and different places, have committed misdemeanors in the conduct of elections which are not within the law of the Province concerned, or of the Dominion. These acts have been committed not only in Saskatchewan but outside of the Province of Saskatchewan as well. As a matter of fact there is never an election held, whether it be a by-election or a general election, in which there is not some claim made by either one side or the other, or by some party concerned, that somewhere the party winning the election has committed some act in the election which is not in conformity with the law governing elections in the Dominion of Canada.

The election which has just taken place in Saskatchewan is no exception to the rule, but in spite of all that was heard in the days immediately following the election, no action has been taken by the Conservative leader or his candidate to bring on a recount in the Constituency or to make any charges against any one of those concerned with the conduct of that particular election. But to get back to the point. This matter of the breaking of the election law is not a matter that is confined to any one political party in the Dominion of Canada. I could take you back over the entire history of the Dominion of Canada, right back to Confederation, and draw from the annals of all parties and recall to you incident after incident indicating the truth of the statement I have just made. I am not going to do that but I will refer to this:

Since the formation of the Province of Saskatchewan there have been three elections where the claims of the Opposition Party concerned have been taken either to the courts and have been decided upon, or have come before a committee of this House. One of those was in the very first election in Saskatchewan, in the northern part of the Province in the constituency of Prince Albert. I think there was a different name given to it then; however, it was west of Prince Albert, which I think went by the name of West Prince Albert, afterwards the constituency now known as Shellbrook. In connection with the conduct of that election it was maintained that certain men had voted who had no right to vote. The matter was tried and a conclusion was reached, and when the conclusion was reached the Government of the day under Hon. Walter Scott—which is unique in political history so far as this Province is concerned, and I think, also, so far as the Dominion is concerned—made it possible for the Opposition Candidate who had contested the election, without any further test taking place, to take his seat. As a result of that action, Mr. Donaldson became a member of this House and remained a member until the year 1917.

In addition to that, there have been two other cases. One of these cases had to do with another political party in the Province. It was stated the other day by the leader of the Conservative Party, that his party has no political past in this Province to be concerned about.

Well, now, it just so happens that the member for North Qu'Appelle, who happens to be the leader of the Government at the present time, became a member as a result of the second election case. That case was brought on following the election of 1912. That election was contested in the courts and the candidate who was successful tendered his resignation, admitting, in doing so, that illegal practices had been indulged in by his party in the constituency of North Qu'Appelle.

*Mr. Anderson:* Not necessarily!

*Premier Gardiner:* Not necessarily, says my honourable friend, but he did it, and did it over his own signature, which, as a matter of fact, I have in my possession. Now I contested the election following that, and if I were going to argue in this House that because the Conservative party had perpetrated certain acts contrary to the election laws of this province therefore every Liberal candidate who runs in the future should be elected, and we could go around claiming that we were not acting upon suspicions when we so argue, but upon a proven case—then there should never be returned to this House in the future anybody but a Liberal candidate. But that is not sound argument. The people of North Qu'Appelle dealt with it in the by-election which was held, by returning the Liberal candidate to this House and, so far as the Liberal candidate and the people of Saskatchewan were concerned, the incident was a closed book to the people of this Province.

Then we had another case where a member of another party was brought before the courts in connection with an election which happened to be a Federal election. This time it was a member of the Federal House, a member of the Progressive Party, and he too was unseated as a result of the practices in the election which took place, and which brought the matter into the courts.

Well, now, I only indicate these cases to you to show that the guilt of breaking election laws cannot be confined to any one political party. As a matter of fact, the breaking of law is largely a matter of the human frailties of which we sometimes speak too lightly and of which, at other times, we make too much. I come back to the statement made in connection with a certain election in this province in the year 1925—a general election. You may say that that is not of very much concern to the people of this Province. You may say that the thing is gone by and we should forget it, and, I believe, as a result of the fact that the matter was not brought before the courts or a special committee of this House that there should be a great deal of attention given to that contention. Before we come to deal with the detail of the matter, I draw it to the attention of the House, Mr. Speaker, that we have had incidents in different provinces of the Dominion under different party leadership that bear me out when I state that no party can claim unto itself all of the political manipulation nor can any party claim unto itself all of the political truthfulness and all the political legality of action in the conduct of elections in the Dominion as a whole or in the Province.

As reported in the press today, the member for Pelly last night made the statement that too much of the time of this House was taken up by party discussion and that therefore we should have a change in the form of representation from that which we have in the Legislature of the Province of Saskatchewan. In that connection I only wish to state that there is no House in the Dominion of Canada which takes less time in doing the business before the House than this Legislature in the Province of Saskatchewan. The records of the other Legislatures will bear me out in that, and one of the reasons we take much less time is to be found in the method under which the discussions on the Address and the questions arising from it, have been carried on since this Assembly was first formed. It has been the practice in this House to clear away all contentious matters before we get down to the actual business of the House. In this House we have always made it the practice to deal definitely and specifically with any charges that have been made, with any charges that have arisen in connection with a by-election, with any charges that have been made in public addresses made in the time intervening between the two sessions when members were not in a position to deal with and discuss the matter as it arose. Thus, at the end of the debate, we are in this position in this House that we can go on with the actual business of the House, having cleared out of the way all reason for any further controversy of that kind.

Believing that to be the proper procedure to follow, I intend to deal with some of the matters brought into the discussion the other day by the leader of the Opposition. I do not intend during the time I shall take in the House, to bring this debate down to any level for which I should be justly criticised by any either inside or outside of the House, but in order to justify my speaking to this House, I must give consideration to some of the criticisms of the Government and answer those accusations in a manner that cannot be misunderstood.

In the first place, I have before me an account of a speech delivered by the leader of the Conservative Party in this House the other day, as reported in "*The Regina Star*," Saskatchewan's Independent newspaper, and in that account I read this: "Let me tell this House and the member for Arm River that there were no misrepresentations, no insinuations, and no statements of untruth on our side in that campaign." That is one statement. Then it goes on:

"If any member of the Party I have the honour to lead was to circulate such slogans as the member has cited, I would be as strong as he in my condemnation. It is the first I ever heard of any such thing. I never saw nor heard any such statement as he asserts throughout the whole campaign in Arm River. Neither the member for Arm River nor

any of his side of the House can point a finger at us and say that we are guilty or that they are innocent. I believe the honourable member to be a man of integrity and honour, but I know for a positive fact that men and women supporters of his in that election carried on a whispering campaign of scandal directed at our candidate and myself. I think the leader of the Government had better be prepared to get up and denounce such tactics on the part of the great machine he has built up around himself."

Now, Mr. Speaker, that is the introduction to remarks which I am going to deal with, but before dealing with those remarks, may I say that members on this side of the House who took part in that campaign in the country, spent a great deal of time in enunciating the policies of the Government of this Province, in stating to the people what the efforts of the Government have been, and were careful at all times not to state anything in connection with the private or public life of any person that cannot be substantiated by actual facts. In replying to the insinuation that some members of this Government should be more careful as to what they state, I wish to say that there is no member of this Government who has any reason to feel unnecessarily concerned about any stories which may be circulated, truthfully, in this Province either as to his public administration or with regard to his personal life.

Then comes this statement—reading from the same newspaper:

"Speakers, including the head of the Government have gone up and down the land trying to poison the minds of the people against me. But I throw the charges back in their teeth.

"The Premier, in denying the truth of charges I have made, has even said that they were false."

Well, Mr. Speaker, I repeat again that some of them were false, and when I read them to the House this afternoon, I think members will agree that I had some reason for saying that some at least, of these statements were false.

Let me deal with this statement—It is from a report in the *Regina Leader* of October 9, 1928, of an address delivered by the leader of the Conservative Opposition:

"As head of the Government (and he is here quoting remarks made by myself.)—As head of the Government it has been my effort to draw all of our people closer together and to follow the lead of those men who believe in unity and the building up of a spirit of Canadianism of which we can all be proud."

Then he goes on to comment on that statement. And what does he say, Mr. Speaker?

"These," said Dr. Anderson, "were the statements of a man who has done more to create racial and religious strife and discord throughout the length and breadth of Saskatchewan than any other single individual since 1905; these are the words of a man who got up in the Legislature at Regina and wildly struck out in every direction that would tend to encourage discord and strife; these are the words of a man who went up and down this Province for two long months, raving and ranting and frantically uttering wild and illogical statements that have caused thousands of thinking men and women to desert the party he leads."

These are the words of the leader of the Opposition not only with regard to myself but they are a repetition of his remarks with regard to previous heads of the Government in this Province. I am beginning to wonder just why our friends of the Opposition take such an attitude—talking themselves out of existence by continuing to repeat that kind of thing. I can go back over the remarks made by certain members on the Opposition side of the House and more particularly the remarks of the leader of the Opposition himself, dealing with these particular matters. I would remind myself of the fact that he has been prophesying the defeat of this Government ever since he became leader of the Conservative Party in 1924.

Listen to this: In an excerpt from the *Moose Jaw Times*, July 23, 1924, (a year before the election), under the heading "The Conservative Point of View," reference is made in an article "to changes in opinion that are becoming apparent among many of those who have for long been supporters of the Liberal administration at Regina."

Then speaking at Moose Jaw on October 15, 1924, Dr. Anderson expressed himself in these words:

"Many were flocking to the standard of the party; many who were supporters of the present administration. In the district through which the speaker had travelled a vast majority were opposed to the present Provincial administration. Many promises had been made and had not been kept, many pledges were not redeemed and the people had become disappointed."

And on February 27, 1925, in an address, and repeated again in "The Conservative Point of View" in the *Moose Jaw Times*, I find it stated by the leader of the Conservative party that at the next election a "great wave of opposition that is passing over the Province will, if given a few months longer, completely engulf the Government." And they have been prophesying that ever since 1924.

*Mr. Anderson:* It won't be long now!

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* It won't be long now! Here are his words at the time:

"Judging from present signs there is likely to be an early appeal. If an election is brought on before seeding it will be because the Government fear to wait longer. If they wait longer their chances of success will daily grow less hopeful. The great wave of opposition that is passing over the province will, if given a few months longer, completely engulf them."

Well, we gave them a few months longer and what happened? The result is here, Mr. Speaker. We see fifty-three members sitting on this side of the House and only four sitting in the centre group opposite—yes, only three were returned actually at that time, the fourth being elected later. Now we are getting these prophesies again as to what is going to happen in the Province of Saskatchewan and I only need say to my honourable friend that as long as he continues to make prophesies of that kind and we continue to benefit from them as we have, we will still be seated on this side of the House and will have no cause to complain.

My honourable friend has said there was no misrepresentation in connection with the campaign. Remarks were made, too, as to who was responsible for the feelings stirred up in this Province with regard to racial and religious questions. I want to give members of this House a sufficient number of illustrations to show where that kind of thing really originated.

Speaking at Melfort in May, 1924, as reported in the *Melfort Journal* of May 6th, Dr. Anderson referred in certain terms to the school system of the Province. I do not think I need quote the first part of the article which is to the effect that the leader of the Conservative party had taught school in that part of Saskatchewan situated between the present towns of Melville and Yorkton somewhere around 1908. In the school district where the honourable gentleman taught there were sixty-five pupils, none of whom could speak English, but within two years they could all speak English fairly well and that two of his old pupils were University graduates. As a result of having taught school, the honourable gentleman is going about describing that particular district in which he taught for fourteen months and taking unto himself the credit for the ability of the boys and girls in that part of the Province.

Now that district is only one of 4,822 in the Province which are doing the same type of work as that district is doing and with the same results, and school districts have been doing so ever since 1905 insofar as a school district can. The fact the honourable gentleman taught in that district for fourteen months has not been the sole reason for some boy making a success and going to the University. That is due to the inherent capabilities of the boy himself and a boy of any other nationality, similarly endowed and afforded opportunities of becoming a real citizen of Canada, would do as much. What does the honourable gentleman go on to say?—This was not in the Arm River by-election or during any election campaign, but back in 1924. This is what he says:

"But conditions in other parts are deplorable and it was up to the Conservatives to remedy them. Schools were being closed down for lack of funds and there must be something wrong when a Government allows that. In one particular locality of alien population there was a reign of terrorism going on, blackmailing and buildings being burnt down, the rural municipality's books were in the hand of the auditors and a solicitor had been threatened violence if he did not leave the town."

I could go on reading page after page \* \* \*

*Mr. Anderson:* Not interested!

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* It will be more interesting to the honourable gentleman later on.

There are many other steps in the development of that feeling in this Province, Mr. Speaker, and, were it not for the fact that I do not wish to discuss activities which took place when Hon. Mr. Dunning was leader of the Government and before the honourable gentleman had the honour of being leader of the Opposition in this House, I might go into more intimate detail with regard to that. I will content myself with reading to you a statement which appeared in the editorial columns of a leading Conservative newspaper following the election in this Province in 1926 in the Federal Constituency of Prince Albert:

"The only candidate who could carry a typical Saskatchewan Liberal constituency against the Liberal candidate, Hon. W. L. M. King, or other anti-Conservative candidate, would be the Kaiser, the Crown Prince or Hindenburg. And not one of the three was nominated in Prince Albert."

*Mr. Anderson:* Who said that?

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* The *Toronto Telegram*.

*Mr. Anderson:* You can't blame us for that.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* The honourable gentleman says "You can't blame him for that." I am trying to indicate to this House where this kind of thing had its origin, by quoting from papers belonging to the party he happens to lead in this Province, remarks made by members of that party in this Province and in other parts of Canada. I might read the comment of a very important weekly—The *Yorkton Enterprise*, of February 16, 1926. Here is what it says:

"The result (in Prince Albert) indicates that the electors of Prince Albert deeply resented the scurrilous personal attacks made on the Premier by some of his opponents during the campaign. These tin-horn politicians, who substitute personalities for political arguments, would be well-advised in future to confine their efforts to a section of the country where such tactics are understood. The West long ago discarded these degrading methods. Westerners prefer issues to personalities, reason to abuse."

Again, in the *Winnipeg Free Press*, which had for a number of years previous to that conducted a very strong campaign for the Progressive party in this western country, we read:

"It was a typical *Toronto Telegram* campaign, concerned more with the old animosities, prejudices and passions than with the political issues of the day. It smacked of the theory held in certain quarters in Toronto that if somebody doesn't agree with you he must be a traitor and deserves to be branded as such. It was the sort of campaign that has been a great success at times, in certain districts of Ontario where the mentality of the electors can be gauged by the fact that the *Toronto Telegram* is their favourite newspaper."

Well, we had all that introduced in Saskatchewan in 1926 and from that source. If my honourable friend is not satisfied his party is not connected closely enough with it, may I come a little closer home and deal with certain statements made by a gentleman who went on a speaking tour addressing meetings in the most outstanding cities of Western Canada. I speak of Dr. Edwards, Member of Parliament for Frontenac-Addington. Listen to this:

"Government policy has resulted in bringing to Canada large numbers from Continental Europe whose traditions and background make their assimilation difficult while the movement from the British Isles has been discouraged by vexatious and petty restrictions."

There has been carried on an investigation of these accusations and, according to the report of the Committee of the Dominion House, unanimously reached, these statements are not borne out by the facts. Then he goes on to say this:

"Roman Catholic organisations have been specially favoured while the activities of Protestant societies have been hampered by petty objections and unnecessary 'red tape.'"

"Having regard to back history and present-day events, the words of that great statesman, Sir A. T. Galt, expressed in 1877, were prophetic. He said:

"The conclusion is inevitable, from the nature of the means employed, that a deep-laid plan exists for the complete subjugation of Lower Canada to ecclesiastical rule with the view of extending the same baneful influence hereafter to the whole Dominion. In this view the importance of early and stern opposition to the scheme now being gradually disclosed becomes the duty of all good citizens, be they Catholic or Protestant."

That opinion, expressed in 1877, is quoted again by a prominent Conservative speaking in Western Canada, as justification for the statements he is making regarding both religion and immigration.

Now you ask me who has been responsible for the introduction of this discussion into the politics of Saskatchewan and why these ideas have been introduced into the discussion of public questions in Western Canada? I believe that with these statements before us, we in this House can come to the conclusion that these are the men, and these the periodicals in the different parts of Canada (such as, for example, the *Toronto Telegram*) that are responsible for the introduction of that discussion into Western Canada.

I am going to quote one more statement made, according to the *Toronto Mail and Empire*, by the leader of the Conservative party in this Province during the visit he made to Kingston, Toronto and Hamilton, a year ago. He is reported in the *Mail and Empire* of September 21st, 1927, as saying:

"If steps are not taken to bring out the British born, the aliens are going to win out, according to the viewpoint of Dr. J. T. M. Anderson, leader of the Conservative party in Saskatchewan. For he knew of one case when a civil servant, in the employ of the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture went about the Polish sections of that Province and learned of openings for three or four hundred immigrants. Then he went overseas with his wife as guests of the C.P.R., and arranged for the Poles to come to Canada."

These are the statements, Mr. Speaker, which have introduced this discussion into the public affairs of the Province of Saskatchewan. Someone says: "Why have you got this discussion in the Province of Saskatchewan and not in other Provinces of Canada?" Well, I say the reply is this: That this thing was first introduced into the politics of the Province of Saskatchewan when the present leader of the Conservative Party became leader of that party, and emphasised later when he entered this House as the quotations I have read will make evident. Never before, in my whole experience in this House, stretching back over fourteen, almost fifteen years, has the question of education been discussed in this House on the level it has been brought down to during the last four years; that is, until the member for Saskatoon became leader of the Opposition in this House.

Mr. Anderson: You haven't had half enough yet.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* Maybe not! But there's more coming. Coming back to the election which recently took place and to the assertion that there were no misstatements made, Mr. Speaker, that there were no misrepresentations, nor insinuations and no statements that could be called untruthful; I am going to read now from the *Regina Daily Star*. This was said at Imperial:

"Dr. Anderson broke new ground when he charged Premier Gardiner with being a party to forcing Protestant children being taught by garbed clericals in public schools of the Province with religious emblems on the walls, and that, when the Protestants were driven to erect a separate school, the Jews and Orthodox Greeks in the district were refused their plea to send their children to the Protestant separate school and were compelled instead to send them to the public school where they were taught by Catholic clerics."

That is a pretty clear statement of what the honourable gentleman intended to say. What about the truthfulness of that statement? What about the misrepresentations in it?

Well, to begin with, he was speaking of a school at Wakaw, and there never, at any time, has been a crucifix upon the walls of that school; never, at any time. It states here, "in the public schools of the Province with religious emblems on the walls"—and we generally take the religious emblems, in a discussion of that sort, to mean the crucifix as it is the one that has been discussed most. Then it says, "being taught by garbed clericals and that when the Protestants were driven to erect a separate school, the Jews and Orthodox Greeks were refused their plea to send their children to the Protestant separate school and were compelled instead to send them to the public school."

Now, Mr. Speaker, the conditions in connection with all our schools are so clearly laid down that even had I wished to do such a thing as is said in this statement, I could not have done it. What are the facts?

The children spoken of have not been in the public school at Wakaw. These children have been going to the Protestant separate school. The question that has arisen is as to whether or not the taxes of the people who are not of the Roman Catholic faith and who are not Protestants, should be paid to the Protestant separate school. The law says that the taxes must go to the public school. The Government cannot change it. The Department of Education cannot change it—and these children were never forced at any time, to be taught by clerics in religious garb. No misrepresentations? No statements of untruth? No insinuations? Well, Mr. Speaker, I believe they are all contained in that one article that I have read; that is, in the speech of the leader of the Opposition.

I could go on and read some more. I am not going to do so, but I will confine myself to the statement made to newspapers on the day of polling in that particular election and which appeared on the day after the election. This statement was made to different newspapers in this Province by the leader of the Opposition, in an interview:

"'The voice of Arm River is the Voice of Saskatchewan,' said Dr. J. T. M. Anderson, leader of the Conservative Party in Saskatchewan, at Craik, last night. 'Mr. Gardiner and his cabinet here, and a large number of the members of his party, addressing meetings in rural and urban centres, frantically endeavoured to ward off a large Conservative majority.

"It will not escape the attention of the public that a small poll at Lakeside, near Holdfast, that a majority of the electors are Roman Catholics and are working hand in glove with Premier Gardiner."

The vote at Lakeside was 114 for Dr. Waugh and 6 for Mr. Adrain. No contention that a "Vote for Waugh was a Vote for the Church of Rome!" Why then, is this remark in the statement of the leader of the Conservative Party? And he goes on:

"'The Conservative party believes in a square deal for all, but they don't believe in getting down on their knees to solicit the support of any individual or organisation whose aims and objects do not emphasise the Union Jack and 100 per cent. Canadian Citizenship.'"

That statement is another statement which indicates that the member for Arm River was perfectly within his rights, the other day, when he complained of the campaign that was carried on against him.

*Mr. Anderson:* Speaking on a matter of privilege; I am taking this opportunity to state that I did not say what has just been read.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* The honourable gentleman has been a long time in denying—

*Mr. Anderson:* When a member of this House makes an assertion, I think the rules of the House demand that he be not insulted by his word being doubted.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* As a matter of fact, I have not yet had an opportunity to insult the honourable gentleman, or otherwise. What I was going to state was this: That the honourable gentleman has been a long time denying a statement that has gone the length and breadth of Canada, and I will leave it at that.



In order to clarify the remarks I had to make in connection with this matter, I want to read one other comment—not from the honourable gentleman himself, but from another gentleman, in order to indicate that not only the leader of the Opposition was making speeches of this type but that others of his followers were doing likewise.

I have here in my hand the statement of no less a person than the President of the Conservative Party in the City of Regina and Conservative candidate in Lumsden (*Mr. J. F. Bryant*) to the effect that *The Saskatchewan Act* was passed at the dictation of the Catholic hierarchy of Quebec as a means of assuring the dominance of the Church of Rome in Canada. Then he goes on to say, speaking on October 24, 1928, as reported in the *Regina Daily Star*:

"The issues in this campaign were not made by the Conservative Party. The issues in this campaign were not made by the Liberal Party. They were made by the Church of Rome, and I thank God tonight that He has given me clear vision to see the issues as they really are. I would be untrue to my forefathers and to the Empire in which I was born, if, seeing these issues clearly, I failed to place them before you through lack of personal courage or from fear of personal consequences.

"There has been no clearer issue on the page of history. The Liberal Party at Ottawa and the Gardiner Government in Saskatchewan have lined up with the forces of the Church of Rome in this struggle for supremacy."

That is a pretty clear charge, Mr. Speaker. Anyone can understand it—and yet my friend gets up and says that they did not introduce the discussion of that question into the Arm River by-election, and that they have not been responsible for placing before the people of this Province ideas that are contrary to what are known to be the real facts of the situation. Then he goes on to say that "bilingualism is fostered and encouraged" by the Government and that French priests have been appointed as inspectors of schools.

No untruths? No insinuations? There has not been a school inspector, at any time, appointed in this Province to inspect French schools separate from any other schools. Our school inspectors all are appointed for the purpose of inspecting all the schools of the district in which they are placed, whether occupied by French, Scandinavian, Russian, German, or people of any other nationality—or, I should say, by children born of parents who came from these countries but who, born in this country, are not of these countries but of the Dominion of Canada.

I do not think I need read anything more in this connection to leave the fact with you that this whole question was introduced by the speakers of the party to which I have been referring. Further, I would say this: That in the discussion of the future, I hope that we will be in a position to deal with public questions whether they relate to education or anything else, without bringing in matters of this brand.

You ask me why I have mentioned that! You can go back and read my speeches from the time I came into this Legislature in 1914, and you will not find a single word, publicly or otherwise condemning the religious faith of any people in this Province or elsewhere, or condemning the nationality or language of any people in this Province or elsewhere. I have attempted to keep discussion of this kind on a plane casting no reflections on the nationality or the ancestors of the people who are in the Dominion of Canada, but considering them, and dealing with them, as actually Canadians.

On this point, I have taken considerable trouble to analyse the population and have come to certain conclusions as to what the future citizenship of this Province is likely to become. When analysing these figures, not only for Saskatchewan but for Eastern Canada as well, I have taken some trouble to enquire whether the great majority of the people in Saskatchewan have been born within the British Empire. And what was the reply when I said that 76 per cent. were born within the British Empire? Members opposite and their friends have said that I had stated that 76 per cent. were British born. I have never said that 76 per cent. were British born, but I repeat again, as I said before, that 76 per cent. of the people of this Province were born within the British Empire, which is a slightly different thing. But—you cannot make political capital out of that; so they had to make it "British born," and my honourable friends did not hesitate to say that 76 per cent. of the population of Saskatchewan, according to myself, were British born, and then they proceeded to disprove that statement.

What are the facts? We have 820,000 people in the Province of Saskatchewan, and 624,000 of them were actually born within the British Empire; and of that 624,000, some 361,000 were actually born in the Province of Saskatchewan. Again, 161,000 of them were born in other Provinces of Canada, and no less a number than 100,000 were born at the very centre of the Empire, the British Isles. Of the balance of 196,000, there were 76,000 born in the United States, leaving only 120,000 in the whole of the Province of Saskatchewan born outside the British Empire and outside the United States. Now, where were these men and women born? The answer is: 33,500 were born in the three Germanic countries—Germany, Austria and Hungary; 20,000 were born in Scandinavian countries, and 27,000 were born in Russia and 10,600 are Ukrainians. The question I want to ask is this? Will any of these people become Germans because they live in Canada? Will any of them become Russians because they live in Canada? Not by any means! The children of these people born in other countries, have

been brought to the Dominion of Canada at a very young age, and educated in our schools. We shall have a population in Canada known as Canadian citizens, which shall compare favourably with the citizenship of any country in the world.

Having dealt with that statement, Mr. Speaker, as to where these contentions came from and what the position of the Opposition and of ourselves has been upon the matter, I want to deal with just one other item from the *Regina Daily Star*, quoting the speech of the leader of the Conservative party in the House, the other day:

"I have no pleasure in dragging out the political skeletons from the dark closets of the Government, but when the Government candidate in Arm River, in my presence, tells the people that in 23 years his party has never had a scandal, is it not my duty to correct him and tell of the Bradshaw matter?"

Well, now, Mr. Speaker, I happened to be present on the platform on the occasion of the first meeting held in the Arm River campaign and in his address the member for Arm River made a statement to this effect: He said we have had in this Province a Liberal Government for 23 years and never has any charge of scandal been proven in the entire 23 years. Why, anyone can "make" a charge of scandal. But it is an entirely different matter to "prove" a charge of scandal, and it is the absolute truth that there has never been, in the 23 years of this Province's existence, a single charge of scandal proven against the Government in these 23 years—and no one on the Opposition side of the House will get up and refute the statement I have now made.

Then he went on to refer to the Happyland election of 1925:

"I have my duty to perform as leader of the Opposition and it will be expected of me that I refer to a matter brought up in the Arm River campaign while defending the sacredness of the ballot and the need to protect those who are ignorant of our language and customs. I said that I had reason to believe irregularities had taken place in the 1925 election.

"I said I had been informed that at poll 28, in the Happyland constituency, held in the Westerham school, many who were reported as having voted had indicated that they did not vote. One man, a school teacher, who was shown as having voted was at that time confined in Weyburn Mental Hospital."

Well, that is rather a mild way of putting it. That he had been informed that at poll 28 held at Westerham school, many were reported as having voted who did not vote and one man, a school teacher, who was confined at that time in Weyburn Mental Hospital, was reported to have voted. I just want to read the report of what the honourable gentleman did say at that meeting, as it appeared in the *Regina Daily Star* of October 5, 1928, written and signed by the gentleman who was travelling with the opposition leader during the whole campaign:

"Dr. Anderson made specific charges that the Government in the last election had committed election frauds at Happyland and in other non-English constituencies \* \* \*

"'I charge,' he said, 'that the Gardiner Government has wilfully violated the principles of British fair play and the sacredness of the ballot.'"

Is my honourable friend willing to repeat those charges? Is he likely to get up in this House and charge this Government with that sort of thing? Not at all. He goes to the town of Elbow and there he makes those statements or at least, is reported to have made them. He goes on:

"At Happyland and other places peopled by those not familiar with the English language, they took advantage of the ignorance of these people to break all laws of decency and the law of this Province in the last election.

"I have here in my hand a list of 30 names of foreign voters whose names were put on the poll books by the deputy returning officer and whose votes were polled without the knowledge of the voters.

"Unfortunately the poll books are destroyed so we cannot prosecute, but a man who knows the Gardiner machine, a former Liberal, tells me there were other cases too, including one at a schoolhouse where the vote was 98 to 2.

"We are not afraid to expose these things; we are not deceived by pious expressions of ministers who seek to pull the wool over your eyes."

Surely these charges are plain enough for every man on the street to know that the honourable gentleman charges this Government, up in Arm River, with being a party to these things! He charges this Government with stuffing the ballot boxes—charges this Government not only with knowledge of it but with actual committal! He goes on to make it more specific:

"They do not stop at heaping ridicule on those who are trying to improve public life in this Province. They do not stop at destroying characters. There are no depths they will not stoop to. When my party stoops to that sort of thing, I shall no longer be its leader."

To that I would say, he should have resigned about six weeks ago.

*Mr. Hogan:* He should never have been chosen.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* Perhaps you are right.

*Mr. Anderson:* Do you deny responsibility for any irregularities?

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* Certainly. I don't admit there have been irregularities. I don't go around this Province charging men with things I cannot prove. What does my friend say in addition: "If I had had the information sooner, I would have presented it to the Legislature \* \* \*" "and Premier Gardiner was not sincere—that Premier Gardiner was afraid to bring it up in the House."

Now, my reason for referring to it here is this: When he did bring it up in the House, it was in the words I have quoted—the very indefinite words to which I have alluded. No charges here, with respect to any individuals! No charges here with regard to the Gardiner machine! No charges here with regard to the Dunning Government of 1925! No charges at all with regard to the member for Happyland! No charges with regard to the Deputy Returning Officer who was responsible, if anybody was responsible, for anything that he declares did take place in the conduct of that election!

After all, what is the charge? It is a charge of impersonation; that a certain person alleged to be mentally diseased was therefore unable to vote, that his name appeared upon the poll book and that someone voted for him. It is laid down in the Election Law of this Province as to what action can be taken in order to bring anyone to justice who either commits the act or permits the act to be committed as an official of the poll, knowing that the act was being committed. And within a month after the Writ was returned all the information that the Government or anyone else had in connection with this case was in the hands of the opposition, in the hands of Mr. Baldwin, the candidate who contested that constituency. He had six months in which to make his charges to the Courts and during all these months he laid no charges nor at any time until the Arm River by-election. And my honourable friend (*Mr. Anderson*) laid no charges until the Arm River by-election, until three years after the time limit had expired in which the matter could have been taken to the courts.

There are all kinds of precedents in cases of this kind. While here, last session, we heard of quite a number of things that we were going to hear something more of before the end of the Session. But we did not hear of them then. We heard of them out in the country.

*Mr. Anderson:* What were they?

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* You'll hear before the end of the Session, but, at the present time, I am making my own speech. As I said, we heard of matters last session that were going to be discussed later on in the Session; but we did not hear of them again during the Session. The same has been said this Session, but in case the matter might not be brought up later, I am going to state now: No member of the Government in 1925, to my knowledge and, I believe, to anybody else's knowledge—no member of the Government of the present day, had any knowledge of anything that took place in the constituency of Happyland of the nature suggested by my honourable friend. Further, with the information which was in possession of the opposition, they had the opportunity to lay an information before the courts as provided for in *The Election Act*, and, in inexpensive manner, to have it tried properly in the courts, and to have the guilty person, if convicted, punished for the offence.

As a matter of fact, the man who happened to be in charge of the particular poll mentioned (poll 28) is a gentleman who is not a supporter of the Liberal party. He is a man who has been a supporter of the Conservative party but supported the Liberal candidate in 1925 simply because there was a Progressive candidate running in that seat.

My honourable friend has never suggested that he was willing, then or now, to go to the extent of prosecuting in this case, but he is trying to infer that a charge should be laid against someone. He is simply trying to pin something to the Liberal party and members of the Government so that he can go out of the House and use it in future campaigns in the Province of Saskatchewan. I tell him, now, that we have nothing to hide and nothing to fear in connection with the Happyland election or in connection with any other election in the Province of Saskatchewan.

I think, possibly, it might be well if I were to point out some of the actions that have been entered into in the past in similar matters and to show to the member for Saskatoon (*Mr. Anderson*) what has been done and what might be done in matters of this kind. First I will deal with *The Controverted Elections Act*: On the first page it is set out that at any time within one month, or thirty days, any defeated candidate or any duly qualified elector may petition against the undue return or undue election of any candidate. In this case, no such action was taken and may I repeat that all the information was in the hands of the Opposition within thirty days. Then again, there is provision made that where certain acts have been perpetrated by officials in connection with an election, an action can be taken within six months. It is provided that a charge can be laid before two J.P.'s in certain cases, or before a District Court Judge, and if the charge is proven, there is a penalty set for contravention of the Act. None of these actions have been taken, and if my honourable friend brings the matter up at a later date, he will find the Government prepared to deal with it in a manner that will meet with the approval of those who believe in maintaining the dignity of this House.

That is all I wish to say in connection with these different charges. May I just, in conclusion, deal with some of the matters mentioned in the Speech from the Throne.

We have referred to the appointment of a Commission to investigate the Grain Trade. That Commission was appointed after due consideration had been given to the many difficulties which our farmers have been reporting during the season immediately preceding the opening of this Session. Some people stated at the time, that the Commission would only go over the old ground covered by the Turgeon Commission in 1924, but it was contended by many others that the system of marketing wheat had so far changed because of the introduction of the Wheat Pool method that another investigation of the grain trade was due in Western Canada.

You ask me why the Government of the Province of Saskatchewan took action? One criticism made is that the Commission can only investigate practices of grading in this Province and cannot affect the inspections of the Department at Ottawa or the Wheat Pool. But, I say we have a duty to perform not only to those who are engaged in marketing but we have a much more important duty to perform towards the people who are producing grain in the Province of Saskatchewan. We are producing in this Province more than half the grain that enters into the export trade of the world so far as Canada is concerned, and we have a duty to protect the people producing that wheat to see to it that they receive every dollar coming to them for their efforts.

During last season, the crop was affected by wet weather. During this year, our wheat was affected by frost in the month of August, and we have had very little No. 1 and No. 2 wheat. If we had had No. 1 and No. 2 grades, there would have been no complaints from the farmers of Saskatchewan, in view of the enormous volume of the crop. But we have not had wheat of that quality in the Province this year, in any considerable amount, and it is with regard to the actions of those who were handling our grain in connection with grading that there has been a great deal of complaint about lower grades. In order to place before the farmers of the province and the grain trade as well the situation as it exists, we have appointed this Commission. I heard a newspaperman the other day say: "When I went down to Fort William, to the Head of the Lakes, with the Commission, I was under the impression that there was not very much for it to investigate, and, after I had been there I had intended to leave the Commission as soon as we got back to Saskatchewan. But, after we reached the first local point, I changed my mind. What did I find at that first point? There were 500 farmers there, many of whom had ridden all day the day before in order to be on hand to present their case," and, he said: "What I want to tell you is this: If you had not appointed this Commission, if you had not initiated this investigation," (and he put it almost in the words of one of the honourable members who has spoken in this debate) "the heather would have been on fire throughout the whole Province of Saskatchewan. In appointing this Commission you have provided a means whereby these men can come out before a regularly constituted Commission. They can state their ills and their remedies for the impediments to higher prices in connection with the marketing of the crop. They are assisted in the preparation of their cases." He said in addition that he had found because of the changes in the method of handling grain, there has been a change in the requirements of our farmers in connection with the different sections of *The Grain Act*. Because there has been a change, I believe that we will be in a position to go before the Federal Parliament at its next Session and make adequate representations based on actual facts and not based on conjectures gathered from all over the Province. These representations will be based on facts gathered from the farmers, gathered from railwaymen, from grain dealers from Winnipeg and based upon information gathered at the Head of the Lakes. And when these representations are placed before the House at Ottawa, they will be given the consideration that representations of this kind deserve from the tribunal at Ottawa.

In asking the members to support the motion, may I say this: That we on this side of the House hope that all matters which come before the House having to do with the business of Government will be discussed from that business standpoint from which all matters of Government should be discussed. When we are discussing highways, let us not hear that cars are "throwing all the gravel into the farmers' fields." I heard of a conversation that took place, on the day of the opening. One gentleman said to the other: "This is going to be an interesting Session." And the other asked "Why?" "Oh, haven't you heard about all the charges?" And he said: "Why worry about that when the Government builds roads so good that cars travel so fast that they are throwing all the gravel into the farmers' fields."

There has been a complaint made that under our road policy, the Government left the graveling of the roads until the fall instead of starting in the spring, and my reply to that is, that it is in the fall we have the dry weather. For the benefit of those who have been making criticisms of that nature, I would point out if we had started this work in the spring of the year, the trucks used by the contractors for the hauling of gravel weighing, as they do, as much as six tons when loaded, would have cut the road bed to pieces. By leaving it until the proper time of the year we have been able to gravel almost four hundred miles of highway this year, bringing the total of gravelled highway in the Province now maintained by the Department of Highways well over four hundred miles.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I would say this: Let us during this Session and during the next election campaign (whenever that may be), grapple with the real problems that are confronting us as a Government and as a people; let us grapple with the real questions of finance and highways, so that the discussions will be of service, not only to the Government that some of us may form, not only to the people of Saskatchewan, but to the people of the whole Dominion of Canada.

MR. HOWARD McCONNELL, M.L.A.

(Saskatoon City)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1928.

Mr. Speaker,—The honourable member who has just taken his seat (*Mr. Sykes*) has told you that the Speech from the Throne, or something in it, had brought joy to his heart. I can tell him that the fact that he remained on his feet long enough to say something about the Conservative platform brought joy to our hearts. I am glad to let him know that our platform has brought joy to the hearts of many people in this Province. We do formulate platforms occasionally. In 1925, like our good friends opposite, we formulated a platform. That, I think, is the one to which he referred. We have a later platform now and I shall deem it a great pleasure to present him with this 1927 platform for his perusal.

It has become the custom, Mr. Speaker, latterly, for those who take part in the Debate on the Address to say something about, and to compliment, those who have moved and seconded the Address. I most happily conform with this custom. My honourable friend from Kinistino (*Mr. McIntosh*) gave in my opinion, a very excellent address couched in language in which the Address should be moved. I like the way he presented his matter. His style was excellent. In my opinion he is one of the good speakers of this House.

The manner in which it was seconded by my honourable friend from Arm River (*Mr. Waugh*), in his initial effort, left, I regret to say, much to be desired. He thought it necessary to introduce into the Debate something of a controversial nature. Personally, I had hoped that at this Session we should stick strictly to business and go back to our homes with the knowledge that we had performed our duty in a very satisfactory way.

The address by my honourable friend from Pelly (*Mr. Tran*), was one of high order. It is true, he was somewhat critical of the group of which I am a member and of the group to your right, Mr. Speaker, (*the Government*). Being a Progressive it was only reasonable for him to criticise both of us. There was, however, nothing of a contentious nature to which we could take exception.

Might I also say that the address delivered by the leader of this group (*Mr. Anderson*), was one which, while it was critical, was moderate in its tone. It was not vindictive, I think it was fair. As a consequence, I had hoped that, during this entire Debate, this high order would have been maintained. It seems, however, I was expecting altogether too much because—was it Friday evening?—the Premier in concluding his remarks told this Chamber that it was going to be his duty to refer in detail to some calumny, to some falsehoods, to some insinuations and to some misrepresentations which had been made by the leader of this group since he took over the leadership, and particularly during the Arm River by-election.

I listened to those statements, this afternoon; I am sure that his very good friend and former colleague, the Hon. Charles Dunning, must have been pained to hear that the present Premier was being treated so badly by the leader of this group.

I made a note of what the Premier said this afternoon and endeavoured to find out just wherein these falsehoods lay. It seemed to me that instead of them being falsehoods—because, after all, a falsehood is a misstatement of a definite fact and is not an opinion—they were merely opinions. I submit that the Prime Minister in taking exception to remarks made by the senior member for Saskatoon, has called an expression of opinion a falsehood. I suggest to you, you cannot call an opinion a falsehood.

The Prime Minister made this statement (and it was not generous) that since the leader of this group had entered politics and had come into this House, certain matters including those of religious controversy had been given prominence. Such controversies having developed after my honourable friend entered politics, the Prime Minister lays the blame of the whole controversy upon the shoulders of the leader of this group. May I tell the Prime Minister this: I have lived in this Province since 1907 and until the Prime Minister made his famous speech of last Session in the Legislature, I had never heard, in the Legislature, on the streets or elsewhere, discussion of an acrimonious nature with regard to religious matters; but since that speech I have heard more about religion than at any previous time since I have been in this Province. I am sure that since he has had time for reflection, the Prime Minister regrets he made that speech. The people I have talked to regret he made it and I think a great many of his political friends have advised him he made a mistake. Because the Prime Minister happens to have made a mistake, I do not think that justifies him in trying to escape responsibility by endeavouring to lay the blame on the shoulders of some other man. There is a legal maxim and my friend the Attorney General, will know it—"He who seeks equity must do equity." That is a pretty good maxim when applied. There is a further legal maxim: "He who comes into Court must come with clean hands." I offer these for the consideration of the Premier. I mention this

because we have nominated a very estimable gentleman in the North Qu'Appelle constituency by the name of Mr. Westen and when up there I heard certain rumors about the Premier. If those rumors are true, then, when the Premier accuses members of this party of saying things about other men which they should not say, I am afraid he has been guilty of doing the very things of which he accuses us. I do not wish to press this matter further.

It has been the custom in the Speech from the Throne to outline the programme of legislation of the Government. We have not that privilege, so in our Platform and on the hustings we have to tell the people what our criticisms are and how things are faring with us. I am very glad to tell the members of this Chamber that we have in the field at the present time twenty-seven candidates who will bear our standard in their various constituencies. Before Christmas we shall have a considerable number more. This week we shall probably put another three in the field.

I believe we have a considerable amount of justification for the opinion that things are on the upgrade with our party, and when the next election comes along, we are confident that never again will there be ground for the criticism levelled at us, as it has been in the past that, if we were all elected we should not be able to form a government. I am very glad to relieve the members of the group to your right on that score. The remarkable thing about it is, that we are having Liberals coming over to our fold. I do not mean to say that they are all Liberals. They are, however, people who have supported the Government in the past. There is another good outlook insofar as our party is concerned. I am very glad, too, that we have a very flourishing afternoon paper known by the name of *The Regina Star*. I can tell you that after reading newspapers for many years which have been disseminating one particular brand of political propaganda (and if we did not want to read these papers we had nothing to read), it is a joy, and a relief, to turn to another newspaper in which honest criticism is made without any attempt to gloss over anything. We expect, in the near future to have another newspaper called *The Saskatoon Free Press*, and I want to say that with two newspapers being published day by day, we do not have to ask favours, Mr. Speaker, from any party.

We have heard on occasion that members on this side of the House did not have sufficient statesmanship even if we did elect sufficient members, to form a Government. There is nothing new in a statement of that kind. We are here every day and we are looking at the honourable gentlemen on the other side every day and they cannot criticise and blame us very much if we tell them that we are not particularly impressed with them, either. I do not mean to say that these gentlemen have not ability, but we do not see many sparks of genius scintillating from that side. I am now speaking of the gentlemen in the front benches. In their own bailiwicks I understand they may be regarded as very great men. We think they are ordinary, every-day men, just as we are—no better than we are, and no worse. So you cannot blame us for thinking we probably know how to govern as well as they do.

I recall, in the Province of Ontario in the dying days of the Ross Government, when Mr. Whitney was the leader of the group in opposition, the criticism flung at the people of Ontario was, that if Whitney were elected there was not enough ability and statesmanship in his party to form a Government to carry on the affairs of the Province of Ontario. Those of you gentlemen who came from that Province will know that Mr. Whitney's Government was one of the outstanding Governments of Ontario, and Whitney became one of Ontario's greatest premiers. So how can we be blamed if we think that we, when we are called in, will be able to form a Government, and a good Government? We shall be able to do this because we shall be fresh from the people and shall not be weighed down with the incubus of party camp followers.

At this time, I wish to say something with reference to one matter mentioned in the Speech from the Throne. This has to do with the power policy of this Government. May I say at the outset that our party in its convention held in Saskatoon, last March, broke new ground and blazed new trails by laying down a policy of public ownership in the production and distribution of electrical power. This is nothing exceptional for our party. In the Province of Ontario, their great hydro-electric scheme was born and made possible by a Conservative Government in that Province. The Union Government brought into being our Canadian National Railways and made that great railway a public utility. If we go further east to the Province of Quebec, where Liberalism runs rampant, we find that Province is the happy hunting ground of private interests. Public ownership cannot thrive down there on the St. Lawrence River. So I say that we, in declaring for public ownership in the matter of producing and distributing electrical power, were but doing what our party has done, time and again. It is true this Government did appoint a Commission to bring in a report on this important matter. This is the thing I want you to remember, however: the Government did not come out and say as a party what its policy was, nor did it act upon any recommendations until the Conservative party had committed itself to public ownership.

The Government has now purchased the Saskatoon power plant as a start. An agreement has been signed, sealed and delivered and the Government today owns the Saskatoon power plant, or, at least, will take it over on November 1, next, when the plant is completed. May I say something about that power plant. The situation in Saskatoon was acute. I am afraid the electrical engineer who had built the power plant there, did not build the plant in as modern a manner as it should have been built. As a consequence, although it is not exactly obsolete, at

least it is not so efficient as the Regina power plant. And so, the matter of building a new plant was something which was receiving the very serious consideration of the Council of the City in which I live. It meant the expenditure of \$1,500,000. Some people thought we could spend that money better in building sidewalks and streets and in other ways. I do not know whether this Government took the initiative or whether Saskatoon did. The fact remains, however, that the power plant has been secured by the Government as a necessary step in its power scheme. May I say that the first and only criticism I have heard in connection with the proposed sale (and this may be a guide in other cases), is that perhaps it would have been wiser for the City Council to have submitted a plebiscite to the citizens of Saskatoon as to the sale of the plant. I have heard arguments against the plebiscite. One was that perhaps private interests such as the Montreal Power Company, the Midwest Development Company and others, by means of full page advertisements might present their case in such a way as to mislead the people. May I say that, in my opinion, our City Council was unduly alarmed. I think that, pretty generally, an intelligent electorate can be depended upon.

The City Council by a vote of ten to one decided to sell the power plant to the Government to enable the Government to start the project. The reasons the City Council approved of this scheme were: First, the immediate necessity of replacing the present plant at a cost of \$1,500,000. Second, the Government represented to the citizens of the City that it was its intention to extend the system, and to distribute electric power to the rural municipalities and to the urban municipalities in the neighbourhood of Saskatoon. Third, the Government assured our citizens that by putting in an up-to-date plant, power could be produced more cheaply than otherwise was possible.

There was another reason, and it is one, I am satisfied, was agreed to. It was that the management of this new project would be kept free from party politics. Another reason was that the cost of the power to the City of Saskatoon was to be the cost at the switchboard plus one-tenth or one-fifteenth of one cent per kilowatt hour. These are some of the inducements which induced the City Council to sell its power plant to the Government.

Now, may I say this: That in the light of this understanding and in the light of these representations as made by the Government to our citizens and considering everything from every angle, my judgment is that it was good business for Saskatoon to sell the plant to the Government. May I, however, add this as a qualification: That after this sale is carried through, if the conditions are not lived up to in their entirety—and I wish to refer to some of those conditions—if the Government does not extend electrical services to the surrounding district and distribute power to the outlying municipalities, besides Sutherland, but is content to continue on to do what the City has done for years and years, then our City had much better have kept its plant, because I think it is pretty generally agreed that a municipal corporation can operate such plants more efficiently than any Provincial Government or any larger body can. That applies all over the Dominion and not only to this Government. Second, if this Government, in carrying out this power project which is under way, is compelled, through the solicitations of its "healers" and "hangers-on" to find unnecessary jobs in that Department, and if this Government thinks it is necessary to make another Highways Department out of this utility, this project will fail, as it should, and it will be better had we never embarked on this scheme. I think this is apparent to everyone. Private interests have never entered into competition with the Government in the building of highways. Therefore there is no criterion by which we can judge whether our highways are being built economically or at exorbitant cost. On the other hand, in the matter of the manufacture and distribution of electrical power, it will be in competition with private interests and the Government in entering into the promotion of a power scheme and thus entering into competition with private interests can only make a success of this business if it adopts in the conduct of its business the principles that private interests adopt. Private capital permits of no such nonsense as over-staffing or inefficient buying. So if this Government, even for a moment, allows this incubus of party politics to creep in, this scheme will fail.

There is another thing which may develop, which would make this undertaking a bad thing for Saskatoon. I have a copy of the agreement and I notice one of the clauses provides that the cost to our City shall not in any way be influenced by any extension that may be made outside the City. Now, may I say this. If the Government assesses our large urban centres a larger rate for the cost of electrical power to enable it to supply power at a cheaper rate to the rural communities, the scheme will fail. I do not know what is in the mind of the Government on this particular point. However, it must not assess the large urban centres to assist the Government in extending its services to rural communities.

*Hon. Mr. Davis:* Does not the contract say that?

*Mr. McConnell:* I do not think it does. I read it this afternoon. So I urge, in the development of this project, if the Government values its reputation as it should, it will see to it that its understanding with the City of Saskatoon, both in the spirit and the letter is rigidly lived up to.

I do not know whether the Government has formulated a power policy or not—probably not. I say it is the duty of the Government of this Province and it is due to the people of the Province to let them know what this policy is before the close of this Session of the Legislature

Mr. Speaker, there is another matter to which I wish to refer because it has been brought into the discussion. It is the Arm River by-election. We concentrated there as well as we were able, whatever forces we could in the interest of the party. I noticed that the Minister of Agriculture (*Hon. Mr. Hamilton*), was up there. I did not hear him speak, but another gentleman who did hear him intimated that the Minister spoke words to this effect: That the Government had been criticised so much that it took so much of the time answering criticisms that it was not able to tell the people what the policy of the Government actually was. I also understand that this remark was made, namely that, of the four men constituting the Conservative group, only one member had courage enough to repeat in the Chamber what he said on the hustings. Well, those are little pleasantries and we do not mind them a bit. It makes the people feel good, and I know the Minister made these remarks not seriously.

*Hon. Mr. Hamilton*: I think I am scarcely correctly reported. What I did say was that the honourable member from Tisdale (*Mr. Buckle*) was one member of the House who did state on the floor of the House what he said in the hustings. I made no reference to the others.

*Mr. McConnell*: I received this information from a gentleman in Prince Albert. I refer to my friend, Mr. Diefenbaker. The Attorney General was also in the Arm River by-election. I am always interested in the Attorney General, and therefore I made notes of what was the subject of his discussion. Except talking about a few Indian tribes and Indian Chiefs, I have not been able to find out what he contributed. Our Premier also moved his "White House" up there and took his full vacation in Arm River. The Prime Minister certainly did a lot of apologising, because we certainly did a lot of criticising. With reference to certain improper statements, may I say that in the short time I have been a member of this Legislature I have never spoken with reference to any religious controversy, nor have I on a platform, and I do not purpose to do so. I never heard anybody else do it either. I was only nine days in the constituency, however, so I was not everywhere. I criticised the Government and I intend to continue to criticise it. When the Premier gets up and objects to questions being asked of different departments of Government, I should say this: Does he think we were only born yesterday? We want information. If anything improper is going on, bless you, Sir, if we did not ask about it the Government would never tell us. We are only doing what they would do if they were in our position. And notwithstanding anything the Premier says, I shall continue to ask whatever questions I like, and I am going to insist on getting a correct answer. If I want to use the answers to those questions, I am going to use them.

May I say, Mr. Speaker, that although the Government won a technical victory in the Arm River by-election, I am not sure that they are altogether satisfied because of the recriminations they are indulging in. It seems to me victors should be generous. I have read editorials which referred to that election in newspapers from coast to coast, and almost without an exception they say it was a "moral victory" for the opposition forces. Well, Mr. Speaker, "What is sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander," and we say it was a "moral victory" for our party. We mean when we say that, that as a result of the publicity of that by-election, our forces throughout the length and breadth of this Province have been inspired and consolidated. I have only to ask the opinion of the Ministers. If they will be honest, they will admit that in Arm River they were received by very critical audiences. I repeat it was a "moral victory" for our party, a victory which shows that the people of this Province will do the right thing at the next general election.

I wish to refer to another matter. That is about the Happyland electoral division in the election in 1925. I do not want to read in detail the letter written by Mr. Thomas Baldwin, but I do want to read the end of that letter which appeared in *The Regina Daily Star*. This is what Mr. Baldwin says:

"Neither did I take these poll books away with me as they were mailed to me some time later. Prior to this I had written to a lawyer in Regina asking him to secure these copies for me, but after waiting some considerable time without getting satisfactory results, I visited the office in person as above stated. I had also gone out into Polling Subdivision No. 28 and secured signed statements from a large number of electors, stating that they had not voted at Poll No. 28 at that election, yet in perusing the poll book I found their names duly entered as having voted. I also found the name of one, F. McPherson, Sec. 1-23-27, as having voted and in connection with which I have the following letter in reply to an enquiry of mine."

Now, if I remember correctly, the Prime Minister would lead the House to believe that no impersonation had taken place in that election.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner*: I read the statement of the honourable gentleman, that there were thirty.

*Mr. McConnell*: I did not hear it if you did. I say that this letter has not been contradicted by the Prime Minister or any member of the Government. I can conceive of a Deputy Returning Officer being imposed upon by one man personating another in an election, but I do not think any reasonable man can conceive of thirty people personating thirty electors in this Poll 28 in the general election. I tell you the people of this country are thinking about it in this way: If only



one person were personated then the Returning Officer probably is not to blame, but if the Deputy Returning Officer lives in the district and things like this happen, the people of the Province can only come to one conclusion and it is that he was sent there for a definite purpose. If he lives in the district, how can any reasonable man conceive these people going into the Poll, and personating somebody else, and getting away with it? The conclusion I have heard reached on the street is that the Returning Officer or the poll clerk wrote the names of these 28 or 30 people in the poll book themselves. I cannot prove that, but I have heard it mentioned time and time again.

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* Might I ask a question?

*Mr. McConnell:* Not just now. This afternoon I waited for a word from the Prime Minister expressing regret at this occurrence, but instead, he endeavoured to bolster up his own case by saying "Why, you have been as bad as we have. Your party has committed just as many election misdemeanours as the Liberal party." If that is true, then our party is to be condemned.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* I object to the honourable gentleman putting words into my mouth. I made no comparisons on the elections.

*Mr. McConnell:* My honourable friend made reference to the case of North Qu'Appelle, where Mr. MacDonald, I believe, resigned. He referred to that incident in bolstering up his own case, and the reason he used it was to show how innocent this Government was.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* The honourable gentleman is misquoting. I spoke of three cases, one having to do with the Government, another with the Conservative party, and the third with the Progressive party, in order to make the argument for the position taken against an argument made by the leader of the Progressive party (*Mr. Tran*).

*Mr. McConnell:* Was it not with reference to the Happyland elections that the Premier mentioned these cases?

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* On a point of order again. The honourable gentleman is mistaken. This matter was dealt with in the first part of my address. Then I proceeded to deal with matters having nothing to do with the Happyland case. The two things were not related at all in the address I delivered. I ask the honourable gentleman to retract.

*Mr. McConnell:* I should like to hear what the Hansard reporter has to say. His notes will bear out what I have said.

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* My honourable friend, the leader of the House, has made a statement. I think the honourable member must accept the statement. It happened this morning when the leader of the Conservative party made a statement and that statement was accepted by the House without being further discussed.

*Mr. McConnell:* I am very pleased to accept the honourable gentleman's statement. We do not expect any privileges that we are not prepared to accord to the first citizen of the Province, but we do not have to accept an expression of opinion as a statement of fact.

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* That is a misstatement of fact, Mr. Speaker. I am not expressing my own opinion.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* The honourable member is not right. I have not attempted to give an opinion.

*Mr. McConnell:* I am entitled to draw my own conclusions. I wish to refer to something in the Provinces of Manitoba and Ontario. This will be the more appreciated because I notice the First Minister is very glad to refer to past events. He has made this statement in my hearing: That in the Provinces of Manitoba the last Conservative Government was defeated because of its dealings with the Kellys. I agree with that. The Kellys stole the people's money and the people put the Roblin Government out of office. The people did not get the money. In the Province of Ontario in the heyday of the Ross Government, it was a trick to have the ballot boxes stuffed time and time again so that the will of the electors could be made of no effect—a thing similar to that which took place in this Province, according to this letter of Mr. Baldwin. In the one case referred to by the Prime Minister, the Kellys stole the people's money. In the other case, the organised partisans of the Government stole the people's franchise, which is the people's birthright. I shall leave it to the people of this Province to say which is the worse offence. I do not think they would regard with very great feelings of satisfaction the loss of something which has been fought for for so many centuries. I should have liked to have seen the Premier forget for a moment that he was a politician and be a statesman, and get up and tell the Legislature that if these things did occur, he most sincerely and heartily condemned them, and that, if his Government did any of these things, he did not want to stay in office. I regret that he did not do so.

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* I do not think this House is the place for the honourable member to build up his suppositious argument upon a premise he has not substantiated, and I say he is not within the Rules of the House. If he wants to deal with this matter, there is a Committee of this House operating under the Rules, to which he can have the matter referred. The statements he is making now are quite uncalled for . . .

*Mr. Tran:* What is the rule?

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* I rise on a point of order again and I say that for the honour of the House and under the Rules of the House we have no right to sit and listen to statements of this kind.

*Mr. Tran:* What section is that in?

*Mr. Anderson:* On the point of order. We have been for three Sessions hearing of cases being followed up by the honourable gentleman.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* Might I ask the honourable gentleman who has the floor, if he is willing and if he is prepared now to make any charge against any person in connection with the Happyland election? Is he prepared to make any charge whatsoever?

*Mr. McConnell:* I am prepared to agree that the matter be referred to the Committee on Privileges and Elections. Although the time has probably elapsed in which legal proceedings might have been taken against any wrong-doers, I am quite in accord with this: That this Committee summon witnesses to investigate the statements in Mr. Baldwin's letter. This letter makes no charge, but I have neither seen nor heard any contradiction of it yet.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* Might I make this statement to the honourable gentleman. He is in a position to petition this House and until that is done there is no reason for making any statements in connection with Happyland. In the Committee is the proper place.

*Mr. McConnell:* Well, I shall do that. I should never have taken up the time of the House had not my honourable friend referred to it before.

There is another matter I want to bring to the attention of the House: I have in my hand a little notice. "Arm River" appears on the left-hand side of the page and there is a duplicate of a ballot. At the bottom appears the inscription of the printer. There is also an "X" marked opposite Thomas Frederick Waugh's name. I want you to notice this. This apparently is published and authorised by the Arm River Liberal Association. We were unable to get hold of this exhibit until a few days ago, but it was distributed in the Lakeside Poll and in the Poll at Holdfast. I want you to observe particularly that this little advertisement is perforated and folds back this way. I want you particularly to observe that it can be torn off and when it is torn off you have the exact duplicate of a ballot. We wonder what those perforations are for, and why a piece of election literature was in the booth and so

(Interruptions from the Government members).

*Mr. McConnell:* I am aware that these words appear on it "Mark your ballot for T. F. Waugh." We are suspicious because of the fact that it was distributed in these two polls. We feel that it was a guide to voters who could take it into the poll and mark their ballots accordingly. Might I say this: That this ballot may not be in violation of *The Election Act*, but, at least it comes very near violating the provisions of the Act. I trust that the honourable member for Arm River will remember that these things should not be carried on in the future.

There is another matter to which I wish to refer. That has to do with our highways. I was interested in the reference in the Speech from the Throne to the fact that this Government had gravelled between 300 and 400 miles of road. We are told that this was done pursuant of some promise made by the Premier in 1922. Surely if that had been the policy of the Government it would have been included in the Platform of the Liberal party. You cannot blame us and the people of the Province for coming to this conclusion, that this gravelling programme has been as a result of our criticism, and of the criticism of the people of the Province, and as a result of the bad roads encountered this summer. A gasoline tax was authorised last Session. We said we wanted it "earmarked" so it would go for road improvement with some slight diminution of the license on automobiles. We were accused of thinking too much about the American tourists. We have in this Province more than 100,000 pleasure cars and, consequently, 100,000 potential tourists. A friend of mine who last year was up in Banff during June and July, told me that, among all the cars that were up there, he found hardly a Saskatchewan license plate. The roads were impassable. It was almost impossible to get out of the Province.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* I drove up myself.

*Mr. Anderson:* You got stuck!

*Mr. McConnell:* What we say has been wrong in the Highways Department is that there is too much politics in it. The Premier made a remark at Imperial, during the by-election. He can correct me if I am wrong. He may have made it in a facetious manner, but it was to this effect, that they built the roads where they got the most votes.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* I did not say any such thing. What I stated in Imperial was that we built roads in a manner that got us the most votes.

*Mr. McConnell:* Well, we shall let that pass. I wish to give you a couple of illustrations to show that politics is mixed up with the Highways Department. During the by-election, we went down to see the new Dunblane bridge. We discovered that an outfit of some kind had

just moved into the south-west corner of the constituency. We saw a group of men and we went over to see who they were. They belonged to a road building gang. They told us they were to be there until freeze-up, which was about the date of the by-election.

I wish to give a further illustration, and this is one in my own neighbourhood. We have, east of the City of Saskatoon, an improved provincial highway which runs east to Evansdale school six miles. It then turns south for four miles. I believe it was finished down that far last year. I am advised that it was the intention of the Government to carry that road a further six miles south of this school to the correction line. I believe consent was given, at least one of the councilors told me it was. Well, a remarkable change took place this spring. Instead of going south further, it branched east a mile and then went happily on its way south six miles. On the new road there is encountered three miles of drift sand. On the old road, the sand was not so bad. On the new road there is a mile-and-a-half of hummocky alkali. There is none on the old road.

*Mr. Agar:* Do you know that of your own knowledge personally? Have you been on the road?

*Mr. McConnell:* I have been over the old road.

*Mr. Agar:* Then tell us all you know about it!

*Mr. McConnell:* I am only telling you what has been told to me. This information came to me at the office. I am told that on the new road (and of course I am subject to correction), that clay will have to be hauled for two and one-half miles to cover up the sand. I am also told that the new road will serve only two farmers, while the old road would have served eight. I have been over the old road frequently.

*Mr. Agar:* Can you tell the house on whose recommendations the road was changed? Probably your political friends have told you that also?

*Mr. McConnell:* I do not know on whose recommendations it was changed. All that I know about this matter is, what has been told me, and I suggested to these people that they take the matter up with the proper authority to see what could be done.

We have often suggested that we have more gravel roads in this Province. Our suggestion has been laughed at. We have urged that the Highways Department go ahead with the building of marketing roads, but at the same time, when it was looking around for some roads to gravel, it should have a policy whereby a gravel road would begin somewhere and end somewhere. This would enable our people who want to go to Prince Albert National Park to have the assurance that they would get back again. We have suggested also that in addition to the other work being carried out, we have a north and south highway and then some east and west, so that tourists who own these 100,000 cars in our Province could travel only a few miles to get to a good road. They would then have the assurance of getting back home even if it did rain.

The Premier referred to the roads in Arm River. It was something about me driving a car and making such good time on these very roads. It is true, I did drive to Bladworth one night, a distance of about seventy-five miles in about three hours. I made the distance in good time. Will the Premier insist that this is proof that our highways are good? Back in 1912, I drove a car on a trail just as fast as I drove it in Arm River. No! The test of good roads is not the test in dry weather. The answer as to whether our road policy is a good policy or not will be found in the manner our roads stand up under wet weather.

In order to find out how seriously we were handicapped in this Province in the matter of highways, I took the trouble of ascertaining how our sister Provinces of Manitoba, Alberta and British Columbia were dealing with this question. Manitoba has 887 miles of gravelled roads. There you can start some place and get some place. Alberta has 570 miles of gravelled highway, together with 259 miles partly paved and partly bituminous. British Columbia has 4,553 miles of gravelled highways. And at the time I directed these enquiries, we had not more than 60 miles of gravelled highway.

This is the record of our three sister Provinces. Are we to be criticised then because we have shown what these Provinces have done and what should be done here? There is an example we should be very glad to follow. We say: "Go ahead with your marketing roads; go ahead and put gravel down near the more populous centres; but, at the same time, let us make a start at building gravel roads that will enable us to start somewhere and get somewhere."

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, might I say this: There are of necessity some contentious matters which must arise during any Legislative Session. We have to express our opinions for and against as we feel disposed. Ninety per cent. of the business of the Session however is non-partisan in spirit and can be discussed in a non-partisan manner. That is the course we should follow so that when we do return to our homes after we have dispatched the people's business, we shall be able to say that we have done our duty in the best manner of which we are capable.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. E. S. WHATLEY, M.L.A.,  
(*Kindersley*)

WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12 AND 13, 1928.

Mr. Speaker,—Arising to take part in this debate, I want to join with others who have preceded me, more especially with my honourable friend, the Attorney-General, with regard to the illness of His Majesty, the King, and to add my hope that His Majesty may speedily be restored to health.

I would also like to compliment the Mover of the Address (*Mr. McIntosh*), on the very high plane he started this discussion, and also my regret that it has not been very long on that high plane. However, I suppose these things have to be conducted on party lines.

Now, Sir, as I said, I want to deal with a few matters, and I will try to deal with them on a constructive basis. The first matter I will take up is the menace of the weeds in this Province, a matter which was mentioned by my honourable friend from Kinistino. I think he stated, and I think it is very true, that the noxious weeds detract by many millions from our agricultural revenue and, as he stated, it is becoming an increasing menace and problem to our agricultural industry. Now, I believe that, perhaps, a change in method might be feasible; at least, I am going to make a suggestion along that line. I would suggest dealing with the problem in a more direct way and, in that regard, to illustrate what I mean, I will relate some of the experiences in my own constituency and the way weeds have been dealt with in at least one municipality.

The Weed Inspector there takes a scythe with him in his buggy when he goes around and lops off the Canada Thistle—one of the bad weeds, much more so than the Sow Thistle, there, which is in fact, very rare; that of course, is explained by reason of our climate. But to deal with the matter in a direct way, I want to mention a certain weed killer, which I suppose, the Minister of Agriculture knows all about, but it may be that he might overlook the matter, so I will deal with it. It was brought to my notice by the Agricultural Representative working in my locality, that a certain weed-killer had been used known as the Atlas Non-Poisonous Weed Killer. This Weed-killer has been used upon weeds by the Railway Companies along their right-of-way, and this year, experiments have been made by the Field Crops Branch, and I understand it has turned out a great success. It is a cheap product to buy and more reasonable to buy than a great many others, and it is easily applied and is very effective and very devastating to the weeds. This I understand is more applicable to the broad-leaved weeds. It can be sprayed on with a sprinkling can, and can be purchased for 80 cents a gallon—you can use a force spray or any similar appliance you have handy to spray it on the plant and it is very effectual. This amount of weed-killer properly diluted will cover about 500 square feet, and after application, the weed plant shrivels up after a few days, the leaves begin to wither and the poison permeates down through the roots and to the very extremity of the roots, especially with the Thistle.

Now, the point I am getting at in dealing with this problem in a direct way, is this: It seems to me that our methods have been roundabout and too indirect, inasmuch as we advise the municipal councils and they sometimes act and sometimes they don't act. The municipality sends out an Inspector, who works through the farmers, who, when advised, sometimes respond and sometimes do not. We might have better results if we deal with this thing directly. If I might venture a suggestion to the Minister of Agriculture at this point, it would be along these lines: That the Field Crops Branch buy this weed-killer in large quantities and distribute it to the municipalities. Another point is this: The Branch might buy the raw material and by so doing it could be bought at about half the price it is procurable today. The ingredients are quite simple and could be mixed and made available just as was done when coping with the devastation of the grasshoppers, and I think we shall have to go into the weed question along this line. My honourable friend from Kinistino mentioned appealing to the Dominion Government. I do not agree with that. It is a problem for the Province and we should deal with it ourselves, and if we do so in a direct way I think we can handle it. I do not advocate going out of our own Province when it can be dealt with here.

The next matter I have to deal with is the power question. We criticised the Government one year ago that we thought they were somewhat dilatory in this matter—that may be a harsh term, but, at least they were somewhat backward in keeping up with the situation. The question is a "live" matter in this Province. In 1925 we were told, the Government was proposing to investigate the possibility of putting into effect some comprehensive scheme. If I remember rightly, someone said at the time that it was only a "bone to keep the people chewing on for some time." We have had the right diagnosis, but we have had to chew on the thing for a few years before any action has been taken, and it was along those lines we criticised. However, I am glad to see and to know they have decided to act along the line of public ownership, and, as the honourable member for Moose Jaw (*Mr. Ross*), said, one could scarcely imagine that they could take any other course in this Province where we have developed so many great co-operative institutions, and do it successfully.

I have made what you might call a cursory examination of the report of the Power Commission, and, as I see it, we cannot look for any great development in a comprehensive, provincial way, at least not in the immediate future. As I see it, from the report of the Commission, our resources of power in the north and south are too far removed from the great centres of population, and this militates against the construction of power lines in an economic way. Possibly, therefore, there will have to be a period of marking time.

Now, it seems to me this marking time is not a good thing, and, as has been stated in this House, something over 100 franchises have been taken over by private interests. To my mind, that is going to complicate things seriously when the Government does start out, and to my mind, something should be done. As I say, the encroachments of these private interests into the field of power in this Province, are not reassuring. We are sometimes led to suspect them of ulterior motives. They are not here for their health; they are not here for the good of the people. They are here to make money and there is no doubt if the time comes and it will come, when we will have to remove them from the sphere of activities, they will have made considerable expenditure and they will not step out without being paid for it at the expense of the people. They are here, as I say, to make money and are not going to operate in the interests of the people. So I say, if we are going into power, why not step out now? When these franchises are for sale, would it not be better to buy them up now? We might not have our scheme ready, we might not be able to include them in the network of comprehensive power lines, but if it is going to pay these private interests, would it not pay us as a Government to take these up and conduct them until such time as we are able to incorporate them in a provincial scheme?

Now, Sir, I am going to deal with the road situation, and to preface my remarks along this line, I want to thank my honourable friend, the Minister of Highways, for the work that was done in my Constituency. I think he was convinced that we had not been making the noise we had been, for nothing, and that our roads were in a backward condition and that we were down on mileage in regard to Provincial highway construction, in my Constituency. I want to bring that point out a little more clearly. Mr. Speaker, I want to bring out that Kindersley is at the bottom of the whole lot in the mileage given to it, that is, in Provincial highway construction, and in this list of October 20, 1928, it stands lowest of all the Constituencies. Of course, this list is to the end of 1927, and so it does not take into account the amount of highway construction last summer. I see that Kindersley has 25 miles. I see that Kindersley is at the bottom and no Constituency has so low a mileage as has Kindersley. I see the average is 48 miles, and even with the amount built this last summer, it is still below the average and, I presume, we are still at the bottom of the list.

*Hon. Mr. Spence:* I think there is a Cabinet Minister below him now, Mr. Speaker.

*Mr. Whatley:* I have not taken the trouble to figure that out. However, I believe they are going to carry on with this mileage and I am glad for more than one thing and I hope the work will be continued next spring and that a certain road started on this past summer will be completed because it is very necessary. I think my honourable friend will agree with me on that score. There has been a feeling up there that we were being boycotted for the reason that the member was not a supporter of the Government and did not sit on that side of the House. As a matter of fact, what we term the workers of the Liberal Party have not been slow in making the people feel that that was so, and I think such tactics react against the politics of that party, when the people feel that they must vote in a certain way to get the proper percentage of mileage construction which they are entitled to. As a matter of fact, I might state that it came to my hearing that one individual who is well up in the party (that is, one of the 'heelers' of the party), stated that we would have had that road long ago "but they did not want to give Sam Whatley the credit for it."

To deal with the road situation all over the Province, I wish to refer to some other matters raised by the honourable member for Moose Jaw City (*Mr. Ross*), in his speech last year, when he gave us some figures illustrating our position in comparison with other provinces in the matter of gravel roads. With the coming of the automobile, it is very important that we have all-weather roads, and I think cars should have a direct bearing on the condition of the highways and that any policy as enunciated in the past is not the policy for the present day. It was stated that, in Nova Scotia, where the people were supposed to be bankrupt, they had built gravel highways to the extent of 5,000 miles. In Manitoba they had just under a thousand miles and in Alberta some 476 miles of gravel highway, and Saskatchewan none. Now, I have here a few more figures that will bring the comparison more up-to-date. These I have quoted were up to the end of 1926. Now, we have the figures for 1927, which show even a greater disparity. In 1927, in Manitoba they gravelled another 161 miles; in Nova Scotia 200 miles, and in Saskatchewan 10 miles. These are taken from the same source as my honourable friend took them—from the report of the Department of Railways and Canals at Ottawa.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* Do the figures show that as gravelled by the Government? Do they distinguish in the figures for Manitoba as between mileage gravelled by the municipalities and that by the Government of the Province?

*Mr. Whatley:* No. Not as I understand it. They do not distinguish. They are statistics covered by the Dominion Department which deals with highways.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* I would like to point out this. I have the latest figures from Manitoba, as a matter of fact I got them by wire, and I understand they have a little over 800 miles gravelled by the Provincial Government in Manitoba, now.

*Mr. Whatley:* I imagine the figures in that pamphlet would cover both. It would include those gravelled by the municipalities as well as those gravelled by the Government.

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* That cannot be possible, because there are over 30 miles gravelled in one municipality in my own seat.

*Mr. Whatley:* That might be, but I am now speaking of the amount of gravelling done in 1927. It states in that publication that it was only 10 miles and it seems to me that they would not quote figures from Manitoba which came from both highway activities (Municipal and Provincial), and then quote figures from only one activity in Saskatchewan, or *vice versa*.

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* I would like that one point cleared up and for my honourable friend's information, I know for a fact in my own Constituency of Last Mountain, in two municipalities, there were at least 20 miles gravelled last year.

*Mr. Whatley:* Well, I am not responsible for the figures, Mr. Speaker. They come from the source I have given. Of course they may make errors, but in any case it is a source from which we expect to get correct information. I would move the adjournment of the debate.

Resuming the Debate on Thursday, December 13, 1928, *Mr. Whatley* said:

*Mr. Speaker:* When I moved the adjournment of this Debate, I was dealing with the question of roads, and I had quoted the figures given by the honourable member for Moose Jaw City (*Mr. Ross*), comparing the highways gravelled in this Province with those gravelled in other Provinces of the Dominion, and I had carried it forward another point, and had given the figures for gravelling in 1927. In doing that, I referred to this pamphlet and I will now give the title of the pamphlet to which I referred. I see it is called 'The Dominion of Canada, Department of Railways and Canals.' I think probably every member gets it and I recommend it to their perusal. I quoted figures from the pamphlet which, as I stated, carried the comparison a little further. In 1927, Nova Scotia gravelled a further 200 miles, Manitoba 161, and Saskatchewan 10 miles. That puts Saskatchewan in a further disparaging position, and, as I stated, that was a matter of wonderment, for, because of the number of automobiles in the Province, highways are a necessity. It was quoted in the Press that Saskatchewan's roads were the worst in Canada, and that tourists were being warned to keep out of this province.

*Hon. Mr. Spence:* Do I gather from my honourable friend's remarks that he is trying to convey to the people of this Province, Mr. Speaker, that there were only ten miles of gravelled road in Saskatchewan last year?

*Mr. Whatley:* I have only quoted from this pamphlet. These are the only figures I have. I will allow them to make a correction, but I have taken it that this pamphlet is correct information as it comes from a Department of the Federal Government.

*Hon. Mr. Spence:* I do not know the pamphlet, but it is not correct. One Minister has said that there were more than that in his Constituency alone.

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* I pointed out that, last year, there were more than double that in my own Constituency.

*Mr. Whatley:* This pamphlet is got out by a Federal Department, which is presided over by the Hon. Mr. Dunning. If it is not correct, it is not my fault.

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* When the honourable gentleman has my word, and the word of the honourable, the Minister of Highways, why does he keep on pressing the point?

*Mr. Whatley:* Will my honourable friend state whether we are anywhere but at the bottom of the list as to hard-surfaced highways?

*Hon. Mr. Spence:* I would say our programme compares favourably with the Provinces on either side of us.

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* I would like to know the source of the report and the title.

*Mr. Whatley:* I will read it again if he did not catch it: "Dominion of Canada, Department of Railways and Canals, Schedule 109, giving a table of highways and tourist traffic in Canada—Motor Vehicles entering into and going from Canada for touring purposes, 1927." I was reading from the schedule giving the mileage of Canadian Highways constructed during 1927 and mileage under construction or gangs maintained.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* Would the honourable gentleman mind reading from that same report, the number of miles of improved road in the Province of Saskatchewan? The question we are asking is as to whether or not the report is correct. You can prove it by reading that one figure, 2,700 miles. Everyone knows that is not correct.

*Mr. Whatley:* Mr. Speaker, I am dealing only with hard-surfaced highways not dirt roads. If these figures are not correct I would advise my friend to take up the matter with the Department at Ottawa.

*Hon. Mr. Spence:* Then the honourable gentleman is trying to mislead this House. He has sources of information at his disposal. Why does he not go to my Department instead of reading that pamphlet. I do not know anything about this pamphlet. Why go to Ottawa?

*Mr. Whatley:* If my honourable friend does not know about it, he ought to. I have said that tourists have been told that Saskatchewan is a province to keep out of because of poor roads. I would not make that statement on my own account. But I will deal with the matter in order to show what our reputation is as regards hard-surfaced roads.

At Kindersley, last spring, we had a little meeting at which we had a speaker who came from Calgary, and I will follow the precedent set on the other side by the honourable member for Bengough (*Mr. Gamble*) who gave us some interesting comparisons, yesterday. I think I would be quite in order to give this incident that happened at Kindersley as regards what was said by that outside authority. I don't think he did it in a derogatory way. I give it to the House as a matter of information and for what it is worth. This gentleman was in Regina and had a very pleasant conversation with the Minister of Highways. He represented the Calgary Board of Trade and had been sent out by the Western Development Association—a sort of voluntary body, spreading propaganda for better highways, to make these Western Provinces more enticing to tourists. That is not the word I wanted, but the idea is to get more tourists to make a tour through the Provinces of Manitoba and Alberta and also this Province. He told us they had a gravel road in Alberta from the International Boundary to Edmonton, and as far east as Medicine Hat, and tourists came up by the thousands on that road taking in the scenery of the mountains and our national parks and they intended going back through Saskatchewan which they had heard so much about, but, when they went on to enquire about our roads, and found we had only dirt roads, they immediately changed their itinerary and went back over the highway by which they had come.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* Am I to understand that the honourable gentleman is stating that there is a gravelled road from Calgary east to Medicine Hat?

*Mr. Whatley:* I am dealing with this man's conversations. The point I want to make is that the opinion of outside people should carry some weight. I am dealing with the point as to whether or not the roads of the Province are such as to put us on the map as being a country to which tourists can come and get back. And in that regard I am giving evidence given to us in Kindersley by this speaker and dealing with this project of his to create propaganda in favour of better roads, and also the point as to whether or not Saskatchewan has a good reputation in losing lots of tourists. This gentleman gave this as facts—not that I am so wrapped up in getting tourists into this country—but I think we should keep up our reputation and I feel we are not doing that. In fact, I have been told since, by a citizen of Regina, that when he was over in the United States he saw a sign warning tourists across the line to keep out of Saskatchewan on account of its roads. I have been told warning has been broadcasted over the radio across the line, and as to whether that is true, I am not prepared to say, although I can vouch for the other assertion.

*Hon. Mr. Hamilton:* Has the honourable gentleman approved of a policy with regard to gravelling which would confine the programme to one road north and south, and two east and west in the Province of Saskatchewan? That is, if you would confine the activity and expenditure until these roads were completed?

*Mr. Whatley:* No, I am not in favour of confining. There has been too much confining already. While we don't believe the work should be done solely to attract tourists, we must admit that the tourist traffic is a great asset to any Province. I find that tourists leave a lot of money behind them, and the tourist traffic from across the line left in the Dominion \$276,288,140 last year. In Saskatchewan we got only one per cent. of that—some two million dollars. That money was good money and not to be sneered at, and I say we need all the money we can get. They will contribute to our revenue by buying gas, and furthermore, when we build roads for the tourists, we are building for our farmers too, and also for market purposes. The amount of grain that goes over a Provincial Highway per mile is just as much as goes over a market road per mile. Now, my honourable friend from Yorkton (*Mr. Garry*) says we are building roads just as fast as the people can afford to build them. Now, I am not going to endorse that statement at all. I think when the people have invested as much in automobiles as they have in this province—some 116,000 motor vehicles, estimated at a valuation of \$100,000,000—when, I say, they have put that much into motor vehicles, you need to give them good roads. Now, Mr. Speaker, we stand second in the whole Dominion in the number of cars that are owned in the Province, yet we stand at the bottom of the list with gravel-surfaced highways upon which to run those cars. I say we are not spending enough, and, again quoting from this little pamphlet, I find that Alberta spent on highways in 1927, \$1,995,000; Manitoba, \$1,975,000; Ontario over \$20,000,000 and Quebec over \$5,000,000 and I ask why, when they have not nearly as many automobiles, Quebec can spend \$5,000,000 on their highways when we, in Saskatchewan, spent only \$1,265,000.

*Hon. Mr. Hamilton:* I again suggest that the honourable member had better look up our own public accounts.

*Mr. Whatley:* We have been told that Hon. Walter Scott came into the House at one time and made a startling statement about roads and to my mind in this statement he was simply

sizing up the situation as it was at that time. I think we need someone to size it up now, because I feel that our highways do not meet the situation as it is, and what we need is to enter into some system that would wipe out the stigma on the Province and treat it as a business proposition. In other words, we need to spend more money. It has been said that our people cannot afford to build highways, because they are not willing to be taxed any more. I say they are willing. They asked for the gas tax, thinking that all the revenue from that tax was going on highways. They are willing to be taxed on that account. But we find that that tax did not go on the highways to any greater an extent than \$400,000. That was the amount we put through the Estimates to go on the highways, whereas it has been computed that our gas tax will bring in an income of a million dollars or over. This matter, I think, was dealt with very ably by the honourable member from Moose Jaw City (*Mr. Ross*), one year ago. I liked his project then which was to capitalise on this gas tax which would bring a lot of money with which we could step out and bring our highways up to standard with a comprehensive programme, and have a highway right through so that there would be reasonable prospects of anyone getting to his destination and having got there to get back again, as instanced by my honourable friend, the Junior Member for Saskatoon (*Mr. McConnell*). Again, I refer to the little book and I find that the Dominion Government from the tax on automobiles and parts coming into Canada, derives some \$25,430,000, annually. That is a new source of revenue in recent years and to my mind that revenue should have some bearing on the highways of this Dominion. In other words, I think that the Dominion should bear some of the burden of building highways through the Dominion in the interests of this unity they speak about, especially to induce the people to come from the east and visit the west. I think this should be the duty of the Dominion Government to use that revenue, partly at least, for the building of a highway through the Dominion. We had a Highways Bill at Ottawa in 1919, when \$20,000,000 was voted and I think the time has come for another vote for this purpose, in view of the new source of revenue to which I have referred.

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* I would like to know: Would my honourable friend build tourist roads at the expense of other roads in the Province?

*Mr. Whatley:* No, I have advocated nothing of the kind, I think I have made myself clear. I think I stated that we need to size this situation as Hon. Walter Scott did on a former occasion. I think I have carried the point by referring to what I call the efficient and business like suggestion made in the speech of the honourable member for Moose Jaw City (*Mr. Ross*) along the lines of capitalisation of the gas tax which would, of course, go for the construction of hard-surfaced highways in this Province on which people could get in and go out of the Province, with reasonable certainty that they would get to their destination and get back again.

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* In order to get my point clear; will the honourable gentleman illustrate how he would capitalise the gas tax and how much he would spend on the cross highway?

*Mr. Whatley:* Well, I would just refer him to the speech of my honourable friend. It is not my business to figure out how this could be done, but I'm sure I could do it at my convenience, taking all factors into consideration. But I am not prepared to deal with the point, off-hand, at this time.

*Mr. Nay:* Over what term of years would you capitalise it?

*Mr. Whatley:* It was stated by my honourable friend from Moose Jaw City (*Mr. Ross*) that he recommended a term of twenty years and if I can remember correctly, he proposed to gravel two roads east and west and one north and south, and that the gas tax would provide funds to cover both interest and sinking fund and leave a balance of \$600,000 to build other highways with. I have a copy of the speech. I thought it a good one so I clipped it out. I might say I have not done much clipping so far this Session.

When I was interrupted, I was dealing with Federal Aid. I referred to the fact that \$20,000,000 had been voted in 1919 which was divided among the Provinces on a population basis. I think that was a wrong method. It should have been on a mileage basis rather than on a population basis. Now, if I would be allowed to deal with Immigration for a few minutes \* \* \*

*Hon. Mr. Hamilton:* I would ask the honourable Member, Mr. Speaker, if he is advocating the expenditure on a mileage basis rather than on a population basis, would he apply that to our own Province as well?

*Mr. Whatley:* I was dealing with the construction of an all-Canada highway and with a division of monies which would be provided by the Dominion of Canada and I don't think that would have any bearing on the spending of Provincial money whatsoever.

*Mr. Sykes:* Do I understand that the honourable Member advocates one Trans-Canada Highway east and west and one north and south? Then, might I ask would they both pass through Swift Current?

*Mr. Whatley:* I thought I was through with the Highway question but apparently it takes a long time for some things to sink in over there. I think I might be allowed to continue, but I will enlighten the honourable member, I did not say "highways" and I did not say whether it would go north and south or east and west—and I certainly did not mention Swift Current. I leave that point now.



Dealing with the Immigration question, there has been enough said about it so I don't propose to deal with it at length but only to make one or two comments. I do not class myself as an alarmist, but I do feel that there should be a certain ratio in the matter of our immigration, within which we should keep, for English-speaking countries and Continental European. I feel, too, in recent years, there has been a change for the worse in that respect and immigration has been inclined to flow more from those Central European countries than from the English-speaking countries and I would like to quote to the House a few figures in that regard. As I have stated, I feel the time has come when the matter should be taken into cognizance and it does not do any good to say things are "O.K." or to go around saying they are all wrong—who say that something should be done. I know that something is being done. I know that the Committee at Ottawa, last session,—the Agricultural Committee—dealt with it thoroughly and made certain recommendations. I know that some of those recommendations have been put into practice to some extent, but I also understand that whatever changes were made, there has not been a change in that flow of immigration and that the same ratio exists today that existed a year ago. Now the figures are these, and these figures were brought out in the evidence given before the Committee at Ottawa. In 1921, 85 per cent. of the immigrants were coming from the English-speaking countries, including England and the United States, and only 15 per cent. from the continent of Europe; in 1927, that ratio had changed to 49 per cent from English-speaking countries and 51 per cent. from other countries. Now the figures given out for the first nine months of 1928 bear out the same ratio, notwithstanding the fact that ten thousand British Miners were brought in here for harvesting work, in that nine months.

Next might I propose to deal, Mr. Speaker, with a few of the remarks made by the Attorney General in regard to my honourable friend the Leader of the Progressive Party (*Mr. Tran*)—and what he said about Co-Operative Government. He was inclined to ridicule Co-Operative Government and to argue that we were not consistent in advocating a restricted immigration policy and, at the same time, a change of parliamentary procedure, and also a change in the Government. We all know that British institutions or Parliament is based on that principle which we term Representative Government, and those of you who know much about history know that that principle was brought into being by the signing of Magna Carta by King John in the 12th century. British institutions began with that.

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* I think my honourable friend had better run over his British History again. I think he is a little previous. There was no Representative Government in 1215.

*Mr. Whatley:* I said this principle was the basis on which Representative Government grew.

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* That is better.

*Mr. Whatley:* I do not pretend to be in the same class as an educationist as my honourable friend. As regards Co-Operative Government, while I do not intend to go into the details, I do claim that the principle of Representative Government is not going forward as it should, and in Co-Operative Government we are seeking to give the principle a chance to function as it should. In other words, this Government is not truly representative of any but one section of the people, and the Government is carrying on representing one party, and that party only represents 55 per cent. of the ballots cast at the last general election.

I have been taken to task in that I made the statement that too much time was wasted in party combats. My honourable friend from Swift Current (*Mr. Sykes*) thinks that because we are spending our own money while here, it is all right. But I would ask him whether he would conduct his own business along the same lines? Would our Wheat Pool be considered running along business lines if the directors split themselves up and formed themselves into party compacts.

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* I would like to ask whether or not in the Wheat Pool management, there has never been a difference of opinion where one group of delegates got together and formed a group and urged this or that be done?

*Mr. Whatley:* I presume there are.

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* And do those groups not hold caucuses once in a while?

*Mr. Whatley:* I do not know, not being a director, but in any case they run on business lines and I contend that, as far as the proceedings of this House are concerned, it is not being run in a businesslike manner.

I want to bring again to the notice of this Legislature, a matter I have previously brought before the House, which has to do with the cheapening of the cost of the settling up of estates. I see there is an amendment to *The Surrogate Courts Act* this Session, and I believe this would be an opportune time to make a move along the line I have indicated. I have referred to this in a former speech, and I asked for the simplification of the form of application that has to be made out for the purpose of getting letters of administration or probate in the case of settling up the deceased's estate. I contend that the forms necessary could be included in one form and could be simplified and so it would not be necessary to go to a lawyer to get this application in. In the Old Land, in estates under £500, any person can go to the Clerk of the Court and it is his duty to make out the form for which the fee is 15 shillings, or \$3.60. In small estates, I think it would be quite in order to allow laymen to make out the application forms and to facilitate that work, the

forms can be simplified and the supplementary affidavits could be included in the form and thereby eliminate a lot of confusion and make the matter much more simple. It is not permissible to present application forms for letters probate unless they are taken in person. In the event of laymen making out this application form, sometimes they have to travel long distances, but to cover cases where they have to travel long distances to present these in person, I think we might introduce a clause making it permissible to send these application forms through the mail. It would save a lot of time and money.

Another matter I want to touch on is the executor's bond. Those who know the Act know the executors have to furnish a bond, double the amount of gross assets.

*Mr. MacPherson:* There is no bond by the executor, but by the administrator.

*Mr. Whalley.* The administrator has to furnish a bond double the amount of the assets of the estate, and in computing these assets there is often a mortgage of \$1,000 or \$1,500, which is included. I contend that the mortgagee is well protected with a first mortgage on the land and that the amount of the mortgage should be deducted from the assets and not be computed for purposes of requiring an administrator or administratrix to furnish a bond covering also that mortgage. Before I finish with this point I want to stress the importance of the matter of making it permissible to send application forms through the mail to the Clerk of the Court.

I want to deal with some of the remarks of the Attorney-General who is not in his seat, for which I am sorry. In regard to his speech, it reminded me of the story of the vicar's egg, "very good in parts," and I think that applies to the Attorney-General's speech—very good in parts! When he was dealing with the North Country it stirred our imagination, and when he spoke of the rapid progress on industrial lines in this city, it quickened the pulses of the heart and made us proud to be in the position we are, in assisting in the growth and development of this Province along industrial lines. And then he referred to the honourable member from Cumberland (*Mr. Hall*), and in a romantic way he related the experience of that honourable member as a prospector, but I failed to grasp or catch the point wherein he stated we owed him a debt of gratitude because of his find of very rich ore in the vicinity of Rotten Stone Lake; I failed to catch the point why we should owe him a debt of gratitude for that lucky find. It would be all right—I would grant him his point if that honourable member had turned over possession of that find to the Province on the principle that natural resources belong to the people in the Province.

I now come to that part of his speech in which he represented my honourable friends to the left (the Conservative group), as having conducted a "diagnostic clinic." I do not need to take up the cudgels on their behalf, but when he came to the point of my honourable friends starting in to administer gas, the thought crossed my mind that they have not the monopoly of all the gas. It struck me the Attorney-General is quite a gas machine himself. We heard about the gas they sent "over the top" in the trenches in the Great War. I do not know what kind of gas my honourable friend was using, but it had rather a bad flavour when it came over here. He told us our position over here was ideal. Well we sometimes do deprecate the time taken in party combat. However, you must admit there is a reason why we have never felt the need to go to a show since we came here. We get all the burlesque and vaudeville we want in the House, and it seems the talking-movies have nothing on this House.

We have heard a lot about stirring up racial and religious hatred, and I will add my condemnation. I think it is a very bad thing. I think there is nothing more detrimental to our progress as a Province than this stirring up of religious hatred and I want to know why we do not practise a little of the sentiments we preach. It is like the weather. We hear a lot about it but no one does anything about it. We hear a lot, too, about who started it, and stirred up this religious feeling. Well, if my opinion is worth anything, I think there is blame on both the old parties. We have heard a good deal said about the indiscreet utterances of a year ago by the Premier. My comment on that—and to bring out the point—I want to tell a story of a minister who went out one afternoon to visit one of the members of his congregation, and while there his hostess asked: "Sir, will you have a cup of tea?" and he said: "Madam, there is no occasion for tea." Then she said: "Will you have a cup of coffee?" and he replied: "Madam, there is no occasion for coffee," and then she suggested a glass of whiskey and water and he again replied: "Madam, there is no occasion for water." I do not think there was any occasion on the part of the Premier to say what he did one year ago.

Now, I am going to say one word regarding the Hudson Bay, and I am through. I do not think we can eulogise the Minister of Railways (*Hon. Mr. Dunning*), any too much for the speed in building the railway on to the Hudson Bay. I was so enthused that I sat down and wrote him a letter complimenting him on the expedition of the work being done. However, I think when we consider the amounts that have been voted for Quebec harbour—\$5,000,000 in 1925 and again \$8,500,000 in 1928, we need not have any qualms about the amount being spent to carry the Hudson Bay Railway on to Fort Churchill. I will guarantee that, in ten years, there will be more exports from the port of Churchill than have ever gone out or ever will go out from Quebec harbour. I do not feel that the railway has come too soon; and furthermore, I contend that it should have come many years ago. I always felt that the training the honourable, the Minister of Railways, got in the West with the Saskatchewan Grain Growers, the old organisation of which he was a member for many years, was what was needed in this matter, and that he would be "on guard" for our interests, here, in the councils of the Government at Ottawa.

THE HONOURABLE J. M. UHRICH, M.D.

(*Minister of Public Health and Public Works*)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1928.

Mr. Speaker,—First of all, Sir, I wish to join with the honourable members who have preceded me in this debate, in expressing my sympathy and concern regarding the grave illness from which His Majesty the King is suffering at the present time. I am sure the anxiety of all the people of the Province, of the Dominion and throughout the British Commonwealth of Nations was relieved this morning when they learned that His Majesty is rallying and I feel I am expressing the sentiment of all our people when I voice the hope that he will recover very soon and again be blessed with good health.

Now, it is to me, more than an ordinary pleasure, Mr. Speaker, to add my own to the congratulations which members of the House who have preceded me in this debate have bestowed so deservedly and generously upon my friends, the Member for Kinistino (*Mr. McIntosh*), and the Member for Arm River (*Mr. Waugh*), for the manner in which they moved and seconded this Address. I am sure that, as far as the Member for Kinistino is concerned, who has been here since 1925, we all admit that upon this occasion he has again shown us the grasp he has of public affairs and the facility he has of presenting them in a logical and efficient manner. Regarding my honourable friend from Arm River who is new to this House, let me say that all of us who had the privilege of following his remarks can testify to the fact that he has acquitted himself in a most creditable manner—creditable to himself and to the constituents he represents.

Let me add a few words of personal congratulation and appreciation. He and I, twenty years ago, met for the first time in Regina when we wrote our examination for admission to the medical profession in this Province. From that period until now, he has given his very best in dark weather and fair, in good years and in lean, and I know of no other man in the Province who enjoys a closer relationship or a greater friendship with his clientele and the other people in his district (and deservedly so), than my honourable friend from Arm River.

It was not my intention to speak had it not been for the remarks of the Leader of the Conservative Party (*Mr. Anderson*), when he spoke in this debate. Regarding the speech which he delivered and the remarks he made, the least I can say is that my honourable friend was not in a very happy frame of mind. There were several occasions on which it was apparent he had severely cudgelled his brain to find a line of attack upon the present administration. The method he followed was not altogether unique to the honourable gentleman nor to this occasion.

The Arm River by-election to which he referred has shown him to be the world's greatest heavy-weight self-jollier. His method of complaint at that time, which he reiterated, was his usual method. When arguments were lacking he substituted copious doses of vituperation which can best be described as "back-fence" gossip. If, during that campaign, he said everything that has been ascribed to him by my honourable friend's "independent" newspaper in the City of Regina, all I can say is that he is a very sick man indeed, and that his gangrene should be attended to.

The Arm River campaign, of course, was rather remarkable for the frenzy and hunger for office evidenced by the wild, reckless and almost irresponsible utterances of some of the opposition orators, their futile solutions for Saskatchewan problems, and the fervor with which the religious prejudice drum was thumped from one end of the riding to the other.

Right from the beginning, my honourable friend took a great deal of delight in predicting the defeat of the Government in that particular by-election. We find him even on the day of nomination of his candidate, as reported in his "independent" newspaper, making the statement that the Government was "facing defeat." On June 1st I find him "challenging the Liberals to hold an election."

Now, my honourable friend has always been a great little challenger. In 1925 he went up and down the whole Province of Saskatchewan challenging each and every member of the Cabinet and on one particular occasion challenging the whole Cabinet. We find him reported as follows, in the *Regina Leader* of June 1, 1928, with reference to the Arm River by-election:

"He joined in the challenge to the Liberal Government to go to the country at this time because of alleged discontent with the present administration. Dr. Anderson said they will try to keep you without representation at the Next Session of the House. They are afraid to run a by-election here because they will get beaten."

That was the great prophecy made. Well, I want to assure my honourable friend that we were not afraid, and that we did not intend to keep the constituency without representation, and the constituency has representation in this House during this Session.

We also find, Mr. Speaker, that in one of his meetings in that particular campaign he paid special attention to the Department of Public Works. I have in my hand a resumé of one of his meetings which was held in Elbow, where my honourable friend made use of the following words, according to the *Saskatoon Star-Phoenix* of October 5, 1928:

"There is no doubt at all that the contractors of our public buildings are asked to contribute to campaign funds. They will not deny it because it is true. I have a lot of information in connection with these contracts."

Now, Mr. Speaker, if the honourable gentleman has a lot of information in regard to contracts I think we are entitled to assume that he would have spoken of it in this debate—but, of course, as usual, we heard nothing about the information he has regarding the campaign funds from public buildings.

It is all very well when the honourable gentleman is out on the hustings for him to make use of this kind of argument. But when he comes into this House he coos like a turtle dove. We never hear of any of these things on the floor of the House; only when he is on the hustings.

To disabuse my honourable friend's mind of any suspicions, I shall read to him, Mr. Speaker, the various contracts that have been let since I have been Minister of Public Works and I charge my honourable friend to take down these figures and I shall then try to explain to him how impossible it is under the system that prevails at the present time to collect campaign funds on tenders submitted.

The tenders for construction of these buildings are advertised for weeks in advance in the newspapers. All these tenders are opened in public and usually all the contractors are present at the time. A minister is always present—if not the Minister of Public Works, then the Minister of some other Department.

We will take the tenders for Prince Albert Court House. Four tenders were received as follows:

	Floretyle	Floor slab solid concrete
Wilson & Wilson.....	\$140,800.00	\$140,500.00
A. W. Cassidy & Co.....	139,437.00	139,957.00
Poole Construction Co.....	144,800.00	.....
Smith Bros. & Wilson.....	137,970.00	137,150.00

The contract was awarded to Smith Bros. & Wilson at \$137,970.00—which was the lowest tender.

Now take the Weyburn Court House tenders. The following were received:

		Trus-con
P. W. Graham & Sons.....	\$81,963.00	\$82,968.00
Bird, Woodall & Simpson.....	84,450.00	85,400.00
Wilson & Wilson Ltd.....	83,135.00	81,274.00
E. C. W. Johnston.....	85,900.00	86,600.00
Smith Bros. & Wilson.....	83,770.00	83,430.00

Wilson & Wilson, submitting the lowest tender, received the contract for the Weyburn Court House.

Now take the Melfort Court House tenders:

	Trus-con	Massillon
Wilson & Wilson.....	\$60,724.00	\$60,674.00
A. W. Cassidy Co., Ltd.....	62,235.00	61,195.00
Bird, Woodall & Simpson.....	60,900.00	60,800.00
Poole Construction Co.....	61,987.00	61,987.00
C. M. Miners Construction Co.....	63,850.00	64,264.00

The lowest tender being from Wilson & Wilson, the contract was awarded to that firm.

Now take the Gravelbourg Court House tenders:

J. L. Guay.....	\$54,994.00
Smith Bros. & Wilson.....	44,700.00
Hamilton Construction Company Ltd.....	49,200.00
Poole Construction Co.....	52,783.00
A. W. Cassidy Co.....	46,748.00
Wilson & Wilson.....	45,325.00

Smith Bros & Wilson, having submitted the lowest tender, the contract was awarded to them.

*Mr. Anderson:* May I ask a question?

*Hon. Mr. Uhrich:* No, you may not! I did not interrupt you while you were speaking. Sit down and take your medicine like a man!

Shaunavon Court House: These tenders were received:

Smith Bros. & Wilson.....	\$43,175.00
J. P. Moore.....	55,400.00
E. L. P. Strickland.....	58,200.00
Hamilton Construction Co.....	48,100.00
Poole Construction Co.....	51,983.00
A. W. Cassidy Co.....	46,148.00
Wilson & Wilson.....	44,125.00

The lowest tender was from Smith Bros. & Wilson and they were awarded the contract.

Wynyard Court House tenders were:

Smith Bros. & Wilson.....	\$42,870.00
Hamilton Construction Co.....	48,100.00
A. W. Cassidy Co.....	45,148.00
P. W. Graham.....	43,735.00
Wilson & Wilson.....	44,125.00
James Young.....	49,750.00

Again the lowest tender being from Smith Bros. & Wilson, they were given the contract.

We come to the tenders for Moose Jaw Normal School:

Alex. Ferguson Ltd.....	\$362,000.00
A. W. Cassidy Co.....	343,454.00
Smith Bros. & Wilson.....	357,700.00
Wilson & Wilson.....	346,495.00
Bird, Woodall & Simpson.....	352,000.00
Poole Construction Co.....	363,000.00

The lowest tender was submitted by A. W. Cassidy, and he is constructing the Moose Jaw Normal School.

Prince Albert Sanatorium tenders were:

		Trus-con
Poole Construction Co.....	\$609,800.50	\$612,680.00
Wilson & Wilson Ltd.....	599,750.00	607,250.00
A. W. Cassidy Co.....	645,446.00	644,246.00

Again Wilson & Wilson submitting the lowest tender were awarded the contract.

This list shows conclusively to the House that every contract was awarded to the firm submitting the lowest tender. Every one of these tenders was opened in public and, consequently, it was absolutely impossible for any of the men to contribute anything to campaign funds.

At the meeting which was held in the City of Saskatoon at that great Conservative picnic on June 28th, I find my honourable friend, the junior member for Saskatoon (*Mr. McConnell*), made the following remarks. He said: "The coal here in Saskatchewan used in the Government buildings was imported from the United States." Well now

*Mr. McConnell:* Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, I wish to say that I did not make that statement.

*Hon. Dr. Uhrich:* My honourable friend says he is wrongly reported in the *Phoenix* of Saskatoon. Our Tory friends, as a rule, claim to be incorrectly reported in practically all the newspapers of the Dominion of Canada. My friend says he did not make that particular statement. I must accept his denial.

*Mr. McConnell:* I said "brick" was imported.

*Hon. Dr. Uhrich:* I am talking about coal. If you refer to this newspaper you will find you are alleged to have said "coal."

*Mr. McConnell:* What is the date?

*Hon. Dr. Uhrich:* June 28, 1928, *Saskatoon Phoenix*. My honourable friend says he did not make such a statement. Under the rules of the House I am forced to accept his denial, but, if there should be any suspicion in my honourable friend's mind, let me assure him, here and now, that not one single pound of United States coal has been imported since 1917 (the year of the coal famine), by the Government for use in our Government buildings. I also find my honourable friend, the junior member for Saskatoon, on that particular occasion, made use of this statement, as reported in the same newspaper, June 28, 1928:

"He referred to the Government Telephone Office and stated imported bricks had been used instead of those produced in the Province."

*Mr. McConnell:* Correct!

*Hon. Dr. Uhrich:* Well now, Mr. Speaker, my honourable friend made use of that statement in the House, last Session, and when he exploded that bomb he had the galleries packed to see the downfall of this Government, but it took my honourable friend, the Minister of Telephones (*Hon. Mr. Patterson*) just two minutes to explain the whole thing. Every member of this House knows the answer which was given—that a few hundred bricks were imported from the United States to match certain face brick in the building which was being extended at the time—bricks which we had tried to buy in the Province of Saskatchewan and could not. We could not get any of our own companies to manufacture them, and we were compelled to import these from the United States to match. My honourable friend knows that, when the explanation was made it was accepted by him at that time. Yet, even after the Minister had made that statement on his honour, my honourable friend, at the first opportunity repeats his allegation that the Government of the Province of Saskatchewan is importing American bricks instead of using our own.

*Mr. McConnell:* I will leave it to the people of Saskatchewan.

*Hon. Dr. Uhrich:* I will leave it to the members of this House to say what is in that statement. Of course, my honourable friend from Saskatoon is rather an engaging old dear, amusingly critical. His stuff has all the potency and violent kick of a bottle of sarsaparilla. He accompanies the honourable, the leader of the Tory Party and he also speaks at his meetings. Good company!

*Mr. Anderson:* Hear, hear!

*Hon. Dr. Uhrich:* I have a few more remarks made by the Tory leader at this meeting at Elbow. He is reported as follows in *The Star-Phoenix*, October 5, 1928:

“He declared that an attempt had been made at the opening of this campaign to deceive the people. ‘That ridiculous rag, *The Regina Leader*,’ as the newspaper was described by the speaker, had, he said, printed statements supposed to have been made by the Premier at Imperial which the Premier had never uttered. He gave several instances to support his claim and said the Premier had feared to repeat statements given to the paper beforehand because the leader of the Opposition was present at the meeting.”

My honourable friends know that the Premier is not wearing out any shoe leather running away from anybody, and no member on this side runs away from the Tory leader insofar as his utterances in this House are concerned. Here is another of his gems, reported in the same paper:

“Declaring that the Liberal organization had plenty of money with which to carry on the fight, Dr. Anderson suggested that such money was coming from the brewers selling beer to the Government, men selling ‘booze’ to the liquor stores, road contractors who had been awarded contracts by the Government and contractors for public buildings. ‘For that,’ he said, ‘we believe our public buildings are costing us more.’”

Well now, I do not think it is out of the way to assume that if the honourable gentleman had any such information he would have given it to us, when he was speaking to the Address. But, there was not one word! It is all very well to make insinuations and suppositions of that brand to mislead the people when he is away out in remote parts of the Province!

Another report of his statements reads thus:

“On the subject of education, he said that boys and girls were growing up under a handicap under the educational system of the Gardiner Government. He said children were growing up to manhood and womanhood without even rudimentary knowledge of the English language.”

I should like my honourable friend to tell us where these people are growing up without any knowledge of the English language! I should like him to mention the names of some of these schools on the floor of the House! If any such condition exists, we should like to know it! But not one word!

My honourable friend, the leader of the Tory Party, was very much interested in the Regina Jail. I understand that he made a visit to that institution, which, of course, surprised me considerably. Among other things, I find this quotation from my honourable friend's speech made in Regina, on November 22, and reported in his “independent” newspaper:

“‘I had always thought,’ he said, ‘that men who were sentenced to do hard labour on the stone pile did hard work with big hammers. The hammers they use at Regina Jail are about the size of an ordinary carpenter's hammer and the prisoner sits on one large stone and taps away at a small piece of rock placed on another large stone. There were soft cushions lying around and I asked what they were for. I was told that the cushions were given to the prisoners to sit down on while they worked at the rock pile. I did not notice if they served them with hot water bottles.’”

I can assure my honourable friend if there had been any necessity, they would have been given hot water bottles, too. For the information of my honourable friends I may say that the visit of the honourable, the Tory leader, to the jail was made on November 23rd. It was cold at the time and these men who were engaged in breaking rocks were sitting on the stone on gunny sacks which they had stuffed with a little hay. If we did not supply the gunny sacks,

half our infirmaries would be full. The only thing I can say is, I hope that, if my honourable friend ever gets into the custody of the Warden of the Regina Jail, the latter will be more considerate of him than my honourable friend would be of the prisoners. I find that on November 6th, a representative of his ally, the "*Regina Star*" made a visit to Regina Jail and certain statements appeared in the particular issue of that day. I find this:

"Regina Jail is Conducted Upon Efficient Lines."

And continuing, the writer describes things, describes the routine in the jail and the hospital ward, as follows:

"Despite the fact that there is such a large number of inmates, it is a remarkable fact that the hospital ward is the only part of the jail which is unoccupied, a fact which speaks most highly for the efficiency of the authorities."

It seems to me strange, in view of the close connection between my honourable friend and the "*Regina Star*" that he and the "*Star*" representative should come away with diametrically opposite opinions regarding this matter. We find, furthermore, the same newspaper saying this:

"With the tour of the jail over, the party was then taken over the prison farm. This consists of a full section and the crops this year were very good. The stables are kept in excellent condition, while the horses and cattle give the appearance of having been splendidly cared for. The pigs make a fine exhibit, while the splendid flock of sheep appear to be of very high quality."

Well, this is the opinion of my friend's "independent" newspaper, so, if he should want any more information with regard to the Regina Jail, I would advise him to consult that newspaper.

I have here another report of a meeting that was held in Arm River Constituency, this time at the town of Liberty, where, as reported by my friend's paper: "Anderson Hits Weyburn Mental Hospital;" "Buckle Calls for Beer Halls."

"At Weyburn, alleged Dr. Anderson, he found men walking around an enclosure for exercise, ankle deep in water. He found two children who were not mentally deficient there, he said, because he was informed they were the illegitimate offspring of mothers who were in the institution. Dr. Anderson charged that the Superintendent was incompetent and appointed because he was a Liberal."

Now, I should like to ask: Was my honourable friend appointed to the Civil Service ten or eleven years ago because he was a Liberal? At least we know he quit the Tory Party cold in the middle of the 1911 campaign to take a school inspectorship!

Let us answer the last statement first. How does he know that these children were not mentally deficient? I know my honourable friend is not suffering from an insufficient appreciation of his own intellectual attainments, but I certainly never heard, and I did not know, that he claimed to be an expert psychiatrist. Let me tell him that it takes a sound medical training, and long practical and special experience, to judge whether or not these cases are mentally deficient. I know members of my profession in this House will bear me out in this. But my honourable friend puts himself up as a great diagnostician!

I have here a letter from the physician in charge of the particular case referred to which I shall read:

"I notice that Dr. Anderson is paying some attention to our institution. His remarks are so far from the truth that I feel that I must refute the same. First, (I shall not mention the names of the persons) Jessie——and Betty——. These are two small girls that I showed Dr. Anderson while here and drew his attention to the fact that we were yet uncertain as to the amount of insanity or feeble-mindedness there might be. However, I drew his attention to the fact that Jessie's grandmother died in an institution and that her mother was an inmate here and it was probable that the child would also develop trouble; that as soon as we were satisfied as to their mental status, steps would be taken to place them under Reynolds' care or some other institutional care where they could be adopted. Since that time Jessie has had a real disturbance, was depressed, lost weight, and can now be classified. She is in her proper place notwithstanding an expert of Dr. Anderson's standing. We rely on our own staff and up to the present our courts are readily accepting the conclusion of our experts.

"Betty was about two years old when sent here, weighed 23 pounds and could not stand, very emaciated. We gave her electrical treatment and massage and she is walking around now and fairly smart. However, she is a defective and will always need supervision. I am attaching Dr. Campbell's report on these two cases and also on Madeleine——who was the child he mentioned with a hereditary disease. As to our wards and the general condition of our Hospital we are always complimented on their clean and sanitary condition and always open for inspection."

Now, I have here the report of Dr. Campbell. I wonder if my honourable friend will say his report is false. I wonder if he will question the judgment of a psychiatrist of Dr. Campbell's calibre. This is his report:

"It appears there are three children in this institution about whom the question has been raised as to their fitness to be here. The oldest is Madeleine——, a little girl who was six years old in May of 1928 and it appears the point raised in her case is that in as much as she is a case of congenital syphilis and her mental defect is due to this condition that she should not be among other children. If this little girl should grow to adult years and have children of her own possibly she could transmit this strain to her own offspring. In so far as communicating it to other children or to adults either for that matter there is just as much likelihood of her communicating appendicitis or housemaid's knee and the other children are in no danger whatever of contracting syphilis from this case. Her mother has not at any time been an inmate of this hospital.

"The other two children are younger. Betty—— and Jessie——. Betty was sent to this institution from the Salvation Army Shelter and the medical certificate in her case before coming here indicates mental defects present. She was two years of age at the time of admission here and has been here a little over a year. At the time of admission she weighed 23½ pounds, did not walk or talk, and while with massage and general treatment we have been able to advance her to the point she walks she does not talk very much even yet. The child is unquestionably definitely retarded for her age and it will be some little time yet before we will know for certain whether or not she is going to advance sufficiently to be graded outside of the defective class. This I doubt very much at the present time. Her mother has not been an inmate of this institution. The history we have here is that the mother deserted the child soon after it was born and the father of the child is not known.

"Jessie—— was brought to this institution with her mother as apparently it was felt that the child had little chance of being normal in view of the mother's mental condition all through her pregnancy. The history we have is to the effect that the child's grandmother was also insane. For a time this child promised to do fairly well though she was definitely retarded in comparison with a normal child but during the past summer her condition would indicate that it is most improbable that she will develop into a normal child.

"On different occasions we have had children under observation here who were borderline cases and as soon as it was felt that a certificate could be given to the Bureau of Child Protection that the mental condition of these children would allow them to get along reasonably well outside of the institution they have been removed and placed in foster homes. In two or three instances as these children became older arrest of development took place and they had to be returned here. I am quite sure that the Bureau of Child Protection are willing to do the same in the case of these two children if I would furnish them with a similar certificate.

"While to the casual observer these children may appear normal, with their family history in mind, the development they have shown since coming here and my knowledge of mental defect I am certainly not prepared at the present time to give any such certificate in the case of either of them without further observation and I would certainly advise any friend of mine against adopting either of them.

"In the meantime it should be pointed out that instead of suffering any ill effects from their stay in this institution they have both derived a good deal of benefit."

Now, my honourable friend made a remark concerning what we call the 'airing court' at the Mental Hospital at Weyburn. He said he found men walking around in a muddy and damp yard enclosed by 15-foot board fences and brick walls. Without going any further, I will leave this matter to the intelligence of the people of this Province. Thousands of people from all over Saskatchewan, from other Provinces and from the United States, visit our institutions every year—thousands and thousands of them—and in not one instance has there ever been any complaint or criticism regarding our institutions. Yet my honourable friend says he found these men walking around, taking exercise, ankle deep in water! I shall read an explanation of this as given by the Superintendent of the Weyburn Mental Hospital:

"We have a very clean dry Court and even after a heavy rain, it is always dry. We have nearly a foot of sand over the whole area and this readily absorbs any rain. Mr. Anderson visited us on April 16th, and we had a very heavy rain the night before. Between the hospital door and the Airing Court some water does lie after a heavy storm but we always have planks for the patients to cross over. The day of Dr. Anderson's visit there was some water here but the planks were in place and no patient had wet feet. The Airing Court where the patients were taking exercise was free of water. Any water was outside of the Court and in paths leading to it. I am attaching a report on this signed by the Chief Attendant and Assistant Chief. I feel very strongly on this matter and resent such uncalled for remarks."

My honourable friend also made reference to the fact that the Superintendent was appointed because he was a Liberal. To this the Superintendent replies:

"So far as being a Liberal and a supporter of the Liberal party, I have always been such and was endorsed in my action by the electors of Weyburn at three elections, my majority increasing at each election from 28 to 807. In the Legislature I always had the confidence of all parties both as Chairman of Legislative Committees and as Speaker, being complimented by Mr. MacLean, the Leader of the Opposition, on my fairness, in fact Mr. MacLean spoke to the Premier, Mr. Martin, about the advisability of having me permanent Speaker as in England."



Well now, that is the explanation of the 'Airing Court'; and I have also a statement made by the Chief Attendant and the Assistant Chief Attendant to the effect no patients are taken out for exercise when it is raining, but, should it clear up after a rain and the 'Airing Courts' are in fit condition, the patients are taken out:

"We have eight or ten inches of sand over the Airing Court. In some places for instance where there is considerable traffic by the patients returning to and coming from the Airing Court or where some of the patients have been playing in the sand or scuffing it out with their hands and feet which they do and where a few patients continually parade up and down in one particular place, there is a decline and when it rains it makes a puddle. It is only after heavy rains that the water stands above the ground because the sand absorbs considerable moisture. When the water does stand on the ground we dig ditches through the Airing Courts to take the water away. At no time have we seen patients walking through water ankle deep or through water of any kind, as we do not permit the patients out while there is water on the ground."

Well, so far as disabusing my honourable friend's mind regarding the Weyburn Mental Hospital is concerned, I shall have something to say later on.

My honourable friend, in speaking the other day, made reference to a certain "whispering campaign" that was alleged to be going on during the Arm River by-election. In this contention, of course, he was not alone. Reading over the newspapers I find there was quite a number of the members of the Tory party who made reference to this "whispering campaign" that was said to be going on there. There was, for example, the allegation of the candidate for the Tory party, Mr. Adrain and I find this in the columns of my friend's paper, the *Regina Daily Star*:

"Mr. Adrain was in fighting trim and said a whispering campaign was being carried on against him."

And further on mention again was made of this "whispering campaign." The paper says:

"He again referred to statements alleged to have been made concerning his speech at the Orange celebration in Watrous. It had been an attempt to show he was not a friend of Roman Catholics."

Now, being curious as to what this "whispering campaign" meant, I took the trouble to look up this Watrous speech which was made by my honourable friend's candidate, Mr. Adrain. I was anxious to find out about this thing. I have in my hand, Mr. Speaker, the July 14th issue of the *Saskatoon Daily Star* in which the following report of Mr. Adrain's remarks appear:

"'Did the Orange Order in the Great War contribute her share to procure for the world these great principles, liberty and justice upon which the Order is founded,' he asked. 'They gave their lives that Canada might be free. Behind them on many fields of battle were the ideals of liberty, justice and equal rights to all people.'"

Now, Mr. Speaker, I can only say "hear, hear" to that—but the report continues:

"'Where were our Roman Catholic fellow-countrymen? Putting every obstacle in the way of the Government of the country to the successful carrying on of the war' he declared. 'The only Province that refused to do its duty was the one where Romanism is dominant and where the priests rule.'"

Well now, Mr. Speaker and honourable members of the Legislature, we know where this "whispering campaign" started. It was not very much of a "whispering campaign." I think what I have quoted ought to be sufficient if the Tory leader wants to know or to find out where it started. It speaks for itself, and I shall not take the time of the House to enlarge upon it.

My honourable friend, during the last Session, was rather perturbed about our public institutions; in fact, so much so that he arose in his seat in the House and moved a resolution to have this Legislature nominate a Committee to investigate the public institutions of the Province. Every member of the House, of course, will remember the incident. We on this side did not object. We said then as we say now that our public institutions are always open to any one who wants to go through them. We, therefore, acquiesced to his request and agreed that a committee be appointed to investigate the public institutions of our Province. But listen, in connection with the campaign at Arm River, I find that the honourable member for Tisdale,

(*Mr. Buckle*), speaking at Holdfast is reported thus:

"In conclusion, he dealt with the Department of Public Works and said a great saving could be effected in this connection. He alleged great sums of money were spent with the only object in view, of holding the local vote and with no real necessity for the expenditure. Conservatives at the last Session had forced the Government to appoint a committee to investigate conditions in the various Government institutions."

Not much forcing to it, Mr. Speaker!

For the benefit of the House, I will read my files on this matter. I concurred in the suggestion that such a committee should visit these various institutions but concluded that it was advisable to wait until the roads were dry so that we would be able, without difficulty, to reach the institutions by car. On May 5, last, therefore, I addressed a letter to my honourable friend, the leader of the Tory party reading as follows:

"You will remember that during the last Session of the Legislature, provision was made for the appointment of a representative committee consisting of members of the Legislature, for the purpose of visiting the public institutions in the Province.

"You have been appointed as a member of this committee and this letter to you is for the purpose of ascertaining whether or not you will act in this capacity."

Subsequently, I received my honourable friend's answer dated May 7, last, which reads as follows:

"I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter of May 5th and to state in reply that I shall be pleased to act as a member of the committee that will visit the public institutions of this Province.

"I should like very much to have some advance notice as to when this committee will start to function and I shall not make any engagements from June 1st on until I hear from you."

In the meantime, I had written the same letter to the other members of the committee that had been appointed—my honourable friend from Pelly, (*Mr. Tran*), my honourable friend from Lloydminster, (*Mr. Gordon*), my honourable friend from the City of Regina, (*Mr. McNiven*). These, with myself, constituted the committee. Subsequently, the honourable member for Lloydminster (I have his letter here on this file) informed me that he was unable to act and I had to appoint as a substitute the honourable member for Kinistino, (*Mr. McIntosh*). Now this letter of my honourable friend (*Mr. Anderson*) was dated May 7th, and, as I said, similar letters had been forwarded to other members of the committee. The honourable member for Lloydminster informed me on May 17th, that, owing to business reasons, he had to go East and so would be unable to act. He says: "I must thank you very kindly for considering me." Then I wrote a similar letter to the honourable member for Kinistino, and in due course I received a reply from him saying he would be pleased to act on the committee. I then wrote again to my honourable friends who had complied with my wishes to act, and to the Leader of the Conservative party, as follows:

"The members appointed for the purpose of investigating public institutions in the Province have now announced their willingness to act in that capacity.

"The personnel of the committee is as follows: Dr. C. E. Tran, M.L.A., Kamsack; Dr. J. T. M. Anderson, M.L.A., Saskatoon; Mr. D. A. McNiven, M.L.A., Regina; Mr. Chas. McIntosh, M.L.A., Kinistino, and myself.

"I am writing to all members of the committee today, asking them to inform me immediately as to the time when it would be convenient for them to act. The institutions to be visited are: Battleford Mental Hospital; Weyburn Mental Hospital; Prince Albert Jail; Regina Jail; Moosomin Jail; The Sanatorium, Saskatoon; The Home for the Infirm, Wolseley; The Industrial School for Boys, Regina.

"I shall be glad to hear from you regarding this matter as soon as possible."

This letter was written on June 6, after I had a substitute for my honourable friend from Lloydminster, and it was sent to all members of the committee. In due course, I received answers from my honourable friends representing Kinistino, Regina City and Pelly, and the following from the leader of the Conservative Party:

"I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter of June 6th and in reply may say that I shall be free to visit the public institutions referred to any time after July 1st. If, however, the other members of the committee prefer to act before this, I shall be pleased to make my plans accordingly."

You will note that he says "any time after July 1st." I also received a letter from the honourable member for Pelly, saying that he would act on the Committee. I ask you to note that the date mentioned in the letter from the Tory leader was "any time after July 1st." But, lo and behold! on July 3rd, there was a certain Tory Convention, at Regina, when they met to choose a candidate for the Constituency of Lumsden, and I find my friend, the leader of the Tory Party, making use of this expression when speaking about the Mental Hospital at Weyburn: "They (the Government), did agree to our suggestion to appoint a committee but it has not met yet." That was two days after July 1st, the date he had mentioned in his letter as the one following which he would be prepared to act—"any time after July 1st" were his own words. Two days later, he mentions the matter at a Tory convention and makes the insinuation his remarks imply. My honourable friend knew better. It was done for a purpose. Again I wrote—this time on July 6th:

"I would suggest that the committee appointed for the purpose of inspecting public institutions in the Province, the personnel of which was given to you some time ago, be in Prince Albert on Thursday morning next, July 12th. The Jail and Jail Farm could be inspected on Thursday. Friday, July 13th, would be used in travelling from Prince Albert to North Battleford. The Mental Hospital at Battleford and the Institutional Farm could be inspected on Saturday, July 14th, and the members of the committee returning south could return on the Sunday morning train.

"I would suggest that the southern institutions which include the Regina Jail, the Industrial School for Boys, the Home for the Infirm at Wolseley, and the Weyburn Mental Hospital, be inspected on Thursday, Friday and Saturday of the following week—the 19th, 20th and 21st instant.

"Will you kindly inform me whether or not you will be present."

Somebody had to take the initiative, somebody had to take the lead in this and get four men together from the different parts of the Province in which they live. I tried to do the best I could under difficult circumstances.

Now, that letter was sent to each member of the committee. I received a wire from my honourable friend from Pelly that he could not find it possible to accompany us. Because of his extensive medical practice, I can quite understand that. I heard from the others, from Kinistino and from Regina, but there was no reply to that letter from the leader of the Tory Party. After we had inspected the Prince Albert Jail, however, I received this wire from my honourable friend. It says:

"Dr. Uhrich, care Dr. MacNeill, North Battleford, Saskatchewan. Will join committee North Battleford tomorrow morning."

In due time we reached North Battleford. My honourable friend was there, and the Battleford Mental Hospital was the only institution that the leader of the Tory party visited as a member of this committee which he was so desirous of having appointed. At no other time did he accompany the committee to investigate anything. Now I claim that shows how sincere is the interest that my honourable friend, the Tory leader, takes when it comes to investigating public institutions and forming an idea of how they are maintained, and the efficiency with which they are operated. But when it serves his purpose to go into the highways and byways of the Province and speak in a disparaging manner, he does not hesitate. He goes to the Weyburn Mental Hospital and afterwards makes those accusations and misstatements of fact. I have proved them misstatements of fact, particularly with reference to that remark made by the member for Tisdale that this committee was held up by me in the performance of its duty.

Now, Mr. Speaker, my honourable friend, the leader of the Tory party, had more accusations to make in the campaign in Arm River. For instance, I find that, after speaking at Craik, October 9th, he was reported as follows in the *Manitoba Free Press*:

"With reference to the question of contracts and campaign funds' Dr. Anderson declared, 'let Mr. Gardiner produce sworn statements from every contractor who has had Government work during the past four years, sworn statements to the effect that they have not been approached with a request for campaign funds by any person on any occasion.

"Let Mr. Gardiner also produce sworn statements that no hotelkeeper in this Province during the time he has been in public life has been approached and asked to give a sum to campaign funds; let Mr. Gardiner produce sworn statements from the brewers who supply beer to the "Gardiner Beer Stores" to the effect that they have not been approached and that no director has been approached for campaign contributions to the Liberal party; let Mr. Gardiner produce sworn statements from the chief bootleggers who operated in this Province during the days of prohibition, to the effect that they did not contribute to the Liberal Campaign Funds.'"

Here is a man who is keen on sworn statements! He asks for them three, four or five times. But, Sir, that request ill becomes a man who does not believe in sworn statements. Furthermore, his system of logic appears to be somewhat like this: "You say you are not a thief, well then produce a sworn statement that you are not a thief." And let me repeat again, this is from a man who does not believe in sworn statements. He does not come out boldly and accuse the Premier of receiving campaign funds from the sources he mentions. He says: "Let the Premier produce sworn statements that he has not received them." That is his way of reasoning. It reminds me of a singed domestic cat hissing at a Royal Bengal tiger!

I have, in my hand, another statement of my honourable friend's, as reported in the *Regina Star* of October 15. Here is the heading: "With Tongue and Pen, With Song and Cartoon, Arm River Fight is Waged." The Tory leader in this House made the statement that at no time was there any misstatement of fact, any appeal to racial prejudice. He absolutely denied all this when the second of the Address made mention of it. Here, in my friend's newspaper on October 15th, I find this paragraph:

"Some of the Germans it is said are passing around the assurance attributed to Honourable Dr. Uhrich in a speech in German at Holdfast, two or three years ago, that 'if the Germans will stand together we can control this Province'—whatever that may mean."

Oh, no! This independent newspaper of my honourable friend did not pound the racial prejudice drum in the Arm River by-election!

Furthermore, we find that on the day following the election, that is on October 30th, according to a report in the *Saskatoon Star-Phoenix*, the leader of the Tory party had an interesting meeting in the City of North Battleford, and he had as cohorts sitting with him on the platform, the honourable, the Junior Member for Regina—

*Mr. MacPherson*: I was not up there.

*Hon. Dr. Uhrich*: I beg pardon. I meant the Junior Member for the City of Saskatoon (*Mr. McConnell*). And he had another Tory with him, a representative from *The Regina Daily Star*, who, speaking on the school question was reported thus:

"Touching on the school question, it was his belief that in certain settlements, French was displacing the language of our mother tongue and religious beliefs were being taught in certain schools which were inimical in the highest degree to the public welfare of this Province."

He did not tell us what these religious beliefs were that were inimical in the highest degree to the public welfare of the Province. Nor did he tell us, at the time, where the settlements are in which French is displacing English as the language of instruction. Furthermore, this gentleman talks of his British Columbia experience, and I shall refer to him as "The Gentleman with the British Columbia experience," whatever that may be! He says: "There is in Saskatchewan, a deliberate attempt to overcome the British preponderance."

Oh, no! This gentleman did not beat the racial prejudice drum! And once more, in the *Regina Daily Star*, on October 27th, I find the following editorial under the heading "A Narrow Squeak.":

"The Premier had the support of a large foreign vote, as usual, but even in this the Opposition manifested an increasing strength. None the less it was a foreign vote that elected Dr. Waugh.

"Dr. Waugh, if and when he takes his seat in the Legislature, will not represent the public opinion of Arm River, but of one section—of Lakeside. He will thus be able to sign himself 'Member for Lakeside.'"

And when I turn to the result of the election and look at the Lakeside poll I find 114 votes for Dr. Waugh and 6 for Mr. Adrain. Consequently, my honourable friend's "independent" newspaper claims that he has no right to consider himself the representative of Arm River constituency, but should regard himself as the "Member for Lakeside." No! the gentleman did not beat the racial prejudice drum in that by-election. It was not done in the Arm River campaign!

Now, my honourable friend had a good deal to say about myself in that campaign and even before it commenced. For instance, I have here in my hand a copy of the *Western Producer*—and this is not the report of a meeting. It is a statement by Dr. J. T. M. Anderson, dated June 14th, 1928:

"I have sat in the Legislature and had the finger of scorn tauntingly pointed at me by Dr. Uhrich and others because I belong to a certain fraternal organisation, but I have remained absolutely silent, as I steadfastly refused to be guilty of introducing religion into our Legislative Chamber. But not so Dr. Uhrich and Premier Gardiner. Both of these men are guilty and now that they have been discovered"

(discovered, if you please!)

"they, in hypocritical fashion, try to lay the blame on me and my party."

That was on June 14th, in a signed statement to the *Western Producer*. I furthermore, find in the *Moose Jaw Times* that at a meeting held at Elbow on October 5th, a statement was made by the honourable gentleman which was reported as follows:

"Hon. Dr. Uhrich had ridiculed the *Orange Sentinel* in the House as had Hon. W. J. Patterson. It was not the place of anyone to hold up to ridicule the paper which represented the religious views of any body."

Furthermore, he peddles the same thing at Dinsmore on November 15th. He told the meeting that the Honourable J. M. Uhrich, Minister of Public Health, had in the House pointed "the finger of scorn" (again the finger of scorn) at him because he was a member of the Orange Lodge. But I shall not read any more on this point.

Now, Mr. Speaker, every member of this House knows, and knows exactly, the statement and the occasion to which the honourable gentleman referred. At no time have I pointed the finger of scorn at him because he is an Orangeman, and at no time have I held up the *Orange Sentinel* to derision on the floor of this House. If you refer to the 1925 Sessional Papers (and most of the members here were present at the time), you will read exactly what was said on the occasion. I shall take the liberty of reading the account appearing on Page 92 of the 1925-26 Sessional Papers. Speaking at the time on the Address, I said as follows:

"The honourable, the Conservative Organiser, also made a speech in Prince Albert. He is reported in the *Prince Albert Herald* of May 23, 1924, as saying: "I want to make it clear. I have no intention of interfering with the freedom of the new Canadian to speak his own language or any others he desires to use. I wish I knew a few of their languages myself. I am firmly of the opinion, however, that the primary language, the common language of the province, should be English and I maintain with all the strength at my command that this language should be taught in the public schools and only this language."

Now I unquote:

"A few days afterwards, in the *Prince Albert Herald*, there was a letter from the honourable, the Conservative Organiser, denying having made the statement attributed to him. His letter to the editor reads as follows: "In your report of my address at the Liberal-Conservative banquet held in your city on May 22 you feature the following statement which I

positively did not make use of. You state that I said 'this language should be taught in the public schools and only this language.' I do not wish to raise any language question in the forthcoming provincial campaign, and see no need for doing so. I have been exceedingly careful to avoid anything like this and I cannot understand why your reporter should have so misinterpreted what I said. I am quite sure that those present did not so understand me."

Then I say further:

"This letter was sent to the editor of the *Prince Albert Herald* and published a week after the meeting referred to. But I find at the end of the letter a note from the editor, reading as follows: "The reporter's copy of the above speech shows that whatever Dr. Anderson intended to say, he used the words he quotes in this letter. Further, in order to ensure the accuracy of the report of this speech, it was read to the Secretary of the Conservative Association before it was published and pronounced by him to be correct." "

At this point my honourable friend interjected:

"I absolutely deny the truth of the impression created by the speaker."

Then I go on to say:

"I have here another report of his speech as reported in *Le Patriote* of Prince Albert on May 21, 1925. It is a translation from the French: 'I want to make it well understood that I have no intention of opposing the liberty of the new Canadian to speak his language or any other languages that he would like to use. I myself would like to be able to speak some of these languages. I am, however, of the strong opinion, that the primary language should be the English language and I maintain it with all the power available that this language must be taught in all schools and this language only.'"

And then I ask him:

"Does the honourable, the Conservative Organiser say he has been wrongly reported in this paper?"

And he answers:

"Absolutely wrong."

Then I say:

"I have another quotation, Mr. Speaker."

And he interjects:

"All Liberal papers."

And then I say:

"This report is from the *Orange Sentinel* of June 9, 1925: 'Brother Anderson and Mr. G. A. Cruise have announced themselves definitely for one school and one language.'"

And I ask him:

"Is the honourable, the Conservative Organiser, wrongly reported in this paper?"

To which there is no reply.

Now that is all that was said on the floor of this House and every member who was in this Chamber at that time knows that what I'm saying is true. Surely, I submit, it is not wrong for me to quote from the *Orange Sentinel*. Surely it is not wrong when I use this paper as I can use any other paper, in this House, to clinch a fact! And yet my honourable friend goes through Arm River constituency saying that I pointed the finger of scorn at him because he is an Orangeman. And there is only one more incident which occurred when I was speaking on the Budget in 1925, where I made use of this statement:

"I find in this paper" (and I have here the same paper I used in 1925):

"The following questionnaire was submitted to each and all of the five candidates seeking the support of the electorate in Saskatoon at the provincial elections of June 2: (1) Do you believe in a non-sectarian public school system in Saskatchewan which shall be the only school system to receive aid from the public treasury?"

As quoted in this paper "Brother Dr. Anderson and Mr. G. A. Cruise were the only two candidates out of the five nominees who answered the above question satisfactorily. Both Brother Anderson and Mr. Cruise answered all the questions 'Yes.' They were the only candidates to do so."

Now, I submit, Mr. Speaker, in the light of what I have just read the statement that I pointed the 'finger of scorn' at him because he was an Orangeman, is an absolute falsehood. My honourable friend knew it when he made the statement. Still he goes on peddling this from place to place. Why does he do it? Yet he says he was not beating the religious prejudice drum! Oh no! Not at all.

We have also another instance. My honourable friend made a number of statements regarding some of our Civil Servants, and about one in particular, Mr. J. J. Stevenson. And in this connection I find him saying in Dinsmore, on November 15th, that during the election

campaign of 1925 J. J. Stevenson had written articles which had virtually said that the German Catholics should not vote for him (*Dr. Anderson*) because he was an Orangeman. Let us go through the files. We find that on October 9th, at Craik, he makes this statement:

"One, J. J. Stevenson, who in 1925 ran all over this province, leaving a slimy trail of accusations against me and my party, has recently felt the sting of just criticism and is now crying for mercy through the biased columns of the Government's mouth organ, *The Regina Leader*.

"Let me remind Stevenson that he resorted in 1925, with the knowledge and sanction of the Gardiner Government, to most contemptible political practices; let me remind him that there appeared in the German paper, *The Courier*, an article under his name, in which he appealed to a racial and religious prejudice. In this article he referred in contemptible terms to me as a member of two great Protestant fraternal organizations, and cunningly suggested that the Roman Catholic readers of this paper should not support my party, the inference being because I was a member of these societies."

I have here the original article to which my honourable friend refers—this 'terrible' article said to have been written by Mr. Stevenson in the German language in *The Courier*, a newspaper published in the City of Regina. I have here a translation of the article in question made by myself and I shall send the honourable gentleman the original copy so that he can correct me if my translation contains any errors. Here is this terrible article which my honourable friend says slandered him, because he is an Orangeman: The heading is (——) "Dr. Anderson and the New Canadians:"

"The Opposition policy, opposed to the Dunning Government of Saskatchewan is gradually taking shape and form. In this connection the Conservative Organiser of the Province undertakes an unfortunate experiment: He makes the foreign born citizens of Saskatchewan, whom he styles by his own pet-name, "New Canadians," the main object of his campaign.

"Dr. J. T. M. Anderson is a prominent Free Mason and Orangeman. In this capacity he appeared as chief speaker at the annual Orange banquet held in Rouleau last week and was strongly supported by Mr. D. A. Kingsbury, the Grand Master of the A.F. and A.M. As Dr. Anderson does in all his speeches, he boasted here of his efforts as teacher among the New Canadians and thus created the impression that only those New Canadians who had been taught by him or whose education he had supervised made progress. That the Government came to the conclusion there was no necessity for a continuation of his efforts is, in his judgment, a terribly bad thing. According to this account, the pupils in some districts were taught to ignore the Sovereign and to refuse to sing the National Anthem. Such evil conditions, he believed, should receive consideration and this was possible only through co-operation of organizations.

"In another meeting Dr. Anderson went still further and declared that in a certain place composed of foreign born population a system of terror, of extortion and incendiarism existed. The books of the rural municipality were in the hands of the auditors and a solicitor had been threatened with violence if he did not abandon the place. Premier Dunning and other members of the Government have repeatedly declared that these slanderous statements which concern almost half our population are wicked and dangerous.

"Dr. Anderson at these meetings of Orangemen and Conservatives urged a speeding up of British immigration and at the same time urged that the immigration from other countries should cease. On the contrary, Premier Dunning in his public speeches in England during the past summer explained to his fellow-countrymen that he was opposed to closing the doors to those who were not "of our blood." He has always held the view that the future citizenship of Canada would be richer in tradition and diversity of ability and service if the various races, each having something valuable to contribute, worked together in harmony for the development of the province.

"Dr. Anderson tries to seek the favour of the Provincial Progressive Party, which, however, as an organisation exists to a large extent only on paper, and wants to bring about an election in which the three parties will participate. In this way Dr. Anderson hopes to make the Conservatives the largest group at the next provincial election. This, however, can scarcely be hoped for. It is generally conceded that the Dunning Government will be returned with a large majority when they appeal to the people. There are rumours that even adherents of the Provincial Progressive Party, who during the Grain Growers' Convention in Regina had a secret session, have come to the same conclusion. An official of the Wheat Pool, who played a prominent part in the calling of the session, demanding an aggressive move, was censured by the other members of the Board, the latter having decided that the Wheat Pool should not be drawn into politics."

Here is the original article if anybody wants to see it. It is simply a statement of facts without any comment. This is the article which inspired my friend to assert in the Arm River by-election that J. J. Stevenson had made those terrible statements in *The Courier* asking electors not to vote for Dr. Anderson because he was an Orangeman. I leave it to the intelligence of honourable members of the House to point out where, in that article, there is any statement

to the effect that Catholics should not vote for Dr. Anderson because he is an Orangeman. Still, my honourable friend peddles this information from one meeting to the other. He comes to this House, to this Session, and maintains he knows nothing about beating the religious and racial prejudice drum. I am content to leave the matter to the intelligence of the members of this House.

But, Mr. Speaker, there was another active Opposition worker in the Arm River campaign—I refer to the gentleman who enjoyed the unique distinction of being at one and the same time, vice-president of the Provincial Conservative Association and the president of the Regina Conservative Association. I am now referring to Mr. J. F. Bryant, of the City of Regina. I believe I am right in assuming that he is very prominent in the councils of the Tory party and, I think the senior member for Saskatoon and the junior member for Regina will grant I am correct in that.

*Mr. MacPherson:* Yes you are.

*Hon. Mr. Uhrich:* This gentleman not only beat the religious prejudice drum; he was a whole religious prejudice band himself. And, since he holds these responsible positions in the party, we may presume that the honourable gentleman expressed the opinions of that party particularly when he took part in the election campaign and when he went from platform to platform in that constituency. I think I am not wrong when I assume that he speaks for the Conservative Party of the Province. I find that in Davidson, on October 15th, he claimed:

“That the immigration policy of the Canadian Government was influenced by the Catholic bishops of Quebec, he alleged that in Saskatchewan religious discord had been created, the Liberals paying more attention to party success than the future progress of the country.”

Later on he says:

“Protestant immigrants are apparently not wanted. Government officials raise difficulties in the way of British immigrants to Canada but immigrants from central Europe were brought in constantly increasing numbers.”

Ah, that was in Davidson! But at Imperial, on October 22nd, speaking on immigration, Mr. Bryant had this to say:

“The issues in the present campaign were not made by the Liberal party but by the Church of Rome. French Catholics had expressed their readiness to work for the defence of the Roman Catholic faith which was aiming at temporal power. The Liberal party at Ottawa and the Gardiner Government of Saskatchewan have lined up with the forces of the Church of Rome.”

Now, we must assume in view of the high positions he holds in the Conservative party that he was expressing the opinion of the party along those lines.

At Davidson, on October 16th, as reported by my honourable friend's Independent newspaper, another statement was made by this gentleman. He says:

“Canada wants British folk. But the Roman Catholic Church, the Province of Quebec and the Liberal party as now constituted don't want them.

“A French delegation of 30 persons, consisting of prominent Catholic bishops, priests, and politicians from Quebec, New Ontario and Saskatchewan, waited on Ernest Lapointe, Minister of Justice, and on the French cabinet ministers, and asked for a cent a mile rate on the Canadian National Railway from Quebec to Saskatchewan and the West and that all children under 17 years of age should be carried free. The delegation presented a petition signed by 125,000 French Canadians who, they stated, represented 250,000 electors, who wanted to come to Saskatchewan and the West. Two hundred and fifty thousand electors would represent at least a half million souls. The arrangements have been quietly made during the last four or five years and the annual excursions of priests to Saskatchewan have been in pursuance of this project.

“Within five years or ten at the most under present political conditions, Roman Catholics will be in the majority in Saskatchewan, and the French will control the political destinies of Quebec, Saskatchewan and all of Canada.”

I find, again, as reported in the *Regina Daily Star* on October 19, that this gentleman spoke at Craik and with him on the platform were the Leader of the Conservative Party and the junior member for Regina (*Mr. MacPherson*). Mr. Bryant is reported as having made the following statement on that occasion:

“The natural resources of Saskatchewan, Alberta and Manitoba have been illegally withheld from the people of these provinces. Saskatchewan has been deprived of its birthright and placed in a position of inferiority in the Dominion family by the Liberal party through the influence of the Roman Catholic hierarchy of Quebec.”

Now, I was more than ordinarily surprised at this remark. I did not expect that the leader of the Tory party would object to statements of that kind; but yesterday we had the spectacle of the honourable the junior member for Regina, rising in his place and absolutely repudiating what my honourable friend, the Attorney-General, said about Maloney, and telling the Attorney-General that the Tory party had nothing whatever to do with, and was in no way responsible for, expressions of individual members of the party. Now, I should have expected after reading this morning's paper, that my honourable friend surely would have got up at this meeting and insisted that Mr. Bryant stop using such expressions—at least that he not reveal in public the opinion of the great Conservative Party regarding such matters. But I find my honourable friend, though sitting on the platform, remained absolutely quiet. Nor do I find the honourable, the leader of the Conservative Party objecting to such a statement made by the President of the Regina Conservative Party and the Vice-president of the Provincial Conservative Party.

*Mr. MacPherson:* If I be permitted—I think I might just refer you to what I said after that. If anyone who was at the Craik meeting were here, he would remember what I said as I followed this speaker. I well remember that I made it clear that I stood by the written platform of the Conservative Party in these matters and further than that, I was not prepared to go.

*Hon. Dr. Uhrich:* I would ask the honourable gentleman now, whether the man who holds the position of President of the local Conservative Party and Vice-President of the Provincial Conservative Party was expressing the opinion of the Conservative Party regarding this matter or whether he was just talking nonsense.

*Mr. MacPherson:* I would say he was expressing his own opinion, and not the views of the Conservative Party.

*Hon. Dr. Uhrich:* If that be so, I should like to know why they elected such a man (and he has since been re-elected), if the views he expresses are not the views of the Conservative Party. I should like to know why they elected this gentleman if he expresses political views which are not the views of the party!

*Mr. MacPherson:* He was speaking for himself.

*Hon. Dr. Uhrich:* That's too thin. Absolutely too thin. The political taste of this gentleman reminds me of the physical appetite of a sea-gull. From place to place he goes, peddling this stuff throughout the constituency of Arm River and yet my honourable friend, the leader of the Conservative Party, gets up in his seat and says on his honour as a member of this House that no attempt was made to arouse religious prejudices in the Arm River by-election, why, then do we find the Vice-President of the Conservative Association of Saskatchewan, the President of the Conservative Association of the City of Regina, going from place to place making statements like that? I leave it to the intelligence of the members to decide why they were made.

Furthermore, Mr. Speaker, if additional proof were necessary, I have the statement of a very prominent member of the Conservative Party in the City of Regina (and surely my friend, the leader of the Tory Party, and my friend, the junior member for Regina, will not stand up and tell me that Mr. A. G. MacKinnon, K.C., is not a prominent Conservative), the man who had the distinction of being chosen as the Conservative standard bearer in the Federal Election in 1926, in the City of Regina against the Honourable C. A. Dunning. Surely they will not say that Mr. MacKinnon is not a prominent Conservative, but will admit that he has long been an active member of that party in this City.

We will read what Mr. MacKinnon says about this religious drum that was thumped in the Arm River by-election in spite of the fact that the leader of the Conservative Party, from his seat in this House says no such attempt was ever made. Here is what A. G. MacKinnon, K.C., says in an open letter to the press:

"I wish as a Catholic Conservative to protest against the attacks made in the recent Arm River campaign against the Catholic Church by those who profess to represent the Conservative Party."

He points out, you see, that the men who made those attacks were representing the Conservative Party. The letter continues:

"There are sufficient questions of vital importance at issue between the parties in this province without having to resort to such attacks."

My honourable friend would not dare to say this man is not speaking as a Conservative—the man who was chosen Conservative standard bearer for Regina in 1926. Furthermore, I find in another letter, in reply to one which was written by Mr. F. R. McMillan, President of the Provincial Conservative Party, Mr. MacKinnon answered as follows:

"I am in receipt of your open letter of the 2nd instant in reply to mine of the 30th ultimo. It is difficult for me to understand your denial that the attacks I refer to were made. If you care to peruse the files of the daily papers published in Regina and Saskatoon during the last week of the campaign and on the day following the election in Arm River, you can find ample evidence of the matter to which I have made reference. Evils are not corrected by following the example of the ostrich and refusing to see them.



"To suggest that the statements were only the individual opinions of those who made them is pure evasion. You must be aware that I was not referring to statements made by ordinary individuals, but by men occupying high official positions in our party. They are the mouthpiece of the party and, unless and until their statements are repudiated officially, must be taken to correctly represent the attitude and views of the party. It would appear from your letter that you concur in those statements inasmuch as you, the official head of the party in this province, see nothing objectionable in them."

Now, will my honourable friend, the junior member for Regina, rise in his place in this House and say Mr. MacKinnon, K.C., was not expressing Conservative opinion in these letters? Will my friend the leader of the Tory Party do so?

*Mr. MacPherson:* I think that the honourable gentleman, if he reads the letter further, will find it said that he "professes to speak for the Conservative Party."

*Hon. Dr. Uhrich:* That's pretty thin! Mr. Bryant has been elected since, as you know. When we get such evidence from a Conservative in an open letter to the people of the Province on conditions as they exist, I think the situation becomes more and more clear.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I have in my hand another matter. You know, my honourable friend, the Tory leader, has a great habit of seeking the public eye. He loves publicity—as my honourable friend from Swift Current (*Mr. Sykes*) says: "It must be the Conservative platform because it has the Tory leader's picture on the front." My honourable friend loves publicity and I find here in certain newspapers scattered throughout the Dominion an account of an interview he gave after the Arm River by-election. The other day my honourable leader, the Premier, read one of these extracts and my honourable friend, the Tory leader, got up and denied it saying he was wrongly reported. Unfortunately for him, he appears always to be wrongly reported. In order to give him a further opportunity I shall just bring this to his attention. In the *Saskatoon Phoenix* of October 26th, he is quoted as saying:

"The voice of Arm River is the voice of Saskatchewan" said Dr. J. T. M. Anderson, leader of the Conservative Party, at Craik, last night.

"Mr. Gardiner and his cabinet here, and a large number of the members of his party addressing meetings in rural and urban centres frantically endeavoured to ward off a large Conservative majority. . . ."

"It will not escape the attention of the public that a small poll at Lakeside near Holdfast, where the majority of electors are Roman Catholics, are working hand in glove with Premier J. G. Gardiner. The Conservative Party believes in a square deal for all, but they do not believe in getting down on their knees to solicit the support of any individual or organisation whose aims do not emphasise the Union Jack and 100 per cent. Canadian citizenship."

Well, that is from the *Saskatoon Star-Phoenix*. Evidently the gentleman is not wrongly reported on this occasion.

*Mr. Anderson:* You told me to keep my seat.

*Hon. Dr. Uhrich:* Furthermore, I find the honourable, the leader of the Tory Party, speaking at the Convention subsequently held at Davidson—where they did not elect Mr. Adrain their candidate for next election. . . .

*Mr. Anderson:* That is our business!

*Hon. Dr. Uhrich:* I am making a statement of fact. You have no right to interrupt me. At Davidson, it is reported that Dr. Anderson "paid tribute to the fairness of the *Star-Phoenix* reports in the Arm River campaign." That was on November 16th, three weeks after he had given this famous interview to the *Star-Phoenix* on the result of the election in Arm River. Again, in the *Regina Post* of October 26, I find this: "The voice of Arm River is the voice of Saskatchewan," word for word, the same interview. I go further, and find in the *Western Producer* that the leader of the Conservative Party is reported as saying: "Mr. Gardiner and his cabinet. . . . frantically endeavoured to ward off a large Conservative majority, etc."—the same interview. And again: "The voice of Arm River is the voice of Saskatchewan." I hope it is!

*Mr. Anderson:* Hear, hear! . . .

*Hon. Dr. Uhrich:* Yes, he says "Hear, hear!" Well, hear this. My honourable friend continues:

"It will not escape the attention of the public that a small poll at Lakeside, where the majority of the electors are Roman Catholic are working hand and glove with Premier J. G. Gardiner. The Conservative Party does not believe in getting down on its knees to solicit the support of any individual or organisation whose aims do not emphasise the Union Jack and 100 per cent. Canadian citizenship."

What is the meaning of this rather remarkable statement if it is not that Roman Catholics are not loyal to the Union Jack and cannot be 100 per cent. Canadians? Well, the result of the Arm River election testifies to one thing; that the Conservatives with this line of campaign were not successful in winning a victory at the polling booths.

I turn now to *Le Patriote*, the French newspaper, published in Prince Albert, and here again we have Dr. Anderson stating that "the voice of Arm River is the voice of Saskatchewan. . . . ."

The Conservative party believes in justice for all but it does not believe in begging for the support of any individual or of any organisation whose aims do not emphasise the Union Jack and 100 per cent. Canadian citizenship."

I have another report, one from *The Prairie Messenger*:

"It will not escape the attention of the public that a small group of Roman Catholics, near Holdfast, are working hand-in-glove with Premier J. G. Gardiner. The Conservative party believe in a square deal for all, but do not believe in getting down on their knees to solicit the support of any organisation whose aims and objects do not emphasise the Union Jack and 100 per cent. Canadian citizenship."

Then it goes on to say:

"Needless to say, the last part of the sentence is an outright slander on the Catholics of the Province. It is libel on our loyalty and patriotism to insinuate that Catholics are not as good citizens as Canadians of other religious profession. This reference to our attitude towards the Union Jack and Canadian citizenship is a piece of insolence and an insult, not only to the Catholic citizens of the Dominion, but also to the sacred memory of those brave Canadian Catholic boys who now lie dead in Flanders fields for the Union Jack and 100 per cent. Canadian citizenship . . . not all Canadian patriotism manifests itself as Andersonian patriotism."

*Mr. McConnell:* Are these separate interviews?

*Hon. Dr. Uhrich:* No, the same interview in different newspapers.

I claim that any brand of Canadianism that does not accord the same equality to all its citizens irrespective of creed or race or place of birth is a fraud. In 1927 we celebrated the Diamond Jubilee of Confederation.

I might bring to the attention of the House, to the attention of yourself, Mr. Speaker, that in 1867, when Confederation was made a fact, Protestant and Catholic statesmen laboured together to bring about a united nation. I might also bring to your attention the fact that Catholic and Protestant, Jew and Gentile, with equal gallantry and courage laid down their lives upon the gory fields of that awful struggle during the last war. We saw those soldiers as they were called from farm and factory, from office and college. They did not come, Sir, as Catholics or Protestants, as Jews or Gentiles; they came as Canadian citizens.

They marched away with the same manly stride, with the same gleam of courage in their eyes, the same hot flame of patriotism in their hearts—Jew and Gentile, Catholic and Protestant. On the gory plains of France and Flanders they fought and died together—Jew and Gentile, Catholic and Protestant.

Amid the storm of shot and shell, through fogs of deadly gases, Catholic boys bore from the fields the torn bodies of Protestant comrades, and Protestant boys with equal fortitude gathered the helpless bodies of Catholic boys in their arms and carried them to safety.

On all these gory fields the Protestant nurse and the Catholic Sister alike ministered to the dying and cared for the wounded. Bending above the bodies of soldiers whose souls were departing was the Catholic priest with his cross; the Protestant minister with his Bible.

In camp and field, in trench and hospital, the Young Men's Christian Association, the Salvation Army, the Knights of Columbus and the Jewish societies laboured in co-operation to ameliorate suffering and to assuage pain.

Catholic priests and Catholic nuns, Jewish Rabbis and Jewish nurses, Protestant clergymen and Protestant nurses, together with physicians of all religions and of no religion, with equal tenderness and heroism alleviated the hardships of the field and the agonies of the hospital.

After unity of command had been established, English, Scottish, Irish and Welsh boys, boys from Canada, New Zealand, Australia, South Africa and India; boys from all parts of the Empire were placed under the command of the little grey Catholic Frenchman, Marshal Foch, who led them all and led them well. There came the day of peace. The brown columns began the return march. And mothers gathered to gaze at the gaps once filled by their gallant dead. So they stood—Jewish mothers and Gentile mothers: Catholic mothers and Protestant mothers: the same pain in their hearts: the same tears in their eyes.

There were the cheers of mighty multitudes that rose and broke like the waves of a vast ocean—cheers for the soldiers of liberty.

Their bosoms thrilled with pride that they had helped to save the sanctity of our flag, which proclaims liberty for all, equality for all, justice for all,—the right to worship God according to the dictates of conscience.

If my country means anything to me, it means that its institutions are broad enough to protect every man in the right to his faith, every man in the right to his opinion, every man in his liberty of speech, in his right of peaceful assemblage.

Mr. Speaker, I shall support the motion.

THE HONOURABLE W. J. PATTERSON.

(*Provincial Treasurer and Minister of Telephones and Telegraphs.*)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1928.

Mr. Speaker,—I will try not to impose unduly on the patience of the House, but I wish to concur with what has been said during this debate with respect to the general anxiety and concern occasioned by the illness of His Majesty the King. We are pleased indeed to note that recent reports indicate some slight improvement in his condition. One thing that the illness of His Majesty should bring home to us all is the soundly-established system of Government we have, not only in Canada, but in all parts of the British Empire. Many who have preceded me have testified to the high personal esteem in which His Majesty is held throughout the Empire, and I would like to remind honourable members that the greatest concern in this case of sickness in the British Royal Family (in fact the only concern), is that His Majesty may shortly recover.

In many countries this would not be the case, and the illness of the reigning sovereign would be an occasion for political revolution and plotting, with different parties interested in the Government trying to secure control of the throne. We are in a happier position, and the illness of His Majesty reminds us of the advantages we enjoy under the system of Government we have, no matter how much maligned it may have been by our Progressive friends.

Of the Mover and Seconder of the Address, in addition to what has already been said, I can add that they have maintained the standard of their predecessors in the manner in which they performed the duties imposed on them. Some little criticism has been made of certain remarks of the honourable member for Arm River (*Mr. Waugh*), but I would like to repeat the suggestion made by a previous speaker that the honourable member for Arm River, when you consider the type of campaign he has just come through, spoke with a great deal of restraint.

This debate, as usual, has cleared up a good many little matters that have arisen in different connections. The leader of the Progressive party (*Mr. Tran*), tells us that his telegram to the Conservative Convention was in reply to a telegram sent to him. We, of course, thought that it was sent voluntarily.

I think the thing that has surprised us most in this debate has been the very mild criticism that has come from the Opposition benches. Very mild, indeed! In Arm River, the leader of the Conservative party (*Mr. Anderson*), in an address as reported in Saskatchewan's "Independent Press," "thundered condemnation and disapproval of the Government" and he is pictured as "spreading consternation and fear in the Liberal ranks." What is the reason there has been no thunder here?

We, of course, had the impression that it was the right and privilege of the Government to fix dates for elections, but apparently the Conservatives have taken that privilege and right to themselves.

The leader of the Conservative party complained the other day because a gravel gang gave a dance on the same evening as he addressed a meeting down in my constituency. From what I can learn, there was a considerably larger crowd at the dance than at the public meeting, and the impression among the people at the dance was that the gravel-gang was contributing more for the good of the constituency than the speakers at the meeting.

The junior member for Regina (*Mr. MacPherson*), in the remarks he has just made, criticises the Government for appointing the Commission enquiring into the mixing and marketing of grain. I have here a document purporting to be the manifesto and platform of the Conservative party. Now I cannot state positively that it is the platform of the Conservative party because the picture of the leader of that party does not appear on the document, but his name does appear. I find here a "plank" calling for an investigation into grain grading to be conducted by the University.

*Mr. Anderson:* That is where you got the idea.

*Hon. Mr. Patterson:* We did not! But we did take Dean Rutherford of the Agricultural College to assist on the grain investigation commission.

He also said something about telephone rates and suggested that we should do something in regard to popularising telephones. This is not a matter that can be disposed of in a few moments, but I would remind the honourable gentleman that the records of telephone construction conclusively prove that the practice we have followed in this Province has made the telephone more popular and brought it into more common use in this Province than in any Province in Canada. Now it is true that there are different methods of charging for long distance service and there are arguments pro and con as to the merits of these methods. I am only going to say this, that on those systems where they give special rates at certain hours, they have counteracted the loss in revenue by increasing the rates for day service, which is the most used, and so far as

rates in the Province of Saskatchewan are concerned, they will bear favourable comparison with any other system on the Continent. Many of our telephone users are connected to small exchanges which do not give all-night service. The special rates he suggests would, therefore, only be available for a percentage of our users, and the remainder would not have the benefit of them. However, as I said, this is much too large a question to discuss and dispose of in a few minutes.

He complains that we do not give Providence any credit. But then his party does not give either Providence or the Liberal party any credit,—they take it all to themselves. Probably the majority of the people will decide that Providence and the Liberal party are about equally entitled to credit and continue to vote as they have done in the past. With regard to the extract he quoted from the speech of his Federal leader, the Honourable R. B. Bennett, I would remind my friend that even in the old Tory City of Toronto that speech was not received with universal acceptance and would refer him to the *Toronto Telegram*, where it says something to the effect that "Mackenzie King waving the flag and Bennett welcoming new Canadians made it rather difficult for Tory Toronto to know exactly where it stood."

In the general criticisms of our friends directed against the Government they also, at times, bring under criticism many public servants. I do not mean Civil Servants, but refer to people who are devoting part of their time to public service. In order to bring criticism against the Government, our friends opposite do not hesitate to include in their criticism many who have no direct connection with the Civil Service. I want to speak a word about the service which these men are giving to the people of the Province; I refer to Justices of the Peace, Trustees and Secretaries of School Boards, Reeves and Councillors of Municipalities.

Now, everybody knows it is not an easy task to be a Justice of the Peace. Generally, the men who accept it do so because of their interest in public affairs and as a part of that public service that they, as high-minded citizens, feel called upon to give. I think it is rather unfortunate that these men should be placed under a cloud, so to speak, because of some of the criticisms made by Opposition speakers.

The statement was made in respect to the organisation of larger units of administration for our public schools, that it would mean a saving of \$200 per district. I can contradict that. In the course of the past eight or ten years I have audited the books of many school districts and made out their annual statements. In many cases the expenses of the district, outside of the teacher's salary, would be less than \$200. I found that in general, rural school boards do practise economy and wish to pay a tribute of respect to the work they are doing for education in this Province.

In regard to highways: Our friends, no matter what particular road they travel over, criticise the Department of Highways. But a good many of the roads are municipal roads, and their criticisms apply to municipal officials. Well, here again, I will say that the great majority of the municipal officials are making a valuable contribution to the development of the province and giving far more of their time and energy than they are ever paid for.

We have heard something about the conduct of Provincial elections which, we are told, is not all that it might be. I regret to say that I have discovered this political chicanery has crept into municipal affairs and is now perhaps as bad in our municipal elections as in our Provincial elections. I regret that this is so, and wonder if we will be accused of having given them the idea. The other day, in a down-town office, I discovered a specimen ballot that had been issued by one of the candidates in the recent mayoralty campaign in the City of Regina. At the top of this sample ballot is: "For Mayor, 1929. If you want to vote right, vote McAra, forty-six years in Regina, on Monday, December 10th." There is no Returning Officer's stamp on the back, but I have discovered, Sir, that if I were to take a pair of scissors and clip off two sides of the ballot, what remains would not look unlike a voting ballot.

*Mr. McConnell:* It is not perforated.

*Hon. Mr. Patterson:* Well, I would only have to take a pin to perforate it. I am going to suggest, I am going to insinuate, that the remarkable ballot we were told of the other day—that sample ballot—was deliberately perforated by some supporter of his party in order to make political capital out of it in the manner in which the honourable, the junior member for Saskatoon (*Mr. McConnell*), did.

*Mr. Anderson:* May I ask a question, if it is not a matter of privilege? I want to deny that the party I represent has been guilty of any such thing, as the Minister asserts.

*Hon. Mr. Patterson:* I did not assert. I did exactly what my honourable friend did—insinuate; and I repeat and I insinuate again, that some member of the political party of my honourable friend deliberately perforated that ballot for political purposes. That suggestion that a sample ballot could be passed as a true ballot is an insult to the intelligence of the electors of Arm River.

My honourable friend, the junior member from Saskatoon, might, in my opinion, be very properly titled the "Sherlock Holmes" of the Conservative party. You will remember, Sir, that attack he made on the telephone exchange! He chose a Sunday afternoon, when half of the

regular staff was off duty. He scouted around, probably with a flashlight made in the United States, and you can picture him making a close examination of every brick until he had secured one which had "U.S.A." on it. Now our "Sherlock Holmes" is in evidence again, and has located this famous sample ballot. We have all heard, Mr. Speaker, of the gentleman who, fearing that he might be buried alive, left specific instructions as to how he was to be disposed of when he died. The instructions were to place a bottle of Scotch at his head and another one at his feet and if he did not wake up and take a drink, then his friends were to conclude that he was dead. I am going to suggest that when the honourable, the junior member for Saskatoon, dies, a brick should be placed at his head and a sample ballot at his feet, and if he does not rise up in righteous indignation then his party may properly assume that he is dead, politically at least.

We have not heard very much about the great Conservative Convention held in Saskatoon in March last. They spent about two days taking the word "Liberal" out of the party title. I do not know whether the dropping of the word "Liberal" from the name was prophetic or deliberate, but I want to say this, that the campaign their party has conducted since that time is very good proof that they not only took the word from their party records, but every semblance of liberalism from their political ideas. We have heard much about lawyers in politics and whether it might have been better had we had fewer of them. An investigation of history shows that the people of Great Britain are not particularly concerned about the occupation of the people who govern them and we find that men of every occupation or nearly every occupation at some time or other have held positions in British or Dominion Governments. But I have yet to read or learn, Sir, of any Government in Britain or in the Dominions where a cartoonist became Premier, a poet the Attorney-General, or an agricultural expert become Provincial Treasurer.

I wish, now, to deal more particularly with two activities of the Government which have come in for special criticism during the past year. Neither of these have had much said about them in this debate, but criticisms have been made in many parts of the Province and I deem it my duty to the people of the Province that a plain and honest statement should be placed upon the records of this Legislature.

The experience of the Government is that it has ever been the policy and practice of our Opposition to single out one or two Departments for special criticism. In the past year or two, the Department of Education has been singled out and during the past summer the Farm Loan Board has been the object of a particularly vicious attack. Every member of the Conservative opposition has been guilty of this, but the honourable member for Tisdale (*Mr. Buckle*), has made rather a specialty of it. It seems to me their attacks in this respect would indicate that there is some truth in the old saying "A little knowledge is a dangerous thing." You will remember that the honourable gentleman voiced the opinion that a person claiming to be an agriculturist must be able to distinguish two kinds of barley and three kinds of rye, and anybody who could not do that was thereby proved to be ignorant and uneducated. Well, his criticism of the Farm Loan Board would again indicate that "A little knowledge is a dangerous thing." My honourable friend from Tisdale was educated in the Old Land and I do not know what methods of bookkeeping are taught there, but they do teach reading and arithmetic. Anyone who had been educated even in a primary English school should at least have an elementary knowledge of reading, arithmetic and bookkeeping, but if we were to accept my honourable friend's statements regarding the Farm Loan Board as the criterion, we would not be able to form a very high opinion of the system of education they have in England.

Speaking at Liberty, the honourable gentleman is reported in *The Regina Star* of October 13th under the "flare" heading "Government Takes Huge Loan Losses," as follows:

"According to Mr. Buckle's statement, backed by a copy of the report of the Farm Loan Board, there are a great many farm loans upon which the Government has taken huge losses, and has covered up these on its balance sheet by transferring them to the assets side at full value by the expedient of making them 'S1 down sales.'"

Then again, we have in the same paper: "W. C. Buckle Again Slates Loan Board," and under that heading we read:

"Mr. Buckle said that the Board had foreclosed 280 loans last year and that of these, in 142 cases, the Board had not received a dollar of either principal or interest. A lot of its loans were made through the influence of members of the Legislature, he charged, and a 'lot of these fellows,' he continued, 'get their money, turn over their lands to the Government and beat it.'"

Mr. Speaker, both of these statements are absolutely incorrect and without foundation in fact. But before dealing with them I should like to describe the manner in which this Board operates.

The Farm Loan Board is composed of three members, and one of them a permanent official, is the chief Commissioner, Mr. Colin Fraser. Mr. Fraser's qualifications were stated in answer to a question asked last session. He is not a young man, but he has been in the farm loan business all his life and has been engaged with some of the largest and best companies in Canada. Associat-

ed with him are two part-time members, one being a highly respected citizen of Saskatoon and the other a highly respected citizen of Moose Jaw. Both of these gentlemen have operated large and successful businesses in their respective cities and we cannot but presume that they bring to the Farm Loan Board the same business ability and integrity which has brought them success in private business.

How does the Board operate? When a farmer wants a loan he does not write to the Premier or to the Provincial Treasurer or to any member of the Government. Nor does he write to any Department of the Government. He writes to the Farm Loan Board whose office is downtown, over a mile away from this building, and the Board sends him a form of application to fill in. He completes this form which is similar to that used by loan companies. When the application has been returned to the Board it is not submitted to the Treasury Department, or to any Department of the Government. The Board considers it and if from the information contained it looks like a proper loan, an inspector is sent out to inspect the land, just as in the case of private loan companies.

Now, I would not be so foolish as to tell the House that the Farm Loan Board has not made any mistakes. But then, that cannot be said of other loan companies, and the Farm Loan Board has made only the same mistakes as private companies. The Board came into being at a time when land prices were high and its inspectors may have overvalued land and made recommendations for loans which were larger than the security actually warranted. No matter how careful a loan company may be, a man with a previously good reputation may prove a poor borrower, or a death may entirely change the loan conditions. These are the experiences not only of the Farm Loan Board, but of every business man in the Province.

It is suggested that the Farm Loan Board is politically influenced. During the current year the Farm Loan Board has probably made two or three hundred loans and except in two cases I do not know the name of a single borrower. In those two cases I did not get the information from the Board or in my capacity as Provincial Treasurer. It happened in this way. In my constituency, last summer, one of my friends said to me: "You certainly are not running your Farm Loan Board in a political way," and I replied "No, we are not," going on to explain to him how the Board operates. "Well," he said, "that explains how two men in this district have recently obtained loans," although, politically, they would have been the last to get them, for the men he named were two of the most prominent and active Conservatives in that district. That instance shows whether or not this Board is politically operated. I am not going to say that members of this Legislature do not use their influence from time to time to help some settler in their district. I expect that members of the Opposition have made the same use of their position and influence. I have done it myself, with a private loan company, and I do not think it an improper thing to do.

Just to show that all the people of the Province are not of the same opinion with regard to the Board as my honourable friend, I am going to quote from a letter which appeared in *The Western Producer* of September 20, 1928. It says:

"I have here before me a small handbill entitled "Saskatchewan Progressive Principles and Policies." Under 4 (b) it says: 'Reorganisation of the Farm Loan Board on a business basis free from political influence.' Does this mean to infer that the Farm Loan Board is governed by political motive in making loans and dealing with its various clients? If that is what is meant, I for one, who have been dealing with the Board since 1918, would say absolutely no. I got a loan from the Board in the fall of 1918, and have been and am yet in arrears to the Board, as we have had so many poor crops. Had it not been for the very lenient and sympathetic action of the Farm Loan Board, its commissioners and inspector, I would have given up long before now, and that would have been one more dissatisfied English settler on the land.

"I must say that at no time in my dealing with the Farm Loan Board have politics been even remotely touched, either by word or deed. Had political influence had anything to do with it, I don't believe I would have got a loan, nor would I have got such generous treatment at the hands of the Board. I have never at any time supported the Liberal party, either by word or deed.

"After ten years of business relations I have nothing but the highest respect for the Board, from the commissioner to the inspector. The inspector is the only representative of the Board I have met and I always feel pleasure in meeting him and feel as though I can talk with him in full confidence and get good advice from him and no politics. I will sign my loan number."

This letter is simply signed loan "821." The letter was entirely voluntary. It was not written to the Government nor to the Board, but to *The Western Producer*, and I do not know the man who wrote that letter. I think it shows, in a striking manner, just how the Farm Loan Board conducts its operations.

A great deal of criticism has been directed against the Board because its report does not contain certain information which has to do with the business of the Board and its clients, and there has been complaint because the Government refused, last year, to answer certain questions.

The impression has been left and the statement has been made in all parts of the Province that the Government refused to give the information asked for only on the grounds that it was not in the public interest and contrary to Government policy. The impression also is left, that the honourable member for Tisdale had dug up certain information which had been refused to him in his capacity as a member of the House.

It will be within the memory of the members of the House that when these questions were asked, the reasons for refusing answers were given and only in connection with one or two of them was the reply based on the grounds that it was contrary to Government policy. In connection with all the other questions the information asked for was already published in documents and reports readily available to the honourable member.

It is now and always has been our policy in regard to the Farm Loan Board that the Government, in answering any question, will not reveal the relationship between the Board and individual borrowers. If any member of this, or the other side of the House, wants some information from the Farm Loan Board regarding any particular loan, the fact that the farmer is dealing with the Board is not a reason why, by a question in the House, the condition of his loan should be made a matter of public discussion. No such discussion could take place in connection with dealings with a private loan company. I think most people in the Province will say we are justified in adhering to this policy and refusing to allow the affairs of the Board's customers made a matter of public discussion and public conversation. Now, with regard to those questions, I say again that it was explicitly stated at the time that the questions were not answered for the reason that, in the majority of cases, the information asked for was readily available.

The first question was: "How many loans did the Farm Loan Board make during 1925-27 inclusive?" In the sessional papers of 1927, pages 38 and 42, we find it reported that there were thirty-three new loans made in 1925 and fifty in 1926. The honourable member did not have to dig up this information. Every year the Sessional Papers contain the annual report of the Board and he could easily have found there the answers to most of the questions asked. The Board's report for 1927, in the Sessional Papers of 1928, page 46, shows ninety-nine new loans made in that year.

The second question was: "What was the total amount of money loaned on new mortgages during each of these years?" That information is to be found there also. Every year the report and the balance sheet are published with the Sessional Papers.

The third question was "Does the Government intend to continue loaning money under the present loan system?" Well, Sir, when we include in the estimates \$1,000,000 for the Farm Loan Board, surely my honourable friend's question is answered.

The fourth question was: "Have Provincial bonds been issued during 1925 to 1927 for the purpose of securing capital for the Board, if so, how much was placed at the disposal of the Board during each of these years?" In the public accounts each year there is a statement showing the bonds issued and the purposes for which they were issued. Everybody else knows, but for the information of my honourable friend I will explain, that Farm Loan Bonds are being sold by the Treasury all the time. If the money from the sale of Farm Loan Bonds is not sufficient, capital is secured by the sale of the ordinary Provincial bond issues.

The fifth question was: "What is the total amount that has been loaned through the Board?" Again I would refer the honourable gentleman to the annual reports of the Board as they appear in the Sessional Papers and he will find the answer in the report each year.

The sixth question was: "How many applicants for loans were refused during each of the above years?" That, Sir, is a difficult question to answer, because the Board receives hundreds of applications and naturally is not able to deal with all of them. You could not say that the loans had actually been refused, possibly there was not enough money available at the time to deal with all of them, and those not dealt with were not refused loans; rather, I would say, the applications lay dormant. That question, if an answer were expected, would have to be clarified, or at least, some other details would have to be given.

The seventh question was: "How many loans have been made to date?" In the budget speech of last year, I stated over four thousand.

The eighth question was: "How many loans are now in arrears?" Is it those in arrears as to both principal and interest that he wants, or as to principal only? The amount of interest owing is shown in the balance sheet. Some mortgage companies consider a loan to be in good standing if the interest is paid, but some companies consider a loan to be in arrears if either principal or interest is in arrears.

The ninth question was: "How many mortgages have been foreclosed during the above year?" The answer is given in the Sessional Papers of 1928.

The tenth question was: "Has the Board secured title to any land through tax sale proceedings, and if so, how many quarter sections?" The total number of titles so secured was ten so that was not a very vital question.

The eleventh question was: "How many quarter sections has the Board on hand at present?" This information is given in the report each year.

The twelfth question was: "What is the legal description of each parcel so possessed by the Board?" Now, that is the one question which came under the policy of the Government to which I have referred. We refused to give the location of these quarters by section, township and range. We will tell the honourable gentleman how many quarter sections the Board has, but it would not be consistent with the policy of the Government to give particulars which identifies the business of the individual borrower.

The honourable member for Tisdale speaking at Liberty during the Arm River by-election said that he had asked a question with regard to the \$1,075,000, reported as having been on hand in one of the banks, and he said that I had refused to tell him whether it was in cash or notes or securities or what-not. The honourable gentleman may have referred to the matter in an address in this House (if so, I did not hear him), but he very well knows he never asked such a question in this House. He said he had also asked for the average acreage of the farms covered by loans and was refused the information. You will remember there was something said about the size of the loans and I stated that the average loan was around \$2,500. In a discussion across the floor of the House the honourable gentleman asked "What would be the average acreage?" I replied "I have not got that information and it would entail a great deal of work to get it." But my honourable friend goes out and tells the people in the country that he was refused this information because it was contrary to the public interests.

With reference to the question of the size of loans the suggestion has been made that when this Board was created it was understood that loans would not be for a larger amount than \$1,500. I had the opportunity of speaking to the Honourable Mr. Dunning, the other day, with regard to this matter and he denied emphatically that any such statement was ever made at the time the Farm Loan Bill was introduced. I can find no trace of any such statement and am satisfied that no such statement of policy ever was made. The policy of the Farm Loan Board has been to make loans on satisfactory applications so far as it had funds available for that purpose. I do not know why a man who farms a section should be discriminated against by the Board, and the man who owns only a quarter section favoured by it, if both loans are equally proper loans.

Another criticism had to do with the automobiles owned by the Board. My honourable friend would have had just cause to complain if it were true that the Board had no money to lend to farmers, but paid \$2,695 for an automobile for one of its inspectors to travel around in. But the facts are these: In the Board's statement of Receipts and Expenditures the sum of \$2,695 is shown as paid for an auto. This was a typographical error in that "auto" should have read "autos." As a matter of fact the Board traded in four old Ford cars, paid the difference in cash, and got four new ones. The six cars owned by the Board, all Fords by the way, are valued at \$3,000, and are so shown on the balance sheet.

The other statement, and it is a more serious one, is to the effect that the Board has foreclosed loans, taken huge losses, covered up these losses on the balance sheet and transferred them to the asset side at full value by the expedient of making "dollar-down" sales. That, Sir, is a misstatement of fact. The report of the Board shows all foreclosures on the same side of the balance sheet, lands held under foreclosure that have not been sold in one total and those which have been sold in another. There could not be any transfer of the nature indicated. They are both assets but under separate headings and I cannot understand the honourable gentleman making the statement imputed to him.

We have heard a good deal about the number of foreclosed loans and the honourable member for Tisdale is reported as saying that out of a total of 280 foreclosures, in 142 cases not one dollar of principal or interest had been paid. Again, Sir, I would say that statement is incorrect and absolutely unfounded. Up to the end of 1926 the Board had foreclosed 280 loans, but of that number only 27 had made no payment. During 1927, there were 56 foreclosures, not one of which but had made some payment. The following is a statement of foreclosures in each year and also shows the number of cases where no payment was made:

1922 . . .	19—	6	made no payment.
1923 . . .	40—	11	made no payment.
1924 . . .	72—	6	made no payment.
1925 . . .	84—	2	made no payment.
1926 . . .	65—	2	made no payment.
		<hr/>	
		280	27
		<hr/>	
1927 . . .	56—	0	
		<hr/>	
		336	27

Consequently, Mr. Speaker, the statement of the honourable member is true of less than 10 per cent. of the loans foreclosed instead of 50 per cent. as stated by him.

Now, another member of the opposition (not in the House at the present moment) (*Mr. Anderson*), has been basing his criticisms on the statement of an official of a private loan company with 2,000 loans that in 1927 had only 24 foreclosures. The Farm Loan Board has made over 4,000 loans and, at the present time, has only three loans under foreclosure.



With regard to losses on sales, the Board does not show the huge losses mentioned by the honourable member for Tisdale. Its report shows a profit of \$6,176.90 on the sale of 145 parcels and the Board does not take credit for the profit on a sale until that sale is completed and the full purchase price paid. The profit and loss on real estate does not appear on the balance sheet as such until the agreement to purchase has been completed and the purchase price received. The report of the Board for 1927 which appears in the Sessional Papers of last year shows real estate earned reserve, that is, profits from sales following foreclosures and where the total purchase price has been paid. This does not include the profits on sales where the purchaser has not yet completed the purchase. Now, the Board has sold nearly half of its foreclosed lands and as soon as a foreclosed farm is sold it comes out of the "foreclosed loans" account and goes into the "real estate sales" account. The two accounts are on the same side of the ledger and when a sale is made it is simply a transfer from one account to the other. Sales are not shown to hide losses and there is not one sale shown in the balance sheet that is not a bona fide sale.

We have heard a lot of criticism about sales of these farms on a one-dollar down payment. I venture to say that many in this House have bought or sold land on crop payment agreements and these "dollar-down" sales simply mean that that land is sold under a crop payment agreement. After it has foreclosed, the Board is only using good business judgment when it takes steps to secure an occupant in order to keep the land productive. Surely it is very much better to sell the land or find a tenant rather than have the land lie idle. All these sales bear interest and the 1927 report shows that on sales for a total of \$492,496.61, there has been paid \$102,076.15.

My honourable friends tried to leave the impression that there is no interest charged or paid on these agreements. Surely they do not expect the intelligent people of the Province to believe statements of that kind!

With respect to the "huge losses" to which my honourable friend made reference let me say this: The Farm Loan Board during the ten years of operation has built up reserves of nearly half a million dollars, and the total that the unsold foreclosed land owes the Board amounts to a little over \$600,000. If 191 farms still unsold are absolutely worthless, the total loss would only amount to a little over \$100,000. I do not believe that you could pick out 190 farms in this Province that would not be worth something and if the Board was willing to sell for the amount the Province stands to lose on the whole transaction, they would have no difficulty in finding a purchaser. In the meantime, most of the land is rented and the farms are carrying themselves.

Let us take a few of the individual cases of which mention has been made by the Opposition. There is one loan concerning which questions were asked in the House the other day. This was a loan of \$9,000 made on a section of land in 1918 and, although only a small amount of the principal was paid, the borrower paid over \$3,300 interest while he remained on the land. He kept up the interest for five years then let the farm go. The Board foreclosed in 1926 and shortly afterwards sold the farm for \$16,000, getting \$1,000 cash payment, the balance to be paid on a half crop basis with interest. The land was sold for over \$4,400 more than the total amount due to the Board for all principal, arrears and charges.

Another case frequently referred to by the honourable member for Tisdale is that of a farmer (we are told that he was a friend of the Government) who, in December of 1919, obtained loans totalling \$11,000. The facts are these: The \$11,000 was loaned on six quarter sections—\$1,600 on one quarter, \$5,500 on three quarters, \$2,000 on one quarter and \$2,000 on another quarter. This man farmed on a very large scale and in addition to the poor crops and low prices of the post-war years suffered severe losses from the grasshopper pest in 1921 and 1922. While he repaid no principal, he did pay \$1,400 in interest and charges before the Board foreclosed in 1923. When the Board foreclosed and secured possession, the loan had accumulated at that time to a total of \$22,811.08. Since then all the lands have been sold at a total selling price of \$22,400, so that the net loss to the Board is just a trifle over \$400. In this case I happen to know that one of the largest and best managed private loan companies also loaned this farmer large sums of money on other lands which he owned and their experience was the same as that of the Board.

What about the payments made on these lands since they were sold? The first parcel was sold in March of 1928 for \$4,000, on the same terms as the Board lends, that is, a thirty-year amortisation plan and the purchaser has made the first payment due under his agreement, a matter of some \$370. The second parcel, three-quarters of a section, was sold for \$12,000 in 1925, (one of these "dollar-down" and "one-half-crop" agreement sales) and to date the purchaser has paid all interest as well as some \$2,000 on principal. The third parcel, a quarter section, was sold for \$3,400 cash. The fourth was sold for \$3,000 (another of these "dollar-down," "half-crop" sales) and, to date, the purchaser has paid all the interest together with more than \$500 of the principal. That is not a bad record when you take the general experience of land sales in the Province.

Now we come to the case of the "friend of the Government" who got a \$16,000 farm for \$1.00 cash down. The Opposition said of this man that the down payment is all that he would ever pay and all that he would ever be required to pay. In this case, the Board had a mortgage for \$10,000, but the owner died and later the loan had to be foreclosed. The loan was a perfectly good loan but when the owner of the farm died, that changed the situation completely. It was a loan that any company in the Province would gladly have taken before the farm passed into an

estate. When the loan was foreclosed the total owing was \$13,600. After foreclosure the land was sold for \$16,000—\$1.00 cash and the balance in crop payments. Last year, the purchaser paid all his interest and a few hundred dollars on the principal. This year, he has paid the interest again and the Board is holding some Growers' certificates to apply on the principal.

Another case frequently referred to by my honourable friend from Tisdale is one in which a farm was sold for \$14,000, on the "dollar-down," crop payment plan. To the original borrower the Board loaned \$8,500 on a section and he had paid over \$2,000 on account of interest and charges when, in 1925, the Board foreclosed. When the Board sold the farm for \$14,000 the amount then standing against it was \$13,749. Since buying the land in 1926 the purchaser has paid all the interest, he has paid \$1,200 of principal and the Board is holding tickets for 1,478 bushels of wheat to apply as a payment this year. I do not know the man who bought this land and I know nothing of his politics. My honourable friend says these purchasers are friends of the Government and good Liberals. I hope they are friends of the Government. Men who can accomplish the results these men have accomplished cannot but be valuable assets to the political party to which they may belong, cannot but be valuable and useful citizens in the district in which they live, and, what is more, cannot but be very valuable assets to any particular activity to which they may give their support.

Altogether, I can say that until the critics became active this summer, I did not delve perhaps as much as I should have delved, into the operations of the Farm Loan Board, but the questions made me curious. I want to register my opinion that the more I have investigated the operations of the Farm Loan Board the more convinced I am of the ability, integrity and good judgment of the men who are administering it.

I am going to sum up by saying this: This Board is not political, it is operated on strictly business principles for the benefit of the farmers and it is operated on the same principles as private loan companies. It has had the same difficulties and made the same mistakes that private companies have. However, it tries to be a little more lenient than some of the private loan companies and would you not expect, Sir, that it should be? Unfortunately, some loan companies have built up reputations for harsh dealing when borrowers delay payment but I am sure no one would want our Farm Loan Board to get that kind of a reputation. It has this disadvantage as compared with private loan companies: It is the subject of unfair, unjust and partisan criticisms made for political purposes. It is not an organisation to help a man to get a bigger loan than his land merits, nor is it in the business to help borrowers who are in difficulties with private companies. It is an organisation to lend to farmers who are proper subjects for loans and to give every man, irrespective of what political party he may belong to, a just deal.

Who is criticising our Board? Not the people who deal with it—the farmers of the Province; and I would point out here that there is only one farmer in the Conservative group in this House and only two or three in the Progressive group. We have a farmers' organisation, the United Farmers of Canada, and recently a delegation from this body appeared before the Government. They did not criticise the way the Board operates or the manner in which it is being managed, and if any organisation in the Province would have complaints about the methods of operation if there were cause, it would be that organisation. They had no such criticism to offer. They told us they considered it better than the Federal scheme. Their only complaint was that we had not advanced sufficient money for the purposes of the Board.

I regret, Sir, that an institution which the Government of the Province organised for the benefit of the people and which operates as the Board does, should be the subject of unfair and partisan criticism. It is unfair that honest, efficient and loyal officials who are giving of their best in service to the public should be the subject of the kind of criticism they have had directed against them during this past summer. That is all I am going to say about the Farm Loan Board except to repeat that the more I go into and examine the records and operations of the Board, the more convinced I am that the Board is an honest, efficient and capable organisation doing, so far as money provided will allow, the work for which it was created. I only hope that future criticism will be honest, constructive and fair.

We have heard a great deal, this summer, about it being time for a change—that the Government has been in power for twenty-three years and, consequently, it is time for a change. I am surprised that our Progressive friends did not make more of that argument because they might equally well argue that, because the form of Government we have has been in existence for hundreds of years, it was time to adopt a new form of Government. The Bank of Montreal, Sir, is an institution over a hundred years old and nobody yet has suggested it should be torn down or put out of business because it has been operating as a bank for more than a century.

In connection with our institutions of Government, the people have been told that things are not as they should be with the financial affairs of the Province. There has been a demand from irresponsible parties for an independent audit. Before dealing with that, may I remind you of this: the British people have struggled for and gained freedom and liberty throughout past centuries and the history of their struggle might be divided roughly into three periods. The first was the period centring on the time of King John when they were concerned about personal liberty and sought to secure the rights of the subject because, prior to that time, a man might be jailed without just cause, be refused trial and no legal action could get him out. Political

liberty, therefore, was bound up in the struggle for individual liberty, and that was secured by Magna Charta. The second period had to do with the control of taxation and expenditure and centred around the time of Charles and James. One English King lost his head and another his Crown before the commons secured control of taxation and public expenditure. The third phase covers the struggle for extension of the suffrage, and the social and economic reforms arising therefrom. The British people having gained control over taxation and expenditure, this control was long ago firmly and completely assured to Parliament and they have today a most complete system of safeguards to protect that right.

The first safeguard, as every member of this House knows, is that no tax can be imposed without the consent of Parliament. Members also know that before a Government can spend a dollar it must get the consent of the House; that is, the Government must come before the Legislature and ask it to vote the money required.

The second safeguard is that every dollar expended must be passed and approved by the Department expending it and must be also passed by the Auditor before it is paid. The Auditor is not a servant of the Government—he is the servant of the Assembly.

The third safeguard is that at the end of each fiscal year a statement of revenue and expenditure, with complete details, is published in the Public Accounts for the information of members of the Legislature or any other person who may be interested.

The fourth safeguard is that at every session of the Legislature the Provincial Treasurer is required by law to present to the House certain returns and reports relating to the finances of the Province.

The fifth safeguard, and by no means the least, is the right and privilege of the House to investigate and examine into any item of Governmental expenditure through the Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts. Now our friends of the Opposition want to provide a sixth safeguard in the form of an independent audit.

*Mr. Anderson:* Hear, Hear!

*Hon. Mr. Patterson:* Well, Mr. Speaker, the Government has a duty and responsibility, and as long as this Government remains in power it intends to assume that duty and that responsibility. But, Sir, under our system of Government (and it was not created hurriedly or unwisely), the Opposition also has a duty. And from the manner in which our honourable friends over there have been going up and down the Province, and from the results of their excursions, I would say that their conception of that duty is to throw mud at the Government. But an Opposition has other duties and one of its duties is in connection with Public Accounts. The Public Accounts Committee of this Legislature has not met as such for five years. From that we can take one of two things. Either the best ability and combined intelligence of the Opposition has not been able to find a single dollar misspent in all these years or else they were not competent to fulfil the duty of their position; the people of this Province are not likely to entrust the duties of Government to those who are not prepared or not competent to assume the duties of an opposition.

The leader of the Opposition (*Mr. Anderson*), did refer in a casual way, last Session, to the matter of an independent audit, but it is amusing to read of members of the Opposition saying that they had demanded an independent audit but were refused when those same members have never even referred to the matter in the Legislature. The junior member for the City of Regina, (*Mr. MacPherson*) is generally recognised as the financial critic of the Opposition. This House will remember that, last session, he was put up to criticise the Budget and the financial record of the Government but in his speech there is no reference whatever to an independent audit. If there was to be a demand for an independent audit surely we would expect it in the Budget Speech of the chief financial critic! There was no such reference, the words "independent audit" do not appear anywhere in that address. Charges of waste, extravagance and graft are the common property of oppositions everywhere and there is not an Opposition in the world that does not charge the Government it opposes with these faults. The reason I doubt their sincerity; the reason I would be reluctant to have an independent audit is because, in so doing, we would be depriving our opponents of their most important political stage effects.

Where have they independent audits of Governments? Not in Great Britain, Australia, or South Africa; not in the United States and not at Ottawa or in any Province of Canada, except Manitoba and Nova Scotia. When a new Government comes in, the Government taking office sometimes has an independent audit made of the records of the outgoing Government and this was done in Alberta and Nova Scotia. It is often possible, and perhaps always possible, to find something wrong and when it is a politically-appointed auditor he is sure to find something wrong. The Auditor found something wrong in Alberta but what did he find? They kept their books on what is called the revenue basis in Alberta—something all commercial auditors advise. That means that the balance of the books of the Province of Alberta might be at variance with the actual cash balance and so the new Government blandly accused the old Government of being thousands of dollars short in its accounts. The same thing happened in Nova Scotia.

I have read the reports of the independent auditor in Nova Scotia and I wish to say that no more partisan political document was ever printed in the Dominion of Canada. The report criticised the old Government because it did not create reserves for the depreciation of public buildings—imagine having to set up a depreciation fund for such buildings as our Parliament Buildings and our Court Houses! Could anything be more absurd? It criticised the Government because revenue taken in one year was not allocated over the period it covered and because revenue was credited to the year in which it was collected and not to the previous year in which it was due but not paid. The independent audit in Nova Scotia revealed little of real value except for political purposes, although it cost that Province the sum of \$100,000. It simply proved that commercial and governmental auditing are quite different propositions and that such an audit as they had in Nova Scotia was made to furnish material for political propaganda.

In 1916, the Government of Saskatchewan retained the internationally-known firm of Price, Waterhouse & Company to make an investigation of the accounting and auditing methods employed in the various Departments. I admit that this was not an audit in the strict sense of the word—it was a survey. The Price, Waterhouse Company has a reputation which everyone must admit is above suspicion of partisanship or political bias. They made a very careful and intensive examination of the whole matter and submitted a very comprehensive report which included two major recommendations. The first recommendation was: "The accounting should be changed from the basis of cash receipts and payments to the revenue basis," and the second recommendation was: "The entire Provincial accounting should be unified and placed under the control of one responsible official who should have authority over all accountants and clerks concerned with provincial accounting, whether these accountants or clerks are in the Treasury or in one of the other Departments or one of the Institutions, and who should have the right to require these accountants and clerks to render their accounts to him in such form as he may think desirable."

Now that simply meant this: Prior to that time each Department had its own accountant and all the accounts were handled in that Department, but Price, Waterhouse in their report recommended that all the accounting should be handled by the Treasury Department. This was done, and the Treasury Department now has an accountant in the Education Department, the Highways Department and all the other Departments of the Government so that the control is centralised.

I would like to deal for a moment with one or two of the minor recommendations made in the report. The auditors recommended that all the mail of each Department should be sent to the Treasury Department to be mailed from there. It is easy to understand why this is not done. Around five o'clock in the afternoon the rush of mail is on in each Department and if it had all to be handled through the Treasury Department there would almost certainly be congestion and delay. It is not a practical thing to do in an institution of this kind and today, as before 1916, each Department sends out its own mail. Another thing they said was:

"A report of this nature inevitably, then, consists to some extent of criticisms of present methods of procedure and might, therefore, be thought to imply a criticism of the officials responsible for the conducting of the procedure. We would have it clearly understood that no such criticism is implied or intended for we find that the accounting generally of the Province is in good form and that the accounts in the Treasury are in excellent shape."

I might say that a further question arose regarding the amount of detailed checking done during the Provincial Auditor's audit of the Departments, and the report goes on to say:

"It seems to us that though the scope and detailed nature of the audit that is now being done is obligatory by the Act the amount of detailed checking actually done is not, from an accounting standpoint, entirely necessary; and we think that if the auditor confined his detailed auditing to such checks of detail as he, in his opinion, might consider necessary to establish the fact that the procedure of the Department was being carefully and effectively carried out, the audit would lose none of its effectiveness, but rather gain in effectiveness. We accordingly suggest that legislation should be asked for to permit the Provincial Auditor to make such tests of detail as, in his opinion, and subject to the approval of the Treasury Board, are necessary, so that the auditor may be relieved of the obligation under which he rests at present to make a complete check of all details."

In other words, they say, "You tie your Auditor down too closely and we think he might be given some latitude."

I would remind the House that some of our critics have suggested, in asking for an independent audit, that the Provincial Auditor was subject to Governmental or political influence, but the fact is the Provincial Auditor is not the servant of the Government but of this Legislature, can only be dismissed by this Legislature and is responsible only to the Legislature. Had there been anything in the criticism of political influence, surely the Government would have taken the advice of this well-known firm and relieved the Auditor of the detailed checking he now is required to make.

With reference to "revenue" and "cash" basis; I am sorry to take up so much time, but really, Sir, there has been so much loose and idle talk about these things that it is necessary to put myself on record concerning them. It is quite true that the books of commercial enter-

prises are properly kept on a revenue basis and they record all earnings as revenue whether actually collected or not. How far the Government has recognised this principle is evidenced in those of our activities that are of a commercial nature. We operate on this principle such activities as the Farm Loan Board, the Liquor Board and the Department of Telephones; but when you come to deal with Governments and Government business, there is some question whether it should be on that basis or on a cash basis.

Our books are kept on a "cash" basis and we credit to any year only the sums collected in that year, no matter when the indebtedness arose. We have good precedents for that; as a matter of fact most Governments conduct their business on that basis. The Government in the old land follows that system and I would suggest that some of our amateur financial critics, before they start dealing with matters such as this, should read this volume by Sir Thomas W. Heath, who was Joint-Permanent Secretary to the Treasury in Great Britain from 1913 to 1919. From this book entitled "The Treasury" I read:

"The practical advantage of this system is that it facilitates a speedy closing of the account which would otherwise not be possible, and keeps the financial record on a basis of realised facts, which our healthy, if insular, prejudice prefers to one of theory or logic."

We are rather proud of the fact that we have kept our books on the cash basis and shown surpluses. On a revenue basis we could show much larger surpluses than we do, but have not adopted that recommendation of Price, Waterhouse and Company because we are still of opinion that the cash basis is the proper method. Here is what would happen if we were on a revenue basis; On the first of March, the motor licenses would nearly all be in but one-third of the receipts would be credited to 1928-29 and the remaining two-thirds would be credited to the following year because two-thirds would be earned in that year. Then suppose a man on January 1st paid \$10 to be a notary public, which appointment would be made for two years, one-sixth of that \$10 would be credited to the year which closed the 30th of April, four-sixths would be credited to the following fiscal year, and one-sixth applied to the next. Under the cash system there is no such distribution of the \$10 which is simply credited to the year in which the amount is received. Similarly with public revenue; the levy for 1928 is for the calendar year. In the fiscal year closed April 30, 1928, we did not take credit for any revenue levied in 1928 because it was not collected at that time, and the same applies to many accounts. In France, they keep every year's accounts separate and under that system you cannot close the books of any year until all accounts for that particular year are completed. If we were to do that in this Province it would mean that our accounts would have to be kept open for many years. There is Supplementary Revenue tax still owing to the Province although, as you all know, that tax was done away with a good many years ago. Again, I say, that we are on safe and solid ground and have good precedent for continuing to keep the records of this Province on a cash basis, and hope we will hear no more about a change of system.

Some criticism has been made to the effect that the balance sheet cannot be understood. I want to say that the balance sheet of this Province is the simplest and most easily understood of any published in the whole of Canada. Our balance sheet is one that any man with ordinary intelligence can understand, and I do not see where the difficulty complained of arises as it is prepared for the rank and file of the people. It is, I repeat, a plain and easily understood balance sheet.

Who asks for an independent audit? Our Progressive friends met a short while ago and they did not ask for it in their platform. The only request comes from the Conservative party. Mr. Speaker, this Government has nothing to fear from an independent audit. Nothing at all! But when any fairly respectable (I don't mean respectable in the moral sense) number of the public demand it, the Government will be quite prepared to comply with the request. I repeat that most people—the people most interested have not asked for it. The United Farmers, the Municipal Associations or the Progressive Party have not asked for it. Of the thousand and one organisations of one kind or another in the Province only one has asked for an independent audit and that one is the Tory Party. My friend complains of the cost of the Grain Commission but I want to tell him that the independent audit would cost very much more. This Government has nothing to fear and nothing to hide and if our friends opposite believe it consistent with their duty, they may go out and persuade the majority of the people that there is need for an independent audit. As soon as there is any general demand for it, this Government, in that respect as in all other respects when the will of the people has been made clear, will be prepared to meet the people in that regard.

I am going to take just a few minutes more. We have heard a good deal for some years now with regard to British institutions and the necessity for maintaining this country as part of the British Empire. I am not going to enter into any argument as to where lies the responsibility for introducing sectarianism into political discussions. I am going to tell you of a little experience we had during last summer.

During the summer, we were favoured in this Province with a visit from the British Empire Parliamentary Association and in that delegation, headed as it was by Viscount Peel, a representative of the old English Aristocracy, a Conservative of the Conservatives, and a man who has had great public responsibility, were members of the Labour Party who had served under

Ramsay MacDonald's leadership; men from mine and factory and other activities in Great Britain. With him were members from Scotland, some Conservatives, some Labour, some out-and-out Socialists. I was surprised to find from them that, in Scotland, it was not necessary to speak English. There were men from Wales also, and I was surprised to find that there were thousands of people in that land who still speak their native tongue and that in Wales there were schools in which they still teach Welsh and that there were thousands of Welsh people who knew little or no English. Yet they did not seem to be looked down upon on that account nor did they seem to lose their prestige as British subjects.

I found in that delegation representatives from Australia, a country where the people are more English than the English themselves; yet, when an Imperial statesman attempted to advise them with regard to their immigration, he was told that they could look after the matter for themselves. We found representatives from the little Dominion of New Zealand and men from the great new Empire of Rhodesia. We found representatives from the oldest colony of all, the colony of Newfoundland. I saw men from Malta and they were not English in either race or tongue. I found they were the descendants of a hardy race of Phoenicians that had settled in the Island of Malta; yet they look upon themselves as British in every respect. It is true they spoke the English language but they also spoke their native Maltese and that language is an official language. There were men from India, and these men were not English, nor were they all of one language, race or religion. But they called themselves British and they are doing their share in that mighty Empire to maintain the majesty and dignity of the British Raj.

There were men there from the Union of South Africa, some of them of English stock, but more of them of the old Boer stock, and I learned from them that, in that country, Boer or Dutch was an official language and that in that southern part of the Globe, schools were taught in both languages, which were equal in every respect. And one of the wittiest speeches made at the dinner given to this delegation was the speech of a Boer whose father fought against the British and who, less than thirty years ago, was actually under arms against the British Empire.

Last, but by no means least, we met a representative of the Irish Free State, the youngest Dominion. We found that in his land English and the native Erse were equally legal, that the children were being taught in both languages and that both had official standing. The man who represented Ireland, less than ten years ago was serving a sentence, which had been imposed upon him by Viscount Peel, for being a rebel against the British Crown.

Sir, I would find it difficult tonight to define in delineations of race, creed or language exactly what "British" means. But if it is possible in this far-flung Empire for men of every race, tongue and creed to share a common citizenship, to share equally in a common liberty and all to look upon themselves as equally British under the various institutions which we call British; if it is possible to do that over the tremendous area which this Empire covers, then, surely in this Province of Saskatchewan, large as it may seem to us, though in reality a very small portion of the Empire, even with the diversified peoples who form our population, surely, Mr. Speaker, it is possible for us to unite and work together for the greatest and best development of this, our own Province of Saskatchewan.

Mr. Speaker, I shall support the motion.

SPEECH ON  
THE SECOND READING OF  
AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A POWER COMMISSION.

THE HONOURABLE GEORGE SPENCE,  
(*Minister of Railways, Labour and Industries*)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1928.

Mr. Speaker,—In rising to move the Second Reading of this Bill and for our guidance in the discussion of it, I purpose giving a short historical review of the circumstances that have led up to the necessity for this legislation.

Under the provisions of an Order in Council, dated January 7, 1927, a Commission consisting of L. A. Thornton (Chairman), Arthur Hitchcock and A. R. Greig, were directed to inquire into and report upon "the economic practicability of generating power at central power plants and water power sites in the Province." By this Order in Council the Commission was instructed to deal with certain twelve questions in particular "without restricting the generality of the above mentioned subject of inquiry."

It is unnecessary for me to read the twelve questions on which some specific information was requested as the report of the Power Commission has been placed upon the table of the House and it is now a public document. My honourable friends have an opportunity of studying the answers to the questions in their utmost detail as contained in the report.

The general necessity for an investigation of this kind should, I think, be admitted as a result of the changes that have taken place in the science of producing and distributing electrical energy since the day of the R. O. Wynne-Roberts report which was placed before the Legislature on November 23, 1912. I think no one will dispute that the Government should have the most exact and up-to-date information which it can obtain.

In addition to the information obtained in the report already referred to, the Government has had consultation with some of the most outstanding engineers and electrical experts on this continent, and after the most careful survey, in which the present and future needs of the Province have been taken into consideration, the Government submits this measure to the House, the principle of which is Government-ownership in the production, distribution and sale of electrical power or energy, at cost, to municipalities, corporations or such other public bodies, organisations or persons as may from time to time come under the provisions of this Act.

In drafting this legislation, the Government has followed, in so far as the conditions in this Province will permit, the provisions of *The Power Commission Act of Ontario*, where Government-ownership of this public utility has been in operation and has recorded steady progress for over twenty years, until it stands, today, the greatest public enterprise of its kind in the whole world.

Mr. Speaker, no one in this House will have the hardihood to doubt or even seriously question the benefits which public ownership in the production, distribution and sale of electricity has conferred upon urban and rural Ontario. The activities of the Hydro Commission in that province have engaged the attention, and aroused the admiration of many countries.

Insofar as the provisions in the Ontario Statute can be made applicable to this Province it is desirable to profit by the practical experience of Ontario, gained over a long period of years.

It is not my purpose on this occasion to weary the House with too much technical detail, and I only quote now from such sections of the report as supply the groundwork for this legislation.

On page 3 of the report, you will find this:

"A summary of these schedules indicates that there has been invested in power plants, equipment and distribution systems throughout the Province the sum of \$9,058,076, and that against this investment there is a debenture indebtedness as at December 31, 1926, of \$6,224,707. The present value of the plant and equipment, according to replies received, is estimated at \$4,287,926 and the present value of the distribution systems is estimated at \$2,312,328. The total energy generated in 1926 was 69,553,844 K.W.H., sold to 44,471 consumers."

Turning to page 4 the report states:

"In addition to the returns filed with the Commission it is estimated that there have been installed in the province some 7,000 individual lighting plants which represent an investment of approximately \$4,000,000 and a production of from 150 to 200 K.W. Hours per year per unit."

The sections which I have just read set out in a clear and understandable way, the value and capacity of the present plants supplying electricity in the Province and the approximate extent and demand of that market up to a comparatively recent date.

The other circumstance which is worthy of note is referred to on page 7 of the report:

"Consideration of this problem has been given at length in the report of the Consulting Engineers. The larger cities consume over 80 per cent. of the electrical energy produced in the province and any scheme of development must naturally be closely connected with this load."

From a close study of the sections of the report which I have just read and other sections relating to the same matter, it can be readily seen that the three cities, namely, Regina, Moose Jaw and Saskatoon, occupy strategic positions in any power scheme of a Provincial nature. The question that immediately arises is: How are we going to meet a situation like this? For our guidance in this regard I turn again to the report of the Commission.

On page 14, at the top of the page, Mr. Speaker, you will find the following:

"With the construction or the establishment of such a system supplied by a number of central stations with radiating lines, there at once arises the question of the provision which should be made to co-ordinate the system. It is evident that it is only by concerted action that some such system could be made available for the use of the extended limits of the province which have been described. If the development of such a system is left to the initiative of the cities or of private interests working from different points there will be a clashing of interests and duplication of expense in many ways and the desired result would not be obtained as readily or as soon; also the costs would be somewhat higher than if the direction of the whole scheme were undertaken by some central authority.

"The erection of a central authority at once suggests three alternatives. One, an inter-city pool which would be empowered to extend and sell to other municipalities. Two, a privately owned company which would either buy these central plants and extend therefrom, or purchase power from these plants for such extensions. Three, the Province of Saskatchewan could either take over and operate the city plants and make the necessary extensions or purchase power from the central plants to supply the necessary extensions.

"In our opinion, of these alternatives there are many reasons which point to that wherein the province is suggested as taking over the plants and operating the same, as being the alternative which will prove ultimately of the greatest advantage to the people of Saskatchewan. The three cities should derive benefits from the point of view that their stations will be enlarged to supply greater loads than they are likely of themselves to produce, under practically the same conditions of management and costs of production as would obtain if they continued to operate the plants themselves. The supply of electric energy at reasonable rates which would be made possible by such a scheme to a large territory tributary to these centres will of itself create a condition of living in this territory which will indirectly accrue to the benefit of the large centres with which the tributary territory is in continuous communication. The funds for capital expenditures necessary can also be procured by the province at a cheaper rate than by the individual municipalities. The credit of the municipalities would be also relieved of the sums necessary to invest in power plant installation."

A further argument is made on page 15, which continues as follows:

"As contrasted with private ownership, the Province could surely secure funds for the erection and operation of such a system on a cheaper basis than private interests, and the element of private gain which necessarily must be provided to private ownership need not be figured in a publicly-owned system. While much has been said in the United States in criticism of private ownership, it is fair to point out that private ownership is strongly entrenched in the United States, and is responsible for much propaganda on its own behalf. On the other hand, public-ownership has been successful, particularly in the Western Provinces of Canada, and if the system of public-ownership continues to be operated on the same business principles as in the past, this system will continue to meet with public approval. We do not consider that we need to support this statement at any great length. There is no doubt that the municipal light and power utilities in Western Canada are affording service to their customers at rates which are acknowledged by authorities throughout the continent as being very favourable rates indeed."

There is little doubt today where the Province stands on the matter of the ownership of these utilities. On every occasion where the people have had an opportunity to express themselves on the question, they have done so with no uncertain voice, and this question of power has been no exception; for as soon as the report of the Commission was published—and even before—I find that the following organisations have expressed themselves. I read from newspaper clippings making special reference to the subject. I shall read only the headings, Mr. Speaker.

"Favour Power Scheme" is the heading of the Y.M.C.A. Debating Club, who voiced their approval of the Provincial power scheme as proposed at present. They did not favour private individuals getting control of these.

"Saskatchewan Union of Municipalities Takes Stand on Power Policy. Unreserved Endorsation of Public-Ownership Passed by Large Majority."



"Regina Labour Party Endorses Power Scheme. Favour Placing All Plants Under Government Control."

Then from *The Star-Phoenix* of October 4, 1928: "General Policy of Government Power Plan Backed by Party. Saskatchewan Progressive Association Fully in Accord."

From *The Saskatoon Star*, September 14: "Farmers Behind Power Plan, says U.F.C. Secretary. Organised Agriculture is in Full Accord, Thrasher Declares; Doesn't Think Scheme Will Enter Into Party Politics."

The same expressions of approval are also met with in the columns of the daily and weekly press in this and other provinces.

I read in *The Toronto Globe* of July 26, in the editorial column, this brief comment:

"The Provincial Power Commission of Saskatchewan has reported in favour of public ownership and distribution of power. Good judgment and foresight have scored again."

Again in *The Toronto Globe* of September 13, 1928, after dealing at length in an editorial with the general plan they inject this: "Saskatchewan has gone about the solution of its power problems in a businesslike manner." Further on the same editorial says: "The new policy now embarked upon is a result of the thoroughgoing report just made public. With the information available the Province may work out its system by degrees over a long period of years."

In *The Winnipeg Tribune*, July 24, we find the following:

"It is a sound scheme, though requiring infinite care and patience in its development. Any effort to hasten the completion of the scheme beyond logical requirements of the field of consumption would be fraught with grave danger. It is a reproduction on a smaller scale of the power developments Great Britain is planning, and the method of development the public utility companies in the United States have adopted. Across the line it is known as a 'super-power scheme,' but essentially it is the same idea that the Commission has recommended for Saskatchewan."

For the particular benefit of a number of gentlemen opposite, who have been damning the whole project with faint praise, I read this from the same editorial:

"Conservatives in Saskatchewan have shown some disposition to pooh-pooh the whole power project, describing it as merely an election dodge on the part of the Government. It may be precisely that, but the scheme is inherently sound and practicable, and shows a real vision of the future development of the Province. If the Conservatives desire to spike the Government's guns, an excellent method would be to become really enthusiastic supporters of the scheme the Commission has evolved."

*The Western Producer* has this to say:

"This first step taken by the Government is in response to a strong sentiment throughout the province in favour of some sort of provincial control of electrical power," and further states that it is in favour of an organisation to carry out a policy similar to the hydro power policy of Ontario.

Again, *The Western Producer* on September 6, in an editorial entitled "Saskatchewan Power," says:

"There seems to be a practically unanimous belief amongst the people of Saskatchewan that a power scheme, provincial-wide, and publicly owned, would be the best method of handling electrical power in the province."

And from *The Manitoba Free Press* of December 8, I read this:

"The Saskatchewan power policy is not a spectacular one. No great hydro-electric sites can be harnessed; no huge network of high tension lines can be flung across vast distances to serve the needs of a dense population. Even the former idea of a great central plant situated at the Estevan coal field has been discarded after a cool study of costs. The scheme as propounded makes little appeal to the vivid imagination. But it has the merit of being eminently sensible."

In short, Mr. Speaker, the position, briefly, is this: eighty per cent. of the power produced, distributed and sold is produced and consumed in the three cities, and the three plants are publicly owned now. Perhaps another ten or even fifteen per cent. of the total is produced by towns and villages owning their own plants. The remainder is owned by private individuals and companies. So that the position since this house last met has not materially altered in so far as a province-wide scheme of publicly owned power is concerned. Saskatchewan still remains a province where the ownership of the machinery for production, transformation and distribution of electrical power and energy is publicly owned to a much greater degree than is that of any other province in the Dominion.

What is the position in the other provinces?

In Nova Scotia work is carried on by the Minister with the Chief Engineer in charge. I do not think they retail. They sell direct to private companies, and sell very little, if any, to municipalities.

New Brunswick is modelled on the lines of the Ontario Hydro-Electric. They have a Power Commission, but sell power in competition with private companies.

In Quebec, they have what they call a "Streams Commission," with approximately \$10,000,000 invested in storage dams on which they assess the costs to private power companies. Additional charges are made to take care of capital indebtedness. They exercise control through what is known as a "Public Utilities Commission."

Ontario has government ownership and sells power in bulk to municipalities, who in turn retail individuals and rural services. In addition the Ontario Hydro sells to a few large consumers, such as the Buffalo-Niagara Power Company. The Ontario Hydro-Electric has a virtual monopoly and meets serious competition only in Hamilton and Ottawa. It might be remarked here that the rates of power in Ottawa are very low. Indeed I doubt if there is a more favourable rate for the individual consumer anywhere in existence on the American continent. It might also be pointed out that the rate charged by the Hydro Commission in Ontario is not uniform to the retailer, but varies in relation to location and also with the generating capacity of the plant.

Manitoba has a power commission that distributes approximately from 1,500 to 2,000 horse power. They buy their power in bulk from the City Hydro and the Winnipeg Electric or its subsidiary, the Manitoba Power Company. The Manitoba Power Commission is at the transmission and retail end of the power business. Manitoba is the only Province where the power commission retails power.

In Alberta most of the distribution is in the hands of the municipalities, who retail to the consumers, but they buy their power from private companies, and in some cases have generating power plants of their own. The Public Utilities Commission exercises control over rates. It may be said that, in Alberta, the private companies have the right of way.

In British Columbia, the power business is all in the hands of private companies, and to my knowledge there is no control over rates whatever other than what might be exercised when arranging renewals of franchises.

The central fact which this Government and this Legislature have to consider is a means of co-ordinating under central control a system that, as time goes on, will avoid the duplication of equipment, overlapping of service and costly cut-throat competition by private companies for which the people will ultimately have to pay. We must provide instead a means whereby our plants, now municipally owned, can be tied into a comprehensive and Province-wide scheme, instead of each being concerned, as now, only with the needs of its own community, each municipality for itself without regard to the larger question of the common good or interconnection where the same is practicable.

There is still another compelling reason why provision should be made at the earliest date for this form of control. The tremendous coal deposits in the south will doubtless, as the Commission points out, some day be utilised to develop electricity at the pit mouth, or in the pit itself, and this electricity will be used to feed a gigantic transmission system. The water powers in the north, also referred to by the Commission, will doubtless be utilised for the same purpose when the market for electrical energy becomes such as to justify the capital expense necessary for this development.

This is all a matter of cold-blooded engineering economics, into which sentiment does not, and cannot, enter. Ontario feeds its system from 22 hydro-electric plants operated by a Commission, and situated at widely scattered points. This is further supplemented by power from other sources, all feeding the long distance transmission lines and serving 120 rural power districts comprising 211 townships, as shown in the report of the Hydro-Electric Power Commission of last year. It is, I believe, good engineering economics to feed a transmission system from as many different points as is practicable, thus securing a better balanced system in voltage, etc. Maximum efficiency in such a gigantic enterprise as I have outlined, can be carried out only by one central authority such as this Bill proposes to set up.

The greatest problem which the electrical engineer has to face today is the problem of rural electrification. Anyone who has given the question any study realises this. Transmission lines are costly things, and in a province as rural as this, where our urban centres are more similar to Ontario's rural districts than their rural districts are to our urban districts, before any rural community can be served, the high line has to feed first some urban centre in the community where the consumption of electricity is sufficient to justify the cost of transmission line and transformers, and take care of line losses together with the keeping of the line energised for twenty-four hours while the demand upon it is only during a very small part of that time; in other words, where the load factor is poor. It is all nonsense to talk about a comprehensive scheme of rural electrification, just now. The underlying principle of such a scheme, and the thing which will make it possible is a network of transmission lines serving urban centres where the conditions, which I have outlined, can be met.

Obviously, the only thing that can make rural electrification possible at all on anything like a large scale is a condition that gives us, first, a large centre that will consume sufficient electricity to make the generation of that electricity possible on a large scale. The formula is simple. Let me state it here. As the curve of consumption rises the curve of cost goes down. A 10,000 K.W. unit will produce current much cheaper than a unit half that size. The cities of Regina, Moose Jaw and Saskatoon, are very good examples of what can be accomplished in plants centrally located and efficiently managed.

The cost of current at the switchboard in the three cities compares favourably with that of any steam plant of the same size on this continent. The fact that we have no water power immediately available is not something that we need worry about. In the last ten years the generation of electricity by steam has made tremendous strides. It is all a matter of thermal efficiency in the modern steam plant, and there is only the smallest fraction of a cent per K.W. between the modern steam plant and the most favourably situated hydro plant. One great authority has said that if all the hydro plants on this continent were destroyed tonight by some catastrophe, wiped out of existence, not more than half of them would be rebuilt on their present sites. They would be replaced by steam plants, centrally located and built at less than half the cost.

Here, in Saskatchewan, we are starting off with a policy of Government ownership on a virtually 'clean sheet.' There are no vested rights in sites or power plants in any great amounts other than what is now publicly owned, and I would say that it would be the part of wisdom for the cities not to part with their plants or franchises to private companies. It is up to us all to work in the closest co-operation so that we can lay the proper foundation for a province-wide scheme of Government ownership for the production, transformation and distribution of power at cost. In this way and in no other can we give the efficient service to our rural districts which these districts will demand and have the right to expect.

Electricity is a world force. Hundreds of thousands of horse power are transmitted over long distances. Indeed, electricity is now recognised as a commodity which can be exported. Super power is slowly but surely revolutionising industry. It is now possible to take power to the worker where formerly the worker had to go to the power. Many social evils were attributable to a condition which compelled the workers to live in congested centres because power could not be transmitted beyond a very limited radius. For a century or more we have been fighting in a social way with this condition found in the black portions of our large industrial cities. Many efforts have been made to correct the evils arising out of this system by political action along social reform lines.

Now the engineer and the chemist have largely solved the problem for us by the transmission of power which makes it possible for the factory worker to get away from unhealthy and hideously congested centres out into the open spaces and the green fields and sunlight. With an abundant supply of cheap power, it is perhaps not too much to say that rural Saskatchewan offers an attractive field to many industries indigenous to its soil and necessary to a more intensive industrial development. It is our job as public men and legislators to see to it that the progress registered by the engineer and the chemist, is not lost to the people. The Commission set up by this Bill will stand at the bridgehead and guard the field for public ownership of power in the province.

SPEECHES  
ON  
RESOLUTION RESPECTING THE PUBLIC DOMAIN.

THE HONOURABLE T. C. DAVIS.

*(Attorney General.)*

TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 1929.

*The Honourable Mr. Davis*, in moving a Resolution respecting the transfer to the Province of the Public Domain within its limits, said:

Mr. Speaker:

In arising to move the motion which I will move at the conclusion of my remarks, I arise to move a Resolution which has been debated in this House on a good many occasions in days gone by. During my remarks I may find it necessary to cover a very considerable amount of ground that has been covered in this Legislature before.

I think that it was during the 1927 Session a motion was introduced with respect to this matter in terms different from the one which I propose, by the honourable, the leader of the Progressive Party (*Mr. Tran*). On that occasion I spoke on that particular motion and some of the material I used and some of the remarks I made then must, of necessity, be covered by me in this debate so that the matter may be thoroughly discussed. I must go back over this subject and I must ask leave to weary the House by detailing the past history of this whole problem so that by going back to the beginning of things we may get a true perspective of the problem. I propose to deal, as I go along, with some of the previous resolutions that have been moved and passed in this House, during previous Sessions, and also some of the amendments that have been moved and were passed or were rejected, in connection with the problem. I think I might add that the time is rapidly approaching when the necessity will cease to exist, and possibly it may be that, by the time another Session comes around, there will be no necessity for any resolution and that possibly this may be the last time we may debate this particular subject in the Legislature. Be that as it may, I propose to deal with the problem from its inception to the present time, and, as I said a moment ago, to deal from an historical point of view with the question first of all, and then to say something of the reasons why certain things were done.

Now, the first step I want to take goes away back into the early history of our country to the days after the French secured control over what is now the Dominion of Canada; that is, to the very inception of things, to the days before this vast Dominion became a unit of the British Empire. I am not going to discuss the situation during that period as it does not directly affect this western land which was later known as The North-West Territory and Rupert's Land.

The first step in connection with any move to bring this territory under British rule was the granting of a charter to the Hudson's Bay Company in 1670, and by that charter all the rights in this territory including property right in the land and the rights of Government, were granted by the Crown to the Hudson's Bay Company. Now, there was something unusual in this charter, for, in addition to granting property rights in land to this organisation they also were granted the rights of government. This was the initial state of affairs.

The territory was known from that time onward as Rupert's Land and included all the territory which was tributary to the rivers draining into the Hudson Bay. The watersheds of these rivers were granted under this charter to the Hudson's Bay Company, and as I just said, that territory was known as Rupert's Land. For two hundred years, that is until 1870, the Hudson's Bay Company did control this whole territory, had this proprietary right in the land throughout this vast western country. That, as I have said, continued for, roughly 200 years.

In 1864, possibly a few years prior to that, a discussion started in the older, eastern parts of Canada with a view to uniting into one unit, the different British Colonies in North America. We had the colonies of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and the colonies of Upper and Lower Canada and British Columbia on the west, all separate and distinct colonies with nothing but one thing in common, that is a common allegiance to the British Crown. These discussions to bring about unity, instead of having isolated units, which started some years prior to 1864, culminated in the formation of the Dominion of Canada under *The British North America Act*. The four original provinces forming the Dominion were the provinces of Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, uniting Upper and Lower Canada, which then became the Provinces of Quebec and Ontario. These provinces, it will be noted, were all situated in the eastern part of Canada. There was another Crown Colony in the west, British Columbia, and this was separated from the other colonies by this vast area of land covering the district of Rupert's Land, which we are now discussing.

It was the vision of the Fathers of Confederation that they should form a vast, continuous, united British Nation on the northern half of this hemisphere, stretching from the Atlantic on the east to the Pacific on the west—one united British Nation stretching from one ocean to the other. As I said before, in between the two units was this vast hinterland which was beyond the control of the Dominion of Canada and the British Crown, and beyond that control by reason of the fact that the Hudson's Bay Company controlled the same and owned the territory, under its charter.

The Fathers of Confederation saw that, if they were going to have a united nation, they must of necessity include this territory known as Rupert's Land in the Canadian Union. Now the action along those lines was foreshadowed by the B.N.A. Act, Section 146, which reads as follows:

"146. It shall be lawful for the Queen, by and with the advice of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, on Addresses from the Houses of the Parliament of Canada, and from the Houses of the respective Legislatures of the Colonies or Provinces of Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, and British Columbia, to admit those Colonies or Provinces, or any of them, into the Union, and on Address from the Houses of the Parliament of Canada to admit Rupert's Land and the North-western Territory, or either of them, into the Union, on such terms and conditions in each Case as are in the Addresses expressed and as the Queen thinks fit to approve, subject to the Provisions of this Act; and the Provisions of any Order in Council in that behalf shall have effect as if they had been enacted by the Parliament of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland."

That section was placed in the Act in 1867, and at the time this Act came into force this territory was still under the control of the Hudson's Bay Company; but as I have said, that section was placed therein with the idea that this territory would subsequently become a part of the Canadian Union and, when the time would arrive, to provide by Legislation, for the inclusion of that territory.

As soon as Confederation was complete and the new Dominion of Canada started to function as a united confederation, the Government of the day started to secure the control of this vast territory, and at once began to urge upon the Imperial Parliament the necessity of the extinguishment of the rights of the Hudson's Bay Company therein and of its inclusion in the Dominion of Canada. We find when the first Parliament after the formation of the Canadian Confederation met in 1867, that parliament started to urge upon the Imperial Government the necessity of extinguishing the rights of the Hudson's Bay Company under its charter of 1670, and that the territory should be included in the new Canadian Union. We find that a result of that urging was the passing by the Imperial Parliament in 1868 of the Act known as *The Rupert's Land Act*, that Act authorising the Hudson's Bay Company to surrender its rights in Rupert's Land, and the Imperial Government was authorised to accept the surrender of the rights of the company under its charter of 1670.

There were two restrictions placed in the Act of 1868 by the Imperial Parliament. The first was, that no surrender should be taken that would impose any charge on the Imperial Treasury in accepting the surrender of those rights; that is, that no surrender should be accepted which involved the payment on the part of the Imperial Government of any money to the Hudson's Bay Company, which money would be a charge on the funds of Great Britain. That was the first restriction. The second was, that the surrender should not be accepted until the terms had been agreed upon; that the Imperial Government would not accept the surrender until the two Governments had come together to agree to the terms or the conditions under which the territory would come into this union. Those were the two restrictions placed by the Imperial Government when *The Rupert's Land Act of 1868* was enacted.

As soon as the Act became law, negotiations were entered into between the Government of Canada and the Imperial Government with a view to obtaining from the Company the surrender of these rights with a view to making arrangements for the inclusion of this territory in the Canadian Union. As a result of those negotiations which continued for two years, being conducted in England, the Hudson's Bay Company did execute and deliver a complete surrender in favour of the Imperial Government of its whole interest. That is, the Company granted a surrender and extinguishment of all its rights to the Imperial Government. This was given subject to certain reservations, one being that south of the north branch of the Saskatchewan River, the Company should have certain lands in every township, that they should have certain lands around their trading posts. They surrendered all their rights under their charter to the Imperial Parliament, subject to those grants.

About the most important feature in connection with these negotiations and which, subsequently, turned out to be the most important thing, was that the Hudson's Bay Company insisted on a cash payment in addition to these reservations before they would surrender their lands. We have noted that the Imperial Parliament provided the restriction that in no event must the transaction involve a charge upon Imperial funds, and, therefore, if it was to be paid, it would have to be paid by the Dominion of Canada.

The Hudson's Bay Company held out for the cash payment, and as a result of the negotiations, it was decided that the sum of £300,000 should be handed over as one of the conditions of this extinguishment. As I have said, the Imperial Government could not put up this money because of the restriction on their powers, so the money had to come from the Dominion of Canada,

and the Dominion turned over to the Imperial Parliament that sum as part of the consideration to the Hudson's Bay Company. The Company secured this £300,000 and they granted the extinguishment. The Canadian Government borrowed this £300,000 on bond issues. They sold bonds as we do in the financing of Provincial issues. These bonds matured in 1904. The money was paid over to the Hudson's Bay Company, and the Company executed a surrender and the territory thereupon reverted and stood in the same relationship to the British Crown as though no such charter had ever been granted.

Subject to the reservations of which I have spoken, this territory being once more under the control of the British Crown was included in the territory within the Dominion of Canada by virtue of Section 146 of *The British North America Act*. The Canadian Parliament, both Houses, petitioned the British Parliament for the inclusion of this territory in the Dominion of Canada, and the Imperial Government, thereupon, granted the petition and by Order-in-Council included the territory in the Canadian Union. This took place about 1870, and from the time of that Imperial Order-in-Council this territory was included and became part of the Dominion of Canada.

Now, it is to be noted that throughout, from 1670 on, notwithstanding the territorial rights and the property rights which rested in the Company, the residents of this territory owed their allegiance to the British Crown, and when the surrender was granted and the extinguishment agreement came into force in 1870, the same residents continued to owe their allegiance to the British Crown. When the territory was included in the Union, for the purpose of Government, jurisdiction to govern was placed in the Dominion Parliament, and, by virtue of that, they still continued to owe their allegiance to the British Crown. Now, there was clearly no transfer from the Imperial Government to the Canadian Government, as if two people transferred a piece of real estate. There was no such transaction as the Hudson's Bay Company agreeing to an extinguishment of these rights, as it always had been the property of the British Crown. But after the territory was included in the Canadian Union, the people still retained their allegiance but were subject to the control of the Canadian Parliament rather than to the Parliament of Great Britain. I do not think it could be successfully argued that, at the time this £300,000 was paid, there was transfer to the Government of Canada as two people might deal with a piece of real estate.

Now, even prior to the inclusion of this territory of Rupert's Land in 1870, steps had been taken by the Canadian Parliament to start to form provinces out of this territory. In fact, about 1869 the first step had already been taken to include a part of this territory in the Canadian Union—part of what is now known as the Province of Manitoba. When the Act was passed in 1869 or 1870, this territory had not yet been included in the Dominion by the Imperial Order-in-Council and was therefore still within the control of the Hudson's Bay Company which was anticipating a surrender, and the Parliament of Canada in 1870 passed the Manitoba Act which provided for the setting up of the Province of Manitoba. After that Act was passed setting up the Province, the Province was then included in the Canadian Union and to make sure of the validity of the Act setting up the Province of Manitoba there was passed in 1871 by the Imperial Government an Act to amend the British North America Act to confirm the Manitoba Act passed by the Canadian Parliament, and setting up the Province of Manitoba.

When Confederation took place in 1867, that is when the Provinces of Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick were formed, it was a term of the agreement which they entered into and which took form in the B.N.A. Act, that the Crown Lands belonged to each of these four Provinces, and should remain the property of these four Provinces as set forth in the B.N.A. Act. Now the question was: What treatment in that regard should be meted out to the new Province of Manitoba. The question first arose in connection with Manitoba. I think the Provinces of Prince Edward Island and British Columbia entered Confederation shortly after and then subsequently our two prairie provinces, but after Confederation, but the first to be included was the Province of Manitoba and the question arose, when that Province was going to be formed, as to what treatment should be meted out in connection with its lands: Was she to receive the same treatment that the four original provinces received or should it be different?

Now the Government of the day was the Government of Sir John A. Macdonald and his Government decided that a different treatment should be accorded to Manitoba than to the four original contracting provinces and they gave notice to that Province in 1870, that the Federal Government should retain the ownership of the Crown Lands within the Province thus formed. The reason expressed by Sir John A. Macdonald and the Government of the day for this change in policy, and different manner of treating the new Province from that which had been followed in the four original Provinces, is set out in the Canadian Order-in-Council of May 30th, 1884, when this question of the transfer of the lands to the Province of Manitoba was disposed of. The Order-in-Council which sets out the reason why the Crown lands were retained from the Province of Manitoba reads partly as follows:

"The success of the undertakings by the Dominion Government in and for the Northwest, depends largely upon the settlement of the lands. Combined with a great expenditure in organising and maintaining an immigration service abroad and at home, parliament pledged its faith to the world that a large portion of those lands should be set apart for free homesteads to all coming settlers, and another portion to be held in trust for the education of their children. No transfer could, therefore, be made, without exacting from the province

the most ample securities that this pledged policy shall be maintained; hence in so far as the free lands extend there would be no monetary advantage to the province, whilst a transfer would most assuredly seriously embarrass all the costly immigration operations which the Dominion Government is making mainly in behalf of Manitoba and the Territories.

"The great attraction which the Canadian Government now offers, the impressive fact to the mind of the men contemplating immigration is that a well known and recognised government holds unfettered in its own hand the lands which it offers free, and that the government has its agencies and organisations for directing, receiving, transporting and placing the immigrant upon the homestead which he may select. And if the immigration operations of the Dominion which involve so large a cost, are to have continued success and to be of advantage to Manitoba and the Northwest Territories, your sub-committee deem it to be of the utmost importance that the Dominion Government shall retain and control the lands which it has proclaimed free to all comers. Were there other considerations of sufficient force to induce them to recommend their transfer to Manitoba, and as a consequence and by precedent the surrender to the Provinces to be created from the Northwest Territory, all the lands within their boundaries, then they would advise that the provinces holding the lands should conduct their own immigration operations at their own expense."

Now that is the first statement, as far as I can find, as to the reason which actuated that policy which was applied to Manitoba; and the same policy should apply to the Provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta when they were formed, for the same reasons. However, the result was that the Crown Lands were to be retained by the Federal Government and the reasons are those which I have stated, the chief being for immigration purposes, and these lands were to be offered to the world for free homesteads. I cannot find when first the Manitoba Government did start urging upon the Federal Government for similar treatment to what had been given the other provinces, but probably down to 1884 this urging had been made. The first record I can find of a resolution dealing with the subject is in 1884, and it was disposed of, but the reasonable assumption is that this agitation started immediately after the Province of Manitoba was formed and that, since 1884, that Province by resolution and otherwise, has been urging the return of its natural resources.

Let me point out that various governments of that Province of various political stripes, Progressive, Conservative and Liberal, have all been urging upon Federal Governments, both Liberal and Conservative, the return of these natural resources to Manitoba. But that has not been done, although their resources were retained in 1870, thirty-five years prior to the formation of the Provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta.

I am not going to deal with the Province of Prince Edward Island. In Prince Edward Island all lands were gone, had passed from the hands of all Governments apparently. In British Columbia, the Crown Lands were left to the Province when it came into Confederation.

The next step was the formation of the Provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan which were taken into Confederation in 1905. Once again, when these Provinces were formed, the same question that had arisen in 1870 with respect to the retention of Crown Lands, had to be met and decided. The Federal Government of the day was that of Sir Wilfrid Laurier and in introducing the Legislation to set up these new Provinces, Sir Wilfrid gave his reason why the Crown lands were retained, as follows:

"The point being settled as to the number of provinces to be admitted into Confederation the next question is that regarding the public lands. In whom should the ownership of the lands be vested? Should they belong to the provinces or to the Dominion? A strong plea was presented to us on behalf of the provinces. It was represented that as a matter of law and of equity, the public lands in these two provinces should belong to their governments. This plea was no doubt suggested by the fact that at the time of confederation, all the parties to the original contract, that is to say, the provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Ontario and Quebec, each retained her own lands; and when at a later day the province of British Columbia was admitted to the Dominion, she also retained her lands. But Sir, the cases are not at all parallel. When the provinces which I have named came into confederation, they were already sovereignties. I use that term, because barring their dependence as colonies they were sovereignties in the sense of having the management of their own affairs. Each had a department of government called the Crown Lands Department, which was entrusted with the power of dealing with those lands, either for revenue or for settlement. But the case of these new provinces is not at all similar. They never had the ownership of the lands. Those lands were bought by the Dominion government, and they have remained ever since the property of the Dominion Government, and have been administered by the Dominion Government. Therefore I say the two cases are not in any way parallel; they are indeed absolutely different. When the provinces which I have named came into confederation they retained the ownership of their lands; but when the two new provinces came into the Dominion, it cannot be said that they can retain the ownership of their lands, as they never had the ownership.

"Therefore, the proposition that in equity and justice these lands belong to the provinces is not tenable. But for my part I would not care, in a question of this importance, to rest the case on a mere abstract proposition."

You see, while he sets out the proposition he goes on to state that he does not propose to rest the case on that at all. And he goes on to say:

"We must view it from the grounds of policy; and from the highest grounds of policy, I think it is advisable that the ownership of these lands should continue to be vested in the Dominion Government. We have precedents for this. This is a case in which we can go to the United States for precedents. They are situated very much as we are regarding the ownership of lands and the establishment of new states. Whenever a new state has been created in the American Union, the Federal Government has always retained the ownership and management of the public lands. And when we take the records of our own country, we know that when Manitoba was brought into the Dominion, that province was not given the ownership of her lands, but it remained in the Dominion Government. True it is that Manitoba made several efforts to acquire the ownership of the lands within her boundaries. She applied more than once to the successive governments of the Dominion, but her application was always met in the same way. It was always met by the statement that it was impossible to grant her request. The matter was finally closed in 1884 when the Government of Sir John Macdonald, which had been approached on the subject, gave very forcibly and clearly the reasons why the prayer of that province could not be entertained. I may be allowed to quote to the House the language used by the Government of Sir John Macdonald on the occasion. It will be found in an Order in Council of the 30th May, 1884."

And then he goes on to quote the Order-in-Council I have already quoted and then continues as follows:

"These reasons, strong and forcible as they were in 1884, are even stronger and more forcible in 1905, because the current of immigration is now flowing into these territories in an unprecedented volume, and we are therefore compelled to say to the new provinces that we must continue the policy of retaining the ownership and control of the lands in our own hands. It is conceivable that if these lands were given to the new provinces, the policy of either one of them might differ from ours and clash with our efforts to increase immigration. It might possibly render these efforts nugatory. For instance, if either of the new provinces, under the strain of financial difficulty, were to abolish the free homesteads, which have proved so beneficial and so great an inducement to immigration, one can readily understand what a great blow that would be to our immigration policy. Or if the price of government lands for sale were to be increased over the present very moderate rate, that would also be another blow to that policy. But I frankly admit, and we must all recognize, that the provinces in the west, in being deprived of the public lands, are deprived of a valuable source of income and in that way they complain that they are put on a footing of inequality as compared with the older provinces of the Dominion. Realising that fact, it is the duty of parliament to make ample, even generous, provision which will compensate the provinces for the retention of the lands by the Federal Government, and I believe that in making this provision we shall have the full support of honourable members whether on one side or on the other."

Now you will notice that the contention of Sir Wilfrid was that these lands were property of the Dominion by purchase, and did not belong to the Western Provinces. This same contention had been made by previous Conservative Governments. You will also notice Sir Wilfrid did not rest his case upon that point but upon the reasons given by Sir John A. Macdonald.

Provision was made in the two Acts setting up these Provinces whereby compensation was to be given the Provinces for the retention of their lands by the Federal Government by way of an annual subsidy, known thereafter as the "Subsidy in lieu of Land", and we are still receiving that subsidy from the Federal Treasury. All these subsidies were computed on a certain fixed basis and the computation, so far as Saskatchewan was concerned, was set out by Sir Wilfrid as reported on page 1439 of Hansard of 1905. This matter was introduced by resolution as they do in Ottawa instead of introducing a Bill. A resolution was introduced in that way and that resolution included the basis on which the subsidies should be paid. This is to be found at page 1439 and reads as follows:

"As the public lands in the said provinces are to remain the property of Canada, there shall be paid by Canada to the said Provinces annually by way of compensation therefor a sum based upon the estimated value of such lands, (Namely, \$37,500,000); the same being assumed to be of an area of 25,000,000 acres and to be of the value of \$1.50 per acre, and upon the population of the said Provinces as from time to time ascertained by the quinquennial census thereof, such sum to be arrived at as follows:

"The population of the said provinces being assumed to be at present 250,000, the sum payable until such population reaches 400,000 is to be one per cent. on such estimated value or \$375,000.

"Thereafter until such population reaches 800,000, the sum payable is to be one and one-half per cent. on such estimated value or \$562,500.

"Thereafter until such population reaches 1,200,000, the sum payable is to be two per cent. on such estimated value, or \$750,000.

"And thereafter such payment is to be three per cent. on such estimated value, or \$1,125,000.



"In additional compensation for such lands, there shall be paid by Canada to such province annually for five years from the time this Act comes into force to provide for the construction of necessary public buildings, \$62,500."

That last clause is of no effect as that money was paid and that clause was terminated.

Now it will be noted that it was estimated that the Dominion Government was retaining in this Province some 25,000,000 acres of land, upon which a value was placed of \$1.50 an acre, which price would total \$37,500,000 and with interest on that at 3% would equal \$1,125,000 yearly, which is the maximum subsidy to which we are entitled in lieu of lands under *The Saskatchewan Act*. That arrangement was made in 1905, and in 1905, after *The Saskatchewan Act* was passed, and the Crown Lands withheld, there was a general election which resulted in the placing of a Liberal Government in power by the people of the Province. Another election took place in 1908, and the Liberal Government was again returned to power, so that this arrangement was the accepted order of things in this Province until the Session of 1910-11, that is, no resolution was introduced in this House with regard to the matter. Thus for five years there were no resolutions and it was an accepted fact that the Crown Lands were retained by the Federal Government. The first resolution on the natural resources question was introduced during the 1910-11 Session, by Mr. Haultain, now Sir Frederick Haultain, the present Chief Justice of Saskatchewan. That resolution differs from the resolution I propose to make today. That resolution embodied a request for the return to the Province of the coal lands in the south and the water powers of the north, all the rest to be retained for the same purpose for which they were originally retained: that is, for immigration and colonisation. That resolution was moved and an amendment was moved to it and there was an amendment to the amendment, the argument culminating in the resolution being unanimously passed in the Legislature in 1910, urging the return of all resources except what were to be retained by the Federal Government for the purposes I have mentioned.

The announced policy of the Federal Government with respect to the use of the lands retained in 1905 was continued for several years. That policy was that these lands retained were to be retained and used for the purpose of free homestead lands and somewhere about 1908 or 1909 (I'm not certain of the exact date), the Dominion Government began to change its policy and to sell these lands. That was a change in the original agreement between the Province and the Dominion in as much as these lands were to be used for free homesteads, and not for sale for revenue purposes. But in 1908 or 1909 this policy was changed by Honourable Frank Oliver, and the Dominion Government began to sell what were commonly known as pre-emption rights.

When that deviation took place, the Province of Saskatchewan started to alter its course with respect to this matter and I think that the first resolution that was made was passed in 1912 in terms very similar to the one I propose moving today. In 1913 there was no resolution, in 1914 none, and none in 1915. We were now into the War years, but in 1916 a resolution was introduced urging upon the Federal Government the return of all resources still remaining to the Province. That resolution was similar in the first part, to the resolution I propose to move today. That resolution was passed in 1916 and was passed unanimously. The same thing happened in 1917 and again in the second Session of 1917. The same again in 1918-19, and again in 1920, and in 1921-22, 1922-23, 1924, 1925 and 1926,—passed unanimously in all those years. In 1927 there was a difference, as the resolution was brought in by the honourable, the leader of the Progressive party (*Mr. Tran*). All the members of the House will recall there was no resolution in 1928.

Notwithstanding these annual urgings by this Government, by the Government of Manitoba and the Alberta Government, upon the Dominion Government, the natural resources have not been returned to these Provinces. And we should search about for reasons for the failure of successive Federal Governments to comply with this request. We should remember that this request has been made by Conservative Governments in Manitoba upon Conservative Governments at Ottawa, and by Liberal Provincial Governments upon both Liberal and Conservative Federal Governments, but the result has always been the same and there has been no return of the resources. That is an important thing to bear in mind. Notwithstanding the resolutions passed and urged by the Provincial Governments upon the Federal Government, the resources have not been returned to any of the Provinces.

Manitoba has urged this since 1870 and the other two Provinces since about 1910, and there must have been some reason underlying the refusal of the Federal Government and as far as I can ascertain, the reason for this refusal lay in the attitude of the older Provinces of Canada, particularly Nova Scotia, Quebec, and Ontario, towards this Province. Now those four original provinces, Quebec, Ontario, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, which formed Canada, as I previously stated, have always insisted that they constituted the Dominion of Canada when the surrender from the Hudson's Bay Company was secured; that they were the people who raised the £300,000 that was paid over to the Hudson's Bay Company, and that in exchange therefor, they secured this Western country, and that they owned the whole of Rupert's Land; that is that they themselves, constituting the Dominion of Canada, owned absolutely the whole territory which is now Alberta, Saskatchewan and the Northwest Territories, and that no disposal by way of return or continuation of subsidy could be made without their approval. So far as I can gather, it looks to me as if the Dominion Government recognised some merit in the contention, that if there was to be any compensation for the resources which already had been alienated, it

should not be done without giving some consideration to the other Provinces which had property rights in these lands.

Now, the first time I can find any change in this attitude of the Dominion Government was in 1922, when the Prime Minister of this Province, at that time the Hon. Chas. A. Dunning, (now Minister of Railways and Canals), entered into negotiations with the Government of Rt. Hon. W. L. MacKenzie King with respect to the return of the resources to the Province. Then, for the first time in the history of this question, you will find recognition of the fact, by Mr. MacKenzie King's Government, that there was merit to the suggestion on this question of the return of these resources, and, for the first time, you will find that the King Government recognised there was merit in the contention of the Western Provinces, that the Eastern Provinces had no right to this land. Now, at this point, allow me to point out that from 1911 on for about ten years, there was a Conservative Government in power, the Government of Rt. Hon. Sir Robert Borden, and that Government had, as one of its platforms, the return of the natural resources to these Western Provinces. I have here an extract from a speech made by the Prime Minister on June 20, 1911, in Winnipeg, as reported in *The Winnipeg Telegram* of that date:

"Today in Canada, six provinces enjoy the right to control and administer the public lands, mines, minerals, and other natural resources within their boundaries. That right is not enjoyed by the three Prairie Provinces. The Public Lands and Natural Resources are vested in the Crown, to be administered for the benefit of the people. In six Provinces, the Crown, in dealing with the Public Domain, acts upon the advice of the Provincial Ministers, and under the laws enacted by the Provincial Legislatures. In the three Prairie Provinces the Crown in dealing with such lands acts upon the advice of the Federal Ministers and under laws enacted by the Federal Parliament."

Then he goes on to say this condition should not be.

Any of you who remember that campaign will remember that it was a plank in the Conservative platform, in 1911, that the resources would be returned to the Western Provinces. The Conservatives were elected, the Borden Government came into power, and from that time on, at ten consecutive Sessions, they were urged to recognise their election pledge and return the resources to the Province. But, notwithstanding that urging, the resources were not returned, and the reason given for the failure to comply was largely the same reason as had actuated Governments before them. They took the stand that these Eastern Provinces had an interest in these Western lands and the question thus involved negotiations with these other Provinces and they could get nowhere in that connection.

As I have said, for the first time, in 1922, there was recognition that this principle must be discarded to get any settlement of this matter—that they must discard any idea that any money was to be paid them, or that the Eastern Provinces were to be sitting in on any negotiations whatsoever.

Notwithstanding this attitude by the MacKenzie King Government in 1922, the Maritime Provinces still insisted upon this claim that they owned these Western lands. The other Provinces discarded that view, but the Maritime Provinces still urged this claim that any transfer should involve their consideration and their right to be sitting in on any negotiations that took place.

This came to a head when the Duncan Commission was set up by the Federal Government to enquire into certain alleged wrongs suffered by the Maritime Provinces. Those three provinces, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, each filed a brief setting out their claims, and their reasons therefor. One of their claims was that there should be increased allowances to those Provinces, which was based on the fact that, as a great deal of their land already had been alienated and that the Dominion, by handing back the resources to this western country, was depriving them of an asset they held by right of purchase, they should have more money to compensate them for the alienated lands. This is well shown on page 106, of the Nova Scotia brief, which I have here, where it is stated as follows:

"The maritime claims with respect to federal lands are based on two major considerations. One is, that the extra-provincial lands that came into possession of the Dominion Government were acquired by purchase, developed, and given value, almost exclusively at the expense of the four original parties to the Confederation pact, namely: Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec and Ontario. The other is, that this territory, comprising as it does four-fifths of the entire area of the Dominion of Canada, and containing natural resources of incalculable value, is being steadily allotted to other Provinces of the Dominion, thus enlarging their wealth and swelling their provincial revenues, while Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, which have an undoubted proprietary interest in every acre of this domain, have received no part of it whatever and no financial consideration in respect to its partition.

#### "THE HUDSON'S BAY PURCHASE.

"By the *Rupert's Land Act, 1868*, and an Imperial Order-in-Council, which was taken out in June, 1870, these territories became part of the domain of Canada, with certain reservations, and on the condition that the Dominion Government should pay to the Hudson's Bay Company, the owner of the greater part of the annexed territory, the sum of

300,000 pounds sterling. This sum was paid out of the federal treasury, thus establishing by purchase a complete title to Rupert's Land, the North West Territories and Ungava, for the Dominion of Canada as then constituted, consisting, as it still did, of the four original parties to the Confederation pact. In 1878 an Imperial Order-in-Council was passed annexing to the Dominion of Canada all British possessions in North America, excepting Newfoundland. The purpose of this order was to remove any doubts that might exist with regard to the boundaries and extents of the lands purchased from the Hudson's Bay Company. Subsequent surveys show that the federal lands, which thus became incorporated in the Dominion of Canada, consisted of approximately 1,858,000,000 acres.

"In this vast territory each of the three Maritime Provinces has a definite and substantial proprietary interest, and it is for the recognition and equitable appraisal of that interest that they are now appealing to the Parliament of Canada."

This expressed the stand of the other two provinces as evidenced by their factums. You will see, therefore, an insistence by the people of Nova Scotia of the right of ownership in those western lands, which, in my mind, has delayed this whole matter.

The Duncan Commission sat in part of 1925 and 1926. The matter again came to the fore in 1927 when the Inter-Provincial Conference was held at which this Province was represented by Mr. Cross, the Premier and myself. On the agenda was a resolution which urged that the report of the Duncan Commission should be implemented which involved a certain payment, and all the representatives of the Maritime Provinces got up in the conference and urged this same view: "We owned these lands in Western Canada and we bought them in 1870 for £300,000. They are ours and any disposition that is made of them should be with compensation to us and we must be consulted." All three provinces urged that.

After they got through, the Premier of this Province got up and told these Maritime speakers that the people would not for one minute consent to any such arrangement. He told them that these western lands were never owned by the people of Canada, that they were not owned and never were owned by the Dominion of Canada. He told them these lands belonged to the people of the west, and that these lands were retained under this particular arrangement in 1905. Now the result of this discussion (and it was rather heated for a while) was that these Maritime provinces for the first time since 1867 or 1870, changed their attitude on the question. The Prime Minister took the strong stand that they had nothing to do with it originally, and nothing to do with it now; in fact they did not have now or at any time any interest in these lands by purchase or otherwise.

As a result of that discussion and of the representations made by the Premier of this Province, every Province for the first time was unanimous in saying to the Dominion Government: "Go ahead and reach a settlement with these Provinces with respect to their lands." This was the first time the Provinces at a conference such as this had said to the Federal Government that it was free to go ahead and that these Western Provinces were entitled to the return of the lands and that they were satisfied, even if the settlement carried with it continuation of the annual subsidy in perpetuity, and return of the remaining resources. I think in a previous Inter-Provincial Conference in 1915 it was said that if there was to be any return that there should be some compensation to the other provinces. That attitude was abandoned by these Provincial Governments, and the Dominion Government was then urged to go ahead and make a deal with the other Provinces.

Now, prior to the conference, the Province of Alberta had made a tentative deal for the return of their resources to that Province.

*Mr. McConnell:* Prior to 1927?

*Hon. Mr. Davis:* Yes. Prior to the Inter-Provincial Conference of 1927, a deal had been arranged for the return of the natural resources and it was a term of that deal that a subsidy should be paid by the Dominion in lieu of lands for three years, after which the subsidy would cease. When it became apparent at the conference that the other Provinces not yet dealt with might get a better deal and possibly a subsidy in perpetuity, it was a condition that did not please the representatives of the Province of Alberta. Since that conference, the Province of Alberta has carried on further negotiations with the Dominion Government—I understand their representatives are down there now—and I presume the result of this will be to bring about an equitable settlement with the three provinces, as near as it is possible for it to be under the conditions.

In connection with any such settlement it must be remembered there is a great difference between Saskatchewan's claim and that of Alberta. In the Province of Alberta, if they did secure their remaining resources, they would have coal, gas and oil royalties, and they have in the great Peace River Country a great area of land still unalienated. We have seen, in the Press, since, that negotiations are being continued between the Government of Alberta and the Federal Government, and I believe that the final settlement will express the terms suggested in the Inter-Provincial Conference of 1927.

Since that Conference the Province of Manitoba has taken action, and as you know a Commission has been appointed, under Order-in-Council, for the purpose of enquiring into the matter

and of that Commission Mr. Justice Turgeon is a member. In the case of Manitoba there are certain complications in that there have been two or three additions to that territory from time to time, passed by the Dominion Government. It seems to me, therefore, that the time is gradually approaching when there is going to be a final settlement of the matter. A settlement is under way insofar as Alberta and Manitoba are concerned and, so far as our Province is concerned, the time appears to be opportune for entering negotiations towards a settlement. So I think, this long and vexed question will be satisfactorily settled in the immediate future so that all the Provinces in the Dominion of Canada will be put on a parity.

Now, with respect to the terms of settlement, I have already indicated the basis upon which our subsidy is computed. In discussing this matter with Premier King, Honourable Mr. Dunning, then Premier of this Province, wrote him on April 10, 1922. If you will refer to the 1923 Sessional Papers you will see the correspondence. At page 42 you will find Mr. Dunning wrote, partly, as follows:

"It may be asked what resources in Saskatchewan have been alienated for the general advantage of Canada: In this letter I do not propose to deal with the subject at great length or to give anything like complete details but I might point out to you the fact that millions of acres of land in this Province, as well as in the other Prairie Provinces, were given as railway land grants. To be accurate, in the Province of Saskatchewan 14,564,823 acres have been disposed of in this way, of which amount 7,598,370 acres were granted to the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, and along with these grants of land the mineral rights were conveyed. Some of the land so granted was for the purpose of the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway through Ontario and in British Columbia. In the three Prairie Provinces 4,551,747 acres were granted for the construction of the railway in British Columbia. The construction of this railway was for the general advantage of Canada and was a part of the bargain made when British Columbia entered the confederation. I might also refer to grants of land that have been made to Half-Breeds, Military Grants, grants to South African Volunteers, lands set aside for Indian Reserves: homestead lands in the Province have been alienated to the extent of 27,127,800 acres, with the result that in the settled areas of the Province to-day very little homestead land is left."

Now that was the position in 1922. Now on the 1st of January, 1928, the nearest date on which I can get the figures, the position was this: Lands disposed of by homestead entry, 29,003,000 acres. In addition to that there were 726,000 acres of homestead lands which had been sold, and 3,566,000 acres of Pre-Emptions. In addition to that there should be included, also, more than 14,000,000 acres which have been given away in grants to railways, and further areas have been alienated for Half-breed scrip, South African scrip and Military grants. Now it will be remembered that our subsidy is based on the assumption that the Crown Lands covered 25,000,000 acres, and, from the figures I have given, it is apparent we have more than fulfilled our contract. Consequently, we think we should be entitled to a subsidy in lieu of lands in perpetuity, with adequate compensation for the lands already alienated, and the return to the Province of the balance of our resources.

I think the time has now arrived—I think the time has never been so propitious in view of the attitude taken at the 1927 Conference and the attitude of the Dominion Government to settlement in the case of Manitoba and Alberta—I think the time is ripe for the Province to try to complete a settlement of this problem and with that end in view I am going to move, seconded by Hon. Mr. Latta:

"That, in the opinion of this Assembly, the Government of Saskatchewan should continue to urge upon the Government of Canada the necessity of arranging for the transfer to the Province of the public domain within its limits, without further delay, and

"That the Government arrange for a conference with the Dominion Government as soon as possible after prorogation to discuss the terms of the transfer."

THE HONOURABLE J. G. GARDINER

(Premier and Minister of Education)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 1929.

Mr. Speaker,—I do not know that I would have spoken at all on the Resolution had it not been for one or two remarks that have been dropped during the discussion, more particularly those given expression to by the Leader of the Conservative Party (*Mr. Anderson*). If it had not been for some of the things which happened immediately preceding the adjournment and during the recess I do not know that I should have placed sufficient importance upon those remarks to have taken any of the time of the House to speak on this question.

There seems to be some doubt in the mind of the leader of the Conservative party as to what has been the opinion of the present leader of the Government and as to what the opinions were of the past leaders upon this question: Either that, or he has not followed fully the remarks which have been made by previous leaders and by myself on previous occasions with regard to this question.

Certain statements were quoted from speeches made by the Honourable Mr. Dunning while he was Prime Minister of the Province, to the effect that he took the position that the subsidy was of more value to the Province than the return of the resources would be. That is not a full statement of the position which the leader of the Government took at that time. The position taken by the leader of the Government then was that, if the resources were to be returned, the subsidy discontinued, all consideration for any alienated resources to be forgotten and those claims absolutely dispensed with by the Province, then the Province was, for the time being, at least, in a much better position financially to have the subsidy than to be without the subsidy and have the lands and resources which had not yet been alienated. Then Mr. Dunning went on to argue that this Province was entitled to the subsidy and the return of the resources and to an accounting in connection with any alienations that had taken place previous to 1905 and following 1905. So the statement that the Prime Minister of that time had taken the position that the subsidy was of more benefit than the resources was not a correct statement of the position taken by the then Prime Minister.

In addition to that, the statement was made that the position taken by the present head of the Government, until quite recently, was the same as that taken by previous heads of the Government. Well, of course, the position taken by previous heads and the position taken by Hon. C. A. Dunning and the position I have taken as Prime Minister have been, to all intents and purposes, practically one in connection with this very important question. We have always contended that to have no substitute for the alienated lands and resources would be detrimental to the Province and that we had claims which we could put forward to the Federal Government to the effect that not only should the unalienated lands but that the subsidy and something in addition to the subsidy should be given to this Province as a result of past transactions in connection with our lands and resources.

Now there is a real reason why this Government or any other Government in power at the present time, whether in Manitoba, Alberta or Saskatchewan, should be more anxious to have the control of the lands and resources at this period than at previous times; and that is to be found in the fact that a development is taking place from one end of Canada to the other in connection with resources other than land resources, a development which has been given considerable impetus during the last twelve months. That development is not unique in the Province of Saskatchewan. Nor is it a development that is unique in Manitoba or in Ontario, but it has taken place in all the Provinces of Canada. We are in a different position, because of this development, than we were five years ago in connection with this question.

The mineral resources of the Dominion are being administered in one Province differently from another. The Federal Government has a duty to perform in connection with that development. Though they have a duty now in connection with all the provinces, they must assume a different attitude towards the development of the resources of Ontario or Quebec than towards that of the Province of Alberta and Saskatchewan, because of the difference in the control or the administration of the mines and resources of the different provinces. I submit that is not the position which will lead to the greatest amount of effort, or the greatest amount of co-operation to be obtained from efforts to bring about a development more particularly of the mining resources of Canada. We in the Province of Saskatchewan should be in the same position in connection with water powers, mineral resources and unalienated lands or timber resources as are the Provinces of Ontario or Quebec, in order that we might see to it in common with all the other Provinces of Canada that there is a development, from one end to the other, that will redound to the benefit of all the people of Canada. It is the feeling in this Province and I think, the belief of the Federal Government that the natural development in connection with timber resources and mineral resources will begin from the Eastern part of the Laurentian shield and move Westward all along the ridge. The timber development more particularly in relation to the pulp industry will undoubtedly keep pace with the harnessing of water powers which will, naturally, go hand in hand with the opening of the mines.

The other remark which called me to my feet was a remark which, of itself, had not a great deal in it. It was somewhat to this effect: That the leader of the Conservative Party had asked a question with regard to the sale of school lands within the Province. Well, I do not know why the leader of the Conservative Party should have introduced that remark among all the others that he made when he was on his feet in this House unless he wished to allow others to link it up with a certain attitude which has been given expression to since the adjournment of this House, during the Christmas holidays. That attitude has been given expression to on previous occasions. It is almost as old as the Conservative party itself, in this Dominion. It goes right back to the early '70's when a Minister of the Crown in the Government of the day at Ottawa stood up in his place there and made a statement somewhat to the same effect as statements which are being made in this Province at the present time and which are being written in certain sections of the Press, by men living in the Eastern part of Canada. That statement is to the effect that there is some arrangement as between the Government of this Province and the Government at Ottawa to bring about the settling of a large proportion of the population of Quebec in the Province of Saskatchewan.

Now the whole foundation for that statement, so far as we are able to read any foundation in it at all, is that on some recent occasion, a certain delegation went to Ottawa from the Province of Quebec and made certain proposals involving a scheme for taking French-Canadians from the Eastern part of Canada to the West. All I have to say in this connection is that, so far as the Government of this Province is concerned, we have never been approached nor have we any information at all with regard to any conference of that kind.

I want to say, in addition, that the people of Quebec have just as much right to come to Western Canada and form settlements in Western Canada, as have the people of Ontario. After all, they were Canadian citizens even before those of us who are of British descent and they have equal rights with us, and just as much right to hold conferences with the Federal Government as anyone else when they have suggestions with regard to the moving of any portion of their people at lower railway rates. But, Mr. Speaker, when any body of Canadian people enters into any such conference and there is read into it, either by members of the opposition or any portion of the press, constructions such as have been read into the conference at Ottawa then, I think, a discussion or an incidental remark on the part of the leader of the opposition, should not be allowed to pass uncommented upon, because we, on this side of the House, have been subjected to statements of this kind from one end of the province to the other and from outside of the Province, statements which have been commented upon and made the occasion of racial and religious appeals, statements in 'scare' red headlines which read: "Saskatchewan's School Lands to be sold; Will auction six and a half million acres; Federal Government plans huge sale next March or April; Private Parties notified of Refusal to renew leases; Decision is Great Surprise apparently to Provincial Administration;" and when, from *The Regina Star* of December 29th, 1928, we read:

"Since publication of *The Star's* exclusive article, disclosing the plans made between the Provincial and the Federal Governments for the public sale by auction of the school lands of the Province, prior to negotiations for the return of our natural resources, some interesting information has come to light in regard to the methods now being used to prevent the returned soldiers from exercising their prior right of homesteading on Dominion Lands."

Always mixing up these things—the returned soldier, the people who live in the Province of Quebec and the people who live in the Province of Saskatchewan, and trying to insinuate that something or other has taken place as between representatives of the Government of this Province and representatives of the Government at Ottawa!

"The political significance of the school lands sale, not apparent at the time of the announcement, is now being freely discussed in many quarters. At the time questions were asked in the House, the Government denied knowledge of any intended sale of these lands. Explanations since made by Premier Gardiner shows that full disclosure was not made in the Legislature."

Now, Mr. Speaker, if a question had been asked in this House either on the Opposition side or on the Government side, and I, or any member of the Government of this Province, had not disclosed full information in answer to the question, any member of the House has the right to rise in his place and take exception to the answer. I want to read to this House the questions which we were asked and the answers given so that the members may have before them full knowledge of the matter. You will find these questions and answers in "Votes and Proceedings" of December 13th, 1928:

The first question asked was this: "How many acres of school lands are there in Saskatchewan still controlled by the Federal Government?" and the answer was: "There is estimated to be in the Province 6,555,000 acres of unsold school lands."

Question Number 2: "Has the Saskatchewan Government any knowledge of an intention on the part of the Federal Government to dispose of all such lands before our natural resources are given back to us?" And we say, "No", and they say we did not disclose all the information.

Question Number 3: "Has the Saskatchewan Government asked the Federal Government to so dispose of said lands? If so, when and why?" And the answer was "No."

Well, Mr. Speaker, I submit to this House that the honourable gentleman knew that the article in "*The Star*" was going to be written later.

*Mr. Anderson:* I would like to say, I had absolutely no knowledge of any article when I asked the question.

*Premier Gardiner:* Well, I would ask this: Did the honourable gentleman discuss the terms of this question with anyone outside this House? He does not answer, he does not dare!

*Mr. Anderson:* I don't have to answer questions like that.

*Premier Gardiner:* He does not dare answer!

*Mr. Anderson:* It is not a question of dare. I do dare. But I am quite prepared to say "No."

*Premier Gardiner:* The honourable gentleman says he is quite prepared to say "No." Then I will say this, that the honourable gentleman, in wording his question in the way he did, had the same intention in the back of his mind as the gentleman who wrote that article. If he had wanted a straight answer to a straight question why did he not merely ask the straight question? But no, he wants an answer as to the "intention" of the Federal Government, and had we said "Yes," do you know what would have been in the article and what would have been in his speech? He would have said that the Government of this Province had admitted on the floor of this House that they knew of the intention to dispose of our school lands before the return of the natural resources to the Province.

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* What difference would it have made anyway?

*Premier Gardiner:* Yes, my honourable friend says, what difference would it have made anyway—That is the question I want to ask—whether the lands were sold before or after the return of our natural resources!

*Mr. Anderson:* Why get so excited about it, then?

*Premier Gardiner:* My honourable friend has just asked why we are so excited about it—and I want to tell him, Mr. Speaker, that he will find he will have a great deal more to answer for in the next few months because of what has appeared in the newspaper he claims as his own particular paper, than will the Government of Saskatchewan.

Now we come to Question Number 4 which reads: "If said Federal Government intends to dispose of said lands and have not been requested by the Saskatchewan Government so to do, is the Government of this Province prepared to protest against such disposal provided they have reason to suspect the early return of our natural resources?" The answer was "See answer to Question No. 2," which was "No."

Mr. Speaker, in order to indicate something of the transactions which have taken place in connection with school lands recently, might I say this, that in the year 1927 the total acreage of school lands offered for sale by auction in this Province was between 400,000 and 500,000 acres—offered as late as the year 1927. Now the lands offered for sale at that time were of a peculiar kind. They had previously been sold in previous sales and had reverted back to the Government by reason of the inability of the purchasers to meet their payments. Practically all of these lands were improved lands. Certain areas had been broken, and some of them had buildings on them, and there was much more importance to be attached to the sale of that kind of land than to the sale of 1,500,000 acres of unimproved land still in its raw state. Why all this discussion with regard to the sale of these school lands, sometime in the future, when such an important sale took place in 1927? But it remains, Mr. Speaker, that in spite of the fact that these lands were lands which had been improved and were scattered all over the Province of Saskatchewan and that people were actually living upon or working a large percentage of them, when those lands were put up at auction there was only 276,329 acres sold. In other words the fact that lands are advertised under a School Lands Sale does not infer that that amount of land is going to be sold. If you were to undertake to do it in any other manner under any Government at Ottawa, whether Liberal or Conservative, you would have to go out and select the different parcels to sell, which, I am sure our friends opposite would interpret as a desire on the part of the Federal Government to sell these lands to some of their Liberal friends. You would have to list in advertisement the certain lands to be sold in order to distinguish between those offered for sale and those not offered, because people would be going to the sale from all parts of the Province and would have to be informed of what lands were actually for sale. All governments in the past have followed the same procedure. They have put all the lands up for sale at an upset price and a general advertisement is published that all the lands are to be for sale at a certain time; and if any person in the assemblage gathered offers more than the upset price for the land, that land is auctioned and it goes to the highest bidder among those who are there gathered. It will be found, although all the land is put up for sale, in all probability no more than half and not likely even one-third of the land would be sold as a result of the sale.

That is the method by which it is done. And after the land is sold the money thus secured is put into a trust fund, and the trust fund was set aside in 1872 to promote education. If there

is an agreement under which our natural resources are to be administered from Regina we could either have that fund to administer here, or leave it with the Dominion authorities as it is at present. The place of administration of the trust fund so created, whether at Ottawa or Regina, would make no difference when once the agreement had been entered into, because wherever it is administered from, the funds derived must all be used for educational purposes in Saskatchewan. I presume that, in connection with the School Lands as in connection with everything else, we will take the position in this Province that we can more successfully administer that fund in Regina, because of the nearness to the people, than they can at Ottawa. We will take that position and we will advance it unless there can be given some very strong reason as to why it can best be administered elsewhere.

So, Mr. Speaker, there is no reason why any newspaper or public man in the Province or anyone outside the Province, for that matter, should see anything whatsoever connecting the School Lands sale at the present time with the matter of the transfer of the natural resources of the Province of Saskatchewan from Federal to Provincial control. There is even less reason for the 'scare' red headlines in papers in this connection, and for developing a whole line of reasoning in connection with a sale of this kind which has no relationship whatever with the question of the return of our resources.

Just before leaving this matter, may I say that, in connection with the present School Lands Trust Fund, the balance of principal unimpaired is \$5,631,690, and that the debentures or stock, which had been purchased from moneys secured as result of previous sales, amount to \$14,883,450, making a total already in the fund as a result of the sale of the School Lands, in the past, of \$20,515,140.38. The number of acres of school land we still have in Saskatchewan which are available for sale, is 6,555,000 acres, and there is only one thing that happens in connection with this fund, or any similar fund, and that is that, as the number of acres goes down the number of dollars in the fund goes up. It is all one trust and as they sell they put the money into a position where it can earn, and we would do exactly the same if the trust fund were here. The earnings are paid over for use in Saskatchewan for school purposes.

*Mr. Stipe:* Are there any strings attached to the expenditure of this money?

*Premier Gardiner:* There are no strings other than the ordinary and special care of educational institutions, in this Province. That is to say, in our Province there are certain peoples who have certain constitutional rights in the Province and they have the right to grants out of any school funds for the conduct of their educational institutions just as other people have. My friend, the Attorney-General, reminds me that these were set aside in 1872 in Manitoba and the North West, for educational purposes. That is, they were so set aside before this Province was formed at all.

*Hon. Mr. Davis:* It's all in *The Dominion Lands Act*.

*Premier Gardiner:* There is only one thing more I want to say in connection with the whole matter and it is that the matter of price has something to do with the decision to bring on the sale in the near future. Someone has asked why has there been no sale since 1917? In reply to that I would say that there are quite a number of the members of this House who have holdings and who themselves have owned land in this Province, and I would ask them how many of them have sold any of their land holdings since 1917? The answer is that there have not been many buyers of land since 1917, following the War. We have been re-establishing ourselves, but the time has now come when there is a demand for land.

In the Province of Alberta they sold, last fall, a large proportion of their school lands to advantage with the settlement of their resources question in the offing. And what was our experience? We sold a year before, and we found that some men were willing to pay as high as \$70.00 an acre for land in the Swift Current district, put up under the School Lands Branch. That gave us the idea that people were now willing to pay a good price for these lands and that there was a demand for them at this time. Representations were made to us by Federal Inspectors of the Department of the Interior; they were also made to us by members of our own Legislature and of the Parliament at Ottawa and by representatives of companies of farmers. As a result of all this we agreed to the sale in the spring of 1929.

It has been the custom in the past to sell these lands in the summer of the different years. After our sale of 1927, however, we had submitted to us representations from all parts of the Province that this land should be sold earlier in the year to permit of men breaking the land they had bought by the month of June, that they might not be compelled to carry them over for a whole year without getting any return on their investment. In order to meet these representations that the lands should be sold very early in the spring, we suggested to Ottawa that the sale should be held early in the year, and the date was finally settled as some time in the months of February or March. That is the whole story.

What I want to submit to members of the House is that, in considering this question, we vote on the Resolution on its merits. In that connection may I ask all members of this House, in dealing with a question of this nature either inside or outside of the House, to leave out all these insinuations and all these suggestions with regard to what might happen, and we will very possibly find that others, in all parts of the Dominion and men in all Governments, whether those Governments be Liberal or Conservative, are bent upon having this country of ours developed in a manner which, in the end, will redound to the lasting benefit of all our people, and make our country a land worth living in.



MR. CHAS. E. TRAN, M.D., M.L.A.

(Pelly)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9, 1929.

Mr. Speaker,—I am very sorry I was unable to be present at the opening of the debate on this subject. However, I was glad to get here before you disposed of it entirely. I think the House will realise that during the last four years, I have been an ardent supporter of this scheme. In my maiden speech in this House, I discussed the question and, in 1927, I framed a Resolution and presented it to the House much along the same line as this; the same principle was involved. Probably, I went a little further than this resolution does, and I was very much astonished at the manner in which the Liberal side of the House treated that resolution. Evidently the features that had been portrayed by my honourable friend from Wynyard did not apply at that time.

The question has been a bone of contention ever since 1905—yea, even prior to that! It is not my intention to go into an historical recital. My honourable friend, the Attorney General, in an amateur way, exhausted that, yesterday. I read the newspaper report of that speech and I contend that much of it and of the speech of my honourable friend from Wynyard (*Mr. Paulson*) was superfluous. The whole question was one of right—as to whether or not the province was entitled to its natural resources.

My honourable friend from Wynyard seemed to be intent upon getting some credit to the Liberal Governments for their participation in this matter. Now, as a matter of fact, neither Liberal nor Conservative Governments can take much credit. The resolution says, "We will continue to urge." Now, when did either of the Governments ever "urge"?

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* Many times.

*Mr. Tran:* It has been presented each year to the Federal Government. There was no urging. There has been an apathetic supplication, with the exception of last year. There was no concerted "pep" behind it, and the Federal Authorities took another look and smiled, and then pitched it into the waste-paper basket. It is not a question of what Party was in power. The question now is, what are we going to do in regard to compensation, and let me for a moment look at these newspaper reports as they appeared in the *Morning Leader*. Might I say before going into that, that if you read the history of both parties in the Federal House and in the Provincial House with regard to this question, I think you will come to the conclusion that neither of these old parties have very much to their credit, from 1911 to 1927.

In the first inception of the Province, we find Mr. Haultain and Mr. Scott without very much concerted knowledge with regard to what the provincial right in this matter was. That condition has prevailed all the way through the House from that time down to this. The member for Wynyard approved of the attitude of Hon. Walter Scott, but he also ridiculed Right Hon. R. L. Borden because, after he became Premier of the Dominion, he did not implement those promises in regard to Natural Resources made prior to the 1911 election. Then he tries to make the claim that the Federal Liberal members were strong advocates of the scheme, but encountered difficulties. Well, now right on down to 1927, Liberal authorities in Ottawa were quite apathetic as far as this resolution was concerned. They stated that the Provinces should get back their resources but to every statement there was a fringe a mile long. Mr. Borden stated he was willing to settle on a basis that was equitable and just to the rest of the Provinces.

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* He did not say that during the election campaign.

*Mr. Tran:* He made that statement—On a basis that was equitable and just to the other Provinces having in mind the Province of Nova Scotia and the other Maritime Provinces, who felt they had a right to withhold from Saskatchewan and the other Prairie Provinces their Natural Resources. It was their honest conviction, and it was the honest conviction of many of the Premiers in the east, that that was the state of affairs. Now, the Liberal nor Conservative Governments, either, down to 1917 did not make any concerted move for the return of the Natural Resources together with an accounting. I think if any political group can claim any credit it would be the Progressive Party in 1921. If you read Hansard of 1921 you will find that John Campbell, of Nelson, moved a resolution in the House of Commons. The controversy lasted for about two weeks and I have here—

*Mr. Hill:* He was a Liberal!

*Mr. Tran:* I have here a copy of Hansard and if you say he was a Liberal, I'll read you what Hansard has to say.

Here is John Campbell's resolution:

"That, in the opinion of this House, the transfer by the Dominion to the Western Provinces, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, of their natural resources should not be longer delayed."

*Mr. Hill:* What year was that?

*Mr. Tran:* 1921. I want my honourable friends to get this copy of Hansard and read the debate that took place, and if they can state that either Liberals or Conservatives took any action with regard to this particular speech then I will concede it. For the edification of my honourable friend, the Attorney General, I am going to present him with this copy with the hope that he will read it.

There has been nothing done, in that way, either by Conservatives or Liberals and no evidence to show that the Dominion was willing to hand back the natural resources of the Province of Saskatchewan without some fringes attached to it. It is not a matter of discussing what particular party or parties is, or are responsible for conditions as they exist. One thing is certain and that is that until the Inter-Provincial Conference of 1927, when our honourable friend, the Premier, took up the matter there was never any moulding or changing of public opinion in the sister Provinces.

My honourable friend, the Premier of this Province, I think since 1925, has had a proper conception as far as the Natural Resources of Saskatchewan are concerned. In January, 1925, he made a contribution to the public debate, and I can read into the speech many statements he made showing that he was a strong advocate of the return of our resources—with an accounting. He is the only man that ever mentioned—the first man in this House that ever mentioned—an accounting. I think he is the only one in the Government deserving of any credit. Now I am not quite so clear that I can congratulate any of his colleagues. The honourable, the Attorney General, who occupies the seat that was occupied by Hon. Mr. Turgeon, to a large degree agreed with Mr. Turgeon that the Province of Saskatchewan had no right to their lands. My honourable friend from Willow Bunch (*Mr. Cross*) was of the same opinion.

*Mr. Cross:* Legally!

*Mr. Tran:* It's all a legal question!

*Mr. Hill:* You would have heard all about it, yesterday.

*Mr. Tran:* You threshed out a lot, yesterday, judging from the overtures of the Attorney General! That was the whole thing upon which I moved that resolution in 1927, though my honourable friend, the ex-Attorney General took issue with me and whether he believed it legal or not, he did not convince this House with regard to what his ideas were, legal or otherwise, as far as the right of the Province to its Natural Resources was concerned. Now the present Attorney-General, in making observations on this, was a little bit vague. He did not know whether he was in favour of the resolution or not. But one thing he did know—

*Mr. Cross:* I agreed with it, if that will help my honourable friend.

*Mr. Tran:* Anything you agree to wouldn't help me a bit.

*Mr. Cross:* He says when you go to a solicitor for an opinion—in this case he was content to agree with that opinion.

*Mr. Tran:* No, I did not say any such thing as that.

*Mr. Cross:* I agree with it.

*Mr. Tran:* I know what you agreed to. It is quite clear and they were content to take Mr. Lafleur's opinion, and Lafleur's opinion was to the effect that any attempt to get the Natural Resources back except by the process of law, was doomed to failure. My honourable friend the ex-Attorney-General has receded from that opinion, apparently.

*Mr. Cross:* No!

*Mr. Tran:* He does not agree with his honourable leader then, because I am just as positive that from 1925 and probably prior to that, my honourable friend, the Premier, believed in the provincial right as far as this section was concerned, and felt confident that it was to be taken up. Why it was not done, I am not prepared to say, now, I have great pleasure in congratulating the Premier for snatching this from the thralls of stagnation, and for persevering throughout the time of disappointment and discontent and in all probability bringing it to a successful culmination. It has been a political football since 1905 anyway. Both parties have been using it. But I am not down-hearted. I believe, or I am partly convinced at any rate, that at the present time there is a strong endeavour to snatch this important issue from the burning and from the mire and slough of political folly. It is a constitutional, a national question.

As my honourable friend from Wynyard says, we seem to be all of one accord in so far as the return of our resources is concerned. I say "yea" to that; but we may not all be of one accord in regard to compensation. The assertion of the Province to its natural resources from 1870 is one matter; compensation is another matter. I think we are all agreed (with the exception of my honourable friend from Willow Bunch (*Mr. Cross*)) that this right was asserted in the Inter-Provincial Conference in 1927 when it was brought out conclusively and emphasised by the Premier, that he was down there to assert the right of the Province and not down there

begging and praying, for something. And he convinced the Eastern Premiers following the work that he had done at that Conference so much, that the Eastern men admitted, during or after that Conference, that they had no claim to the land so far as Western lands were concerned. I must say this, and I think the Premier will admit it, that his opinion was very strongly fortified by the opinion of Mr. Bram Thompson, K.C. I think he will agree that an invaluable work has been done by Mr. Thompson; in fact I think Mr. Thompson's work on this, for the last ten years, has changed the opinion of all, all over the Province, with the exception of my honourable friend from Willow Bunch.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* Might I correct that.—The honourable member for Willow Bunch was one of the Saskatchewan delegation at that Conference, as a member of the Government.

*Mr. Tran:* He was a very bad specimen to have there, considering his opinion! At that Inter-Provincial Conference, whether the material that was used was procured from Bram Thompson, it had that effect of moulding Eastern opinion and influencing Eastern members. That is the real reason why we are getting our Natural Resources today.

Now let me repeat, that we are all of one accord as far as the return is concerned and the right to the Natural Resources has been established, despite my honourable friend from Willow Bunch, or anyone else. Now, if the right has been established, how are we going to settle up? Well, now that the right has been established my honourable friend, the Attorney General, says this is going to be very difficult. I think I read that in the papers this morning. Of course the newspapers are not always authentic but this is *The Leader*. It is invaluable. I think there was a question asked by Dr. Anderson, asking if the honourable, the Attorney General, was free to express the terms, and I think my honourable friend replied it would be difficult to express the basis of settlement. I notice all through there has been no basis enunciated upon which we are going to make a settlement so far as the Dominion is concerned. No sooner has the right been established than it is stated there are other difficulties.

Now I contend that, when the right has been established so far as our Natural Resources are concerned, there is only one thing to do and that is, to make a settlement on the basis of lands alienated since 1870. Now there are twenty-five million acres of land alienated professedly for the purpose of immigration—twenty-five million acres of land! Now, in lieu of that land alienated for that purpose, the Dominion Government gave us a subsidy and we are continuing to receive that subsidy. What about the other forty-three million or more? How are we going to settle that up? It is my contention and it is the opinion of this group in this corner of the House, that there should be an accounting of every acre alienated since 1870, and that the land should be valued at \$3.00 an acre, or more. Now you can see the position we would be in in the event of this proposition being followed. We would have the subsidy which we are now getting for the use of the land or for the land alienated for purposes of immigration. We would have that subsidy, and there is no reason why it should be discontinued. There was an agreement, says the Speech from the Throne. I have no knowledge of any agreement. I have been searching for it and I have been trying to find out about it—whether there were two parties to the agreement or what the agreement actually was. But I have seen nothing.

The question remains, though, that this Province allowed the Federal Government to take twenty-five million acres for immigration, and that has all got to be taken into consideration in the basis of the settlement, and I think the thing to do is to ask for the maximum. If you are going to put in for the minimum you will have to take less than that, because no matter what the basis or what the cost to the Federal Government would be, there will be some compromise from that and I think it only right and just that we should make our demand on the Federal Government, and not that they should come to us. There are some in the House and outside, that have the impression and are apprehensive that there is some kind of a "dicker" between the Dominion and Provincial Governments in this matter, but I am going to give the Premier credit that he will not be a party to anything like that, because it is extremely important, not only to the Liberal Party or even the Progressive group, it is of prior importance to the entire Province. The fact that this has been hanging fire so long presages that it might be a little difficult arriving at a settlement on the basis, or on the ground, that every acre of land alienated since 1870 should be accounted for. And that is the proposition we should make; not that they should make a proposition to us. I see in Alberta they made the attempt to tell them what they are going to give them for their land. They have no right, absolutely no right, to tell any Province what the land is worth, when it has been demonstrated beyond all shadow of doubt that such land belonged to the Province. We have to take the initiative. There will be no consideration to the vanquished and it is up to us to dictate the terms to the Federal Government.

Now as far as this delegation is concerned, that is supposed to go to Ottawa for the purpose of making terms, to prove to the Province of Saskatchewan and the Dominion of Canada that they are not playing any political game so far as this is concerned I would suggest that the Premier name that committee from all parties of this House. My honourable friend, the Minister of Agriculture says, "Pooh!" I don't know what he means. But I think that would be clearly demonstrative that we are not playing any politics. That idea would not be feasible if they make that delegation representative of all groups in the House. I venture to say there are on this side of the House, just as much ingenuity and judgment as on the other, and men who are as much concerned in this matter as anyone else in the House. I

would suggest further that they take Mr. Bram Thompson, as special counsel to that delegation. I would not advise him to give it to the ex-Attorney-General (*Mr. Cross*) because his ideas are very unsympathetic. But Mr. Thompson, I contend, has been a principal character in the whole Dominion so far as this feature is concerned. Now I would suggest to the Attorney General or anybody else in the House to bury his prejudice—and I think he is capable of that—he has been moulded I think by the opinions of Bram Thompson.

*Mr. Gamble:* What about Chester Martin of Winnipeg?

*Mr. Tran:* When did he start?

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* He is Advisory Counsel to the Manitoba Government.

*Mr. Tran:* I am making that as a formal suggestion and I think if my honourable friend, the Premier, is free to exercise his prerogative he will see to it that this is done. But I have my opinion that he is not always, in matters of this nature, free to exercise his prerogative. Let me repeat: I believe they would be well advised to put Mr. Thompson in the position where he belongs. He was responsible for moulding Eastern opinion. He was responsible for the opinion of the Premier of this Province and his utterances in the Inter-Provincial Conference of 1927 which were responsible for changing opinions of Eastern representatives in favour of the proposition. I urge that they be very careful and that the delegation should demand the maximum as far as compensation is concerned. I would urge also that they take all parties of the House into their confidence and take this matter out of the political slough. Just so far as they keep it free of political tinkering, they will be rewarded by best results so that future generations will be proud of their attitude. There is no room in this matter for political interference, and so far as it is free, will it be responsible for bringing about the greatest good. Let me suggest that Mr. Bram Thompson—he is not a party man at all and never has expressed himself as being such—who has been working for ten long years on this matter and has been working hard in order to bring this thing to a culmination, should be included in that delegation.

I intend to support the motion.

SPEECH  
ON  
RESOLUTION RESPECTING TEACHERS' SUPERANNUATION.

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MR. W. G. ROSS, K.C., M.L.A.  
*(Moose Jaw City)*

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9, 1929.

Mr. Speaker,—In rising to speak to the question of the advisability of the Government giving early consideration to the establishment of a teachers' superannuation fund, or scheme, I propose to deal briefly with the great fundamental reason why such a scheme should be inaugurated, to give some of the fundamental principles upon which such a scheme should be constructed and at the same time to give honourable members some information as to the operation of similar schemes in other Provinces of Canada, in the States to the south of us and in Europe.

Before doing that, may I say that I am indebted for the material which I have, to the Department of Education, to the officers of the Saskatchewan Teachers' Alliance, the officers of the National Education Association of the United States for its 1928 report, to the officers of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching for its 1927 annual report, to the United States Bureau of Education for a thesis by Nina Pearl Palmer. These documents provide a most exhaustive and careful study of the whole question and should be of the greatest assistance in the preparation of legislation if the Government decides so to act.

The great fundamental reason why such a scheme should be established in this Province is that it cannot help but increase the efficiency of the schools of this Province. Someone has said that "Education can never advance beyond the vision and the sound thinking of the teachers who are the expression of its active life. On the other hand, the teachers will grow in the honour and respect of society, and, in the sense of satisfaction with work well done in proportion as the system of education of which he is a part is the outcome of clear thinking and wise action." I do not need to urge that in a new Province such as this, with its present and potential greatness, every one of us, no matter what political creed we belong to, sincerely believes that education is the greatest factor in the future success, stability and happiness of our people. So, if I am able to satisfy honourable members of this House that this teachers' pension scheme will increase the efficiency of our schools, then the resolution I propose to move at the conclusion of my address should pass this House unanimously, and the legislation be enacted as early as possible.

May I enumerate, Mr. Speaker, the reasons why this scheme increases efficiency? In the first place, it makes provision for the regular retirement of teachers who have become incapable of properly carrying on their work by reason of age or disability. By so doing, it removes the desire of a disabled or aged teacher to retain his position in the profession and also obviates the hesitancy of school boards to discharge such teachers.

In the second place, it cannot help but have the effect of attracting to the profession of teaching a greater percentage of younger people of our Province because those young people in making their decision as to whether or not they will enter the teaching profession will naturally look at the reward that is offered for their work and consider what chance they will have of saving any considerable amount of money. They look with fear at the possibility of incapacity and poverty in their old age. Not only that, but they want to be assured that the possibility of promotion will be fair and that the dignity of the profession will be maintained by the weeding out of the aged and the incapable and by doing it decently and in order.

In the third place, a sound, practical scheme of teachers' superannuation would have the effect of retaining the best of our teachers in the service because they will not then consider it necessary to find other employment so as to provide for their old age and because each year is a step nearer to a moderate independence when incapacity or old age overtakes them.

In the fourth place, the active span of highest efficiency in the life of a teacher will be lengthened because the period of fear as to what will eventually happen to him is removed, and because he can use more of his ordinary savings for improving himself by post-graduate study or training and by travel. The possibility of promotion is better.

In the fifth place, the cost to the general public by way of taxation should be decreased in some respect because the scheme would have the effect of retiring a number of the older teachers who receive the highest scale of wages and of replacing them with younger teachers starting at nearly the lowest scale of pay. It will prevent much of the waste that is often caused by the employment of teachers who, by reason of their age, are incapable of giving the best service.

For those five reasons, Mr. Speaker, and for one other, namely, that industry, wherever it is conducted in a large way on this continent and in Europe, has, long ago, arrived at the conclusion that a retirement system for employees is good business and not philanthropy, I submit, Sir, that I have proved the case for the inauguration of such a scheme as is referred to in the Motion.

I propose, now, Mr. Speaker, to deal with the fundamental principles upon which such a scheme should be founded. In giving this information to members of the House, I am again relying upon the experiences of other States and Provinces as those experiences are collected and tabulated in the publications to which I referred a few minutes ago. It is interesting to note that while all the bodies standing behind the compilation of these reports are working from different sources and angles towards the same end and working independently, the conclusions they arrive at on the principles involved are practically unanimous. I find, too, that a critical examination of the many schemes that have been started by Governments as well as industries, reveals that the failures, where they have occurred, did occur because of two reasons—faulty actuarial advice and too great haste in rushing measures through Legislatures. There has been too great a tendency to establish the schemes and leave future Legislatures to find the funds to carry out the work. The States of Montana and Minnesota and the Republic of Porto Rico are examples of these failures, or partial failures, while many other schemes might have been more perfect if greater pains had been taken in the drafting of the initial details. I may say, Mr. Speaker, that if this Motion receives the approval of the House, I trust that the greatest care will be taken in the preparation of the legislation necessary to set up the scheme. Personally, I think that it would be a mistake to introduce legislation of this nature until the Government and departmental heads concerned have had sufficient time to devote to the working out of the details in connection with it.

In considering the first of the fundamental principles on which this legislation should be based, I would say that the first principle is security. If we are going to embark on such a scheme and ask teachers to pay into a fund for years in order that their later years may be provided for, we must be absolutely certain that they are going to receive their money when it becomes due and not a *pro rata* payment as in some of the States to the south of us. Let us be certain that the plan of operation will not be too costly to carry on, and that it will not be dropped eventually as happened in the case of Porto Rico after seven years because of the expense of operation. With this as our aim, then, permit me to give to the House what I believe to be the conclusions arrived at by the best thought on this continent on the principles involved in this legislation.

Membership in the fund should be compulsory for teachers entering the service after the passing of the Act and optional for those who are already in the service. Perhaps it should be compulsory for all those now in the service—there is some argument about that. I have endeavoured to examine the arguments in favour of the optional feature, and I am not convinced that they are sufficiently strong. I believe that our teachers are sufficiently educated to the principle of the scheme that they will agree to have the whole scheme a compulsory one.

Secondly, retirement ages and rules should be defined and administered so as to retain teachers during efficient service and provide for their retirement when disability comes. The retirement allowance should be sufficient to enable the retiring teacher to live in reasonable comfort, thereby removing the temptation to remain in the classroom beyond the period of efficient service. The success of the plan, stability of the service, contentment within the service, will be dependent on the reasonableness of the allowance. The public is entitled to the protection which it should receive in way of vesting the proper authorities with the necessary power to release teachers and to superannuate them without the consent of the teacher when incapacitated by ill health or old age.

Then the sums deposited by the teachers and by the Government during the period of service should be approximately equal. The cost of the administration of the scheme should be paid out of the funds. My information is that the majority of the most recently enacted statutes which establish scientific pension schemes embody this principle.

The deposit by the teacher and payment by the Government should be stated in the Legislation creating a retirement system subject to adjustment in accordance with future actuarial investigations. I think that needs no comment. The teachers' contributions and the payments by the Government should be made regularly and concurrently during the period of service of the teacher. The retirement board should open an account with each individual teacher, sums deposited to that account to be held in trust for that teacher. That is a principle that should not be necessary nor do I think it advisable in a country like this where Governments remain stable and reasonable, nor do I believe that our teachers would want such a system. I believe that they would be satisfied with a scheme of retirement allowances similar to that of the Civil Service Superannuation scheme.

An adequate and actuarially sound reserve fund should be created so that a teacher may be guaranteed that the money necessary to pay any benefits promised is actually on hand at retirement. Periodic actuarial investigations should be made of the retirement system to insure its financial soundness. Retirement allowances should be provided for disabled teachers after a reasonable period of service. Any teacher leaving the service before the regular retirement

age should retain rights to all moneys accumulated to his or her account. Teachers' accumulated deposits should be returnable upon withdrawing from the teaching service or upon death prior to retirement. This recommendation follows the principle involved in the previous one in which the teachers' contribution is regarded as a trust fund. I know that in the case of the Government scheme when a civil servant retires from the service under such conditions, the amount he has paid in is returnable. Possibly some adjustment would have to be made in framing this legislation to make it conform to our present Civil Service Superannuation Scheme.

The next principle is that the teacher should have the opportunity to elect the manner in which he or she will receive the benefits represented by the value of his contributions and the Government's payment, that is, he may accept a straight life annuity of equal payments for a certain number of years of a fixed amount. Upon the adoption of a retirement plan credit should be given for past services prior to the establishment of the system. Provision should be made for co-operative or reciprocal agreements with other provinces and credit should be given for services rendered in other Provinces of Canada. The administrative board should be representative of both the Government and the teachers.

These are the reasons, Mr. Speaker, which are regarded as fundamental for the establishment of a system and which should be involved in the Bill. Before leaving the subject I wish to refer honourable members of the House to what has been done in England and the States to the south of us and other Provinces of Canada where similar legislation is in effect. In the Republic to the south of us, state-wide teachers' retirement laws are now in effect in: Arizona, Montana, California, Connecticut, District of Columbia, New York, Illinois, North Dakota, Indiana, Ohio, Maine, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Virginia, Vermont, Minnesota, Maryland, Michigan, Washington, Rhode Island, New Jersey. State teacher retirement laws of limited application are in effect in Kentucky, Delaware, Louisiana, Georgia, Nebraska.

In Canada, every Province with the exception of Saskatchewan and Alberta has a Provincial scheme of one kind or another. Prince Edward Island has no definite Provincial scheme, but makes grants of from \$150 to \$300 a year from the consolidated funds of the Province. The City of Charlottetown has its own pension scheme. Nova Scotia has an old established scheme largely dependent on Government support, but, I understand, a new scheme has been put into effect there, based very largely on the standard system which I have endeavoured to set forth. New Brunswick has had for many years a pension system. Quebec has a liberal system based largely on Government grants. Manitoba recently passed a pension scheme but it is not very satisfactory because nearly 50 per cent. of the teachers in Manitoba reside and are employed in the City of Winnipeg, which has its own pension scheme. Ontario has had a comprehensive scheme which has been operating satisfactorily since 1919. British Columbia has its own Act but it does not conform to the principles I have outlined and does not work satisfactorily.

In England a Royal Commission was appointed in 1922 to enquire into what modifications were necessary, if any, in connection with the provisions of the Statute which had been in existence since 1918. The report of the Commission which was composed of such eminent educationists as Lord Emmett, Lord Kenyon, Sir Michael Sadler, Sir Robert Hobson, Sir A. W. Watson, Sir John Struthers, Miss Marjory Fry, Hugh R. Rathbone, W. L. Hitchings, D. C. Fraser, C. C. Upcott, H. J. Simmonds, R. V. E. Knox—the latter acting as secretary, was embodied in a new Act, *The Teachers' Superannuation Act of 1925*, which is now in effect and which very closely follows the standards and principles to which I have referred.

In Saskatchewan, the possibility of establishing a superannuation fund for teachers is excellent, provided we proceed with such legislation along the standard lines based on the combined experiences of other provinces and countries. With a total pay roll which in 1927 amounted to \$7,693,000, 4 per cent. of that amount would mean an annual contribution from the teaching profession in the Province of over \$300,000, without considering the amount which the Government would contribute, there is no reason why the fundamental principle of security should not be established without adding any serious burden to the individual teacher contributing to the scheme or upon public finances of the Province. I am, therefore, Mr. Speaker, going to move, seconded by the senior member for Moose Jaw City (*Mr. Baker*),

"That, in the opinion of this Assembly, the Government should give early consideration to the question of devising a scheme for the superannuation of school teachers."

SPEECHES  
ON  
POINT OF ORDER *RE* HAPPYLAND ELECTION, 1925.

THE HONOURABLE T. C. DAVIS,  
(*Attorney General*)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 10, 1929.

*The Honourable Mr. Davis*, in rising to a Point of Order with respect to a Notice of Motion, given by the Junior Member for Saskatoon City (*Mr. McConnell*), which reads as follows:

"I give notice that I will, on Monday next, move:

"That the Committee on Privileges and Elections be directed by this Assembly to investigate into irregularities, which are alleged to have taken place in the conduct of the last General Provincial Election in the Electoral Division of Happyland, and to report its findings to this Assembly."

said:

Mr. Speaker,—In rising to point out that the procedure adopted by my honourable friend in giving Notice of Motion to have this matter referred to a committee of this House, is entirely out of order, I would remind the House of your ruling when my honourable friend, the leader of the Conservative party (*Mr. Anderson*) a few days ago, gave notice to move a certain matter to the Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts and Printing. At the time there was no discussion on the propriety of the Motion, but you gave your ruling to effect that the Motion was out of order. While the Notice was given on the Order Paper, the Motion itself did not appear on it. You made your ruling and quoted your authority therefor, pursuant to Rule 38 of the Standing Orders of The Legislative Assembly, which is as follows:

"When Mr. Speaker is of opinion that a motion offered to the Assembly is contrary to the Rules and Privileges of the Legislature, he shall apprise the Assembly thereof immediately, before putting the question thereon and quote the authority applicable."

Pursuant to that authority you left the Motion off the Order Paper. I presume that, at this time, in connection with this other Notice which has been moved by my honourable friend, the Junior member for Saskatoon (*Mr. McConnell*), I may make a few observations in connection therewith. In the first place, any attempt to refer a question relative to the conduct of the election in question, by Motion, is out of order, and the proper procedure would be by way of petition.

*Mr. McConnell*: I speak to a point of order. Before the member proceeds I prefer to have your ruling on my right to make this Motion and why it should not appear on the Order Paper.

*Hon. Mr. Davis*: I want to take objection to the Notice and the Motion appearing on the Order Paper, and I shall give my reasons why that Motion should not appear on the Order Paper. In the first place the Motion is entirely too vague. It states certain charges have been made but does not refer anything specifically to the committee and does not ask the committee to investigate and report on any specific things but, in general terms, it asks the committee to go on a "fishing expedition." That is the first objection I wish to raise.

The second objection is this: In connection with the particular election referred to in the Motion, Notice of which is given, this matter came into public discussion on the 5th of October, 1928, when my honourable friend, the leader of the Conservative party (*Mr. Anderson*) spoke at Elbow during the Arm River By-election. I am quoting from a section of that report as it appeared in the *Regina Star* in which it is stated the honourable, the leader of the Conservative party, spoke, in part, as follows:

"I charge that the Gardiner Government has wilfully violated the principles of British fair play and the sacredness of the ballot. At Happyland and other places peopled by those not familiar with the English language they took advantage of the ignorance of these people to break all laws of decency and the law of this Province in the last election.

"I have here in my hand a list of thirty names of foreign voters whose names were put on the poll books by the Deputy Returning Officer and whose votes were polled without the knowledge of the voters. . . ."

Now, Mr. Speaker, section 254 of *The Election Act* reads as follows:

"(1) A person who:

(a) at an election applies for a ballot paper in the name of another person whether living or dead, or of a fictitious person; or



- (b) having voted applies at the same election for a ballot paper in his own name; or
- (c) votes more than once at the same election; shall be guilty of the offence of personation.

"(2) A person who commits or who directly or indirectly aids or abets, counsels or procures the commission of the offence of personation shall be guilty of a corrupt practice and shall incur a penalty of \$400 and shall also on conviction be imprisoned for one year."

Then it sets out the offence and the penalty therefor.

Now the charge made was twofold: First, that at one particular poll in this constituency thirty people were shown to have voted who did not vote; and second, that this was done at the instigation and with the knowledge of the Government. Since that time, I understand, my honourable friend has withdrawn the second charge, that is the charge against the Government. The charge, therefore, stands in one particular only at the present time and that is that thirty persons were shown to have balloted on that occasion and that they were not there and did not vote. Now the meaning of that, if it is correct, is that somebody committed an infraction of that particular section of the Act; that there were thirty persons who came to the poll and represented themselves as thirty of the duly qualified electors living in the constituency and who, though they were not qualified to vote, put ballots in the box, or that the returning officer or some other official in connection with the poll, put ballots in the box for them. In either case the offence was one under that section.

What remedies were there for a person having knowledge of the alleged offence? I understand somebody secured a copy of the poll book for this particular poll within thirty days after the election was held and therefore had all the information. What remedies had he at the time the offence, if such, was committed?

In the first place, he could have complained to the police or communicated with the Attorney General's Department and requested an enquiry under the section I have quoted with a view to assembling all the evidence on which to lay a charge. In this case, no such complaint was made to the police and none to the Attorney General's Department so that no opportunity was given the authorities to investigate the matter.

In the second place, if any person had the evidence of wrongdoing, or felt himself aggrieved, he had the right to take the matter to the police or to the Department, and lay an information against the person or persons who had committed this offence under the section I have quoted. All he needed to do was to go before a Justice of the Peace and there would have been no expense incurred in connection with lodging an information of that kind.

Now, Mr. Speaker, section 279 of *The Election Act* reads as follows:

"(1) Proceedings for the imposition of punishment by fine, penalty or imprisonment for a violation of any of the provisions of this Act shall be brought summarily before any two justices of the peace or a police magistrate or before the judge of the district court of the judicial district in which such violation was committed, sitting and acting as a justice of the peace under the provisions of part XV of the Criminal Code:

"Provided however that proceedings in respect of violations of section 270 of this Act shall be held or taken before a judge of the said district court sitting and acting as aforesaid who only shall have jurisdiction in such cases.

"(2) No appeal shall lie from a conviction or order made by a district court judge under the provisions of this section."

Now as I said a moment ago, no such information was lodged and no prosecution took place. That is the second thing they could have done.

There is a time limit within which this prosecution could have taken place. That is, the Act restricts the time in which to prosecute.

*Mr. McConnell*: That applies to prosecution and not to proceeding before the Assembly.

*Hon. Mr. Davis*: Read the Act! There is a time limit within which to take proceedings of six months after violation of the Act, as provided in section 284 of *The Election Act*, which reads:

"Proceedings under section 279, 280, 281, 282 and 283 shall be commenced within six months next after the violation of this Act was committed whether by act or omission and not afterwards."

That restricts the time in which this course can be taken.

Now, as I have said, no information was given to the Attorney General's Department, none to the police, none was lodged under *The Election Act* and, the six months having long since expired, no one can proceed against any wrongdoers in connection with that election. As I have said, they had all the evidence on which to act if they desired so to do. The people concerned had all the information but they stood by for three or four years and have done nothing.

Now, by section 226 of *The Election Act*, the returning officer is required to transmit all the documents in connection with the election to the Clerk of the Executive Council and the clerk is obliged to destroy these after one year and pursuant to those terms the records were destroyed as provided by law, and are no longer available. Now, my honourable friend seeks to come in and investigate this thing, a matter which this and other parliaments in their wisdom have expressly delegated to the courts of the land. Now my honourable friends want to have the matter referred to a Committee of the House. The law sets a time period, and after that period has long since expired, they come along and try to set up this Legislature as a court of the land for the purpose of investigating alleged charges. Therefore, the point I raise is this: I doubt very much the propriety of referring this matter to the committee at this stage, in view of the fact that the person most interested had all the evidence within the six months' period and did nothing, and approximately four years afterwards, my friends come along and wish to investigate this matter.

They still have, probably, another remedy in lieu of the Notice of Motion and that is to petition the Legislature to unseat the member and to have the seat declared vacant. This was the way it was always dealt with before *The Controverted Elections Act* was passed, if anybody thought that a member had been improperly returned. But the Legislatures all over the British Empire have decided this can be best disposed of by the courts of the land. This applies in our Dominion and similar legislation has been passed all over the British Empire and the right to investigate these things was therefore delegated by the Legislature to the courts of the land. In this particular case my honourable friends had the right to petition under *The Election Act* for the unseating of the member who had been improperly—as they say—declared elected. Section 3 of this particular Act reads:

“At any time within one month after the publication by the Clerk of the Executive Council of the notice prescribed by section 228 of *The Saskatchewan Election Act*, any defeated candidate or any duly qualified elector of the electoral division in which the election was held may petition against the undue return or undue election of any candidate at such election.”

Therefore, my honourable friends had one month in which to petition to unseat the honourable member. As I say, the Legislature has seen fit to delegate to the courts of the land the right to deal with this, but I do not think that by that action this Legislature has given away its absolute right to consider a question of this kind by way of petition. The authority that the Legislature should not consider a petition of that kind, is to be found in Bourinot, Fourth Edition at page 132 which says as follows:

“Petitions calling in question the right of a member to his seat have been presented to Parliament, but not allowed to proceed further. In the first case in 1874 the petition was presented within the time when it could have been taken under the law. It asked that the return for Gaspé be amended by substituting the name of the petitioner for that of the sitting member. The petition was ruled out of order by the Speaker on the ground that it dealt with a matter which should properly come under the cognisance of the courts.”

Now that seems to be the authority that even a petition of this kind, if addressed to this House, would not be properly receivable but I think, notwithstanding that, that the Legislature could have proceeded. In any event, proceedings would have to be opened by way of petition to unseat the member of the Legislature against whom they were complaining, but this petition must make specific charges of wrong-doing, and the petitioners would have to come in and be prepared to substantiate their charges. But there is still doubt as to the propriety of such petition being received and dealt with by virtue of the fact the Legislature has seen fit to delegate such matters to the courts.

It seems to me that the proper way would be not by way of petition but by way of an amendment to *The Controverted Elections Act* to extend the time limit for taking action in the courts to four years, and if that amendment carries then they can proceed in the courts and the matter could then be decided by the courts under and by virtue of rights already delegated to them by the Legislature.

I await your ruling, Mr. Speaker.

MR. HOWARD McCONNELL, M.L.A.

(Saskatoon City)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 10, 1929.

Mr. Speaker,—With reference to the points raised by my honourable friend the Attorney General: The first is the objection he made that the Notice of Motion was entirely too vague. His plea was that I should be specific as to the particular irregularities. You will recall that I used the word "alleged." Now, Mr. Speaker, although I am satisfied irregularities did take place, we cannot say they did take place until they are proven. His plea is that we set them forth in detail. May I point out this. We are in the position that these irregularities did not come to the attention of members of this group until after the last Session of this Legislature and, as a consequence, we were not in a position to take any stand in reference to the matter at all.

Insofar as the law of the land goes, we knew clearly we were out of court, because we were too late to authorise action and get redress by law. Might I point out also that, from information we had given to us, at Poll 28 in the Constituency of Happyland, in the neighbourhood of 30 men or women were shown to have voted who never voted at all. Now that shows that one of two things took place, as my honourable friend, the Attorney General, has pointed out. In the first place, there is the possibility that these 30 persons may have been impersonated by other persons or that collusion existed between the Deputy Returning Officer and the poll clerk, or between one of those officials, and the impersonators with the purpose of putting those names on the poll book.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* Both of which would be personation.

*Mr. McConnell:* Not altogether. The second would be something in addition to personation. It would mean, in addition, a wrong-doing by the Deputy Returning Officer. He would not, necessarily, have a guilty conscience in respect of the first. The book is under the control of the Deputy Returning Officer and the poll clerk, and if these names appeared on the poll book then not only had personation taken place but there is an additional offence.

May I point out also that we had information given to us by members of your party, that these offences were not limited to Poll 28. They occurred at other polls as well. If we are going to have an investigation of some particular offence which took place at Poll 28, I don't want to limit the investigation to that one poll because the investigation may show that these personations took place at other polls in that Constituency. I am sure that those of us who are acting in the interests of the proper conduct of elections, do not want to limit the investigation in the way the Attorney General has suggested and definitely set forth the alleged irregularities that will be investigated. That, I say, would not be in the interests of justice or good government.

With reference to the other matter: My honourable friend had a whole lot to say about the delay and the fact that the time-limit had been allowed to lapse. As I have pointed out, we did not have these matters brought to our attention until last spring, after the Legislature was prorogued, and we knew we were out of court. There was nothing that we could do. I wish to point out, also, we know we cannot prosecute, but we wanted to bring notice of this wrong-doing on the part of individuals at elections to the people of this Province and let them be the jury. We do say this: We can bring wrong-doing to light, and these men will be immediately condemned for their actions and for their guilt.

My honourable friend is trying to bind this Legislature's hands. He cannot bind its hands and I say to you this Legislature cannot tie its own hands. This Legislature may direct an investigation notwithstanding the effect of any action hitherto taken by itself. That is why we are asking that the Legislature authorise us to make this investigation. This we do in spite of the fact we do not wish to prosecute. We merely wish to bring to light any irregularities.

May I say, also, I have brought this Notice of Motion before the House because of a statement made by the Premier in which he said, on the floor of the House, that sometime before the Session adjourned he would welcome an investigation. I should like to ask him in the light of the pronouncement of the Minister who has just spoken (*Hon. Mr. Davis*), are these objections which have been raised by the Attorney General carrying out the spirit of the utterance which was made by him in this Chamber? I suggest that they do not.

With reference to the remark of the Attorney General in regard to an amendment of *The Controverted Elections Act* may I say this: Assuming that we did ask that *The Controverted Elections Act* be amended and presuming the Chamber agreed and said "All right, we shall do so," the prosecution then to be entered into would involve money, and it is notorious that members of the opposition have not very much money.

*Government members:* Oh! Oh!

*Mr. McConnell:* If the members of the Government wish to place these impediments in the road of the people of Saskatchewan, if the members of the Government endeavour by technicalities or by reason of some interpretation of Statutes to prevent an investigation, the people of the Province are going to interpret this in one way—that they are afraid that there are going to be disclosures to the detriment of the Government. If there is nothing to be disclosed, there is nothing to be afraid of. If they are not afraid then by all means let us have this investigation and the Government's skirts will be cleared, and anything to be disclosed will not harm the Government. But if the Government fears there are some misdemeanors to be disclosed and refuses us this investigation, then the people of this Province will be entitled to draw the conclusion that the Government wants to thwart any members from doing so.

I should like to have your ruling, Mr. Speaker.

THE HONOURABLE J. G. GARDINER

(Premier)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 10, 1929.

Mr. Speaker.—The point of order, as I see it, has not been spoken to at all by the honourable gentleman who has just taken his seat (*Mr. McConnell*). The question is not as to whether there should be an investigation into anything that took place in the Happyland election, at this particular point in the development of the question at any rate. The question is whether or not the honourable gentleman is taking the right procedure in order to bring about, before the Province or in this House, an investigation into this question, by giving Notice of Motion to be printed, if you like, on the Order Paper.

As the Attorney General has pointed out, both in the Election Law and in *The Controverted Elections Act*, there were provisions that made it possible for this whole matter to be investigated when all the evidence was available. Not only was there provision in the law, but the evidence now available goes to show that the individual most concerned, that is the candidate himself and those who were responsible with him for the conduct of the election, made application to the Clerk of the Executive Council for the poll books of these particular polls—not only Poll 28, but of two other polls as well; that the three copies of the poll books were given to him at that time; that he paid for the copies of the poll clerk's books what the law provides he should; that he took those copies away with him and that all the information that was in the possession of the Clerk of the Executive Council in connection with that election in Happyland, was handed over to the candidate. That is the first fact in connection with the matter: He had all the information in sufficient time for him to take action under *The Election Act* or under *The Controverted Elections Act* of the Province.

We had to assume, as members of the Government, that, after the opposition candidate had made that enquiry, had taken the poll books back home with him and had investigated the matter on the ground, he had come to the conclusion there were no serious grounds for objection that could be made in connection with the conduct of the election in those three polls.

Then the time that was provided both in *The Election Act* and in the provisions of *The Controverted Elections Act* had elapsed, six months in the one case and one month in the other, and, by virtue of Legislation which this House has provided, the records of that constituency were kept for over a year, and sometime after that the records were destroyed with those of all other constituencies. The persons most intimately concerned, though in possession of all the information and with knowledge of the different safeguards provided in the Act in connection with the conduct of elections, took no further steps and, so far as anyone connected with the Government is concerned, apparently came to the conclusion that there was not sufficient evidence upon which to start an action—because, after all, these actions are not costly things.

My friends opposite have made reference so often to the small amount of money which oppositions have available in order to fight this Government that I begin to think that they protest too much. I have not seen any election where there was more money spent by an opposition than was spent in the Constituency of Arm River during the election of two months ago, and everyone who was in the constituency knows that. They have got more money to fight this Government in the Province of Saskatchewan now, than any opposition has ever had and they might be. . .

*Mr. Anderson:* We deny everything.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* My honourable friend is something like myself, he cannot have full information. He does not know how much they have to fight elections with. He is not in the position to deny everything, and my statement on that point will bear the very fullest investigation. Others were interested in defeating this Government beside himself. But coming back to the point of order:

All these avenues of action were open to those who were most intimately connected with the whole transaction, and because my friends who are asking you to entertain the Motion in the House, at the present time, did not have a candidate in the constituency of Happyland, is no reason why they should be allowed, three and half years afterwards, to come before the House and demand an investigation when, in all probability, the men who are accused of impersonation would not be themselves able, though willing, to refute the charges. That is no reason why members should be allowed to bring the matter before the House for the sole purpose of spreading throughout the Province any insinuations they wish to make in regard to the conduct of an election held three and a half years ago. That was the main point taken by the Attorney General.

They claim the right, as members of this Legislature, to come now, after the expiration of the time-limit provided in the legislation of the House and after all possibility of taking action under the provisions of *The Controverted Elections Act* have passed out of existence. They claim

the right to bring before this House by Resolution and call in question the acts of men, none of whom I, personally, know. I do not believe there is a member, on this side of the House at least (with the possible exception of the member for Happyland (*Mr. Keelan*)) who knows the individuals spoken of in connection with these polls. They come into the House and make insinuations with regard to these individuals at a time when they are not in a position to protect themselves, as they would have been a month after the election took place.

Well then, Mr. Speaker, I want to make the statement that at no time in this House, have I used the words attributed to me by the member who has just spoken, but I want to say now that no member of the Government has any reason whatsoever for wanting to withhold an investigation into the conduct of the election in Happyland. We are just as anxious to see to it that the election laws of this Province are properly carried out, and that officials charged with the conduct of elections, conduct these polls under the law as any other members of the House can possibly be. It is just as essential for us to safeguard the rights of ourselves, as directly interested in elections, and at the same time safeguard the rights which officials who are conducting elections have, after those elections are over and after all the documents in connection with the elections are destroyed.

I want to suggest to the House that either one of two things should be done—not that a general resolution should be introduced, making it possible for a public discussion to take place here for three or four days, of everything and every person, under the protection which our rights here upon the floor of the House give, making it possible for members to get up and make insinuations for which they have not to bring a tittle of evidence in substantiation; under a protection which leaves no recourse to individuals dwelling 200 miles from here. The discussion which could be held here two days hence along the lines of the Motion contained in the Notice of Motion which is proposed to this House, could be broad enough to insinuate almost anything and if, after that had been done, this House were to decide that the matter could not properly be brought before the House because of the arguments presented by the Attorney General a few moments ago, all these insinuations would have been broadcast with no right of redress to the men affected. I say to you, Mr. Speaker, as the first member of this House and as the First Commoner of this Province, you have been given the right and duty to protect the citizens of this province from that kind of discussion particularly when there are other methods by which members of the opposition can bring this matter properly before the House.

One of these was suggested by me, at the beginning of the Session, to the honourable, the junior member for Saskatoon, (*Mr. McConnell*) on an occasion when he attempted to make a speech with regard to this matter. I suggested he might bring it by Petition, provided it included definite charges against someone. We are not particularly concerned whether they charge the Government or whether they charge certain members of the organisation or somebody in the constituency who had to do with the conduct of those particular polls; but they should make a charge against some person.

If they are not prepared to do this, then they should take the other alternative and propose to amend one or the other of the election Acts. If it is their desire to unseat the member for Happyland, they should change the provisions of the Act which set the time within which action can be taken and make it read “three years and so many days”. Then the members on both sides of the House would decide whether or not they wish to have hanging over their heads for three and a half years, the possibility of someone getting up somewhere and saying some irregularity occurred in their election. That is one thing they can suggest to do.

If they do not want to amend that particular Act, and if they desire to take action against anyone, then they might amend *The Election Act* to make it possible to bring a person to account for the conduct of a poll, three years and so many months after the election is over. This House can then discuss the point whether it is advisable to leave hanging over the heads of an election official for three and a half years, or three years and eight months, the possibility of being called to answer any charge that anyone might want to make against him in connection with the conduct of a poll. That is another method which would be a legitimate procedure to follow and, if the House passes such an amendment then my friends would be in the same position they were immediately after the election, and could go on and prosecute anyone that they desired to prosecute.

It seems to me that one or the other of these two is the proper procedure to follow unless they have this in mind:—Unless they have in mind to use this Legislature as a means of spreading on the front pages of the newspapers of this Province, insinuations which they hope will be of some use to them in the next election in this Province.

I shall ask you, Sir, to take these matters into consideration when you are deciding on the propriety of the motion of the junior member for Saskatoon. I shall ask you to take into consideration my contention that he takes advantage of his position and proposes, by way of Resolution, that we should discuss two days hence, the conduct of a person, or persons who took part in the Happyland election, when all the evidence in connection therewith has been destroyed in accordance with an Act which had already been passed by this Legislature.

SPEECHES  
ON  
RESOLUTION RESPECTING SASKATCHEWAN COAL.

MR. J. F. CREIGHTON, M.D., M.L.A.

*(Estevan)*

THURSDAY, JANUARY 10, 1929.

*Mr. J. F. Creighton*, in moving a Resolution respecting the use of Saskatchewan fuel in Government buildings, said:

Mr. Speaker,—I do not want to have this motion standing on the Order Paper any longer, and I am glad to have the opportunity of getting over with it. Contrary to my usual, I am going to take my time and have my say about our coal even if I have to stay here until next Sunday.

The chief object of the Resolution that I now propose to the House is to try to effect a change in the attitude of the Government towards our coal—to make that attitude a “boost,” instead of a “knock,” as it has been in the past. I have formulated this Resolution in a way that I hope will be acceptable to the Government; at the same time I hope it will be acceptable to the coal miners and diggers in my own district. I hope to show the Government that in adopting this Resolution they will save some money, and I also hope that the people in the Saskatchewan mining district will make some money. I can assure the Government that the adoption of this Resolution would be very favourably received in the mining district. It would remove the feeling that the Government is antagonistic to our coal and our coal industry and if this resolution were adopted, we would get to understand one another better. I may say that I had intended to include the Fort Qu'Appelle Sanatorium within the area defined in the Resolution, but do not wish to ask too much at one time.

This Resolution may seem a small thing to the Government and if it appears to be wasting time, I regret it; but it is not a small affair to the people in my district. To them it seems to symbolise the attitude of the Government towards industry in our corner. We see concessions given to great companies establishing industries in this Province. We are not asking for a concession, but are simply asking that our own Province employ Saskatchewan men and encourage a Saskatchewan industry by using Saskatchewan fuel which, we are sure, will give efficiency when properly used and, in the area which I have set forth in the Resolution, will save money for the people of the whole province. Of course, there will be some question of cost in changing plants and grates to burn our coal. It should not be necessary to change them now had they been properly installed in the first place, and I am sure that some of them could use much more of our home coal if they wished to do so. However, most of us have had to pay for our mistakes. I have settled in full for some of mine—why should not the Government?

I have tried to get information on the length of life of the ordinary grate and find it is almost impossible to say, a grate may be destroyed in a day by bad firing, or it may last for twenty-five years with careful handling. However, so far as I have been able to learn, the average is about ten years so, probably, it is time that some of these grates should now be changed. I have seen the heating plant out behind these buildings and I am of the opinion that a forced draft directed slightly forward from the back of the grate would make it so that Saskatchewan coal would efficiently heat these buildings in the coldest weather. I have heard that the Government engineer has estimated that it will cost \$75,000.00 to make the change at Weyburn. I am not sure of that but I have a letter here I wish to read. It is from Mr. C. C. Larsen, of the Lignite Combustion Engineering Company, of Bismarck, N.D.:

“As I remember it, they have 4-250 H.P. Water Tube Boilers at this institution (Weyburn Mental Hospital) and are using a chain grate natural draft stoker and burning a high grade coal. They are using induced draft at times but only when carrying a heavy load. I understand the boilers have six feet or more combustion space between the grates and tubes and the boilers are vertically baffled.

“The above equipment should prove satisfactory when equipped with Lignite Burning Equipment and it should be possible to obtain 200 per cent. or more boiler rating when needed.

“The approximate cost of equipping this plant would be between \$20,000 and \$25,000, provided the equipment could be imported duty free. If duty must be paid the cost would be about \$5,000 to \$7,000 additional.”

One thing that will be said in their own defence by the Government is that it is helping the industry by taking the output of the Briquetting Plant. A new industry of that kind requires some time to get its output standardised and things running in such a way that it can depend upon turning out a uniform product and, so far as I can learn, the Government is being kind

enough to help put it on a sound basis by taking the output of the plant until that time arrives. Now, all the people down there appreciate that. In any case, if the Government intends to begin to use briquetted coal and continue the use of briquetted coal in the area I have named they should not have any objection to this resolution. I am satisfied if they use any fuel produced by any company in Saskatchewan. But the Government knows it is not economy; and I am convinced, they will not continue to use briquettes. It is not a fuel for large plants and never can take the place of raw coal within 300 miles of the mine when used to produce steam in any quantity. These briquettes will probably be used to displace American coal. It will probably cost \$11.00 a ton to put these briquettes in the furnace and that is too much compared with the lower grades of our fuel and, as I have said, they will be used by the small user to replace American coal. It might simplify things for the Government to use them in the public buildings at Arcola and Moosomin.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I take it for granted that what I said last year will have consideration and that I need not repeat it. But I have mentioned the Government's attitude towards our coal, and I have a few things to say on the same line as last year. I have the answers given to the questions of the last two or three years and find that the answer given recently to the question of my honourable friend, the member for Saskatoon, (*Mr. McConnell*) shows that the consumption of Saskatchewan coal by the Government is decreasing. I have this answer of February 8, 1927:

"February 8, 1927: 16,075 tons used for the last fiscal year and of this 4,790 tons was used in Weyburn."

That was the winter of 1925-26. Now, I have this answer:

"February 2, 1928: 9,090 tons and in December, 1927, Saskatchewan supplied 64 tons to Weyburn Mental Hospital, and Alberta supplied 893 tons."

"December, 1928. The answer to my honourable friend from Saskatoon showed that 6,193 tons of Saskatchewan coal was used for the last fiscal year."

We have there a drop from 16,000 to 6,000 tons in two years. It won't take long to eliminate us at that rate!

In order to convince me that you are not deliberately antagonistic to Saskatchewan coal, you have to show me that you can heat Weyburn Mental Hospital cheaper with Alberta coal than you can with Saskatchewan coal. If this Weyburn building could be heated with half Souris coal in 1926, surely it could be done in 1928! Perhaps, though, ours is a "missionary" Government that wants to help Alberta but I would remind them that "Charity begins at home," also ordinary decency, and I would suggest it is a good place to practise economy. Last fall, a lot of the British miners who came out here to help in the harvest came down to our district after their harvest work was over—not in ones and twos, but in dozens, to get work in the mines. After hunting for jobs they found out they might just as well be idle at home as idle here. Our mines have had a very bad winter. This Government may say they are helping out in Alberta, but it would not have hurt them to have helped out in Saskatchewan by giving some of these English miners work in our own mines, especially when it would, or should, have resulted in a dividend for themselves.

I do not like making comparisons and I am not saying that Manitoba is right in their treatment of Alberta in that they buy their high grade fuel from the United States. In Manitoba, our coal has to compete with American coal. As I told you, last year, Manitoba contracted in 1927 for 19,500 tons of our coal and for 4,470 tons of Alberta coal and the remainder they got from the United States. We get about the same in this year's contract—a matter of 18,500 tons—but Alberta gets only 270 tons in all. That's all they get in Manitoba's contract of this year. They would take something like 10,000 tons from the United States. Manitoba, in 1927, contracted for 31,770 tons of which we got 19,500. This year they contracted for 29,420 tons of which Saskatchewan gets 18,500 so that our proportion has not come down. I do not say that Manitoba is right in giving business to the United States, but I want you to note that Manitoba gives us two-thirds of their orders, whereas our own Province is constantly cutting down on its orders until, in the last fiscal year, Alberta got 21,000 tons and Saskatchewan only 6,000.

Take the Brandon Mental Hospital! Some of you have seen it. It is quite visible from the train at Brandon and I can assure you that it is not very much different from our Mental Hospital at Weyburn. This year, Manitoba gave us their order for 10,000 tons to be supplied to that institution and, if they need more, we will get the order. But at Weyburn, which is only 51 miles away and right at our back door, so to speak, we supplied only 2,649 tons last fiscal year—about a quarter of what was used.

The Manitoba Government tested our fuel very carefully, as I told you last year, and yet our Government engineer has the "nerve" to tell me that he has not much faith or confidence in the Manitoba tests. Well, I want to tell you the tests were very practical and carefully carried out at the Selkirk plant, and I want to tell your engineer that there are three ways of testing a fuel: First, by chemical analysis; second, by combustion in a coal calorimeter; and third, by actual test in a steam boiler.



The boiler test gives the actual results obtained in the boiler room and that is what we are all interested in and what we all understand—the amount of water evaporated per dollar expended. The “proof of the whiskey is in the kick thereof,” and the Manitoba Government found they got more “kick” from our coal per dollar expended, than from other coals and they are using it in every furnace they have which is adjusted to its use. Now, our Government should be doing the same thing, and I am asking them to adjust their furnaces so that they can use our fuel and save money.

The Manitoba Government found that to evaporate 1,000 pounds of steam it cost 40 cents with our slack or mine run and in all other coals tested it cost over 60 cents, that is one-third more. No wonder, then, they use our fuel in every plant adapted to its use.

In North Dakota they mine 1,500,000 tons a year and most of it is a lower grade than ours, and the law compels them to use it in all Government institutions. I have some quotations here in regard to freight for coal:

Estevan to Weyburn, 06c. per cwt. or \$1.20 a ton.  
 Lethbridge to Weyburn, 16c. per cwt. or \$3.20 a ton.  
 Bienfait or Estevan to Regina, 9½c. per cwt. or \$1.90 a ton.  
 Mercoal to Regina, 23¾c. per cwt. or \$4.75 per ton.

This shows that, in most cases, the freight is about three times as much as on our coals.

In consideration of the calorific value of our coal—I may be getting out of my depth, but in following it up I will discuss the answers to questions which have been asked. As I understand, we are not permitted to question answers to questions, and I do not know whether I am right in criticising these answers, but, I suppose, I will be “pulled up” if I am not. As I understand it, these answers are made up in the departmental offices and the Minister reads them believing them to be quite correct. I claim that some of these answers given certainly give an incorrect impression to the members of this House because they are only partially correct.

With regard to the B.T.U. (British Thermal Unit) answer for Alberta coal 11,400. That gives to this House the impression that you get 11,400 B.T.U.’s from all the Alberta coal you are buying. Now, you are not getting that because that is not the type of Alberta coal you are buying. That is the B.T.U. of 1923 tons of Saunders. Mercoal, Lethbridge and Tabor is chiefly what you buy and I will deal with that.

Alberta divides their coal mines into districts. For instance, there is Lethbridge in which there are two sub-divisions, A and B. In A, the B.T.U. is 10,980 and B, 10,960. Now, coming to Taber, Taber is a lignite of a better grade than ours. There are four sub-divisions—A, B, C and D. A is 9,940; B, 9,380; C, 9,040; and D, 8,570; not one goes up to 11,000 in these two districts and most are under 10,000. Now, coming to Mercoal in the Coal Spur district—I may say with pleasure that the manager, Mr. Andrew Miller, an old friend of mine, recently has been made Chief Inspector of Mines in Alberta. Now Coal Spur is divided into three districts: A is 10,720; B, 9,730; C, 10,320. Now, coming to Saunders: Saunders is 11,420 B.T.U., that is in the Saunders district, west of Red Deer. You get some Tofield coal which is given as 8,300. This table shows that you do not get 11,400 B.T.U.’s from any but the highest grade of Alberta coal, and yet you put this highest grade and you take and compare it with our lowest, which is Souris, at 7,000 B.T.U. I saw an analysis of Eastern Collieries’ coal, a few days ago, and it went up to 8,400, but if you put the average around 7,400 it can be seen that you have compared Alberta’s highest with our lowest and again, you do not get more than three-quarters or four-fifths the B.T.U. out of slack or nut slack that you do out of mine run. If you are paying \$4.20 for our coal you should be getting mine run. The kind of coal used in all our plants should be the cheapest and you can put our slack alongside the boiler house at Weyburn for \$2.22½ and you can put it beside the boiler house which heats the Parliament buildings for \$2.95 and, if you have a spur track to Regina Jail, the same would apply there.

Now Lethbridge nut slack costs you \$2.00 plus freight—\$3.20 or \$3.30—I do not know what it is. So it is costing you \$5.12 or \$5.32 to put it alongside the Weyburn Mental Hospital and that is merely \$1.00 more than twice as much as our slack. The same applies to these buildings. Now, to put Mercoal nut slack alongside the boiler house here in Regina costs you \$6.80.

Now there is another question: “What is the price per ton of mine run and nut slack for Alberta and Saskatchewan coal?” And the answer given is: “\$2.00 for nut slack for both Alberta and Saskatchewan.” Now that is correct for Alberta sub-bituminous slack but our nut slack costs \$1.25 and our slack \$1.00—and I am open to take orders! The last part of this question says bituminous coal at \$5.44 and the average gives a B.T.U. 11,400. (I never noticed that word “average” before). Now, this answer combined with this Alberta report, shows you do not get a pound of bituminous coal from Alberta. You will say I am quibbling on a word, but I am not. You are getting sub-bituminous and lignite and there is a greater difference between sub-bituminous coal and bituminous coal than between sub-bituminous and lignite. I will deal with that more fully, later on. I do not think it is possible to land a ton of bituminous coal in Regina from Alberta at \$5.44, and I doubt very much whether you can put it any place in Saskatchewan at that price.

These questions and answers make it necessary for me to go a little into the technical side of coal, but I will avoid technicalities as much as possible. In a discussion of this kind it is necessary to consider our coal with other fuels and I wish to give the House in as short a time as possible, the classification of coals, the reasons for this classification, where each class occurs, their heating value and special uses.

First, the calorific value. The British Thermal Unit, or B.T.U. is defined simply as the amount of heat required to raise one pound of water, one degree Fahrenheit at any temperature between 32 and 212 degrees or between the freezing and boiling points. So, when I say that Bienfait coal has a B.T.U. value of 7,500 it simply means that a pound of our coal, undergoing complete combustion, will raise 7,500 pounds of water one degree Fahrenheit. I may say that heating value depends upon the carbon and volatile hydro-carbons contained in the coal.

Coals, as you know, are classified broadly as anthracite, bituminous and lignite, but there are numerous grades between depending, we believe, on the age of the coal deposit. The finer classification would be—anthracite, semi-anthracite, cannel, bituminous, sub-bituminous and lignite; lignite being divided into black and brown. Cannel coal running as high as 45 per cent. to 50 per cent. volatility is used extensively in the gas industry but does not occur in this country outside of Nova Scotia. There is a lot in Idaho and in Scotland. Anthracite can also be pretty well eliminated so far as the west is concerned. Brown coal occurs extensively in Germany and Australia, but not in this country. In this country there is a fairly definite improvement in grade as you travel towards the mountains. Our coal has 7,500 B.T.U. Drumheller, Brooks, Edmonton, Camrose, Caston, Big Valley, Sheerness, Pembina, Tofield, Taber—these are all lignite coals, the same as we have in Saskatchewan, but of a higher calorific value. The average samples show a B.T.U. between 8,300 and 9,800. These coals show a moisture content of 15 per cent. to 25 per cent., fixed carbon of 35 per cent. to 44 per cent., ash 6 per cent. to 12 per cent., volatile hydro-carbons 25 per cent. to 32 per cent.

As you get nearer the mountains, you find that the quality improves and you come to the sub-bituminous which is a non-coking coal such as you find at Lethbridge, Pincher Creek, Magrath, Coalspur, Saunders, Mercoal and Sexsmith. These are all sub-bituminous coals with a B.T.U. averaging from 10,000 to 11,000. I will not bother telling you of the percentages of ash, carbon, volatile and moisture except to say that the moisture diminishes in these coals, usually less than 10 per cent., the fixed carbon increases, the volatiles remain about the same, and the ash is about the same as our own. With Saunders, fixed carbon runs as high as 50 per cent. When you move further west again, you come to bituminous coals of good grade, most of them coking. These are found at Crow's Nest, Cascade, Mountain Park, Cadonium, Nordeg, and Brule. These have a B.T.U. value running from 12,000 to 14,500 with moisture in some cases as low as 1 per cent. and usually below 5 per cent. and fixed carbon as high as 75 per cent. but always above 60 per cent.

I will not go further west in British Columbia except to mention Fernie where they have one of the very finest coals in the world with a B.T.U. value of 15,400. I may say that pure carbon has a calorific value of 14,600 and all coals between 72 per cent. and 86 per cent. for some reason or other have practically the same heating value but, on account of the heating value of the volatile, the Fernie coal gives a value much above pure carbon. Its volatile is rich in hydro-carbons such as marsh gas, carbon monoxide and carbon dioxide and hydrogen and it is low in inert gases such as nitrogen and oxygen. Our coal, unfortunately, is a little high in oxygen and nitrogen but these high calorific value coals are more suitable for stove and small fire purposes.

Now I might say that these high volatile coals are never very suitable for great big plants such as the Government buildings here and at Weyburn, unless in powdered form. The heavier slow burning lignites are more suitable for large furnaces, plants and power stations such as the Government has, or should have, in its larger buildings.

This Government has employed technical electrical experts to advise them as to the installation of the new unit at Saskatoon. These men may be all right as electrical experts, but my advice to the Government is to keep them out of the boiler room. They do not know much about the way to use lignite coal, either Saskatchewan coal or Drumheller or Edmonton coal, and that is what you will use if you want economy. I was going to suggest that the Government employ a fuel expert, but even though I think it advisable, and would pay, I do not wish to embody it in this resolution. In my opinion, the past has shown that you have not a man in the service of the Government who knows how to construct a furnace to use lignite efficiently. There are such men in North Dakota where the law compels them to use their own native coal.

Now, I was going to say something about the way our coal is prepared at the mine. Slack coal is everything that goes through a one inch screen, while nut slack is everything that goes through a two and one-half to three-inch screen. Cobbled coal, which many people call nut, is a coal from one to three inches in size which drops through the three-inch screen as the coal passes over it, the fine slack having previously dropped through the one-inch screen. Everything that is left after you have passed over the three inch screen is known as screened lump. The term "mine-run" which you hear, is everything as it comes out of a mine while screened mine-run is a term that is applied (though possibly it should not be used) to coal passing over a one-inch screen.

Someone said, last year, that we could not get a satisfactory boiler-rating with lignite. In reply to that I will state that you can when you use it rightly, and for the benefit of the doctor and lawyer members I will explain very briefly what boiler-rating means. It means, in one way, the work a boiler will do. Now, when James Watt discovered steam he defined horse-power as the amount of work an average London draft horse would do in a given time and he put it at raising 33,000 pounds one foot in one minute. Now, in speaking of fuel, it has another meaning and the horse power depends upon the amount of steam produced—that a certain fuel would produce a certain evaporation of water from a fixed boiler surface in a given time. This has been fixed at 34½ pounds per hour from a boiler surface of ten square feet at and from 212 degrees. This is called 100 per cent. rating; but we find that certain fuels and certain boilers do much better, and in Marine boilers, particularly, it is not uncommon to find a 400 per cent. to 500 per cent. rating—that is the evaporation of 34½ pounds of water from a 2½-foot boiler surface per hour. I know places where, with our coal, it is not difficult to get a rating of 300 per cent. for short periods and I know places where they run along for long periods at 150 per cent. to 200 per cent. That, of course, is where they have a properly constructed boiler room.

Plants have been installed by engineers who are accustomed to and who are educated in the use of high grade fuel and in order to get efficiency they must continue to use high grade fuel. You will know that the Government is ordering from mines producing sub-bituminous coals such as Saunders and Lethbridge and shipping it to Weyburn because during installation of the heating plant there the engineer responsible probably did not possess the necessary knowledge of plants adapted to lignite. This Government should not employ eastern engineers or engineers trained in the use of anthracites and bituminous coal to continue putting in plants that are, in effect, a "knock" to the industry in our own Province. We hear of the head of the Weyburn Mental Hospital saying that the building cannot be heated by Saskatchewan coal. Now, why does not he and the Government come out and say candidly that the fault is in themselves and not in our coal? You can never get efficiency from a plant that has been put in in an inefficient way. Efficiency is not got that way in anything; and to say that the Weyburn Mental Hospital or any other building cannot be heated by Souris coal, is simply an admission of incompetence on the part of those responsible for the installation of these plants.

I want to say a little of the shipping of our coal and its use by substantial business firms. In 1927, the Canadian Pacific Railway Company took 55,000 tons, while the Government railroad, the Canadian National, used 18,200 tons from the Bienfait mines and 36 cars of this was shipped to Redditt, 140 miles east of Winnipeg. Most of the coal bought by these railroads is mine run at \$2.10 per ton.

I will now name points in some constituencies whose members, no doubt, will support this Resolution. The Canadian Pacific Railway uses quite a lot of our coal in Swift Current. We ship quite a number of cars to Kerrobert, in fact 35 cars went up there and, no doubt, the honourable member for Kerrobert (*Mr. Laing*), is wondering why the Government he is backing cannot use it just 50 miles from Estevan. The Town of Melville used our coal in their light plant four years ago and took 44 cars last year, and the new company which took over that plant is still using it to the extent of a car a week.

*Mr. Hill:* Is that a municipal plant?

*Mr. Creighton:* It was, until recently.

*Hon. Mr. Davis:* Do they use it in the Regina plant?

*Mr. Creighton:* I have something to say about the Regina plant a little later. I might tell my friend from Yorkton (*Mr. Garry*) that there is quite a lot of our coal going into his city. It is true that this is going to the Canadian Pacific Railway, but I also want to tell him that in Mr. Inman, the C.P.R. has one of the great fuel experts of the west and that his is a company that demands results of its employees. You might say that the C.P.R. does not have to consider the question of freight on that fuel but the freight is charged up to the Fuel Department. I might also tell my friend that the Yorkton Laundry also uses our coal. Now, up in Saskatoon the new Brewery there installed furnaces to use our coal and they used 33 cars in 1928. Some of our coal goes to Canora but I do not know who gets it. Now, all these points are far beyond the area I have named in this Resolution.

You may ask why it is that not more of our coal is used in Regina! And I may say that Regina is the "toughest" town in the west for our coal to gain recognition in, and this is, to a large extent, due to the attitude of the Government, of the Government engineer, and of the engineer of the Regina Light Plant. I would like every member to see the plant recently put in by the Duncan Motors on Albert Street. We pass the place every day and for a small plant it has the most perfect combustion I have ever seen. You can see gases burning ten feet away from the coal bed. There is a forced draft with the result that there is little ash and practically no chinkers. Mr. Duncan tells me he heated his garage for two months, November and December, with 60 tons of slack costing him \$1.00 per ton at the mine.

*Mr. Hill:* Is that a heating or power plant?

*Mr. Creighton:* It is a heating plant, and I do not believe that any garage or building in Regina of the same size was heated for less than half as much more, at least. It is entirely due to the efficient boiler room and I claim that this Government has not got efficient plants and it is time they had.

In 1927, at Weyburn Mental Hospital, it cost \$32,000 for the freight alone and only \$23,000 for the coal. That is in round numbers. Some of you may smile, but I can prove that the Weyburn Mental Hospital can be heated for the cost of the freight alone. There were 10,474 tons bought at a total cost of \$55,000 and at the time nearly half of it was our coal. You say that nut slack costs \$2.00 a ton. I know that all kinds of bituminous and sub-bituminous slack costs \$2.00 a ton in Alberta, but I want to tell you that nut slack costs \$1.25 a ton at Bienfait and Estevan, and I will contract to give you 10,000 tons of slack at \$1.00 a ton any time, and the very cheapest kind of coal is what you should be using, and that is our slack. You say you are burning Saunders nut slack out behind here to heat these buildings. Well, I was out there before Christmas and consider it common ordinary slack with about a nut to the ton and that is what you should be burning—the cheapest, lowest grade of fuel you can possibly buy. The Canada Gas Company gets about 25,000 tons of our slack a year at \$1.00 per ton. They object to nut slack because it costs 25 cents more.

Weyburn Mental Hospital, the Parliament Buildings here, and the Fort Qu'Appelle Sanatorium should be heated with \$1.00 per ton slack. I judge it might take 2,000 tons more of our slack to heat Weyburn Mental Hospital than the total coal used in 1927; but figure the cost! Suppose it took 2,500 tons more making in all, say 13,000 tons! This coal costs \$1.00 at the pit mouth, there would be \$1.20 for freight and possibly there is a switching charge to the building, but 2½ cents per ton should cover that. That means that a ton would cost at the plant \$2.22½ per ton and for 13,000 tons put alongside the boiler house, the total cost would be \$28,930. Freight alone that year (1927) was \$32,000, or to be exact, \$31,936, consequently, I say, using our coal, Weyburn Mental Hospital could be heated at a cost less than the freight bill at the present time. I am convinced that with properly constructed boilers the Weyburn Hospital could be heated for \$25,000 a year whereas in 1927 the cost was \$55,000. For \$55,000 you can put 25,000 tons of our slack alongside the boiler house at Weyburn and I want to tell this Government that during the last ten years their engineer has been working for them, besides his salary he has cost this Province half a million dollars. Perhaps you do not believe that, but I say again his installation and heating methods cost you \$20,000 in 1926, at Weyburn alone, and, as I said before, I was going to embody in this Resolution a request that you get somebody who knows how to use lignite.

Mr. Blackburn, your engineer, and Mr. Smith came to Estevan last year after they had been to North Dakota, and while in Estevan they called on Donald Dunbar who owns the *Estevan Mercury*. Donald is a good Grit, and a good man—the two are usually combined. Here is what Donald had to say after that interview:

"Returning from a trip to the south, the Chief Engineer freely admitted to polite enquirers that he had seen a great light and that the prejudice which has for years obscured his vision, has passed like a bad dream and he now sees in the lowly lignite beds the salvation of the power problems of sunny Saskatchewan. As the Engineer has understood utilisation in the troubled past, it has appeared to be a matter of shovelling in a ton of fuel and hiring horse-power to cart away two tons of ashes. But, under the wing of the Deputy Minister of Public Works, he has toured through some of the Dakota power generating plants, where they have been juggling with lignite for years, using the right kind of stokers, and knowing how to adjust the boiler capacity to fit the proportion of black-jack in a ton of coal. He saw the engineers drop the steam pressure to next to nothing and shoot it up again to the top of the glass, just like that. And then he understood how it is that Dakota has been burning lignite for years in all its state institutions and power plants, while Saskatchewan has been importing fuel from Alberta while the mines at Estevan were on half-time. And he's now back in Regina telling them up there how it is all done. He did not say in exact words, but left the impression that before the next general elections, he will have the fame of Souris lignite spread from end to end of the Province, its cheery glow will radiate from the vice-regal fire-place, the steady boarders at the Weyburn bughouse will pelt their keepers with large hunks of it and Regina will build dry paths through its wastes of mud with its piles of clinkers."

*Hon. Dr. Uhrich:* Who wrote that?

*Mr. Creighton:* Donald Dunbar. The change of heart that Donald speaks about lasted until the engineer got as far back as Weyburn. After seeing real plants and coming back to that Weyburn one, I wonder that his own "child" did not break his heart! With reference to the heating plant out behind these buildings, you use Mercoal nut slack or slack at a cost of \$2.00 per ton and the freight is 24¾ cents per hundred or, say \$4.75 a ton, with a switching charge of, say 5 cents, so that it costs you a total of \$6.80 a ton to put it alongside the boiler house. What you should use in a properly constructed plant is Saskatchewan slack at \$1.00 per ton, the freight on which would be \$1.90, which with a 5 cents switching charge, would mean that you could place one ton of our coal at the boiler house at a cost of \$2.95, almost \$1.00 less than half the cost of the other. Our slack, no matter how you figure it out, has it "beat a mile," for the amount of

heat per dollar. I believe that, with a forced draft, this plant could use our coal. It is a fine room, all shined up, but as a modern heating plant it is a joke!

My opinion is that your engineer is responsible for the Government continuing the wasteful practice that has been kept up for years. He may be much maligned and misunderstood, but if so, the Government itself should take the responsibility off his shoulders and put him right. Last year, I accused him of ignorance and I am glad to remember that I withdrew the objectionable word, but I was very careful to say there was a lot he could learn about how to use lignite. Why does he not come down among the miners and see the managers and the miners, too? It should be part of his duty. In the eleven years of my experience down there, I have never heard of him interviewing the mine managers at Bienfait. Why does he not come down like Mr. Molloy, the Deputy Minister of Labour, Railways and Industry, does? Our friend Thomas sometimes tells us things we do not like, but we know he is trying to do something for the coal industry in this Province, and we, down there, appreciate him. One day, three or four years ago, in the office of Hon. A. P. McNab, then Minister of Public Works, I heard Mr. Smith say, "Oh, with that Souris coal you are shovelling more ashes than coal"—and that is the kind of man you send to investigate what can be done with our fuel, and worse, when they come back you take their word for it and act on their advice. That's not good enough!

In the fiscal year 1926-27, the Saskatchewan Government used 16,075 tons of Saskatchewan coal whereas, last year, the Government used 6,123 tons. Now, Sir, I contend the Government cannot make the miners and diggers in my district believe that the cut down is not a vindictive act and an effort to discipline a constituency that did not return a member who was championing their cause. Now that is not my personal opinion at all, but the Government should understand that the feeling really exists in that section of the Province, and it should be explained and remedied without throwing all the blame upon the coal. Another point, and I can tell you this truthfully—every man in the coal business down there believes that Mr. Blackburn has been a thorn in our flesh for years and years. They are all sore and the only way to heal the sore is to remove the thorn. Give him another job—do anything you like with him, but take him off our backs.

I recently attended a fuel conference at Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, and I can assure you there is ten times, possibly one hundred times, as much thought being given to improving methods of using coal as there is to improving methods of mining it. In Europe, the time is rapidly passing when coal is considered a product to be burned in the raw state. It is being considered as a raw material for manufacture, in fact, less than 50 per cent. of German coal is being burned in the raw state. We are a long way from that in our Province but it is time we gave more attention to methods of using our coal.

*Hon. Mr. Spence:* You are advocating something going away from modern practice, then?

*Mr. Creighton:* I am advocating improved methods of using our own raw coal. I think we, in the south, are justified in asking the Government to employ a fuel expert with special training in the use of lignite. I am sure the people in my district have not any desire to go on having to ask the Government for a little bit of their business—a few crumbs from the rich man's table as it were. They would as soon that you told us to go some place, and eliminate us from your transactions altogether. Then we would understand each other.

I have read the October number of the *Public Service Monthly* in which appeared the speech of the Honourable Minister of Railways, Labour and Industries (*Hon. Mr. Spence*) to the delegates attending the Annual Convention of the Dominion Mortgage and Investment Association here, in Regina, in which he stated as follows:

"Unfortunately our coal is all lignite which is a low grade of coal and difficult of utilisation containing as much as 30 per cent. moisture \* \* \* When mined and exposed to the air and sunlight the evaporation of water causes the coal to disintegrate and slack very rapidly. It also fires quickly from spontaneous combustion making it impossible to ship long distances or to store for any great length of time in its raw state."

After seeing that, I met Herbert Wallace of the Eastern Collieries, and Mr. Garner, of the Big Lump Coal Company, and they evidently had read it, too, because when I said to them: "What are you fellows digging that stuff you call coal, for? Has not the Minister of Industries told you that you cannot ship it far and when you do it is liable to burn itself up on the road!" They knew to what I was referring. These men are both good Liberals. One used to be, and one is now, a Sunday School teacher, but from the answers they gave me I know neither of them should ever have been in the Sunday School business. As a matter of fact, we could ship our coal to Toronto if we could get the market, and, as I have already said, it goes as far as Redditt, 140 miles east of Winnipeg. Now, to those of you who have been reading that article I might just say that spontaneous combustion occurs only in piles of coal over ten feet deep and requires at least six weeks before such combustion takes place, and usually three months. It results from air getting to the base of the pile, especially when the top is covered by fine coal, or if there is a stick of wood, a rod or lumps at the bottom along which air can travel to the centre of the pile, then oxidation takes place there. The heat cannot get away through the "fines" at the top and as it increases it reaches a point where combustion takes place. However, you cannot conceive of that occurring in a car of coal unless the car were left on a siding for several months. I do not think that any railway company has ever had a car damaged by fire from spontaneous combustion.

I also read in *The Regina Post* of December 26, 1928, a statement to the effect that lignite cannot be shipped in the raw state to any great distance as it is liable to spontaneous combustion, and that it can only be used commercially a few miles from the pit mouth.

*Hon. Mr. Davis:* Who said that?

*Mr. Creighton:* *The Regina Post*, or *The Public Service Monthly*. But 39 cars of our coal were shipped to Redditt and we could ship it to Toronto if we could get a market. Reading that article, you will say "Some of this is true." Of course some of it is true. What we object to is the impression that can be read into it, which, I say, should not come from the Minister of Railways, Labour and Industries, even though he be boosting briquettes. It is not necessary to "knoek" and injure the rest of us in order to "boost" briquettes.

There is one heat unit which we all understand and which never fails to impress—the dollar unit—and that is the amount of heat you get for a dollar. In big plants for which our fuel is especially suited, it has a direct relation to steam production. That is, the amount of steam produced for a dollar or the amount of water evaporated. You will remember I told you that a B.T.U. was the amount of heat required to raise one pound of water one degree Fahrenheit. So you will see that the B.T.U. and the dollar have a direct relationship and to us the dollar is the unit "par excellence."

The Manitoba Government found that for one dollar they could produce 2,598 pounds of steam with Souris slack, 1,587 pounds with Saunders slack, 1,470 pounds with Drumheller slack and 1,565 with Youghioghenny slack. You cannot evaporate the same amount of water with a pound of our coal as you can with a pound of these other coals, but you must remember that the price of a pound of our coal to the points I have named will more than make up the difference. The cost of coal, water evaporated and steam produced are all interchangeable just as in electricity, the Horse-Power Hour and the Kilowatt Hour, or the Ohm, the Ampere and the Volt are interchangeable and at the bottom of it all is the dollar unit.

Now, in considering this resolution, the dollar is the only unit that should be considered, and it is to be remembered that Manitoba produced more than one thousand pounds of steam, more per dollar's worth of Souris coal than from any other coal tested. The Weyburn Mental Hospital plant, with the plant that heats these Legislative Buildings, uses more than half the coal purchased by the Government. We want to supply these plants, because, I believe, it would effect an economy. Then, in the case of the plant behind these buildings, I would like to see one that would show what really can be done with Saskatchewan lignite. A plant can be installed that would produce a great roaring mass of flame and heat with Saskatchewan slack. It would be an example of what can be done with our coal, and would probably mean an increased consumption of thousands of tons annually. It is up to some one to do it, and this Liberal Government, I feel, can and should do it. Therefore, seconded by the honourable member for Hanley (*Mr. Stipe*), I will move the following Resolution:

"That this Assembly request the Government, within the next three years to arrange to use Saskatchewan fuel exclusively in the heating plants in all Governmental buildings situated south of and on the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, east of and including Moose Jaw."

THE HONOURABLE J. M. UHRICH, M.D.

(Minister of Public Works and Public Health)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 10, 1929.

Mr. Speaker,—I am sure that the House has been very much interested in the remarks of my honourable friend, the member for Estevan, (*Mr. Creighton*) on this, let us say, somewhat contentious subject. However, I wish to disabuse his mind regarding certain matters.

First of all the Government is not “knocking” Souris coal. Nor is it “boosting” Alberta coal. I intend just to say a few words regarding the subject of this Resolution.

May I bring to the attention of the House the fact, that the Government is not and never has been antagonistic to Souris coal. I think this is a wrong impression which, if it is rampant in the Estevan district, is rampant in that district alone. When we look up the records we find that many Government institutions in the southern part of the Province do use this coal. I am sure that my honourable friend, the member from Estevan, would not advise that we could use Souris coal economically in the Battleford Mental Hospital.

The amounts of Souris coal burned in Government institutions in the southern part of the Province, during the past fiscal year were as follows:

Police Building, Regina.....	378 tons
Normal School, Regina.....	902 “
Land Titles Office, Regina.....	204 “
Provincial Gaol, Regina.....	1,253 “
Court House, Moose Jaw.....	168 “
Home for Infirm, Wolseley.....	419 “
Weyburn Mental Hospital.....	2,649 “
Weyburn Police Building.....	150 “
Total.....	6,123 tons

These figures I claim show that the Government is not antagonistic to the use of Souris coal. There are only two institutions in the southern portion of the Province in which Souris coal is not exclusively burned. These are, the Weyburn Mental Hospital and the power-house of the Parliament Buildings.

I might inform my honourable friend that so far as the Sanatoria are concerned, the Government has nothing whatever to do with the buying of fuel for the reason that they are operated by the Anti-Tuberculosis League. We are not burning any Souris coal in the power-house of the Legislative Building. I did not happen to be a member of the Legislature at the time, but I have been informed that the engineers who supplied those grates told us that they could be used to burn Souris coal. After the grates had been installed, however, a trial was made of burning Souris coal and the fires went out. It was found it could not be used, and I think my honourable friend will agree that Souris coal cannot be used with the grates installed in the power-house at present.

Now, coming to the Weyburn Mental Hospital, some years ago I told the Superintendent there to try Souris coal exclusively. They have four boilers, and Souris coal was tried out with the result that fires died out and the pipes froze up. They cannot, with the equipment in the Mental Hospital power-house, economically and efficiently use Souris coal, but yet a certain percentage is used even in the winter time—I have said 2,649 tons were used there last winter.

I must congratulate my honourable friend from Estevan on the very intensive study he has made of the question. I think he is one of the best informed men in Western Canada on all questions bearing on the use of coal. I do not pretend to know one quarter as much as he knows about this, but what I do know is the practical end of it—what it costs us to heat our buildings and what it costs other Governments using Souris coal for that service.

For instance, I find that my honourable friend, the member for Hanley (*Mr. Stipe*), the seconder of this Resolution, made the statement that Souris coal is used very economically in the Selkirk Mental Hospital in Manitoba. Perhaps he will be surprised to hear that the cost for fuel, light and power in the Selkirk Mental Hospital in 1926 was \$56,999.19, to furnish the same service that we are supplying at Weyburn, whereas in the Weyburn Mental Hospital our total cost was \$41,090.17 or a difference of \$14,000 between the two institutions for the same service.

*Mr. Creighton:* Might I ask what it cost at Brandon?

*Hon. Mr. Uhrich:* Yes, I've got that. I might compare the two services. I believe my honourable friend will admit that, until last year, there was no person in Western Canada recognised as a practical authority who could tell us how to use Souris coal and use it economically and efficiently. I pause for a reply. We went to Manitoba, to Selkirk and Brandon and got

these figures, and we found, comparing the Selkirk costs with the Weyburn costs that we were \$14,000 ahead. My honourable friend asks about the Brandon Mental Hospital. Well, in 1926 their cost for fuel, light and power at Brandon was \$58,383.92 and our cost was \$41,090.17, an even more favourable comparison, for it is over \$17,000 more than the cost of fuel, light and power at Weyburn.

*Mr. Stipe:* What was the difference in the mileage haul for freight?

*Hon. Mr. Uhrich:* I could not tell you that without looking it up.

*Mr. Stipe:* A difference of 100 miles?

*Hon. Mr. Uhrich:* Yes. There you are. It would be much more expensive for Manitoba to use Alberta coal because of the freight rates. But at the same time my honourable friend from Estevan remarked they used 10,000 tons of American coal in Manitoba and I fully expected my honourable friend, the junior member for Saskatoon (*Mr. McConnell*), to arise in his place and pour the vials of his wrath upon him for that statement. Probably he did not hear that—10,000 tons of American coal!

*Mr. Creighton:* Not last year, Sir. I said there might be 5,000 or 6,000 tons, but they cut down Alberta and there may be 10,000 tons this year.

*Hon. Mr. Uhrich:* Six thousand tons, then, we will say, of American coal last year. I wish my honourable friend, the junior member for Saskatoon, would put that some place where he can use it when out on the hustings.

I was rather surprised, Mr. Speaker—not that I would for one minute question any figures produced here by my honourable friend, but he will be surprised if I tell him that our Souris coal costs us \$2.20 a ton at the mine when we are paying for Alberta coal from \$1.20 to \$1.75 at the mine.

*Mr. Stipe:* Same quality and everything?

*Hon. Mr. Uhrich:* Yes, same quality and a better quality than we used to get. He tells us that he can sell us Souris coal at \$1.10 a ton. Well, it is a great surprise to me, because it costs us double that, and rates 7,000 B.T.U. I am aware, of course, that the difference we find in the B.T.U.'s between the coal we purchase and Souris coal is not the real cause why we are not using more in the power-house of the Parliament Buildings and at the Weyburn Mental Hospital. The trouble has been that nobody in this Province, (including the honourable member for Estevan) up to this year, has been able to show us a practical solution of how to burn this coal.

It is true that, in the past year, I have sent my Deputy Minister (*Mr. J. M. Smith*) and Mr. Blackburn (the much-maligned engineer) down to North Dakota to study conditions down there. I was under the impression that Souris coal could be used and if it can, I am sure I, as Minister of Public Works, would be only too anxious to do so. I am not at all anxious to use Alberta coal. The very fact we are burning Souris coal in most of the institutions in the southern part of the Province is proof of that.

We sent Mr. Blackburn and Mr. Smith down to study conditions regarding the burning of lignite down there and they came back with great facts. Mr. Blackburn came to my office and said, "For the first time I have seen Souris coal used the right way." Hitherto nobody here has been able to show us how to use it efficiently and economically.

I have given you some facts in regard to the Brandon and Selkirk fuel bills to show that they are \$15,000 or \$20,000 higher than that of our own Mental Hospital. We want to use Souris coal—not a member of the Government but was anxious to find out how to do this in a practical way. I asked Mr. Blackburn this question: "How much will it cost to change the grates at Weyburn so we can use Souris coal?" He told me it would cost \$75,000 to have the proper equipment put in—the sum which my honourable friend has mentioned. I asked him, "What will it cost to make the change in the power-house behind the Parliament Building?" He said, "\$70,000." I told him right there—"If you say it can be used efficiently, there is no reason why we should not use it," and I authorised the Department to make those changes in the power-house at Weyburn and at the Parliament Building in order that we might burn Souris coal exclusively, though it entailed an expenditure of \$150,000. But, late in the fall, a delegation of Souris coal men met us and told us that shortly after the New Year they would be ready to supply lignite in briquettes and consequently it would not be necessary to make those changes at Weyburn and at the power-house here in order to burn Souris coal.

*Mr. Creighton:* Might I ask the names of those gentlemen?

*Hon. Mr. Uhrich:* Well, they are the men in charge of the briquetting plant down there.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* Western Dominion Collieries.

*Hon. Mr. Uhrich:* We told them then that we would take their initial output, 20,000 tons, and we will give it a thorough trial. There is exactly where the thing stands now. So, Mr. Speaker, I do not think it is quite fair to these men and to the Government to accuse us of knock-



ing Souris coal. I would like to ask the honourable, the junior member for Saskatoon, (*Mr. McConnell*) whether he burns Souris coal in his own home. We are not knocking Souris coal. We have tried all these years to find an authority to show us how this coal could be used in the power-house at the building here and at Weyburn.

As far as Battleford is concerned, I do not think my honourable friend from Estevan would even argue that we can use Souris coal economically there with Alberta coal costing us, at the mine, \$1.75 a ton plus the freight. The freight from the mine to Battleford is not very high.

I was rather surprised at the information conveyed by my honourable friend from Estevan regarding the heat contents of some of our coal—7,000 B.T.U. in Souris coal. One ton of Souris coal costs us \$4.20, freight and all. That is the average cost at points where we use it in the southern part of the Province. One ton of Souris at \$4.20 gives us 7,000 B.T.U.'s. Each ton of Alberta bituminous costs us \$5.44 with a calorific value of 11,400 B.T.U. (Of course my honourable friend from Estevan does not agree with that). So I can say \$4.20 worth of Souris coal would give us 7,000 B.T.U.'s while \$5.40 worth of Alberta coal gives us 11,400 B.T.U.'s. There is the difference. But, in spite of all this we have been trying sincerely to use this coal. We have not used quite as much as Manitoba but as shown from the figures I gave you, outside of the two institutions mentioned, we have used a large amount of Souris coal.

The member for Hanley (*Mr. Stipe*), told us that Selkirk is using it efficiently, but we have figures to show they are not using it efficiently. As a consequence, we rather hesitated. We have information now and if it is possible to burn briquettes of Souris coal I can assure every member that we are going to burn Souris coal in the buildings in the southern part of the Province.

*Mr. MacPherson*: The report that the engineer brought from North Dakota was that they were burning Souris coal in the form of briquettes?

*Hon. Mr. Uhrich*: No. They were burning Dakota lignite, which my honourable friend tells me is inferior to our coal. But if we are able to get the B.T.U.'s out of the briquettes and not be put to the expenditure of \$150,000 to change the grates, I think that would be the wisest way to use Souris coal. Further, Sir, I will say that any public building in course of construction at the present time will be equipped to burn Souris coal. Take the Normal School at Moose Jaw—we are putting in the equipment there and such equipment will be put in every public institution where Souris coal can be economically burned.

Just a few words more! I was rather surprised, as I said, when I got these figures regarding Manitoba institutions. I had listened to some of the remarks in the Legislature to the effect that these institutions in Manitoba were heated by Souris coal and wherein it was used economically. I was surprised when I heard it was a real "Bonanza" to them, and I could not understand why it was that we could not use it here. I thought they had the necessary equipment to burn it. I deduced they had installed the proper grates. But when I saw these figures, that it cost \$15,000 to \$20,000 more to supply the same services, I thought that our judgment was not so very bad.

Some very critical remarks have been made regarding our engineer, Mr. Blackburn, and I think I can say, with very little fear of contradiction, that Mr. Blackburn is looked upon by the whole engineering fraternity of Canada as one of the ablest engineers in Canada and from the information that he procured for me I am inclined to think that is right. I subscribe to what the honourable member from Estevan has said—"The dollar unit is the only unit." I support that contention. Therefore, I think before we lay in an equipment that costs us \$150,000 we should try out the Souris coal in the form of briquettes.

Taking all these facts into consideration, I would therefore move an amendment to this resolution, seconded by Hon. Mr. Latta:

That all the words after "That" in the first line be struck out and the following substituted: "this Assembly request the Government to arrange to use Saskatchewan fuel in the heating plants of all Government buildings as extensively and as soon as possible."

## SPEECHES

ON

### THE BUDGET

THE HONOURABLE W. J. PATTERSON

*(Provincial Treasurer and Minister of Telephones and Telegraphs)*

THURSDAY, JANUARY 17, 1929.

Mr. Speaker,—In moving that you do now leave the chair that the House may go into Committee of Supply, it again becomes my duty to present to the House a resumé of the financial affairs of the Province. While I may not be able to maintain the record for brevity established a year ago, I will try not to be overly long or unduly indulge the patience of the House.

#### AGRICULTURAL CONDITIONS.

As has already been stated in the Speech from the Throne, Saskatchewan produced in 1928 the largest crop in its history. The wheat crop is estimated at 245,410,000 bushels, which is the largest wheat crop produced in any State or Province in the whole world. Oats and barley also show a considerable increase in number of bushels produced. Unfortunately, early frosts were rather general throughout the Province and caused serious loss both in yield and grade. As a result of the frost damage, together with a general lowering of price levels, the total value of field crops, estimated at \$315,000,000, is \$34,000,000 less than the value in 1927.

A decrease in the number of livestock is more than offset by improved prices and better quality. Horses alone show a decrease in both numbers and value, while cattle and swine, although reduced in number, are greater in value due to higher prices.

Dairy production was approximately the same as in the preceding year but the average price paid for butterfat was over 2c a pound higher.

Eggs, poultry, honey and other sundry products show a substantial increase.

I would ask permission to have published as a schedule to this address the usual statement giving details of agricultural production for the year; and in general feel safe in stating that we may from now on expect each year a larger return from livestock, dairy and sundry farm products.

#### RAILWAY AND BUILDING CONSTRUCTION.

The past year has been marked by a large increase in building, especially in the cities and large towns of the Province. Building permits for the year in the three cities, Regina, Moose Jaw and Saskatoon alone, amounted to \$13,500,000, while the total construction for the Province is estimated to have been \$22,000,000, which is very nearly double the figure for 1927.

Both of our large railway systems added considerably to their mileage within the Province in 1928. The C.P.R. laid 283 miles of steel, the C.N.R. 189 miles, and we now have in Saskatchewan a total railway mileage of 7,820 miles. Both Companies have announced extensive programmes for 1929, and this year will see very great activity in railway construction. The early completion of the Hudson Bay Railway means the realisation of a hope long held by the people of the West and every day the people of Canada as a whole are more and more convinced of the practicability of that road. With the opening up of the Hudson Bay outlet and the development of the north country, the next few years will undoubtedly see the construction of many north and south lines and a general change in the whole railway map of the Province.

#### MINING.

During the debate on the Speech from the Throne the House was told of some of the further mineral discoveries made in Northern Saskatchewan during the past year. Undoubtedly we have tremendous resources in a part of the Province which a few years ago was considered of little value. Further exploration, railway development and capital investment will be required to make these resources productive of wealth, but there is no one who now doubts the possibilities of the north land and the various requirements for its development will undoubtedly be forthcoming. The public must remember, however, that mineral development requires time as well as capital before production is possible, and returns from this source should not be expected too soon.

Good progress has been made at the Flin Flon. A railway has been built connecting the mine with the Hudson Bay Railway. Construction is being proceeded with at the mine, and an early start will be made on the power development in Saskatchewan at Island Falls on the Churchill River. That mighty river, which for centuries has known only the canoes of the trapper and the bateaux of the trader; which has for those centuries been an important factor in a civilisation simple and primitive and soon to be harnessed and controlled as a part of a newer and a more complex civilisation, will contribute in a different way to Saskatchewan's development and growth.

#### OTHER INDUSTRIES.

Probably the most interesting as well as the most important event of the past year was the industrial development which took place in the Province. For many years we have had in Saskatchewan many manufacturing plants, mostly using provincial products, such as flour mills, packing plants, and brick and tile works. In 1928 a number of concerns of national and international character, having investigated the possibilities of the West, decided to locate here and completed or have under construction, plants and factories which from now on will tremendously increase our output of manufactured goods. That confidence in the future of our Province which was evidenced by the construction of such plants as that of the General Motors in Regina is, I feel certain, also held by many others.

It would surprise many people to know the number and variety of products now manufactured in the Province. For instance, we have factories producing hats, knitted goods, bedding, brooms, polishes, chemical products, and numerous other articles. The factories producing these articles are, generally speaking, comparatively small, but they demonstrate the possibilities in the Province. We remember that many of what are now Ontario's largest factories were started in a very humble way not so many years ago; there is no reason why we may not expect similar growth here. While agriculture is and will continue to be our great industry, the increasing production of factories and mines will help to stabilise our economic structure and should make towards a better balanced condition for both producer and consumer. With all these facts in mind are we not justified, Mr. Speaker, in being not only confident but enthusiastic about the future of our Province. A Province which offers opportunities for all who are prepared to contribute honest effort towards its growth and development.

#### PROVINCIAL FINANCES.

I propose now, Sir, to deal with the finances of the Province and following the same practice as a year ago, will first consider the records of the last completed fiscal period, that is, the fiscal year ended April 30th, 1928.

In that fiscal year, revenue account shows cash receipts \$13,495,642.77 and expenditures \$13,449,632.37. Including the cash surplus brought forward from the previous year we now have, therefore, an accumulated cash surplus of \$137,856.66.

The cash receipts for the year under consideration include the sum of \$600,000 from liquor profits, the same amount as was taken in the preceding year. Critics of the Government's financial policy say "If they had not taken this sum from liquor profits, there would have been a deficit. It is very easy to finance a Province where you merely have to take a sufficient sum from the liquor profits to balance." That is true, Mr. Speaker, it is very much easier to finance a Province where only a third of the liquor profits are taken into revenue account, than to finance a Province where there is still a deficit after the whole of the liquor profits are taken into revenue. Every other Province in Canada uses all of its liquor profits for revenue and not all of them even then balance their budget. But it is also true that there are other sources of revenue such as taxes on income, amusements or personal property, not now levied in Saskatchewan and which could be utilised for revenue if necessary.

The only item of revenue in which there was any considerable increase during the period under review as compared with the previous year was "motor licenses," receipts from this source being greater by \$750,000 in 1927-28 than in 1926-27. This is only partly accounted for by the number of new cars. The very mild weather last winter made winter driving general and many licenses were purchased several months earlier than usual. With different weather conditions it would be quite possible that the revenue from this source during the current fiscal year would not show any increase over last year despite the fact that the number of motor vehicles in use is constantly increasing.

The reduction in the public revenue levy announced by the Premier two years ago is, of course, reflected in the returns from that source and receipts were more than \$400,000 less, representing a very substantial tax reduction to the land owners of the Province. Wild lands tax collections were also lower by approximately \$100,000. The reduction in these two items very largely offsets the increase in motor licenses previously referred to.

Expenditures in 1927-28 were approximately \$500,000 greater than in the previous year. This is practically all to be found in four Departments, Education increasing \$440,000, Agriculture \$50,000, Public Health \$20,000 and Child Protection \$30,000.

Mr. Speaker, we frequently hear criticism of the present day cost of Government and comparisons are made with expenditures of fifteen or twenty years ago. Such comparisons are entirely unfair and are not informative to the enquiring citizen who is anxious to get proper and honest facts from which he may arrive at a just conclusion. Comparisons of 1928 with 1908 or even with 1918 are not proper for at least three important reasons; firstly, allowance is not made for the increase of both population and settled area, secondly, Governments today are giving a great many services unthought of twenty years ago, thirdly, the purchasing value of the dollar has depreciated.

I propose to make some comparisons between the expenditures for the fiscal years 1920-21 and 1927-28. The year 1920-21 has been chosen because a period of eight years is a sufficient time to indicate the results of a general policy; because 1920-21 was the first year in which our present rates of school grants were in operation, and that is our largest single item of expenditure, and because most of the services given today had then been established, although some of them not on so large a scale. In a general way the comparison of these two fiscal years takes into account the three principles already outlined better than any other two years that may be chosen.

In 1920-21 Saskatchewan's expenditure on revenue account was \$12,151,665.38, in 1927-28 it was \$13,449,632.37, an increase in the eight years of \$1,300,000 in round figures. Now, Sir, I wish to be fair and would point out that in 1920-21 there was an extraordinary expenditure of approximately \$400,000 made by the Department of Agriculture in connection with the destruction of grasshoppers for which allowance should be made; in addition the advance accounts of the King's Printer and the Highways Department show a difference in turnover of approximately \$300,000. I must, therefore, be prepared to submit an explanation for an increase in expenditure of \$2,000,000.

The greater portion of these increases is to be found in three Departments. Education increased a little more than \$1,400,000, Public Health \$225,000 and Child Protection \$300,000. The majority of these amounts is made up of statutory grants to schools, to the University, to hospitals and for mothers' allowances as the following figures show:

	1920-21	1927-28
Grants to Public Schools.....	\$1,275,000	\$2,363,000
Grants for Secondary Education.....	116,000	148,000
Grants for Vocational Education.....	9,000	38,000
Grants to University.....	525,000	615,000
<b>Total Education Grants.....</b>	<b>\$1,925,000</b>	<b>\$3,164,000</b>
Grants to Hospitals.....	259,000	468,000
Mothers' Allowances.....	103,000	355,000
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$2,287,000</b>	<b>\$3,987,000</b>

In effect, Mr. Speaker, every dollar of these increases in expenditure during the past eight years was uncontrollable and was not expended by the Government, but was returned by the Government to be expended by the people themselves through their school and hospital organisations or individually by deserving mothers.

May I also point out that nearly half a million dollars of the amount paid out in Educational grants in 1920-21 was collected by means of the Supplementary Revenue Tax, which has been abolished without any corresponding reduction in School Grants.

In the interval, no important governmental service has been reduced. On the contrary, existing services have been enlarged and new ones created. A new normal school has been established at Moose Jaw, a sanatorium constructed at Saskatoon, and a mental hospital at Weyburn, then in course of construction, is now in operation (and I regret to report is filled to capacity). Provision has been made at Wolseley for the aged and infirm. Scholarships have been granted to the children of deceased and disabled soldiers, correspondence instruction arranged for pupils in unorganised districts, the distribution of travelling libraries increased and the Open Shelf Library established. The inspection of schools, the distribution of School Readers, the supervision of Public Health and the various services rendered by the Department of Agriculture have all been enlarged to meet the needs of our growing population and the pushing back of our frontier. Yet we can say that every dollar more paid into the Treasury today than eight years ago is, over and above what the public then received in similar grants, returned to them to be expended by them and not by the Government for Education, Health and Social Welfare.

Charges of extravagance, waste and incompetence do not carry very far in the face of such facts.

But, Mr. Speaker, it may be said that I have chosen 1920-21 for purposes of comparison because its figures are favourable for the purpose. Well the records of any other year will prove my argument just as well. Conditions today are very different from even 1917-18, both as to the service being given and the scale of grants being paid. Our expenditures last year were a lot greater than those of ten years ago, but comparison of the accounts for these years shows that the increases are all for developmental services, and that the greater part of the amount is returned to be expended directly by the people themselves.

A few months ago the Dominion Bureau of Statistics published a report comparing the financial statements of the various Provinces. Saskatchewan's position was the subject of much favourable comment in Eastern papers, and the *Monetary Times* of Toronto in its issue of August 31st, 1928, said:

"Saskatchewan stands lowest of all the Provinces west of Quebec in per capita 'ordinary receipts' and 'ordinary expenditures,' is lowest of every Province west of New Brunswick in the amount of annual interest payments and is lowest of all the Provinces west of New Brunswick in the amount of its bonded debt. This position is based on the financial standing of the Province as at April 30th, 1927."

The same report also gives the following figures of per capita receipts and expenditures:

	Receipts	Expenditures
Saskatchewan.....	\$15.61	\$15.51
Manitoba.....	17.92	16.15
Alberta.....	19.88	20.23
British Columbia.....	35.23	33.75
Ontario.....	17.67	17.50

The per capita receipts and expenditures of a Province are an indication of its taxation and the cost of its Government. The figures just quoted speak for themselves.

#### DISTRIBUTION OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES.

In connection with the schedules which will be attached to the printed report of this speech and which show revenues and expenditures distributed under the usual classifications, it will be noted that with regard to Revenue, the percentage from Taxation is down 5%, and the percentage from licenses is up 5%. These changes are due to the reduction in the former and the increase in the latter which I have already explained. Taking the distribution of expenditures we again find developmental services overshadowing all others and accounting for 76.68% of all expenditure. In other words, out of every dollar that this Government expended, and no matter from what source it was collected, over 76 cents is spent for education, public health, the promotion of agriculture and industry, or some other form of service which is for the health, well-being and prosperity of the people of Saskatchewan.

#### CURRENT FISCAL YEAR.

The revenues for the present fiscal year have been better than was anticipated when the estimates were passed at the last session. Had the Government adhered closely to those estimates we would probably have a very large cash surplus at the close of this year. We felt that it would be better to enlarge certain of the public services, particularly "Highways" and this policy has been approved by the House in voting the Supplementary Estimates. The revenue from the gasoline tax will run somewhat over the amount estimated last session, but it is as yet impossible to say what the total will be. For some time now the applications for refunds have exceeded the revenues coming in. While it is generally accepted that there should be a system of refunds of gasoline tax where mechanical power is so generally used, I would point out that the thousands of applications for refunds which are received make the cost of handling these refunds actually greater than the cost of collecting the tax itself, and requires larger staffs in the Departments of the Provincial Secretary and of the Provincial Treasurer, including the Audit Office.

#### PUBLIC DEBT.

The public debt of the Province stands today at \$60,990,232.22 of which \$25,217,485.82 is self supporting. The net debt is \$35,772,746.40.

The Public Debt was contracted for the following purposes:

Public Buildings.....	\$19,084,622.75
Public Improvements.....	16,519,768.43
Telephones.....	11,397,587.23
Farm Loan Board.....	9,321,983.57
Saskatchewan Pool Elevators.....	2,425,218.63
Saskatchewan Co-operative Creameries.....	672,831.30
Drainage Districts.....	384,099.58
Sundry Purposes.....	1,184,120.69

The criticism that our net debt is larger than a year ago will no doubt be advanced. Well, Mr. Speaker, this Legislature cannot vote Capital Expenditures without the Public Debt being thereby increased. So long as we are required to spend money for necessary public buildings and improvements, we must use the credit of the Province to procure the funds. In a young and developing Province the requirements naturally are greater than in an older and settled one, and we in Saskatchewan have still a great deal to do. No one can object to expenditures and debt increases occasioned by the construction of a normal school or a tubercular sanatorium, both

urgently required in the public interest. Mental hospitals must be enlarged for the increasing number of patients, and who will criticise the Government for making plans for an institution for the education of the deaf.

In the matter of highway construction the Government has followed a sound and proper policy. Only those expenditures which are for improvements of a permanent nature are charged to Capital, while revenue account provides for surfacing and similar items, although in many States such work is also paid out of Capital.

A public debt kept within reasonable limits and in fair proportion to the wealth of the state is entirely justifiable if it complies with two general principles, first, that it has been used for proper purposes, and second, that it has been expended honestly and efficiently. On both of these rules we are prepared to justify the Public Debt of this Province.

Saskatchewan stands third lowest of all Canadian Provinces with respect to both gross and net per capita debt. The following figures, giving the figures for each Province are from a recent handbook issued by the Dominion Securities Corporation and there can be no suggestion of unfairness or partisanship in their preparation. I understand that the figures are based on the Public Debt of each Province at the close of its last fiscal year and the estimated population in 1928:

	Gross Debt	Per Capita	Net Debt	Per Capita
British Columbia.....	\$106,351,130.00	\$182.42	\$71,703,779.00	\$122.99
Alberta.....	90,899,816.00	143.85	59,712,115.00	94.49
Manitoba.....	74,850,067.00	114.28	32,199,442.00	49.16
Ontario.....	326,350,000.00	101.06	140,303,000.00	43.45
New Brunswick.....	37,593,056.00	90.59	29,967,151.00	72.21
Nova Scotia.....	40,708,457.00	74.42	27,540,555.00	50.35
Saskatchewan.....	58,492,730.00	68.73	33,830,703.00	39.75
Quebec.....	79,212,226.00	29.93	56,168,951.00	21.22
Prince Edward Island.....	1,933,000.00	22.37	1,447,294.00	16.75

#### BOND ISSUES AND SINKING FUNDS.

No issue of bonds has been made since the House last met. The bond market has been very uncertain and interest rates higher. We are in a very favourable position as no refunding was or is necessary. The first issue of bonds maturing falls due in 1931 but is for \$500,000 only and will be paid off at maturity. The next issue maturing is not due until September 1st, 1932. In the meantime current capital requirements are financed by Treasury Bills, for which we have a very satisfactory arrangement with our bankers, and we will not require to go on the market until conditions are more settled. Saskatchewan bonds are closely held and few of them are offered in the brokers' lists.

Following the announced policy of the Government, ten per cent. of the liquor profits is being transferred to the General Sinking Fund. The total of the sinking funds now held for all purposes is \$2,476,288. Taking advantage of the rates prevailing during recent months the General Sinking Fund Trustees have purchased over \$1,000,000 of Saskatchewan bonds at very favourable prices and which will provide an average return of approximately 4¾% per annum.

#### ESTIMATES 1929-30.

The estimates for the coming year are now before the House. No changes in taxation are suggested and increases in expected revenue, outside of liquor profits, are only those incidental to growth and development.

The items of capital expenditure are for purposes which will, I feel certain, meet with unanimous approval.

The expenditures from Revenue Account are considerably larger than those voted by the House one year ago, but if allowance is made for the Supplementary Estimates recently voted, the difference is not very great.

As anticipated, the cost of Old Age Pensions is considerably increased and \$572,750 is required for this purpose; one-half of the pension pay-roll is recovered from the Federal Government. Increases for Education, Public Health and Child Protection are largely statutory, while provision is made for the operation of the Power Commission and enlarged services by the Department of Agriculture.

There may be criticism of the revenue being made more dependent upon liquor profits, and I am well aware that we must avoid the position where essential public services are dependent on this source of revenue for their maintenance.

While statutory grants for schools, hospitals and similar purposes are constant in good or bad years, expenditures on highways and for the development of agriculture and industry may properly be increased during prosperous times and the money so spent will usually result in further increases of revenue.

Then, as I have already pointed out, we have other sources of revenue not now made use of which could be levied upon if the people at any time decided to withdraw from the liquor business.

#### HIGHWAYS EXPENDITURE.

The capitalisation of the revenue from motor licenses and gasoline tax to be used for the construction of highways has frequently been advocated by members of the Opposition. I do not believe it would be wise to do this. In the first place, transportation methods are changing too rapidly these days for it to be good business to capitalise a form of revenue which may either greatly increase or decrease within a few years.

Then we have already made a considerable capital expenditure on highways and the interest and sinking fund charges amounting to \$700,000 should be taken into account. These charges would absorb a large part of the revenue from the gasoline tax.

But a more serious objection is that the form of highway construction for which it is suggested this money should be used is not one for which capital moneys should properly be expended. The construction of any type of highway from capital account established a definite charge for maintenance quite as positive and equally as great as the charges for interest and sinking fund purposes. The fact is frequently and conveniently forgotten by advocates of a huge construction policy, and the adoption of such a policy would in a term of years create a total public debt far, far greater than would be justified by any advantages temporarily secured.

I ask the House to take note of this fact in connection with the estimates now before it. The total estimated revenue from motor licenses and gasoline taxation, after deducting the interest on that portion of the public debt created for public improvements (highways and bridges), is being voted for expenditures on highways from revenue account. If during the coming year, revenues again exceed our anticipations, we will again consider increasing the amount to be spent for this purpose.

#### FARM LOAN BOARD.

The books of the Farm Loan Board are closed on the 31st of December in each year, but the Auditor's report for 1928 has not yet been completed. I hope to have it in time to lay on the table before the Session closes, and feel certain that when available it will show the year's operations to have been very satisfactory, inasmuch as all interest due to the Treasury has been paid and in addition the total advances made for administration purposes have been reduced.

#### CO-OPERATIVE CREAMERIES.

The Auditor's report on the Saskatchewan Co-operative Creameries is not yet to hand, but I am advised by those in charge of the Company's management that satisfactory progress has been made and further reductions effected in operating costs. While butter production was slightly smaller than in 1927, the Company manufactured a larger percentage of the total Saskatchewan output. The sales of whole milk, ice cream and other dairy products increased, and the economies effected in operating costs were passed on to the producers in the form of higher prices for butterfat.

#### THE BALANCE SHEET.

The Balance Sheet of the Province as at April 30, 1928, shows a surplus of assets over liabilities of \$35,000,000. We were told in a previous debate that this is composed largely of the Dominion Debt Allowance and the School Lands Fund. Business concerns create reserves and surpluses by setting aside portions of their profits, and this is being done by those governmental organisations that are operating commercial activities, such as the Telephone Department, the Liquor Board and the Farm Loan Board. But, Mr. Speaker, we cannot speak of a Government operating at a profit. The people of this or any other Province would not willingly pay taxes, not necessary for carrying on the work of Government, in order to create a surplus on the balance sheet. If we were to prepare our records on a "revenue" basis, the surplus would be considerably larger than is shown, but we are following British precedent and what we believe to be the safest practice in presenting the Public Accounts on the "cash" basis.

I have seen reports of public meetings where opposition speakers added the Contingent Liabilities to the Public Debt and then proceeded to prove (?) that the Province did not have any surplus at all, a proceeding which showed greater political acumen than business ability.

We have Contingent Liabilities in Saskatchewan but practically all of them, some \$27,000,000, is by way of guarantee of bonds issued for the construction of branch lines of railways, which

branch lines are now part of the Canadian National System; we are not worrying about these bonds. They are secured by a first mortgage on the lines, and if default is made in payment when the bonds mature the security will be more than ample, particularly when we consider the betterments being made on C.N.R. lines and their increased earning power.

If my honourable friends insist on including Contingent Liabilities in the balance sheet let them be fair and include as an asset the security we hold.

Those Provinces which own their own public domain are, of course, justified in including that item as an asset and the amount of their total assets may therefore be greater than ours. In this respect Alberta and Saskatchewan are in a similar position and I am sometimes asked "Why, then, does Alberta show a surplus of \$80,000,000 and Saskatchewan only \$35,000,000?" The explanation is a very simple one. Both Provinces receive subsidies from the Federal Government on four accounts: Allowance for government and legislation, allowance for population, debt allowance, and subsidy in lieu of lands. Of these four subsidies three are based on population and one is fixed as a certain percentage on a definite amount set down in the Act creating the Province. The subsidy so fixed is "debt allowance" and in both The Alberta Act and The Saskatchewan Act the Federal Government fixed the debt allowance of each of these Provinces at \$8,107,500 and agreed to pay each Province interest at 5% per annum on this amount. As this subsidy is so capitalised by Federal Statute we are justified in placing that amount as an asset in our balance sheet. Alberta, however, goes farther and capitalises all of the four subsidies showing \$32,000,000 of an asset as against \$8,000,000 in our statement. If we wished to follow the same practice we would increase our assets under this heading to \$40,000,000.

Then again, Alberta includes as an "asset" in its balance sheet the estimated value of unsold school lands amounting to \$34,000,000. We do not include this in our totals but make a note of the item at the foot of the balance sheet. These two items explain the difference and if we were to adopt the Alberta method of dealing with them, our surplus would be \$110,000,000 instead of \$35,000,000.

But even some who should know do not appear to be aware of this, and at times the Province may appear to suffer by comparison with other Provinces because we follow what we believe to be the correct practice.

For instance, I have here the Canada Year Book for 1927-28 published by the Federal Bureau of Statistics. On page 843 of the Year Book is a table comparing under various headings the assets and liabilities of the several Provinces. This table has apparently been compiled from the Public Accounts of the various Provinces without any consideration of the different accounting methods used.

Quebec is well known to be one of the wealthiest of all the Provinces, yet according to this statement it has liabilities twice as great as its assets. And, for the reasons I have given, Alberta appears to better advantages than Saskatchewan, although that condition would be reversed if the accounts of both were prepared in the same manner.

#### CONCLUSION.

During the Budget Debate last year it was suggested that a Provincial Treasurer usually had his Budget Speech prepared by the officials of his Department. Well, Mr. Speaker, up to the present, I have not found it necessary to ask any person to write my speeches, but I am glad to have this opportunity of referring to the efficient and faithful service being given by the staffs of the Departments of Government and of recording my personal appreciation of the loyal support at all times accorded me by the Telephones and Treasury Departments staffs.

Sound and constructive policies, honestly and efficiently administered, comprise all that goes to make up good government, and we invite the closest inspection and fullest discussion of our record in both of these respects. Saskatchewan's satisfactory financial condition places us in a very happy position; we have balanced budgets, and buoyant revenues; we have a reasonable public debt; our expenditure is largely for developmental services, while we have sources of revenue which have not yet been utilised. That means, Sir, that, today, we can face the future with confidence because our position is such that we are able to take full advantage of the resources with which nature has blessed us and contribute our share to the wonderful development which, we all believe, the future has in store.

Mr. Speaker, I move that you do now leave the Chair.



## SCHEDULE 1

ESTIMATED PRODUCTION AND VALUE OF FIELD CROPS AND OTHER  
FARM PRODUCTS TOGETHER WITH THE VALUE OF LIVESTOCK  
IN SASKATCHEWAN, 1927 AND 1928

	1927		1928	
	Bushels	Value	Bushels	Value
Wheat.....	253,000,000	\$245,410,000	278,575,000	\$214,503,000
Oats.....	142,526,000	62,711,000	152,992,000	58,137,000
Barley.....	27,129,000	16,549,000	43,780,000	21,014,000
Flax.....	3,373,000	5,127,000	2,571,000	4,011,000
Rye.....	7,941,000	6,273,000	8,337,000	6,169,000
Other Field Crops.....		12,653,000		11,097,000
Total Value of Field Crops...		\$348,723,000		\$314,931,000
Live Stock on the Farm.....	Head 3,259,245	135,075,000	Head 3,107,914	136,265,000
Other Farm Products.....		31,913,000		33,628,500
Total.....		\$515,711,000		\$484,824,500

**SCHEDULE 2**  
 PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN—TREASURY DEPARTMENT  
 COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF DISTRIBUTION OF REVENUES

	1926-1927		1927-1928	
<b>1. DOMINION GOVERNMENT</b> .....	<b>Percentage</b> 29.4040		<b>Percentage</b> 27.1594	
(a) Subsidy.....	18.1453	\$2,032,575.00	17.4033	\$2,032,575.00
(b) School Lands.....	11.2587	1,261,161.15	9.7561	1,139,440.72
<b>2. TAXATION</b> .....	<b>35.4275</b>		<b>30.3116</b>	
(a) Public Revenues (Less Commission).....	20.3324	\$2,277,572.66	16.0527	\$1,874,832.73
(b) Wild Lands (Less Commission).....	4.1892	469,257.16	3.1774	371,075.92
(c) Supplementary Revenue (Less Commission)....	.1770	19,825.89	.1751	20,454.79
(d) Inheritance.....	2.5902	290,149.69	3.1098	363,201.52
(e) Corporation.....	4.6082	516,199.71	4.3490	507,936.24
(f) Timber Berth.....	.0340	3,808.37	.0752	8,783.20
(g) Railways.....	3.1156	349,000.00	2.9882	349,000.00
(h) Fur Royalties.....	.3809	42,668.25	.3842	44,872.79
<b>3. LICENSES</b> .....	<b>16.0452</b>		<b>21.8320</b>	
(a) Detective.....	.0000	Nil	.0034	\$ 400.00
(b) Auctioneer.....	.0952	\$ 10,659.00	.0817	9,537.50
(c) Peddlers.....	.3799	42,550.97	.2568	29,990.00
(d) Marriage.....	.1756	19,674.00	.1779	20,774.00
(e) Motors.....	13.4825	1,510,262.59	19.4005	2,265,836.26
(f) Moving Pictures.....	.3263	36,549.50	.3099	36,193.71
(g) Circus.....	.0483	5,414.00	.0428	4,993.14
(h) Company.....	.1059	11,870.00	.1070	12,500.00
(i) Insurance.....	.7365	82,496.60	.7279	85,014.85
(j) Fur Dealer.....	.1393	15,600.68	.1567	18,297.30
(k) Game.....	.2368	26,523.63	.2332	27,239.96
(l) Slaughter House.....	.0348	3,896.00	.0385	4,502.00
(m) Plumber.....	.0046	519.00	.0040	470.00
(n) Embalmer.....	.0018	204.00	.0028	326.00
(o) Steam Boiler.....	.1485	16,635.00	.1257	14,685.00
(p) Cow Testing and Creameries.....	.0066	737.15	.0070	810.00
(q) Trappers.....	.1169	13,093.50	.1519	17,738.19
(r) Dog Trainer.....	.0057	639.85	.0043	497.00
		<b>\$3,293,736.15</b>		<b>\$3,172,015.72</b>
		<b>3,968,481.73</b>		<b>3,540,157.19</b>
		<b>1,797,325.47</b>		<b>2,549,804.91</b>

SCHEDULE 2 (Continued)

4. FEES.....	8.3879	\$ 939,579.79	8.3607	\$ 976,463.07
(a) Notary Public.....	.0285	\$ 3,190.00	.0289	\$ 3,370.00
(b) Commissioner of Oaths.....	.0051	572.00	.0048	562.00
(c) Police.....	.2896	32,440.67	.2080	24,285.10
(d) Succession Duty Fees.....	.0450	5,042.00	.0479	5,598.00
(e) Land Titles.....	5.2037	582,905.58	5.1233	598,358.17
(f) Court and Sheriff.....	.8436	94,498.12	.8716	101,795.53
(g) Company.....	.2076	23,253.25	.2521	29,442.50
(h) Examinations (Education).....	.6933	77,660.26	.7497	87,562.51
(i) Teachers Certificates.....	.0168	1,880.31	.0174	2,034.51
(j) Normal School.....	.2310	25,877.13	.2464	28,779.85
(k) Brands.....	.0283	3,166.50	.0311	3,633.05
(l) Stallion Examination.....	.0177	1,980.50	.0149	1,737.00
(m) Stallion Registration.....	.0301	3,369.54	.0224	2,617.80
(n) Vital Statistics.....	.0561	6,285.89	.0561	6,556.09
(o) Administration of Estates of the Mentally Incompetent.....	.1723	19,304.52	.1577	18,416.40
(p) Steam Boilers Act.....	.1400	15,743.10	.1327	15,501.67
(q) Liquor Permits.....	.1413	15,829.00	.1198	13,995.00
(r) Miscellaneous.....	.2373	26,581.42	.2759	32,217.89
5. REPAYMENTS OF ADVANCES AND LOANS (Other than on Capital Accounts).....	.8307	93,053.36	2.4044	280,815.88
6. INSTITUTIONAL REVENUE.....	1.7279	193,552.65	1.6799	196,198.62
7. FINES, FORFEITURES AND ESTREATED BAIL...	1.2588	141,011.79	1.0325	120,587.06
8. MISCELLANEOUS..... being Interest, Sale of Publications and Materials, Liquor Profits, etc.	6.9180	774,936.34	7.2195	843,183.70
	<u>100.00</u>	<u>\$11,201,677.28</u>	<u>100.00</u>	<u>\$11,679,226.15</u>

THE BUDGET

## SCHEDULE 3

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN—TREASURY DEPARTMENT  
COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF DISTRIBUTION OF EXPENDITURES

	1926-1927		1927-1928	
1. ADMINISTRATIVE.....	Percentage 4.2081	\$ 467,275.80	Percentage 3.8875	\$ 452,274.52
2. LEGISLATIVE.....	1.6410	182,217.12	1.6532	192,331.61
3. PROTECTIVE.....	14.3721	1,595,913.90	12.6527	1,471,999.82
(a) Police.....	5.0615	\$ 562,038.04	3.9243	\$ 456,548.53
(b) Courts.....	2.1440	238,076.36	2.0638	240,104.90
(c) Gaols.....	1.7707	196,627.79	1.6125	187,596.00
(d) Land Titles.....	3.0050	333,676.39	2.8635	333,133.61
(e) Miscellaneous.....	2.3909	265,495.32	2.1886	254,616.78
4. DEVELOPMENTAL.....	74.5349	8,276,491.87	76.6822	8,921,103.63
(a) Education.....	32.7894	\$ 3,640,997.86	35.1613	\$ 4,090,617.25
(b) Public Health.....	15.7627	1,750,323.33	15.0047	1,745,620.53
(c) Child Protection.....	4.7669	529,327.97	4.5760	532,369.14
(d) Promotion of Agriculture and Commerce:				
1. Agriculture.....	3.8530	427,846.18	4.3742	508,889.66
2. Highways.....	16.5966	1,842,909.94	16.4106	1,909,189.77
3. Labour and Industries.....	.7663	85,086.59	1.1554	134,417.28
5. MISCELLANEOUS.....	5.2439	582,278.01	5.1244	596,175.30
	<u>100.00</u>	<u>\$11,104,176.70</u>	<u>100.00</u>	<u>\$11,633,884.88</u>

MR. M. A. MACPHERSON, M.L.A.

(Regina City)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 18, 1929.

Mr. MacPherson, in speaking during the Budget Debate, said:

Mr. Speaker: Last night the House listened with a great deal of interest and with a great deal of attention to the Budget Speech of the Provincial Treasurer of the Province. I believe that there is no speech, no address, during the course of each Session of the Legislature that is listened to with as much interest or should be heard with as much interest by the House, as the Budget Speech of the Provincial Treasurer. Further, I don't think there is any speech during the Session in which the public of the Province of Saskatchewan take quite as much interest. Now, Mr. Speaker, this is as it should be and we have had from the Provincial Treasurer a report from the majority of Shareholders of this corporation—if you will—this Province of Saskatchewan. And on behalf of those who might be termed the minority shareholders, men and women who have an interest in the Province of Saskatchewan, I intend to address myself to the Budget Speech and to some of the matters contained therein.

Now the first matter to which I would refer is the claim on the part of the Provincial Treasurer and the claim on the part of the Government that the cash surplus was \$137,856.66. Last year we were told by the Provincial Treasurer in his Budget Speech that the surplus was \$91,846.26. Adopting the same method used last year by the Provincial Treasurer in getting at the surplus we would find, this year, that instead of having a surplus of \$137,000.00 as is suggested the surplus would be \$46,010.40. That is, if you take the difference between the revenue and expenditures as was done last year, and apply the same rule to determining the surplus this year, you would find that surplus would be \$46,010.40 and not \$137,000.00 odd, as claimed. Now the interesting part about it is this: There is no question about the \$137,000 as claimed by way of an accumulated surplus but it is arrived at by taking this \$46,010.40 and the surplus of last year and then you get what the Provincial Treasurer has reported as a cash surplus this year. Now it is important, Mr. Speaker, that we consider this because if you accept what the Provincial Treasurer tells us, that the business is carried on on a cash basis, and if it amounts to \$137,856.60, having regard to the fact that last year the surplus was \$91,000 odd, and to the fact that the surplus of last year and this year added together give the sum of \$137,000.00, then Mr. Speaker, the Government finds itself in this position: That on the 30th of April, 1926, everything must have been balanced. There could not have been a cent in the Treasury and everything must have been square. Now, it is inconceivable to consider that as a fact at all. It is interesting in this connection to refer back to previous Budget Speeches in the House and I would refer to the Provincial Treasurer's Budget Speech in 1927. The Budget Speech, delivered by the present Prime Minister, is contained in the Sessional Papers of 1926 and in it we find this:

"During the latter part of last year and the current year we have utilised liquor profits for the redemption of public debt to the amount of \$1,164,780; cleaned up accounts payable at the end of last fiscal year; have paid off the accumulative deficits of the previous years amounting to \$474,398 and have in hand \$238,448."

And on the next page he says this:

"Such sums as were required for the above purposes, together with the removal of the accumulated deficits of past years, and the redemption of securities issued for capital account purposes and deferred charges have accounted for all liquor profits so far transferred to the consolidated fund, with the exception of \$238,000 which is still in hand."

Now, that Budget Speech was delivered in February, 1927. At that time there was on hand as cash surplus the sum of \$238,000 and still by the 30th of April, within two and a half years, that surplus had shrunk from \$238,000 to \$91,846.26 and this year we find that the surplus of last year is added to the surplus of this year, I mean the surplus of the year ended April 30, 1927 is added to the surplus of the year ended April 30, 1928, in order to make it appear that there was an actual surplus of large dimensions when there was a surplus of no such thing. I am adopting these figures; they are the Government figures. My honourable friends may say that going on a cash basis they have this money on hand. Now I have gone back over the Sessional Debates of the last few years and I find in 1927 that there was claimed on the part of the Government by the then Provincial Treasurer an actual surplus of \$30,000 which was arrived at, as I submit it should be arrived at here, and in 1926 the then Provincial Treasurer, Hon. Mr. Dunning, arrived at his deficit in the same way when he had one and in 1926 there was a deficit, and in 1924 and 1923, a deficit, and so on.

I was rather interested, Mr. Speaker, to find that the Provincial Treasurer might anticipate certain criticisms we made last year on the liquor profits, I anticipate their being made this year. I would say this in reply: That if we take \$600,000 this year, as we will take the same sum as last year; if we take this, then there is a suggestion that there is something convenient in the sum of \$600,000, although I notice they are raising it to \$700,000 next year. While liquor profits last year amounted to \$2,100,000 and the profits in the following year mounted to \$2,400,000, no percentage was taken but a fixed and set sum, and by a peculiar coincidence the sum was

taken as \$600,000 last year. As I have said this was not taken on any percentage basis. A fixed sum was taken—a sufficient sum to keep the surplus on the right side of revenue over expenditure by some \$46,000. Again I say that the Provincial Treasurer is exceedingly fortunate in arriving at his balance in giving his Budget Speech in order to have a credit on the right side. He is exceedingly fortunate in having the large sum he had, and taking \$600,000 as last year, and have a surplus by taking that same sum.

During the course of his speech, the Minister referred to the railway development which is imminent in the province this year. There is no doubt it is going to mean a great deal to every part of the province. It is going to be of particular interest to the cities and towns and the rural settled portions that there will be opened up by this railway development the great northland said to be so rich in minerals and resources.

The Provincial Treasurer referred, also, to the industrial development we have had in the way of manufacturing this last year. We have heard in the House during the present Session, in the course of more than one debate, mention of that same thing. But I will say this, Mr. Speaker, that the fact that the great industry of agriculture in the Province of Saskatchewan has now attracted to it, as it was bound ultimately to do, the great industry of manufacturing means that in the Province of Saskatchewan, if there was any body of sentiment in the past that had felt that there was a difference between the East and West in Canada, that that sentiment will be dissipated and that sentiment will disappear. The very fact that in the course of months we will find in this Province that we have interests which are similar to interests in the East will mean that, if in the past there was a tendency to feel that the "East was East and West was West," as we round out our industries and as they become diversified, we will get a real realisation of the fact that there is one Canada and that is neither East nor West. Without wishing to encroach on other territory, I would say this: That as this Province becomes more and more diversified in its industries, we will be more interested in this House not only in the Budget Speeches in this House but in the Budget Speeches and Debates in the House of Commons at Ottawa and there will be less difference on national issues between people East and West.

I was interested to notice that provision is made for the expenditure on the part of the Government in the matter of a technical school. I take it that expenditure will be applied to the building of a technical school, here, in the City of Regina. While that is not designated in the estimates, I take it that is the intention of the Government. It is a matter of regret that that money was not voted before. However, it is voted now, and it is voted at a time which is very important in the history and life of this Province. This province will, by virtue of this school when it is erected, find that it will be possible here for the people of Regina, the people of the cities of Saskatchewan, and the people of the whole of Saskatchewan, to have their children educated in a technical way in a school in their own province, have them equipped here for the battle of life as they should be, and make it possible for them to find employment in their own Province, as elsewhere. I say this last, because I believe the very fact you will establish technical schools in the province, the further fact that you can find so many interested in establishing the industry of manufacturing in the West will mean that the manufacturers will exhibit greater interest, particularly when they see that the people of our Province are sufficiently interested in technical education both in a municipal and provincial way to erect technical schools and equip our youth. It will mean that these industries will be all the more liable to come to our Province and to our cities, knowing when they come, they will come to a Province where the boys and girls will be properly trained, and where they may be able to get the type of employee they desire.

Now, Mr. Speaker, in the course of his address the Minister referred to the matter of contingent liabilities and of the criticisms which had been made by Opposition speakers in adding contingent liabilities to the actual Public Debt of the Province in order, as he stated, to mislead the people of the Province as to the real position of the Province financially. I don't think I have ever been guilty of any such suggestion at all on this phase of public debate, but I do want to refer to one Public Debt where the financial policy comes in for criticism. It is very difficult for me, at any rate, to reconcile some of the statements that have been made by the Provincial Treasurer on public matters of the Province and the publications of his Department. Now, I realise I am not an accountant and I realise time after time, that the Minister has suggested that these Public Accounts are so simple that anyone can make them out, yet when we come to the Public Accounts of 1928 and when we consider the situation as given on pages 12 and 14 of the Public Accounts, the balance sheet of the Province of Saskatchewan, and the contingent liabilities as at April 30, 1928, we find this statement of the indebtedness of the Co-operative Creameries. We find at page 12 that as an asset, the Government carries an item, "The Saskatchewan Co-operative Creameries, \$1,254,683.35." When we come to the Public Accounts of the year before, we find that the asset is carried under another heading for the Co-operative Creameries, \$686,054.99. We find that in 1928, the last year, in addition to the above asset of \$1,254,683.35, there is a contingent liability, the sum of \$400,000 where the Saskatchewan Co-operative Creameries' line of credit to the bank is guaranteed by the Province, and a further contingent liability, Mortgage Guarantee Account, of \$299,789.90.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* What year is that?

*Mr. MacPherson:* That is 1928, Mr. Speaker. Then, Mr. Speaker, the net result is that whereas in 1926 there was carried as an asset the indebtedness of this company, \$686,054.99, there was a contingent liability—that is the Province was on the note of the company to the bank to make a total liability of \$1,286,054.99; whereas, this year, if you take what is carried as an asset and if you carried the contingent liability where the Government is on the note to the extent of \$400,000 together with mortgage guaranteed account of \$299,789.90, you will find there is a total indebtedness, contingent and otherwise, of \$1,954,473.25 or an increase of some \$668,418.26 over the last fiscal year. I refer to that for the reason that I remember the occasion when the Bill was introduced in this House for the financing of the Co-operative Creameries. For the purpose of greater certainty I refer to the *Daily Post* report of the Speech of the present Premier, then the Minister of Finance, on the occasion of the passing of the Bill, of that year and this is what he said, on February 26, 1927:

“The Company was not in a condition to carry on unless the Government was prepared to increase its guarantee of credit to an enormous extent, something the Government was not prepared to do. The Government had guaranteed the Company's credit at the bank for \$600,000.00 and the Company's debt to the bank was now \$1,200,000.00. In respect to that guarantee the Government was proposing to liquidate it and to increase its first mortgage on the assets which now stands at \$649,753.30 and to take redeemable preference shares of the Company in order to cover such commitments.

“With regard to the other \$600,000.00 of the indebtedness to the bank the Company held products sufficient to liquidate it.”

Now, Mr. Speaker, I submit that what this House understood, and what I think the people of the Province understood, was that, at the time that Bill was passed, at the time these statements were made, the \$600,000.00 guaranty was being taken care of but that the Company would take care of the balance of the bank note, on its own, and could very well get along without any assistance from the Government afterwards, because there is a statement in the words of the Prime Minister of the time that the Government was not prepared to increase its line of credit and that they did not intend doing it at all. We are surprised to find that, now, if we are to accept the Public Accounts that there is a new and very large further contingent liability—and the Public Accounts are where we must go naturally—then indeed there will have to be some explanation from the government on this item. If there is an explanation, we should have it from the Government. But what the Public Accounts would tell us is, that there is carried as an asset by the Province of Saskatchewan this \$1,254,000—I am quoting round figures—and that in addition to that we are on the note of the Company to the bank for \$400,000, and we are, in a contingent way, carrying \$299,000 on the mortgages. Now, I realise that so far as contingent liabilities are concerned it may never be that there will be any call or demand on the people of the Province at all but surely when in view of our experience in the past, where the Government had to take up the note for \$600,000 it is of vital interest to know that the Government is still on the back of a note to the extent of \$400,000 with the same Company as maker.

There are these other interesting facts. Take this particular indebtedness—and again it may be that I have not located the credits and all the credits to which the company is entitled which have been received by the Government—but, so far as I can find, the only two receipts received from the Company during the fiscal period ended April 30, 1928, are to be found at pages 23 and 26 of the report of the Public Accounts, and there was paid \$9,240.14 in one item and under Agricultural Aids \$21,205.20, or a total payment of \$30,445.34. Now, if that is all that has been paid and if the indebtedness—if the asset is as shown, \$1,254,683.00 then less than two and one-half per cent. has been paid by the concern on its indebtedness to the Province. Possibly again it is because one cannot follow the Public Accounts—but I was rather interested in listening to the Provincial Treasurer when, in discussing the Public Debt of this Province he told us that the amount of the debt chargeable to this particular item was \$672,831.30. Now, we would be very interested, indeed, to find from this that the Public Accounts show this as an asset, show it as part of the productive debt of the province whereas there is a large difference—\$1,254,683.00 without contingent liabilities—when the statement of the Provincial Treasurer says at this time the sum of \$672,000 only is chargeable. In the course of reading the speech of the honourable, the present Prime Minister when, as Provincial Treasurer, he introduced this statement back in 1927, I was interested to note that there was a statement given there as to the position of this concern with a capital authorised of \$1,000,000 issued \$811,823 and a paid up capital of \$355,701. These shareholders are scattered all over the length and breadth of this Province, and have paid their good money into it and are very much concerned with the welfare of the Company. Now, Mr. Speaker, I remember, not so long ago the Provincial Treasurer, in discussing an independent audit, a demand for which has been made, dismissed the matter summarily; but having regard again to the story of this particular concern and its indebtedness to the Province, and having regard to some information which came out in this debate when the Bill was before the House, when it appeared from the books that there had been speculation on the part of the officers of the Company which the Prime Minister said had not resulted in loss, the very idea of speculation being carried on by a Company on whose note the Government was, was I think indefensible, repugnant to the will of the people and is an indication to this House and to this Province and to the people generally that it certainly would have been an excellent thing if we had had an independent audit and this sort of thing would not have occurred. In any

event we would have found the debt would not have mounted, increasing the indebtedness, which would have meant according to the last fiscal period, only \$30,000 was paid and nothing was paid on account to the people who hold any stock in the Company at all.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* I would like to ask the honourable gentleman a question. I would like to ask whether he intended to state that the Prime Minister had said that there had been no losses by speculation a few years ago.

*Mr. MacPherson:* I would read what the Prime Minister is reported as saying in the *Daily Post* of February 28, 1927, when the Bill was in committee.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* Yes, but just a moment ago, I understood this from what you said: That the Prime Minister had said that, as a result of the speculations which were carried on some three years ago, there were no losses.

*Mr. MacPherson:* Well, what the Prime Minister did say and as I have it reported, is this: "That speculation in dairy products resulted in \$40,000 profits last year." That is the statement; and that there was no loss as a result of the speculation and that is what I take from the *Daily Post* statement on February 28, 1927.

Mr. Speaker, I want to refer to another item which was referred to last night in the Budget Speech. If you take the Public Accounts and if you turn again to page 12, the balance sheet of the Province of Saskatchewan, you find there that there is owing by the Pool Elevators to the Province of Saskatchewan the sum of \$1,792,770.05. We find in the Budget Speech of last night, that the amount charged to the Public Debt of Saskatchewan in respect of these advances is \$2,425,218.63.

*Hon. Mr. Patterson:* The balance is in the sinking fund.

*Mr. MacPherson:* The balance is in the sinking fund! If the balance is in the sinking fund what I cannot understand is why the sinking fund is so low in the Province of Saskatchewan. There is an amount of some six or seven hundred thousand in this difference alone and according to the statement, last night, the amount in the sinking fund is some \$2,476,000 and if they take six or seven hundred thousand from that I cannot understand why the amount in the sinking fund is so small. The point I want to make (and the point I think can be better made in view of the statement now made by the Treasurer) is this: In going back to the Public Accounts of 1923 and adding up the mortgages due to the Province by the Co-operative Elevators in 1923, the amount of the indebtedness of the old "Co-op." was \$3,402,000 at that time, and according to the statement in 1928 the indebtedness is \$1,792,000. The Provincial Treasurer tells us the balance is in the sinking fund, but the difference in five years is \$1,600,000 odd. That is to say, there has been a reduction—an actual reduction in the five years, of \$1,600,000. I am interested in those figures for this reason that back in 1922 when the debt was some fifty-two to fifty-three million dollars there would be included as part of the productive debt, \$3,400,000 which was owing to the Government by the Co-operative Elevators. Today we have a Public Debt of \$60,000,000 and we have, in addition, this \$1,600,000, so that, in effect, the debt has been increased, not only the amount of it, from \$53,000,000 to \$60,000,000 and more now, but there has been this further \$1,600,000 difference as well.

The Minister referred to sinking funds and I am going to refer to them now. He told us, last night, in reference to the sinking fund, that the total of the sinking fund now held was \$2,-476,288. I would refer the Minister and the Government to the report of the Department of Municipal Affairs for this year, and if they will turn to this on page 239, "Liabilities of the Cities" and on page 177, "Sinking Funds of Cities," they will find this: "Moose Jaw, gross debenture debt, \$6,476,009.00; Regina, gross debenture debt, \$12,336,124.26; Saskatoon, gross debenture debt, \$9,587,152.18," and then when we turn to page 177 you find that the sinking funds of the respective cities are: Moose Jaw, \$2,089,132.33; Regina, \$4,436,346.72; Saskatoon, \$3,330,910.47. In effect, this means that, according to the report of one of the Departments of the Government, sinking funds have been set up in the various cities to take care of more than 33 per cent. of the gross debenture debt of the various cities, whereas the Government has only set up between 3 and 4 per cent. of the gross debt of the Province. I find, in view of what the Minister has told us, that \$700,000 which came from the Pool Elevators has been put in the sinking fund, that only \$1,700,000 is left for purposes of these sinking funds and that is a matter of concern to the people of this Province. And again honourable gentlemen opposite are pleased to refer on occasion to the satisfactory position financially of this Province and to its financial situation—

*Government Members:* Hear! Hear!

*Mr. MacPherson:* Do some honourable gentlemen say "Hear! Hear!'"? Well, let them hear further evidence. I shall refer them to the *Canada Year Book*. I cannot get the definite amount of the sinking fund in each Province, but the *Canada Year Book* shows that in 1925 in this Province, we set aside \$125,033, while Alberta set aside \$305,347, and the much-maligned Province of British Columbia, \$1,936,836. In 1926 according to the Year Book again, Saskatchewan has



\$34,736, Alberta, \$388,183, and British Columbia \$1,598,897. So I submit, Mr. Speaker, that when the finances of the Province are analysed in this respect, it is found we are not in as good shape as the honourable gentlemen would have us believe when he dealt with these matters last night.

I want to refer now to another Department, as we find it in the Public Accounts. If you take the Department of Telephones over which the Honourable Minister also presides, you will find that in 1927-28 the capital advances from the Provincial Treasurer were \$10,944,862.03. In 1926-27, the year before, the capital advances were \$10,134,132.57. Consequently there was an increase of \$810,000 in capital advances. I want the House to bear in mind whether it should not be necessary to continue these capital advances. According to the Budget Statement of last night, the indebtedness in respect of the Telephone Department was \$11,397,587.23, or actually an increase now of \$441,000 over the last Public Accounts. I want the House to remember this as well: That when they consider this statement—the balance sheet of the Telephone Department—they will find in 1927-28 the depreciation reserve was \$2,760,538. In the previous year it was \$2,620,079.43. There is a difference between the two years, an increase of \$140,459. That is the amount set aside for purposes of depreciation, and when you remember that there is actually a business here of some twelve and a half million or thirteen million dollars as given last night, the depreciation allowed is not a proper depreciation at all. It is of interest to this House and it is to the interest, I think, of the people of the Province, to remember these things and that there is a depreciation of a little over one per cent. allowed when you take into consideration the difference, and you have the accounts to prove it, that there is only this depreciation allowed. In rural telephones, on the other hand, which are not owned by the Government but which are under the supervision and control of the Government, you will find a depreciation of seven per cent. allowed for. It is recognised in connection with these undertakings, and I think, in order to get in the Province a true perspective of this one undertaking, that proper provision should be made as to what the proper depreciation is and know what the true asset should be assessed at. I was interested in the matter of depreciation in view of the fact that we had a new report on our desks yesterday and in this connection I would digress from the general debate and say—that I think the members should have had sent to them the annual report and financial statement of the Liquor Board. We get the reports of the Department of Telephones and the Departments of Public Health and of Highways, and as it is a Department of the Government in which the members should be interested, if they are acting in the interest of the Province,—in fact that they should be particularly concerned with it and the Government should send regularly copies of this report to the members of the House. When you take the report of the Liquor Board and when you turn to the profit and loss account on page 8, you find there that very substantial allowances are made for depreciation on equipment and for depreciation and alterations and permanent fixtures written off and that sort of thing, and I submit these things are not done in the same way in the Department of Government to which I refer—the Department of Telephones. The Honourable Minister, last night, referred to depreciation reserves which were being set aside in the Telephone Department and Farm Loans Board, and I think it is a matter of regret we have not any information as to how the calculation is made in the Telephone Department by which the depreciation can be arrived at or the method adopted, and our only conclusion is that in the matter of reserve sufficient is not allowed. There is a criticism I would make of this Liquor Board report. In the Public Accounts, you will find particulars giving salaries and expenses and that sort of thing, whereas in the annual report of the Liquor Board there is nothing but lump sums—no information given here at all; no information given to the House or to the members, as to how these sums are made up, how much is paid by way of expenses and as to how they are paid, and I think in this Department of Government possibly more than in any other, because it is one which the Government has regarded as dangerous and difficult to handle, that particulars should be given in the report as in the Department of Telephones and in the Public Accounts of the Province. All these particulars should be given to the House, and the people and the Province in general, and thus eliminate conjecture as would have been the case if this information had been available to them.

I do not, Mr. Speaker, intend to deal further with the report of the Liquor Board. I do not know whether or not the Government has had its attention called to the situation in the town of Broadview and the reports in the local press there on December 13, with regard to the situation as it exists in that town at any rate, by reason of the non-enforcement of the Liquor Law. Referring to *The Broadview Express*, the local paper of the 13th or 18th of December—the date figure is indistinct, but at any rate, Volume 25, No. 22—I read from "Town Council Minutes," these are the whole of the minutes:

"A special meeting of the Town Council was held in the Town Office on Tuesday, December 4th, at 8 p.m. for the following purpose:

1. To give the third reading to Bylaw 1928-30.
2. To give the third reading to Bylaw 1928-31.
3. To hear a report from the Mayor with regard to the infractions of *The Liquor Act* and to discuss same.

Present—Mayor Clarkson, Councillors Edwards, Schaefer and Adamson.

Adamson-Edwards—That bylaw 1928-30 being a bylaw regarding the illegal sale of liquor be read the third time. Read and passed.

Schaefer-Adamson—That bylaw 1928-31 being a bylaw to establish a Park on the North Boundary of the Town be read the third time. Read and passed.

The Mayor reported to the Council of a number of persons openly engaged in the illegal sale of intoxicating liquors. The liquor directly and indirectly is reaching the young boys of this town.

Whereas the town is now informed that liquor has been illegally sold to boys of this town and that a number of such boys have been found intoxicated on the streets

Be it therefore resolved that the town clerk write to Sergt. Bradley of the R.C.M.P. force, stationed at Broadview, requesting him to take effective steps to prevent the illegal sale of intoxicating liquors in Broadview, and in future to report to the Attorney-General of the Province of Saskatchewan any serious incidents, especially such as occurred on or about the 3rd of November, when a number of young boys were found intoxicated and ordered home.

That the town clerk insert a notice in the local paper warning the public that unless the practice of the illegal sale of intoxicating liquors is discontinued, the matter will be officially reported to the Provincial authorities and prosecutions insisted upon most energetically.

That a meeting of the electors be called to be held on Friday, the 14th day of December, at the Town Hall, at 8 p.m., for the purpose of instructing the electors the purpose of the question which will be submitted to the electors in connection with the possibility of the town undertaking the enforcement of *The Liquor Act*, and also discuss any matters desired by the electors.

The above resolution was moved by Councillor Edwards and seconded by Councillor Schaefer.

Meeting adjourned."

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* Might I ask a question? Might I ask what that bylaw in regard to liquor enforcement was?

*Mr. MacPherson:* I think I can explain it to you. I will read it to you. I think what they mean by the bylaw is the notice which we find on page No. 4:

"Notice to the Electors of the Town of Broadview. Take notice that the proposed question hereunder set forth will be submitted to a vote of the electors of the Town of Broadview on Friday, the 28th day of December, A.D. 1928. Question: Are you in favour of the Town of Broadview undertaking the enforcement of the laws pertaining to the illegal sale of intoxicating liquors?"

Then it goes on and gives the formal part of the resolution. That is what is intended to be a bylaw.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* That is, Mr. Speaker, the question was as to whether they were going to enforce the law as the law says it should be enforced.

*Mr. MacPherson:* I think the duty of the Town Council was clear under the law. I am not contradicting that at all, and I am not urging there was any necessity for the question being submitted to the electors, but I am saying this, that if a situation existed such as this necessitating a public meeting, that the Government could well consider the matter of the enforcement of the law which necessitated a submission by bylaw or otherwise, that there be a real enforcement.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* Ten men have been in Broadview engaged on the same thing.

*Mr. MacPherson:* I am glad to hear that ten men are engaged on the case, and I would be glad to know if there had been any prosecutions.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* It is very difficult to get them under some circumstances.

*Mr. MacPherson:* Well, I take it there might be some prosecutions. I take it that the matter is still being investigated.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* The enforcement of the law is under the Mounted Police. I am informed they have had ten "plain clothesmen" in that district attempting to catch those who are breaking the law. They have not been very successful.

*Mr. MacPherson:* In any event, the situation is that when the suggestion is that under the present Liquor Act, everything is going well, we do find at least in this instance one town there have been a great many infractions of the law, and it is necessary to take the steps that have been taken.

The Provincial Treasurer last night referred to the items of revenue not yet utilised—I think that is the term he used. I feel the House would have been interested to know just what he meant by "Items of revenue not yet utilised." Has he in mind more forms of revenue from taxation which may be used for the purpose of increasing the revenue of the Province? Again we find from the statement, that stress is laid on the question of taxation and question of license and again I say it is immaterial to the people of the Province whether, academically, there is a distinction between tax and license—a question which was discussed in a resolution put in by one of the Honourable Members in regard to motor licenses which was discussed during the motion, last night, by the honourable, the Provincial Treasurer. We do find that licenses extract money from the pockets of the people and are considered by them a tax whether the Government call it a tax or not. And it would be interesting to note just what items of revenue the Provincial Treasurer may have in mind in this connection. One which suggested itself to me as a source of revenue would follow when we had the natural resources of the province—one in particular would be the question of revenue that would be derived from mines. In the northern part of the Province of Saskatchewan from what has occurred within the past year, we realise that there are very rich mineral resources and other resources that are undeveloped and untouched. Having regard to the income derived from this source, Mr. Speaker, we can feel that in this Province, with the development that we can expect, railway development and other transportation development and all the other development—we can expect that, in due course, we will have a revenue, a substantial revenue, from this very source. I was interested in looking at the Canada Year Book to see how it was in some of the other provinces of the Dominion which had minerals, and I found, in 1924, Nova Scotia, \$747,000 and over \$700,000 in 1926. I found \$799,000 in 1926 in Ontario, and from our knowledge of the situation, it must have been over a million dollars for Ontario last year. British Columbia's figure was \$896,000 in 1926, and again having regard to the advancement since that time, it now must be considerably larger than it was then.

The Provincial Treasurer, last night, as usual, proceeded to compare the financial position of this Province with the financial position of the other Provinces in Canada, of course to the advantage of the Province of Saskatchewan. Now, I submit to the House, Sir, that it is unfair to consider the per capita revenues and per capita expenditures and to consider the per capita debt in this Province and putting it in juxtaposition with the other Provinces of Canada. Take the Province of British Columbia, the Province which was compared with Saskatchewan very much to the discredit of that Province! The Province of British Columbia is not organised politically as is the Province of Saskatchewan. In the Province of British Columbia there is not the rural municipal organisation that there is in this Province. There is an urban political classification and they have some, I believe, rural municipal classification, but the great bulk of British Columbia is administered in a municipal way by the Provincial authorities themselves. Consequently, when you consider the Province of British Columbia and compare it, per capita, to be fair, you should take the municipal debt and the village debt of this Province and add these debts to the total Provincial debt as it is now. Just before coming in, I looked again at the report of Department of Municipal Affairs and there you will find that, according to this annual report, pages 164 and 172, the rural municipalities of this Province have a total net debenture debt of \$9,119,256.64, and that the villages have \$321,589.52. I cannot understand how that is so low. If it is so low, the villages of this Province must be very well handled.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* They are low.

*Mr. MacPherson:* And the towns of the Province have a total net debenture debt of \$4,744,382.80, making a total of over \$14,000,000. Therefore it is unfair to compare our Province in a per capita way, with the other Provinces of the Dominion. Again, take the rural telephone debt, page 164, carried along with the rural municipalities' debt of \$8,197,586 which is not a debt of this Province, but in some other Provinces is actually charged to the debt of the Province. If you will refer to some other Provinces—and I think the Provincial Treasurer will agree that all rural telephone systems are owned by the Province, therefore, in considering the debt of those Provinces, to take this amount which has nothing to do with the matter, is not fair.

This summer, I happened to be in the Province of British Columbia on a holiday and there happened to be a Provincial Election on and I enjoyed myself for once listening to what both sides had to say. It was interesting there to listen to the then Prime Minister, Dr. Maclean, enunciate the policy and record of his Government and I want to assure this House that Dr. Maclean endeavoured to satisfy his audiences on every occasion that his Province was in better shape than any other Province of the Dominion.

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* Did he convince you of that?

*Mr. MacPherson:* I won't be expected to say. One thing I was interested in was some of the advertisements used for the purpose of attracting support to the Maclean Government, and I took along one of the pages of *The Vancouver Sun*, which is very interesting, of date Monday, July 16, I think the day before the election. Here are some other reasons why it is unfair to consider the debt of British Columbia alongside the debt of Saskatchewan. Here in the "Productive Debt" of the Province of British Columbia there is referred to "Dyking Debentures, \$445,000." Then there is the "Soldiers' Land Act." In the Province of British Columbia the Government set aside \$3,202,000 for the purpose of settling soldiers on the land, whereas in this

Province not a dollar has been spent for that purpose and it has been left entirely to the Dominion. "Conservation \$2,151,000." "Better Housing"—\$1,701,500 of the Public Debt for that purpose and not a dollar has been spent by this Province for these purposes, and only this very session the only legislation making it possible has been repealed. Then \$1,000,000 in British Columbia is charged to the productive debt for the purpose of industrial loans, whereas in this Province not a dollar has been spent for the purpose of industrial loans at all. I would say this: That the Minister adopted as his figures, the figures given by the Dominion Securities Corporation for the per capita debt and, when you take his figures, the figures he gave in his Budget Speech, last night, as to what the gross debt and as to what the net debt of the Province was, and when you turn back to the honourable gentleman's speech of a year ago, you will find that these figures were based on gross and net debt amounts which indicate that the time when the Dominion Securities made this statement was practically coincident with the day the Provincial Treasurer made his Budget Speech in 1928. You will find in that speech that, while he gave our per capita gross debt as \$71.13, the Dominion Securities Corporation gave it as \$68.73. If he will take his figures he will find that his correct figures in the debate last night must have been \$68.73. Now, I don't blame him, Mr. Speaker, as Provincial Treasurer, for trying to make a good case for the Government that he supports, and of which he is a member, by taking the figures of the Dominion Securities rather than his own figures because they are in favour of his Government, but I submit that after all, as Provincial Treasurer, possibly he is in a better position to know what the gross per capita debt is, and I think any jury would accept his evidence in that respect in view of his not wanting to place the debt large in amount, per capita or otherwise.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* The same would apply to the other Provinces.

*Mr. MacPherson:* Well, I know, but when you take his figures as given a year ago, giving the per capita debt and remember that practically coincident therewith the Dominion Securities reckoned the debt, gross, net and per capita, you will find that different figures are given.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* Might I point out that in the making of comparison as between this Province and some other Province or between this and all the other Provinces, while the Provincial Treasurer sets out what is correct for this Province, we presume the Dominion Securities took their own figures for a basis of comparison.

*Mr. MacPherson:* No, the Honourable the Prime Minister has not got the point at all. The situation is this, to make my point clear: We have reported in *The Daily Post* today, the figures given by the Dominion Securities Corporation of the gross debt amounting to \$58,492,000, and that, I say, is practically the same as it was when my honourable friend gave us his Budget Speech a year ago. We find the net debt is \$33,830,703, and I say again that is practically the same as it was a year ago in the Budget Speech, so that I say they must be working on a different basis of population. They must be working on an entirely different basis, and deciding which you are going to give the more weight to, then you must give more weight to the Provincial Treasurer when he intimates this with regard to our own Province.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* But you are making the comparison on a different basis.

*Mr. MacPherson:* I am not making a comparison on that. I want to tell the House that, in this respect, the Provincial Treasurer has accepted figures for the purposes of debate from this corporation rather than his own as given a year ago in his Budget Speech. I don't blame him for that.

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* It may be that the Treasurer has taken his own figures.

*Mr. MacPherson:* Well, it may be. My complaint is, he takes the Company's figures rather than his own because they are lower. Taking now the comparison and as to whether or not it is fair to compare this Province with other Provinces. The Province of Alberta owns railways. The Province of Saskatchewan does not. But the Province of Alberta, as this House knows, is selling its railways to the two great railway companies.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* For less than the figures in the Public Accounts.

*Mr. MacPherson:* That may be, but the point I make is this: When they do sell those railways and when they are paid, they will have a reduction, I think, of some \$26,000,000 in the gross debt of that Province, and this means a great deal in considering a comparison between the Province of Saskatchewan and the Province of Alberta. I say that the fact that other Provinces have these additional undertakings is a reason why it is unfair to make a comparison, and I do not care whether Alberta gets less than the amount shown in their Public Accounts for their railways but I do say it will reduce their gross debt in Alberta and supports my argument that it is unfair to compare.

The Provincial Treasurer, in the course of this debate, and on other occasions has said, when it has been suggested that there should be an independent audit, that it is ridiculous and has dismissed it with a word. I think I remember one occasion when the honourable gentleman intimated that, if there was any substantial demand for it, it would be listened to and heard. So far as an independent audit is concerned no member in this House suggests malfeasance against an officer of the House—the Provincial Auditor—when he demands it. The independent

audit should be given because of the very fact that, for 23 years, Saskatchewan has had the same Government, that they are the same party, that they have the same men behind them, who have supported them in the Province of Saskatchewan and who have been in that position for a period of 23 years. And that if for no other reason.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* We are not opposed to one.

*Mr. MacPherson:* Well, why not give us one? We are asking for one. They are not opposed to one! Well, if they are not they are in favour of one.

*Mr. Cross:* My honourable friend might be disappointed if he got one. . .

*Mr. MacPherson:* And might not be disappointed! The people of the Province and a few good supporters of the Government absolutely agree with us as to the reasonableness and as to necessity for this independent audit. I want to say this further, that if we were an ordinary joint stock company or ordinary corporation and an independent audit was demanded on the part of the minority shareholders or any number of their shareholders, if any demand such as has been made for an independent audit was made in this Province it would be granted and without question. Having regard to the fact that one Government has been in power for 23 years, there is sufficient argument there and not all the professions of my honourable friend, or any other honourable member, as to their honesty of purpose will mean that we will cease to insist that we should have one. It is not a question or a suggestion of dishonesty. It is a question of good government, and a proper check on the Government, a proper check on the employees and a proper check on the Party, and on the auditors themselves. Honourable gentlemen themselves know, as the people of this Province know, that large corporations in this Province, in this Dominion and everywhere in the world, do have checks on their auditors from time to time, to satisfy their shareholders and themselves that everything is as it should be. And I say it should not be dismissed so summarily and is a demand made honestly by our people and they should not be treated with contempt and indifference by any member of the Government.

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* May I ask the Honourable Gentleman a question? Can he tell us where an independent audit has been held?

*Mr. MacPherson:* I know they had one in the Province of Nova Scotia and they are having one in British Columbia now, and I do not think it would be a bad idea to have one in this Province and if the honourable member is sincere and will tell us he is in favour of it, then we will have it and it will lead to a great deal of satisfaction.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* Is the audit not independent now?

*Mr. MacPherson:* Well, my honourable friend knows perfectly well what is meant by an independent audit. As I said when I referred to the Provincial Auditor, he is an officer of this Assembly and I know, so far as that is concerned, he is not supposed to be Government or Opposition. He is independent in that sense.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* He really is, too!

*Mr. MacPherson:* But in any event the honourable gentleman knows what is wanted and suggested, and we should have one made by some firm such as Price, Waterhouse and Company, or some other competent experts, a proper audit made of the financial affairs of the Province, and it will be in the interest of all the people of the Province if that were done.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I am not going to speak at greater length. I have endeavoured to confine myself to the Budget Address as it was given last night, and have endeavoured to confine myself to the financial affairs of the province. As I say, there may be explanations for some of the matters subject to criticism. In any event, I think these criticisms can properly come from the documents furnished by the Government itself. It is impossible for us to foretell what the future has in store. It is not given to man to foresee the future of the province with certainty and probably that is a good thing but we do know that in this province there is being built up more and more a diversity of industry, there is becoming more and more an expansion of industry that is a good thing and we will find as the province develops industrially that those of our children who may remain here, whatever walks of life they want to follow, they can follow them in the Province of Saskatchewan rather than in other parts of the Dominion. And while we may disagree with many items in the Budget Speech last night, while we feel that the province should not have done some of the things that are being done and have not done other things that should have been done and left undone we, in this group are just as anxious and as sincere as any honourable gentlemen who will support this motion.

MR. REGINALD STIPE, M.D., M.L.A.

(Hanley)

MONDAY, JANUARY 21, 1929.

Mr. Speaker,—I can assure you it affords me considerable pleasure to address the House upon the Budget. This is the fourth Budget Address we have had the privilege of listening to and the second from the Honourable Minister (*the Honourable Mr. Patterson*). This Address lacked the rhetorical language injected into it by the Hon. "Sir" Charles A. Dunning. It also lacked to an appreciable degree the verbal embellishments of the Honourable James Gardiner. In this respect I think it fails to impress the House possibly as much as those others did, but I can assure the Minister it failed to impress me when he said that "This address was prepared by myself," and there is no question of that. It seemed to be an endeavour to forget the sins of the past. It also failed in suggesting the virile outlook which we should have in the present day. In my opinion, Mr. Speaker, it lacked an entire vision of the future.

*Mr. Anderson:* Hear! Hear!

*Mr. Stipe:* One of the points of the Address which came at the end of the Budget Speech was this: "Sound and constructive policies, honestly and efficiently administered, comprise all that go to make up good Government and we invite the closest inspection and fullest criticism of our record in both of these respects." I accept the invitation that is extended to criticise the Budget Speech, and as I have said before: "He who criticises is your teacher; he who praises your virtues does you harm." And I want to assure the Honourable gentleman opposite that there will be no harm done!

There is one item I would mention: On December 6, I gave Notice of Motion for a Return. On December 8, it was concurred in. On January 11, I made a request for the same return and was advised it would be forthcoming shortly. The return I asked for was for an itemized statement in respect of the expense account of one of the road inspectors of this Province. It is deplorable that at this late date I have not received that return, although that inspector is an inspector in my own constituency. Surely if any member has the right to ask a question of that kind, it is the member for the constituency in which the man works! Yet, I have not received the information or return. What conclusion can I come to? There can be only one logical conclusion, either there is gross inefficiency in the Department or some discourtesy is intended to be shown to the member. I will not take the latter meaning because, I do think the honourable Minister (*The Honourable Mr. Spence*) endeavours to get us the information we ask, but I will say that I think there is the grossest inefficiency in the Highways Department, especially in this respect. That is one of the minor complaints.

So far as the "honesty" of the Government is concerned, which was mentioned before, I would like to call your attention to the fact that in the estimates—and at this point there may be a certain amount of diversity of opinion—you will find under the head of "Expenditure Under The Saskatchewan Election Act," \$1,000. Now it is a well known fact that the time of this term of the Legislature is rapidly drawing to a close and it is apparent that if it is intended to hold a general election this summer some provision should be made, and some item of this expenditure should be shown in the estimated expenditure for the coming year. If that were done, instead of a surplus of \$6,000 which the Minister is figuring for the coming year there would be a deficit of something up to \$300,000.

I just bring this point out in order to show that, in my opinion, there is a little point of honesty slightly lacking in the deliverance of the Budget Address. Either we are not going to have an election or the Government is not frank. A statement of frankness on this account cannot possibly hurt any government, but a financial estimate of this kind for 1929-30 gives us the opinion that such an election is not contemplated. Presuming there is the possibility that during the next few months or shortly, there will be a convention of individuals from all over the Province who are taking a great interest in the conduct of affairs in this Province, I say that all our legislative actions will be seriously discussed, and I think, if the signs of the times are right, that at that time this influential body will see fit to take political action. I feel that the time has come when this great organisation should take greater interest in Provincial politics than they have in the past, and if it is done, there is a possibility that there will be some remodelling of the political complexion of some of the constituencies in the very near future.

The first few paragraphs of the Budget Address dealt with the crop, the construction of railways, the discoveries in the mineral belt and subjects which are not in his control, but subject to Him who reigns above; and they are well looked after. But there are some things that might be taken care of by this Government. One thing to which I would refer is the grain inquiry now going on. It is a well known fact that serious discussion had taken place in reference to the whole question under review and it was only at a recent date that this Government woke up to the fact. I think I heard first from the lips of the leader of the Conservative party (*Mr.*

*Anderson*) in the Arm River by-election that there was so much distress, so much complaint in regard to mixing in the terminal elevators. And after it was shown, you had something of a definite nature to go on, then came the Premier with his pronouncement. We are pleased to see, however, that the suggestion came from one member on this side of the House upon which you, in your wisdom, saw fit to act.

There are other things that demand attention in this agricultural Province. The hail losses of the Province during this year have been excessive. Something like 29 well-established hail insurance companies have seen fit to withdraw from the business. At the same time, others are hesitating and giving consideration to drawing up restrictions in respect to these conditions, and I say it is about time this Government was waking up to the fact that something should be done. I think the Treasurer was somewhat remiss when he failed to outline a policy in that connection.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* We did that in 1913.

*Mr. Stipe:* You probably will have to do it all over again and do it in a more satisfactory way.

Another thing in which the Government is moving somewhat slowly is in regard to the insurance rates on grain via the Hudson Bay and Fort Churchill when it becomes a port in actual operation. No doubt there have been inquiries by the Government in connection with the same, but it seems to me this matter is of such importance to the development of Western Canada, if it is to be a success, it is absolutely vital that the insurance rates from that point be reduced to the minimum. I would not be averse to this Legislature assuming some direct responsibility as to insurance rates for a short time at least, until such time as it is determined that the hazards of that route are not greater than the existing routes.

If this Budget Address has emphasised one thing more than another, it is certainly that of the "fiscal policy" of this Government. It also makes the statement that that policy is a continuation of the policy which has been followed during the whole period of Liberal administration in this Province. It is apparent that out of the revenue policy of the Government they try to struggle along from year to year without any concerted effort to grapple with the problems which are confronting this Province at the present time, and which confronted it prior to and continuously since this date. If you like to look at the balance sheet it will readily be impressed upon you that with borrowings of \$60,000,000 all on Capital Account we have practically paid nothing out of Revenue Account on any of our Capital undertakings during the past 23 years. If you take time to consider it you will find it may be even worse than that. They are very short of the amount even yet. The balance sheet fluctuates very considerably, as I mentioned in this House before. Take the matter of the School Lands Trust Account in 1926—it was down \$6,000,000. Now it is up again to \$25,000,000. How does this contortional activity happen so speedily, especially after I asked on the floor of this House if the Government kept any record of the School Lands Trust Account? Consequently, I say, how does the Provincial Auditor account for it in the Balance Sheet? It is shown very clearly in the School Lands Trust Account and in that account it has fluctuated \$5,000,000, during the past few years. I asked what amount was written off the School Lands Trust Account and I received no answer—rather I was told that no statement of School Lands Trust Account was kept. The Government are now demanding our natural resources. Well, though we have been a Canadian Province for 23 years, apparently there is no record or knowledge on the part of this Government as to what is going on in our School Lands Trust Account. There is one thing that we can facilitate, namely, the return of our natural resources, and we should insist that the delegation going to Ottawa to discuss the return of our natural resources should have the facts and know what to demand, and one of our contentions is that we should have had a balance sheet something like this ten years ago. We should at least have it in 1930, if this coming conference at Ottawa is to arrange terms satisfactorily to this Province, I contend that our subsidy should be the maximum sum of \$1,125,000, and to be paid in perpetuity. Then we should have value for the 28,000,000 acres of lands already pre-empted and alienated to the railways and Hudson's Bay Company, and this at \$3.00 an acre should be shown on the credit side of the ledger at the sum of \$84,000,000. From the sale of our school lands, there is already held by the Crown in the Trust Fund by the Dominion Government a sum of \$16,000,000 while unpaid amounts on contracts on land already sold is in the neighborhood of \$9,000,000; and then we have a balance sheet whereby unsold school lands are shown as an asset of \$40,000,000. So, if we have the return of our resources in 1930 on terms satisfactory to the Province, our balance sheet should show assets considerably in excess of what they are. Any Government, even one that has held office for 23 years, cannot accept less and get away with it, and as you know we have one large independent paper now helping to fight our battle of "Provincial Rights," and it only needs the *Regina Leader* and *Post* and the *Saskatoon Star-Phoenix* to get on the "band wagon" and we will be able to put up an united front in the very near distant future and get a settlement on a basis which we claim is only fit and proper. And it is only . . .

*Hon. Mr. Davis:* May I ask a question? How does the honourable member make up that figure of \$84,000,000? What are we to get the \$84,000,000 for?

*Mr. Stipe:* Well, I would get it all back. Put in a claim for it, if necessary. I would say for your information, there has already been alienated something in the neighbourhood of 53,000,000 acres—25,000,000 at \$1.50 an acre and the balance of 28,000,000 at \$3.00 an acre and if you as a delegation ask for a cent less, take it from me we are wide awake, and we want our unalienated lands without any quibbling, equivocation or reservations, mental or otherwise.

*Hon. Mr. Davis:* You would not mind a few mental reservations?

*Mr. Stipe:* And while we are discussing this subject and dealing with certain things taking place in this House and outside it, I wish to insist that we take the position that any school lands that are advertised for sale at the present time—that is, as far as bulk sale goes—should cease; they should not be sold while these negotiations are pending, for when we get our resources we can handle this sale much better ourselves.

*Mr. Hill:* Why did they sell in Alberta?

*Mr. Stipe:* It is the beauty of this little party that we take into consideration what takes place in other Provinces, only by way of comparison. We have a different situation from Manitoba and no oil wells as they have in Alberta. Alberta has given up a little bit and got their resources quicker. We are in a different position in the way of resources but it has been admitted that this land belongs to us, and we should get it back.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* Might I ask a question? My question is as to whether there is any difference involved in Alberta selling their lands last year and ours being sold this year? Why is it wrong in this Province?

*Mr. Stipe:* I am not concerned about what they are doing in Alberta; and I say to put on sale 7,000,000 acres of land at one particular time and at the present time, is not good sound business.

*Hon. Mr. Davis:* Why?

*Mr. Stipe:* Because the time is not yet ripe.

*Hon. Mr. Davis:* Why is the time not ripe?

*Mr. Anderson:* It is our land. We will sell when we want.

*Mr. Stipe:* It is a disease that is catching.

*Hon. Mr. Davis:* Co-operation!

*Mr. Stipe:* Now, the transportation problem is one that confronts every State and Province on the North American Continent. We have in this Province of sparsely populated communities a serious problem, therefore, it stands to reason that we cannot enter into a big programme of highway construction, but it is a situation which demands a large amount of money being expended per mile, so it behooves the Government to make a real intensive effort to complete its system at the earliest possible moment. I contend that the 7,000 miles road plan, as outlined by the Government, will be quite sufficient for a time at least to cope with all the road requirements of the Province as Provincial Highways. Now, Sir, if we estimate the construction of the same on the basis of the estimates we had from the Minister in charge (*The Honourable Mr. Spence*) by way of answer to questions, we will come to the conclusion that for the balance of 3,500 miles not yet constructed it is going to cost us \$3,000 a mile to construct an earth grade highway and \$2,000 for gravelling, making in all \$5,000 per mile for each of the 7,000 mile road system in the Province. To complete that system—7,000 miles at \$5,000 a mile would be a capital expenditure of \$35,000,000. If we look up our Public Accounts we will find under the heading of "Public Improvements," the amount of \$16,000,000, but there are included certain amounts for bridges which would lead to a practical conclusion that \$11,000,000 has already been expended by the Government, which should be deducted, leaving a balance of some \$22,000,000 to make up, to construct a highway system of 7,000 miles in this Province as outlined by this Government. At the present rate of going, how long is it going to take us to cover this situation?

We construct a few miles here and there. In fact to be very specific, my records show (if they are not wrong) that during the past 23 years we have in the neighbourhood of 21.5 miles of second-coat gravelled highways. We have with one coat, 23.6 miles, and we have a standard earth road mileage of 3,378. So you will readily see we are not making much headway as far as promoting construction of permanent gravelled highways is concerned.

The Minister in his Address the other day stated that capitalisation of "anything of this nature was not, in his opinion, very good business." He stated he had a very good reason for that position. One he had was that the revenue was subject to fluctuation, and another was that the maintenance charges were indefinite and liable to fluctuate, and other minor details. What had he been doing and what has the Government done during the past 23 years? Each successive year, as far as I can read, he has taken from the Revenue Account certain sums as well as that money that was borrowed, and the only difference between the policy he is following and the policy of the party he is criticising is that he is doing "piece-meal" what we would do at one time. Instead of having any sound, permanent, idealistic policy, he goes nibbling away—nothing in a big way at all.



Now we are only going to live (some of us) a few short years, and if we serve our people by placing a provincial bond issue to complete the highway system, the convenience and comfort of having good, permanent roads would more than compensate for any little financial worry that may be felt in that respect. There is no doubt that the revenue will increase as the roads improve and although this is the day of advanced road construction, tomorrow may be the day of aeroplanes, and there would be no need to worry about replacements. I will say this, that we as a Government can step a little more lively than we are doing at the present time, especially in view of the problems confronting us. The advances we are making along these lines are too slow for these modern times, and, although they have considerable capital expenditure involved, in the Province of Manitoba, they are considering a further heavy capital outlay for branching out on a more extensive highway programme, we should do likewise.

I would like to call your attention to the report received from the Liquor Board, that the fire losses are pretty high. During the past year one in every 49 beer stores—the total being three in 148—were burned down. I do not know whether they are running short of beer in some of these places.

*Hon. Mr. Patterson:* I think the inference to be drawn from that remark is that the fires are caused because there is a shortage of beer.

*Mr. Anderson:* I think that is a broad inference!

*Hon. Mr. Davis:* They suggest fires and shortage in cash!

*Mr. Stipe:* Did I say that? I certainly did not wish to suggest anything of the kind. I think the honourable gentleman is in a very non-receptive frame of mind. I wish to draw attention to the point made—that there were three fires in the beer stores. He should see that some fire extinguishers are put in the beer stores.

*Hon. Mr. Davis:* Three fires out of how many?

*Mr. Stipe:* Three out of 148; one in 49.3.

*Hon. Mr. Davis:* How is that .3?

*Mr. Stipe:* It is a decimal fraction.

*Hon. Mr. Davis:* I see—that is part of a beer store burned up?

*Mr. Stipe:* Yes! Another point I want to bring out is that in the Province of Ontario they have a good Government; they have an honest Premier. I think it is a well-known fact that when he says anything he means it. He put on a liquor plebiscite down there and he has carried out practically every statement which he made at that time.

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* There was no plebiscite in Ontario.

*Mr. Stipe:* You know what is meant. It was as good as any plebiscite. The point is that he made the statement down there that he was going to look after the workmen; that they were going to get beer at reasonable prices. Just compare the prices prevailing there where this honest Government is in power: Saskatchewan Beer, pints, \$4.20 per case; Ontario Beer, pints, \$3.20 per case. Compare Scotch Whiskies—this is by way of drawing to the attention of this House that our Scotch Whiskies run one dollar a bottle higher than in Ontario. The same with brandy: Monet's Three Star, is \$3.10 in Ontario, and in our stores \$4.50. Going a little further, Guinness' Stout per case is \$3.60 in Ontario and the Saskatchewan price is \$4.80. Here is the point, I would impress upon those who set the price, that the brand used medicinally more than any other is Guinness' Stout, and the Liquor Board could provide a practical saving if they would reduce our price, which is 50% greater than the Ontario price. The same applies to beer, and beer is one of the beverages of the people of this Province, particularly of a good many of the working classes and I believe we should act to bring the beer down a little cheaper, especially in view of the fact we are making such a handsome profit out of the liquor business.

I think it would be a good stroke of business to have a good road leading from the border to the nearest store, and a store every two miles. I think if President-Elect Hoover is going to put a high tariff on Canadian products, it would be a good idea.

*Hon. Mr. Davis:* Why leave it two miles.

*Hon. Mr. Hamilton:* Would the honourable member advertise that in the United States papers?

*Mr. Stipe:* I do not know that I would.

*Hon. Mr. Davis:* You voted against it the other day.

*Mr. Stipe:* I am not much averse to that in the United States but I would not in Saskatchewan.

In reference to empty beer bottles. In the Province of Ontario empties are returnable to Brewery Warehouses at 36 cents per dozen. Two years ago in the Province of Saskatchewan empties were returnable to the nearest brewery at the rate of 30 cents per dozen, f.o.b. point of shipment. Last year, for some reason unknown, the price allowed for the return of empties in Saskatchewan was reduced to 25 cents per dozen at the point of destination. We sold in the Province of Saskatchewan, last year, approximately \$5,000,000 worth of beer or 1,200,000 cases. You will readily see by comparison of a like amount in the Province of Ontario that the purchaser would receive a rebate for empty bottles in the neighborhood of \$864,000. In the Province of Saskatchewan, two years ago, they would have received from the same number of cases \$720,000, and last year, by virtue of the change made by the Western Brewers' Association they would have received \$600,000, less freight, \$40,000 or a net sum of \$560,000. Why were they then permitted to make this change which resulted in a loss of something like \$160,000 to the individuals who have purchased beer from our Government Stores.

We do not know whether this arrangement with the Western Brewers is covered by a contract or not in regard to empties. In spite of what is said by my honourable friends, therefore, I was justified in assuming that the Government knew something about it, and was justified in asking the question why the schedule of prices for the return of empties had been changed during the past year.

*Hon. Mr. Davis:* Does my honourable friend infer that the Government had any knowledge of the transaction? I might explain that the Liquor Board conducts its own affairs without interference from the Government.

*Mr. Stipe:* The honourable gentleman is quite right, but if there was any member of the Government conversant with the facts I would not have been forced to take the position I did, and the question was a proper question which should have been answered.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* The honourable gentleman himself is conversant with the facts. He asked what "reason" had the board in permitting the Western Brewers' Association—that is not a proper question, we are not the Liquor Board of Saskatchewan.

*Mr. Stipe:* I know that. There is always somebody in the House ready to bob up on their behalf and say a question is not proper, that it is breaking the rules of procedure. Surely there is someone in authority who can speak when a question like that is asked. Why is this question not proper? I do think this question should have been answered.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* In order to show what the practice is, the Government has never answered any question in this House on behalf of the Liquor Board. The answers which are brought down are placed on the table by the Minister concerned, but they are answers of the Liquor Board and are prepared by the Board, and it is only after being prepared by them that they are placed on the table.

*Mr. Stipe:* I quite understand that. But surely there must be some responsibility in the Government in matters of this nature. Surely no Liquor Board would have the authority to change any large contract they want to—of this kind especially.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* We do not "reason" for them. Your question asks for the "reason."

*Mr. Stipe:* That is unfortunate, for they surely do need somebody to reason for them and I think it will be advisable to change that. If this Government will not, then some other Government will.

Now I would like to bring you back to a matter I dealt with in my previous speech—the beauties of Manitou Lake and the resort of Watrous. It is the only health resort of its kind on this continent. Four years ago in my first Session in this House I showed you so that all could see, there was no "little red line" showing on the road map of the Province. Now, my contention is that for a place of this nature (of international notoriety so to speak) this little "red line" should be put on the map. We came down here, not only myself, but a delegation from the Board of Trade and interviewed the Minister of Highways and we were given to understand that we were going to get the "red line" put in this map to Manitou Beach Resort. Four long years have gone by and we have not received it yet and I contend we should receive consideration in a minor detail of this nature. This resort is going ahead by leaps and bounds. Our road work is advancing rapidly and at the present time when a sanatorium costing \$200,000 is going to be built there, a road is urgently needed to the Beach. Now this is Saskatchewan's only health resort and I would like to impress upon you that we do not feel we are getting the consideration to which we are entitled. Although it is a comparatively small consideration in a road system which takes in practically all the roads of the Province itself, it is too big an undertaking for us alone up there and I bring it once more to the members of the House hoping that something more will be done in the future than has been done in the past.

As regards our educational system it is questionable whether, as far as a constructive policy is concerned, the public schools are honestly and efficiently administered. It is apparent to my mind there was an inclination to keep things from being known to some extent, but there is no doubt that during the last Session of the House we were letting people know we were going

to have a change. Something was to be done about a larger unit of administration for the schools, but up to the present what have we got? We have dilly-dallied around just as we did four years ago. Outside of the extra school grants and outside of raising the standard in the Normal school I cannot see we have made any advancement in the matter of education.

In regard to the power situation, a sum of \$45,000 has been placed in the estimates. It is just questionable whether the people of the Province who are contributing their little mite are going to derive any benefit from it. They are not interested for this reason. They cannot see the feasibility of their becoming users of this electricity in the course of their lifetime. As for asking them to foot the bill at the present time it is a little too much to expect from the ordinary citizen. This should be charged up against the individuals to whose advantage it is going to be. Regarding Moose Jaw and Regina, we have the statement of the Premier that we were not going to expropriate these plants unless compelled to. I suppose the same thing would apply to Watrous or any other, and in that respect there are some things that might be given greater consideration in the matter of power.

Economy was one of the words we used to hear a great deal in this House and some remark was made a year or two ago because we never hear it mentioned or used in the House now. In respect to this one point, I am going to bring up one thing; that is lignite coal. If there was ever an opportunity to practice economy and practice it in a practical and profitable way, it is by utilisation of lignite coal which is to become one of our greatest natural resources. I do not wish to cast any reflections on the Minister of Public Works (*The Honourable Mr. Uhrich*) but it has been established that it was found feasible to use it in the Brandon Hospital.

So far as the fuel consumption is concerned, it is to be remembered that the transportation costs to Brandon, owing to the long haul, naturally increased the price of the fuel, and this fact should have been taken into consideration or shown in the statement which indicated that the cost of fuel, light and power at Brandon was a greater amount than at Weyburn Mental Hospital. If the Government gives attention to what the honourable member for Estevan (*Mr. Creighton*) has said, Saskatchewan coal can be burnt economically at Weyburn and some saving will be effected there and elsewhere in the southern part of the Province.

I notice in the *Regina Post* an item—it is an interview with Mr. N. L. Lance explaining "This 33% paper profit only fiction," (That is the heading). It seems to me in spite of that particular item, it will be hard to convince the average layman that 33% is not an excessive profit. It is quite true as the honourable minister who is taking down notes at the present time has said (*The Honourable Mr. Latta*) some of the profits may be only a few cents on some items, but they have other items that run to \$11,000 and on these the profits would be very excessive.

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* Was the statement made in committee that 33 1-3% was a profit in the ordinary sense of the word? Does it mean net or gross?

*Mr. Stipe:* I presume it means gross profit. You have got to have the gross profits before you can have net.

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* Yes, but you might have a gross profit and yet go in the hole!

*Mr. Stipe:* There would, in that case, not be any net profit. The point is that from the manner in which this arrangement is made, it appears to me that if greater consideration were given to other printers and the paper handling were done by the Government, the cost could be reduced thereby, 20%. These storage rates provided for in the 33% could be cut off as they do not apply to every job.

Then the honourable, the Provincial Treasurer states that there is going to be no new provincial bond issue at the present time; that he expects that new capital expenditures are going to be covered by treasury bills and he said that he had made a fine arrangement with the banks. What was that extraordinary arrangement he made? He quits just when he should go on.

*Hon. Mr. Patterson:* It is just the opposite with you!

*Mr. Stipe:* I am asking you now as Provincial Treasurer: Is it good policy as a rule for a Government to deal in treasury bills with the bank? If the Provincial Treasurer does, let him tell us the rates, because it is my opinion that treasury bills are not as good as long term bonds, and the bank always gets the best of the deal.

In conclusion, the honourable, the Attorney General, the last time he was making one of his perorations, referred to the Conservative Party as a baby and described it as a little, weak, shrivelled up youngster, which would never grow up and gain sufficient strength to occupy those benches opposite. But, as a member of the Progressive Party, I might refer to the Liberal Party as a 'baby' who at the age of 22 years became a real kleptomaniac—it stole the 'Provincial Rights' platform. And if during the course of the next few months, an election is held in this Province, I feel convinced that this Liberal 'baby' will be sent to the happy hunting grounds.

MR. J. T. M. ANDERSON, M.L.A.

(Saskatoon City)

MONDAY, JANUARY 21, 1929.

Mr. Speaker,—We are approaching the end of another Session, probably the last Session for many of us here, and we are given this opportunity of reviewing something of what has been accomplished, or otherwise, during the Session and of outlining or prophesying something regarding the future.

The junior member for the City of Moose Jaw (*Mr. Ross*), in a rather unusual fashion, and in tones of mild inconsistency referred to the Opposition, and came to the conclusion, to his evident personal satisfaction, that during the past four years that the opposition in this House has been here, they have failed in the duties that are laid at the doors of an Opposition. Well, of course, any member of the House is quite welcome to his opinion. He made a strange reference to my honourable friend, the junior member for Regina (*Mr. MacPherson*), in the recent by-election. Let me tell him for his own information that the statement he made was not according to the facts. My honourable friend from the City of Regina was in the constituency of Arm River for ten or twelve days and only regretted that he could not have been there longer. It is true that he was not there for as long a period as many members of the Government but that was not because of any lack of desire to be there.

Then the honourable member for the City of Moose Jaw, the junior member, asserted that the Opposition had been negligent because they had not called together the Public Accounts Committee. If he will look into the procedure he will find that just as great a responsibility rests upon the shoulders of the Government and Government members regarding the calling together of that committee as rests upon the shoulders of the Opposition, and the point that was significant to his mind was that the first motion put before that committee came from the Liberal side of the House calling for an investigation of a certain sum in the Public Accounts. And, in referring to that, let me say that, judging from the nervous state of some of the members of that committee sitting opposite, and most notably members of the Government including the leader of the Government, I want to join with my honourable friend in saying that I think we made a mistake in not calling that committee sooner. Indeed, let me tell my honourable friend that the Government took quite a bit upon itself when it rendered a verdict in the matter of The Leader printing accounts when only half the evidence was in. Let me remind my friends that only one side has been presented and the other side of the case has yet to be put before that committee.

In connection with the address of my friend, the member for Pheasant Hills (*Mr. Smith*), unfortunately, I had to leave the room when he was making some remarks about some statements I had made in his constituency. I think it was in connection with the building of highways. Let me tell him that what I stated was nothing but the truth and the information was obtained from certain of his own constituents who endorsed everything that was said.

As regards the remarks of the honourable member for Wolseley (*Mr. McAfee*), I have nothing much to say. I think it was one of the best pieces of political sarcasm that we have heard since 1925, when he suggested we erect a home for the dumb in his constituency. Then he said something about roads and I wonder what the Minister thought, when he said cars were stuck in the roads in his constituency, and the reason we had bad roads was because we are a good agricultural province and the reason we were a good agricultural Province was because we were not a sand pit. Does he mean to infer that, in other Provinces, they are not carrying on the science and industry of agriculture? I could not see his point in that connection.

To come back to the junior member for Moose Jaw: When he says this opposition has not done its duty let me just remind him of a statement made by the Prime Minister when he was addressing the Young Liberals of Regina. He was back with the glow of victory of the Arm River by-election and he made a statement something to this effect, according to the press reports: "After a Government has been in power as long as this Government has, we cannot expect things to roll along smoothly all the time and we must expect a fight. As an example of this, take the recent Provincial by-election. In that election there were only two polls at which the Liberal vote was not increased, yet our opponents gained an even greater lead." This indicates there is a considerable body of public opinion that does not agree with the sentiments and opinion of the junior member for Moose Jaw.

Now I want to say a few words, before we close this Session, on the matter of power. I do not know what the other members of the House think of what has been done, but I think we are all ready to endorse all that has been done so far by the Government. We have one plant under the Government system, or will have shortly; we have a commission of one man; and we have a statement from the Minister in charge of this particular Department that the Government's intention is to "wholesale power" to private companies or to anyone that wants to buy it. But it seems to me we should have a well-defined statement of a rural power policy before this House closes.

We know private companies have been operating on a very large scale in the Province outside the cities. The Minister told us he did not know how many plants had been sold to private companies but let me tell him that something more than 100 have been sold to three or four private companies. We are also informed that the Montreal Engineering Company has offered to sell out to the Government. We have no information from the Government about that.

We are also informed that one of these companies intends to erect a steam generating plant for the production of power at the coal mines. Let me point out that if there is going to be any Province-wide scheme for the production of power, by the Government, there is the place to start it. Instead of having the private companies erect this plant at the Estevan coal mines, why should we not have a Government plant there and sell the power to the companies to the north of the coal area? It seems to me that would be the logical thing to do.

We find towns, such as Rosthern near Saskatoon, are waiting for some Government scheme. Does the Government intend to sell power wholesale from the Saskatoon plant to provide Rosthern and other towns with power, or will it sell to someone else who in turn will sell to them? That is something that can be easily told by the Government. Are they going, in towns like Rosthern, to build a high-power station subsidiary to Saskatoon and is the Commission or the Government going to sell power wholesale from that plant?

These are things I think not only people outside Saskatoon would want to know, but the people inside as well, because a large proportion of our citizens there are looking forward to the erection of a large plant that will not only supply the needs of the City itself but also supply power outside the City of Saskatoon. I believe that was the intention originally and I think some pronouncement should be made on this matter before the Session closes.

In connection with the generation of power at the coal fields, I think the Minister has stated on more than one occasion that at some future time, when we have more people in the Province than we have at the present time, there will be power generated from the coal fields and from our water powers. I am in hearty agreement with him when he says that.

*Hon. Mr. Spence:* I was going to ask my honourable friend if he is aware that power cannot be generated without water.

*Mr. Anderson:* I understand that exactly.

*Hon. Mr. Spence:* The honourable member is assuming there is sufficient water at the coal fields!

*Mr. Anderson:* I am assuming nothing of the kind. I have already said that one of these private companies has announced that they are going to provide power from the use of Saskatchewan coal. I take it they have investigated and found the scheme practical.

*Hon. Mr. Spence:* How much power?

*Mr. Anderson:* Let me go on a little further. In connection with an article that appeared in *Agricultural and Industrial Progress in Canada*, a pamphlet issued by the Department of Colonisation and Development of the Canadian Pacific Railway, I want to ask your permission to read a few sentences indicating that the people outside the Province have very much the same idea of a very large, widespread Government power scheme as many of the people in the Province have. Here is what they say:

"The Government of Saskatchewan is setting about building up a huge centralised power system, proposing to draw all existing systems into one control, after the manner of Ontario and, on a smaller scale, Manitoba. Until hydro power is available, steps have been taken to form a steam power pool based on present city plants reinforced by a central generating plant at a central point not yet determined or suggested. The proposals are to link Regina, Moose Jaw and Saskatoon, Saskatchewan's three large cities, by transmission lines of large capacity, the pooling of the supply of energy required in the three cities under one central authority, and the construction of a central plant to supply the maximum of current possible. Branches will reach out to centres such as Prince Albert, Battleford, Weyburn, Estevan, Yorkton, Swift Current, and others, and as the years go by and the volume increases, the proposed scheme would make possible the distribution of energy at a much lower cost than would prevail if cities continued to follow plans of local production.

"More recently it has been announced that the Flin Flon mining interests have definitely decided to develop the power necessary for their mining project in the Province of Saskatchewan."

And so on. So the people who read this literature all through Canada are looking for something on a larger scale than has been outlined in the House.

Let me also remind this House that away back in 1919 there was a great electrical power convention in the Town of Estevan under the auspices of the Estevan Board of Trade. A number of delegates, some 48, were there from the towns in the southern part of the Province. Messages were read from Hon. Mr. Dunning and other prominent men of that time and here is what one delegate from Yellow Grass said:

"I would say this. It would be a great misfortune to befall this community if this thing were not taken up on a commercial basis rather than to refer it to the Commission if it is going to take them ten years. This thing is a possibility because municipalities in southern Saskatchewan are paying up to 20 cents a K.W. to produce light and power. If this can be produced here at 5 cents we should go ahead with the project. It is a matter of national economy. We are here for information and to see if there is a possibility of knowing what it will cost to produce this energy.

"We are willing to pay our share, and any other municipalities will be willing to pay their share. It might be the easiest way to pass this up to the Commission as too big for us to handle but there is nothing in our National Resources too big for the men of Saskatchewan to handle and I say if it is too big for the bulk of trade to handle, if they have coal from here to the Rockies and from here to Mexico, and if it is of that quality of which you speak, I say you ought to go ahead and bend every energy and call in any help necessary but do not give it to a Commission which is going to hold it up for ten years."

Then there was a wire sent to the Hon. Mr. Dunning.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* Just on a point of order: I do not want to object to the honourable gentleman's references but I want to call his attention to the fact that he is out of order in discussing a question that has already been debated and decided upon in the House at this Session. I just raised the question.

*Mr. Anderson:* Well, Mr. Speaker, I have waited for your ruling which has not come. I am emphasising provincial economy.

*Mr. Cross:* Just polishing it up!

*Mr. Anderson:* Simply putting the finishing touches on it! I will not spend very much time on that. But I would point out two things, that in 1913 the Government of this Province had a report in its hands from Mr. Wynne Roberts and he said something like this:

"(1) The large quantities of workable lignite deposits in the Province of Saskatchewan can be utilised at the coal centres for the production of power and its distribution in parts of the Province.

"(2) The generation of electrical power at such coal centres is both a practicable and commercial feasibility and its distribution at a low rate per kilowatt is possible if the large municipal authorities will co-operate by taking currents in bulk.

"(3) The manufacture of lignite gas at a gas works located on the coal fields is also a practicable and commercial possibility."

In 1915 another investigation and report was made by Mr. S. M. Darling and Mr. Darling concluded his report by saying that there was available in this lignite all the electrical power that will ever be required in southern Saskatchewan on the switchboard at not to exceed Niagara rates, namely \$8 per horse power per year. So here we are fourteen years later still investigating the advisability of producing power from Saskatchewan coal, and I say again that, when there is a private company planning to operate on a large scale, it is high time the Government, if it is sincere, did something about a large scheme of Government owned power in this Province. Let me refer to an editorial in the *Regina Leader* of Monday, June 25, 1928, headed "A Vigorous Resolution on the Power Question," which says:

"The resolution on the power question adopted by the Union of Saskatchewan Municipalities was important. The Union is emphatically and unreservedly for application of the public ownership principle to power development and to the control and operation in this Province. It also wants more action on the part of the Provincial Government in this regard, something approaching a more definite policy.

"The action of the Union of Municipalities can be accepted as indicating public opinion throughout the Province on this very important question. Delay is dangerous in this matter. Municipalities, large and small, have a problem on their hands: They are waiting for the report of the Power Commission and Government action thereon, and they are at the same time being beset by private interests which would gain control of their plants and thus endanger the whole public ownership enterprise which most people in the Province want to see embarked upon with the least possible delay. Is the position of these municipalities properly appreciated by the 'powers that be'?"

Now, it would be difficult to touch on any subject that has not been touched on in a previous debate in this House. We had a long discussion on the development of our coal fields but I propose, with your permission, Mr. Speaker, to deal for a short time with the question of Saskatchewan coal. Even if we have debated this question I do not think there is any rule against debating it again. It is so important that we should see, before the Session closes, if there is any possible way of encouraging, more than has been done, the development of Saskatchewan coal. We all know the tremendous amount of coal we have in our Province and the extensive use made of it in the Province of Manitoba would seem to indicate that it can be used with very considerable success. I may say the party I have the honour to represent, in the executive meeting held, recently, when we had all the candidates present, made its stand a little more definite so that we can let the people of the Province know as to what we plan to do in connection with this industry. We are prepared to provide for the immediate use of Saskatchewan coal in all Government buildings on the main line of the C.P.R. and south of it, and to make all the necessary changes at once in heating plants now situated in these buildings. That is our platform.

*Mr. Cross:* That is from the revised edition!

*Mr. Anderson:* Last year there were some 21,000 tons sold to 500 Regina domestic users. The C.P.R. and C.N.R., the Mounted Police and other large buildings using this to advantage included the Grey Nuns Hospital, the Wheat Pool, the Cathedral of Regina and two separate schools and nine public schools.

In considering the costs of fuel in the nine public schools for the year 1922, when no Saskatchewan lignite was used and comparing it with the costs in 1925 when Saskatchewan coal was used altogether except in Albert School, the school board effected a saving of \$7,069.81. So let me say that it is the duty of the Government (whatever Government may be in power in the future) to take immediate steps to develop the great coal industry. It is being talked of now, and an experiment has been going on for 15 years and I think the time has come when it has been proved to the satisfaction of a great many people at any rate, that we can save a lot of money by the use of our own coal and at the same time develop one of the greatest home industries we have in this Province.

Now, let me pass on to a question which has been a matter of discussion for many years and which will occupy a prominent place in public attention for the next 12 months or until the problem is solved. I refer to the return of the Natural Resources. In connection with our Natural Resources I think it has been clearly demonstrated that people throughout the length and breadth of Canada recognise that we *own* our Natural Resources,—that is, they have always belonged to the Province but that certain of them have been held in trust for the Province. We believe that the time has come when these Natural Resources should be handed over to us, and the charge we want to place at the door of the Government is that, in carrying on the negotiations in the next few months, it protect in the fullest measure the interests of the Province for the future welfare of the Province, and see to it that the fullest benefits accrue to the Province. We are not going to be satisfied to have the Federal Government place on the market great areas of our school lands. We take the stand that those lands are ours and we take the stand that the selling of those lands should be left to ourselves. Let them be turned over to us and let us conduct the sale as we see fit.

Now there may be an attempt, Mr. Speaker, to give the people of this Province the idea that after we get back the lands which have not been alienated, all water and mineral rights and timber resources and in addition get \$750,000 for all time, or even the maximum \$1,125,000 for all time, that we should be satisfied. I want to say that the people of this Province are not going to be satisfied. The Dominion Government has \$37,000,000 at Ottawa now which they are holding in trust as a result of the sale of our lands. On this we get interest in the form of an annual subsidy. If we receive \$1,125,000 we would be getting 3% on that money whereas if we had that fund in our own charge we could invest it to bring at least four to four and a half per cent. interest. We should not be content with two or three per cent.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* Might I ask a question? Is the honourable member trying to confuse the school lands trust fund with the \$750,000 subsidy in lieu of other lands?

*Mr. Anderson:* There is no attempt to confuse anybody.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* Might I ask another question? Where does this \$37,000,000 in trust come from? What source is it derived from?

*Mr. Anderson:* When the Premier gets up to deliver his address, he can give us this information.

In connection with the sale of these school lands, I noticed a despatch from Ottawa, in the newspapers on Saturday, in which Hon. Charles Stewart, Minister of the Interior, is reported as stating that the Saskatchewan Government only recommended the school lands sale after it was known that a bountiful harvest was being reaped and that returns from crop sales should bring in ample cash for the first payments on land purchases. Are we to infer that the Saskatchewan

Government has recommended that the school lands sale should be held this spring? That is the inference one would be led to draw. Yet the answers to certain questions asked in the House would indicate that the Government had not recommended the sale of any school lands this spring. That is something that might well be explained.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* Might I correct the Honourable gentleman. There has been no answer given at any time during this Session that would indicate the Government had not been consulted, or that the Government had not given its consent to the sale of those school lands.

*Mr. Anderson:* Well, the honourable gentlemen here, and the people throughout the Province know what the questions were, and what answers were given. They know and they will draw their own conclusions. The Premier seems somewhat perturbed over the matter. The people themselves will judge.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* I will not be so much perturbed as the leader of the Conservative party by the end of the summer.

*Mr. Anderson:* If the Premier will calm himself we shall proceed.

Let those who go to Ottawa stand up for the rights of this Province and our people. Their actions are going to be watched and the honourable member for Moose Jaw (*Mr. Ross*) will find that this opposition will be quite qualified to do what is their duty in this provincial and national matter.

*Hon. Mr. Davis:* Would my honourable friend permit a question? What would you recommend we should ask for?

*Mr. Anderson:* If you want to take me into your confidence, I shall. The suggestion has already been made that members of this opposition might give some assistance to the Government in this particular. I am aware of the terms we would ask for and we are not giving the answer to your question just now.

*Hon. Mr. Davis:* Take the public into your confidence!

*Mr. Anderson:* We have the public in our confidence to a greater degree at the present time than the Government has.

Now, the other day we had a remarkable address—remarkable in many ways—from the Minister of Public Health and Public Works (*the Honourable Dr. Uhrich*) whose perorations are well known to all. But I might say that in that peroration of his there was one comparison that he failed to bring out. As he told us about the people of various creeds and beliefs fighting side by side in Flanders for so many years he might also remember that there were men fighting side by side of different political beliefs and when they came back home maimed and broken, these men, who were not prepared to subscribe to the policy of the reigning party of this Province were not given much consideration, and I want to say again that if we stand for anything at all, we stand for a fair and square deal to those men who have given so much for us.

I want to charge this Government again with being derelict and negligent in its duty in this regard. Time after time since 1925 we have had Ministers get up in their seats and announce that certain appointments had been made and from indirect inferences we gather that returned men had applied for these jobs and had been turned down. I have in mind a letter which I do not happen to have here but the incident happened in the neighbourhood of Estevan. This man wrote to me and told me he had applied for a position to look after a certain piece of road that went past his little farm. He was a returned man trying to eke out an existence on a small farm. He applied for the job, and in due course the Government answered his letter stating that he would be given consideration. Later on, the job was given to someone else and he asked a returned soldiers' association to look into the reason for it. The answer that came back to him was that he did not get the position because he was a Conservative and as he said in his letter, "I would rather die in a ditch by the roadside than sacrifice my principles for a job like that."

*Government members:* Hear! Hear!

*Mr. Anderson:* The honourable gentlemen say "Hear! hear!" They might well hang their heads in shame.

The other day in answer to a question we were told on the floor of the House that three returned men had applied for the position of vendor in the beer store at Pleasantdale, and a man who was not a returned man, who already owns a half-section of land and is an implement dealer, received the position. In another town the vendor in the beer store is a medical man and in still another the vendor is a medical man—in the town of St. Brieux if you want to know the name. There are men who need the positions far more than those who have them and whose only qualifications are that they are political favourites of this Government.



In connection with these appointments our position is that, no matter what the man's political affiliation, no matter what his racial origin may be, the returned man should be given the preference. This Province has not even gone so far as to erect a memorial to the fallen. Surely the least they could do would be to give fair treatment to these men who have given so much for us. They could well afford to give them a square deal.

Now, in connection with the Civil Service, every member in this House knows what we stand for. I want it distinctly understood by every civil servant that when we are criticising their activities, we are not criticising any individuals, whether they be school inspectors, road inspectors, or anything else. We are criticising the system and we promise, if given the opportunity, to introduce a system that will be free from party politics. We do not think it is right that men and women who are working for and drawing salaries from the people of the Province as a whole, should be sent out to take part in political activities. We had a return tabled the other day indicating that a number of civil servants were in Arm River in the by-election. Well, we are not blaming any of them who were there. Not personally.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* Might I correct the honourable gentleman. There was no return brought down showing the number of civil servants engaged in the Arm River by-election.

*Mr. Anderson:* Well, Mr. Speaker, I made a slight mistake. They were there during the month of October, 1928, and the only thing wrong about the return is that it was not quite complete and it may be necessary for us to complete it.

Now in connection with this question of the civil service, we have been told in this House that the civil service did not take part in politics and that no civil servant with the knowledge or sanction of the Government took part in an election. Well, let me say that the Government does not know what is going on and that is a pretty good reason why this Government should be defeated. If they do not know what is going on in their Departments, it is time to get rid of them. Now, for the benefit of the Government and in order that they may know, let me point out that if they will investigate as I did (and if I am wrong I am quite prepared to stand the consequences)—if the Government will investigate where the following men, employed in the Civil Service at the time were during the months of April, May and June, 1927, I think they will find that all of these men were in the Province of Manitoba during the time that the Provincial election was on there. There is George Reid, of the Insurance Department; Joseph Doutre, now in the Department of Highways; Nat Collins of the Liquor Board; Douglas Munro now of the Liquor Board; Reg. Folkes, recently resigned; Mr. Forsyth of the Game Branch; and W. G. McKay, of the Highways Department, who has also recently resigned; L. Coy of the Liquor Board, now organising for the Liberal Party; F. McDougall of the Highways Department; Joseph Longpre of the Motor License Branch; and Messrs Grant, McIntyre and McManus of the Highways Department. I think the Government will find that some of these civil servants, or all of them, were in the Province of Manitoba in 1927 engaged in political work.

I am reminded of what was said in connection with the Civil Service in a letter written to the *Saskatoon Star* of April 21, 1922, by Hon. George Langley. Now, Hon. George Langley, would know of the activities so far as politics is concerned better than we would. He wrote:

"The Provincial Government machine is kept in going order by a section of the Civil Service so that those who support the Progressive movement must clearly understand that Mr. Dunning's Government intends to try to win back the public opinion of this Province into the old vortex and thralldom of traditional partyism by a liberal use of the monies of the taxpayers devoted to that end."

These are not my words, Mr. Speaker, but the words of a man who sat on the Government side of the House and in the Cabinet for a number of years. Let me also point out that throughout the Province men who are drawing money from some Department of the Government are taking part actively in elections. A young man came to me and said: "When the election comes on I will be forced to go and work in the Liberal Committee Rooms. I do not want to do it but I will be forced to."

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* Who was that?

*Mr. Anderson:* I am not telling you who it was. I have too much respect for him, as if I did the party machine would immediately pounce on him. I said, "You will have to do what you are told as long as you are working for this Government under a system like that." I was told by another man not long ago, "Why, I would lose my job in twenty-four hours if . . ."

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* Might I ask the honourable gentleman a question? The member who is now speaking was once a member of this Civil Service for about eleven years or a little over: Did anyone during that time ever say to him that he should not be a Conservative or that he had to be a Liberal?

*Mr. Anderson:* Well, Mr. Speaker, I may answer that very readily and I was coming to it. There is one branch of the Civil Service that is fairly free from political influence and that is the Education Department.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* Excepting those who set the Grade VIII examination papers a little while ago!

*Mr. Anderson:* I shall refer to that too. And I may also point out that at the time the gentleman he is speaking of was in the Department, the head of the Department was not the Premier and his "machine" was not in operation.

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* Did not the honourable gentleman at one time write me a letter apologising to me for what he said?

*Mr. Anderson:* If I did I wish you would produce the letter.

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* For his information I would refer him to the Sessional Papers. He will find it there.

*Mr. Anderson:* I wrote so many letters to my honourable friend and he wrote me just as many. I believe it is the opinion of the people of the Province that we should have our Civil Service free from taking part in political activities and the civil servants are worrying about this a lot more than the gentlemen opposite imagine. I want to warn the Government that they are sitting on a volcano at the present time and the most active element in the eruption will be their own Civil Service.

Now in connection with Highways: I have mentioned before in this House that, in the Liberal platform of 1925, there was no mention of gravelled roads. Absolutely none! It was only after this opposition began to emphasise the fact that we must have all-weather roads (and all through this Province, last year, more particularly, we found all sorts of people, commercial travellers and others complaining of the road policy) that this Government saw that something had to be done and then we had this attempt to smother criticism in a shower of gravel in the late months of 1928. They have told people that by the end of 1929 we will have as many miles of gravelled roads as they have altogether in the Provinces of Manitoba and Alberta. This will amount to some three thousand miles.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* If I might correct the honourable gentleman! I do not want to be misquoted. It has been stated that, by the end of 1929, we will have as much gravelled road as they have in either Manitoba or Alberta and that by the end of the next year we will have as much as both combined now have, that is, if there is no change in policy.

*Mr. Anderson:* Well, the newspaper report must have been correct when it reported me but not when it reported you. It was the *Regina Leader* that provided the information.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* It was correct when it reported me.

*Mr. Anderson:* Well, let us hope that during the few remaining months of the life of this Government.

Interruption from Government benches.

*Mr. Anderson:* Mr. Speaker, I do not want to disturb the members opposite; there will be enough excitement for them very shortly.

In connection with officials of the Highways Department I do not know whether the Minister has made a mistake but I am quite sure that provision has been made for the payment of salaries of six district superintendents. The names of the districts were outlined for these district superintendents, the same as the previous year, and when we asked the other day for the particulars we received the answer from the Minister of Highways which indicates there are fifteen district superintendents. Now, how do they manage to have fifteen district superintendents when the Public Accounts would indicate that they have only five or six? It may be that that is a mistake but I.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* Get a copy of the estimates of last year.

*Mr. Anderson:* Yes, but there were only six provided for, and 15 at work!

In connection with the building of roads we have been criticised because we urged a large capital expenditure on highways and we are prepared to stand by that policy. You will remember that a short time ago one of the most prominent Liberals in the City of Regina suggested that some ten millions of dollars should be spent by way of capital expenditure, on roads. That is a principle we believe should be followed out and if the Government does what we expect it to do and what the people expect it to do when we get the return of our natural resources this year, that will mean we can cut our taxation very considerably and can spend much more on roads than has been spent in the past.

If we are going to have the road policy the Government has outlined this year, then my contention is that the amount of money provided in the estimates is not sufficient. I think it is about \$3,000,000 for capital expenditure. I think the gas tax will mean about \$1,000,000 this year, and we believe that the better roads we have the more money we are likely to get from the gasoline tax.

If we are given the chance, we will do what the Conservative party all through its history in this Province has contended is the only policy that will lead to greater efficiency in highway construction. It is in all its platforms. In 1927, for example, we find that the Conservative party then stood for the same policy as is outlined today:

"Resolved that this Convention favours the creation of a Highways Commission, independent politically, to have jurisdiction over the building and maintenance of all roads and bridges constructed with or maintained out of Provincial funds, subject as to general policy to the Legislature and answerable to the Legislature only."

We are going to have the say as a Legislature and not leave it under the control of the Government. That is the policy that should be followed and we shall not get satisfactory results until some such scheme is adopted.

In connection with the subject of Agriculture, there has not been anything startlingly important during the past year. The Province has a few more cows, a few less horses and about the same number of mules. The stellar achievement has been the purchase of this Champion dairy cow, (Canary Korndyke Alcartra).

While we must commend the Government for appointing the Grain Commission, I think there is something to be said in criticism of the Government for the lateness in which they took the matter up when there was no hope of immediate redress for the farmers who had lost from \$50,000,000 to \$100,000,000 in the price of wheat through low grading, while all the members of the Government were taking part in the Arm River by-election. It was after that that this Commission was appointed.

*Mr. Cross:* You seem hard to please tonight.

*Mr. Anderson:* We hope that some good will come from this Commission when it reports. This Government has the happy faculty of appointing Commissions that report to the Legislature at a very late hour. Let me say that, before this House adjourns, we should have a report from this Workmen's Compensation Commission. These men have been wandering around the country for a number of months and the report has not been brought in. There is quite a body of opinion against this Bill and a great body in favour of the Bill. I think the members of this House should have a copy of the report of the Commission so that members may understand the contents of the draft Bill.

Then there was another Commission appointed to deal with the difficulties in connection with the United and Presbyterian Churches. Has that Commission reported? Has the Government received a report from them?

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* No, Mr. Speaker, that Commission has not reported.

*Mr. Anderson:* That Commission should have reported. The Government should have seen to it that there was some report for this session.

I was very pleased to see that some steps had been taken to overcome the weed situation. I believe a convention has been called and no doubt something will come of that. I am still of the opinion that substantial assistance in the matter of eradication of weeds should be forthcoming from the Federal Government as has been done in the States to the south of us. I notice that the Minister at Weyburn said recently, \$15,000,000, and Mr. E. H. Morrison, Saskatchewan Land Mortgage Company, stated that in the Prairie Provinces not less than \$30,000,000 a year would be lost through weeds, and I notice that one of Mr. Stewart's statements on the school land sale was to effect that these lands were instrumental in spreading weeds. Perhaps this is the best reason for the sale of some of these lands.

Let me call the attention of the Minister of Agriculture to the matter of tax sales. I am informed that in some parts of the Province (and I have one part in particular in mind), when a tax sale takes place a corporation or company, closely in touch with one of the banks, is in the habit of purchasing tax sale certificates, paying off the mortgage on that piece of land and then selling the land so that the original owner has to look elsewhere for a place in which to live. I may tell the Minister that many in the Southern part of the Province are going over to the United States because they have lost their farms in that way.

*Hon. Mr. Davis:* How would the tax sale purchaser, if he bought the tax sale certificate, pay the mortgage off?

*Mr. Anderson:* The same Company.

*Mr. McNiven:* Why?

*Mr. Anderson:* In order to get title to the property.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* If the honourable gentleman would tell us: How long would they have to wait for title?

*Mr. Anderson:* Well, I am not a lawyer, but I understand about two and a half years.

*Mr. Hill:* I do not think you know anything about tax sales!

*Mr. Anderson:* What is the remedy? Let me suggest something along these lines: That the Government protect these men. Let the Government pay the taxes and let the land remain mortgaged.

*Mr. Hill:* What mortgage?

*Hon. Mr. Hamilton:* Does the honourable gentleman know that where there is a mortgage against the land that invariably it has to be paid off before title can be secured?

*Mr. Anderson:* Well, my information is that this very thing is going on in the Minister's own constituency of Weyburn and I can give him the names of some, and if he can show that this is wrong, I am willing to make amends in any way I can. That is the information I have. These men are being forced off the land, whereas if there was some assistance from the Government—say, through the Farms Loans Board, then they might be in a position to carry on.

*Mr. Hill:* Does the honourable member suggest that the Government pay the taxes of people who get behind?

*Mr. Anderson:* I trust my honourable friends will be calm and collected! I simply ask that they consider this suggestion.

I now want to say a word regarding the Weyburn Mental Hospital.

*Mr. Cross:* That is a good place to go.

*Mr. Anderson:* It is overcrowded.

*Mr. Cross:* We will make room for you.

*Mr. Anderson:* The Minister of Public Works referred to a Committee that was appointed. What he said was perfectly right and I wish to say that, though I was at the institution at North Battleford, the other member from this side of the House (*Mr. Tran*) and I did not find it convenient to accompany the Committee to the other institutions. However, I visited the Weyburn Mental Hospital and made some observations and I want to say here that anything I have said was not exaggerated in any shape or form. It was the truth; and when I said I saw two little girls there who were not weak mentally, I was not giving my own diagnosis, but the actual words of the Superintendent of the institution.

*Hon. Mr. Hamilton:* Was the honourable member there as a guest or was he there in his official capacity to investigate?

*Mr. Anderson:* I was there as a visitor.

*Hon. Mr. Uhrich:* As a guest of whom? The Rotary Club?

*Mr. Anderson:* This is what I saw, as a visitor, in the Mental Hospital and I said to Dr. Mitchell: "There does not seem to be anything wrong with these children," and he said, "No, their mothers are here and there is no place else for them."

*Mr. McNiven:* How many were there?

*Mr. Anderson:* I refer to two and my contention is that those children should not be there, and when I asked when they would be cared for elsewhere Dr. Mitchell said to me that when they were seven or eight years of age, the Department of Neglected Children could find places for them.

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* Did the Doctor not add that these children might have a disturbance at any time?

*Mr. Anderson:* No.

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* I am only asking. I have a reason.

*Mr. Anderson:* No, he did not.

*Mr. McNiven:* How old were these two children?

*Mr. Anderson:* These children would be about four or five years old.

*Mr. McNiven:* They got younger after I saw them.

*Mr. Anderson:* Now, I said something by way of criticising the airing courts. It was in the spring of the year and there was a considerable water in this airing court and in regard to the statement that there were planks placed over pools of water, the planks were not there the day of my visit. In connection with the high board fence, there is nothing like that in the institution at North Battleford and I think it would be better if it were removed.

*Hon. Mr. Uhrich:* May I ask the honourable gentleman a question? How does he know whether it would be better or not?

*Mr. Anderson:* Well, let me say that in the little "Red Book" of 1925 (*Liberal Handbook*) there is a statement that the Government, "has no high walls around their institutions," but there is one down at Weyburn.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* There is not any around the institution at all.

*Mr. Anderson:* I am quite convinced there should be an independent investigation of the conduct of the Weyburn Mental Hospital. I am decidedly of the opinion that there should be, but, in order to be fair, I want to say that as far as North Battleford is concerned, and in spite of some fanatical claims to the contrary, I have nothing to say by way of adverse criticism of that institution. I believe the man who is in charge of that institution knows his work and that we have a very efficient official in Dr. Campbell at Weyburn, but I do feel that the organisation in the Weyburn institution would be carried on more efficiently if it were carried on along lines similar to those followed at Battleford.

I saw in North Battleford no patients in straight jackets. There was however, quite a number in Weyburn and I do not think the straight jacket should be used on such a wide scale. If we have time, in the Public Accounts Committee, it is my intention to ask some investigation regarding expenditures at Weyburn and I have witnesses who were formerly in the employ of that institution who are willing to appear and give evidence. I have quite a number of letters from different parts of the Province regarding Weyburn Mental Hospital indicating that there should be some investigation of an independent nature in connection with that institution.

*(Interruption by Government member)*

Surely the honourable member for Moose Jaw will think we are doing our duty judging from the agitation of members opposite!

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* We want to keep you in the straight and narrow path.

*Mr. Anderson:* In connection with education, we have heard a lot about that since 1925 and even before that. I think the former Minister of Education the (*Hon. Mr. Latta*) said that not until I came in the House did he hear politics allied so closely to education.

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* Apparently true.

*Mr. Anderson:* Let me say what I said before. We are not attacking the educational system. We are not trying to tear down, but we are criticising as we have the right to criticise, the educational administration in this Province. This has been stirring people up from one end of the Province to the other, and what has transpired in this Province in connection with educational administration leads me to think it is the duty of the Government to see if they cannot find some solution that will tend to promote greater harmony and co-operation than exists at the present time. That is what we intend to try to do.

*Government member:* It was done very well last summer!

*Mr. Anderson:* My honourable friends do like to try and silence the Opposition criticism in this connection, but they will never succeed in doing that. I am going to refer to one situation that has caused considerable discussion—This is what is known as the "Wakaw School Affair." There it was found, as we mentioned a year ago, that one minority broke away to form a separate school. But other minorities were not allowed because of the law to withdraw their support from the public school, and so far as the minority school was concerned the Government evidently realised that something should be done to bring these schools together again. It suggested that the supporters of the separate school at Wakaw take a certain line of action that might bring this about. The first despatch in connection with this matter appeared in the Regina papers on December 27, 1928, and it stated that supporters of the separate school had passed a resolution requesting that their school be disorganised and united with the public school, and it was stated that "This was in agreement with a request of the Deputy Minister of Education." The next day the *Leader* came out and corrected that and said that neither the Minister nor his Deputy had framed the resolution or disorganisation.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* That is hardly correct.

*Mr. Anderson:* Here is what the *Regina Leader* said:

"By error a news despatch from Wakaw, Saskatchewan, made it appear as though provision to govern the disorganisation of the Protestant Separate School at Wakaw had been framed by either the Minister of Education or his Deputy. As a matter of fact, the provisions were neither framed nor submitted by any person connected with the Government. They were framed and accepted by the ratepayers of the school as acceptable to them as a basis for disorganisation."

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* That is exactly the point, if the honourable member will permit of a correction. The statement was to the effect that the Minister or the Deputy Minister had framed the provisions for disorganisation of the school. The correction is what has now been read, that neither the Minister of the Deputy Minister has framed the provisions. The facts are that they held a meeting and discussed the matter and the terms of the resolution were agreed upon and they all got together. It is correct in the *Leader*.

*Mr. Anderson:* Well, Mr. Speaker, another meeting was held on January 1, 1929, and these resolutions passed at the previous meeting were redrafted and I have in my hand a letter from one of the ratepayers in which he says that "Mr. Ball, the Deputy Minister, himself suggested, in fact wrote, clause 4 of the revised provision." Here is Clause 4 as it appeared in the *Saskatoon Star-Phoenix*:

"And we further submit that this question is not local but provincial and involves a problem of the first magnitude that demands radical consideration. And we insist that the nuns have no proper place in the public schools, and urge most vigorously that legislation should be passed to permanently protect the public schools from clerical interference and from religious strife."

My information is that the Deputy Minister wrote the revised Clause 4, that I have just read.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* I want to get this exactly correct: Is the honourable gentleman attempting to lead the House to believe that the Deputy Minister actually conceived and wrote this resolution? I am not denying that he might have been in position sitting in the meeting with a lead pencil while the discussion was going on and possibly wrote down the resolution at their suggestion.

*Mr. Anderson:* Clause 4!

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* And I would like to state this: That I am not ready to accept this statement. At the moment I am not able to state that the Deputy Minister would take that position of the case but I am quite sure he would probably take that position and if there is any correction to make I am quite prepared to make it later in the Debate.

*Mr. Anderson:* In connection with another school situation in the Village of Quinton, something similar.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* Will the speaker kindly finish? Will he state when those two schools got together were they re-united as a result of the efforts of the Government?

*Mr. Anderson:* The Government evidently made some efforts to get them together. I have a letter on the subject:

"At a meeting held on January 1st, these new provisos were drafted and a meeting declared legal by Mr. Ball was called for the next day. On January 2nd this meeting was held in the school house with Dr. Scott as chairman. (Mr. Ball having returned to Regina on that day).

"Before the people had all arrived at the school the chairman called the meeting to order, and took a vote on the revised provisos, and declared the vote in favour, without first giving anybody a chance to discuss the subject. But before he could take a vote on the whole resolution, someone suggested an amendment that the meeting adjourn for six months, this was voted on and I am sure would have carried by several votes had they been counted, but the chairman declared the amendment lost. He seemed to be very anxious to "railroad" this thing through immediately, on account (he said) of the assessment commission coming from Regina, and that there would be trouble over the Jews' taxes.

"The Jews themselves said that they were willing to fight it out for the time being, until the returns after the coming election. They stayed with me to a man, so did the most of the Ukrainians, I can furnish proof for these statements if you want them."

*Hon. Mr. Davis:* Who was the writer?

*Mr. Anderson:* Mr. L. S. Lepine, Box 35, Wakaw, wrote it to me.

*Hon. Mr. Davis:* Lepine? Oh, yes.

*Mr. Anderson:* In connection with the school situation at Quinton; there we had something similar and in this connection a number of the ratepayers, 28 in all, sent me a letter asking what should be done and I advised them that the only thing to do under existing conditions in their particular case was to take advantage of the right of a minority and set up a separate school, and they established a Protestant Separate School. Here is a letter that appeared in the Press the other day which some of the members may have seen:

"With great interest I have been reading those proceedings at Wakaw, to which your paper has given such a prominent place. Our village, too, was visited some time ago by a school inspector for the purpose of getting the school boards at both the so-called public school and the Protestant separate school to put their signatures to a number of points so as to get the split districts united once more. The Protestant board was quite willing, in fact did sign, but the so-called public board did not want to let the nuns go, so here was the stumbling block.

"From the above you will notice that the Department of Education is alive to the fact that separate schools are a waste of money and efficiency, tending to separation and intolerance, detrimental to united citizenship. To get to the root of the evil, legislation should be brought down whereby nuns or any man pledged to certain philosophy are prohibited to conduct public schools.

"This, as reported from Wakaw, is an important provincial problem, and it is up to the electors to see if our present Government, for reasons best known to itself, is afraid to introduce such legislation, and that men are elected who will place principle before party and will see to it that this wrong is righted."

Well, we are very glad to see that the Government is doing something to bring these parties together but we do think they were negligent in their duties in allowing the situation to arise in the first place. They might have stopped it in the first place.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* Not at all.

*Mr. Anderson:* Now, in the matter of technical schools I do not think we can be too harsh in our criticism of the Government, largely because of the expansion of certain industries in the City of Regina, for not having taken some action some time before this. The Leader of the Government himself prophesied that we were on the eve of a great industrial development and it seems to me something should have been done to prepare for this influx.

However, I notice that some \$50,000 has been placed in the estimate for this work, and a delegation came down from my constituency a few days ago and asked for help to erect a technical school for the City of Saskatoon. I think the delegation made a mistake in asking that it be provided in 1930 or 1931, and I believe had they asked for it now, the Government would have done the same as they had evidently planned to do for the City of Regina. However, a great deal of this money has lapsed and the scheme itself will lapse this coming April, so I urge the Government to take the matter up at once and try to get the Dominion Government to make available all, or part, of this amount. I believe that is something the Government should take up and give some assistance to more points than to the City of Regina and the City of Saskatoon. I may say that one year ago I made this statement in the House:

"We are on the eve of a great industrial development in this Province. The fact is recognised by nearly all classes of the community. But, to be able to push this development to the fullest extent we require trained men here. What has the Government done to prepare for the advent of industrial development?"

"The Federal Government made grants which were available to the Provinces for vocational training. Most of the Provinces of the Dominion took advantage of the opportunity, but Saskatchewan did not and a sum of over \$200,000 which was available to us for the purpose of assisting in the technical and vocational training of our youth, was allowed to lapse. The Government of this Province let that \$200,000 slip through its hands, a sum that might have helped us train our youth in preparation for this advent of industry. What is the use of us looking forward to such a development if we leave our men untrained, without the opportunity of acquiring the technical education that will be required?"

Something was said about the Grade VIII history paper. Some of you will remember I took exception to some of the questions as being entirely objectionable in that early adolescent stage and when this Grade VIII paper is analysed, I think I am right when I say the questions introduced religious and racial matters—and I think any person who studies them will agree with me. I know a number of the teachers and school inspectors and others in educational work think the same as I do. Here is one question:

"Show how the fierce attacks of the *Toronto Globe* on the race and religion of the French Canadian affected the Confederation Movement."

Here is another:

"(a) What provision in the Bill of Rights made it impossible for James Edward Stuart to succeed Anne on the English Throne?"

"(b) Is this provision of the Bill of Rights still in force?"

"(c) Give your opinion as to the justice of the provision of the Bill of Rights, supporting your opinion with any two reasons."

Here is another one:

"In 1778 the British Parliament passed an Act abolishing some of the more oppressive statutes against the Roman Catholics. By giving instances, not more than four, show that this movement towards religious freedom continued far into the nineteenth century."

And I understand that some 60 per cent. of the students at one centre failed.

*Hon. Mr. Davis:* Might I ask the honourable gentleman a question? What is the common procedure in connection with this kind of work? I ask you, as a former school inspector, who does this work? Who fixes those papers?

*Mr. Anderson:* I would just as soon not say who set the paper. I think it is customary for the school inspectors to set those papers.

*Hon. Mr. Davis:* While you were there did the Government ever tell you what to put in the papers?

*Mr. Anderson:* I was not an inspector under this Government—of course the Government does not set the papers

*Hon. Mr. Davis:* I thought you were blaming the Government for those particular questions?

*Mr. Anderson:* Oh, well! The Government must assume the responsibility. Absolutely! The Minister of Education will have to assume responsibility.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* I would like to ask the honourable gentleman, since he appears to know who set the paper, whether he considers the man who set this particular paper as a partisan?

*Mr. Anderson:* He did not use to be. I do not think he was, and I do not think he is.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* As a matter of fact, I do not know how he votes.

*Mr. Anderson:* I know how he should vote! Here is the final question: Write notes on "Minister of Education," "Campaign," etc., and here are the answers of one Grade VIII pupil:

"Minister of Education—A Good Government follower. He looks after all the education. He hires all you good Liberals for \$12.00 a day or something like that."

"Campaign—is when the Government goes around and tells the farmers how to vote as if the farmers had no brains for themselves. They go to certain heelers and tell them what jobs they will give and the heelers tell the people how to vote. Then they go to others and tell a different story just as they did at the last election. They told them what good roads they would have and then, a week after the election, the roads stopped because, they said, the money ran out."

I understand that boy got full marks, and he passed!

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* He did the best he could.

*Mr. Anderson:* A year ago we heard considerable about an attempt to introduce a wider school education into rural districts of the Province. The Winter High Schools and Community Schools called for a great deal of discussion, last session. You will remember, Mr. Speaker, that I prophesied then that the Community Schools would not succeed because it was altogether unlikely that three or more districts would unite to form a community school. That, of course, has been confirmed by the experience of the past summer as the honourable, the first minister, will admit.

I hope the legislation to be brought down before the end of the Session will present a workable scheme for the creation of such schools, because there is a great field here, and I think the Government realises this, too. I think a valuable work could be done through these community schools amongst adults and those over school age, and that, through community schools or night schools, we could render some assistance to many people unfamiliar with our laws and language and instruct them as to the duties of citizenship. There are many people in this Province who are looking forward to naturalisation and it is going to be very difficult to make them the right kind of citizens if they are going to be left to their own resources entirely; and I say they have no opportunities of preparing themselves except in the cities or in localities where there are night schools conducted by the school boards. I may say, I believe that if we had some form of community school, we could help many who are looking forward to getting their naturalisation papers.

We have three normal schools in the Province, now, and I believe they are doing very good work. I understand, however, they are still rather too crowded. I remember in 1925, when I was advocating in this House that the Normal School staffs should be permanent rather than bringing in school inspectors to assist, that the Honourable Mr. Latta, then Minister of Education, made this statement:



"While Dr. Anderson's plea for a permanent teaching staff in Normal Schools might have some points in its favour, it could not in any sense of the word be termed an economy measure. On the other hand, the present system of bringing in a portion of the inspectors to lecture in the schools at certain periods had the double advantage of bringing the prospective teachers as close as possible to the practical problems they would encounter after graduation and of keeping the inspectors in touch with all advances along educational lines."

However, after this was argued, the policy of the Government immediately changed, because that has been the trend of Government policy in regard to the normal schools since that time. The honourable member knows as well as I know that the ideal we should look forward to is to have permanent teaching staffs in the normal schools and the argument he made cannot weigh against the advantages of this system, because most of the normal school teachers have been school inspectors who are familiar with rural work.

I still feel we should have a provincial immigration policy. I am not satisfied with the answer that this is a Federal matter, for the Province has certain jurisdiction and certain rights under *The British North America Act*, over immigration "into the Province." What we stand for is that we should outline a Provincial policy so far as immigration is concerned and let the Federal Government know what type of settlers we want, how many we require and all information of that kind. I still think that is the policy that should be adopted here and that will be adopted before very long.

Last year, I suggested that we form a branch, or have some branch of one of the Departments look after this work. It need not necessarily be under a separate minister; my own opinion is that, as we shall for some time, at least, be seeking agricultural immigrants mainly, that the Minister of Agriculture should have charge of this. I said we had a good many immigrants who came out and worked for starvation wages and kept other men out of employment. That was the situation produced at Yorkton, last year, and you will remember how the *Regina Leader* charged the Mayor of Yorkton with concocting some "political plot." The honourable, the Minister of Railways, Labour and Industries (*the Honourable Mr. Spence*) sent a member of the Department of Labour to Yorkton and he, by his investigation, substantiated the charges that have been made by the mayor of the City of Yorkton.

For the information of honourable members of this House, I would like to point to some investigations in the same connection with respect to some recent arrivals in the City of Saskatoon from the Continent of Europe. These people were interviewed by one who could speak their language and from the reports he gave me these men had been induced to come out by some form of misrepresentation. This is the report he gave on Fedorko Michal, of Paru in Hungary:

"Before I left home I was told by the agent that on my arrival in Winnipeg, Canada, I will get a job on the pay of \$35 to \$40 per month in the summer time and \$24 per month in the winter, and on that guarantee I left my home and came to Canada two months ago. On my way to Canada the authorities had taken all our money and other property from us on the other side of the water, and after our arrival in Winnipeg all our money and property was returned to us."

I think that is the practice. They take all their money and belongings from these people until they get through Ontario to Winnipeg.

"We were also warned at Quebec that we were not to get off the train anywhere between Quebec and Winnipeg and if we did we will be shipped back home at once or we be sent to jail.

"After I got to Winnipeg I was told that there is not work for me in Winnipeg but I will have to go to Edmonton, Alberta, so the immigration agent took \$8.50 off my money for the railway fare, and I went to Edmonton by C.N.R. train. I do not know whether the agent there was a Government agent or a railway agent.

"On my arrival there I got the job to do scrubbing for a farmer where I worked for three weeks and then the job was finished. I got \$12.50 for it. I was told that there is no more work for me so I returned to Edmonton and stayed there for two or three days, but as there is thousands of men in Edmonton I could not see any chance of getting a job so I returned to Saskatoon and now I again got a job this morning to do some scrubbing at Wakaw for a man by the name of H. E. Ferniez, J.P., at no wages stated, but I will have to go because I have no money to stay anywhere or go back to my home."

I thought there was no J.P. in Wakaw?

*Hon. Mr. Davis:* What is the date of the letter?

*Mr. Anderson:* It was last summer. Here is another man . . .

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* Before the honourable gentleman leaves that . . . The Province of Alberta has an agent-general in England looking after immigration and that kind of thing. Does the honourable gentleman, in proposing the same kind of organisation for this Province, know how it has helped Alberta? I am speaking of immigrants coming in. This man was in Edmonton before he came to Saskatoon.

*Mr. Anderson:* I am not discussing that. I am protesting against these people being dumped down here without any employment ready for them.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* We would do that anyway.

*Mr. Anderson:* Here is another case—Emil Mostowich, of Poland. He told the following story:

"I am a tailor by trade in Poland where my wife and family are now residing. I left for Canada because the government agent told me that I should go to Canada as I will make better there. So I left for Canada on that promise. On my way to Canada all my money and other property was taken away from me and all the others that came with me on the other side of the water. It was given back to me at Winnipeg. On the arrival at Winnipeg there is no job waiting for us as it was guaranteed to us but we were told to go to Edmonton, Alberta. As our fares were only paid to Winnipeg from Poland, the immigration authorities took \$8.50 each for railway fare from Winnipeg to Edmonton and I am now on my way to Edmonton where I am guaranteed a job on the farm.

"Before I left Quebec I was warned that we not to get off the train anywhere between Quebec and Winnipeg. If we did we will be sent to jail or back to Poland. I know that I had to sign an affidavit at home in Poland before I left for Canada that I am a farmer or a land worker at home and I was told that I would be given employment in Canada on my arrival here on the farm for wages as follows: Winter months, \$10 per month, two months at \$75 per month and the balance of the year at \$35 to \$40.

"Now, if the Government will pay my fare back home to Poland I will go back today as I know now that things are not as it was guaranteed by the Government agents in Poland."

On being asked, these men stated that they understood that Canadians were getting 30 cents or 35 cents per hour and they would be willing to take 20 cents or 25 cents as day labourers. I have several similar statements from these immigrants who drifted into Saskatoon some time prior to the arrival of the British Harvesters.

I have another case to which I would call the attention of the House to show the operations of the Department at Ottawa. In this particular case a man named Karl Klauser who lived down in New York was induced to come to visit and work for, or take a position with, a cousin who was a farmer near Vanscoy. I remember two and a half years ago, trying to get him in here. When he came here eventually, he came in under the condition he would stay here permanently. He stayed for a year and when the fall work was completed, he went back down to the States with the idea of raising more money and coming back here in the spring. But, when he attempted to get back in the spring, he was held up at the border and is still held up. This was October 27, 1928, as he had left the previous fall. He writes—and this is in a letter to his cousin:

"I have not had any definite news from Ottawa yet with the exception of one foolish letter, which I will put by. I answered that too, and am certainly not going to write again, the way they are fooling me along. I am disgusted about it. All this has been such a worry to me that I am sick and tired of it. I am giving it up."

And the letter goes on in that strain. I wrote Hon. Mr. Forke, about this case. I have a letter from the Minister of Immigration and, although he may be officially and technically correct, I do not think it shows a very keen desire for a policy concerning immigration from the United States. This man I refer to, though he was a Hungarian, is now a United States citizen. Here is part of the letter I received from the Honourable Mr. Forke:

"Karl Klauser applied for entry to Canada in February, 1925, at the port of Bridgeburg, Ont., claiming he was simply proceeding to Saskatchewan to visit a cousin. His occupation was given as waiter. As he could not satisfy our officers that he was a *bona fide* non-immigrant, he was rejected. His cousin, Joseph Csokay, of Vanscoy, Sask., then applied for this alien's admission, claiming he was a farmer desirous of proceeding to Canada for permanent residence, to be employed at agricultural work; in fact, Mr. Csokay stated that the proposed immigrant would be employed permanently by himself. Klauser was finally admitted for permanent residence. He only remained in Canada a year, after which he returned to the United States. In October last, Klauser again applied for admission to Canada, stating that he desires to be admitted for permanent residence to take up farming."

And then he goes on to say:

"In view of the facts as outlined above, the Department considers that further information should be obtained on the subject, and therefore Mr. Klauser was communicated with, and our officer at Winnipeg also asked to look into the matter at Vanscoy."

This was on December 27, 1928. No doubt the Honourable Mr. Forke will eventually allow this man to come back but it seems to me that if a tailor from Poland gets in so easily, some change of policy should be made with respect to citizens of the United States. The cousin at Vanscoy writes me on January 10, 1929, as follows:

"I would very much like to know how many years it takes the Department and the Commissioner till they find out that an honest man may re-enter Canada? It was in the beginning of October, 1928, that my cousin has first asked *re* this matter. Another little question, I wrote to the Department of Immigration in October, 1928, asking them to kindly let me know, if there were any papers to be made out *re* my cousin. But up to date I have had no answer from the Department. They must be very busy, not to be able to answer. I do think that there must be too many commissioners and not enough to do the work. My cousin told me he wrote three letters and did not hear in return from the Department. He mentioned that perhaps they went out of business."

Well, now, if we had some particular branch here, looking after immigration, cases like that could be looked after by some competent official rather than by individual members of the Legislature or private citizens. I think I might remind you that we have authority to look after this kind of case.

*Hon. Mr. Gardner:* We have an official of that kind now.

*Mr. Anderson:* I did not know of it.

Now there has been considerable said regarding the method of appointing Justices of the Peace and their qualifications. We still think that too many of them are political appointments and we think the Government would be well advised to establish a definite system based on qualification rather than take into consideration the recommendations of the local Liberal executive or the local members. I have here a despatch which appeared in the *Saskatoon Star-Phoenix*, from Wakaw:

"The names of three local men, A. E. Danby, Fred Lepine and B. Salymos, are being recommended to the Department of the Attorney-General for appointments as Justices of the Peace by the Liberal Association here in accordance with a resolution adopted at the general quarterly meeting held in the village hall, Thursday night.

"It was decided that three J.P's are needed here and the communication to the department will recommend at least two of them be appointed immediately."

I see there the name Fred Lepine—he'll never be appointed. It seems to me these appointments should not be made on the mere 'say-so' of an executive of the Liberal Party or of the Conservative Party either.

*Hon. Mr. Davis:* These were not made.

*Mr. Anderson:* What is the principle with regard to the appointment of a Commissioner for Oaths? As I understand it, the recommendation comes in to the Attorney-General and then the matter is placed before the Liberal Executive—this was done at Saskatoon.

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* My honourable friend knows that is not true. A question on that point was answered in the House the other day.

*Hon. Mr. Davis:* I may say his seat-mate (*Mr. McConnell*) asked me to appoint two not long ago and the same with the Junior Member for the City of Regina (*Mr. MacPherson*).

*Mr. Anderson:* That is all right. One is on the Liberal executive now. But in the case before me—I had a letter handed to me yesterday from a man, a very excellent type, who had applied for this office or for a commissionership and he has, I understand, been refused.

*Hon. Mr. Davis:* Does my honourable friend know whether it was as a notary public or a commissioner for oaths?

*Mr. Anderson:* That I don't know.

*Hon. Mr. Davis:* I might tell my honourable friend that, in the case of the man at Saskatoon, when I got his request that he be appointed, I appointed him at once.

*Mr. Anderson:* To be fair to the Attorney-General the appointment was made, but I have every reason to believe that it was considered by the Liberal executive in Saskatoon before it was made. Possibly it may have been done without the knowledge of the Attorney-General. I am quite prepared to give him the benefit of the doubt. But that is not as it should be. No matter whether the member who sits on this side of the House recommends it, I think some definite system of appointment based on qualifications should be followed.

I want, now, to refer to another matter. I remember I took exception to the Legislation when it was before the House regarding the regulation and licensing of chiropractors, unless the law was going to be enforced. We passed legislation requiring that the chiropractors would have to pass an examination, or they would not be allowed to practise.

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* My honourable friend is now proceeding to discuss a matter already before the House. A Bill dealing with this subject is now before the House. My honourable friend is clearly out of order.

*Mr. Anderson:* Mr. Speaker, I will abide by your ruling.

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* I shall read the rule from Beauchesne's "Parliamentary Rules and Forms." Footnote 293 under Standing Order 41, reads as follows:

"Besides the prohibition contained in this standing order, it has been sanctioned by usage both in England and in Canada, that a member, while speaking, must not: (a) refer to any debate of the same session on any question not then under discussion; nor (d) anticipate discussion on a motion set down for future consideration."

*Mr. Anderson:* I am not speaking of the Bill at all. I am speaking of law enforcement. After this legislation was passed a circular was sent out by the secretary of the Association to all chiropractors.

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* I appeal for a ruling.

*Mr. Anderson:* I know nothing about the contents of the Bill. In Bulletin No. 1 of this circular it was stated that the provincial authorities would do all in their power to discourage any action under this particular measure.

*Hon. Mr. Davis:* Might I state that that statement is not correct. And, while I am on my feet, when my honourable friend was in Prince Albert he stated that he had seen the letter from me to the secretary of the Chiropractors.

*Mr. Anderson:* If I was reported to have said that, that is not correct. I am saying that this is what the secretary sent out and it should be publicly repudiated if it is incorrect.

*Mr. Hill:* I don't think anybody is worrying very much over it.

*Mr. Anderson:* I am not going to be very much longer, but there is one more submission I would like to make and that is that all branches of Social Welfare should be placed under one Department. We advocate that the Bureau of Old Age Pensions, Mothers' Allowances, Neglected children, the care of the deaf and blind, homes of refuge for girls, juvenile delinquents, the industrial schools, and the adoption of children—all such activities should be placed under one official. That is the platform of the Conservative Party.

*Government member:* Revised edition?

*Mr. Anderson:* That platform reads as follows:

"The amalgamation and co-ordination of all public welfare services under one head, and the further co-ordination of all such activities whether under Federal, Provincial, Municipal or private auspices in order to avoid overlapping.

"A departmental survey of social welfare institutions with the object of providing more adequate accommodation for the aged and infirm, the deaf and dumb, and the blind, drug addicts, under-privileged children, and others whose mental or physical condition demands such assistance.

"Inquiry into seasonable unemployment with the object of developing an industrial programme aimed to provide uniform opportunities for work at all seasons of the year.

"A more sympathetic administration of all public welfare legislation."

We believe also that, in the matter of the Local Government Board, that either they should have no jurisdiction in the larger cities or else they should specify definitely the amount to be spent and let the civic authorities spend it as they will. We think it humiliating for a delegation from the City of Saskatoon to come down here and ask three men in these buildings whether they should build a few sidewalks. That may be all right in the smaller municipalities, but we believe the practice should be stopped so far as the larger urban municipalities are concerned.

I am going to offer a suggestion that we carry out in Saskatchewan a practice that has been followed with great success in Alberta. The Government of Alberta has opened a provincial office in the City of Calgary and one of the Ministers visits this office periodically and there meets delegations from the southern part of the Province, thus saving considerable expense for those persons, organisations or municipalities who otherwise would be required to finance a

trip to Edmonton. I am going to advocate that something similar be done in Saskatchewan—that an office of this kind be opened in Saskatoon and that a Minister come up once a week to meet delegations from surrounding districts and do business the same as is done in Calgary.

*Hon. Mr. Davis:* Would you send him up to Prince Albert?

*Mr. Anderson:* They might keep him there. I am going to suggest also that the reports of the Liquor Board should be submitted in greater detail. You have some very large sums of money there without any explanation of an adequate nature as to how it is expended—the item “Salaries and Wages, \$432,317.73” for example. We have nothing as general as that in the Public Accounts. There is nothing there by which we can determine how this large sum is expended, and we contend that we should know something further about how these thousands of dollars are spent.

We do not know for what reason they have an outside audit in the Liquor Board . . . .

*Hon. Mr. Davis:* I thought you wanted an independent audit?

*Mr. Anderson:* I wonder why they have an outside audit for the Liquor Board; why not a Government audit?

*Hon. Mr. Davis:* Would you be satisfied with the result if they had?

*Mr. Anderson:* Let me say in conclusion, Mr. Speaker, we are nearing the end of the fourth session of this Legislature. We shall possibly all be engaged in a political contest a few months hence and let me say I am quite in agreement with those who say that, as citizens of Saskatchewan, no matter what party we may belong to, we have the same provincial problems. After all, the Government has the same problems as the Opposition. We have the problem of education, of agriculture, of power and so on, and the difference between us is just a matter of policy.

I believe it will be the intention of the Government, as it will be of the Opposition, to try to set the affairs of Government and the policies of our respective parties before the people of this Province and let them decide. I hope the campaign will be conducted on fair and constructive lines. I know that in political contests many of us are apt to say and do things in the heat of the campaign which we regret later on. Let us try to keep as far away from that as we possibly can during the coming campaign. I am not saying there is nothing of good in the Grit party, and I am not sure but that the Liberals and the Leader of the Government would say there is something of good in the Conservative Party. The fact is the Government has been 23 years in power and we feel it is time for a change. We are going to do the best we can to convince the people that that is so, and we feel that most of them are already convinced. Let us fight fairly and squarely, and, when the verdict finally is rendered let both Government and Opposition settle down to lay more solidly the foundations of the future welfare, prosperity and happiness of the citizens of this great western part of Canada.

Our case, so far as the Opposition is concerned, will be placed before the people. We are not ashamed of anything we have done in this House since 1925. We may not have done everything we should have. Perhaps, at times, we have been negligent in the performance of some of our duties. We have criticised the Government severely on occasion; and they have done the same with us—that is part of the work of any Legislature, or any party. At the end of this Session, we rest our case with the great jury of the people of Saskatchewan and, of course, we shall abide their verdict.

THE HONOURABLE J. M. UHRICH, M.D.

(Minister of Public Health and Public Works)

MONDAY AND TUESDAY, JANUARY 21 and 22, 1929.

Mr. Speaker: At this advanced hour of the night, it is not my intention to take up the time of the House very long. However, it has been my custom since 1922, the year I took over the Department of Public Health, upon the occasion when this motion is before the House, to give a short resumé of the activities and accomplishments of the Department of Public Health during the preceding twelve-month period. I claim (and I think I have reason for doing so) that the activities of the Department of Public Health are probably the most important in the affairs of Government, for any law which is inimical to public health, no matter what immediate advantage it may bring, is in the long run a mischievous law, because of involving waste of the nation's chief asset. That asset is man-power.

Before I deal with the activities of the Department, however, I wish to draw the attention of the House to certain statements made, this afternoon, by the leader of the Tory Opposition (*Mr. Anderson*) in the course of his contribution to this Debate. I am sure we all listened with a great deal of interest to the remarks of the honourable member (*Mr. Anderson*) who has just taken his seat. I think we paid a good deal of attention to what seemed like a valedictory—for if ever a speech sounded like a valedictory, it was that of the honourable member.

I have in my hand a copy of the "Votes and Proceedings" of January 10. Every member of the House will remember the Resolution introduced by my honourable friend, the member for Estevan (*Mr. Creighton*) with regard to Coal. That Resolution reads as follows:

"That this Assembly request the Government within the next three years, to arrange to use Saskatchewan fuel exclusively in the heating plants in all Governmental buildings situated south of and on the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, east of and including Moose Jaw."

Now, Mr. Speaker, members of the House will recall that I moved an amendment to that resolution, that amendment reading as follows:

"That all the words after the word 'that' in the first line be struck out and the following substituted: 'this Assembly request the Government to arrange to use Saskatchewan fuel in the heating plants of all Governmental buildings as extensively and as soon as possible'."

Now, Sir, in the debate which ensued, my honourable friend the Tory leader stood up in this House and supported my resolution. The very words here in the "Votes and Proceedings" are: "The question being put on the main Motion, as amended, it was agreed to, unanimously." He voted for that resolution. Apparently, something has happened in the meantime. Though my honourable friend is on record as supporting my motion, evidently he has since changed his mind. I understand that a few days ago, somebody came down from Saskatoon in order to interpret for my honourable friend the "coal plank" in the Conservative platform. And the consequence is that, today, we have the spectacle of my honourable friend the Tory leader getting up in his place and advocating something exactly the opposite to what he voted for in supporting that particular motion, and on which he is already on record in this House. As a quick-change artist, he surely takes the prize.

Mr. Speaker, as the hour is getting late, I beg to move the adjournment of this Debate.

Resuming, on Tuesday, January 23, the Hon. Mr. Uhrich said:

Mr. Speaker:

When I began my address, last night, on this motion "That you do now leave the Chair", I intimated that it was my intention to follow my usual practice and give a short resumé of the activities of the Department of Public Health.

The progress of human civilisation has been marked by a steady development in man's power of control over his environment. *Certainly* no student of public health can be other than an optimist in regard to this progress. Yet the conquest of preventable disease is by no means an easy one; and it is rendered more difficult by the fact that the very progress of civilisation itself is constantly creating new dangers almost as fast as we succeed in coping with the old ones.

Wild beasts and venomous snakes no longer threaten human life on a large scale, except in India. Famines and floods are now mostly restricted to Russia and China, except when the old Mississippi goes on a rampage. Such plagues as typhus fever and bubonic plague, or "Black Death" (as it is commonly called) which were due to primitive conditions of insanitary living, are no longer feared in civilised lands; and the intestinal diseases, such as cholera and typhoid, seem likely to follow into the category of medical curiosities.

On the other hand, the acute respiratory diseases constitute a greater menace than ever before on account of opportunities furnished by urban life and widespread travel for the spread of infection, and on account of the lowered vital resistance due to overheated homes, schools

and workshops. Dietary diseases result, on the one hand from artificially refined food, and on the other hand from over-eating. Rickets in children follow the adoption of a sun-less indoor life and inappropriate food. Automobiles on our highways take a heavier toll of life, increasing every year.

We are gaining every year in the fight against preventable disease; but the ground of conflict is constantly changing, and its protean forms call for the *utmost exercise* of ingenuity and resource. Safe-guarding public health is a grave responsibility, and those engaged in it must give consideration to the double function which is theirs of keeping *well* people well, and aiding the clinician, the hospital and the dispensary in restoring the sick to health, since the conception of health tends to broaden as the years go on.

The Division of Sanitation has, during the past year, concentrated on protecting the people of the Province against unnecessary exposure to disease from the things which they daily use and with which they come in contact.

This protection involves many activities on the part of the engineers and sanitary officers of the Division, and their efforts have again resulted in the absence, during the year, of any epidemic of communicable disease attributable to improper sanitation. The Department's engineers have devoted much time to inspection of waterworks and sewerage systems of the larger urban centres of the Province.

We have, in Saskatchewan, a sum of \$15,000,000 invested in municipal waterworks and sewerage plants. These works, if carefully controlled and scientifically supervised, represent \$15,000,000 worth of health protection for our people, but if, through neglect, lack of repair, indifferent maintenance or failure to extend with increased population, they fail in the purpose for which they were constructed, they may readily become a menace to health.

Some of our municipal waterworks and sewage treatment plants were installed more than fifteen years ago and have not since been improved or extended, and such municipalities must consider the provision of more modern equipment to protect our streams from pollution and our people from infected water supplies.

Nature has not been over-generous in supplying our Province with running streams, and it behoves us to do all in our power to protect such water courses as we have from contamination.

A careful investigation has been made during the year of the conditions under which twenty-two of our municipal waterworks systems and fifteen sewage disposal plants have been operating, and engineering advice and assistance has been given to those in charge.

Typhoid fever (of which we had 79 cases last year) is said to be a vanishing disease. There has been nothing more spectacular in the statistics of disease incidence in this Province than the precipitous downward curve of typhoid fever.

But let us not deceive ourselves; the transient cases of typhoid are still with us year after year, and if we relax our vigilance for one moment in the protection of our public water and milk supplies, an epidemic such as Montreal experienced last year may result.

TYPHOID FEVER

Year	Cases reported	Deaths	Death rate per 100,000 population
1911.....	453	162	33.0
1912.....	548	153	29.2
1913.....	1,101	117	21.0
1914.....	875	92	12.4
1915.....	566	67	8.9
1916.....	222	61	8.5
1917.....	237	54	7.5
1918.....	209	48	6.7
1919.....	321	72	8.7
1920.....	287	80	9.7
1921.....	183	62	8.1
1922.....	249	71	9.0
1923.....	151	63	7.8
1924.....	83	37	4.5
1925.....	223	39	4.7
1926.....	115	30	3.7
1927.....	91	21	2.5
1928.....	79	—	—

In the whole of Canada the death rate from typhoid in 1927 was 11.7 per 100,000 population. We have learned our lesson in Regina—hence the reduction. During the Montreal typhoid epidemic in 1927 (from March 1 to July 16) there were 5,014 cases and 488 deaths.

Nor are we neglecting our rural population in providing safe water supplies. During the year 528 examinations were made, and written opinions given on the sanitary quality of the water used by farmers and others who are not served by a public supply. These opinions are not given in any haphazard fashion, but are arrived at following a study of detailed information regarding depths, construction and surroundings of well, of the possible sources of pollution, and of a chemical and bacteriological examination of a sample taken in a special sterilised container supplied by the Department. Anyone in the Province desiring an opinion regarding his water supply may obtain this service free on application to the Department.

A great deal of concentration of effort is required to protect our public milk supplies; for milk, while it is one of the most health-giving foods, is a vehicle in which organisms of disease thrive and may be transported in large numbers.

Our city milk supplies are safe so long as they are pasteurised and the process is rigidly supervised; but the protection of our semi-urban and rural milk supplies involves inspection of all dairy premises, and of the methods of production and the tuberculin testing of dairy herds.

The elimination of bovine tuberculosis from our dairy herds is being carried on by the veterinary officers of the Dominion Department of Agriculture, under the restricted area plan, and by the practising veterinarians of the Province, who, at the request of dairymen, are testing large numbers of cows. The Department continues to urge towns and villages to pass a bylaw requiring that all milch cows be tuberculin-tested before the owner is permitted to sell milk in the municipality.

The time is surely not so far distant when public opinion will be so aroused to the necessity of eradicating bovine tuberculosis from our Province that a demand will be made for every cow which supplies the public with milk to be a non-reactor to the tuberculin test.

Some day we learn that the cow has tuberculosis; that the calf has tuberculosis; that the hogs have tuberculosis; and then some day—when it is too late—we learn that our child has tuberculosis. Perhaps we can afford to lose the cow and the calf and the hogs, but we cannot afford to lose the child. We must not guess that our cows are healthy; we must know!

The sanitary officers of the Division have, during the year, visited 613 towns, villages and hamlets in the Province, and, accompanied by the local health officer or chairman of the local board of health, have made a thorough survey of sanitary conditions, including water and milk supplies, drainage, methods of waste disposal, meat, food and ice supplies, plumbing and ventilation of public and private buildings, and every factor in the life and habits of the community which might have a bearing on more healthful conditions.

General conditions in the Province regarding the incidence of communicable disease have been satisfactory during the 10-month period of 1928, as compared with 1927. As far as diphtheria is concerned, continental conditions indicate a material increase. The diphtheria mortality in the Province during 10 months in 1928, as compared with a similar period in 1927, shows a decrease of 22 per cent. Toxoid, which is the preventative for the disease, was issued to immunise 35,552 persons. Total deaths in 1926 were 116; in 1927, 63 and in the 10-month period of 1928, 34; which unmistakably shows the effectiveness with which the campaign against this dread disease is carried on in the Province.

Public health officers and physicians all over the Province during the last two years presented well-established facts about toxoid results, and almost begged to have the children of our Province immunised against diphtheria. We have districts and villages where toxoid has been extensively used and where the death rate from diphtheria is zero.

Let me make another appeal! Remember what happened in Nome a few winters ago! An epidemic of diphtheria swept the town. Every child was threatened. Mothers were frantic. Then came Balto—the strong-hearted leader of a wonderful dog team—with the only thing that could check the raging epidemic—anti-toxin. Nome would never have needed to have sent desperate calls for anti-toxin if the preventative toxoid had previously been used.

The same tragedy without the dramatic setting has occurred in homes in our Province—needlessly. Do not risk the lives of your children! Take them to your family physician and ask him to inoculate them against diphtheria!

Our aim is to stamp out diphtheria in this Province by 1930. In doing so, we need the co-operation of everybody. The eradication of diphtheria is gradually going on. From all sides most encouraging reports are received of the splendid results obtained from immunisation of school and pre-school children against diphtheria. Thousands of such children have been protected against this disease, the work being accomplished by the voluntary consent of parents. Without ignoring the special appeal of child health, this co-operation on the part of the public is but another evidence of an awakening health conscience.



As expectations are confirmed, similar procedures for other diseases will be perfected. People will have a better understanding of disease prevention and care, and the next generation should furnish a splendid record in healthful living and long life.

With regard to smallpox—I am tired of talking about it. Two years ago a warning was issued that unless more attention was given to the necessity for vaccination against smallpox, we might expect a greater incidence of that disease, and the increased number of cases reported so far for 1928 appears to have justified the warning.

There were 137 more cases this year than last; and while there have been no epidemics, due to the prompt action of local medical health officers and physicians applying vaccination, it is evident that the disease has been well scattered over the Province, providing foci for infection, which, if not controlled by thorough vaccination, might very easily, with a little carelessness, be fanned into a serious outbreak. It cannot be too strongly urged upon the public that smallpox can exist only in an un-vaccinated population; and, while it is advisable to have school children protected, parents should see that all members of their families are protected, as well as themselves. In 1928 there were 384 cases in the Province in a population of 850,000 people. Germany, with a population of nearly 60,000,000, for years had less than a half dozen cases. The reason? Compulsory vaccination!

The trachoma situation in the Province is eminently satisfactory, only 15 new cases being reported by the physicians of the Province, as compared with 122 in 1927.

In the summer and fall of last year, infantile paralysis caused serious trouble to the west of us, and this past summer the Province to the east of us experienced a serious outbreak. With the attendant publicity in the press again this year, Saskatchewan residents were naturally much concerned as to the fate that awaited us. However, though 25 cases were reported, as compared with seven in the same period last year, at no time did the situation show any indications of epidemic proportions. The cases, nevertheless, were watched carefully, and preparations were made to combat any serious developments. The 25 reported cases occurred separately in various portions of the Province, with none of the earmarks of epidemic inclinations, as shown by secondary cases occurring.

The incidence of infantile paralysis for the 10-month periods of the last five years was: 1924, 27; 1925, 36; 1926, 1; 1927, 7; 1928, 25.

Speaking of the Division of Public Health Nursing, let me state that, in May of this year, the School Hygiene nurses of the Department of Education were transferred to the Department of Public Health. All our nurses are assigned districts, and the former school hygiene nurses, instead of doing only school work, do generalised public health nursing, including inspection in schools, home visiting, giving addresses on health matters, assisting at examination clinics, looking after trachoma, doing home visiting where tuberculosis exists; inspecting private nursing and maternity homes, giving home nursing courses, and arranging for junior health leagues among the older children. The system is working out very well, and is preventing any unnecessary overlapping of work. In short, each nurse does all the public health nursing work in her own district.

During the past eight months, from May to December 31, the nurses have visited 846 schools; inspected 19,670 pupils; given 940 health talks; arranged for and assisted at 93 pre-school clinics—at which 3,546 children were examined; assisted local doctors at 74 schools in connection with vaccination and toxoid work; made 622 visits in connection with trachoma; made 204 visits in connection with tuberculosis; inspected 17 nursing homes; addressed 57 meetings, and made 9,222 home visits, which, I think everyone will concede, is real public health work.

My honourable friend, the junior Member for Regina (*Mr. MacPherson*) in the debate on the Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne made reference to the situation with regard to cancer. This disease is the third greatest killer in the Province among diseases. Heart disease produces the greatest number of deaths. In this connection let me point out that there is a definite relation between heart disease and bad teeth. The latter form a continuous cesspool from which toxic matter enters the system, ultimately playing havoc with the intricate musculature of the heart. During the past year the dental profession, in conjunction with the Canadian Dental Hygiene Council of Canada and the Department of Public Health of the Province, conducted a province-wide campaign for better teeth and cleaner mouths. Dentists all over the Province have given their time and services in promoting this splendid work, holding dental clinics and examinations with the result that thousands of school children and adults have benefited thereby, and I wish publicly to express my appreciation and gratitude to the dental profession of the Province for their splendid, unselfish efforts along this line. With the medical, nursing and teaching profession, they form the "shock-troops," as far as public health is concerned, and in no province in Canada do we find finer co-operation and more unselfish enthusiasm among the members of those professions in the matter of public health than right here in Saskatchewan.

The menace of cancer is a world problem affecting more or less alike all civilised countries. Old countries have somewhat higher death rates from this disease than new countries, as a result of a higher proportion of aged persons in the population.

Cancer, as a problem of prevention and control, demands at the outset a thorough grasp of its incidence on the basis of information derived from a painstaking study and careful analysis of vital statistics.

During the past few months this investigation and analysis has been made by the Department of Public Health, as far as this Province is concerned. I am sure my honourable friends will be interested in the pamphlet I placed on their desks. The information it contains is the result of an exhaustive study and careful analysis of the incidence of cancer in this Province. I may say that this is the first investigation of its kind made by any province in Canada and must show that we are fully alive to this particular problem.

I think my professional colleagues in the House will bear me out when I say that cancer prevention, in a strictly technical sense, is at the present time practically impossible, except in the case of certain occupational types of the disease, in which the indirect causative factor is thoroughly understood. For example, occupational cancers directly attributable to X-ray exposure are, of course, readily preventable by the employment of necessary safeguards. Other occupational cancers, found among cotton spinners, aniline dye workers, etc., are also within the preventable group. Any theory of disease prevention must necessarily rest on a sound conception of causation. Cancer is not a self-limiting disease which runs its course, like pneumonia or typhoid. The direct cause of cancer is not known, though I may say that the greatest medical scientists all over the world are concentrating on this problem. Millions of dollars are being spent on it by the Rockefeller Foundation and similar organisations on cancer research. We do know many things that cancer is not. We know that it is not due, in the sense that infectious diseases are due, to a parasite. It is not communicated from one person to another. Virchow was the first to propound the theory that the cell is the unit of life. All life comes from the cell. Cancer consists wholly of the parasitic cancer cell, with subsequent uncontrollable proliferation. The sum and substance of the problem may be stated in the remark that the principal cause of cancer mortality is delay on the part of the patient to seek qualified treatment.

In its last analysis the problem lies in the hands of the general practitioner of medicine. He is consulted first by the cancer patient, and then only too often after countless delays which frequently prove fatal.

I claim that the principal cause of cancer mortality is delay on the part of the patient in seeking qualified treatment. Delay in cancer means death. There is nothing surer than that.

In the light of our present understanding of the cancer problem, no other conclusion can be justified than that radical surgical treatment, amplified by radium and X-ray, offers the only genuine hope of a successful cure.

Let me add a word of caution. The saddest phase of the cancer situation is the increased activity of those who prey upon the public, distributing medicines for its cure, or offering other cures, which have no substantial basis or facts for their support. It is a paramount duty of the state and the medical profession to suppress the cancer quack who has never been more active than at the present time. No specific cure for the disease, in the technical sense of the term, has been discovered, but it would be most unfair to the medical and surgical profession if attention were not drawn to successful forms of control, without which the cancer death rate would reach alarming proportions. Anyone familiar with medical and surgical experience knows full well that thousands and tens of thousands of people who have been operated upon are alive today. This is an unanswerable argument in favour of the statement that in the earliest qualified treatment lies the only hope for cure.

During the year a public health unit was organised, consisting of eight municipalities. Considerable difficulty in organisation was experienced. The Minister of Public Health in Manitoba met the same difficulty. In the eastern provinces, where the county system exists, organisation is very easy and simple. There is only one unit and that is the county council, which, of course, is representative of all the municipalities therein. Our system called for at least eight separate units, the councils of the municipalities comprising the areas, which means more time and considerably more difficulty. However, we have one unit organised at the present time.

In my opinion, this system is the last word in public health efficiency for our Province. It consists in the establishment of what I might designate as a "bureau of health in miniature," composed of a full time medical health officer, one or more public health nurses, a sanitary inspector charged with the enforcement of the health regulations and with the education of the municipal officers, together with a secretary to handle the clerical work of the office, which is located in the most convenient town of the unit. The whole population of the unit is thus submitted to the constant supervision of the staff. Health education is intensively carried on, a considerable amount of propaganda work is done continually, and not a single municipality escapes the attention of the officers of the unit. The medical officer covers all the districts; meets there the civil and other authorities; maintains cordial relations with local doctors; gives public lectures on health and sanitary work, and on the necessity for pre-natal, post-natal and pre-school hygiene; visits the schools, and looks after outbreaks of infectious disease. The nurse examines the school children and refers those defective in any way to the family physician; she

gives the teachers instruction in hygiene which they, in turn, pass on to the pupils. The nurses go directly into the homes of the people to make them understand the necessity of following the golden rule for clean and healthy living; they advise young mothers to protect their babies, or babies-to-be.

The sanitary inspector visits the municipal officers, assists the secretary-treasurers of municipalities in the enforcement of health laws, looks after water supplies, sewerage, nuisances, and sees that quarantine is observed in the case of contagious disease. The secretary attends to the office work, handles correspondence, answers queries, keeps records, collects from all concerned birth, marriage and death certificates, makes corrections on them, if necessary, takes a copy of each and sends them in to the Vital Statistics Division.

There is no question that this system will reduce considerably the mortality from infectious disease, and infant mortality. It takes up the whole public health problem, with the anticipated result that within a few years' time the population will enjoy better living conditions, will take proper means to protect infancy and childhood, the period when tuberculosis is ordinarily contracted.

Such a system costs some money, it is true. It has been said, and truly: "Public health is purchasable with money." It is a matter of education—education of the governing bodies, and education of the people. The method is sound and nothing will prevent its extension, which will be requested by the population itself.

The minimum annual budget of the county health unit in our Province is about \$14,000. One half of this amount is borne by the unit; 25 per cent. by the Government; and 25 per cent. by the Rockefeller Foundation. This is a generous grant from the Foundation. It requires, and rightly so, as a condition of its financial assistance, that the local municipalities of the unit do their part. On the other hand, the Foundation has assumed all the expenses incurred for the field training of the medical officers and nurses appointed to take charge of the units. As a matter of fact, our staff in charge of the first unit received this training during the past summer.

There are evidences at the present time that the Federal Department of Health is considering making generous financial contributions to the Provinces undertaking this advanced public health work. I am confident that the time is not long distant when municipalities will look upon the promotion of public health in exactly the same way as we have seen them do regarding the improvement of roads. As an evidence of that, notice the splendid forward step in regard to the treatment of tuberculosis, as the Bill which will be brought down shortly will show. This renewed interest and enthusiasm of our population in matters of public health will result in the improvement of living conditions, in the saving of hundreds of lives every year; in a word, in the betterment of our population. I am convinced of this, but I am also firmly convinced that such is possible only through a system where we have a full-time organisation and full-time medical health officers in all rural districts.

Last year (1927), there were added to the list of Government-aided hospitals the following three hospitals: Assiniboia (union), Kamsack (private), and Mildred (community), thus making a total of 50 Government-aided hospitals in this Province at the close of 1927. In addition, the Red Cross opened an "outpost" at Tuberoose. There were, therefore, twelve "outposts" in addition to the Junior Red Cross Hospital at Regina. Assiniboia being a union hospital brought the number of union hospitals up to 16.

The auspices under which the 50 hospitals in 1927 were conducted, follow:

16 Union Hospitals with . . . . .	387 beds
11 Sisters' Hospitals with . . . . .	896 beds
10 Municipal Hospitals with . . . . .	772 beds
3 Community Hospitals with . . . . .	52 beds
3 Church Hospitals with . . . . .	100 beds
3 Private Hospitals with . . . . .	81 beds
2 V.O.N. Hospitals with . . . . .	33 beds
2 Sanatoria with . . . . .	455 beds
1 Junior Red Cross with . . . . .	30 beds
12 Red Cross Outposts with . . . . .	80 beds
	<hr/>
	2,886 beds

Additions were made to existing hospitals so that the bed capacity for the year was increased by 135, thus making a total of 2,886 beds. This includes 586 beds for tuberculosis cases; 110 beds in the Red Cross Outposts; and 265 beds for isolation cases.

With a population of 836,000 in Saskatchewan in 1927, we had one hospital bed for every 290 of the population, or 3.5 beds per 1,000 population. Some 49,590 patients were admitted to our hospitals during the year, an increase of 5,352 patients over 1926. These patients received

777,691 days' treatment, being an increase over the previous year of 88,808 hospital days. This means that one person in every 16.9, or 5.9 per cent. of the population had hospital treatment during the year, and every day on an average 135.7 persons were admitted as hospital patients, as compared with 121.2 daily in 1926.

The average length of stay was for 12.8 days, excluding the sanatoria patients, and in the union hospitals the average stay was 12.7 days.

The average number of patients in all the hospitals daily was 2,130.6 in 1927, being an increase of 243.3 over the daily average.

Each hospital bed accommodated for the year an average of 17.2 patients, and an average of 73.8 per cent. of the total bed capacity was occupied daily.

The two sanatoria (Fort Qu'Appelle and Saskatoon), cared for 988 patients, 869 being pulmonary and 119 other forms of the disease.

Some 1,415 cases of tuberculosis, 1,080 of which were pulmonary, were hospitalised last year, and this was 31 more than the year before.

From the 14 training schools for nurses, 115 nurses were graduated. Some 306 graduate nurses were employed on the staffs of the hospitals, and 555 pupil nurses were in training. Five hospitals had affiliation with other hospitals for special training in their nursing course. Eight hospitals each employed a full-time dietitian.

Pasteurised milk is used in all hospitals where this is available, namely 22 hospitals.

Nineteen hospitals have some form of liability insurance. Hospital internes are employed in six hospitals.

Maternity cases to the number of 5,023 were cared for in Government-aided hospitals, as compared with 4,346 in 1926. Therefore maternity cases comprised 10.1 per cent. of the total cases admitted to all hospitals, and, of these, 1,209 were cared for in the union hospitals. This indicates that 24.1 per cent. of the total maternity cases in all hospitals were cared for in the union hospitals, although the union hospitals had only 13.4 per cent. of the total number of hospital beds. Of the 8,410 patients admitted to the union hospitals, 14.4 per cent. were maternity cases, and 28.9 per cent. were operative cases.

There were 21,015 living births in Saskatchewan in 1927, so that one child in every four of the births in this Province, or 24 per cent. of the total births, took place in a Government-aided hospital. In all hospitals 18,897 cases, or 38.1 per cent. of the total cases were operative.

The deaths in hospitals were 3.2 per cent. of the total admissions.

The importance of X-ray and laboratory work is readily seen when we find that the X-ray examinations made in connection with hospital patients last year were 23,132, being an increase of 8,381, or 56.8 per cent., over 1926. The Laboratory examinations were 74,340, being an increase of 17,025, or 29.7 per cent. over the previous year.

Some 2,503 Wassermann tests were taken in the hospitals, which means that 5 per cent. of the patients had this blood test, and some of the hospitals are endeavouring to make this a routine as much as possible.

The estimated value of the hospitals, including equipment, in Saskatchewan at the end of 1927 was \$6,092,982.43. The earnings of the hospitals amounted to \$2,755,707.26, of which \$2,074,085.68 were patients' fees, and \$467,995 was paid by the Provincial Government in the form of hospital grants. In other words, the Government paid out on an average of over \$1,282 per day in hospital grants, which was equivalent to \$9.44 for each patient admitted in 1927. The grant paid to the sanatoria was \$167,424, and was equivalent to \$84.90 for each patient admitted to the sanatoria. The operating expenditure for 1927 was \$2,307,669.10, and the capital expenditure was \$834,740.61.

The average cost per patient per day for all hospitals was \$2.97 as compared with \$3.05 in 1926. In the union hospitals it was \$3.09 per day, as in 1926. The average cost for laundry per bed of the 44 hospitals reporting laundry costs was \$26.54, and per patient it was \$1.55.

In addition to the Government-aided hospitals, 13 private hospitals containing 103 beds cared for 1,763 patients, of which 581 were maternity cases, and 63 nursing homes with a total of 278 beds cared for 2,263 patients, including 878 maternity cases.

Arrangements have been made for a travelling dietitian to visit the smaller hospitals to give these hospitals the advantage of a short course in dietetics. This enables the nurses in training in the smaller training schools to get special instruction in dietetics.

It would appear that the year 1928 is likely to be the banner year in so far as hospital expansion in this Province is concerned, as the following will indicate:

Six new hospitals have been completed at:

- Tisdale (St. Therese), with 36 beds and 7 for infants.
- Rosthern (St. John's), with 22 beds and 6 bassinettes.
- Gravelbourg (St. Joseph's), 40 beds.
- Oxbow (community), 10 beds.
- Ile a la Crosse, 12 beds.
- Arcola (union), 10 beds.

Additions have been made to the following hospitals:

- Regina General, 75 beds.
- Saskatoon General, 104 beds, costing about \$220,000.
- Moose Jaw General, 65 beds and 20 babies' cots, costing \$140,000.
- Moose Jaw Providence, \$225,000 addition.
- Indian Head, 10 beds.

Yorkton has commenced a \$70,000 addition.

Humboldt has prepared plans for an addition of 25 beds.

Rosetown Union Hospital District has voted on and passed the necessary bylaw for a \$60,000 addition, which should provide for 30 more beds.

At Cabri, Abbey and Gull Lake, union hospitals are being considered. Melfort and Mildred are endeavouring to become union hospitals, and at Herbert almost sufficient funds have been subscribed for a 15-bed community hospital. At Rabbit Lake a new Red Cross outpost has been opened.

A ten-year comparison from 1917 to 1927 in our hospital progress is interesting:

	1917	1927	Increase	Per cent. Increase in 10 years
Government-aided hospitals...	34	50	16	47%
Hospital beds.....	1,680	2,886	1,206	71%
Patients treated in hospitals....	23,098	49,590	26,492	114%
Government grant.....	\$184,142.00	\$467,995.00	\$283,853.00	154%
Population.....	715,231	836,000	120,769	16%
Beds, per population.....	1 bed per 400;	1 bed per 290		

The number of examinations made in the Laboratory during the first eleven months of 1928 exceed those for the corresponding period of 1927 by almost 25 per cent. The details of the examinations made during the eleven months of 1928 are as follows:

Wassermann tests.....	8,104
Throat swabs.....	4,207
Urinalysis.....	1,724
Widal tests.....	380
Sputa.....	555
Examinations for gonorrhoea.....	3,960
Tissues.....	583
Inoculations.....	2,092
Waters.....	956
Miscellaneous.....	1,236
Chemical.....	1,582

Total number of examinations..... 25,397

Total number of cultures made..... 18,000

When one considers that four technicians have received training during the year, and that they are doing useful work in parts of the Province where laboratory facilities were not available before, this increase is the more striking.

I would point out that the Laboratory has made almost 9,000 Wassermann tests this year, and that these would have cost the Government \$45,000 if they had been done in a commercial laboratory. Routine Wassermann tests are done for many of the hospitals of the Province, and for all institutions, including the jails, penitentiary and the mental hospitals. The number of diphtheria examinations has increased by over 100 per cent. during the year, and there has been a large increase in the number of all examinations.

Various hospitals in the Province are kept supplied regularly with culture media and other supplies, and many thousands of Wassermann tubes, sputum containers, sterile test tubes, culture media and containers for water and milk are supplied to the doctors and the people of the Province.

A new venture this year was the sending of a laboratory exhibit to the exhibitions at Regina, Saskatoon, and Prince Albert. This exhibit caused a great deal of interest at these centres, and the booth was crowded each day with large numbers of people, to whom the various activities of the laboratory were explained. Many of these people expressed surprise at learning that the Government maintained such a service.

*Mr. Hill:* Will it be possible to have those exhibits in the B Class Fairs, too?

*Hon. Mr. Uhrich:* Again, it is a question of money, but undoubtedly it would be a good thing. Sometimes we do send part of the exhibit to those B Class Fairs. I think it is understood the activity will be extended to the B Class Fairs as far as we can, this year.

The estimated population of Saskatchewan at June 30, 1928, was 851,000. The natural increase in the Province in 1927 was 14,984.

Saskatchewan's birth rate of 25.1 per 1,000 of the population is the third highest in the Dominion, being exceeded by Quebec and New Brunswick.

Saskatchewan's death rate of 7.2 per 1,000 of population is the lowest of any province in the Dominion, and the lowest of any country in the world, according to the Statistical Review of the Registrar-General of England.

Illegitimate births numbered 20.3 to every 1,000 births. This Province has the lowest percentage of illegitimate births to total births in the Dominion.

Some 36.3 per cent. of the fathers of children born were Canadian-born; 42.0 per cent. of the mothers of children born were Canadian-born.

#### PRINCIPAL RACES OF THE PARENTS OF CHILDREN BORN.

Race	Father	Mother
English.....	4,208	4,299
Irish.....	2,205	1,972
Scotch.....	2,532	2,399
French.....	1,339	1,415
German.....	3,553	3,656
Ukrainian.....	1,472	1,516

Some 25.4 per cent. of the births of this Province took place in public institutions.

The total deaths from communicable disease shows a decrease of 16 per cent. in 1927.

Deaths from the following communicable diseases showed decreases in 1927: Typhoid, Measles, Whooping Cough, Diphtheria, Dysentery, Erysipelas, Meningococcus Meningitis.

The largest mortality from communicable diseases was in the first four months of the year.

The loss to the Province from the preventable diseases was \$2,234,190. The life values and costs of medical attendance are based on a standard used by the leading insurance companies.

Heart diseases lead the list of diseases causing the greatest mortality. The death rate from this class of disease was 67.9 per 100,000 population. The death rate from heart diseases has more than doubled in the last ten years.

Pneumonia shows a very satisfactory decrease of 9.9 per 100,000 of population.

Cancer is still on the increase. There were 58 more deaths from cancer in 1927 than in 1926. The death rate is 53.2 per 100,000.

Infant mortality has decreased very perceptibly in 1927. There were 106 deaths less than in 1926. The rate per 1,000 living births is now 74.2, which is the fifth highest in the Dominion. In 1925 Saskatchewan had the highest infant mortality of any Province in the Dominion.

Of the infant mortality, 36.5 per cent. was in the period under one week of age.

Maternal mortality also decreased very satisfactorily in 1927. The death rate is 13.6 per 100,000, and 18.8 per 1,000 deaths, and 5.6 per 1,000 living births. This Province has now the fourth lowest death rate from this cause in the Dominion.

The following tables show the cost of these services and activities:

Vote		Spent 1926-27	Spent 1927-28	Increase or Decrease
1 & 2	Administration.....	\$ 14,500.00	\$ 14,320.00	\$ 180.00
3	General Administration.....	100,162.09	90,608.45	9,553.64
	Control of communicable diseases, sanitation and child welfare.			
4	Venereal Disease:			
	Province.....	19,617.20	20,884.76	1,267.56
	Dominion.....	(9,926.52)	(8,273.80)	1,652.72
5	Vital Statistics.....	32,627.48	32,426.14	201.34
6	Aid to Hospitals.....	454,785.50	467,995.00	13,209.50
7	Laboratory.....	17,409.14	18,481.88	1,072.74
8	Antitoxin (diphtheria).....	9,718.99	5,390.00	4,328.99
9	Sask. Hospital Association.....	250.00	250.00	.....
10	General and Unforeseen.....	28,442.32	36,279.20	7,836.88
	Totals.....	\$677,512.72	\$686,635.43	\$ 9,122.71

The per capita expenditure for public health activities, controllable and uncontrollable, based on a population of 821,042 in 1926-27, and 836,000 in 1927-28, was as follows:

Vote		Spent 1926-27	Spent 1927-28
1 & 2	Administration.....	1.8 cents	1.7 cents
3	General Administration.....	12.2 cents	10.8 cents
	Control of communicable diseases, sanitation and child welfare.		
4	Venereal Disease:		
	Province.....	2.4 cents	2.5 cents
	Dominion.....	(1.2 cents)	(1.0 cents)
5	Vital Statistics.....	3.9 cents	3.9 cents
6	Aid to Hospitals.....	55.4 cents	56.0 cents
7	Laboratory.....	2.1 cents	2.2 cents
8	Antitoxin (diphtheria).....	1.2 cents	0.6 cents
9	Sask. Hospital Association.....	.....	.....
10	General and Unforeseen.....	3.5 cents	4.3 cents
		82.5 cents, or including Dominion grant, 83.7 cents.	82.1 cents, or including Dominion grant, 83.1 cents.

In conclusion, I wish again to express my sincere thanks and gratitude to all those organisations which have helped us to carry out the great amount of work we have accomplished. I would refer particularly, in this connection, to the number of teachers in the Province who, day in and day out, have lent their assistance and co-operation to our nurses. All these organisations have helped us wonderfully. They have done excellent work. I would also add a word of appreciation of the staff of the Department of Public Health. They are loyal in their service and courteous in all their dealings with the public. Occasionally little things occur, but these are trivial in comparison with the great work the staff is doing for the benefit and welfare of the people of this Province.

Mr. Speaker, I shall support the Motion.

THE HONOURABLE C. M. HAMILTON

(*Minister of Agriculture*)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 24, 1929.

Mr. Speaker,—In arising to speak to the motion that you do now leave the chair, I am sure that it gives the Government, as well as the members of the Legislature, a good deal of satisfaction that the Provincial Treasurer was able to present to the House so satisfactory a statement as to the finances of this Province. We are pleased to note that the increase anticipated in revenue enabled the Government to expand its activities in connection with the various departments of the Government. A number of us have been in the Government sufficiently long to have had the experiences that have not been in conformity with the experiences of the last two or three years in the matter of bringing down estimates. During the period of depression which followed the Great War it was necessary to curtail the activities of various departments of the Government but since that period has passed and the revenues of the Government, in conformity with the revenue of individuals, have become more buoyant we are able to branch out along new lines of work.

There is one thing that has impressed me since I have been a member of the Government and that is the close similarity between public and private business. When the people are prosperous they are able to branch out into new business activities and the prosperity and well-being are soon reflected in the revenue of the Province and enable the Government, also, to extend its activities.

Some criticism has been made in connection with the borrowing of money on capital account, but I feel sure that the great majority of this Legislature, as well as the great majority of the people of the Province, recognise that there are certain classes of work which can properly be carried on by the borrowing of money on capital account. I do not believe there is any person in the Province who will seriously suggest that our public buildings should be provided out of current revenue, and I do not believe there is any person who would suggest that our highways or main roads, which are more or less of a permanent character, should be provided entirely out of current revenue. I do not think there are many people in the Province or any members in the House who would seriously criticise the Government for pledging the credit of the Province for building up such institutions as the telephone system (which is a public service), or the Farm Loan Board, which is acting as a regulating influence upon the rates of farm loan interest. When we compare the capital borrowings with the amounts that have been borrowed in other Provinces of the Dominion I think we are bound to come to the conclusion that the credit of the Province is not too largely used for these purposes. Thus we are in the very satisfactory position in which we are today—that Saskatchewan bonds, when they are placed on the market are eagerly sought by financial houses throughout the Dominion of Canada.

Before proceeding to the discussion of the Department of Agriculture, the Department over which I have the honour to preside, which is my main purpose this afternoon, I would like to say just a few words with respect to some criticisms which have been offered by members of the Opposition.

I note that the leader of the Progressive party (*Mr. Tran*) is not in his seat this afternoon and I am sure that all members on this side, as well as on the other side, of the House regret, and sympathise with him on, the information communicated to him, this morning, with regard to the serious illness of his father and hope that he may make a speedy and complete recovery. However, there was one feature of the criticism which was advanced by the leader of the Progressive party and echoed by some of his supporters and members of the Conservative party to which I would like to direct attention and that is the idea of a "co-operative government."

It is not a new idea, Mr. Speaker. That system of Government has been tried before in the Dominion of Canada. It has been tried throughout the length and breadth of the British Empire on certain occasions, not, however, under the name of "co-operative government;" but when you analyse the proposal it is nothing more or less than a "coalition government" under a new name. We have had coalition governments in the Dominion upon former occasions. It is nothing more or less than a "union government" and we have had the experience of a "union" government in the Dominion of Canada. There is this feature that may be worth noticing, and it is that whenever this form of government has been used, before it can be used again, it is necessary to change its name. So on every occasion when this form has been used in the Dominion of Canada, on each occasion it comes forward under a new cloak.

We have had opportunities to use this system of government and in my estimation it can be used to advantage only when it is necessary to unite all the people for a common purpose and for one purpose only. When some major issue is outstanding and it is necessary to unite all the people on that issue, then I think that system could be used to advantage. When the great problem faced the people of uniting the various Provinces into one Dominion, then the



Liberal and Conservative parties of that day decided to coalesce for the purpose of bringing these various provinces together but, having accomplished that objective, the one purpose which they had in mind, the coalition government did not last long, Sir. It was found it was not practical for Sir John A. MacDonald and Honourable George Brown and others of the same kind to stay long in one Government.

Again during the Great War, an effort was made to unite all the people. My chief criticism was that the attempt was not made at the very beginning as the people had got so far apart that there were too great divisions to unite successfully, after the war had been in progress for three years. It was called a "Union Government" at that time. It did not stay long together. As soon as the War was over disintegration immediately set in and the parties were soon separated as they had been formerly.

There are certain weaknesses in connection with this system, Mr. Speaker, when it is applied as a general principle. One of the weaknesses to which I would draw your attention is that of the compromise which is necessary to carry on a system of government of this kind. The only circumstances under which it can be successful is when you are endeavouring to unite the people for one purpose.

In connection with the administration of a country such as Canada or a Province such as Saskatchewan there are a number of issues, not one single issue. There is no great issue that stands prominently over all other issues, but there are a number of questions which seem to be about of equal importance; and in order to unite the various parties in a Government of this kind, compromise all along the line is found necessary, which is a weakness in government.

We recognise under our party system of government there must be give and take. No section, no group can get all it desires; it must give way in some particular. We lay down under our party system of government, certain major principles around which we ally ourselves; but compromise is necessary and is recognised as one of the difficulties of the party system of government. That compromise would be intensified many, many times if we endeavoured to carry out a coalition, union or co-operative government.

There is another evil in that it has a tendency to divide people into groups. I think every person these days recognises the importance of uniting the people rather than dividing them. Well, how would the co-operative system tend to divide the people into groups? Every leader would want to be included in the government. Ambitious men would start up new parties around them, and then would have to be taken in the government with the very disastrous result of dividing the people into groups. Leaders of political parties would come to think more of the positions which they held than the principles which were near and dear to their hearts.

These are criticisms which can readily be made against the system of government which has been stressed by the leader of the Progressive party and concurred in by the leader of the Conservative party (*Mr. Anderson*) as well.

I want to refer to the procedure which has been followed by this group of gentlemen (*the Progressive Group*) throughout a period of years with regard to the question of government. It is in conformity with their action on the question of co-operative government. They are just old ideas masquerading under new names. For example, they claim they are not a "party" but call themselves a "group." They do not recognise a statement of their policy as a "platform," they call it a "declaration of principles." They do not meet in "caucus"—they meet in "conference." They do not call their Government—the proposed government which they would form—a "coalition government" or a "union government"—they call it a "co-operative government." These are some of the criticisms which I would offer with regard to the proposal of the honourable gentleman on the opposite side of the House.

During this Session we have had it thrown at us across the floor of the House that the United Farmers of Canada propose to take direct political action and that this would be a serious blow to the Government's position. Well, that is a matter for the United Farmers of Canada to decide for themselves. I am of the opinion, however, that there is a place in the Province of Saskatchewan for a great farmers' organisation to which the farmers can ally themselves without question as to what race you come from, religion you are or what political party you belong to. I believe there is a demand and a need for an organisation of that kind, and when the United Farmers of Canada choose to abandon that field it will not be long until their place will be taken by another. We had that experience with the Grain Growers of Saskatchewan. As a farmers' organisation they helped materially in bringing about many reforms which were in the interest of agriculture but, when they decided to take direct political action, it was not long until they were nothing more than a pale shadow of their former selves and the great work which they had been doing was taken up by the United Farmers of Canada.

Mr. Speaker, I said at the outset that I was speaking this afternoon mainly for the purpose of outlining some of the activities of the Department of Agriculture. Since I have occupied this position it has been my practice each year to endeavour to outline the work of the Department

during the past year. I regret if, sometimes, it seems to take too long to give a résumé of the activities of the Department of Agriculture. Were it possible to divide the statement into two or three parts, I am sure it would be better for you, Mr. Speaker, and not so tiresome to members of the Legislature. However, I shall endeavour to outline the matter as briefly as possible.

Last year, as a result of some criticisms which were offered in the House, mainly by the leader of the Conservative party, I endeavoured to trace the activities of the Department over a period of years showing that the Department had been alive to the needs of agriculture in this Province and had been, to a considerable extent, successful in grappling with those needs as they arose from time to time, and that this Department had not lagged behind but in many, many cases had led the way, not only through the Dominion of Canada and the North American Continent, but throughout the world in certain particulars, especially in regard to the development and improvement of live stock.

On this occasion I purpose to take up the subject where I left it last year, and refer to some of the activities of 1928 and also some of the smaller activities of the Department of Agriculture.

The crop of 1928 gave very fine promise during the growing season and almost up to the time of harvesting. After the grain began to be delivered on the markets, returns were very disappointing, principally on account of the frost damage. There was so much complaint with regard to the grades received for the wheat with the consequent reduction in prices, that it was decided by the Government that a Commission should be appointed to enquire into the marketing of grain.

The question has been raised as to the need for such a Commission. I might say, Mr. Speaker, that not long after the grain started to move towards the markets, to the office of the Minister of Agriculture complaints came in by telephone, by letter, by telegram and sometimes by personal interviews. Men who had been growing grain in this Province for a great period of years felt that they were not getting justice in the matter of grades. There was also a great deal of feeling that something had taken place in connection with the marketing of the grain which reduced the price the producer received for his product. I might point out that the price of Number One Northern wheat on November 1, 1927, was \$1.40 5-8 per bushel and on November 1, 1928, the price of Number One Northern was \$1.21 3/4 per bushel. This reduction was a very serious matter, Mr. Speaker, and I think the producers of wheat in this Province were justified in asking what were the causes which had resulted in reduced prices and low grades.

One of the noted critics of the Government in appointing a Commission was the *Regina Daily Star*, "Saskatchewan's Independent Newspaper." I have here the announcement of the appointment of the Commission in the *Star* of November 6, 1928, and the editorial that appeared November 7, 1928—the following day. I will quote just a paragraph or two from this editorial for the purpose of showing the attitude of this paper with regard to the proposed enquiry:

"In respect to the mixing of grain, the evidence as taken before the Turgeon Commission is very voluminous and, at the same time, very conflicting. One thing certain is that the management of the Wheat Pool favours mixing and practises it."

I wonder if the editor of the *Regina Daily Star* noted the evidence given before the Commission by representatives of the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool:

"As the Pool represents the studied opinion of so great a proportion of the producers of the Province, it seems totally unnecessary to enquire into the matter further, unless Premier Gardiner desires to interfere with the management of the Pool, which is well within the scope of his capacity for blundering."

Then further down I quote:

"Thus the Gardiner Enquiry is discounted before it begins operations. Nor can its results be effective. No enactment of the Gardiner Government can change *The Grain Act* in a single particular, without throwing it into the utmost confusion. Nor would it be legal."

I would direct your attention to the last sentence in particular. It is clear to anyone who reads it carefully but it might deceive a very considerable number of the people throughout the Province of Saskatchewan. Let me read this part again: "No enactment of the Saskatchewan Government can change *The Grain Act*, in a single particular, without throwing it into the utmost confusion." No enactment! It does not say no recommendation by the Government! It says "no enactment." Very carefully did the editor guard himself in that particular!

There is another editorial from the *Regina Daily Star* of November 10, 1928, and here the opinion of the *Edmonton Journal* is referred to. It says:

"The *Star's* argument that any action by the Saskatchewan Legislature on this subject would be *ultra vires* of that Government and would be ineffective, is agreed with by the *Edmonton Journal*. 'The responsibility rests with the Ottawa authorities and it ought to be left with them,' remarks that paper."

*Mr. McClure:* Might I ask a question: Was this the first year any complaints or any representation was made to the Government on the price and grading of grain?

*Hon. Mr. Hamilton:* Oh, there have always been complaints. Any man who has lived in Saskatchewan for 36 years as I have knows that there is always complaint but there have been more complaints this year than formerly, and there seemed to be more grounds for them. Then he goes on to say:

"A little thought will show the accuracy of the statement, for no enactment by the Provincial Government would affect by one jot or tittle, the provisions of *The Grain Act* or the methods of procedure now in vogue."

Well, we never contended that any enactment of this Legislature could change *The Canada Grain Act* in such a way as to remedy the evils complained of. I quote these editorials for the purpose of showing the attitude of the *Regina Star* and *Edmonton Journal* in connection with this question. Then we have the opinion of *The Western Producer*. I want only to read a few paragraphs from an editorial. *The Western Producer* dated November 8, 1928, says:

"Just what this Government Commission expects to disclose is rather difficult to imagine, but it cannot, of course, do any harm."

*The Western Producer* thinks the Commission is a good deal like what the Scotsman said about the chip in the porridge—little good and little ill—

"The facts about mixing are all well known and understood by those interested."

Well, Mr. Speaker, they might be by the editor of *The Western Producer* but I venture to say they were not known by the great majority of the people of the Province. Then it goes on:

"The Turgeon Commission of a few years ago went into the whole matter exhaustively. They examined samples of Canadian wheat at Country receiving elevators, at private and public terminals; at mixing houses and on boats. They examined the mixed stuff that came from every elevator spout from Buffalo to Liverpool and placed their findings on record. What happens to Canadian wheat from the moment it leaves the western farm until it is transformed into bread in Europe is known to every person interested in the grain trade, the Canadian Wheat Pools included. There is sufficient information available upon which to determine the effect of any practices followed, and it is doubtful if the Saskatchewan Commission can make fresh discoveries. What the Turgeon Commission failed to do, and what any other body has failed to do, is to suggest some practical reform which would be certain to operate to the interest of the Canadian farmer."

Well, time will show! The difficulty with the Turgeon Commission's report, Mr. Speaker, was that the Parliament of Canada (and I think the responsibility for this should be placed upon the Senate of Canada) did not adopt *all* the recommendations of the Turgeon Commission. The recommendations with regard to mixing were adopted but the recommendations which were designed to maintain a high standard and to safeguard the interests of the producers, were not incorporated in the Act with the result that a general feeling has gone out that when wheat is graded out of the terminal elevators, it is down to the minimum of the grade rather than the average of the grade.

I have a clipping from another publication which seems to take some objection to the Commission. It is not an editorial but an article in the *Regina Standard*, à la Dr. W. D. Cowan, ex-M.P.—with the emphasis on the "ex." Mr. Speaker, had it not been for the Liberals of the City of Regina, I am afraid that our good friend, Dr. Cowan, would never have been able to claim that distinction or write "ex" after his name. May the Liberals be forgiven!

Well now, there is one very important body in the Province from whom no word of criticism has been offered so far as I know; that is from the producers of wheat, the United Farmers in the Province of Saskatchewan. The honourable member for Regina City (*Mr. McNiwen*) has said, that the greatest tribute that could be paid to the Commission was the fact that the Government of the Province of Alberta had conferred powers to sit in that Province upon the Commission which had been appointed by the Government of Saskatchewan. I am of the opinion that equally as great a tribute has been paid to this commission by the producers of wheat in the Province by their attendance at the various sittings and in the interest which has been shown by the people throughout the length and breadth of the Province.

Since the Turgeon Commission enquired into the handling of grain, certain new elements have entered into the grain trade. One is the mixing of grain in the terminal elevators. I have referred to this before. Mixing was recommended and was permitted but the safeguards recommended have not been enacted into the Legislation. When the Turgeon Commission held its sittings and made its report, the Wheat Pool had not been established in Saskatchewan; consequently it was not able to speak for the farmers of Saskatchewan in this important matter. The Wheat Pool in the Province of Alberta had been in operation for a short time. It is well known that the farmers of the Province of Alberta have never been exactly of the same mind as the farmers in the Province of Saskatchewan in regard to the mixing of grain. The report

of the Commission indicates that the Wheat Pool in the Province of Alberta was not opposed to mixing. They took the ground that if the line elevator companies could make money out of mixing then the farmers' company could do the same in the interests of the producers. In connection with this question public opinion among growers has crystallised to quite an extent in the last three years. There is a great deal more information available upon which to base an opinion and farmers' organisations are much more unanimous than they were at that time. When the Commission held its sitting in the City of Regina, the officials of the Wheat Pool in this Province giving evidence in connection with the marketing of grain, expressed its view in no uncertain terms and roundly condemned the practice of mixing from the producers' point of view.

We have had some criticism from the leader of the Conservative party (*Mr. Anderson*) in connection with the appointment of this Commission. His criticism as usual, is that the Government has done what he told them they should do. That is not a very serious criticism, Mr. Speaker, and need not worry us at this time. The opinion has been expressed by some of the members of the Progressive group, that the Commission should have been appointed at an earlier date, and that it should have been a Federal Commission, since this Legislature has no authority to legislate with respect to the marketing of grain outside the Province. There are some facts which might well be taken into consideration in this connection. First that the condition developed rather quickly. Second that the Federal enquiry had been made just three years previous. There was some doubt as to the willingness of the Federal Government to appoint another Commission so soon after, to enquire into the same question. There was a possibility of delay and we felt that the question was too pressing and of too much importance, to take the chance of delay in endeavouring to persuade the Dominion Government to have another enquiry. We also took into consideration the fact that Saskatchewan produces 250,000,000 bushels annually, one-half of the wheat crop of the Dominion. We felt it was our job to protect the interests of the producer and we did not try to pass that responsibility to the Dominion Government. We were prepared to face the responsibility and, consequently, appointed the Commission without delay.

The question is asked how will the recommendations of this Commission be received at Ottawa? Will they have any effect on the Parliament of Canada in doing away with some of the evils in the grain trade? I have already noted that the Government of the Province of Alberta has conferred power upon the Commission appointed by the Government of the Province of Saskatchewan to hold sittings and summon witnesses, and do all other things necessary within the boundaries of the Province of Alberta. We have every reason to believe that the Province of Manitoba will not hesitate to confer like powers upon the Commission appointed by this Government. Then we will be in a position to go to Ottawa with the report of the Commission which, in effect, has been appointed by the Governments of the three prairie Provinces. So far as I am concerned, I have enough confidence in the Parliament of Canada that with recommendations made by such a body as this, representing the opinions of the grain producers in our great spring wheat area, that there will be no hesitation on the part of the Parliament of Canada and the Dominion Government in embodying those recommendations in legislation.

Mr. Speaker, we are in this favourable position, that the Prime Minister of the Dominion of Canada represents a constituency in the Province of Saskatchewan. We are also in the position that the Minister of Agriculture, Hon. W. R. Motherwell, represents a constituency in this Province. We are also in the position that Hon. Charles A. Dunning represents a constituency in the Province of Saskatchewan. I feel that under these circumstances we can in confidence make a complete and full enquiry into practices surrounding the marketing of grain, and can feel confident that, when we go to Ottawa, the recommendations will receive favourable consideration.

There is one question on which there has been a good deal of discussion and upon which the Government of this Province has been subject to some criticism, that is in the matter of crop statistics. This matter, I think, Mr. Speaker, has been rather carelessly talked about and by men who should know better. For your information and for the information of the members of this House, I want to give you some particulars as to how these statistics are secured and the accuracy of the results which are arrived at.

I have in my hand here a copy of the Journals of the Fourth Session of the Fifth Legislature—the Session of 1924. A similar criticism was being directed at the Government at that time, and it was decided that the matter should be enquired into by a committee of the Legislature. On page 100 I find the following:

“Mr. Hindle, from the Select Standing Committee on Agriculture, presented the second report of the said Committee, which is as follows:

“Your Committee has had under consideration the matters referred to it by the Assembly under date of March 11, 1924, as follows:

'That there be referred to the Select Standing Committee on Agriculture for consideration and report, the system and procedure for securing reports and statistics on the cereal crops of the province and the tabulation and publication of the results either by the Provincial Government or in conjunction with the Dominion Government.'

That was the question. Now the report reads:

"Your committee was made acquainted with the procedure followed by the Statistical Branch of the Provincial Department of Agriculture in the collection of cereal reports and statistics and is of the opinion that the estimates compiled by this branch do not indicate that they have been in excess of the actual crop returns. Your Committee is satisfied that the system in use in this province is productive of reasonably accurate results and is of the opinion that further consideration of the development of the present system of collection might be of service.

"Your Committee is also of the opinion that public attention should be drawn to the fact that the estimates of the Department of Agriculture are much more reliable than those made unofficially by private parties. It was demonstrated to your Committee that private parties occasionally issue estimates in such a form as to convey to the public an impression that they are official in character. Your Committee is satisfied that such unofficial estimates tend to do considerable harm.

"Your Committee also believe that the public should be informed that the Department of Agriculture does not issue any crop estimate until the crop returns in any particular year are reasonably well known."

I think, Mr. Speaker, that is a clean bill of health for the Provincial Government and the Department of Agriculture so far as crop statistics are concerned.

For your information and for the information of the members of the House I might outline rather briefly how these statistics are secured. In order to get the acreage under crop in the spring, census cards are sent to the schools in the Province. Enough cards are sent to supply the children of all the farmers in the Province. These cards are returned giving the crop acreage. Some people may be disposed to ask how large a percentage of these cards are returned and I would say 25% of the farmers return these cards. Then some might say you cannot base an estimate on 25% of the farmers in the Province. That has been checked. We have a census in Saskatchewan every five years and we are able to check the crop acreage secured through this card system with the acreage secured through the census. In 1926 the wheat acreage secured by card system was 13,277,858. The census figures for the same year gave a wheat acreage of 13,558,384. The census by cards was thus some 200,000 acres less than the actual acreage. I submit that this is a reasonably close estimate, and when this check has been made from year to year it has been found to be much of the same nature.

Now as to how the yield is secured: We have some 1,200 crop correspondents, by mail, in the Province. These report at the end of every month. At the end of the months of June and July reports are sent in with regard to crop conditions, soil conditions and climatic conditions, and as to whether the season is below or above par for the production of crops. At the end of the month of August, for the first time our crop correspondents are asked to make an estimate with regard to the yield.

I might say that the Provincial Government does not give out figures with regard to crop estimates. These estimates are compiled and published by the Dominion Government in co-operation with the Provincial.

In addition to the 1,200 crop correspondents by mail we have some 100 telegraphic crop correspondents who report every two weeks during the growing season with regard to crop conditions. I want to quote some figures to show what results we are getting from the compiling of crop statistics. I have taken the years 1924 to 1927 which was the last year available. Following up the report on enquiry made in 1924—I am not going to quote all the figures, Mr. Speaker, but I will quote the estimate at the first of September in round numbers and the actual returns from wheat inspection and the estimated amount in the hands of the farmers for seed:

In 1924 the crop estimate on the first of September was 157,000,000 bushels of wheat, while the amount inspected and graded was 146,000,000 bushels, so that we did overestimate the crop by 11,000,000 bushels in 1924. You will remember that in 1924 it was very difficult to estimate the crop because of the dry season. People were optimistic and there was great disappointment when the threshing returns began to come in. As you know it is very difficult to estimate how the heads are filled, and as a result the effect of the drought was not realised until the threshing operations actually commenced.

In 1925 it was estimated there were 213,000,000 bushels. Our actual returns showed 251,000,000.

In 1926 the crop estimate was 208,000,000 and the actual return plus seed was 227,000,000.

In 1927 there was a great deal of complaint with regard to crop estimates and the Dominion Government was criticised for authorising publication of an estimate of 227,000,000. The actual returns were 252,000,000 bushels.

With these figures before us, I do not see how any person in this Province or elsewhere can justly criticise our system in connection with crop statistics, or the results which were obtained. I think the honourable members of this House when they hear this criticism would be warranted in saying, "That criticism does not lie against the Provincial Government of Saskatchewan, wherever it may be found."

I want to say something with regard to live stock. There have been certain comparatively new activities of the Government in the matter of live stock improvement. One of these has had to do with the eradication of bovine tuberculosis. I think I told the House, last Session, that a tuberculosis free area had been established east of Last Mountain Lake. I have been asked the question in this House and out of it, what steps are necessary in order to establish a tuberculosis free area.

In this connection as in many others, there is co-operation between the individual, the municipality, the Provincial and Dominion Governments. Procedure is initiated by the Provincial Government making representations to the Dominion Government to the effect that the residents of a certain area wish to have their herds tested. The Dominion Government supplies the veterinaries and pays compensation for the cattle which are slaughtered. The Provincial Government and the municipalities jointly pay for the transportation charges and the work of organisation. I have here the annual report of the Saskatchewan Cattle Breeders' Association and shall read a few lines:

"In 1926, six municipalities bordering the east side of Last Mountain Lake were established as a Tuberculosis Free Area. 25,216 head of cattle were tested in these municipalities and only 204 reacted, which is only .81 per cent."

A very, very low percentage of animals affected, Mr. Speaker.

"During the summer of 1928, the File Hill Indian Reservation was also established as a Tuberculosis Free Area, and 311 head of cattle were tested and only 25 reacted, which is also indicative of the fact that Saskatchewan cattle are remarkably free from tuberculosis."

I might say that, during the past year, we have been urging upon the Dominion Government an extension of this testing of cattle for bovine tuberculosis. A number of petitions have been circulated, and a number of districts have intimated interest in the matter. Petitions have been signed by from 75% up to as high as 85% of the resident farmers.

We realise that before this work can safely be proceeded with, it is necessary to have a very definite expression of public opinion in order that it may be carried out successfully. The Dominion Government has had a very pressing demand in Eastern Canada with regard to testing herds for bovine tuberculosis. You may have noted a great deal of cream and milk has been shipped from Ontario and Quebec to the United States in recent years. That country requires that herds be tested for bovine tuberculosis and that the dairies must be inspected before the milk can be shipped from the Provinces of Canada to the United States. For this reason the Dominion Government during 1928, has been concentrating on the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec, being the Provinces adjoining the Great Lakes and tributary to the United States, in order to make it possible for these farmers in Canada to take advantage of the United States markets.

Residents of a number of municipalities in the Province are interested in having their herds tested. They have passed the necessary resolutions and signed the petitions and are ready to proceed just as soon as the Dominion Government has the money and the men available. This Government is prepared to proceed just as fast with this work as the Dominion Government is prepared to do its part.

Another activity having to do with the improvement of live stock is the pure bred sire area. This Government was the first in the world, so far as I know, with the exception of the Government of Ireland, to pass such advanced legislation. The Act under which this work is done, *The Pure Bred Sire Areas Act*, came into effect on May 1, 1927. Six municipalities were surveyed during that summer and became established in January, 1928. Eleven more were surveyed during 1928 and we expect to have at the beginning of 1929, 17 municipalities established as pure bred sire areas. In addition twelve more surveys will be made at the earliest opportunity. The interest shown in this work by individuals as well as municipal bodies is very encouraging, indeed.

In the six municipalities originally surveyed, the number of scrub bulls in 1926 was 1,411; in 1927 these were reduced to 265, and in 1928 there were none. The number of pure bred bulls in 1926 was 210, in 1927, 264, and in 1928, 336. Scrub yearling bulls disposed of, in 1928, numbered 33. The total decrease in the number of scrub bulls in three years was 1,444. A great deal of interest is being shown in this question and the improvement in live stock will be evident in a very short space of time.

I think I might also express my appreciation for the assistance given by the railway companies in our efforts to improve live stock. The Canadian National Railways and the Canadian Pacific Railway have supplied and equipped free-of-charge trains for the purpose of carrying on live stock work throughout the Province. Cattle trains are run in the summer and sheep and swine trains in the fall. The effect of these trains, wherever they have been, is very beneficial to the live stock industry, and we owe a considerable debt to the railway companies for the assistance they are giving in this connection. I feel that it would cost so much money to do this work that the Provincial Government would be unable to carry it on, were it not for this assistance.

For some years breeders of live stock and producers of grain have been exhibiting at the Royal Winter Fair, Toronto, and the International Grain and Stock Show in the city of Chicago. During the past year a great deal of interest has been taken in these exhibitions, and I thought possibly it would be of some interest to the House to give in a summarised form the results of exhibitions outside of our own Province. It was my privilege, Mr. Speaker, to be in attendance at the Royal Winter Fair the night on which the Saskatchewan Farmers paraded their live stock. I can assure you that, as Minister of Agriculture in this Province, I had a feeling of pride when these horses came into the ring. In the Saskatchewan Exhibit there were four Grand Champions,—The Grand Champion Clydesdale stallion, the Grand Champion Percheron, the Grand Champion Belgian and the Grand Champion Belgian Mare. So far as I know, this is the first time that Four Grand Championships in horses were won by one Province. I think it is something for which we have reason to be proud, and I feel we owe a debt of gratitude to the farmers of this Province and the horsemen who have taken so much trouble in the breeding and fitting of their live stock that they are able to bring so much credit to the Province as well as to themselves. Unfortunately, too many people who are engaged in this business do not receive enough financial return for their efforts to compensate them for their outlay in that connection.

In addition to the winnings at The Royal, I might say that the Grand Champion Clydesdale "Lochinvar" owned by Mr. J. E. Falconer, won the Carls-Rite trophy, the highest award offered at the Show. A few years ago, when Mr. W. B. Ewen, also of Govan, won this trophy, we had it on exhibition in this Chamber for a time. The trophy has not been brought to Saskatchewan yet, but I have informed Mr. Falconer that if he wishes to bring it to Saskatchewan we shall be very pleased to take care of it for him if he does not want it at his own home.

With regard to the exhibit at the International Grain and Stock Show, Chicago, our exhibit was not large but the results were very satisfactory indeed. Mr. Falconer with "Lochinvar" won the Grand Championship, also the Junior Championship in the Clydesdale classes, and the Junior Championship and the Grand Championship for females. I feel that my good friend, the Provincial Secretary, (*the Honourable Mr. Latta*) has reason to be proud that he has, as one of his constituents, such a distinguished live stock man as Mr. Falconer.

*Mr. Anderson:* He is a Conservative is he not?

*Mr. Hamilton:* We do not ask that question of our exhibitors when they are showing horses, but I do not think so.

I think some reference should be made to the work carried on by our Agricultural Societies. I do not think we have any greater agency for the promotion of the production of our agricultural products than our Agricultural Societies. The work starts away back in the country with the local Agricultural Societies. The best products from these compete in our B. Class Fairs. The scheme of exhibitions culminates in the A. Class Fairs or Provincial Exhibitions held in Regina and Saskatoon. There is one feature in connection with the work of the Agricultural Societies to which I want to make special reference and that is, the work which is being done by the boys and girls in judging competitions.

I do not believe there is any better work being done in the Province of Saskatchewan in Agriculture, than is being done in these judging competitions. The training begins with the local Agricultural Societies throughout the Province and culminates with the Farm Boys' Camp held in connection with our larger exhibitions.

The Government has approved of the policy of giving assistance to Farm Boys' Camps and it is proposed, at this Session, to make provision for some encouragement and some assistance to those communities which are conducting a Farm Boys' Camp. Yesterday, I received a telephone communication from the Live Stock Commissioner, who is also secretary of the Live Stock Association, urging me very strongly to go to Saskatoon today; that they had 153 boys and girls in attendance at the judging competitions held in connection with the Live Stock Convention. It has been my privilege on many occasions to present the prizes to the boys and girls who were successful in these competitions. I regretted exceedingly that I was unable to accept the invitation on this occasion. It is an inspiration to these boys and girls interested in agriculture.

Mr. Speaker, we hang in our halls of fame the portraits of men who have pleased us with their writings in poetry and prose, with their paintings, with their modelling in clay and stone—our poets, our authors, our painters, our sculptors, and it is well that we should so honour those

among us who excel. But, Mr. Speaker, I am of the opinion that he is no less an artist who produces a perfect living thing. It requires the fine aesthetic taste, as well as a great deal of careful labour. Men who reach these heights in live stock should have their portraits hung in the Halls of Fame in company with their fellow citizens who are thus honoured.

I want to make some reference to the work which is being done in poultry, because poultry is one of the smaller activities in connection with Agriculture, and sometimes overlooked. It is estimated that the returns from poultry, in 1928, amounted to \$3,345,750—quite a tidy little sum to be received from this small industry. The Department of Agriculture for a number of years has been carrying on work in connection with the culling of flocks. During the summer of 1928, poultry culling was carried on in 20 municipalities reaching from Battleford and Langham on the north to Plato and Tullis in the south; 543 flocks were inspected, 492 were culled; 29,176 birds were inspected and 9,957 were culled. This, we believe is good work in an endeavour to improve the poultry flocks of the Province.

Work has also been done in the improvement of turkeys. During the months of November and December, three inspectors inspected 307 flocks of turkeys. The number of birds actually reaching the regulation standard entitling them to be banded by the Government, was 1713.

As a result of this banding of turkeys there has come a demand for turkeys raised in Saskatchewan from buyers outside of our own Province. Mr. R. H. Stapleton, a turkey producer of this Province, won first and second prizes in young males, first prize in old females, first and sixth prizes in young females and fourth in old males at the Royal Winter Fair, last fall.

As a result of the grading and banding as well as the publicity secured through the winnings at the Royal Winter Fair, orders for turkeys are reaching us from Ontario, Manitoba and Alberta. These birds are selling at a price ranging from \$8.00 for Class C hens to \$75 for Class A Toms. I think these enquiries and prices will indicate the value of culling and banding turkeys and other poultry in this Province.

There is another small and comparatively new activity to which I might refer. This is the bee industry. In 1927, we had 928 beekeepers in the Province. In 1928 we had 1147. The number of colonies on the spring count, in 1928, was 5,172. The number of colonies in the fall count, in 1928, was 7,086 showing an increase of 1,914.

The production of honey for 1928 was somewhat less than for the year 1927, notwithstanding the fact that we had a substantial increase in the number of bee-keepers and colonies. In 1928, 31,794 pounds of comb honey valued at \$9,204.36 were produced and 390,508 pounds of extracted honey valued at \$68,456.05, or a total reported production of 422,302 pounds valued at \$77,660.41.

Within the last two years, inspection of bees has been instituted in the Province. An experienced trained man was employed and his report indicated these results:

"During 1927 approximately one-third of the Province was inspected and disease found in six districts. This disease was cleaned up and no more was found when these districts were reinspected this year. The two-thirds of the Province not previously inspected was carefully inspected this year and 42 colonies were found infected with American Foulbrood. An inspection of the entire Province has now been completed. The greater proportion of infected colonies have been found and destroyed and a marked reduction in the amount of disease may be expected next year.

"Number of colonies infected with American Foulbrood—	42.
"Number of supers infected with American Foulbrood	85.
"Per cent. of total colonies infected with American Foulbrood	0.59%."

I think these figures indicate, Mr. Speaker, that we were not too early in passing legislation to control disease among bees, and not too early in the employment of a trained man to attend to the work of inspection.

Another Branch of the Department of Agriculture to which I would refer is the Dairy Branch. Dairying is becoming a more and more important branch of Agriculture. It is true that the production for 1928 is a fraction lower than for 1927, but prices were approximately 02 cents a pound for butterfat higher, with the result that the revenue was \$20,000,000 in 1928, as compared with \$19,000,000 in 1927.

During the past year, the World's Dairy Conference was held in London, from June 28 to July 12. It was decided that the Government of the Province of Saskatchewan should be represented at that conference and it was my privilege to attend. The Province was also represented by the President of the Provincial Dairy Association. Forty-seven countries were represented with some 1,800 delegates attending.

In the application of science to the dairy industry, Saskatchewan is not behind any of the other countries represented at the Congress. This is probably not to be wondered at. Science is international in character. A new discovery soon spreads throughout the world. In a new country like Canada, and especially in the newer provinces, it is frequently possible to introduce



new methods more readily than in old countries where certain practices have become established. In the manufacture and distribution of dairy products, Saskatchewan is probably as far advanced as any other country in the world.

A certain phase of the Congress appealed to me very strongly. That was the question of herd improvement. I took every opportunity of visiting as many of the dairy farms as time and opportunity would permit. There we saw the dairy cattle of England and Scotland. In England it would appear the dual-purpose Shorthorn cow is a popular breed. They are apparently able to get satisfactory results from these cattle with regard to production of dairy products, both in the volume of milk and butter fat. An examination of the records of the various herds visited indicated that. In all breeds, a herd that produced from 7,000 to 8,000 pounds of milk with 3.75 to 4.00% butterfat, was considered a satisfactory herd.

In this Province we have just as good individual cows as are to be found in any other country. We have just as good individual herds. The great difference between Saskatchewan and some of the other countries is, that the average of our herds is not so high. In this regard there is much room for improvement before we reach the standard set in Great Britain and in Denmark.

It is thought that the dual-purpose Shorthorn cow would fill a useful place in this Province at the present time, when we are evolving from purely a grain-growing Province into a more diversified system of agriculture. The Shorthorn Breeders' already have made representations with respect to the importation of certain breeding stock. The matter of Federal assistance has been taken up with the Minister of Agriculture at Ottawa. If Federal assistance can be secured it is believed that the Empire Marketing Board has money available to assist in the importation of cattle from Great Britain to any of the Dominions. We hope that some live stock improvement work along this line will be carried out during the present year.

Saskatchewan buttermakers have been active during the past year and have exhibited at a good many exhibitions. Saskatchewan buttermakers exhibited at the following exhibitions which have classes open to all creameries in the Dominion: Brandon, Calgary, Edmonton, Regina, Vancouver, Victoria, New Westminster, Ottawa, London, Canadian National, Toronto and Royal Winter Fair, Toronto.

During the season of 1928, prizes were given on 1,319 boxes of butter and Saskatchewan creameries won 288 prizes or 21.8% of the total. Prizes were 80 firsts, 147 seconds and 61 thirds, representing 16.7% of all firsts, 27.2% seconds and 20.2% thirds.

Possibly special attention should be given to the winnings at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair, Toronto. Out of a total of 51 exhibits from all Provinces in the Dominion, Saskatchewan won 44 prizes of which 25 were firsts, 11 seconds and 8 thirds.

During the past two years there has been instituted a system of creamery inspection and giving assistance to buttermakers of the various creameries. The men who are employed as creamery inspectors are trained men, graduates of a dairy school. These inspectors visit the creameries, and give the creamery operators assistance in connection with the making of butter. They also work among the producers. If a producer is delivering cream not up to a good standard, the inspector goes out and visits his premises, sees the cows, stable and pastures, sees how the milk and cream are taken care of. The result has been that a very substantial improvement has been made not only in the cream which is delivered to our creameries, but also in the method in which butter is made.

Someone has said that the purchase of Canary Korndyke Alcartra is the high-water mark for Saskatchewan agriculture during the year 1928. Well, I am not prepared to say that, Mr. Speaker. It is an important venture, and I believe of great benefit to the people of Saskatchewan. This world famous cow produced in 305 days, last year, some 1,079.74 pounds of butterfat, as I have noted, as much butter fat as ten average dairy cows of the Province. I think that is a figure which is worth noting—one cow producing as much as ten! Why then keep a whole herd if one cow can produce the same amount? This record will set a standard for our dairymen to aim at for some considerable time.

In spite of that I am disposed to think that this great event, the purchase of this record-making cow for the people of Saskatchewan, is not so important for the Province as some other things which are in contemplation. One of these things is the efforts which are being made to control weeds in the Province. If someone were to ask me what is the most pressing question in connection with agriculture in Saskatchewan today, I would hesitate somewhat between the marketing of grain and the destruction of noxious weeds.

I am of the opinion that the control of noxious weeds is one of the most pressing questions before us at the present time. You will note the estimates include an addition to the appropriation of some \$10,000 for this work. This does not mean that the work has been neglected in the past; in fact, I am of the opinion that very good work has been done in connection with the eradication of noxious weeds, but it is recognition of the fact that a real problem is confronting us and we must grapple with the question whether we are going to grow grain successfully on this land, or will it be abandoned as in other Provinces. That is the problem confronting us at the present time.

We have had on our statute books a Noxious Weeds Act for some years. I want to refer to just one section of that Act. If the members were to read this Act through there might be some difference of opinion as to which is the most important provision. To my mind, the finest section is Section 8, subsection (3) which reads as follows:

"If the person upon whom an order is to be issued resides in the municipality the inspector shall confer with such person regarding the methods of control to be applied with a view to the most satisfactory treatment from the standpoint of the occupant as well as the community, and an agreement on a form to be approved by the Minister, setting forth duly the arrangements made, may be signed by both parties."

I think that is the finest section in *The Noxious Weeds Act*. This whole Act contemplates co-operation between the individual, the municipality, the inspector and the Department of Agriculture. In this particular section I think that spirit of co-operation is embodied. The inspector when he sees weeds which should be taken care of, is required to talk the matter over with the farmer,—talk it over as to the best means of grappling with the problem. If they are able to reach a conclusion it is written down in the agreement, and the farmer and inspector sign it. This, I think, is a great incentive to the farmer to carry out the work agreed upon, in weed destruction. The section goes on to say:

"If an agreement cannot be reached, or if an agreement has been duly signed but is not being carried out to the satisfaction of the inspector, such inspector may then issue an order on a form to be approved by the Minister providing for the destruction of the noxious weeds."

Some might be disposed to say that the section which gives an inspector power to destroy crop and charge it up to the land, is the finest section of *The Noxious Weeds Act*, but I am of the opinion that this section which contemplates study of the question by the farmer and inspector, and an endeavour to reach an agreement is the most important section of the Act.

For some years we have been conducting short courses for weed inspectors. I might point out that the numbers who attended these short courses in Regina and in Saskatoon were 65 in 1926, 77 in 1927, and 111 in 1928, indicating an increased interest on the part of the municipalities and weed inspectors in the courses which have been provided by the Department of Agriculture. In 1928, 78 rural municipalities employed weed inspectors who had attended these short courses.

I refer to this matter, Mr. Speaker, to indicate the efforts which have been made, and the assistance given to solving the weed problem. In spite of the work done, and in spite of *The Noxious Weeds Act*, the short courses, the efforts of the inspectors, and of the farmers to bring about an improvement, weeds are increasing from year to year. If our farmers were poor farmers, if they were careless in their methods, one could more readily see a way out. The fact is, the great majority are careful farmers carrying on as well as they know how. In spite of these careful efforts the weeds are increasing from year to year.

In order that the question might be given careful consideration, it was decided to call a conference. Representatives from various organisations were invited, not so much to give consideration to the best method of destroying sow thistle, wild oats or any other weed, however important that weed might be, but to bring about an organisation best calculated to effect the desired results. Possibly you might be interested in knowing the names of some of those who were in attendance at the conference. I do not propose to read the list of persons in attendance, but will read the names of the organisations represented:

United Farmers of Canada, Sask. Section;  
Saskatchewan Co-operative Wheat Producers Ltd.;  
The Association of Rural Municipalities;  
Agricultural Societies;  
University of Saskatchewan, Extension Department;  
Dominion Government—Land Settlement Branch,  
Experimental Farms,  
Department of Indian Affairs,  
Seed Branch;

Farm Loans Board;  
Land and Mortgage Association of Saskatchewan;  
Dominion Mortgage Association;  
Canadian Bankers' Association;  
Department of Agriculture representatives;  
Department of Highways representatives;  
Seed Trade;  
Live Stock Association representatives;  
Dairy Association representatives;  
Retail Merchants Association;  
Railway Companies;  
Wholesale Implement Dealers Association.

Mr. Speaker, this conference was representative of the leading interests of the Province, and consisted of men who came with the earnest desire to solve this question recognised as being one of the most pressing problems in the Province at the present time. As a result of the conference, certain recommendations were made which are being given consideration. The conference also appointed a committee to confer with the Provincial Government in connection with the efforts to control noxious weeds. It is scarcely necessary for me to say that we welcome the committee, and the Department will gladly co-operate with the representatives of these bodies.

One of the most important events in the history of agriculture so far as Saskatchewan is concerned, was the decision to hold in Regina in 1932, a World's Grain Show. The idea was conceived in the minds of the members of the Regina Exhibition Association. The year 1932 will be the fiftieth anniversary of the coming of the Canadian Pacific Railway, to the city of Regina. It was thought that 1932 would be a fitting occasion for the bringing together of a great rally in connection with the Regina Exhibition.

It was also recognised that Saskatchewan is the greatest wheat producing Province in the Dominion. It was recognised the prosperity of Saskatchewan depends upon the prosperity of the wheat growers and it was thought that a specialty should be made of wheat on that great occasion. It was believed that since Regina was the capital city of the Province that all the people of the Province would gladly unite to make this World's Grain Show a real outstanding event, and I do not think, in this, the proponents of the scheme will be disappointed.

When the directors came to talk the matter over with the Provincial Government the idea was beginning to expand. First they had in mind a Provincial exhibition, then it grew to a Dominion exhibition. Later they got the idea of taking in the United States. Finally it became a World's Show.

It was soon realised that an undertaking of this magnitude was too big for the Regina Exhibition Association, too big for the Provincial Government. It required the support of the Federal Government in order to make it a success. The connections which it was desired to make with other countries could only be made through the Federal Government. A delegation went to Ottawa to interview the Minister of Agriculture and other members of the Government. These were much interested and we have the assurance of the whole-hearted support of the Dominion Government.

A prize list of \$200,000 has been decided upon. The Dominion Government agreeing to contribute one-half the amount; the other half will be raised by private subscriptions. The organisation consists of a national committee with the Federal Minister of Agriculture as chairman, and a local committee with the Provincial Minister of Agriculture as chairman. The work of carrying out the undertaking must necessarily fall on the Regina Exhibition Association and the local committee. Mr. J. A. Mooney, of Regina, has been appointed manager, Mr. D. T. Elderkin, Manager, Regina Exhibition Association, has been appointed secretary, and Mr. W. G. Yule, Superintendent of the Royal Bank of Canada, has been appointed treasurer. It is expected that the interest aroused by this World's Grain Show will do much to maintain and improve the quality of wheat grown in Western Canada, and enable us to hold our position as the greatest exporters in the world of hard red spring wheat.

I have here a report of the grain exhibits from Saskatchewan at the Royal Winter Fair and at Chicago. I was pleased to note Saskatchewan had more exhibitors in grain than formerly. At the Royal Winter Fair, last year, Saskatchewan won second and third prizes in Durum wheat and second, fourth, fifth, eighth, ninth, eleventh, twelfth and thirteenth in other varieties of spring wheat. It is true we did not win the first prize. This honour went to Alberta, and we congratulate Mr. Herman Trelle on his success.

I have pointed out to you, however, the number of prizes secured by Saskatchewan exhibitors, and I think this very important. In the International Grain Show held in Chicago there were 35 prizes in hard red spring wheat. Saskatchewan took 18. We did not get the highest but we were right at the top and of the 23 prizes which came to Canada, Saskatchewan won 18. I think that speaks well for Saskatchewan. Eight farmers took prizes who never exhibited before. I think this is an important consideration. Here, I think is something which might be noted. Eleven of the prizes were won with Reward, one of the new wheats that has come on the market recently; 16 were won with Marquis. The second, fourth, seventh, ninth, tenth, fifteenth, seventeenth, eighteenth, nineteenth, twenty-fifth and twenty-seventh prizes were won by Reward.

I am pleased to note, Mr. Speaker, the increased interest from year to year which is being taken by the farmers in the growing of registered seed and the exhibition of it, and we hope that the coming World's Grain Show will stimulate this and that we will have a great many exhibitors exhibiting here in 1932. When the exhibition is over, I am of the opinion that the effect will not be lost, but that it will be felt in this Province for a good many years to come.

I have one more matter to which I wish to refer, that is the work of the Agricultural Representatives. Last year a bill was passed providing for Agricultural Representatives and the

sum of \$25,000 was included in the estimates. It was hoped some municipalities would organise during 1928. Action was taken by the Legislature as a result of the interest which had been manifested by agricultural, municipal and other organisations, during 1927. Two districts were sufficiently interested to take the initial steps but, when the question was submitted to the people, I am sorry to say that the question of establishing an Agricultural Representative District was rejected by a narrow margin, showing that the people of Saskatchewan were not quite ready for this advanced step in connection with Agriculture. I wonder if the Leader of the Conservative Party (*Mr. Anderson*) noted that we were just a little ahead of public opinion this time? It is recognised that a Government cannot proceed in any undertaking faster than public opinion will support it.

There is undoubtedly need for agricultural education. I am of the opinion that no country can reach its maximum in agriculture which neglects the education of its children along agricultural lines. It is true that District Representatives can assist in the improvement of live stock and dairying, of growing grain and the destruction of weeds, but I am of the opinion that the most important work of the Agricultural Representative in Saskatchewan would be among our boys and girls, training them in the fundamentals of agriculture, getting them acquainted with the business which they are undertaking and creating in them a desire to be farmers.

During the past summer it was my privilege to visit Denmark. The Prime Minister (*the Honourable Mr. Gardiner*) asked me to make some investigation with regard to the folk schools of Denmark as they related to agriculture. The educational system of Denmark is divided into two parts; state education and private education. State education in Denmark is much like our own consisting of primary schools, secondary schools and the University. Folk High Schools are no part of the state educational system. They are part of the Private School System. I visited several of these institutions and talked with the principals. The head of the school is an important part of the institution.

The first Folk school in Denmark was organised by a leading public spirited citizen who was sorry for his countrymen and wished to raise them out of their despondency after the war with Germany in which the Provinces of Schleswig-Holstein were lost. He set out to create a national spirit and instil confidence in the minds of the people. This expression was coined "what we have lost in territory we must gain in spirit." A school was established, and young men were encouraged to come in for five months in winter and young women for three months in summer. The course consists of history, geography, literature, arithmetic, languages.

*Mr. MacPherson:* Are there endowments?

*Mr. Hamilton:* No, not by the Government. They are private schools. I asked one of the men "How was this institution built?" He said, "My father built it as a private undertaking." They charge fees. They get assistance from the Government in proportion to the amount of salaries paid to the teachers, also grants on equipment and percentage on investment. Probably thirty per cent. of the young men and young women of Denmark from the rural districts attend these schools. Other schools were established later and now Folk High Schools are to be found at various centres throughout Denmark, about 55 in number. The course consists of one term. I asked some of the men if they thought better training would be given if the course was extended over two or three years. They answered: "No—not for the purpose we have in mind. We do not pretend to give an education. We are simply endeavouring to create an outlook on life, and a desire for knowledge."

In addition to the Folk High Schools there are, in Denmark, Agricultural Schools conducted on similar lines. In some cases the Folk High School and the Agricultural School are combined.

The combined school is not looked upon with favour by the Folk High School. This type of school might meet the need for agricultural education among the boys and girls of Saskatchewan.

*Mr. MacPherson:* Is there a uniform curriculum in these Folk Schools?

*Mr. Hamilton:* Not entirely. The curriculum is not under Government control. There is a measure of uniformity as the instruction is mainly in the same subjects in all the schools.

*Mr. Whalley:* Do I understand that they teach co-operation in these schools?

*Mr. Hamilton:* No. Co-operation is not taught as a subject. Co-operation comes as a result of an attitude of mind. They endeavour to create that frame of mind which will bring about co-operation.

*Mr. Whalley:* What do they do in economics?

*Mr. Hamilton:* It is not taught as a subject of study.

*Mr. McConnell:* Do Folk Schools limit their attendance to the rural children, or do they take in the urban boys as well?

*Mr. Hamilton:* They are open to all but attended mostly by boys and girls from the rural districts.

*Mr. McConnell:* They can take up farming after they get through?

*Mr. Hamilton:* Frequently, they attend the agricultural schools afterwards. I was told that the best students at the Agricultural Schools were those who had attended the Folk High Schools first.

Mr. Speaker, we have need in Saskatchewan of a system of schools for the training of farm boys and girls between the ages of 16 and 20 years who have a public school education and who intend to remain on the farm. The combined Folk High School and Agricultural School, of Denmark, would appear to meet our requirements. The need for such schools would be recognised and come much faster if we had in this Province a system of Agricultural Representatives.

Mr. Speaker, I intend to support the motion.

THE HONOURABLE S. J. LATTA.

(*Provincial Secretary, Minister of Municipal Affairs  
and  
Minister in Charge of Bureau of Publications and King's Printer's Office.*)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 24, 1929.

Mr. Speaker,—In the remarks I shall make tonight, I shall endeavour to be as brief as I can. The debate has been dragging along for a week and probably members have decided fairly well as to what they intend to do with the resolution.

I wish at the outset, to add my congratulations to those of the Minister of Agriculture (*The Honourable Mr. Hamilton*), to my friend "Jock" Falconer for the honour of having brought that cup (*referring to the Carls-Rute Trophy*) from the Royal Winter Fair. This is the second time that a stockman from the constituency I have the honour to represent has brought the cup to Saskatchewan. It was previously won by Mr. W. B. Ewen. In congratulating Mr. Falconer on his great achievement, I may say that I consider it a great honour to have him living in my own constituency.

At this late stage of the debate one catches a little bit of dampness in the audience, and as I look at the few faces that we have on the opposite side of the floor I am led to think of the next term. I do not know, Mr. Speaker, whether it is the act of a kind Providence to save us from a sudden shock and relieve us gradually as to what we may expect next term, or not.

*Mr. Anderson:* We want you to get used to talking to yourselves.

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* It has been my privilege to sit in this Legislature since 1912 (quite a number of years to enjoy the confidence of the people of a constituency), yet in all that time I do not know that I have ever heard a more concise budget speech, one so pointed, so convincing and so well expressed as that by the honourable Minister (*The Honourable Mr. Patterson*) who made the speech this year. I do not believe that, from a literary point of view, anything better phrased has been delivered in this House—not an unnecessary word in it, not a mis-understandable sentence, everything clear, concise and pointed—a speech that convinced nearly everybody who was willing to be convinced at all. I think we can sum up the Budget Speech in this sentence: It told the story of the Province's splendid financial position in a very excellent way. Probably that will express it about as well as I can.

I have a reason for saying that. When my honourable friend the member for Saskatoon (*Mr. Anderson*), who is the leader of a great party in the Province, delivered his Address on the Budget, there were four things that seemed to strike me regarding it.

The first thing that struck me after he sat down was that he never said one solitary word or uttered one solitary sentence in reply to anything whatever that the Budget Speech contained. Not a solitary thing! The second thing is that never, before he sat down, did he attack one solitary statute on the books of this Province that was put there by supporters of this Government. The third thing I noticed was that he stuck to his conception of the duties of an Opposition. And I must take issue with him and his friends on the understanding they have of the duties of an Opposition. I met it on several occasions in Arm River in the Arm River Election. Nearly every speech of the Opposition in that campaign, when they went out to educate the electorate to try to induce them to support their candidate, almost invariably started out with this premise, that the purpose of an opposition is to oppose.

*Mr. McConnell:* No!

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* If you will wait till I get through—that the purpose of an Opposition is to oppose all those things that were not good and to support all those things that were good. Invariably, that is the purport of every Opposition speech. I met it amongst the electorate constantly. I must take issue with my friends. That is not the duty of an Opposition.

My honourable friends are very free with their advice to this side of the House, and I am sure they cannot find fault with us if we reciprocate by trying to compensate them for it, so I intend, in return, to give just a little advice to them. The people of Saskatchewan are not unintelligent. They understand the operations of Government and they know (and I met this invariably in the Arm River campaign) the duty of the Opposition leader. The honourable gentleman hopes sometime to be the leader of the Government. Every Opposition leader hopes that that may happen.

What is the duty of an opposition leader? From my point of view (and I think I have the correct view), that duty is to propound some alternative policy and to go out and try to convince the electorate that such alternative policy is a better policy than that of the Government. I never heard anything of that nature in Arm River, nor in this House on the Budget Debate. I think that the speech delivered by the leader of the Opposition was a most remarkable speech

because in that speech there was no announcement of policy—not a line, not a word!—and there was no criticism of the financial condition of the Province as outlined in the Budget Speech of my friend, the Provincial Treasurer. I want to draw the attention of the House to this point.

There is one thing more I must tell my honourable friend and that is the fourth characteristic of his speech. It is this: In his closing remarks he made an appeal. It sounded like a valedictory to me. He appealed that when we go into the next campaign, whenever that campaign may come (and it might be in the "far-near distant future" as my honourable friend from Hanley (*Mr. Stipe*) put it, and let me add, Mr. Speaker, that while we have been accused of being indefinite, for real indefiniteness I think my honourable friend from Hanley should carry off the cake), that when that campaign comes, all parties may discuss all of the Provincial problems fairly and that all may put the political situation (and I use the term in its highest sense) fairly, and squarely, and honestly, before the people.

Now, Mr. Speaker, my honourable friend will have to do some changing of his methods if he does that. An exhibition was given tonight of his changing ways, of his vacillations. I think I should draw the attention of the House to one or two more examples. My good friend and neighbour from Wynyard (*Mr. Paulson*) caught some of his old fire tonight and made a speech such as I have heard him make in the old days (for we have been a long time in politics, he and I) when we have been 'on the stump' together. I want to congratulate him on his efforts tonight. He called attention to one change. But I want to say that my honourable friends will have to change again if they answer the appeal of the Opposition leader because, in their last attempt they did not place the issues fairly, squarely and honestly before the people. Now I do not like to be on the defensive in a campaign, but, at various times during the Arm River election I was put on the defensive because of many erroneous statements and insinuations made by my honourable friend and his followers. I do, therefore, commend him for what tonight appeared to be an honest attempt to correct that sort of thing, and I hope when the next campaign comes that his followers will take the advice of tonight and place the issues fairly and squarely before the people.

I wish to draw attention to one or two things that have been said during this debate before I touch upon matters of a departmental nature. My honourable friend from Kindersley, (*Mr. Whatley*), has been very much worried about the larger educational unit. In this debate he spoke of it again. To him, apparently, all improvement in education hinges on increasing the administrative unit. I listened to him very carefully and I came to the conclusion that he had in his mind four things he wanted to do! First, he wanted the schools properly regulated; second, he wanted provision made for greater supervision of the schools in the country; third, he wanted further effort in the stimulation of education in the country schools and fourth, he wanted something further done towards equalising the burden of taxation. These are commendable ideals. We all agree. I think, however, that my friend attaches too much importance to the compulsory system of increasing the administrative unit. In my honourable friend's plan there was nothing, from my point of view, that would secure any of these things.

All that is necessary now, if we desire to increase supervision, is to increase the inspectorial staff. Then, in my honourable friend's plan, there was outlined no scheme by which to equalise the burden of taxation. The other two points he mentioned can be well taken care of from time to time, under the present system, through the Department of Education. The larger area may not be the solution—the best solution in practice, so that I cannot bring myself to agree with that kind of compulsory scheme. We must go gradually in this, as in other things, as the electorate feels inclined to give whole-hearted support to it. We are approaching the ideal, keeping pace with conditions.

In connection with educational matters, (and looking very closely at the attitude of the opposition members on some of those questions), those of us who were in the House, last year, know how they fought one of the amendments to *The School Act* giving permission to charge fees for secondary education. You remember how the honourable member for Saskatoon, (*Mr. Anderson*), fought that to the last ditch. There was a considerable amount of sentiment in the country favourable to my honourable friend's stand at that time. Nothing of that was heard this year, and the only reason I can give is that public opinion has changed and my honourable friend would not be quite so securely on the "band wagon" to-day, if he talked that way. There is no opposition to that now.

*Mr. Anderson:* Oh yes, there is!

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* A member of Regina City Board told me that because of that permissive legislation the income of the School Board of Regina City had been increased by about \$22,000. I was particular to ask him if the result had been to keep one single child in Regina from receiving a secondary education and he said that he did not think so.

*Mr. MacPherson:* Which member of the Board?

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* I do not want to drag personalities in this debate nor to repeat any private conversation. The statement I have made is accurate, and I want to tell my honourable friend that that \$22,000 spent in the City, and surrounding municipalities, has served to stimulate

and increase service in our secondary schools all over the Province. The legislation of last session has helped to bring about educational facilities in Saskatchewan that are not surpassed probably in any other province.

Hon. members will remember the time when I addressed this House in 1921, 1922 and 1923 on some of the difficulties experienced. When I went into the Education Department in 1921 (my honourable friend (*Mr. Anderson*) knows this) there were between 800 and 900 teachers with incomplete certificates in the Province. That was a condition that had to be corrected and we set about doing it. We were short of teachers because we did not have in the Province the material out of which teachers could be made. The continuation schools throughout the country have provided that material. They provided the stimulation and the assistance that was needed and those continuation schools were the means of putting the students in a position to render service not only to the school but to the state.

The first thing that these schools did was to supply the material for the manufacture of teachers so that we could secure all the teachers required. In a short time this Province was not compelled to depend on people coming from different parts of Canada, the United States or from the Old Country. These schools provided us with the material, a native product—students who knew the conditions in the schools, knew the people, and the atmosphere surrounding our educational system. Gradually, but eventually, it enabled us to do away with those 800 or 900 incomplete certificates and to-day there is not a single permit, outside one or two in the far north country. To all intents and purposes that difficulty has been eliminated. Not only that, but the continuation schools enabled us to strengthen our position in another respect.

You will remember how we allowed students to go through normal school and issued permits to those students with three subjects down, an imperfect standing. Then the standards were raised gradually and permits were issued to students with two subjects down and, finally, one subject down. To-day we allow no one to enter normal school who has not a complete academic First or Second Class Certificate. The normal schools are filled. That is, it enabled us to raise the standard.

It enabled us to do another thing. You will remember that my honourable friend from Kindersley (*Mr. Whatley*) talked about the appalling inefficiency of the school teachers (if there is anything in it). It enabled us to correct that by increasing the length of the term, and now a full year course is demanded. It enabled us to take a great deal more care in passing the students after they had taken the normal school course for which we issue a certificate. It enabled us to raise the age to eighteen years and it enabled us to open a third normal school. This third school is also full to capacity. All of them are as a matter of fact.

It enabled us to place educational institutions closer to the homes of the students and it enabled us to make the normal school staffs permanent. I must correct my honourable friend (*Mr. Anderson*), when he tried to leave the impression that I was opposed to the appointment of teachers to the normal school permanent staff. He tried to leave that impression. I shall quote what he said in a moment. It did all these, but to me, one of the most important was that it enabled us to go out into the rural districts and to draw material for school teachers from the pupils living in the country districts who, after their training, could be sent out into the rural parts of the Province. Formerly, town people and city people, not understanding country conditions, were sent out into the country to teach school—a policy that has proved a failure in many, many cases. Some figures will bear that out.

I find that in the fall normal term of 1926, 51% of the First Class Certificates, 54% of the Second Class Certificates and 70% of the Third Class Certificates were held by students from the agricultural classes who received their academic standing from the continuation schools of the country. Here is evidence of our success in placing teachers from the rural areas into rural schools.

*Mr. MacPherson:* Was not the percentage always high from the rural districts?

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* Well, not nearly so high as that, and many of the teachers came from other Provinces, too. I want to correct my honourable friend's statement when he read from an address I delivered in this House. You will find it in the Sessional Papers of 1925-26. I had an idea that he should have read on a little further, but I did not say anything because I was not sure at the time. This is the paragraph that was read:

"For this reason, the plan has been adopted of appointing the staff partly permanent. As other additions to the staff are required they are selected from the inspectors in the field. During the winter months it is very difficult to get around many districts. We think, and a great many other educationists think, that the inspector thus brings to the Normal School the practical problems of the country. Not only this, but while taking the work in the Normal School he comes closely in touch with the advancement of education in a theoretical sense. He carries this experience with him into the field."

I am not sure that my honourable friend stopped here. He may have stopped at "sense". He should have read on:



"This is the principle upon which our system is operated. It is thought that the advantage gained is worth while and should not be abandoned until something else is devised to make for greater efficiency in some other way."

This is the part my honourable friend did not read. I always maintained this idea of bringing the inspector in so that part of his time was spent in the country and part in the normal school, was not the best system for the normal school, but it was the best way to handle the situation under the conditions that prevailed at that time. It had its merit.

I have been wondering again why the opposition continues to be so few in numbers and I want to offer another little bit of advice to my honourable friend, the junior member for Saskatoon, (*Mr. McConnell*). I notice that he made a statement in connection with public works of all kinds which I may commend him for and with which I agree. He said that it was not a good plan to issue debentures for a public utility for a longer period than the life of the utility. And I wonder again how he is going to agree with his leader on the public utility of roads! His leader said, "during the last Session" (I think it is correct for I clipped it from *The Regina Daily Star* of August 22nd) but I will read what it says here. My honourable friend's leader says this:

"During the last Session I, as leader of the Conservative opposition, advocated three permanent all-weather roads to be constructed without delay. . . ."

Well, I give my honourable friends this advice: Abandon that policy. It is an awfully easy policy to find fault with. In the Arm River campaign it did not "take" at all. I think that was the only alternative policy fairly and squarely put by the leader of the opposition and I think one of the reasons why his candidate was defeated was because that policy did not "take."

*Mr. McConnell*: May I ask a question? What policy was the honourable gentleman referring to?

*Hon. Mr. Latta*: Three all-weather roads.

*Mr. McConnell*: Anything wrong with it?

*Hon. Mr. Latta*: I hope you stick to it, though I advise you to drop it. Well, he goes on:

"Three permanent all-weather roads to be constructed without delay, one from the international boundary, north to the new National Park, and two east and west, one in the south and one in the north."

Now my honourable friends are exceedingly solicitous to give advice. I rather like such a characteristic, and, whether my honourable friends are willing or not to profit by it, they will have to listen to it. I hope they will enjoy it. Well, he says a road through the Province from north to south to the National Park and two roads east and west. I shall not argue that this is their policy now, because it changes so often I cannot keep track of it. Then he goes on:

"Premier Gardiner, learning that public opinion was behind this policy, in a speech at Melfort advocated no permanent roads east and west but three north and south. That policy is as foolish as it is selfish and narrow."

Well, the Premier merely got the Tory policies mixed.

"We should have permanent all-weather roads as I have outlined, with gravel feeder roads built throughout the Province. These roads must be largely constructed as a matter of capital expenditure, so that those who come after us will assist in paying for our roads."

We are all in agreement with this except, perhaps, this further statement relative to it:

"Let the province borrow, say, \$20,000,000 to be paid back over a period of 30 years, and let the interest charges and the establishment of a sinking fund to cover principal payments, be provided by the gasoline tax and motor licenses."

Such then is the opposition road policy as outlined then. Now my honourable friend (*Mr. McConnell*) knows that even the best pavement built in my honourable friend's own City would not last 30 years, so he cannot be in agreement with his leader on that point. He says "Let the province borrow \$20,000,000 to be met by the gasoline tax and motor licenses." Well, now, there was for a time some little doubt about what kind of roads the opposition proposed to build. I find that their leader cleared this matter up in an interview with *The Star*. I shall read it. The date is August 18, last year.

"When the Government talks of its road policy as 'business first', what it means is elections first and gravel sometime," said Dr. J. T. M. Anderson to the *Regina Daily Star*, Saturday. "We really have no good roads in this Province and whether it is a tourist or a market gardener he does not want to get bogged down with his car every time it rains. In the whole of Saskatchewan we have only about 64 miles of real road—and that isn't much good."

"My policy has always been that we want a fine paved and permanent highway from the United States border to Prince Albert, and two similar transversal highways, one to the north and the other to this section"—

whatever that means.

I want to say a few words further relative to the vacillating policy of the leader of the opposition. I could not, however, refrain from commending my honourable friend for what he said about "feeder" roads. If there ever was a party divided and vacillating on the question of roads, it is the Conservative party.

Then they have espoused co-operation as one of the "planks" in their platform. Of course, I do not know whether the "Committee of Interpretation" which met in Regina a few days ago, has dealt with this "plank" or not. I have not seen anything published about it. May I make brief reference to this topic "Co-operation," "Co-operative government," as espoused by members opposite. What is said may not gratify them to the same extent because I do not believe that the great mass of the Conservative party believes in this kind of Co-operation at all. In fact, this sort of thing is driving some of the old line Tories who believe in the bi-party system of Government under British constitutional practice into the Liberal ranks, and is causing many more of them to vacillate in their loyalty to their leader on this question. A certain Conservative in my seat who has been "warming up" to me within the last few months said to me, confidentially, "This is all nonsense, but if it means a few votes, frankly, I think I can stomach it." This does not apply of course to all the old line Tories. Much evidence can be produced to show why it should not.

Neither outside of the House nor inside of the House do members of the Opposition or their followers agree on this question of Co-operation, with one possible exception. In partisan co-operative voting against this government they agree splendidly. Evidence? When the vote of "want of confidence" was moved by my honourable friend (we saw no 'want of confidence in it') every man opposite stood up, put his shoulder to the wheel and man for man said "Yea!" regardless of whether it was a question of want of confidence or of policy. The Progressives (I am commending them for it) co-operated with Conservatives in voting, in a splendid way—as they think an opposition ought to co-operate in this way.

Again let me read a certain editorial, and, Mr. Speaker, this is from *The Regina Daily Star*. I shall not call it an "independent newspaper" because it is a Tory newspaper with all the old Tory characteristics. It calls itself "independent." It blazons this forth in 14-point type at the top of every page, but it talks Toryism all the time. So I shall not call it an "independent" paper, which it is not. I shall call it by its proper name, for do not my friends opposite constantly refer to it as "our press." Well, *The Star* says, and I am going to read all the editorial because some of you may have missed it:

"Any third party which is injected into the Parliamentary system of any country governed under British political methods becomes an anomaly. Unfortunately in these days the trend is not only to a third party, but to a fourth, fifth or even sixth. It is very amusing at times to see the air of superiority assumed by the third party politician, who, while denouncing the 'evils' of the two-party system, does not hesitate to make as full use of those 'evils' as either of the two.

"Of these men, Mr. Robert Lynd, writing to the London *Daily News*, says, 'The people who denounce party politics have, as a rule, far more partisan minds than the most confirmed party hack. They mean by the abolition of party politics the abolition of the party of their opponents.' How true this is can be witnessed in every political group. Ridicule is heaped on the party system only by reason of a complete misunderstanding of the principles upon which it is based.

"The chief of these principles is that of compromise. A man giving allegiance to a party, undoubtedly frequently makes concessions on minor points to gain the major points of his convictions. By this means a party is consolidated, cohesion is secured, and progress made. Thus abstract principles become concrete legislation, and that 'weight of attention' which should be the solid basis on which the popular will, Rousseau's 'general will' is made effective. The existence of a third party, or of groups, maintaining their power by means of a minority vote, eliminates the possibility of that rule of the majority and establishes a species of political anarchy.

"Mr. Lynd says that party politics 'was born of the spirit of tolerance, to believe in it is to believe in fair play for the other side.' It was introduced into England when 'the country got sick of executing and exiling men merely for the difference of a political opinion.' In practical politics, that is to say, in British Houses of Legislature, that fair play is seldom infringed, and it is there that politics shows its best face. There is certainly no tolerance in a third party politician whose indiscriminate condemnation of all opinions but his own leads him into greater 'evils' than are to be found in the two main systems of political thought and action. Half of our political troubles arise from this cause."

Well, now, that is an expression of opinion on this co-operative idea from the mouthpiece of one of the two parties which, if this government is defeated, may co-operate to form such a Government as my friends opposite have been preaching about. It is not very complimentary to the Progressives, is it? This is further evidence that all through the propaganda and activities of the parties of the Opposition there are disagreements and disintegration.

Considering then these changing policies, these disagreements and the activities of this Conservative paper in Regina, which claims to be independent, how like it all is to the argument presented by my honourable friend from Saskatoon (*Mr. McConnell*). You will remember he was dealing with a return showing that there had been twenty-one civil servants in the Arm River seat during the recent by-election. My honourable friend, a lawyer skilled in the law, who passed his examination in logic, put forward this kind of argument; "From these figures we find there were twenty-one civil servants in one seat. Multiply that by sixty-three (the total number of seats in the Province) and you will find there would be 1,323 members of the civil service working for the Government during an election." Do you think that there are 1,323 civil servants of this Government running around the Province? That is as reasonable as the allegation that they must have concentrated in Arm River. Did you ever hear an argument that had less foundation? There is nothing in it—deception again! These 21 civil servants who were in Arm River were there on proper business connected with their employment. I have never said that civil servants should neglect their duties every time an election takes place, but what about the suggestion from the opposition that when an election takes place every civil servant should be kept in Regina and locked up in these buildings?

*Mr. McConnell*: That was the suggestion of the Attorney General.

*Hon. Mr. Latta*: But my honourable friend goes out and builds up such an argument to deceive the people. I do not believe that this argument will succeed. He did try to deceive the people by trying to make them believe that all these civil servants were concentrated in Arm River during the election for election purposes, and I warrant that not one of them was there for more than a day and each one of them might have been in 21 other seats in the 20 days between the issuing of the writ and the election. You see the fallacy of his argument; in any case it is ambiguous. I put it down, immediately, as typical of their idea of prosecuting a campaign and I do hope (and I gave my honourable friends this free advice in return for the free advice they have given us) that they do use a little more common sense and act upon the advice in the peroration of their leader by putting the issues fairly and squarely before the people.

Now let me refer to some little trouble up in my own seat. I have a copy of my own paper here reporting what Mr. C. E. Little, president of the Progressive Association said in my home town to the effect that the Progressives were making an agreement with the Conservatives of my seat, because, as he said, "We have an understanding." Now the man who wrote this is the editor of my own paper. He says, "I took those words as accurately and as correctly as they were spoken and vouch for this." I would like to say the people of Last Mountain knew this thing was going on and knew it long ago. Here is the article:

"Mr. Little said that Conservatives and Progressives would like to see the Liberals ousted from Regina, and these two parties do not want to see any three-corner contests in the next provincial election, but of course there was no hard and fast agreement. Each had drawn up a list of the seats where they felt they had a good chance of electing their man, and Mr. Little said these two charts fitted very nicely. Personally, he could support much that was in the Conservative platform."

They were one in their opinion of the probabilities. They had not apparently consulted the leaders of the Progressives. Why bother with them anyway as my honourable friend, the leader of the Conservatives, says he is going to win all the seats anyway, or win a "moral victory" in each of them at any rate. But, you see there was another element to be lured like a fly into the spider's web. Just imagine the two ends of the political pole getting together to form a Government—the Tories on the one hand and the Progressives who are supposed to be the radical wing of the Liberal Party! If very many of the people of the Province believe that and place any confidence in it, they are less intelligent than I have found them to be. Mr. Little goes on to say:

"And if after the election the Liberals were beaten, it might be possible that Conservatives and Progressives would co-operate to govern the Province. In closing he said that the people should try to break this weak link in the west by turning out the present provincial government."

Well now, on the heels of that comes this, a day or two after. The beacon on the mountain had been seen by the rank and file in the field. Some Progressives gathered in Saskatoon and there passed this resolution on the conduct of elections:

"Resolved that we are opposed to any arrangements or negotiations with either the Liberal or Conservative political parties in the selection of a candidate for the conducting of an election."

Well, there you see again, this "co-operation" is sometimes in and sometimes out. It is hard to keep track of it. Sometimes they agree and sometimes they disagree. But that is not all the story. The Conservative party had a convention in Saskatoon, the one about March 15 or along about there. Then there was the Interpreting Convention here in Regina. Now I read this from the report of March 15:

"The time honoured practice of adhering to the hyphenated "Liberal-Conservative" name by which the Tories throughout the Dominion have been known since the days of Sir John A. MacDonald, went by the board as far as Saskatchewan is concerned when the provincial Conservative Convention in session here Wednesday decided that no longer would the organisation have the name "Liberal" attached to it in any shape or form."

I again commend them for this. "The National Liberal-Conservative Party"—the name they have been known by ever since Confederation, went by the board as far as Saskatchewan is concerned. Well, I commend them for that. But they do not agree on that definition of the party. There is a difference of opinion again; because I read this. One gentleman stood up and spoke as follows:

"If our former leaders thought that the name should be such I do not think that we should change it' declared Mr. Patrick, who moved that the name 'Liberal' be placed before the name 'Conservative', which in effect would mean the carrying on of the old name resulting from the Union Government."

Mr. Cross: That is true to form.

Hon. Mr. Latta: Yes, he was a real Conservative. What I am trying to point out is that there can be nothing definite when there is vacillation, nothing definite when there is no alternative policy to substitute for that of the Government. Disintegration is beginning to take place. Well, this gentleman wanted the name to remain as it was and the other gentleman took an entirely different view. I shall read on:

"But other delegates took an entirely different view. 'The time has come when we don't have to take our hats off for anyone,' one enthusiastic supporter of the proposed new name declared."

Well, then, after that there was a very curious telegram forwarded by my honourable friend from Pelly (Mr. Tran), the leader of the Progressive party in the House, to the Conservative Convention. I have tried to find out what it means.

Hon. Mr. Patterson: It brought forth cheers!

Hon. Mr. Hamilton: Then they must have understood it.

Mr. McConnell: Read it!

Hon. Mr. Latta: Yes, here it is. The honourable member from Kamsack, the leader of the Progressive party, wired this:

"Heartily concur in spirit of your deliberations. Gladly accept any democratic principle *re* co-operation."

Well, I do not know! I wonder if the Interpreting Committee succeeded in interpreting that telegram.

Anyway, there was an interview, not with the gentleman who sent the telegram, but with the President. I have saved it so that I can read it once in a while to see if I can get to the bottom of its meaning, if any. "C. E. Little, President Saskatchewan Progressive Association." This is a dispatch or an article from Regina, dated March 15. I think this appeared also in *The Saskatoon Star*.

"C. E. Little, President of the Saskatchewan Progressive Association, called in long distance telephone tonight said he had not received any telegram from the Conservative Convention.

"On hearing the text of Dr. C. E. Tran's telegram to the Conservative Convention, Mr. Little said, 'That would be all right.'

"Asked what Dr. Tran's telegram meant, he replied; 'Co-operative government. We are prepared to co-operate with anybody, Liberals or Conservatives, to bring about government of the whole instead of a part.'

"Does it mean that Progressives will co-operate with Conservatives in elections?' he was asked.

"Oh, No' replied Mr. Little."

The newspaper asked what Dr. Tran meant and was told "Co-operative Government." Pay attention, Mr. Speaker, and see if you can get this. "We are prepared to co-operate with

anybody." Now that is not true. We on this side of the House tried to get them to co-operate with us. We have asked them to come over and co-operate with us and they will not come. Does it mean what it appears to say? Mr. Little made the speech of course in my home town. He said that Progressives were willing to co-operate with Conservatives in Last Mountain. But what applies to Last Mountain may not apply in other parts of the Province. It is necessary to point out these things and if there is any other evidence desired to show that a kind Providence is trying to save the Province from the shock of what it may expect during the next parliamentary term, should the Opposition gain control, it may be found in the disunion and vacillation of the Opposition as it is tonight.

If any other evidence were needed it would be this: Let me tell you a story. The leader of the Conservative Opposition will appreciate this. He was formerly a school teacher and he knows the psychology of the child because he was a good school teacher. He was a better school teacher than he is a politician, I think. Mr. Speaker, you and I too were formerly school teachers. You know that, as one lives a few years longer, one's conclusions are more nearly correct because he has acquired a great deal more data from which to reason towards a conclusion. Men are but children who have lived a little longer. Many, many times I have walked around the Colborne Street school grounds in London, Ont. Unconsciously as I walked around, my eyes scanned the building to see if everything was all right. I recall one occasion, which is typical, when everything was not just as it ought to be. I suspected something as an unusual number of youngsters joined in the inspection. A large pane of glass of one of the windows was broken. I merely looked it over but said nothing. "Please, Sir," said a lively youngster, "I didn't do it." "Do what?" I asked. Then came the protest. "Please, I didn't break it." "Break what?" "Please, Sir, that pane of glass up there." "Who said you did?" "Anyway, please sir, I didn't break it." Mr. Speaker, you know the rest of the story. "Jack, I'm afraid you're protesting too much. You'd better slip up to my office and we'll talk it over." Young Jack is merely typical. Investigation invariably found him to be mixed up in some way with the depredations which resulted in the damage. He had protested too much.

So, if further evidence is needed of this vacillation it may be found in the loud protestations of the leader of the Conservative party about the enormous numbers of Liberals who are flocking into the Tory camp. He doth protest too much. Why, only yesterday, as reported in tonight's *Regina Star*, there is this:

"James F. Bryant stated: The Conservatives are expecting to carry both of the Regina City seats and to make assurance doubly sure are now taking immediate steps to tighten up on the organisation in order to present the strongest and most united front."

I see in this—I do not know what it is called—hyperbole, I think, twice exaggerated in the one sentence—evidence again of disintegration.

There are no evidences of alternative policies to place before the people fairly and squarely. There is much evil in this kind of thing. There is of course a certain jocular side to it. There is a serious side, too. I think those of us who go out to seek the suffrage of the people should do as the leader of the Opposition suggested—place the issues fairly and squarely before the people, and I specially recommend his own advice to himself.

In speaking to one of the Resolutions the other day, I said this: One of the great evils of the group system is that it leads to bargaining—bargaining at the expense of the public. There is evidence of this on every side. Every member of this House knows what is going on over there, going on in his own constituency—bargaining to see how they can get back, bargaining every day to see which one is going to pull out and which is not. What would happen, Mr. Speaker, if we had, say, five or six groups in this Province, all engaged in this bargaining? Every time, the first, second and third groups came to an arrangement, it would stimulate the fourth, fifth and sixth groups to do something. I agree with *The Star* in that respect.

Suppose we admit these five or six groups. The logical and obvious thing would happen; each has its own interest, which is an economic interest, which is a selfish interest. It cannot be anything else. Let us see. "If you give us this we will grant you that," and two groups would get together. Then what happens? "Well, we have not enough yet to control the House and form a Government, we will have to get a third group." So they go to the leader of the third group and say: "We will concede you something if you come in and help us get something." This is co-operation as some see it. And so they obtain control on the basis of group selfish interest at the expense of the common weal and form their government on that system.

The members sit around the council table in the council chamber. How long do you suppose these bargainers, these schemers, men whom such a system compels to be selfish, men whom the system compels to keep economic group interest paramount, how long do you suppose such men will get along together? Not very long. They never have got along together where that kind of government has been tried. In France, for example, that kind of government changed three times in a week. Suppose they do get along, what happens? These seven men in their bargaining, in this kind of co-operation, carry on a government, catering to this and to that group. It finally becomes consolidated and friendly, working side by side. But what happens?

An opposition develops in the same way of the same necessity. This government does so and so. Those who think something else should be done, oppose it. Each viewpoint has supporters—the ruling party and the opposition, the old system again. That is what happens. That is what happened after 1867, when the third party was the old Grit party. That is what happened after Union Government. And that is what would happen in this Province under such a system.

I venture my reputation as a student of politics, that in ten years' time the present third party will not be a factor. It will have practically passed out of existence, because such a system cannot work in harmony and in unison under the principles upon which the British Constitution has been built. The bi-party system has an element of bargaining in it, of course, but that element is reduced to the minimum. The bi-party system is built up, presumably (I think almost entirely as far as human elements will allow), upon the common good. If an economic group or social group arises whose viewpoint on any political question demands attention or whose proposals are backed by any considerable voice of popular opinion, do you suppose either party under the bi-party system could afford to let its proposals go unheeded? Of course not, because the very system compels a concentration on the common weal. But if another group arises whose principles are founded on selfishness, do you suppose the leader of the Opposition or any other opposition leader under the group system, would bargain for its support? Of course he would. It has always been so. But such bargaining is not in the interest of the common good.

No organisation founded upon a selfish interest can at the same time keep the common weal paramount. An organisation founded on the common weal can, and at the same time consider in relation to it the limited selfish interest of each of all classes. Mr. Speaker, do not think that I am biased against merely the theory of this kind of thing, but when grouping and bargaining as I have shown is actually carried to the point of ignoring the principles upon which our system is founded, I am opposed to it. It has given rise to an agitation for the transferable ballot, the referendum, proportional representation and all other political curatives that have been invented to remove political evils in every country. But such methods for cure cannot be successful. You cannot make people do what is right merely by legislation. You cannot do that. You cannot make people right and moral by legislation. The bi-party system does reduce the facilities for political evil as far as it can be done by a political system. I am convinced at least that the co-operative government advocated by the Opposition would aggravate rather than diminish these evils.

But why recall these things? Witness this House in this debate, paying most attention to non-essentials! No alternative policy announced by the leader of the Opposition! No criticism of one solitary statute on the Statute books! Nothing to present to the people as an alternative for what this government is giving them—a duty which is clearly the duty of the Opposition! Our friends opposite have succumbed to the very evil that is most disintegrating in its effects. They have confined their efforts to non-essentials, leaving the essentials unattended to. That is the evidence you find every time this kind of political condition crops up.

I met a gentleman the other evening, an old Conservative who I think supports this Government now, and he said to me: "Mr. Latta, how much has your Government collected and expended in the last ten years?" "Well," I said, "I do not know. Probably \$140,000,000." "Then," he said, "Do you mean to tell me that all your Conservative and Progressive Opposition can find fault with in all that one hundred and forty million is a couple of thousand of some poor civil servant's expenses?" Here again, while expense accounts are perfectly proper things to inquire into, it illustrates one of the evils of disintegration, vacillation, and the luring of people to consider first those things which are selfish, uneconomic, unsound, rather than essentials as a basis upon which to group people for political activity. Any people who group themselves politically on principles other than such as are founded on the common good, will be unsuccessful, will vacillate, disintegrate and fail.

A bi-party system reduces impositions on minorities to a minimum. Minorities are never so secure as under the bi-party system, and they are never so insecure as they are under the group system unless they do so by bargaining away other rights. That is history. Get the *Encyclopædia Britannica* or Andrew MacPhail, or some other reliable authority and read the experiences of the past. The results I have outlined follow just as surely as hydrogen follows the simple school experiment of pouring sulphuric acid on zinc. It is not a suppositious thing or a presumption. It is a fact that has been established a thousand times.

Not only that, but the bi-party system does away with another evil. It secures responsible government by the majority in place of government by class domination whether that class be an industrial class, an agricultural class, a manufacturing class or whether that class be a majority or a minority. No party of selfish economic interests has the right to dominate the political activity of any country. When such a thing happens it is a curse rather than a benefit. Under the present system of concentration on the common good, each class must and does receive recognition according to its importance in the community.

I wanted to mention these things. These are the things that come to me from study of the political situation as we meet it in Saskatchewan today. It is a condition that is not altogether

new. I do not know that anybody can be blamed particularly for bringing it about. But I do know this: It is a sort of periodic condition and it is brought about because there are some people in the country who do not stand up against it and too many people who are only too willing to take advantage of the political situation thus created, who will support it temporarily for the temporary political gain they expect to get.

There is another result which follows this sort of thing and further explains why I am opposed to it from start to finish. Have you noticed how often, in the speeches of my honourable friend from Saskatoon (*Mr. Anderson*) and my honourable friend from Hanley (*Mr. Stipe*), there occurs an appeal to give the soldiers a square deal? Do you suppose that has any impression on me? I am not saying it is not sincere at all. I am not saying my honourable friends are not sincere. Their appeals do not impress me as being sincere. I want to say this for their edification, that no government in Canada has proven its sincerity in giving the returned soldier a square deal as has this Government of Saskatchewan. No Government has gone as far as the Saskatchewan Government. Let me read this. It is an Order-in-Council promulgated concerning those in the service of this Government who went overseas. The Government did not wait until the soldier came back from overseas, but in August, 1914, this Order-in-Council as passed stated:

"1. Men with wives and families will receive full salaries during their term of service."

*Mr. MacPherson:* Every man?

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* I will read it again:

"1. Men with wives and families will receive full salaries during their term of service.

"2. Men with wives but no families will receive two-thirds of their salaries during their term of service.

"3. Men having no families and no one dependent on them, the only provision will be that their positions will be guaranteed to them upon their return. This provision applies to all classes."

These provisions were applicable to all employees of the permanent staff who enlisted and who were serving in either the Canadian Forces or the Imperial Army Service.

An amendment to these provisions was made effective on April 1, 1916, and concerned dependents of all enlisted civil servants who were married men with families:

"1. Those whose salaries at the time of enlistment were at the rate of \$1,200 per annum or over, be paid an amount equal to the salary that they have been receiving after deducting the amount per day allowed by the Army authorities, not including Field allowances according to the rank held in the Army service, but no salaries to be reduced to an amount under \$1,200 per annum.

"2. Those whose salaries at the time of enlistment were \$1,200 per annum to be paid 90 per cent. of their full salaries, no such salaries to be reduced to an amount under \$720 per annum.

"3. Where a civil servant leaves a wife dependent only, two-thirds of his full salary will be paid to his wife, no such amount to exceed the rate of \$1,200 per annum."

A regulation was made and it was understood that civil servants enlisting, who had dependents, should not apply for separation or patriotic fund allowance. It was upon this regulation that the Government allowances to dependents were based.

An Order-in-Council was also promulgated providing that no allowance would be payable to any dependent entitled thereto unless they were resident in the Province of Saskatchewan, except under special circumstances such as "illness" or other "pressing necessity." In such cases, however, approval of the Government had to be obtained.

And I found these statistics—that in the Parliament Buildings there are more returned soldiers in the Civil Service today in proportion to the staff than at any other date since 1926. I have looked up the figures and I find this: 461 returned men employed by this Government and yet my honourable friends stand up constantly and make their appeals. I am not insinuating that they have in their mind the intention of making political capital out of it, but I am permitted by the Rules of the House to say that when I hear that sort of thing it has no impression on me, because I cannot believe it is sincere. When you realise, Mr. Speaker, that 35 per cent. of the men in the Civil Service are returned soldiers, you will have the same opinion. Figure it out for yourself. And every man who went to the War was guaranteed his position when he came back from the War, and that guarantee was carried out to the letter.

I do not say this to boast about it at all. Not at all! I have never in a campaign uttered a word in the country about it. But when I see members of the House who ought to know better, standing up constantly and saying such things and asking such questions as "Why is so and so who is a returned soldier . . . ?" I have felt several times this Session like offering strenuous

objection to questions in such form, questions which are "statements of fact" which have been ruled out of order under the Rules of the House by Mr. Speaker, at this and at last Session. Again they ask: "Did a returned soldier apply and did he get so and so?" I know the reaction I have against that kind of thing. It is the same sort of reaction as a great many other people experience. I do not accuse many of my friends opposite, but ever since I have known the difference between the two parties, Liberal and Conservative, the practice of a certain type of Conservative has been to wave the flag and wrap the old Union Jack around him as though he were the only person and his party the only party who could possibly do a patriotic act.

*Mr. Anderson:* Nothing to be ashamed of there!

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* There you are! They begin to protest a patriotic fervour already.

*Mr. Anderson:* Nothing to be ashamed of there! You are talking about the Union Jack. Nothing to be ashamed of!

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* Did I say anything to be ashamed of? Did I say anything discrediting to the Union Jack in the remarks I made? No, I did not. I take a back seat to no man in my respect for the Union Jack. I may tell my honourable friend that I am privileged to refer to the flag too—not merely because it is a bit of old red bunting to wave in the breeze, but because it stands for something—for equal right and equal opportunity for every man. A few Tories of the Conservative party cannot usurp all the loyalty of this country, and because I do not protest as violently and vociferously as my honourable friend it does not mean that my loyalty is any less nor does it prove that his is any greater.

Well, Mr. Speaker, I do not desire to take up any more time of the House with that contentious matter. I shall turn to a subject which may be more congenial. I want to deal for a few minutes with the Departments over which I have the honour to preside. I want to give the House some figures—not an easy thing for me. There are other subjects upon which I may speak more freely. It has been always my custom since I have been a member of the Government to give the House, at each Session, some little review of the Departments over which I have had the honour to preside during the past year.

I want to say that the gas tax and refunds have been going along fairly well, but I am not in a position to give figures which may indicate as nearly accurately the situation as to income as I should like. From May 1 to July 1, there were no applications for refunds, but from August 1 to August 31, refund applications began to come in more quickly. During the month ending October 31 we received 18,236 applications for refund. We endeavoured to deal with these as quickly as possible. Payments are made at the end of each three months' period. From November 1 to date we received 15,294 applications and more are coming into the Department at a rate of about 100 a day, though three or four weeks ago they were coming in at the rate of 200 a day. The very open fall will provide the reason for that, I suppose. This will bring the total up to about 26,000 applications for gas tax refunds. I am sorry we are not able to give an accurate statement and I am also sorry that we are not able to state how much the gas tax will amount to—that is the net amount. The gross amount we have not yet been able to ascertain.

I think all the statistics I am able to present this evening will show that the country is much more prosperous than a few years ago. We are passing now into a period of prosperity amongst all classes of the people. For instance, there were, on the 9th instant

*Mr. Sykes:* Have you decided on any cut-off date for refunds?

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* Not yet. There will be a difficulty there, which, after the new year, the department will have to cope with. We shall seek to find what is the most satisfactory date to set after which no application for refund of gasoline tax paid for the last fiscal year can be considered. We have been receiving suggestions for probably the last two or three months. Some people I have consulted with think there should be no definite cut-off date.

On the 9th instant there were 2,369 companies on the Register of Joint Stock Companies, sub-divided as follows: Dominion companies 343; Saskatchewan companies 1,565; extra-provincial companies 461. I might give you these figures with respect to the companies incorporated:

	1926	1927	1928
Companies incorporated . . . . .	199	228	286
Companies registered . . . . .	40	60	77
Rural telephone companies incorporated	13	1	17
Mutual insurance companies incorporated . . . . .	1	1	Nil
Cemetery companies incorporated . . . . .	3	1	2
Societies incorporated under <i>The Benevolent Societies Act</i> . . . . .	23	25	35

These figures seem to give some little indication that things are moving along a little more satisfactorily in a business way.



Probably nothing will indicate that better than the number of motor vehicle licenses. As times become better, there is a greater demand for cars. Here are the comparative figures for the calendar years 1927 and 1928; in 1927, 104,909 and in 1928, 119,634. Of these in 1927, 92,640 were private licenses, and in 1928: 102,812 were private licenses. Quite a considerable increase of something over ten thousand. Truck licenses increased, I think, by a little greater proportion; 11,346 in 1927 and 15,954 in 1928, an increase of nearly five thousand. Livery licenses decreased from 923 to 868. I point out this, that in estimating the number of automobiles it is interesting to know that 70 per cent. of the license fees fall within the scale of \$15 to \$17.50. That will give the House some cue as to the amount of the licenses in the aggregate.

It has been said that this Government maintains inspectors everywhere through the Province. Some criticism has been offered in this respect. We have in the Motor License Branch six inspectors. Our men in the field, last year, collected 25 per cent. of the total amount of motor licenses collected. The registrars collected about 15 per cent.; police issuers, 7 per cent; while 12 per cent. was collected at the cage in the office down town and over the counter in the buildings. By mail we collected about 41 per cent. I think when these figures are totalled they will indicate that the inspectors have justified their appointment.

As to the Municipal Department, I want to give you a few figures which will show that there, too, healthy progress has been made in nearly every municipality. In the years from 1920 to 1925 our municipalities came through a very strenuous period. These were the years when councils were compelled to practise the strictest economy, and our Department helped the municipal councils continually to work out some of their problems. Then in 1925 a period of expansion began. I want you to note this particularly, that since the 1920-25 retrenchment period, the municipalities on the whole have reduced taxes, collection of taxes has been better than it ever was, and a greater amount of liabilities has been liquidated. I think this a perfectly remarkable condition when the period after the War is remembered.

In 1921 the taxes levied, both school and municipal, amounted to \$25,000,000 approximately, while in 1927 they were around \$22,500,000. So you see taxation has been reduced. The average burden of municipal taxation per capita in 1921 was \$34.38 and in 1927, \$29.23. Actual collections were down to 50 per cent., a remarkably low amount of collections, in 1921. In 1927, that percentage had been raised to 66 per cent., and the collection for 1928 will probably indicate better progress.

In 1921 there was a debenture debt of \$35,000,000, not including school or telephone debentures. In 1927 the debenture indebtedness of the municipalities amounted to \$30,500,000.

The point I want to make is this, that by careful management of municipal funds, by careful administration of municipal business, the municipalities have been able to reduce this debenture debt and at the same time reduce taxation. That is a remarkable feat for the municipal councils to perform. The evidence can be put forward in several ways.

For example, current assets (that is cash, accounts receivable, taxes receivable, tax sale holdings), amounted to \$34,000,000 in 1927, while current liabilities amounted to \$14,000,000, leaving a surplus of \$20,000,000 of which \$6,000,000, or 20 per cent., was in actual cash in the bank. That is a remarkable condition, a splendid condition for our municipalities to reach. The rural municipalities alone in 1927 had an actual cash surplus, of current assets over current liabilities, of \$1,240,000 approximately, meaning that, on the average, every rural municipality in the Province of Saskatchewan had in the bank a surplus of its current assets over liabilities of \$4,000 in cash, with which to begin the year 1928, to carry on the municipal business and their schools. I want to make one comparison with Alberta. It is rather interesting. I find these figures giving the percentage of taxes collected:

	Alberta	Saskatchewan
Taxes collected in the cities . . . . .	76%	62%
Taxes collected in the towns . . . . .	37%	60½%
Taxes collected in the villages . . . . .	38%	73%
Taxes collected in rural municipalities . . . . .	46%	66½%

Although their cities did much better than ours, we did much better in some of the other municipalities, while the total collections give 62 per cent. for Alberta and 66 per cent. for Saskatchewan.

I wish to say a few words about *The Public Service Monthly*. You will remember some reference to *The Public Service Monthly* by my honourable friend (*Mr. Anderson*), and he very properly said that it ought to be kept free from partisan political matter. I think he will agree that we have kept partisan political matter out. I want to read one or two comments. The first is from a letter from the Bureau of Information at Fredericton, New Brunswick:

“Thanks for directing attention to the March issue and the especially interesting feature in that issue following the prorogation of the Legislature, wherein there was a summary of new and amending legislation given. I remembered reading that feature and being impressed with its value, but until receiving your letter I had quite forgotten just what issue it appeared in.”

Then he goes on to say he approves of that and desires to carry out the same idea in his own province. This comes from another official in another Province. He says:

"If you happen to have a number of surplus copies of several recent issues of *The Public Service Monthly* we would appreciate very much having same sent to us with the understanding that we would defray all charges, so that same may be available for submission to the various members of the Cabinet as examples of the ideal publication of the kind issued by the Provinces of Canada."

Then another one says:

"Of all the publications of the kind coming into this Bureau, *The Public Service Monthly* of Saskatchewan seems to me to be the most meritorious, and in the event of this Province entering into the issuing of such a publication I have no doubt that the Saskatchewan Monthly would be taken as a model for us to follow."

I want to say in justice to the men who are handling *The Public Service Monthly* that they are doing a public service for all the people, Progressive, Liberal and Conservative alike.

One word about the Travelling Libraries: These are becoming increasingly popular, and the staff in charge is labouring very hard and doing the best it can with this great social service. I find the Travelling Libraries sent out 59,499—nearly 60,000 books, which, it is estimated, were read in the aggregate by 594,000 readers. This is a very remarkable accomplishment indeed. We have had very, very urgent requests for libraries from as far north as the Flin Flon, for the miners there, and a library was sent to the Flin Flon people a few weeks ago. I want to read, if you will bear with me, one or two letters to indicate the popularity of this great social and educational service:

"We received the new library this week and send many thanks from the readers here. They finished reading it before the busy time in the spring and were anxious to have it changed. The readers stated that the last library was the best we have had so far, but I think this one is just as good, judging from looking over the books. I join the public here in sending you many thanks for your trouble and expense to help furnish reading matter to prairie homes. I know they more than appreciate it."

"Our library has arrived safely and was opened amid scenes of great enthusiasm. We had three assistants for that job and each one departed with a book under his arm. The books look to be a splendid selection and I am sure we shall enjoy them."

"It is wonderful how good books appeal to most everyone; some of my keenest readers are men who work from daylight to dark. I don't think the Government is wasting any money in supplying these books, for surely they must help to elevate. In my opinion, they are doing a very good work and that very quietly."

"Returning Library No. 915, and will say that the people all wish to thank you for the many hours of fine reading we get here, 30 miles from the railroad, through the goodness of the Government."

And so on. Nearly all these are personal letters written to Mrs. Ramsland, who has charge of the Travelling Libraries.

There is one more activity over which I have the honour to preside. I refer to the Open Shelf Library. This service is growing to such an extent that we are almost unable, with the appropriation, to meet the demand. The circulation of books out of the Open Shelf Library in 1922 was 6,297, and it has grown in 1928 to 82,824—that is from 6,000 to nearly 83,000 in the course of six years. The membership, that is the number of readers, has grown from 1,500 to one or two over 6,000, so we are doing a wonderful work here. I could if we had time, read from a number of letters from the north country, and the credit is largely due to Miss Andrews for the splendid service given. I shall read but a few extracts:

"I do not know of any finer work that is being done by your department than that of bringing good literature to people who are hungry for same, but financially unable to procure it, and I shall have great pleasure in co-operating with you to feature any phase of your work that you think might prove interesting to country readers."

"I wish to express my appreciation to whomsoever is entitled to it for the exceptionally good judgment used in forwarding books to me for the last year. Sometimes the selection seems to be almost uncanny in its correctness."

"The Open Shelf, judging by this catalogue, has become a remarkable institution, and I trust it will long continue to supply the needs of the reading public scattered over the Saskatchewan prairie."

Well, Mr. Speaker, I have practically concluded my remarks, and I only want to say in conclusion that, when this House goes to the country for its approval or condemnation, I hope that each of us will do what the leader of the Opposition says he wants to do (and I hope and

believe he will stand by his good resolution made a little while ago), that is, place the issues fairly and squarely before the people. I believe that any Government, in the multifarious duties it has to perform, dealing as it does with the financing of highways, schools, public buildings and a thousand and one other material things, considering as it does from time to time new laws to be placed on the statute books, a Government which still has the will and has found the time to give attention to the enactment of advanced social welfare legislation in regard to orphans and widows, and neglected children (and I should like to refer to many of these things had I the time), activities designed to make a mentally sound and physically robust people, I believe that a Government which has done these things has little to fear. When we have placed on our Statute books legislation which I think is the equal of that of any State or Province and better than many, and, at the same time sets aside and expends annually, out of a total expenditure of twelve to fourteen millions, nearly two million and a half in actual cash in helping along activities of a purely social welfare type, I do not believe if these matters are fairly and squarely placed before the electorate, that this Government will have anything to fear, other than the shock which may come from the situation I have briefly referred to tonight, the shock of finding the Opposition forces further depleted.

THE HONOURABLE GEORGE SPENCE  
(*Minister of Highways*  
and  
*Minister of Railways, Labour and Industries.*)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 24, 1929.

Mr. Speaker,—I have really three reasons for arising to speak on the Motion. One is to compliment the honourable, the Provincial Treasurer (*the Honourable Mr. Patterson*) upon the competent and able manner in which he presented his Budget to the House. I do not think there is any executive outside a bank president who brings down such a clear cut statement of affairs. My second reason for arising was to give the House some information with regard to the new Department that was created by this Legislature last year, and I had intended to speak of that Department only. My third reason was to offer this information to the House because of the fact this Department has had practically no criticism from the Opposition so I concluded there may be something wrong with it and that, perhaps, the House had better have a little information upon it.

There is, Mr. Speaker, considerable latitude in a Debate of this kind and we take advantage of that latitude to deal with many and various things. We have a great many odds and ends in the Department of which I propose to speak, and not the least of these odds and ends is the labour situation. I want to be brief upon all these matters because the hour is late and the Debate is winding to a close.

I am thankful to be able to inform the House that labour conditions in Saskatchewan are good, particularly in view of the fact that this year has been perhaps unique in a great many respects. One would look for some unemployment consequent upon the attention that has been attracted throughout the country as result of certain industries which have sprung up. Then, too, the year was unique owing to the fact that there has been practically no bush employment as the result of the snowless winter and, consequently, one would look for a good deal of unemployment on that account. I can report tonight, however, that not in ten years has the labour situation been better in this Province than it has this winter. Indeed, I think Saskatchewan is unique in Canada and stands out as the Province that has had practically no labour troubles of any description.

One of the outstanding labour movements of the year was what was known as the British Miner-Harvester Movement. My good friend, the senior member for Saskatoon (*Mr. Anderson*) at one time thought he had discovered something the matter with it. He has withdrawn from that position and acknowledged, perhaps in a rather temperate form, that he was wrong.

*Mr. Anderson:* No. I never acknowledged that I was wrong.

*Hon. Mr. Spence:* I had hopes he had acknowledged it!

*Mr. Anderson:* Not a bit of it.

*Hon. Mr. Spence:* Nevertheless, the situation was this: The movement was launched from the British Isles which resulted in the influx to Canada of practically 8,000 miner-harvesters as they were called. We had no indication that this movement was going to assume the proportions it did, for 6,000 out of the 8,000 miners came to Saskatchewan. At the time, I foresaw that there might be some controversy and, despite the fact that I was busily engaged trying (as my honourable friend the leader of the Opposition said) to get a few shovelfuls of gravel onto the highways, I decided to give the matter my personal attention and did give the British miner-harvesters the right of way. Trains were met at Winnipeg and the harvesters were segregated and divided into groups and they were not allowed to congregate in the large centres but were moved out into districts in small groups where there were demands for help. Everything possible was done to place them and to keep them on the farms. In addition to that, in cases of real distress, we investigated and endeavoured to alleviate the condition. We gave them food and we housed them. In fact, we gave the matter all the attention a large movement of that kind deserves.

Now I am going to assert that this movement was handled by the Department in a way of which I, as head of the Department, feel rather proud. I do not take the credit myself, because the Department was organised before I came into the Government and was used to this seasonal work. Incidentally, I think the members will be interested, Mr. Speaker, if I read a letter here which is addressed to the Deputy Minister by Mr. G. F. Plant, secretary of the Overseas Settlement Department, Dominions Office, Caxton House, Tothill St., London S.W.1, dated December 31, 1928:

"Just a line to wish you all the compliments of the season and all prosperity during 1929. I hope that you have not had too many difficulties in dealing with our harvesters. I certainly thought that the arrangements made by you for their reception were admirable, and especially the letter which you issued to them all on their arrival. Then later, Mr. Osmond told me of the splendid spirit with which you had undertaken the task of finding winter employment for the men. I only wish that more of our harvesters had made up their minds to take advantage of the opportunities which offered. Some of them, no doubt, have done so and many of those who returned to this country are now making application to go back again to Canada for permanent settlement in the spring.

"Please remember me very kindly to Mr. Spence, Mr. Latta and Mr. Hamilton."

Then I have this telegram sent by Lord Lovat, from Lacombe, Alta., dated September 13, 1928:

"Saskatchewan Government gave a splendid letter of welcome to British Harvesters who went to that Province. Should be grateful if you would send me two copies of that letter to reach me at the Vancouver Hotel on Monday, the 17th inst."

That, Mr. Speaker, is some of the British opinion proffered with regard to the successful manner in which the situation was handled with respect to miner-harvesters in Saskatchewan. I have one more, proffered since by one of the British harvesters himself. This is dated at Wakaw, September 24, 1928, and addressed to the Minister of Agriculture (*the Honourable C. M. Hamilton*):

"I happen to be one of the 10,000 harvesters that left the Old Country for the Canadian North West for the purpose of assisting with the 1928 harvest. I have heard and read considerable criticism offered by some of our party which is not in favour of conditions in the North West. For myself, I want to say that I consider the work here a regular picnic to that with which we have to contend in the Old Country. For instance, on the farm implements here we are furnished seats and allowed to ride. This is never considered in the Old Country so we have to walk. I can only speak in the most glowing terms of the treatment that I have received and my opinion is that this is the place for any boy from England or any other country who wants to work and to make a home for himself.

"You are at liberty to use this letter in any way you see fit as rebuttal to the other things that I have heard.

(Signed) HENRY PARK."

Now, Mr. Speaker, I have communications of one kind and another, all complimentary, and stating how admirably this matter was handled in the Province of Saskatchewan.

We will leave that and deal with another activity which the Department has taken over since its inception. That is the tourist traffic. I am glad to report that, in the calendar year just closed, we have actually doubled the number of tourists as compared with last year, that have come into the Province. Up to October 15 last, 55,000 tourists came to the Province in 17,000 automobiles, and I am inclined to believe that, with the good fall weather, the number has been considerably increased since that date. We are facilitating the tourist traffic by giving the visitors the information they require. We have also issued tourist guides or road maps (with which, no doubt, you are all familiar) giving a great deal of valuable information on the back of the folder, and indicating where the roads lead. We intend to enlarge this service. Up to now we have merely handed out information. From now on we hope to direct the tourist in the Province. We will route them up to the new National Park and the wonderful sporting grounds in the Park and other parts of the north. If it is fishing they want, we will direct them, or motoring or anything of that kind. Then the wonderful canoe routes made accessible by the Park. You can go from Montreal Lake down Montreal River through Lac la Ronge into the Churchill River and on to the Hudson Bay, or around the bend of Reindeer River into Reindeer Lake on to Lake Athabaska to the Peace River and up to the Great Slave Lake and on to the Arctic. If there is any man not responsive to the thrill of threading white water in a birch-bark canoe, he is hopeless.

There is another very important matter: That is the great mineral development of which we are on the threshold, and that is another reason why I am on my feet tonight. I was pleased to see the honourable member for Cumberland (*Mr. Hall*) arise in his place in the House and tell the members something of the great northland, as I have some samples of ore which have been taken from some of his discoveries. I have in my hand a piece of copper-zinc ore. This is from the Lac la Ronge area, that is, the centre of Saskatchewan, in what is known as the Pre-Cambrian formation which, stretching away to the North is found over a very large area. The ore contains copper, gold and silver, this particular sample showing from 18% to 6% copper, gold running to \$2 a ton and silver up to \$4 a ton. It is a very valuable piece of ore, much more valuable than anything that has been found at the Flin Flon.

I have another sample of ore here. This is from the Rotten Stone Lake district. This ore contains nickel from 3% to 7%; copper from 1½% to 18%; gold and silver about \$1.50 a ton and platinum from \$15 to \$25 a ton. This particular sample is valued at \$100.00 to the ton; and this indicates I think conclusively, that there are immense possibilities in that region.

An important thing in connection with this matter is that this great mineral-bearing formation crosses into Saskatchewan at the Flin Flon, goes across to Lac la Ronge and then goes north up to the Arctic the entire length of the Province; not a muskeg but a hard rock formation which you can build a railroad or anything else on that will go through a mineral bearing stratum all the way. Capitalists are tremendously interested in the development of this great north country and I know that prospectors backed by millions of dollars are going in there this next spring with the idea of prospecting that great region. I am looking forward to the time—perhaps not at this time when the honourable, the First Minister goes to Ottawa to negotiate concerning the return of our natural resources, but some time in the not far-distant future when the honourable the First Minister will still be Premier and will go to Ottawa to ask for the extension of the boundaries of the Province of Saskatchewan clear to the Arctic taking in this great mineral belt to the Great Slave Lake and clear through the Northwest Territories—all mineralised. It is, of course, a tremendously interesting subject. As it is, the minerals are lying there, dormant, and, without transportation facilities, absolutely useless.

This brings me to the subject of branch lines. One of the most important announcements that has been made in recent years with respect to railway construction is the announcement by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, recently, which I read with no small degree of satisfaction. I doubt whether the people of Saskatchewan as a whole, are fully alive to the significance and importance of this programme as advertised in the *Canada Gazette*, asking Parliament for permission to build approximately 1,000 miles of new branch lines in Saskatchewan, all of which are located in the northern part of the Province, north of the North Saskatchewan River.

Since that programme has been announced, the Canadian National Railways have also indicated (although their programme is not yet out), that they are ready to build between 350 and 400 miles in Saskatchewan, thus making a grand total of approximately 1,400 miles. Let me again emphasise that such a tremendous programme will mean much not only to agriculture but to all allied and other industries.

It is not my concern, as Minister of Railways, nor is it the intention of my Department to take sides in any dispute which may arise before the Railway Committee in the House of Commons between the two great railway systems regarding the territory in which each shall serve. I repeat, I do not propose getting mixed up in controversial matters regarding the allocation of territory. My job, as I see it, is to arrange to have the whole country adequately served with transportation facilities and to see to it that, in achieving this result, there is no needless duplication for which the people will ultimately have to pay. It must be borne in mind that the mineral discoveries recently made in the north necessitate transportation facilities if they are to be developed in a satisfactory manner. We are always ready to act in every way possible in the public interest.

Now there are many places where we come in contact with the railway branch line situation: not only with regard to the large developments of the north but with regard to similar developments in other parts; in connection with charters that are being applied for and which will be applied for later. In the small time we have been functioning as a Railway Department, we have been able to interest the railway companies in districts which, I think, have had very little attention heretofore. In fact, that is one of the greatest contributions we are making.

Now there is another very important matter in connection with this Branch, and that is the matter of freight rates. We have set up a special Branch to deal with this highly complicated matter of freight rates, and have had requests of one kind and another from all over the Province of Saskatchewan since this Branch was formed, and in no case have we failed to find a solution of the problem placed before us.

In the adjustment of matters coming under the jurisdiction of the Department, this Branch has been able to do some good work in adjusting grievances between shippers and giving relief in the matter of freight rate discrimination to districts that have long suffered under that discrimination. We have letters from correspondents complimenting us in the very highest terms on the efficiency and despatch with which their cases have been handled. Permit me, Mr. Speaker, to quote an extract or two from some letters I have in my possession in this connection. One letter here refers to the interchange track west of Tyson and southwest of Moose Jaw. The people living in the district between Neidpath and Spring Valley sent petition after petition to the Board of Railway Commissioners until they got sick and tired of it, owing to the fact that shipments of cement and coal and lumber from the west by C.P.R. went to Moose Jaw and were routed back from there. Our Branch undertook to have the matter adjusted and as a result the Canadian National Railways built an interchange or transfer track at Tyson to permit of direct shipments. This letter reads as follows:

“After seeing the workings of the Department which you have created for this purpose and the manner in which your Freight Rates Branch have prepared and placed our case before the Commission, I cannot but think that the creating of this Department and the appointing of a Freight Rates Expert was a godsend to the general public of Saskatchewan.”

The writer then goes on further to say that the Commissioners at one time remarked that the case was the best prepared and the best presented case that the Commissioners had had the pleasure of considering. This letter is not signed by a party adherent but by a staunch Conservative who, at one time was president of a Conservative organisation.

*Mr. Anderson:* Hear! Hear!

*Hon. Mr. Spence:* Through the efforts of this Department, the people between Spring Valley and Neidpath have been saved in freight charges on their lumber, coal and cement shipments, since October 1, 1928, a sum which amounts to approximately \$90,000. I may say that we have also been able to secure a reduction in freight rates on the gravel used in the construction and maintenance of our highways.

There is another small matter which shows that, since this Branch was instituted, it has been able to establish contact with the general public. In May last, a gentleman by the name of Joseph McMahon, residing at Parkside, requested our assistance in securing an adjustment of overcharge to the amount of \$15.40, which the railway declined to refund him. We took this matter up for Mr. McMahon and the overcharge was refunded. I have a letter signed by Mr. McMahon which says:

"Just received your letter of June 28. I went over to the Canadian National station and received the \$15.40 in settlement of the overcharge. I thank you very much for your trouble."

We have also interested ourselves in the very important matter of the express rates case now before the Railway Commission. This was brought to the front when the Express companies filed an application for an increase in rates on the necessities of life, such as bread, butter, meats, fish, vegetables, fruit, etc. As a result of our representations, the Railway Commission on September 21, issued an order refusing to allow the increase in the rates to go into effect. We are now arranging to apply to the Railway Commissioners for a substantial reduction in the rates now exacted by the Express companies, and we hope to have the same success with this application as we have already had with others.

There is another important question which has agitated the minds of our people for some considerable time, and I have particular reference to the Hudson Bay as an outlet for our grain, merchandise and other commodities. The important problem of securing for our people fair and equitable freight rates to the Hudson Bay is now engaging our attention, and we anticipate being able to arrange a satisfactory basis of freight rates on our shipments to Fort Churchill on or before the date the Hudson Bay route is completed and ready for operation.

I have in my hand the *Saskatoon Star-Phoenix* of January 21, 1929, and I see this on the front page:

"Ottawa, Jan. 21—Final compilation of records in the Department of Railways and Canals, shows that Hudson Straits were navigable, last year, with the doubtful exception of a period of three days, until December 2. In 1927, navigation in the Straits did not close until December 5 so that, for two years, the period of navigation on the northern trade route has continued until about the same time as on the Great Lakes.

"In 1928, observations of the Department in the Straits were not as complete as in 1927 when a daily aeroplane patrol was maintained. Last year, the observations were made from the three bases maintained along the passage from Hudson Bay to the Atlantic. Observers could see only a few miles from land, and, while they reported ice in this area there might well have been open passages many miles in width beyond their vision."

I might say that the Honourable Mr. Dunning, on his recent visit to this city told me that he had a party at Outlook Island and that these men were engaged in watching ice conditions in the Straits. It is almost a matter of family record that my foreparents on both sides were old Hudson's Bay seamen, and used to sail into the Straits almost every year, so I have great faith in the railway; but it all comes back to a question of rates.

There is no question now about the completion of the Bay railway, but the question of rates goes on, and when the Honourable Mr. Dunning was in the city about a month ago, I went into this matter very fully with him and took the stand that the people of Saskatchewan would not be satisfied with anything less than Crows Nest Rates over the Bay road. Mr. Dunning conceded the point and has since issued a statement upon it. I have his statement here:

"Hon. C. A. Dunning, Minister of Railways and Canals, today, said that the West could rely upon the fact that the Crows Nest Pass Rates would be put into effect at the very outset. In regard to other rates, inbound and outbound, the railways probably would issue tariffs and it will be up to the public to fight for rate reductions before the Railway Commission."

I may say that this was not the first time I discussed this matter with the Minister of Railways and Canals. When in Ottawa, last spring, I had the same matter under discussion with him and indeed, at that time, he had an expert preparing a map and working on the freight.

rate structure. Consequently, the announcement of January 7, which I have quoted, is very satisfactory not only to myself personally, but to the people of the Province as a whole. Let me emphasise, however, that this is only the minimum of our request in regard to freight rates. There exists the question of discrimination to be settled which, with the people as a united party, we are trying to adjust today. We are not satisfied with the present rate structure, and we will not rest content until many of these matters have been settled satisfactorily. At this stage I would like to read the following statement into the records of the House:

"What is known as the Terminal Rate Structure in Western Canada applies to the movement of merchandise between Fort William and Port Arthur and points in the Provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta and between Vancouver, New Westminster, and Pacific Coast points and points in the Provinces of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba. It must be remembered that these are 'to and from' rates. That is, they apply in both directions. Grain and flour are not affected by these rates, because they move under a statutory rate known as the Crows Nest rates which have no relation to class rates.

"These terminal rate structures in their present form are the result of the Order of the Board of Railway Commissioners made in the Western Rates case in 1914. The case has since been fought before the Board of Railway Commissioners, and the City of Regina and other distributing points in the Province of Saskatchewan have complained against the discrimination which they alleged is occasioned by this structure, for many years.

"In 1925, the Boards of Trade in all the cities of Saskatchewan and Alberta united in attacking this terminal rate structure. In the ruling which was given by the Board on the case, discrimination is admitted and no satisfactory justification for such discrimination is shown. It has been pointed out on many occasions that, as a result of this discrimination, the farmers of the Province are affected as well as the business men and urban dwellers. The additional rate which this structure imposes on the people of Saskatchewan must enter into the price of everything they consume which moves to Saskatchewan on class rates. It affects the price which the farmer is able to obtain for his cattle and his hogs, as the finished products turned out from the packing plants in Saskatchewan have to meet the competition of other concerns outside the Province that have a lower per ton mileage rate from the City of Winnipeg than from the cities of Prince Albert, Regina, Moose Jaw or Saskatoon.

"In simple language, the question resolves itself into this: The country has outgrown in its industrial and business expansion, the rate structure that went into effect many years ago. While it was recognised during the war that no additional load should be placed upon the railroads, it is now felt, in view of the earnings of the same railroads, and particularly in view of the fact that the Canadian National Railway Company has made such tremendous progress, that the time is now opportune to iron out all these inequalities and discriminations. To enumerate some of the centres that have grown up and now look upon themselves as distributing points, I might mention Prince Albert, Saskatoon, Battleford, Swift Current, Moose Jaw, Regina, Yorkton, Melville, Weyburn, Estevan and many other points.

"I would urge upon the Minister of Railways and Canals and the Canadian National authorities to bear this situation in mind when the freight rate structure to Churchill is under consideration. We wish to emphasise in the most emphatic manner that we will not rest content until these difficulties have been adjusted and a rate established in the Province of Saskatchewan that is fair and just to all points in Saskatchewan."

Now there was another matter which we had to deal with in my Department, and which gave us a considerable degree of worry, and that was the matter of car shortage. This was not brought about by any real car shortage. There was a bountiful crop and, favoured by good weather, harvesting operations proceeded rapidly and consequently there was a heavy grain movement the result of which was that the "spout plugged up." There were much more car loadings than car emptyings (three times as much) and the railroad companies took the position that they were not in the storage business but in the carrying business and that they could not afford (a very reasonable attitude, too) to fill all their box cars with grain; that it would be hindering the movement rather than accelerating it; also, they would not be able to bring back merchandise to provide the necessities of life. We, of course, had to deal with this matter in a small and individual way. We dealt with each case as it came to our attention and I want to say that, when it was brought to the attention of the companies, the matters were adjusted and I have letters of thanks and commendation for our good efforts in helping to clear up the situation.

The Department has also been the point of contact between the people and the railway companies on matters such as train service and any other railway matter in which the people of the Province are directly interested. The various communities of the Province have worked together and, through the agency of the Saskatchewan Traffic Council organised during the past summer, efforts have been made to secure co-operation of all Boards of Trade in Saskatchewan and in this way to present a united front in cases of freight rate discrimination before the Railway Commission. In the past, it frequently happened that when a local Board of Trade made application to the Railway Commission for an adjustment of freight rates, other cities not being fully



acquainted with the cause of the application nor its effect upon them, either opposed the application or, by indifference, weakened the appeal to the Board of Railway Commissioners. Under the arrangement now established by the Traffic Council, each and all agree as to what is going to be presented to the Board and this makes it possible for my Department to lend its efforts and strengthen the case.

I have some statements here, Mr. Speaker, but I am not going to weary the House by reading them. I may say that all the larger Boards of Trade in the Province are represented upon the Council and therefore all applications for hearing before the Board of Railway Commissioners will now be fully understood by all Boards of Trade, thus not only making for a united demand to the Commission but also preventing the possibility of one locality being used as a hindrance to the application from another city or locality.

On the subject of immigration, which also comes within the jurisdiction of this Department, I may say this: Immigration is the function of the Dominion Government. Saskatchewan cannot nor can any other Province of Canada, enter into any immigration scheme, simply because all our ports of entry, shipping regulations and decisions as to who may or may not be admitted to Canada are vested in the Federal Government which has examining officers and all that sort of thing in the countries from which we get our immigrants. The Federal Government, therefore, is the only Government in Canada that can properly control or regulate immigration.

Once the immigrant is admitted to Canada there are no barriers between the Provinces which may prevent the immigrant travelling freely within the Dominion and finally taking up his residence where opportunity, or his particular calling, may determine. Every immigrant coming to Canada, whether to Ontario or any other Province, must conform with the Federal Immigration Regulations and be passed upon and given a landing certificate by the Federal authorities. But once a man or woman lands on our shores, he or she is no longer an immigrant. Let it be understood, therefore, that the work of immigration ceases immediately the immigrant sets foot on Canadian soil at the port of disembarkation. The number and types of immigrants which come to Canada are and must always be determined by the Federal Immigration Department. Once the immigrant lands in Canada, however, the all important work of building and assisting him to a permanent residence in the Province may be regarded, at least partially, as a provincial undertaking. In this work the Saskatchewan Government has always taken a lively interest and as early as 1912 entered into an arrangement with the Federal Government to co-operate with the Government in assisting immigrants coming to the Province in finding employment, obtaining information respecting agricultural and other opportunities and generally to assist in having the immigrant established within the Province. I think, perhaps, we have good reason to believe that we have been getting our share of this class of settler, because Saskatchewan besides being the 'keystone' Province is first in point of agricultural importance and thus draws a very large percentage to its borders.

One of the outstanding things resulting from the visit of Lord Lovat is the fact that we have entered into an agreement with the Federal Government for the bringing to Saskatchewan of a number of British boys around seventeen years of age for whom this Government has made arrangements to provide hostel accommodation and after-care for a period of three years. There is, in Great Britain, a considerable number of boys of the Boy Scout type, from middle class or better class homes, who are desirous of coming to Canada, but whose parents will not permit their migration unless assured that the boys will be under supervision of some responsible person or organisation. Now, it was thought that if we could encourage these boys to immigrate it would be well worthwhile, so the Government has made an arrangement with the University of Saskatchewan to provide meals and dormitory accommodation in the Agricultural College, and we have given a guarantee that we will direct the boys to suitable homes, provide them with financial and other assistance for a period of three years, or until they are established in the Province. Prof. Rayner, of the Department of Agricultural Extension, who has had a great deal of agricultural experience (and my honourable friends from the City of Saskatoon will bear me out in this) has been placed in charge of this work. If any of the boys get sick we will provide the hospital accommodation and look after them. That is our contribution to the scheme. The Dominion Government co-operates making a contribution of \$40 in money which is placed to the credit of each boy.

The Department has also entered into an arrangement with the Federal and Imperial Governments to assist in the training of British domestics for service in Canada. The arrangement is to provide hostel accommodation, find situations and provide after-care for British domestics, and in cases where the British girls require training in domestic service before coming to Canada we have undertaken to secure part of their expenses of training for reimbursement to the Imperial Government's training schools. These training schools are being established at different points in the Old Country where a six weeks' course will be given female domestics contemplating emigration to Canada. In this training, Canadian equipment and Canadian teachers will be employed. The Dominion Government makes a small contribution to the school, and it is figured that the cost runs about \$90 per pupil in attendance.

Under the arrangement we have made, if a farmer wants a trained domestic such as these schools will produce, he sends in \$10 with his application, and if both parties are satisfied, this \$10 is reimbursed to the Imperial Government to defray part of the cost of training. This

ensures a supply of domestics trained in household practice in Canada, and I look for great things from this activity, for if there is one activity more than another that is likely to improve the lot of the farmer's wife, it is this matter of better household help. I lived on a farm for many years, and while I had little difficulty in getting competent male help, not so with my wife in the matter of domestic help, for the girls would come for a time but eventually drift into the cities.

The Government has also entered into an arrangement under which it investigates and approves applications from Britishers in Canada who desire to have their families brought out to Canada with the assistance of the Imperial Government. Under an arrangement with the Imperial Government, Britishers residing in Canada who desire to re-unite their families, may secure a reduced transportation rate for the members of their families, provided the Britisher resident in this country is in permanent employment or in a position to support his family. All such applications are investigated by this Department, and, wherever practicable, the application is endorsed and the family re-united.

On the matter of industrial development, a great deal has been said, and I am going to give the credit for the stimulus given to this development during the past year to the fact that there was going to be a wheat crop valued in the neighbourhood of \$500,000,000, and that we have in this Province of Saskatchewan a great consumers' market and that these two factors were the greatest inducement for industry to come here. No industry of importance but has come to this Department before definitely establishing, seeking information on labour conditions and other material factors. In that way we are helping in this development.

I wish to speak briefly on coal, not with the intention of re-opening a subject which already has been discussed in this House, but with a desire to clear up one or two things. There is approximately 30,000,000,000 tons of lignite in the coalfields of the Province, and there are three main methods of using that type of coal, namely, burning the raw coal, carbonising, or by converting the coal at the pit-mouth into electricity. We have attempted to follow two of these methods in dealing with our Saskatchewan coal, and we have succeeded in interesting British capital in the matter of the carbonising of our low grade coal, and the result has been that we now have a high-grade fuel that will be placed on the markets in the next few days which will be able to compete with Alberta coal. My contention is that we have given a considerable stimulus to the coal industry in this Province.

Then in regard to our straw, for many years the modern uses to which the straw can be put have been investigated, and the matter is one of economics rather than lack of a mechanically-efficient process of treating straw. There are two methods of utilising it. One is pressing the straw by hydraulic presses for use as building material, and the other is by carbonising the straw and using it as a fuel. Shipments of our straw have been sent to England, Belgium, France and the United States, and I may say that we have sent pressed flax straw over to Glasgow for experimentation in the manufacture of linen tow, and if the results justify it, we can look forward to its manufacture in this Province at some future date.

We have some of the most valuable clay deposits for the manufacture of clay products that can be found anywhere in the world. We have given assistance in the matter of industries of this nature being established here. This brings me to the subject of research. In the address delivered by the senior member for the City of Regina (*Mr. McNeven*), last night, he referred to the necessity for the establishment of an Industrial Research Council at the University of Saskatchewan to investigate various problems with a view to promoting the agricultural and industrial development of the Province. It is only necessary for me to point out that such research work, on a very extensive scale is being carried on at present.

Perhaps the honourable member does not know that research work just as he outlined has been carried on for the last few years. This work is being conducted by the Saskatchewan Agricultural Research Foundation in all phases of agriculture, by the National Research Council of Canada in industrial problems, and by various other agencies such as the University, the Federal and Provincial Governments in other lines.

The National Research Council is organised in such a way as to permit of the formation of committees of experts on the different subjects under research. On these committees are frequently placed men employed by the Provincial Government, professors of our University and others in order that local problems may be brought to the attention of the Council and that local phases or conditions of these problems may not be overlooked. In addition to Dr. Murray, there is probably half-a-dozen of the professors of the University of Saskatchewan on as many different committees and there is, as a matter of fact, no less than two members of the staff of the Department of Railways, Labour and Industries serving on such committees. Research problems extending all the way from a study of the abnormalities and hibernation of the common horsefly, the preservation of cement and the utilisation of wheat straw, to the treatment of coals and clays are dealt with by the Council. The list of subjects under research would occupy a considerable length of time to enumerate.

I may say that there is available at the University no fewer than six fellowships of \$1,200 each and 10 studentships of \$1,000 each, all granted by the National Research Council to students engaging in research work in this Province. To carry on research work, an extensive

and very expensive equipment is necessary. This equipment is available in the Universities of Canada, which Universities are associated with the Research Council of Canada. The Research Council, either directly, or through its affiliated organisations, covers or can cover all subjects of importance. Therefore, the organisation of a Provincial Research Council would, in the present circumstances, be an unnecessary duplication of work and probably a means of confusing or delaying the work now being undertaken.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I have another important matter to deal with and that is in connection with this much-advertised school lands question. I happened to be a member of the Dominion House for the constituency of Maple Creek for a short time and being a member of the House of Commons at the time the last school lands sale was being dealt with, I think I can speak with some authority on the subject and with a background of information which some other members of this House may not have. The conditions of these sales are not that the land is sold for what it will bring, and not that the people pay too little for the land. But the Government sets an upset price, and the land is sold to the highest bidder. As a matter of fact, the last sale of school lands was a direct result of the land fetching too much at a previous sale. The purchaser defaulted in his payments. Then a "Cultivation permit" was given him from year to year at 50 cents an acre. The arrangement did not work well, so another sale of lands was held. Every honourable member knows that it was a burning question in the House at the time. I could bring down a file of letters all asking to have the remaining lands sold right away. They come to every member of the Dominion House and perhaps to every member of this House as well. The demand has been renewed and it is urgent and growing and, as a result of these representations, the Dominion Government decided to sell and, with the consent of the Provincial Government, the sale is being advertised for March to enable farmers to break up the land which they purchase and perhaps crop some of it this coming season.

I want to clear up a misunderstanding in regard to the question as there is no need for it. The question is as clear as the noonday sun. In connection with the question of the return to the Province of its natural resources, there has been considerable discussion with respect to this question of the sale of school lands in the Province. Certain questions were asked by the leader of the opposition (*Mr. Anderson*), and answered by the honourable, the Provincial Treasurer (*the Honourable Mr. Patterson*), on behalf of the Government. The pertinent questions and answers were as follows:

"Question 1: How many acres of school lands are there in Saskatchewan still controlled by the Federal Government?"

"Answer: There is estimated to be in the Province 6,555,000 acres of unsold school lands.

"Question 2: Has the Saskatchewan Government any knowledge of an intention on the part of the Federal Government to dispose of all such lands before our natural resources are given back to us.

"Answer: No."

An attempt is being made to create the impression in the public mind that false answers were given to these questions; and, by a system of deliberate misrepresentation and false statements, there is an attempt to continue to misrepresent the facts in connection with the questions and the answers thereto.

In connection with Question 1, let me point out that the answer thereto shows that there is estimated to be 6,555,000 acres of unsold school lands in the Province of Saskatchewan. The fact is that of this quantity there will be offered for sale by public auction, 1,500,000 acres and, based on the experience of previous sales, about one-third of this area, or 500,000 acres, will be sold.

Question 2 is the question to examine, as it is in connection with this question that the Government is being charged with giving a false answer. Let me repeat that the question reads as follows:

"Has the Saskatchewan Government any knowledge of an intention on the part of the Federal Government to dispose of all such lands before our natural resources are given back to us?"

This question was answered "No!" and this is the only answer that this Government or any other Government, in view of the facts, could possibly give. The question asks, if the Government has any knowledge of an intention of the Dominion Government to sell all these school lands before our natural resources are returned to us. If this question were answered "Yes," then it would be an acknowledgement that the Government of Saskatchewan knew that the Dominion Government, before making any return of the natural resources to the Province of Saskatchewan, would dispose of all the school lands in the Province and that until such disposal took place, there would be no return of the natural resources. This Government has no knowledge of any such intention of the Dominion Government to delay the return of the natural resources until all the school lands in the Province of Saskatchewan are sold.

A statement appearing in the *Regina Star* of January 24, 1929, in reply to a statement made by the honourable, the First Minister (*the Honourable Mr. Gardiner*), in the House on January 23, states, in paragraph number 1, that the question asked by the leader of the Conservative opposition was, "If the Government had any knowledge that a sale of school lands by the Dominion was arranged to take place before our natural resources are returned." Any person can see that the question as asked and the question as falsely stated in *The Star* to have been asked, are entirely different. If the question stated by *The Star* had been asked by the leader of the opposition, then there was one truthful answer and that was "Yes" because the Government did have knowledge that there would be a sale of school lands. The difference between the two questions is that one asks the question, if the Government has knowledge of the intention of the Dominion to sell all such lands in the Province before the return of the natural resources and the other asks the straight question of whether or not there is to be a sale of school lands before the return of the natural resources. I would suggest that *The Star* base its arguments upon the question as asked and not upon a fictitious question which was never asked.

Now, Mr. Speaker, the Department of the Interior follows the practice of consulting local authorities upon matters of this kind. This is true not only of school lands (which I understand the law provides for), but the Dominion Government consults us on other matters having to do with our natural resources.

*Mr. Anderson:* Why did not the Government let us know they were going to sell these 1,500,000 acres of school lands?

*Hon. Mr. Latta:* Why did the honourable member not ask his question in that way?

*Hon. Mr. Spence:* In view of the possible return of our natural resources, we have had long conferences with the Honourable Charles Stewart, Minister of the Interior, regarding the matter of his aerial service in the north country, and we have co-operated with him and his Department and suggested to him the sections that should be photographed, not only in connection with last year's work, but also for the coming year, and in every instance our suggestion has been followed. This is as it should be, having in mind that perhaps, in the very near future, these resources will be handed over to us. All Northern Saskatchewan has been blocked off into 70-mile squares with a view to facilitating intelligent prospecting of that great mineralised area. From a practical standpoint, therefore, everything is being done to prepare the way for the transfer of our resources.

Just a word or two more with regard to the power question, Mr. Speaker. There has been some indication that in regard to Churchill River power it would be too costly a matter for its economic development at the present time. If I had a million horse power, tonight, I would not know what to do with it. You can send power any distance, if you have a market at the end of the wire. The steam engine is playing a greater part than ever in the production of electrical energy and it has been said that if all the water power generating plants in the country were to be destroyed by some sudden catastrophe, not half of them would be rebuilt on their present sites. It is interesting and instructive to note these facts and the fact that we have no immediate water power development in sight need not discourage us. It might be noted also that if all our natural water power resources were developed to their full capacity we could only deliver 25 per cent. of the electrical energy required by our railroads and farms when present plans are carried through. To the south, we have our coal, but it takes a thousand tons of water to condense a ton of coal, notwithstanding what has been said in regard to generating power at the pit-mouth, water is required as well as coal. The point is that under the method we are now pursuing, under the one authority, the greatest use will be made of these resources.

The great problem confronting us is the problem of rural development, although very little has been said about it. It is the big problem today, and it will be the big problem tomorrow. We have been grappling with this question and since the Order-in-Council appointing the Power Commission was passed on February 1, certain forms of organisation will be set up as in the Province of Ontario and similarly elsewhere, with a view to studying the requirements of agriculture and the rural parts of the Province. It is believed that these requirements will best be met by having a centralised control of the distribution of electrical energy such as this Commission sets up.

In the case of the transmission lines of some companies, notably the Montreal Engineering Company, the transmission lines now constructed or in process of construction are of such type of construction as to transmit 66,000 volts, although the present voltage is only 13,200. This will enable an economical link-up to be made of the three cities, Regina, Moose Jaw and Weyburn, should it be found at some future time that this would be to the advantage of the cities in question.

In old London, four different types of current are being distributed. In Paris, where they have the largest power plant in the world which uses the entire flow of the river for condensation, they have five turbines of 40,000 K.W. capacity and one of 60,000 K.W. They burn 880 tons of coal a day and produce 1,300,000 K.W. of electricity a day; that is, they produce more in one day than the City of Weyburn produces in a whole year. They have a standard three-phase 60-cycle distribution over the whole of France.

These are some of the things we have in mind by the form of organisation which will look after this matter.

It is with great pleasure, Mr. Speaker, that I support the Motion.

THE HONOURABLE W. J. PATTERSON.

(Provincial Treasurer  
and  
Minister of Telephones and Telegraphs.)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25, 1929.

Mr. Speaker,—Every member of the House, I am sure, will welcome the conclusion of this debate. I am sure, also, that we were all greatly interested in the speeches of the two honourable members (*Messrs. Marion and Hall*) who, between them, represent one half the total area of the Province of Saskatchewan. The more we learn of that great country lying to the north the more impressed we are with its possibilities and with what the future holds in store for it.

I appreciate very much the compliments of many members who have participated in this debate and take it as a compliment that, in my experience in the Legislature, in no previous Budget debate has so little time been devoted to criticism of items in the Budget or statements contained in it. Only three members sitting on your left, Sir, referred at all to any matter having anything to do with the finances of the Province. The junior member for Regina (*Mr. MacPherson*), as chief financial critic, did the best he could, and the junior member for the City of Saskatoon (*Mr. McConnell*) referred to one item. Then, too, the honourable member for Hanley (*Mr. Stipe*) had a little to say. That, Sir, was the sole extent of the opposition's financial criticism.

The honourable member for Hanley said he was not impressed with the Budget statement. Well, Sir, the only thing I can say to that is that it is pretty hard to make an impression on a rock without using a sledge-hammer. He apparently had not succeeded in convincing himself that this Government had not taken capital funds for revenue account and even after I had stated that we had not made a bond issue during the last year, was still afraid we had borrowed money for the revenue account of the Province.

He was also much concerned with regard to the Treasury Bill arrangement with the bank and made the criticism that we would get a much better rate if we issued long-term bonds. We have a very favourable Treasury Bill arrangement and get a cheaper rate than we can get on the market at the present time. I do not think it would be entirely fair for me to disclose, publicly, our arrangement with the bank, because there is competition in that kind of business even if we have now only a comparatively few chartered banks in the Dominion. I assure the House, and I hope members will take my statement for it, that the arrangement we have is a very satisfactory and good arrangement for the Province of Saskatchewan.

Now, Sir, I would for a few moments impose on the patience of the House to reply to those criticisms which were voiced by the junior member for the City of Regina, and at the outset I would say that I agree with him when he says that he has always tried to make his criticisms fair. He was not one of those members whom I accused of adding Contingent Liabilities to the public debt. I suggest, however, that sometimes the honourable member's arguments show perhaps hasty preparation and are not the results of a mature study of the statements he is discussing.

His first criticism was with regard to my statement about the surplus, and I want to read again what I actually said with regard to that particular matter, just to assure him and to assure the House and the public, that there was no attempt to misrepresent or mislead. Speaking of the accounts for the fiscal period ending April 30, 1928, I said:

"In that fiscal year revenue account shows cash receipts \$13,495,642.77 and expenditures \$13,449,632.37. Including the cash surplus brought forward from the previous year, we now have, therefore, an accumulated cash surplus of \$137,866.66."

The honourable member said that it was a departure from practice. That is not entirely the case because, while the Honourable Mr. Dunning was Treasurer of the Province a few years ago, it was a common practice for him to refer to and deal with an accumulated cash surplus. My words were very plain and clearly given and, as I said, there was no attempt to misrepresent the situation because revenue and expenditure figures were both given and the year's surplus added to that of the previous year gave us the accumulated cash surplus.

The honourable member also referred to a statement made by the Premier in the Session of 1927, when the first Minister of the Crown also held the position of Provincial Treasurer. I think the honourable member misunderstood that statement, it was very clear and admits of no misunderstanding. This is what the Provincial Treasurer (*the Honourable Mr. Gardiner*) is reported as saying:

"The Supplementary Estimates passed by this House last week tell the story with regard to the working out of the estimates which were passed one year ago. During the latter part of last year and the current year we have utilised liquor profits for the redemption of

public debt to the amount of \$1,164,780; cleaned up accounts payable at the end of last fiscal year; have paid off the accumulated deficits of previous years amounting to \$474,398, and have in hand \$238,448."

That statement was not made with reference to revenue account, but was a statement of the distribution of liquor profits for that particular year; and I might say in support of my statement with regard to the accumulated cash surplus, that statement by the then Provincial Treasurer indicates that the accumulated deficits had been wiped off and consequently from that time we started with a clean sheet.

Another criticism of the Budget statement was that the part of the Public Debt shown as created for the Co-operative Elevator Company did not agree with the figures shown in the balance sheet of the Province as being due by the Co-operative Elevator Company or the Pool Elevators to the Province. There is a very simple explanation: If the Province issued debentures for \$1,000,000 to loan to the Co-operative Elevator Company, these debentures were issued for say twenty years, and in ten years' time the Co-operative Elevator Company had repaid the Government \$250,000 (these figures you must understand are merely for purposes of illustration) we could not call in \$250,000 worth of those debentures, but would put the money into the sinking fund. The Public Debt would still stand at \$1,000,000, but the Elevator Company would owe us only \$750,000, their debt would appear as that and the \$250,000 would be in the sinking fund. When the first debentures which had been issued for the purposes of the Elevator Company fell due, the \$250,000 would be taken out of the sinking fund and used for redemption of those debentures. I may say that since the elevators came into existence, nearly \$4,000,000 has been repaid on monies borrowed from the Government and these monies have been applied, from time to time, on payment of Public Debt just as I have indicated. The same practice is followed in regard to the Telephone Department.

There was some reference to the Saskatchewan Co-operative Creameries. Every member of the House will remember that at the time of the amalgamation with Caulder's Creameries, the position of the old "Co-op." was distinctly stated. At that time it was indebted to the Government in the sum of \$650,000 for which the Government held, as security, a first mortgage on its plant. The Company was also indebted to the bank for some \$600,000 which was guaranteed by the Government, and the House was advised that when the amalgamation was completed the Government would have to make good the guarantee. It was also advised that as security for these two amounts the Government would take a first mortgage for \$900,000 and redeemable shares for the balance, approximately \$350,000.

Now, with regard to the guarantee of the account at the bank: The guarantee of the old "Co-op." at the bank was of such a nature that the Government was responsible for the entire amount. The new company did not start out very auspiciously, but I am glad to say that steady progress has been made and the resulting benefits have not been confined to the company alone but have been beneficial to the producers also. The Contingent Liability account of the Province shows a guarantee in the amount of \$400,000, but there is an arrangement with the bank whereby the company assigns all dairy products, supplies and bills receivable to the bank as security and in that way protects the Government on this guarantee. With regard to the other amount of \$299,789.90; this is in respect of advances guaranteed by the Government to enable the Company to meet the needs of its growing business. These advances are to provide the necessary capital requirements, and the guarantee is secured to the Government by a mortgage on the plants of the Co-operative Creamery Company.

*Mr. MacPherson:* Can the Minister tell us what the amount owing on the overdraft is at the present time to which the Government may be liable under the Contingent Liability?

*Hon. Mr. Patterson:* It can go to the limit of \$400,000.

*Mr. MacPherson:* \$400,000? Is it used to the limit at the present time?

*Hon. Mr. Patterson:* I think it was reduced at the end of the year, but I would not like to say definitely.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* It is renewable each year.

*Hon. Mr. Patterson:* The honourable member likened the business of this Province to that of a Joint Stock Company, and this is a fair description to give but I do not think he carried the comparison to the right conclusion. The people of this Province with respect to the business of the Province are in somewhat the position of shareholders who elect directors to manage their business. I would take it, Sir, that we in this House are elected in that capacity for the conduct of the public business of this Province and that all the members of the House are in the position of directors of a company. Then it is customary for the directors to elect an executive committee from among themselves to administer the affairs of the company subject to the control of the directors at large—and that executive, in our case, is the cabinet. Now I suggest that, if a small minority of the directors are not satisfied with the way the business of the company is being conducted, they could not expect that their demands would be accepted without question.

I do not think the history of companies shows that. There may be a difference of opinion among the directors as to how the business should be conducted but the majority of the board of directors who are agreed on a policy, control and conduct the company until such time as the shareholders as a whole signify that a different policy should be followed.

We also have had some discussion with respect to Sinking Funds. The policy of the Government in this connection was outlined briefly but clearly in the Budget address of last year when I said:

"To date, the total redemptions by sinking funds of Provincial securities amount to more than \$8,000,000. I may say that this Province has followed a policy of using sinking funds to retire debentures as they mature. This explains why our sinking fund balances are smaller than in some Provinces where a different method is adopted. We believe our method is both a proper and a businesslike method, and see no reason for adopting any other at the present time."

It is quite true that some Provinces accumulate their sinking funds. We, in this Province, use our sinking funds to retire debentures as they mature. There may be some argument as to which is the better policy, but we have decided upon our policy, and, as I said last year, we see no reason to change it. It does have some effect upon the figures for gross debt of the Province, but it has no effect in regard to the net debt. However, I am going to deal with the Public Debt in a few moments and will content myself with restating our Sinking Fund policy which should be well known, having been announced publicly.

To compare the sinking funds of the Province with the sinking funds of a city, is not altogether a proper comparison because a very large portion of a city's debt is for sidewalks and other public improvements and the public improvements taxation provides a sinking fund for that particular purpose. I may explain that two or three of our debenture issues had special sinking fund provisions when the debentures were issued and these sinking funds will be used for the redemption of those particular debentures. Other debentures are issued without these definite conditions attached to them, and we pass through our revenue account, as payments to the sinking fund, only the amounts with respect to those particular debentures. All capital repayments from the Telephones and the Co-operative Elevators, while they go into the sinking fund accounts, do not pass through the revenue account and do not show in revenue account expenditure. The practice in British Columbia is to pass all sinking funds through revenue account with the result that the sinking fund figure is swelled accordingly. If we were to handle sinking funds in the same manner as British Columbia, instead of our revenue account showing \$34,000 for this purpose, it would show \$1,336,000 which was the amount actually paid into the sinking fund, though only \$34,000 passed through revenue account.

I want to deal for a few moments with the Public Debt. To my mind this is rather an important matter because, as my honourable friend, the senior member for Regina City (*Mr. McNiven*), said yesterday, the interest charges on our Public Debt are a million dollars less than in Manitoba and nearly \$1,250,000 less than in Alberta and, for that reason, we are able to spend more on education, child protection and other services than the neighbouring Provinces are. Saskatchewan's financial standing is most satisfactory. If the Public Debt is great, you cannot reduce taxation because you cannot rid yourself of the handicap which the charges on a heavy public debt place upon you. Now it is perfectly true that Alberta has borrowed money for railways and that British Columbia has borrowed money for dyking, for their Soldiers' Land Act, for housing and other purposes, but we in this Province have had to provide for drainage districts, for Farm Loans and for Co-operative Elevators.

*Mr. MacPherson:* If I might just interrupt: In speaking of British Columbia and Alberta, I only referred to items which were not covered here. I did not touch those common to both Provinces.

*Hon. Mr. Patterson:* It is not necessary to labour the argument in respect to gross debt. As I said before, I am willing to admit that other Provinces have borrowed for special purposes, but we have also.

If we refer to the figures relative to the net debt, Saskatchewan is still in as favourable a position. As a matter of fact, the net Public Debt of British Columbia is greater than the gross Public Debt of Saskatchewan, and similarly with Alberta, the net Public Debt of that Province is greater than the gross Public Debt of this Province—and remember, I am speaking of total amounts. If you take it on a per capita basis, the comparison is that much more favourable. It is not necessary to labour the question of Public Debt to show to the satisfaction of most people at any rate that our position as compared with that of other Provinces is a most favourable one.

The honourable member made some comment relative to the per capita debt as compared with the figures I quoted a year ago. You will remember that in the Budget Speech of a year ago, I quoted the Public Debt figures for the Province of Saskatchewan without making any comparison with other Provinces, and for that purpose I thought I was justified in using figures prepared in our own Department. As I say, they were not used for the purpose of comparison with other Provinces. Every Province has its own practice, and no doubt all follow the same general principle but I would not like to undertake to examine the Public Accounts of any Pro-

vince and say their Public Debt was so-and-so, their net debt was so-and-so and their population was so-and-so and, therefore, their per capita debt was so-and-so. But I did think I was justified in taking the figures of the Dominion Securities Company for purposes of comparison and for this reason: Each year that company writes to our Treasury Department (and I presume they do the same with other Provinces) asking for a copy of the Public Accounts. They also ask certain information with regard to debt, population, expenditures, revenue and things of that kind on a form which they ask us to complete. The form is one that apparently satisfies their requirements and I am justified in supposing that they use the same form for all the other Provinces. From these reports are prepared the statements which they publish with regard to gross and net debt of the Provinces and the per capita debt in each case. I submit that their figures are fairer as a basis of comparison than any figures I could prepare—and let me point out that the Dominion Securities is not prejudiced in favour of one Province as against another; they deal or hope to deal with all the Provinces of the Dominion.

I think that is about all I want to say about the Public Debt. There is one thing, however, I would say relative to the arguments of my honourable friend. In the Public Accounts of the Province all the figures given are as at the end of the financial year, but any figures regarding Public Debt quoted in the Budget Address the other night were as on that date. You cannot take those figures and compare them with the figures of April 30 last, ten months ago, to prove any discrepancy.

*Mr. MacPherson:* That was not done. My friend got the wrong impression about taking the gross debt as given by Dominion Securities that the Minister quoted the other night. The figures given by him the other night were practically the same, within a few dollars, as the figures given by the Minister in his last Budget Speech.

*Hon. Mr. Patterson:* I think I said in the last Budget Speech that the figures of the debt were as at the first of February, 1928, while the figures given by Dominion Securities were those for the end of the last fiscal period, that is, April 30, 1928. The Budget Address was delivered in the middle of February last year and, consequently, the Public Debt as stated at that time would be approximately the same as a month or two afterwards, that is, on April 30, which were the figures quoted by Dominion Securities.

There was another statement, Mr. Speaker, with reference to the Department of Telephones and the depreciation account of that Department. First of all, let me say that it is the practice of the Department to publish its expenditures in detail showing each person to whom money is paid and the services for which such amount is paid. The printing of these details adds considerably to the cost of the report. Neither Alberta nor Manitoba do this and I would like to know whether our friends would like us to do it that way. However, the statement was made that the Department's depreciation reserve on April 30, 1928, showed an increase of only \$140,000 over the previous year's figures. That is quite true and I agree that with regard to any utility a depreciation reserve should be provided, but the percentage or amount which should be provided for this purpose is a matter for argument. Everybody knows that a telephone system comprises open wire construction, both overhead and underground cable construction, exchange equipment, buildings of different kinds and many other factors, and necessarily there are different rates of depreciation on each. The rate of depreciation for rural telephones is not absolutely set by the Department, but we have suggested a rate of 7%, having in mind that open wire construction has the most rapid depreciation. But there is another very important factor and that is the amount of money spent on maintenance. In this connection let me say that we pride ourselves on the condition in which we maintain our whole system from one end to the other. I think anyone who knows anything about it will agree that the telephone system of this Province, with respect to maintenance, has no superior on the North American Continent. You have only to examine our exchange equipment, pole leads, or buildings to appreciate that, and, I repeat, the amount spent on maintenance of a system is a most important factor in determining the proper amount of depreciation to provide.

*Mr. Cross:* If you had enough maintenance you would not require any depreciation reserve at all.

*Hon. Mr. Patterson:* Quite right!

*Mr. Anderson:* How do the rates to the subscribers compare with other Provinces?

*Hon. Mr. Patterson:* If my friend will allow me to complete my remarks on depreciation, I will answer his question later. There is another consideration. Each year the Department, in addition to ordinary maintenance, provides for replacement and renewals; during the year in question \$190,000 was spent on replacement and renewals. That, of course, was in addition to the maintenance of which I have spoken, and the amount can quite as properly be credited to depreciation as if it were actually in the depreciation reserve account. While on the face of it the statement would show only the increase in depreciation reserve of \$140,000, there was also expended very close to \$200,000 on replacements and renewals which I say again is just as proper a provision for depreciation as if it were put aside in the reserve account.



There is still another thing. On page 23 of the Public Accounts will be found the sum of \$280,000 paid to the Province as repayment of capital. In the Department of Telephones it has been the practice from time to time to repay to the Provincial Treasury sums of money which go into the sinking fund and are used for the redemption of debentures issued for the Department. While we may argue in an academic way about depreciation, I might point out that the policy of the Government is that all the surplus earnings of the Department each year are credited to the depreciation reserve account. In the case of a private company, particularly where such company is subject to the control of a public utilities board, the depreciation allowance must be set aside before any dividends are paid, otherwise the company might be more concerned about paying dividends to the shareholders than in providing proper reserves for depreciation. In a concern such as this, however, where no dividends are paid and all the surplus revenues are put aside for that purpose, a fixed or definite percentage for depreciation is not so important.

In the matter of telephone rates we in Saskatchewan are in a very favourable position. I have not all the figures here, not expecting to deal with that question tonight. I can, however, give the House some information on the subject.

I might preface my remarks by stating that in the telephone business, contrary to most businesses, the larger the system the greater the cost per unit. For instance, the telephone system in Regina represents a greater capital expenditure per telephone than the telephone system in Weyburn and the investment in Weyburn is greater per unit than in the towns of Arcola or Carlyle. The City of Regina is rapidly approaching the point where we will have to increase the dial numbers from four to five figures. When we have to make that change, new equipment will have to be installed to provide for the dialing of the fifth number for all the telephones now in use and that much more capital will have to be expended without increasing the number of subscribers. The more capital invested the higher the rate necessary, and as the number of subscribers increase the rates go up rather than down. In the town of Carlyle, with 58 local and 196 rural telephones, a total of 254, the charge for a residential wall telephone is \$18.00. The rate for a residential wall telephone is the basic rate, and other rates are graded from that. In Carlyle we give only a limited or "day service" and our base rate is \$18.00 per year. In the Province of Alberta for a similar service the rate would be \$24.00 and in Manitoba \$22.00.

The next class is the "continuous" service exchange. The town of Lloydminster is on the borders of Saskatchewan and Alberta and situated in both Provinces; but our Department arranged for the Alberta Department to serve the whole town. Lloydminster with 1,600 people has 273 local telephones and 195 rural telephones, a total of 468. Assiniboia is almost exactly the same size so far as population is concerned, but has 37 more telephones. The residence wall telephone rate in Assiniboia is \$22.00 and in Lloydminster it is \$33.00.

When we get beyond that we find it difficult to make comparisons. In Saskatchewan, we have several cities of varying size, but neither in Manitoba nor Alberta are there cities of similar size so that we find it difficult to compare their city rates with the rates in Saskatchewan cities. But I can say that in every class of exchange we have lower rates here than they have either in Manitoba or Alberta.

Compared with Ontario, there is also a wide variation in the size of cities, but comparing Regina rates with the rates in cities of similar size in the east our rates are lower. It must also be remembered that we have automatic service which they do not have in Ontario in any city under 50,000 population, and on the Bell system only in the city of Toronto and the City of Montreal. A city of 50,000 in the east, while paying higher rates than Regina or Saskatoon, would have only a manually operated system.

With respect to long distance rates, comparison is more difficult, as different systems use different rate structures. Despite increased costs of construction, maintenance and operation, Saskatchewan long distance rates have not been increased since 1908, and are on the same basis today, as they were when the Department was first started. The only change since 1908 is that the minimum charge for a long distance call has been increased from 10 cents to 15 cents. Some systems claim that they have lower long distance rates, but I repeat that we are charging, today, the same rates as were charged in 1908. Other telephonic systems have changed their methods of rate making; costs of material have gone up as well as operators' salaries and other factors having to do with the cost of service, but our rate structure is the same.

In Saskatchewan we are giving our subscribers "person to person" service. That means that your call does not commence until the operator connects you up and has you at one end of the wire and the party you are calling at the other. In other Provinces they give "person to person" service but they also give a "station to station" service in which the call starts when the two telephones are connected whether the parties required are there or not. In other Provinces they also have reduced rates for evening and night calls, but in Saskatchewan the rates are uniform throughout the day and are all for "person to person" service, as I explained.

In Saskatchewan, the rate is based on a minimum charge for two minutes. In Manitoba, Alberta and Ontario, the minimum charge is for three minutes, and you pay the same price whether you talk for one minute, two minutes, two-and-a-half or three minutes. I may say that our minimum of two minutes results in a saving to our customers because we find that a majority,

possibly 75%, of all calls are completed within two minutes. In other places these users would be paying for three minutes, although their messages were completed within two minutes.

From Winnipeg to Brandon is 133 miles. If you are in Winnipeg and call someone in the city of Brandon you will pay \$1.05 for the call if it does not exceed three minutes. From Regina to Colonsay is 133 miles and if you speak from Regina to a person in Colonsay you will pay 50 cents for two minutes or 75 cents for three minutes, as against \$1.05 in Manitoba for either two or three minutes.

*Mr. MacPherson:* What are the night rates?

*Hon. Mr. Patterson:* Supposing my friend does not wish to speak to any particular person and will talk to anyone at a certain telephone number, in Manitoba he will pay a minimum of 85 cents as against a minimum of 50 cents in this Province but we will get him the particular party he wants. In the daytime, that is, from 4.30 a.m. to 7.00 p.m. a "station to station" call from Winnipeg to Brandon costs 85 cents, but if my friend stays up until midnight, he will still pay 65 cents. The reductions on evening and night rates do not apply to "person to person" calls. If you put in a call at Winnipeg at two o'clock in the morning, calling a particular individual in Brandon you will pay \$1.05, the same as in the day time and if you call from Regina to Colonsay you will pay 50 cents or, if you speak for three minutes, you pay 75 cents.

Let us take something a little closer. From Regina to Moose Jaw is 40 miles and if you want to call any individual in Moose Jaw you can get your party, speak for two minutes and it will cost you 25 cents. From Winnipeg to Morris is 40 miles and the charge for a person to person call is 40 cents with no reduction for night calls. I have here a list of similar comparisons which I will not take up your time to read. (See page 255).

The Department of Telephones was established in this Province in 1908. The Government of that day desired to give the widest possible telephone service at the lowest possible rates. In both these respects the publicly-owned system has succeeded beyond expectations and far better than a private company could or would have done. In my humble opinion, a great many of the points now receiving telephone service would not be served under a private company for the simple reason that it would not be a profitable service. The policy laid down in 1908 was to extend telephone service, as far as practically possible, to all the people in the Province. How far that policy has been successful is indicated in the record of the system.

I did not get my honourable friend's argument when he said that we were spending too much money in the Telephone Department. Our cities are growing and the Province is developing, creating new demands upon the service. I do not know whether my friend appreciates the fact that in building up a telephone system the work has to be planned three, four or five years ahead. In the days when Regina was smaller we could erect pole lines along a lane and serve the houses on both sides of the lane. Future requirements were easily provided so long as no excessive demands were made upon the line. But now one or two houses, which used only one or two lines are torn down and replaced by an apartment block with forty, fifty or sixty apartments. Our construction must then be entirely changed to meet the demands of the fifty or sixty new subscribers. Exchange investment grows greater as the number of subscribers increases, and you cannot get away from the fact that the greater the system the greater the cost per unit.

I think I have demonstrated that the policy of the Government in creating a Department of Telephones has been very effectively carried out and I would ask members of this Legislature to note that, during the twenty years the system has been in existence, it has fully kept pace with the development of the Province and at the same time it has been maintained in a high state of efficiency, without increase in its rate structures.

We are shortly going to be faced with a demand for telephone development in the north part of the Province. For a time that development will not be profitable but it has always been our policy to extend the system and give toll and local service as far as practically possible. We have done that at rates considerably cheaper than elsewhere, and with that statement I am going to leave the case for the night. Let me add only that the interest I have in the Department is shared, I think, by every member of its staff.

*Mr. MacPherson:* There is one item in the balance sheet you might explain: Cash on hand, \$348,194.55; Cash in Banks, \$299,559.62.

*Hon. Mr. Patterson:* We do not have \$340,000 in cash in the Department. The divisional superintendents at Regina, Moose Jaw and Saskatoon pay wages and other expenses in their districts and they also make collections. The district accounts are balanced and settlement made to Head Office each month. The item referred to is largely made up of the settlements between the divisions and head office and represents cheques on the Division Bank Accounts.

ANNUAL RENTALS FOR WALL TELEPHONES

	Population	Residence	Business
<b>SASKATCHEWAN:</b>			
Day Service Exchanges.....		18	27
Assiniboia.....	1,600	22	32
Melville.....	3,500	25	35
Weyburn.....	5,000	25	38
Regina.....	50,000	28	45
<b>MANITOBA:</b>			
Day Service Exchanges.....		22	29
Souris.....	1,600	27	37
Selkirk.....	3,500	27	37
Portage La Prairie.....	6,500	27	42
Winnipeg.....	200,000	38	78
<b>ALBERTA:</b>			
Day Service Exchanges.....		24	36
Lloydminster.....	1,600	33	54
Medicine Hat.....	10,000	36	60
Calgary.....	75,000	36	72
<b>ONTARIO:</b>			
Clinton.....	2,000	24.60	33
Lindsay.....	7,000	27	39
London.....	65,000	36	57

Manitoba gives a discount of \$2.00 off these figures for prompt payment.

LONG DISTANCE RATES

SASKATCHEWAN:	Actual Air Line Miles	Two Minutes	Each Additional Minute
Regina—Moose Jaw.....	41	25c	10c
Regina—Sintaluta.....	52	30	15
Regina—Colonsay.....	119	50	15
Regina—Saskatoon.....	147	60	30

All Saskatchewan rates are for "Person to person" service and the minimum charge is for two minutes.

MANITOBA	Actual Air Line Miles	Person to Person all hours	STATION TO STATION		
			4.30—7 A.M. P.M.	7—8.30 P.M. P.M.	8.30—4.30 P.M. A.M.
Winnipeg—Morris.....	38	40c	30c	25c	25c
Winnipeg—Portage La Prairie.....	51	50	40	35	25
Winnipeg—Brandon.....	124	1.05	85	65	45
Winnipeg—Strathclair.....	147	1.30	1.00	75	50
ALBERTA:			STATION TO STATION		
			4.30—7 A.M. P.M.	7—12 P.M. Mn.	12—4.30 Mn. A.M.
Calgary—Baintree.....	37	40c	30c	25c	25c
Calgary—Canmore.....	56	50	40	25	25
Calgary—Cardston.....	134	1.05	85	45	25
Calgary—Radcliffe.....	160	1.25	1.00	50	25

Manitoba and Alberta rates are for a minimum of three minutes. "Evening" and "Night" rates apply to "Station to Station" calls only.

No reduction is made for "Evening" or "Night" calls where the "Day" rate is 25c or less.

Ontario rates and conditions are practically the same as in Manitoba and Alberta.

SPEECHES ON  
THE SECOND READING OF  
AN ACT TO AMEND THE SCHOOL ACT (No. 1)

MR. J. T. M. ANDERSON, M.L.A.  
(Saskatoon City)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 29, 1929.

*Mr. Anderson*, in moving the Second Reading of Bill No. 46—An Act to amend the School Act (No. 1), said:

Mr. Speaker:

The principle of this Bill is one that is recognised very widely and recognised, I think, by every member in this House. According to the impression left by the remarks of the head of the Government during the present Session, and judging from the efforts made by the Government to settle school troubles arising in our Province in recent months I think this Bill should meet with the approval of every member of the House. The public school, we all recognise, is one of our most democratic institutions, if not the most democratic institution we have. There we find children of all classes and all races and of all creeds working together, studying together, playing together—in the public school.

To promote unity and harmony in the public school, and to remove some of the causes of recent discord and trouble in this democratic institution, is the purpose of the amendment now before the House for its second reading. If this Bill passes it will mean that no religious emblems of any denomination, sect, order or association may be displayed in or on any public school.

*Hon. Dr. Uhrich*: Will you tell us what you mean by the word "emblem"?

*Mr. Anderson*: Religious "emblem" means exactly what it says.

*Hon. Dr. Uhrich*: Oh, no, it does not.

*Mr. Pickel*: No.

*Mr. Anderson*: And the Bill, if passed, will provide that no teacher may teach in a public school, if dressed in the garb of any religious denomination or sect.

*Hon. Mr. Davis*: Do you object to their teaching if they take off the garb?

*Mr. Anderson*: This is a Bill that will not affect the present law regarding religious teaching. It does not affect any concessions so far as a language other than English is concerned. It does not refer to, or affect, the minority or separate schools. It relates only to our public schools. It is not my intention to discuss in detail any troubles which have arisen. Nothing is to be gained, in my opinion, by launching into a discussion on the principle as, I think, every member of the House is familiar with the principle in the Bill, which, briefly, is that the public school shall be entirely non-sectarian.

I move the second reading of this Bill.

*Hon. Mr. Davis*: Do you object to members of a religious order teaching in the public school if they are not dressed in a religious garb?

*Mr. Anderson*: No.

*Hon. Mr. Davis*: You are satisfied with that—that they should teach?

THE HONOURABLE J. G. GARDINER

(Premier and Minister of Education.)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 29, 1929.

Mr. Speaker,—The Bill which is now before the House has been on the Order Paper for some days. I was somewhat surprised when the mover of it (*Mr. Anderson*) gave the few words of explanation which he has given both for the Bill itself and as to his reasons for bringing it into the House. It would have been expected, Mr. Speaker, that, on a Bill which had arisen, as the mover stated, out of discussions which have been taking place in the Province for some months and which, as he stated, was introduced in order to remedy certain conditions that he assumes have existed in our schools during recent months and weeks, he should have taken at least some time to enlighten us as to what those discussions and conditions were.

We can only assume from the remarks which were made, that the reference as to the discussions which have taken place not only outside but inside of the House in connection with previous debates having to do with certain difficulties more or less important,—and to a large extent less important to those who know the situation best,—are with regard to discussions which have arisen over religious differences in a very few districts in the Province of Saskatchewan.

I might state this, Mr. Speaker, that there is not a single school district anywhere in the Province of Saskatchewan where a difficulty, such as that referred to a few moments ago by the mover of the Bill, exists at the present moment so far as the Department is aware. We have had some more or less trivial religious difficulties, trivial as compared with many of the other difficulties which have arisen, in connection with affairs having to do with education in this Province. We have had some trivial difficulties in some districts of the Province, but in every case by the usual methods which have been employed ever since this Province was formed and even back in Territorial days before the Province was formed, all those difficulties have been disposed of largely because of the fact that we can depend upon the common sense of the people of this Province to administer, in a proper manner, the affairs of the local school districts just as well as they have administered the affairs of the municipalities, whether those municipalities be rural municipalities or urban municipalities.

I am not going to argue tonight, Mr. Speaker, that at no time do difficulties, religious or otherwise, arise in connection with our schools. Difficulties arise in connection with all the problems which confront school boards, such as settling the disputes that arise between parents and teacher as to which is best capable of controlling the discipline of the school, as to whether the school building should be situated in the centre of the school district or somewhere else and many other difficulties arising largely because of local opinions. Difficulties do arise as to the teaching of religion, or the teaching of languages, or the placing of certain pictures or emblems in the school.

I think I have stated on the floor of the House before, and if I have not, I am going to state it now, that the practice has been followed in all the Provinces of Canada of sending out from the Department of Education from time to time certain pictures which might be put up in the schools. Sometimes we send the pictures of Prime Ministers of Canada, sometimes the pictures of Prime Ministers of the Province. The position I have always taken is this: If the hanging up of the picture of the Prime Minister is going to give offence to any of my Conservative friends, then I would say take the picture down and I would say the same thing as to anything whatsoever, whether it be a crucifix or a picture of King William riding his white horse. Whatever it may be, if it is giving offence to any particular section of the population in a district who are ratepayers and have children attending school, then we have always used our good offices so far as the Department is concerned to see that anything objectionable is removed.

But the question which has been introduced into the House is not such a trivial matter as the leader of the opposition would lead this House to believe, and I venture to state that whether it is passed by the House or turned down by the House, he will not consider it a trivial matter when an appeal to the electorate is made at some future time, whether that time be within this present year or within next year. I venture to state that, whatever action is taken, it will be made the subject of discussion on public platforms in this Province from time to time during the next eighteen months with a view to securing votes for the opposition to this Government. It is important, then, from that point of view that the members of the House, as well as the people of the Province, should understand the question which is confronting them at the present moment because of the introduction of this Bill.

I may ask the question why was the Bill introduced when it was! On at least three or four occasions since this House met, the statement has been made by myself, as Minister of Education, that sooner or later there would be brought down a Bill to amend *The School Act* of this Province. Well, every member of the House knows that the moment a Bill is introduced in the House to amend *The School Act*, any member has the right, no matter on which side of the House he is sitting, to arise in his place in committee and move an amendment to any of the sections of the Act itself.

It was not at all necessary to have introduced into the House a second Bill in order to place before the people of this Province just exactly what the leader of the Opposition had in mind. He could have contented himself in peace for another two minutes, and need not have rushed in immediately the Order was called. Had he contented himself for two minutes there would have been an amendment to *The School Act* before the House and then he could have exercised his right, as a member of the House, in the general discussion in committee; to introduce the amendment to the Bill which he now has before the House. He wished to bring a Bill before the House as a more spectacular gesture toward the end which has been foremost in the mind of certain political strategists.

I remember on one occasion in this House, I think it was during the second Session I had the honour to sit here, in the year 1915, the then leader of the opposition introduced the only Bill that I remember having been introduced into this House from the Opposition side, in the fifteen or sixteen years I have been a member of it. The member who introduced it was the then Leader of the Opposition, now Senator Willoughby. I remember the Minister on this side of the House who had been put in charge of the Department which had to do with that particular legislation and who was somewhat of an authority on English literature, standing up in his place at the seat behind the one I now occupy, and making this statement—I think he was quoting Shakespeare: "Oh, that mine enemy would write a book!", and on that occasion the honourable gentleman who occupied the seat behind the one I now occupy said "Oh, that mine enemy would write a Bill!" The honourable gentleman has rushed into the House with this Bill. If I were to make any comment on it with regard to the events of the future, I would say that my prayer was "Oh, that mine enemy would write a Bill!" and the Bill is before us.

I ask you again: Why is this Bill here? My honourable friend has said it does not affect the separate schools in this Province or the rights of minorities, either in relation to religious teaching or language. I am going to submit this, that if this Bill were to become law it would very seriously affect the separate school situation as it exists in this Province. If this Bill were to be made law in the Province in the light of the law as it now stands in connection with the establishment of separate schools, I would predict that within the next three years more separate schools would be established in this Province than have been established from 1905 down to the present time.

The reason for that is very apparent from a mere reading of the Bill now proposed. Let me read the section which is the "active" section of the Bill.

"222a.—(1) No emblem of any religious denomination, order, sect, society or association, shall be displayed in or on any public school in the province, nor shall any person teach or be permitted to teach in any public school in the province while wearing the garb of any such religious denomination, order, sect, society or association."

Then there are the penalty clauses and the last clause is this:

"(4) Where it appears to the minister that a board of trustees of any public school district is permitting or has permitted a violation of subsection (1), such school district shall not be entitled to receive any grant out of money appropriated by the Legislature, in respect of the period of such violation."

In other words, where any of these things are to be done in the public school, public funds are not to be used in order to maintain that school in existence. The law itself would infer a difference between public and minority schools which would constitute a reason for forming minority schools which, under such law, would become in every sense separate schools.

Now, Sir, there are a few things to take into consideration because a proposal of this kind cannot be confined to one local school district nor can a proposal of this kind be confined in its effect to any one Province of Canada. This question, Mr. Speaker, is a national question. It is not a provincial question nor has anyone in this Dominion who has ever sought to make use of it for political purposes, convinced any person that it is merely a local matter and not a national matter.

The discussions referred to by the Leader of the Conservative Party are based upon a propaganda which has been circulated not only in the press of Western Canada, not only in the press of the Province of Saskatchewan, but it has been circulated in the press of Canada, from one end to the other. Nor, Mr. Speaker, has it been confined to the Dominion of Canada. It has been sent in articles from time to time over to the Old Land to be published in the press of the Old Country in order that it might have its effect upon the people who are living over there and be recopied into our papers for local effect.

I have in my hand a copy of the *Toronto Telegram*. I may say, Mr. Speaker, that, about two months ago, I received from an immigration agent who is located in Glasgow exactly the same article which appears in the *Telegram* dated from Regina and published in the *London Times*. In the letter which I received, the immigration agent, who happened to be a personal friend of my own from the Province of Manitoba, wrote to me after having interviewed the editor of the *Times* and asked me for information with regard to the statements which were

made in the *London Times* that he might refute the statements which he knew to be false. This particular article had to do with the immigration policy of the Federal Government more particularly as it affected the harvesters who were in Saskatchewan, last fall. I am not going to read all this article, which is three columns long, but I am going to read the outstanding sections which had to do with these discussions which have been taking place in the Province;

"Regina, Sask., Sept. 12—(Special) \* \* \*

and, Mr. Speaker, I would say it is very special! Listen to the first sentence:

"It's the European settlers that are making this experiment so difficult."  
and it goes on to state this:

#### "ENGLISH NOT WANTED"

"It is no source of surprise to the old timers around here. No man who speaks English need apply. That is the rule all around these European foreign settlements," one of the old English farmers at Moose Jaw explained in discussing the case. "It is not merely so in farm work. It is equally true in the small towns and villages. All the business signs, clerks and proprietors are foreign. Any English-speaking commercial man who 'makes' Saskatchewan knows it is useless to try to sell to these people. Even the big farm implement manufacturers in the east are forced to appoint as their agents here men who can speak the language of these European hordes."

They are speaking now of the district around Moose Jaw, and every member of the House knows there is scarcely an element of truth in that statement. Then the next one—note the headings (holding up the paper): "English not wanted," "Against English."

"Then in politics they are, of course, favoured everywhere as against the Englishman. The school inspectors, highway inspectors, all the workers paid by the Government in these alien districts, all on the pay rolls must speak the language of Central Europe."

That statement is made under a Regina date-line. I would like to know who the writer of that article is. Who is the gentleman in the City of Regina who keeps continually sending articles of this type to the *Toronto Telegram* and sometimes to the *London Times* in order to paint the conditions in Saskatchewan in this manner? I venture to state that, if his name could be published in this Province, that man could not continue to carry on business in the City of Regina.

I do not know who he is, but you will note that his article says that the school inspectors and highway inspectors in this Province have to be able, in certain sections at least, to speak the language of Central Europe. Well, Mr. Speaker, so far as I know there is one school inspector in this Province who can speak any of the languages of Central Europe. One of our ablest school inspectors, who, I think, was born in this country but of European extraction is still able to speak his mother tongue—Ukrainian. Another gentleman goes out to investigate and adjust certain difficulties in connection with school districts. He, and probably his ancestors, were Canadian-born, but he is able to speak the French language, and is able to make investigations more thorough in some districts because of that.

*Mr. Cross:* French is not a foreign language in Canada.

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* Quite so, but it is one of the languages of Europe although not Central Europe. Well, then, we will say there is only one man on the whole staff going out from the Department of Education who speaks a language of Central Europe, and still we are confronted with statements of that kind.

I want to draw attention to the fact that this is not a matter which has been, or can be, confined within the boundary lines of the Province of Saskatchewan. It is a national; an international question, in some ways; but it is more than anything else a question which concerns the Commonwealth of Nations of which we form a part. All of the religions known to man are believed in and worshipped under by people living somewhere within the boundaries of the British Empire. As a result, anything we do in the Dominion of Canada which reflects in any way on the religious beliefs of any people, no matter who they may be or what those beliefs may be, anything we may do or say as public men in this Province has its reflex in the British Empire, somewhere, and particularly in other parts of the Dominion of Canada outside the Province of Saskatchewan. I would say for that reason it is necessary that an understanding should be had as to just what the people of Saskatchewan think of the proposal to bring down legislation of the kind which is suggested now.

It was stated by the Attorney-General a few moments ago, that this was one of the foremost questions before the Fathers of Confederation before Canada was formed into a Dominion. In order to impress that upon your mind, Mr. Speaker, I am going to read, even at the risk of being a little tedious, considerable from an address that was given in 1865 during the debates in the then Parliament of the United Canadas having to do with Confederation. I am going to quote from the speech of Hon. George Brown. Those who have studied the Canadian History

of that period will remember this: The one outstanding opponent of separate schools, whether in Upper Canada, in Lower Canada, or in any part of Canada in the days before Confederation, was the leader of the Reform Party in Upper Canada, Hon. George Brown. He was discussing Resolution No. 6 which was passed in the Conference held in the City of Quebec previous to the formation of Confederation.

You will remember that as a result of this Conference there was formed in Canada a Coalition Government and into that Coalition Government entered men of all different ideas throughout Canada as it then was, and the one outstanding man who was opposed to the very sentiment contained in this resolution was chosen to speak to the resolution when it was before the House. There was an obvious reason for that. Listen to his first comment!

"The people of Upper Canada will have the entire control of their local matters, and will no longer have to betake themselves to Quebec for leave to open a road, to select a county town, or appoint a coroner. But I am told that to this general principle of placing all local matters under local control, an exception has been made in regard to the common schools. The clause complained of is as follows:

"The local legislatures shall have power to make laws respecting education; saving the rights and privileges which the Protestant or Catholic minority in both Canadas may possess as to their Denominational Schools at the time when the Union goes into operation."

"Now, I need hardly remind the House that I have always opposed and continue to oppose the system of sectarian education, so far as the public chest is concerned."

In other words, he was opposed to the use of public money for sectarian education.

"I have never had any hesitation on that point. I have never been able to see why all the people of the province, to whatever sect they may belong, should not send their children to the same common schools to receive the ordinary branches of instruction. I regard the parent and the pastor as the best religious instructors—and so long as the religious faith of the children is uninterfered with, and ample opportunity afforded to the clergy to give religious instruction to the children of their flocks, I cannot conceive any sound objection to mixed schools. But while in the Conference and elsewhere I have always maintained this view, and always given my vote against sectarian public schools, I am bound to admit, as I have always admitted, that the sectarian system, carried to the limited extent it has yet been in Upper Canada, and confined as it chiefly is to cities and towns, has not been a very great practical injury. The real cause of alarm was that the admission of the sectarian principle was there, and that at any moment it might be extended to such a degree as to split up our school system altogether."

"There are but a hundred separate schools in Upper Canada, out of some four thousand, and all Roman Catholic."

This was at the time of Confederation. Now that view, Mr. Speaker, read in the light of the experience we have had in Canada from that time to this is a strange commentary upon the views held by a man so able as Honourable George Brown and upon the views of others of his time equally capable with him, because we have had that type of school in the Dominion from that time down to the present in a number of provinces, and the result has not been what he feared it might have been. Our school system has not been split up after an experience of sixty years. He goes on to say:

"But if the Roman Catholics are entitled to separate schools and to go on extending their operations, so are the members of the Church of England, the Presbyterians, the Methodists, and all other sects. No candid Roman Catholic will deny this for a moment; and there lay the great danger to our educational fabric, that the separate system might gradually extend itself until the whole country was studded with nurseries of sectarianism, most hurtful to the best interests of the province; and entailing an enormous expense to sustain the hosts of teachers that so prodigal a system of public instruction must inevitably entail."

Again, our experience of the last sixty years is sufficient commentary on that view. This is the important part of this statement.

"Now it is known to every honourable member of this House that an Act was passed in 1863, as a final settlement of this sectarian controversy. I was not in Quebec at the time, but if I had been there I would have voted against that Bill, because it extended the facilities for establishing separate schools. It had, however, this good feature, that it was accepted by the Roman Catholic authorities, and carried through Parliament as a final compromise of the question in Upper Canada. When, therefore, it was proposed that a provision should be inserted in the Confederation scheme to bind that compact of 1863 and declare it a final settlement, so that we should not be compelled, as we have been since 1849, to stand constantly to our arms awaiting fresh attacks upon our common school system, the proposition seemed to me one that was not rashly to be rejected."



And then he makes his final statement in regard to it, and it is this:

"I admit that, from my point of view, this is a blot on the scheme before the House; it is, confessedly, one of the concessions from our side that had to be made to secure this great measure of reform. But assuredly, I, for one, have not the slightest hesitation in accepting it as a necessary condition of the scheme of union, and doubly acceptable must it be in the eyes of honourable gentlemen opposite, who were the authors of the bill of 1863. But it was urged that though this arrangement might perhaps be fair as regards Upper Canada, it was not so as regards Lower Canada, for there were matters of which the British population have long complained, and some amendments to the existing School Act were required to secure them equal justice. Well, when this point was raised, gentlemen of all parties in Lower Canada at once expressed themselves prepared to treat it in a frank and conciliatory manner, with a view to removing any injustice that might be shown to exist; and on this understanding the educational clause was adopted by the Confederation."

In other words, he states definitely, after having set down his whole argument in connection with the question, that Confederation without this compromise would have been an impossibility in 1865. We, in the Dominion of Canada today, without that compromise would not be enjoying the privileges and blessings which come from having a united country from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

You might ask: What has that compromise brought about educationally in the different provinces in the Dominion of Canada? The Attorney-General has intimated to the House what it has meant so far as legislation is concerned. There is no legislation on the Statute Books of any of the provinces of the Dominion of Canada such as now is proposed to be placed upon the Statute Books of the Province of Saskatchewan. This result was obtained because the spirit of Confederation has been adhered to by the Legislature in every province down to the present time. Nor is there any regulation under any legislation which would accomplish what is now proposed to this House.

But, Mr. Speaker, different methods have been adopted in the different provinces of Canada in order to arrive at a position which is somewhat similar in all the provinces. We have quoted to us occasionally the results which have been attained in Manitoba, British Columbia and the Maritime Provinces without separate schools, and we have quoted to us occasionally the results which have been attained in the Provinces of Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan and Alberta with separate schools. But when you go to these different provinces, whether east or west, and examine into the conditions which do exist both in relation to the placing of teachers in these schools and as to what is required of teachers occupying positions in those schools, you will find they are very similar all over the Dominion of Canada. If you examine the constitution of each of the three Maritime Provinces or the Province of British Columbia, you will find that they are operating their schools under a provision placed in their constitution which is very similar to that of this Province. You will find an examination of the practice followed will convince that separate schools have been found unnecessary both before and since Confederation, because the control of the schools on these matters is left almost absolutely, if not absolutely, with the local school board. In every instance that is the case.

That is the marked difference, Mr. Speaker, between the conditions in all the provinces of Canada and the condition that would prevail here if we were to embark upon and practise a system which would take away the right of the board to pass judgment upon certain matters. If we were to pass this legislation, we would take away from the board that degree of control which rests with it in all the other provinces of Canada when dealing with religious instruction, the decorations in schools, or with the placing in those schools of properly qualified teachers under the rules and regulations of the Department. We would be taking the first step in the direction of centralised control over such matters, and I would ask the House is it fitting that this Province of all the provinces should be the first to move in such a direction. I hope to show that it would not be fitting.

In order that the House may not be left with the impression that there is only one authority, and that authority the Hon. George Brown, in connection with this point, I am going to come down to the year 1875 when the legislation was being passed in the Dominion House having regard to education in the North West Territories. That legislation read like this:

"Section 11: When and so soon as any system of taxation shall be adopted in any district or portion of the North West Territories, the Lieutenant-Governor, by and with the consent of the council or assembly as the case may be, shall pass all necessary ordinances in respect of education; but it shall therein be always provided, that a majority of the rate-payers of any district or portion of the North West Territories, or any lesser portion or subdivision thereof, by whatever name the same may be known, may establish such schools therein as they may think fit, and make the necessary assessment and collection of rates therefor: and further, that the minority of the ratepayers therein, whether Protestant or Roman Catholic, may establish separate schools therein, and that, in such latter case, the ratepayers establishing such Protestant or Roman Catholic separate schools shall be liable only to assessments of such rates as they may impose upon themselves in respect thereof."

That legislation was dealt with in the Dominion House and passed unanimously. At that time, Mr. Blake was leading the Opposition in the House at Ottawa. He spoke to the question and in speaking to it he made this statement:

"He regarded it as essential under the circumstances of the country, and in view of the deliberations during the last few days, that a general principle should be laid down in the bill with respect to public instruction. He did believe that we ought not to introduce into that territory the heartburnings and difficulties with which certain other portions of the Dominion and other countries had been afflicted. It seemed to him, having regard to the fact that, as far as we could expect at present, the general character of that population would be somewhat analogous to the population of Ontario, that there should be some provision in the constitution by which they should have conferred on them the same rights and privileges in regard to religious instruction as those possessed by the people of the Province of Ontario. The principles of local self-government and the settling of the question of public instruction seemed to him ought to be the cardinal principle of the measure."

That, Mr. Speaker, goes back to the conclusions reached by Blake. The principle of local control vested in local units touching such matters was admitted by Blake and advocated because similar to Ontario. Those here tonight who are students of history and know the story of the development of education in the Maritime Provinces will remember that when Joseph Howe was discussing the entrance of Nova Scotia into Confederation he took the position that the one thing that would make unnecessary in the Maritime Provinces the adoption of separate schools as they had them in Ontario and Quebec, would be the continuance of absolute control over religious teaching with the school boards in the local communities. That is the policy that has been followed in the Maritime Provinces from that time down to the present. The control of the engagement of teachers, and the control of religious instruction in the Province of Nova Scotia is largely in the hands of the school boards under very broad regulations that have been passed by the Department of Education there. That applies to all the Maritime Provinces and largely to the Province of British Columbia.

In Quebec, they have a Council of Education but that Council I am told has never met. It is composed of both Protestants and Roman Catholics. There is a Protestant Committee and a Catholic Committee and while under the constitution it is provided that they may meet as a Council they do not meet as a Council. They meet as two committees. The Protestant Committee conducts the affairs of the Protestant schools and the Roman Catholic Committee conducts the affairs of the Catholic Schools. Amounts of money are voted by the Legislature to both these committees and I must say that, judging from my investigations, there is no Government in any province of Canada that is more fair to the minority than is the Government of the Province of Quebec. As a matter of fact I found, when I was investigating their institutions that, while they made a grant of \$25,000 to the deaf and dumb institute that is run by the Catholic Church, they made identically the same grant of \$25,000 to the deaf and dumb institute run for the benefit of the Protestant people, despite the fact that only a very small percentage of the people are of the Protestant faith.

That practice is followed in connection with other institutions in Quebec and in connection with practically all matters that have to do with the two sects. In other words, any person who has ever investigated the activities of Governments whether they be Liberal or Conservative in the old Province of Quebec, recognises the fact that they have gone the limit in being fair to the minority. They have lived up to the letter and to the spirit of Confederation as it was laid down in the beginning.

So far as the Province of Ontario is concerned, they saw fit to follow, in that Province, a little different policy from that followed in the Maritime Provinces, to arrive at the same results. I wish to emphasise that there are separate school districts in Ontario. They saw fit to make it possible to have separate school districts in that province. I wish to emphasize, Mr. Speaker, that we have no separate school districts in this Province in the sense that they have separate school districts in Ontario. They have school districts that are public school districts and then they have established other districts that are entirely separate districts. These separate school districts are not coterminous in their boundaries with any public school district. They are entirely separate districts and have separate school boards for those separate school districts. They have different inspectors for those districts, the inspectors being appointed in a different manner from the regular school inspectors. They have complete separation, including different text books, different curricula and different regulations governing religious instruction and all that sort of thing. There is a separate school system in Ontario set up under their law. The amendment proposed here would much more readily apply to the Ontario system without interference with the original intention than to the Saskatchewan system.

When we come to the Province of Manitoba conditions are somewhat different again, and those who have read carefully the decisions of the Privy Council dealing with the non-establishment of separate schools in the Province of Manitoba will know this: That the interpretation placed upon the law in Manitoba by the Privy Council was somewhat different from the intention of those who actually passed the law at the time that it was before the Dominion House.

I do not think I need go very far into this matter. I think every member of this House is fairly familiar with it, but I am going to read to you the finding of the Privy Council in connection with the Manitoba case. You will remember that the whole matter there depended on the words "By practice." In other provinces, any schools established by law before Confederation were to continue to exist after Confederation, so far as they provided for the teaching of either the Roman Catholic or Protestant religions. Under the Manitoba law, it read "by law or by practice," and the schools so established were supposed to be continued. They continued in Manitoba a type of school which was established by law in the form of a public school and a type of church school established by practice in the form of a separate school both of which were supported by taxes. An appeal was taken to the Privy Council and here is the decision:

"Such being the main provisions of *The Public School Act, 1890*, their Lordships have to determine whether that Act prejudicially affects any right or privilege with respect to denominational schools, which any class of persons had by law or practice in the province at the union. Notwithstanding *The Public Schools Act, 1890*, Roman Catholics and members of every other religious body in Manitoba are free to establish schools throughout the province; they are free to maintain their schools by school fees or voluntary subscription; they are free to conduct their schools according to their own religious tenets without molestation or interference. No child is compelled to attend a public school."

That is the finding of the Privy Council. They are free to establish any kind of Protestant or Catholic religious school in the Province of Manitoba. The only restriction placed upon them is that they cannot tax the people for the carrying on of that school. They can carry it on by charging fees or by voluntary subscription, and they cannot tax the people for the purpose because the words "by practice" only cover a type of school which was being operated by a church, upon subscription before the territory became a province. The position today, therefore, is that they can establish any type of school, whether of Catholic or Protestant faith, provided the tax rates are not charged with their maintenance, and no one can compel them to take their children out of that school and put them into a public school.

We are not in that position in the Province of Saskatchewan, Mr. Speaker. We are in a position superior to that if put to the test. In Manitoba it becomes essential that greater latitude be given in exercising the right of local control than in any other province because of the constitution as interpreted by the Privy Council, and as a matter of fact latitude is given.

In the Provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta the story with regard to our schools is old. We, in this Province, under our constitution because of legislation passed (not by the Legislature of this Province, but because of legislation passed in 1901 and because of the reference made to that legislation in our constitution of 1905) have a system of schools established, insofar as religious instruction is concerned, permitting the teaching of religion, under the school law of the Territories of 1901. This permits the teaching of religion for one half-hour in any school operated under the Act with the decision resting with the local board. They have the same in Alberta. That law does not make provision for the establishment of separate school districts in the Ontario sense of the term. It is true that the word "district" is used, but no new area is set up to form a new separate district as in Ontario.

We have compromised between the Ontario and the Maritime Provinces' plan of providing for difficulties which may arise as a result of teaching religion in schools maintained by common tax rates. Down in the Maritimes they left the matter entirely to local control so far as religious teaching was concerned. The minority within a district has no redress apart from its influence upon the board. Because of their natural divisions with the Catholic population living in one section and the Protestant population largely in other parts, except in cities like Halifax, they have got along very well in the Province of Nova Scotia. The same methods have been adopted in other parts of the Maritime Provinces. But out here there are no natural boundaries between Catholic and Protestant settlements.

We had, in the early days, at the time our school law was being formulated, men from all of the Eastern Provinces and more particularly from Ontario and from the Maritime Provinces. These men apparently thought they were selecting the best features of the law which has to do with education in the Maritime Provinces and in Ontario and applying those features to suit the different conditions which existed in the Western part of Canada. What did they do? They, in the first place, established under our law this feature of local control.

I do not ask you to take my word for that. There has been going on in the Province of Alberta a discussion with regard to larger areas and after making a full enquiry into the whole matter they have published a pamphlet, "Rural Education in Alberta," submitted by Hon. Perrin Baker, the Minister of Education. In that Mr. Baker makes this statement:

"Each of these administrative units is needed, because each has something to do which cannot be so well done by either of the other two, if done at all.

"(1) The local board is needed to discharge numerous duties, and exercise important powers now vested in it by *The School Act*."

Mr. MacPherson: That is the new scheme?

*Hon. Mr. Gardiner:* Yes, that is the new scheme. He is first of all going to divide the province into 21 areas, of 150 school districts, each retaining its local board; then he is going to have a general council or general board composed of the chairmen of the local boards to meet from time to time, more like a conference or convention, to discuss certain matters of general policy. Then underneath that again, he is going to have a board of five working along with the general council covering the whole area of 150 districts which would have to do largely with the engaging of teachers. Thus there are three different administrative bodies in connection with these units which he is going to establish. Then he says this with regard to the local boards:

"The responsibility of determining what religious instruction, if any, shall be given in the school must, under our constitution, continue to rest with it (the local board)."

He makes that plain statement—"the responsibility of determining what religious instruction, if any, shall be given in the school must, under our constitution, continue to rest with the local board." Now their constitution is the same as ours, word for word, so that, if this is a proper expression of opinion with regard to the Province of Alberta, it would also apply here.

In other words there was placed at the very foundation of the organisation of the units in this Province and the organisation of our school system, the principle of placing responsibility for control with respect to religious instruction within the schools in the local boards. That, Mr. Speaker, is the situation we are confronted with. But let me again point out here the difference which exists between our schools in the Province of Saskatchewan and the schools in the Province of Ontario.

Down there, as I pointed out a moment ago, they have separate school districts. Here, we have only separate school buildings and boards. We say if, after having exercised this right of local control, the majority governing there is not giving complete satisfaction in the district, then the minority, whether they be Roman Catholic or Protestant, can form a separate school board in that district and build a separate building and have it administered, including the engagement of the teacher, by their own board. Then again the other principle applies. Catholics are only to be taxed for their separate school and the Protestants for the public school or *vice versa*.

Now that, in a few words, is the position which we are in today in connection with the schools in this province. The point to be emphasised is that our system provides for local control as they have it in the Maritimes but when, in extreme cases, there is disagreement, the Ontario idea of separation is followed to the extent of permitting a separation of the children into a separate building under a separate board; but there is no new area set up as a district nor is there any separate system with differently qualified teachers or inspectors, different books, curricula or regulations.

Local boards in the Province of Ontario have been doing certain things to which objection has been taken and in order to show that Premier Ferguson, who is also Minister of Education in Ontario, holds the same view as Perrin Baker in the Province of Alberta, I am going to read to you one paragraph which I read at an earlier time this Session in this House. May I first read to explain it, one paragraph from the *Sentinel* of December 6, 1928, and I would call upon the members to witness that in reading it I am not holding that paper up to derision. They say this:

"They have turned a Public School into a French Roman Catholic School with sectarian emblems on the walls, and a Roman Catholic teacher in charge."

There has not been anything more definite than that in the way of a charge, made against the Government of this Province or the Department of Education in this Province. In order to let you understand that they are talking about Premier Ferguson, let me read an earlier sentence:

"Sandwich East, Ont., Nov. 30.—A state of affairs has developed in the Public School in this district that is calculated to bring discredit upon Premier Ferguson's new plan of dealing with bilingual teaching. The report of the Commission he appointed expressed deep satisfaction with conditions in the county of Essex. But judging from what is happening in the school hereabouts the Commissioners were hoodwinked, or else the French school trustees are presuming upon the change in the school regulation to violate the policy of the department."

There is, apparently, an attempt being made to hoodwink under a Conservative Government in Canada. When that matter was brought up in the press of Ontario and discussed there what did Premier Ferguson say? I am quoting now from the *Toronto Globe* of Friday, November 30, 1928, and this is what it says:

"There will be no action taken by the Provincial Board of Education in respect of the two religious pictures, said to be Roman Catholic in character, displayed in Public School Section No. 6, Sandwich East, Premier Ferguson stated yesterday. It was a purely local matter, he declared, and action had already been taken by the school inspector."

Purely a local matter! Not a matter which the central board would take any action in connection with! I only quote this in order to show that the understanding of this whole matter at the time of Confederation has been adhered to in all the Provinces of Canada insofar as matters of this kind have been concerned.

You will be interested to know what has resulted in each province through the application of its various systems to the conditions existing in the different provinces. We sent an enquiry to the different provinces of Canada to find out what the condition is in regard to religious teaching in the schools more particularly as it is affected by the engagement of Sisters.

In connection with British Columbia we have no data to give you. In Alberta there are 5,380 teachers. In the public schools there are 27 Sisters. In the separate schools there are 83. If you work that out you will find that the proportion is that 1 in 49 of the teachers teaching in that Province are Sisters. Now, in Saskatchewan, there are 8,114 teachers teaching in the Province and we have 64 Sisters teaching in the public schools and 23 teaching in the old Catholic public schools that were established under the Act of 1875 which I read to you a few moments ago, and we have 66 teaching in the separate schools in the Province. That figures out to approximately the same proportion as they have in Alberta; that is, 1 in 54. Then take Manitoba where they have no separate schools. Manitoba has 3,700 teachers in its public schools and there are 80 Sisters, Mr. Speaker, according to the return, teaching in the public schools of Manitoba, or one in 46. That is a larger proportion than we have even in the Province of Saskatchewan taking public and separate schools combined.

Then in Ontario they have 16,016 teachers with 1,077 Sisters and 92 Brothers teaching in the schools. It is true that of those a large proportion is teaching in the separate schools. The return does not indicate whether any are teaching in the purely public schools, but we know this from a statement which I have here that in the Normal School that was provided by Mr. Ferguson in the City of Ottawa for the training of bilingual teachers that they had, last term, 20, nearly all of whom were Sisters, in training. Of those that are trained a large proportion of them were trained in the Normal School established for that purpose who will no doubt teach in bilingual schools in the Province. But there are such teachers there now, and this return shows that one in every 16 teachers is a Sister or a Brother. So you can see that in the old Province of Ontario, they have about three for every one in the Province of Saskatchewan who is either a Sister or a Brother of the Roman Catholic religion.

Then in Quebec conditions are different. They have 17,692 teachers of whom 6,316 are Sisters. These, of course, are all teaching in the Catholic schools. In New Brunswick, they have 2,533 teachers and the returns we got state that they do not know how many Sisters there are, but Sisters teach there. In Nova Scotia there are 3,358 teachers, 210 of whom are Sisters, again a proportion of 1 to 16 to the number of teachers. In Prince Edward Island with 615 teachers they have 26 Sisters—in the public schools, or 1 in 30.

In the two provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan, working under our present law and regulations we have fewer Sisters teaching in our schools than can be found in any of the other provinces of Canada from which we have the data. It is not, then, to correct a condition existing in Saskatchewan which does not prevail elsewhere that we are asked to pass this legislation. Each of the Sisters teaching in Saskatchewan schools is fully qualified, the same as any other teacher, and that is not the case in some of the provinces. I might add that out of 4,822 school districts in Saskatchewan only 43 are engaging sisters.

But, Mr. Speaker, in connection with this whole question I would not be doing justice to it if I simply dealt with it from the point of view I have been dealing with it, down to the present, giving you the facts as they do exist in different provinces, and calling your attention to the system set down throughout the whole of the Dominion of Canada because of arrangements entered into at the time of Confederation. I must give some attention to attacks of a similar nature to those now being made in the Province of Saskatchewan that have been made in other provinces of the Dominion of Canada at other times. But, Mr. Speaker, before proceeding to do this, might I again emphasise the fact that we, in the Province of Saskatchewan, are concerned more than anything else with maintaining a mutual spirit of understanding between the different sections of our population.

In order to indicate to you that the kind of controversy that is going on here is not a new thing (people who have lived in this province since 1905 know it is not new here) although the phase that it has taken on in this Province in recent months is something that is new to the Province of Saskatchewan, I intend to quote from the "Life of Sir Oliver Mowat." Those who have read carefully the story of Confederation will remember that he was another of those men who, as a "Father of Confederation" was an advocate of so-called national schools. But, in years later, when he was Prime Minister of Ontario, and called upon to administer the affairs of that Province in conformity with the arrangement entered into at Confederation he took the same stand for fair dealing which had been adhered to by all his contemporaries.

I will read to you an extract from a Speech delivered by Mowat in the year 1890. It is a review of the political discussion in connection with this question which had taken place in Ontario from 1883 down to 1890. Those of you who are familiar with the political history of

the period, about 1883, will remember that the cry that was raised in the Province of Ontario was against the Government of Sir Oliver Mowat because he had not been friendly enough to the Roman Catholic Church. Then, in 1886, under the leadership of the same men, the cry was contained in the words which you find at the top of these pages "No Popery"—very similar to the cry that my friend from Arm River told us was made in his constituency, "A vote for Waugh is a vote for the Pope!" I will read you what Mowat said in reply to this campaign:

"Accordingly, in the campaign of 1886, it was proclaimed to Protestants that my Protestant colleagues and myself were traitors to our faith; that we gave everything to the Roman Catholics; that we were obedient servants of the Roman Catholic hierarchy and clergy; and that our subserviency was shown by our legislation and by our exercise of the Government patronage; by the very things, in fact, which in 1883 lost us some Protestant votes. A religious cry, however little reason it may have, has always some effect; but neither in 1883 nor in 1886 was the effect great enough to accomplish the purpose aimed at. Our public record was so satisfactory to the country that we were able to stand our ground against even a misleading religious cry. Our opponents are now making preparations for the general election of 1890."

and I would put in place of that "our opponents are now making preparations for the General Election of 1929 or 1930, hence this bill and the discussions they hope will follow":

"The experience of four general elections makes them hopeless of victory on an issue as to the general merits or demerits of our administration of public affairs. But the recent excitement created amongst Protestants by *The Jesuits' Estates Act* of Quebec has revived old hopes from a 'No Popery' cry; and our opponents have striven, and are striving, with might and main to direct this excitement into opposition to the Ontario Government, although that Government had nothing to do with the Act which gave rise to the excitement. They have even said, in their reckless unscrupulousness, that I advised that Act and aided in its preparation."

They are even attempting to say, now, Mr. Speaker, in their 'reckless unscrupulousness' that I, as Premier of this Province have entered into a trumped-up arrangement with the Federal Government and the Province of Quebec to have a general exodus of French-speaking people from that Province into this, so as to dominate the population of this Province. Then he goes on:

"It is an absurd statement: they have asserted what no intelligent person believes; but they evidently count on having readers or hearers who are not intelligent. What they thus assert they cannot pretend to have a particle of evidence to prove. I need not say here, or anywhere, that I had nothing to do with advising or preparing *The Jesuits' Estates Act*, and nothing with the transaction which that Act carried out. I knew nothing of it from first to last, except what I learned from time to time from the public journals, as you all did. With equal unscrupulousness, it is further said that I had made a general agreement with Mr. Mercier 'to put no serious obstacles in the way of propagating nationalism in the schools of Eastern Ontario'; etc. Here again our assailants assert that they do not pretend that they have anything to prove. They could not have, for there was no such agreement. No word ever passed between Mr. Mercier and myself, directly or indirectly, as to 'propagating nationalism' in Ontario or in any of its schools. The suggestion is absurd. In fact not a word of any kind has passed, directly or indirectly, between us on the subject of these schools."

He continues to list the same claims and arguments which are now being advanced against this Government and answers in the same terms as we, whether the claims be with regard to immigration or schools:

"Our assailants delight in general statements, quite false, and usually unaccompanied with even the pretence of proof. In this case their tactics are to declare, however falsely, and to keep on declaring, that, Protestants as we are, we have sold ourselves to Rome; that we procure the passing of just such laws as Rome, through its bishops or clergy dictates or permits; that we make just such appointments as the Roman hierarchy choose to demand; that we have entered into a conspiracy with that church to 'destroy our public schools'; and that we give to those who hold the Romish faith other unjust advantages, to the prejudice of the Protestant faith; which is also the faith of most of ourselves in the Government, and most of our friends in the Legislature and in the country. They say that we have perpetrated all this iniquity and, according to one astute journal, with 'devilish ingenuity,' as the price of the Roman Catholic vote."

The book then states:

"The premier then went on to point out that of the seven members of the Government six were Protestants; that of the fifty-seven Liberals in the Legislative Assembly, forty-nine were Protestants."

Exactly the same situation here—Of the seven members of this Government, six are Protestants. There were 57 members at that time in Ontario, and 49 of them Protestants. Here, of the 63 members of this Assembly, I think 57 are Protestants—a little higher proportion than there was at that time in Ontario. Then Mowat goes on to say:

“That if, as stated by the Opposition, the aggregate of Roman Catholic votes for Reform candidates was larger than for Opposition candidates, it should be remembered that the Government received more votes than the Opposition from nearly every Protestant denomination; and, in conclusion, he said, ‘I venture to say that if any political or municipal office should adopt as a battle-cry, ‘No Presbyterianism,’ Presbyterians like myself would not be likely to vote for that party or candidate, whatever had been our previous relations with either of them.’”

Mr. Speaker, I repeat once more that here you have exactly the same thing which is being repeated in this Province at present. Away back at that time, Ontario was being threatened with a French invasion, according to those who attacked the Government:

“In 1889 a prominent member of the Opposition, Mr. T. Dixon Craig, of West Durham, had unsuccessfully fathered a motion of want of confidence in the Government on this ground, declaring that ‘The English tongue is the language of the Province of Ontario, and no system of public instruction which does not recognise and act upon the recognition, that the English language is to be the language of such schools shall be approved of by the Department of Education as satisfactory to the House.’ In support of this motion many absurd statements were made. Ontario was said to be threatened with a ‘French Invasion,’ under the auspices of Archbishop Lynch, Mr. Mowat and the Hon. G. W. Ross, and a foreign language and an alien religion were to be gradually introduced into the public schools of the province until the virus should infect the whole body politic; and Ontario was some day to awaken to the fact that she was under the control of an Apostolic Delegate, instead of a free legislature.

“It is difficult to write seriously of such allegations, yet those who desire to verify their accuracy have only to consult the columns of the *Mail and Empire*, the *Orange Sentinel*, and other Conservative newspapers issued during the spring of 1889, in order to be convinced that they were repeatedly and deliberately made.”

It seems to me, Mr. Speaker, that the editorial writer of *The Star* and some of our friends opposite have been reading the political history of Ontario.

In the old Province of Ontario, with almost identically the same proportion of population representative of Protestants and Catholics as we have in the Province of Saskatchewan, at each election the people returned, with an increased majority, the Government of Sir Oliver Mowat and kept him in power as long as that kind of campaign was conducted. Our opponents must have neglected to read the whole story and benefit by the moral.

— I have sufficient faith in the good judgment of the people of Saskatchewan and the whole Dominion of Canada to believe that we can settle any little disputes that arise in our school districts in the same manner as we have been solving them since 1905 in Saskatchewan and since 1867 throughout Canada. We have been settling our difficulties by this method in 1928. We can continue to solve them in this Province without the assistance of the legislation proposed in this Bill. Only the day after this Bill was introduced in the House, I had a complaint from only one individual from one school district in the Province of Saskatchewan to the effect that there was a crucifix hanging up in the school his child was attending and that he objected to it. I took the matter up with the local people and had word back from that district on Monday last that the crucifix had been taken down. Simply by sending word down to the district that an individual objected to the crucifix upon the walls of the school, the people who are in the majority, considering the rights of the minority, took the crucifix down. We have had no difficulty in matters of that kind excepting during the last twelve months.

— We have been able, down to date, even during 1928, to settle every one of the disputes that have arisen; and I want to say that this is due not particularly to the efforts of the Department of Education. Our political opponents have been saying—why does not the Department of Education do more? There is only one reason, and that is because the good commonsense of the people in our school districts all over this Province make it unnecessary for us to do more. They settle these problems and they settle them in the lasting interests of the people of the whole Province of Saskatchewan, and in the more lasting interests of the people of the whole of the Dominion of Canada.

I would say that, as the Prime Minister of this Province, I would leave public life in disgrace and dishonour if I were to betray the principles which underly the lasting settlement which has been established in this Province resting on the good feeling that exists as between the peoples of different nationality and race. They are building in Saskatchewan in the present. They shall build in Canada in the future as they are building in Saskatchewan in the present, moulding

themselves into a strong Canadian nationality, honouring the Union Jack because of the freedom it gives, honouring the Union Jack because of the liberty it gives, honouring the Union Jack because those who have established the Empire, in establishing it, have honoured the rights of minorities throughout the length and breadth of that Empire even as we Liberals in the Province of Saskatchewan, though we were to face political defeat in accomplishing it, believe we are doing the proper thing in defending the principles I am proclaiming tonight. I will vote for the compromises which formed the fundamental basis of Confederation, and against the Bill.



THE HONOURABLE T. C. DAVIS,

(Attorney General)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 29, 1929.

Mr. Speaker,—I might be permitted, and I think it is my duty as Attorney General, to say a few words in connection with the Bill proposed by my honourable friend, (*Mr. Anderson*) and I want, Mr. Speaker, to confine myself largely to the legal aspect of the Bill of which he has just moved the Second Reading. As I said a minute ago, I consider it my duty as Attorney General, and as a member of this Government, to give the House some idea of what the law is in this regard in Saskatchewan and in other Provinces of Canada, so that when the members are discussing this Bill, they may have the background and know what the legal status of legislation of this kind is in the different provinces.

I might say I have made a fairly exhaustive study of the law in our Province and in other provinces and in addition to that, I have been in communication, indirectly, with other Departments of Education for the purpose of ascertaining what they have done in the matter of legislation of this character.

Before going into that and as a necessary preliminary, I would like to discuss for a moment the platform of the Conservative Party in connection with this particular legislation. Our Conservative friends met in the City of Saskatoon in, I think, the month of March, 1928, and as I understood from the newspapers, the party was represented there by delegates from all over the Province of Saskatchewan. It was heralded in the Press as one of the most representative Conservative Conventions ever held in the Province of Saskatchewan and delegates were there duly elected for the purpose of expressing the will and wish of the Conservatives of Saskatchewan from one end to the other, and for the purpose of promulgating a policy which they would announce and did announce as the policy of the Conservative Party.

They met upon that occasion and proceeded to deal with several matters, particularly with matters in the public mind at the present time, and issued a platform, since broadcast all over the Province. In that platform they dealt with the matter which is the subject matter of this Bill and during their discussion at the Convention they passed a resolution which I understand was the unanimous opinion of all the delegates at that Convention with respect to the matter which is now covered by this particular Bill. Now, Mr. Speaker, I would ask you to bear with me a moment while I read this resolution, (and I am subject to correction if I am misquoting):

"That *The School Act* be amended to prohibit the use of any religious emblems in the public schools of the province, where there are pupils or ratepayers of mixed religious denominations and to prohibit the holding of the public school in buildings used for religious purposes except temporarily."

Now, insofar as that last sentence is concerned it will be noted that no mention is made in the Bill with respect to that particular part of that resolution; but they recommend "that *The School Act* be amended to prohibit the use of any religious emblems in the public schools of the Province," and this is the proviso: "Where there are pupils or ratepayers of mixed religious denominations." It will be noticed that the resolution covers only "religious emblems," and the Leader of the Conservative party says that "Speaks for itself." They suggest, first of all that we should "prohibit their use" but they qualify that by saying "only in schools of mixed religious denominations." It will be noticed that no mention is made in the resolution with respect to "garb."

That was the resolution drafted by Conservatives from all over the Province and contained in the platform of the Conservative party submitted to the people of this Province. In accordance with the policy our Conservative friends apparently have conducted since the opening of this Session of the Legislature, they have appointed an "interpreting committee" which meets every second Saturday in the City of Regina, the purpose of which is to exercise the function of elucidating such points as this, and try to interpret the platform of the Conservative party. This interpreting committee met here two or three Saturdays ago and that "court of interpretation" considered this particular matter and here is the judgment of the court, as reported in the *Regina Daily Star* of January 21, 1929:

"That it is the considered opinion of the Provincial Conservative candidates and the provincial executive here assembled, that the proper interpretation of clause (f), being item 6 of the Conservative platform dealing with education should be, that the use of religious emblems should be prohibited in all public schools in Saskatchewan and that the fair interpretation of religious emblems includes religious garb of any kind worn by teachers. Clause (f) of item 6, which is now amplified and clarified by the foregoing resolution." \* \* \*

Clause (f) was the clause I read a few moments ago. It will be noted that the resolution said it should be prohibited only "in schools of mixed religious denominations" but this court comes along and says that it means "in all public schools of this Province." Then it goes on to say "that the fair interpretation of religious emblems includes religious garb of any kind worn by teachers." If that statement is correct you will see the attempt which was made to read into the Conservative platform something which was not there. I do not think that anyone who has the

slightest knowledge of the English language—not a single schoolboy in Saskatchewan, could put that reading on the resolution passed at the Conservative Convention at Saskatoon. It is impossible without stretching the English language and juggling with it, to reach a conclusion of that kind.

There is one thing for the people to bear in mind in connection with this attempt at interpretation and that is the effect to be given by the people to the rest of the planks of the Conservative platform. Do they mean what they say or do they mean something entirely different? And will some other interpretation be put on them at a subsequent time? And if this legislation did pass and our Conservative friends were in power and the leader of the Conservative party was administering the legislation passed, what interpretation would he put upon it? And when administering it, would he turn around then and say exactly what the committee says it meant or would he be just as likely to say, "No, it doesn't mean what it says?" Or will he say it means "mixed religious denominations" and administer the law in that way? I think this exhibition of want of faith on the part of the Conservative party, which its leader is presenting, is a sufficient answer to the people as to what reliance can be placed upon any Government formed from that source, if the opportunity were afforded them, to administer a law of that kind.

With respect to the Bill itself, as I said a moment ago, I have made it my business to find out what the law is in the other Provinces of Canada in order that members who follow me who want to discuss this Bill, may be fully conversant with this aspect of the question.

In British Columbia there is no legislation of this character whatsoever. The only restrictions placed upon those teaching in the public schools of that Province are that they must have passed a course authorised in Canada, that the teacher should be a British Subject, that he or she should have certain necessary qualifications and be certificated and licensed to teach. These are the only restrictions in British Columbia and when these requirements are fulfilled the local school board in British Columbia has full authority to decide upon or select and choose their own teachers.

Coming to Saskatchewan—everyone knows what the law is here. It is the same as it is in British Columbia. There are no restrictions here upon who shall teach, except that the teacher be a British subject and have the necessary educational qualifications. Outside of that, the matter is left in the discretion of the local school board. In the Province of Ontario, so often quoted by our friends, the law is identically the same.

I might say, Mr. Speaker, in this regard that I am discussing the question of teaching in religious garb. If you look at my honourable friend's Bill it attempts to restrict the use, or prohibit the use, first, of religious emblems and second, it attempts to prevent the wearing, by persons teaching, of religious garb—two distinct things. So, in covering the questions, I am dealing first with the law in the other Provinces with respect to "garb" and then I shall deal with the law respecting the use of religious emblems in other Provinces.

I have dealt with British Columbia and Saskatchewan. Insofar as the Province of Ontario is concerned (and down in New Brunswick the condition is the same), no restriction is placed upon the local school board except the same regulations that the teacher must be a British Subject and have an educational certificate. The same applies in Prince Edward Island, and also in Alberta. The same applies in Manitoba, and in the Province of Quebec, and the same applies in the Province of Nova Scotia. In short, Mr. Speaker, the same applies in every Province in Canada. There is no legislative restriction upon the local school board in their selection of a teacher except the regulations with regard to educational knowledge and the certificate and being a British Subject. Otherwise, in every Province of Canada the matter of whom the teacher shall be is left in the hands of the local school board.

With respect to the use of religious emblems, I have gone into the condition of the law all across Canada. In British Columbia there is no restriction either by way of legislation or regulation respecting the use of religious emblems. In the Province of Alberta, the same thing applies—no restriction by Act of the Legislature or pursuant of powers delegated by the Legislature. In the Province of Saskatchewan, as we know, the same applies. In Manitoba the same applies. In the Province of Quebec the same applies. In Nova Scotia and in Prince Edward Island, the same condition applies. In all of those seven Provinces there is nothing either by way of legislation or by regulation pursuant to legislation, that prohibits the use of emblems in the schools.

This leaves two Provinces that have regulations with respect to religious emblems, and these are the Province of Ontario and the Province of New Brunswick. In both these Provinces they have regulations with respect to the use of religious emblems in the schools. But they have no legislation. There is nothing on the Statute Books dealing with the matter, but, subject to the approval of the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council, they have delegated to the Minister the right to make certain regulations, and one of these regulations deals with matters of this character, or practices of this character.

Let me refer for a moment to the Ontario legislation upon which they based their particular regulation. It is *The Department of Education Act*, Chapter 322 of *The Revised Statutes of Ontario, 1927*. Section 4 of that Act is as follows:

"Subject to the provisions of any statute in that behalf the Minister, with the approval of the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council, may make regulations,—

(a) for the establishment, organisation, government, courses of study, and examination of the schools, departments, school cadet corps, school gardens, supervised and outdoor playgrounds, institutes and institutions hereinbefore mentioned;"

Now, pursuant to that power given by the Legislature of Ontario to the Minister, with the approval of the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council the Minister in Ontario has issued certain regulations, and the only regulation dealing either with religious garb or with the matter of emblems, is this regulation to be found in the General Regulations governing Public and Separate Schools, 1924, Regulation 42, Section 13, Sub-Section 4, which reads as follows:

"Emblems of a denominational character shall not be exhibited in a public school during regular school hours."

Now that is the only law or regulation in the Province of Ontario dealing with the use of religious garb in the public schools or with religious emblems.

*Mr. Cross:* That only refers to emblems.

*Hon. Mr. Davis:* Let me make it quite clear that there is no legislation of any kind or nature which says that teachers dressed in religious garb shall not teach in the public schools in the Province of Ontario. There is no legislation of any kind or character in the Province of Ontario with respect to emblems but under the section I have read, which delegates certain powers to the Minister,—and this is the only thing to be found either in the law or regulations dealing with the subject matters of the Bill introduced by my honourable friend.

Let me repeat that in nine of the Provinces of Canada there is nothing prohibiting the use of religious garb and in seven Provinces there is nothing against the use of emblems, and in only two Provinces is the use of religious emblems stopped by regulation and these are Ontario and New Brunswick.

I have given you the Ontario law and regulations and I wish to turn now to the New Brunswick law. In the Province of New Brunswick there is nothing prohibiting the use of religious garb by a teacher employed in the public school who is otherwise qualified. But under the law in the Province of New Brunswick the Legislature, by *The School Act*, there, also has delegated certain powers to the Minister subject to the approval of the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council and Sub-Section (5) of Section 6 of *The New Brunswick School Act* reads as follows:

"The Board of Education shall have power:

(5) To make regulations for the organisation, government and discipline of schools, for the arrangement and order of school premises, and for the classification of schools and teachers, to appoint examiners of teachers, and to grant and cancel licenses."

You will note that that is very similar to the terms of *The Ontario School Act* delegating certain powers to the Minister. Pursuant to that power in New Brunswick this regulation has been passed which is, I understand, Regulation No. 21:

"Symbols or emblems in the school room; symbols or emblems distinctive of any national or other society, political party, or religious organisation, shall not be exhibited or employed in the school room in its general arrangement or exercises; but nothing herein shall be taken to refer to any peculiarity of the teacher's garb or to the wearing of the cross or other emblem worn by the members of any denomination of Christians or temperance organisations."

They prohibit, by this regulation, the use of religious emblems in the public school, but they make it quite clear that the term "religious emblem" does not include religious garb. They do not prevent, but by inference they even go to the extent of saying, that it is quite permissible for the teacher to be clothed in religious garb at the time she happens to be teaching in the public school, and the only things prevented are those bound by this regulation and passed pursuant to the authority given in *The School Act*.

Let us look into the law in the Province of Saskatchewan. Section 6 of *The School Act* reads as follows:

"The Minister, with the approval of the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council, shall have power:

1. To make regulations of the department: (a) for the classification, organisation, government, division into grades, examination, supervision and inspection of all schools hereinbefore mentioned;"

Now, if you will compare this section with the Ontario Act and the New Brunswick Act, you will see that they are practically identical. Each one contains the word "government" and I am of the opinion that under this existing legislation in the Province of Saskatchewan and under the power already delegated to the Minister subject to the right and approval of the

Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council, we can make regulations similar to the regulations in the Provinces of Ontario and New Brunswick. We could go further, if we saw fit to do so, and pass regulations prohibiting the use of religious garb and I am clearly of opinion that, by virtue of this existing legislation and the powers delegated by this Legislature to the Minister, we have the very powers that my honourable friend seeks to impose under this Bill. That is we could do, by regulation, the very things which he seeks to include within the purview of this Bill. I trust I have made this clear.

I am clearly of the opinion that the Minister of Education has, subject to the approval of the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council, the right to make regulations under Section 6 of *The School Act*, which regulations may include the prohibiting of the wearing of religious garb or the showing of religious emblems in the schools.

In addition, the Minister has another power in Saskatchewan which is to be found in Sub-Section (2) of Section 8, the section referring to the official trustee, which reads as follows:

"The Minister shall have power:

"To appoint an official trustee to conduct the affairs of a district; such official trustee to have all the powers and authorities conferred by this Act upon a board and its officers, and to be remunerated out of the funds of the district or otherwise as the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council may decide. Upon the appointment of such official trustee, the board, if any, of the district for which he is appointed shall cease to hold office as such:

"Provided that a municipal council may be appointed as official trustee."

If any regulations of that character were passed in this Province and were put into effect under the powers conferred in this Act, every school board would, naturally, be required to comply with the orders and regulations of the Department. If the board fails to comply, or if a dispute arises in connection with some decision of the board, the Government has the power to step in and displace the school board. This last section which I read, leaves the law flexible and leaves any Government which may be in power and may be conducting the school affairs of this Province in the position where it may deal with each case upon the merits of that particular case.

Now, Mr. Speaker, in addition to that I have tried to outline what the law is in the other Provinces of Canada with respect to the use of religious garb; I have tried to outline the law with respect to the use of religious emblems, and I have tried to outline the law in respect of what regulations may be passed, and I have tried to show, and I have shown, I think, that we have the legislative authority here to do what is proposed in this Bill if we see fit so to do.

Now in addition to that there is the point that arises in my mind and one that I am not going to press very hard—it is the question whether or not this Bill is at all in order. As I understand the Rules of the House, once a subject has been debated, it cannot again be voted upon. At the time the debate on the Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne was on, my honourable friend moved an amendment to the Address in Reply which dealt with the subject-matter of this particular Bill and said so in so many words; and having been defeated by a vote of the members on that occasion and having been debated in this Legislature, I doubt very much whether my friend can ask this House to vote again upon this question.

That is the law and I thought it my duty, before this discussion starts, to give to the members of this House the proper background on the legal aspect of the question so that they may be able to discuss this subject.

So far as the merits of the Bill are concerned, the Bill is an amendment to a public Act introduced by a private member and, naturally, every private member is free to express himself and to vote as his conscience dictates. Pursuant to that principle it is, of course, my duty and privilege, to vote, when the time comes for that, with respect to this particular Bill. And as I have made some study of the matter, and have given it a great deal of thought since the introduction of the Bill, I propose to vote upon it according to the dictates of my conscience. In this I am guided by this thought that, when the Fathers of Confederation started to build Canada they had one of the greatest problems to meet. They had in this country two distinct and separate peoples. They had the French-speaking Catholic people of Quebec and they had the English-speaking Protestant people of Ontario and it was their purpose to weld them into one harmonious nation, and they set out to attain that object. They only did it by a spirit of compromise, of give-and-take, by trying to get together and meet each other's viewpoints, and that is the only way it could be done. They did succeed in bringing harmony and as a result of this the Canadian nation was born. We have continued on for sixty-one years and as a result of the complexity of our situation, a large proportion of the population being Roman Catholic or Protestant, French-speaking or English-speaking, there has always been a certain amount of friction and there always will be a certain amount of friction. We must meet this situation in the same way as did the Fathers of Confederation. Unless we do, we will not be able to continue as a united nation. Anyone who does anything to disrupt that union is in my opinion a traitor to Canada—a traitor to Canada because we all want Canada to be what it has been, a united Canadian nation. With that thought in mind, as a Protestant, as a member of the Legislature, as a British Subject, as a Christian (I hope), as a citizen of Canada, and in accordance with the dictates of my conscience, I do not propose to support this Bill.

SPEECHES ON  
THE SECOND READING OF  
THE WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT.

THE HONOURABLE GEORGE SPENCE  
(*Minister of Railways, Labour and Industries*)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30, 1929.

*The Honourable Mr. Spence*, in moving the Second Reading of Bill No. 63—An Act to provide for Compensation to Workmen for Injuries sustained in the Course of their Employment, said:

Mr. Speaker,—Representations have, from time to time, been made to the Government by the employers of labour and also by the employed, and organisations such as the Trades and Labour Council and other bodies have asked for a new Workmen's Compensation Act or substantial amendments to the present Act. The consensus of opinion seemed to be that the present Act was more or less out of date, or out of line with modern practice; that is, the principle of individual liability should be replaced by a system of collective liability.

The great question to be decided in a matter of this kind is the question of payroll. Unless it could be shown that we had sufficient payroll, the cost of administration would be out of proportion and the proposition would, therefore, be out of court.

To get some accurate information on this important aspect of the question, a Royal Commission was appointed on March 13th, 1928, consisting of Percy M. Anderson, Esq., K.C., of the City of Regina, Lachlan D. McTavish, Esq., of the City of Moose Jaw, Harry Perry, Esq., of the City of Regina, Francis Mallock Still, Esq., of the City of Regina and Asa W. Heise, Esq., of the City of Saskatoon, the first-named being the Chairman. The report of this Commission was signed on December 28th, 1928, and reached my Department on Saturday, January 5th, 1929.

That the House may have a better understanding of the question, I propose to read to the House the recommendations of the Commission:

"1. The enactment of a new Workmen's Compensation Act embodying the abrogation of the present system of compensation to injured workmen and their dependents and the adoption of a collective liability system similar to that of the Province of Ontario save and except as applicable to those railway employees included in the brotherhood of locomotive engineers, the brotherhood of locomotive firemen and enginemen, the order of railway conductors, the brotherhood of railway trainmen, the order of railway telegraphers and maintenance of way employees, all of whom shall retain the present system, subject to the right of each association to withdraw from the present system and come under the proposed system upon a favourable ballot therefor being taken.

"2. That the Act be administered by an independent Board of three Commissioners devoting their whole time to its administration, removable only for cause. As the success of the system depends so largely on the personnel of the Board, we suggest that personal fitness for the position be the determining feature in making appointments to the Board, and the remuneration be sufficient to attract good men.

"3. That the new Act shall not at present include farm labourers, domestic servants and outworkers, but provision may be made for inclusion of the two first-named classes at a later date.

"4. That the scale of compensation be 66-2/3 per cent., but that the monthly allowance to the widow be \$50 instead of \$40 as in Ontario, otherwise the scale in the Ontario Act be followed.

"5. That the employees do not contribute to the general fund, but that a small monthly deduction may be made in sparsely settled districts, such as lumber, mining and construction camps, for hospital and medical treatment, subject always to the approval of the Board.

"6. That the proposed Act include a clause as the Ontario Act (sub-section (4) of section 67), to the effect that the decisions of the Board shall be upon the real merits and justice of the case and it shall not be bound to follow strict legal precedent.

"7. That the decisions of the Board be final on all questions.

"8. That adequate provision be made in the Act for an effective system of accident prevention based on the representation and co-operation of both employers and employees, such system to be under the jurisdiction of the Board.

"9. That the Government of Saskatchewan make an annual grant sufficient to bear the cost of administration for the first few years until the system is well established as was done in the Province of Ontario.

(Sgd.) Lachlan D. McTavish, Harry Perry, Francis Mallock Still, Asa W. Heise, Percy M. Anderson."

The Commission held fourteen sittings at different points in the Province. The Commissioners also visited Manitoba, and the Chairman of the Commission visited Ontario to study the workings of a similar Act there.

In view of the extended nature of the inquiry and the subject matter under investigation, I wish to pay the Commissioners a compliment for the prompt and business-like way in which the investigation was conducted and the despatch with which the lengthy report was compiled together with the Bill, which was drafted by the Chairman and which is now submitted in substantially the same form as it left the hands of the Commission.

From what I have already told the House, it is obvious that the time for a study by the Government has been short, but we feel that, in view of the importance of this measure both to industry and to labour, the legislation should be gone ahead with as it will take some time to organise in the matter of getting payrolls and in the detail work of setting up the machinery which will be necessary in the change from the present system to the one recommended by the Commission in their report and which forms the principle of this Bill, namely, collective liability.

Before I discuss this principle in detail, it is perhaps necessary to explain the various systems now in operation, and afterwards show as best I can wherein this Bill differs from the Act now on the Statute Books.

Briefly, there are three systems:

1. *Individual Liability*: The employer of labour is held liable for injuries to his employees.
2. *Collective Liability*: This provides an insurance pool, where each employer of labour contributes to a common fund according to payroll and the hazardous nature of the industry. A board is appointed by the Government (but acts independently of the Government) to administer the fund.
3. *State Insurance*: This differs from collective liability in that the Government levies a tax on the employers to form a common fund, and then the Government administers that fund much in the same way as a department of government.

Honourable members will see that in the one case the fund is administered independently of the Government and in the other case the Government has charge of that responsibility.

Collective liability insurance as recommended in this Bill now before the House is in no sense state insurance. I endeavour to make this point clear because there has been some confusion of understanding on the subject and I have thought it well to outline, in this brief way, the difference between the various systems.

The consensus of opinion seems to be in favour of the collective liability system. It might be interesting to honourable members to hear a brief outline of how this plan of workmen's compensation has evolved.

Originally, action for damages or compensation in the case of workmen killed or injured was started in the courts and based upon the supposition that the employer's negligence had led to this accident. The courts recognised the justice of this and compensation was awarded in varying degree, depending upon the merits of the case. As the years rolled by and industry became more humanised, or (to use a modern expression), when democratisation of industry became a force, the principle that no man will wilfully injure himself was established.

It was further found that there was a certain "accident risk" attaching to industrial employments, amounting to what one might call an "accident law" in a given industry, and the principles of justice and humanity demanded that the loss should not fall wholly on the workman.

The conclusion was reached that compensation should be based upon the reasonable living requirements of the employee and his dependents; that these requirements should be estimated in money and borne by industry as part of the cost of production. In other words, when accidents occur in connection with any industry there is an implied responsibility upon that industry to provide for the injured workman or his dependents and the cost is absorbed in production.

This, then is the new philosophy, and its base rests on good-will and co-operation between the employer and the employed, all striving for what is now recognised as the higher humanisation of business.

The advantage can be definitely stated: No costly lawsuits resulting in bad feeling; no unnecessary delays as under the individual system. The amount of compensation is definite and ascertainable for any kind of accident, and provision is made for adjustment in the event of an accident proving more serious or less serious as the case may be. Also, the compensation is paid in monthly payments instead of in a lump sum as under the present Act.

Labour leaders have expressed a preference for monthly payments, and employers of labour, especially small employers of labour, have strongly expressed a preference for the collective system. They say they do not, under this system, run the risk of being financially ruined in an expensive lawsuit and the awarding of high damages by the courts. There is a resultant diminution of friction between employers and workmen, bringing about a harmonious relationship between employer and employee. Indeed, there are cases on record where the employer has gone before the Board and pleaded for his injured workman that the amount of his compensation should be increased.

The Act now on the Statute Books was passed in 1910-11, and was at that time recognised as one of the best pieces of legislation on the Statute Books of any Province in the Dominion. Indeed, some authorities went so far as to say that it was the best in any country. The principle of the existing Act, as I have indicated, is one of individual liability, and settlement is made by the courts. It provides for two actions, one under Common Law and one under Workmen's Compensation. The two actions cannot be brought simultaneously, and the injured workman must elect which remedy he is going to seek. If he wishes the Common Law remedy, which he nearly always does in cases where negligence by the employer is evident, and if he loses the case at Common Law he can still bring action under the Workmen's Compensation, or he may have the damages at Common Law assessed under *The Workmen's Compensation Act*.

Ontario passed its present Act in 1914, which was followed by similar legislation in other Provinces: Nova Scotia in 1915, British Columbia in 1916, Alberta in 1918, New Brunswick in 1918 and Manitoba in 1920.

Unfortunately, there is not the same unanimity among employees as there is among the employers of labour for this piece of legislation. What are known as the "running trades" of the railways have declared in favour of the present Act, and the Commission has recommended in the report and provided in the Bill, that they be not now included, but that provision be made whereby they can vote themselves in when they see fit. This provision was also made in the Alberta Act, and I am informed that these trades are coming in of their own accord. We hope that the same result will follow in this Province.

The Commission estimate that approximately half the payroll of the railways will be affected if the "running trades" are left out and, consequently, the cost of administration will be higher, as, obviously, the larger the payroll the lower the cost of administration spread, as it would be, over a larger amount. The estimate is \$45,000,000, which includes the entire payroll of the railroads. Leaving out the "running trades" the estimate is approximately \$35,000,000.

The Commission thinks that this is sufficient to start the system but recommends an annual contribution by the Government of \$75,000 towards the administration costs. There would, therefore, seem to be some room for doubt as to whether or not the payroll is sufficient to carry the costs of administration, and an amount of \$25,000 is provided in the Bill for organisation. After the organisation is set up and accurate data with respect to the payroll is obtained, we will be in a better position to deal with this phase of the question. Manitoba had a similar provision, but so far the Province of Manitoba has made no cash contribution to the Board. I understand it is functioning in a satisfactory manner without this contribution. The payroll in Manitoba is approximately \$80,000,000.

Let me say, in conclusion that office accommodation and furnishings will be supplied and everything possible will be done to facilitate and prepare the ground for the setting up of the new organisation as recommended by the Commission and provided for in this Bill.

I move the Second Reading of the Bill.

MR. W. G. BAKER, M.L.A.,

(Moose Jaw City)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30, 1929.

Mr. Speaker,—In rising to speak on the Second Reading of this Bill I would first of all like to compliment the Minister in charge of this Bill (*Hon. Mr. Spence*), for the very comprehensive way in which he has dealt with the provisions contained therein, and has discussed the many details that are necessary in an Act of this kind.

This Bill is founded on the long recognised principle that the risk incidental to industry is part of the legitimate charge upon industry and should be provided for out of the earnings in the same manner as provision is made for a broken machine or any other operating parts. In other words, the risk that is incidental to industry should not be assumed by the workman and his family just because he is employed in the industry, but should be met by the employer and taken to account as part of the operating cost.

Originally, the relationship between employer and employee was the relationship between two men who worked together with equal risk and equal working conditions. With the introduction of power machinery however, the risk has increased proportionately as the size and volume of production of the machine has increased. The larger volume and the larger machines have meant larger profits as well as larger risks and out of this has grown a recognition of the principle contained in this Bill. If the risk were to be assumed solely by the workman then, in the case where he is injured he must suffer the pain and perhaps the loss of a leg or arm, but he must also lose his wages, and his wife and family must suffer want and hardship often through no fault of the workman, but by reason solely of the risk involved in the industry. For these reasons it is agreed that some provision should be made to take care of workmen when they are injured in the course of their employment.

As an indication of the risk involved and the responsibility for injuries that arise in the course of employment, I would like to refer to a study of this question that has been made in Germany. It was found on completion of this investigation that the number of accidents in any given industry over a series of years is more or less stable; that the degree of accidental injury in any one group of industries, remains fairly constant; that accidents are governed by the laws of probability and that they are to a certain degree inevitable.

Statistics show that a large percentage of accidents are not due to the negligence or fault of the employer or of the employee, but are due to inevitable risks connected with employment. The following table taken from official reports sums up the result of an inquiry as to the question of "fault" in 81,248 accidents:

Accident due to:

	Per cent.
1. Fault of employer.....	12.06
2. Fault of workman.....	41.26
3. Fault of both employer and workman...	.91
4. Fault of fellow-workman or others.....	5.94
5. General hazard of industry.....	37.65
6. Other causes.....	2.18

Out of similar experiences in many countries, as I have said, has grown a recognition of the principle contained in this Bill.

Now, Mr. Speaker, it might be well to consider how general legislation of this kind is. We find, for example, that in the United States every State of the Union, with the exception of four, has some kind of a Workmen's Compensation Act. In twenty-two States there are Compensation Acts which provide no State funds or board, but recognise the principle of the individual responsibility of the employer. In nineteen States there are Compensation Acts similar, in many respects, to the measure now before the House; Acts that recognise the principle of collective liability under a State Board which collects from the employers and pays to the workmen. Great Britain, Germany, France, and the majority of the European countries have Acts of this kind, while, in our own country, Acts similar to this are in effect in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Ontario, Manitoba, Alberta, and British Columbia. In Quebec there is a compulsory liability insurance scheme which requires the employer to insure his employees, against accident, in private insurance companies and under the supervision of a Government Board.

Turning to the Bill now before the House, briefly, it provides for the collection and setting up of a fund by a Board appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council, the money being paid in by the employers of the Province. The rates paid by the employer are to be governed



by the hazard in his particular industry and out of the money so collected, payments will be made to the injured workmen by the Board, according to the schedule provided in the Bill.

Now, Mr. Speaker, what are the benefits of this state insurance scheme? For the workman it insures compensation in event of injury. It protects him should his employer be unable to pay compensation. It provides that compensation shall be paid at regular intervals as needed by the workman, and not in a lump sum. It does away with court cases in that it makes it unnecessary for the workman to sue his employer. Then, for the employer, it does away with the risk of action at Common Law for large damages and it provides compensation for all his workmen at a minimum of cost.

In connection with the cost of administration of compensation under a state scheme and under private insurance, some interesting facts were brought out before the Commission upon whose report this Bill is based. It was stated by representatives of private insurance companies that 40 per cent. of the money collected from the employers was used in administration costs. This is almost four times the cost under the highest state insurance scheme, as the following figures will show. The figures I am going to quote, illustrate the percentage cost of administration under the collective liability systems in vogue in other Provinces of the Dominion. They include compensation and medical aid:

	Per cent.
New Brunswick.....	8.95
Nova Scotia.....	11.14
Ontario.....	4.03
Manitoba.....	10.4
Alberta.....	10.2
British Columbia.....	3.12

Now, Sir, these figures indicate very clearly that out of every dollar contributed by the employer, the employee gets a much larger share under the state insurance system than under private insurance.

The benefits contained in the Bill now before the House are similar to benefits contained in other Acts in the other Provinces of the Dominion. It provides for the payment of 66-2/3 per cent. of the wages of an injured workman to him during the time he is disabled and, in the event of his death, it provides for the payment of \$40.00 a month to his widow with an additional \$10.00 per month for each child under sixteen years of age. There is also provided a burial allowance of \$125.00.

Provision is made in the Bill for the exclusion, from the scheme embodied in it, of the men represented by six of the Railway Brotherhoods (the "running trades"), and the old Act is continued in effect insofar as these men are concerned. This arrangement is the result of representations made by the representatives of these organisations to the Commission. It was pointed out that the percentage of fatal accidents in this class of employment is considerably higher than in ordinary employments and, consequently, these men wished to retain all their rights of action under the Common Law. In addition to this, the old Act provides for 100 per cent. compensation for time lost when workmen are off seven days or more; and there is no question of the ability of their employers to make payment or of the employees to collect. Provision is made in the Bill whereby these trades can come in at any time they see fit.

Figures presented by the Commission in the report indicate that the total payroll in the Province will amount to \$45,000,000, and from this will be deducted \$10,000,000 to cover the wages of those excluded from the scheme embodied in the Bill now before the House, leaving a payroll for purposes of the new Act of about \$35,000,000 a year. However, before the new Act is put into force a careful check should be made of the total payroll of the Province to ascertain if there is sufficient to carry the new Act without making the cost too high.

This Bill brings very many workmen within the scope of *The Workmen's Compensation Act* that were not included in the old Act. For that reason, Mr. Speaker, as well as for others that I have mentioned, I am going to support the Second Reading of this Bill.