

[Chairman: Mr. Martin]

[10 a.m.]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I'd like to bring this Public Accounts meeting to order. Before we introduce our special guest today, I'm reminded that the minutes of November 16, 1983, have to be approved. I believe these were circulated. Would somebody like to move that?

AN HON. MEMBER: I would.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay. All agreed? So that's been approved.

We'll move right into the next section. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs. LeMessurier for coming before our Public Accounts. She tells me it's the first time, so it'll be a new experience for the minister. What we will do is turn it over to you to introduce your guests. If you have any initial remarks to make, fine, and then we'll open it up for questions from members of Public Accounts.

MRS. LeMESSURIER: Thanks Mr. Chairman. I'd like to introduce my two assistant deputy ministers. On my immediate left is Mr. Buick, my assistant deputy minister in cultural affairs, and Dr. Byrne, who is in the historical resources area.

I feel very happy. I began to wonder, Mr. Chairman, why I had never been asked to come to Public Accounts. I thought perhaps some people thought Culture was a second-rate citizen, which bothered me terribly. So I feel now that I'm included with the rest of the categories, and I'm ready to take any questions. As you said, it's my first time here. You might have to remind me of a couple of things, because I don't quite know what goes on.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Fair enough. Okay, questions to the minister? That's Mr. Nelson back there, isn't it? Mr. Nelson?

MR. NELSON: I'm sure we know each other. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't normally have too many questions to ask in the culture area. I just thought maybe we could start it off with a couple of questions. For example, in Calgary, which I'm most familiar with, there's been a lot of discussion regarding the old Burns Building, which is apparently being preserved, near the theatre for the performing arts. I just wonder if the minister has any thoughts about making that a heritage site. If so, when and for what reasons?

MRS. LeMESSURIER: Mr. Chairman, that building belongs to the city. We have not declared it an historic site. I feel very strongly that that is a role the city of Calgary should be taking.

MR. NELSON: Are you suggesting the city of Calgary designate it?

MRS. LeMESSURIER: I'm not suggesting it. It's up to the city to declare it a historic site if they so desire.

MR. NELSON: The next question is relevant to the development of the Centre for the Performing Arts. I wonder if the minister could indicate whether or not the centre is on budget. Her previous statement was that it would come in under the \$75 million. Is that still the case? Are there any thoughts that the government may be asked to place additional capital funding into this project?

MRS. LeMESSURIER: You're not quite accurate. I said that I would like to see the project come in at \$75 million. This building is two years down the road. It is a unique

building in Canada, and it's almost premature right now to say that it will come in at a certain figure. I would like to see it come in at \$75 million. I think that is the way I stressed it in the House when I spoke on the subject before.

MR. NELSON: Mr. Chairman, my third question. I'd like to pursue the area of the performing arts theatre. Considering the minister's present statement, is there some reason to believe that this theatre may have some requests for additional government dollars for the capital development of the project?

MRS. LeMESSURIER: Mr. Chairman, I would say at this time that there is a possibility if the interest rates and if the private-sector dollars don't come in on time. But it's almost premature to talk like this, Mr. Nelson. I really thought we were reviewing '81-82, and this is present-day funding. I'm rather concerned that we're talking about something today rather than something in the past.

MR. NELSON: I appreciate that, Mr. Chairman. I understand that we're talking '81-82. However, it's an ongoing project that was commenced in that time period, and I thought it would probably be of some value to consider the past history of some of our overburdening costs, in addition to the future costs of that project which has been under way for some time.

MR. McPHERSON: May I come in on this point, Mr. Chairman, for clarification? Last week I asked the Minister of Public Works, Supply and Services a number of questions related to current projects, and I see that the hon. member is doing the same thing to our guest today. I have some questions on current projects for our guest today. But I'm just getting a little confused perhaps in your direction, Mr. Chairman, as to the mandate of this committee. I would dearly love to ask the minister some specific questions, but on the other hand I have that opportunity to ask these questions of the minister and have been doing so on current projects. I'm getting a little concerned at the direction of our Public Accounts Committee in relation to '81-82 public accounts and current — and I recognize that you're trying to provide us with a fair amount of latitude, and I think we should all be grateful for that. But I think we need a little bit more direction.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The truth of the matter is that in the strictest technical sense, we're supposed to be going on the report of the Auditor General for the year ended March 31, 1982. You are correct. There have been times when if it was clearly something that was in the future, it would be out of order. I concur with Mr. Nelson that we've tried to look at projects that start and can anticipate in the future in that period, but in the strictest technical sense at least, it should be something that goes back before March 31, 1982.

I have tried, as you say, to give some latitude, because sometimes we become so technical in that period that people feel intimidated because they're not sure when projects started. If we go overboard on it — as the minister points out quite correctly — then we'll go back. I'll try to proceed in the same manner, but if we can try to go back to that period, that's what we are supposed to be studying. Does that help or confuse you more?

MR. McPHERSON: I'm satisfied with that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay. Mr. Stromberg.

MR. STROMBERG: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To the minister: in the past there's been quite a popular program by your department for funding to residences or homes that qualified as provincial or local historic sites, or because they had a unique architecture. Is that program being continued? I ask because I recall reading about two or three years

ago where the MLA from Fort Macleod raised Hail Columbia at the story in the Alberta Report as to the restoration of a home in his constituency. I wonder if the program is being continued, and how many dollars were spent in '82 toward that program?

MRS. LeMESSURIER: My assistant deputy minister is checking on the number of dollars. Yes, the program is very much in effect. If it's a provincial historic site, the owner can receive up to \$75,000 on a matching grant. If it's a registered one, it's up to \$25,000 over a period of five years. At the end of five years, you may come back and look for additional funds. As a matter of fact, one of the latest we've done — the brother of your colleague Jim McPherson has a house in Edmonton that he has restored. It is an historic site. Jim happens to live on the top floor. He's only moved in there lately, people. I'd better assure you that this house was declared before he actually went in. We've gone into a new program; we now put a symbol on the houses so the average citizen can recognize an historic site.

MR. STROMBERG: Are these homes open to the public?

MRS. LeMESSURIER: Not unless the owner wishes to have them open to the public. But I think I should point out that these are matching dollars, so it's not an out and out grant for restoration. As you well know, restoring an older house, or any building, is a very expensive undertaking.

MR. STROMBERG: I have another question on a different topic. Another very popular program is the funding that's available for the restoration of historic churches. Is there a set of guidelines as to if the church is abandoned or in active use, and where do you draw the line at being historical?

MRS. LeMESSURIER: When we're talking about historic buildings, we like to say anything prior to, say, 1940. It's usually a community or committee that comes and asks to have that church declared an historic site. so there is funding for it, and they are responsible for repairing and keeping it up.

MR. STROMBERG: Could I have the amount of dollars spent in '82.

MRS. LeMESSURIER: \$384,000 was spent in '81-82 on restoration.

MR. SHRAKE: Mr. Chairman, I have one question for our hon. minister, but first I want to say that the reason we don't need you here often is that we all trust you. I just want to ask — I was on the tour to the Ukrainian Village. When did the funding on that start?

MRS. LeMESSURIER: I think we started the original funding in 1975. We then came up with an overall plan for three different areas of the village, and we got our major funding in 1981.

MR. SHRAKE: What is the amount of funding we've given to that project so far?

MRS. LeMESSURIER: To date? Up to right now?

MR. SHRAKE: Just roughly.

MRS. LeMESSURIER: About \$10 million.

MR. SHRAKE: Do we also give some funding to the Heritage Park in Calgary?

MRS. LEMESSURIER: Yes, Mr. Chairman, we do.

MR. SHRAKE: What amount have we given them to date? Or what amount in 1981-82.

MRS. LEMESSURIER: It's \$12,000 a year for operating; it's not capital.

MR. SHRAKE: Just one last comment. If they do ask you to make the Burns Building an historic site in Calgary, I think MLA Nelson and I have a friend that has a big bulldozer he'd lend them to take it down, if they would like.

AN HON. MEMBER: Amen.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I take it that's political lobbying. Perhaps you could do that . . .

MR. WOO: Your explanation of the guidelines and how we operate would probably negate the two questions I had to ask, but let me try it this way. My first comment is directed to Mr. Glen Buick, Assistant Deputy Minister of Culture. I would say this to him based upon his astuteness in 1981-82. I would like to compliment him on what he has done in '83 in terms of his activities, particularly with respect to recent cultural events in the Pacific Rim countries. I would like to compliment Mr. Buick on his initiatives in that area.

My question to the minister, Mr. Chairman, relates to the activities of the MCR program. I wonder if the minister might indicate to the committee if, during the '81-82 period, it came to her attention that certain communities and municipalities have possibly reached the limitations in terms of recreational developments. If funds remained within the per capita allotment, have those municipalities been considered for reallocation from a cultural component to a recreational component or vice versa? In particular, I would perhaps reference the requirement of communities to redirect recreational funds to those of a cultural nature, particularly as it relates to library development.

MRS. LEMESSURIER: Certainly, Mr. Woo. We've just done a complete study throughout the province to try to figure out how many communities do have funds left in the MCR and, if they do have dollars left, what their plans are for using those dollars. As you well know, a minimum of 25 per cent must be spent on a cultural component. At this time, there are communities that have spent up to 60 per cent on cultural dollars.

I would think that if there are moneys left at the end I would like to come back to the table — I'm sure with Mr. Trynchy — and have a discussion on funds to see if they could be reverted to recreational facilities. I don't think there's a large demand out there right now that is looking for a change. I've only had one representation to date. But when you say recreation funds toward a library, they can do that. It's not a change in policy because it's a minimum of 25 per cent.

MR. WOO: I thank the minister for her clarification.

MR. MUSGROVE: Mr. Chairman, Dinosaur Provincial Park was designated a World Heritage Site some years ago. The planned museum in Drumheller is a very significant museum compared to a planned subsidiary-type building at Dinosaur Provincial Park, particularly to show more workmanship probably than to keep fossils. A lot of people in my area are concerned that the fossils will all leave Dinosaur Provincial Park and be housed somewhere else in the world. I understand the museum in Drumheller is going to house fossils almost entirely from Dinosaur Provincial Park.

My question is, why was Drumheller chosen for that substantial museum instead of Dinosaur park itself, particularly when it is a World Heritage Site?

MRS. LeMESSURIER: I think that's a difficult question to answer. But to start with, not all the dinosaurs and the fossils found in the new Drumheller paleontology museum have come from the Dinosaur park. They have come from all over the province, especially the Red Deer valley; that area is one of the places where we have found some of the fossils.

I would like to think that one of the reasons we chose Drumheller was the setting for the museum in the badlands. To us it was just a natural spot to do it. The economy of the community also needed a boost, and I think that's one of the main reasons it is there.

MR. SZWENDER: Mr. Chairman, my question to the minister relates to the expenditures for the 75th Anniversary and the new Canadian encyclopedia, which was an excellent project and ongoing. A number of the questions and concerns I had were raised in question period yesterday and were more or less answered, although I didn't get on to the topic of funding. I see in the estimates that for this period, \$717,000 was expended on the encyclopedia. Maybe the minister could explain to me the way the encyclopedia is being funded. Is it in installments as progress proceeds; or how is it being done?

MRS. LeMESSURIER: Yes, it certainly is in installments, with so much every given year. We are holding back \$600,000 until the very end. That is to ensure that the encyclopedias will be delivered to every school and library in Canada. When that is done, the remaining \$600,000 will be paid to Hurtig Publishers.

MR. SZWENDER: A further supplementary. In relation to the encyclopedia being provided to schools, is there a cost incurred by any of the school boards for that?

MRS. LeMESSURIER: No, that was part and parcel of our original agreement with Hurtig Publishers when we gave them the \$4 million as a 75th anniversary present. That is a gift to all Canadians from the province of Alberta. Part of the agreement was that the three-volume set of encyclopedias would be sent to all schools and libraries. One area I did forget was that it would also be sent to all posts that we have abroad.

MR. SZWENDER: Just for further clarification. When you say all schools and libraries, are you talking about just in the province of Alberta?

MRS. LeMESSURIER: Right across Canada.

MR. MARTIN: We'll let you have one more, because that was just a clarification.

MR. SZWENDER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The second question relates to expenditures on bronze sculptures from the 75th Anniversary. Maybe the minister could explain what these sculptures were and where they are located. The estimate was for about \$40,000 and the actual expenditure was some \$64,000, which is about 50 per cent over the estimate. Maybe the minister could explain what occurred here.

MRS. LeMESSURIER: The two sculptures that we're talking about are Princess Louise and Chief Crowfoot. They're on either side of the front door in the main lobby of the building. I can't speak as to why it increased more. I think the \$40,000 was what we thought they would cost, and they came in higher.

MR. PAPROSKI: Mr. Chairman, my first question deals with the expenditure regarding film censorship, \$190,000. I wonder if the minister could please explain how these funds are spent and some of the responsibilities of this particular area.

MRS. LeMESSURIER: Mr. Chairman, the censorship is basically the salaries of staff; we

have five members on that board. They view three films daily, depending on the length of them. It's a five-day-a-week job for the viewers.

MR. PAPROSKI: A supplementary to this. How long has this film censorship area been funded by the government? Do you know how long it has been in existence?

MRS. LeMESSURIER: 26 or 27 years.

MR. PAPROSKI: My further supplementary deals with this area and pertains to the proliferation of video tapes and pay TV, with the showing of a number of films that are borderline. I won't define what borderline is. I just wonder if this particular department has any responsibility at all in viewing some of the things that are being shown on TV and also the video tapes?

MRS. LeMESSURIER: The only responsibility we have is if they're being shown in theatres. We have no jurisdiction in hotels or private homes.

MR. MARTIN: I'll allow a further supplementary in that area, Mr. Szwender.

MR. SZWENDER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. A supplementary on the censorship board. This follows the question regarding home videos, pay TV, et cetera. A lot of these films which are being censored are readily available. The whole area of censorship — I don't want to get into a long speech — is a difficult one, but considering the expenditure and the mixed views of people in regard to censorship, has the minister given any thought or consideration to eliminating that board altogether?

MRS. LeMESSURIER: No, Walter, we have not. I think it plays a very important role, because it is a classification area as well. It classifies any of the films that come in as to whether they are adult or family viewing, and I think the general public would expect the government to continue in that manner.

MR. ZIP: To echo my seatmate's opinion, I feel the same way. We have great trust in the minister and a great love for what she's doing.

AN HON. MEMBER: What about the Burns Building?

MR. ZIP: No, not the Burns Building. I wish to ask the minister if the problem with the centre has been resolved. I know . . .

MRS. LeMESSURIER: Excuse me. That is really the responsibility of the community. That's the ethnic centre in Calgary that you're talking about?

MR. ZIP: Yes.

MRS. LeMESSURIER: That's run out of MCR funds. The MCR funds are used for capital building. I'm afraid that the last I heard, they were working with the city of Calgary. It's really the responsibility of the people and the city of Calgary. It's not the responsibility of my ministry.

MR. ZIP Thank you. There's a problem in my mind when I look at all these facilities that have gone up in Calgary. Keeping in mind that the taxpayer of Calgary may be stuck with the cost of operating all these cultural and recreational facilities, are you reviewing the actual need, from a global basis, as to expending more dollars toward new facilities?

MRS. LeMESSURIER: Mr. Zip, that definitely came under the MCR program and, as you know, the MCR programming is winding down. It's finished in March 1985.

I have a major concern for some of these organizations. When they got involved in some of their centres, they had great belief that they were going to be able to operate them. I'm afraid that due to the economic pressures people have on them today, some of them have found themselves in great difficulty. I would think that before any community — and I have to say that it was the city that agreed to the proposal that a building like one of your ethnic centres could be created. First of all, they should look very carefully at what they are endorsing. They should be looking to see if that organization can operate that building. Have they got the means? What are their means for raising money for operating? It really is the jurisdiction of the cities or the communities that build these centres.

MR. SHRAKE: Mr. Chairman, before we leave that subject, could I just interject, so we don't leave the wrong opinion with our colleagues here. I think their problems ran more than the financial problems. I think they resolved that out of their own pockets. I think their problem was a dispute with another group over who the rightful Croation society was. They're still hurting, but I think they dug in and have handled their own financial situation right now.

MR. ALGER: I note — and I'm not even sure I'm in the right hymn book — supplementary information to the Public Accounts. I started to look at grant payments and, in the district of Highwood, I've discovered that we've received very little or no moneys from the Alberta Culture Department. I'm wondering whether we are totally without culture, or are we not applying for it properly? The town of High River was granted an Alberta Culture grant of \$5,200 but, now that I've looked through the book a little further, I've discovered several towns not in my constituency that, by the same token, are totally devoid of culture. If money means culture, we're short of it. I've just kind of wondered: how do you differentiate grants from the help that you do provide to the district of Highwood and certainly other constituencies?

MRS. LeMESSURIER: I'd like to start off by saying that I don't think your constituency is uncultured. Secondly, I think the grant you're referring to is for your museum. We don't just go out and give grants. There is a way of coming to the government, looking for some kind of granting assistance. If we haven't given them, it's because we have not had representation.

MR. ALGER: With the proper representation, are you necessarily obliged to give the grant? I can think of one or two. Maybe we haven't made the inquiry right. I don't know whether or not we got the grant. Surely sometimes you're short of funds, such as in the library system where you just have to withhold for a while. Would that be the case?

MRS. LeMESSURIER: There are only so many dollars in any given year, and if there is a large demand on that number of dollars, then the amount that's given to each group is smaller than they would like to receive. I'm afraid that's the way it has to be when we are going through these economic difficulties.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I got the impression that maybe the Member for Highwood was lobbying you and he might continue after.

MR. McPHERSON: Mr. Chairman, I'm struggling somewhat with being able to frame a question, particularly after my comments on current issues. I've been waiting for a file from my researcher and don't have it yet. But if I can frame this properly, you might let

it slip by. It's on a different subject. It's with respect to Series '83 — I don't have the word right . . .

MRS LeMESSURIER: At the college? Visual arts at the college?

MR. McPHERSON: I've heard a lot of very laudatory remarks with respect to that series, and I think a compliment should go to the minister and her department. Has the minister given any consideration to the request by Red Deer College for permanent establishment of Series '83 at the Red Deer College?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That question is totally out of order. I'll allow the minister to decide whether she wants to answer it.

MRS. LeMESSURIER: I'd just like to assure the member that Red Deer will be having the series next summer.

MR. McPHERSON: Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You got it through.

MR. PAPROSKI: Mr. Chairman, my second question relates to the revenue section of the estimates. I have a question regarding the amusement branch. I wonder why revenue went down in that particular area between '81 and '82.

MRS. LeMESSURIER: Amusements branch?

MR. PAPROSKI: With respect to fees and permits under the amusements branch, it indicates here that from '81 to '82 it went from \$59,000 to \$58,000. I'm just intrigued as to why this particular amount of revenue would be going down instead of up in the '80s?

MRS. LeMESSURIER: I think that was to do with censorship in films. We didn't increase our fees. Could you speak to that, Mr. Buick?

MR. BUICK: I can't give any detailed information. We're assuming that that is the answer. I'd be glad to look up the exact information if the member wishes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Perhaps we could do what we've done in the past. If the information could be checked at some point, send it to me, and I'll make sure it gets out to the members then. Would that be okay, Mr. Paproski? Did you want to follow up with any other questions? Okay. Mr. Clark?

MR. CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First I'd like to say I'm sorry I was a little late getting here this morning, but I did get here in time to see that Brooks is still after my museum. There still seems to be a little sore spot there.

My question may already have been answered, but I wonder if the minister could inform us if — some of my constituents in the west side of my constituency especially have donated all of their family papers and their history to the Glenbow Museum. There was a little problem there about them shutting it, and I had quite a few letters for a while. I wonder if this problem has been resolved with the money that was forthcoming.

MRS. LeMESSURIER: Mr. Clark, we have advised the Glenbow that there is no increased funding for 1984-85, that they will have to review the management in Glenbow so they can operate and keep the archives and the libraries accessible to the public. A committee is being formed within Glenbow itself, with some outsiders on it, to actually

review the management and everyday programming.

MR. CLARK: A supplementary, Mr. Chairman. I wonder if the archives, where all this family history is, will be kept open. Will they be shutting that again next year?

MRS. LeMESSURIER: I would like to think that they would keep this open to the general public, but this is not government run. This is a private institution, and it's very difficult to tell a private institution what they can and cannot do.

MR. CLARK: One further supplementary. If it is not kept open, is there some way that those family histories and that could be returned to the families?

MRS. LeMESSURIER: Mr. Clark, I would think that would be up to the individual families to ask that of Glenbow. It's not customary though, when you give something to a museum or an archives, to take it back. It is an area that is of great concern to many, many people. Not only scholars but many families have put things in there for safekeeping, and they would like to have access to it. I think the people who are concerned should be going after the archives to see if they would ensure that that one segment remains open to the general public.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I don't have any more people on my list so I'll ask Mr. Alger.

MR. ALGER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To the minister, I would like to ask one question with regard to financing of libraries. I get an awful lot of complaints. I think it's the marigold system. I'm positive they've explained it all to me quite well, and I can't get it through my head. I rather hoped you would tell me about it. I suppose I'm relating this to '81 and '82 in a sense, Mr. Chairman, in that there was good funding then, and it seems they either want the same amount of money or they want more. I wonder if you can help me with that, Madam Minister.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I'm having a little difficulty. Could we have just a little order; it's hard to hear from over there. Thank you.

MRS. LeMESSURIER: Libraries are funded on a per capita basis. I think that the hardship that you're referring to that some of the libraries are having — there was an indexing of library grants. This past year we did not continue due to the economic situation in the province. I would like to assure members, though, that in 1979 when I was elected a member, the then Leader of the Opposition asked what my feelings were about libraries. I said that it was my prime concern and that I would do everything in my power, and that was under my responsibility, to have the funding for libraries increased. At that time, it was \$1.25 per capita. Today it's up to \$3.85, and I think that's quite remarkable in four years.

MR. ALGER: A supplementary, Mr. Chairman, to the minister. At \$3.85 are they still subjected to hardships or things of that sort? I feel that the libraries are in awfully good condition, but of course I don't use them a lot, so I really don't know what the complaint is.

MRS. LeMESSURIER: Mr. Alger, one of the areas of great concern to libraries is the cost of printing and acquiring books today. That is why a regional system is so important, so they can share books amongst a region. Not every library has to have the same books. The funding of libraries is not completely a grant from us; it's a two-way street, a three-two system. If we give \$3.85, the municipality also has to put in moneys. We are fortunate that in some areas of this province municipalities pay way

moneys. We are fortunate that in some areas of this province municipalities pay way more than their share. Some of them pay up to \$5 per capita toward their library maintenance. I think the main reason is the cost. Salaries and things have increased over the last few years, and even keeping libraries running — heat and light — has increased.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have Mr. Musgrove and then Mr. Gogo.

MR. MUSGROVE: Mr. Chairman, I seem to have left the false impression that I was trying to get the museum from Drumheller to Brooks.

AN HON. MEMBER: There's nothing false about it. Go ahead; get it.

MR. MUSGROVE: My question is that we get people from all over the world visiting a World Heritage Site where dinosaur fossils are sent to museums in all of Europe and all of eastern Canada. These people come to Dinosaur by the thousands, expecting to see something unique, where these fossils came from, and there isn't one fossil there for them to see. Doesn't the minister think that we should at least have some fossils housed at Dinosaur Park so that these people can go in and view them, particularly in the badlands that are probably the equivalent of Drumheller?

MR. MARTIN: I can't figure out how to put that back to 1981-82, but maybe the minister can help me out there.

MRS. LeMESSURIER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The designation of that park does go back to that time, so we could answer it that way. I think what you're asking is if there could be some kind of display area or something that indicates some of the fossils, and we'll certainly take that under advisement.

MR. GOGO: Just a quick question to the minister, Mr. Chairman. Several years ago, each member received a series of the books by Alberta authors supplied by the Minister of Education through the Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund. They've certainly been extremely helpful with regard to putting them in constituency offices. Would the minister consider making available to members of the Assembly similar copies of the encyclopedia that is to be published?

MRS. LeMESSURIER: I believe the encyclopedias will be available, if you order them in advance, at a cheaper rate than when you buy them at the store. We will not be giving them to each MLA.

MR. GOGO: Would the minister consider that and, in her consideration, perhaps consider particularly the English copies?

MRS. LeMESSURIER: Is the member asking me if I will ensure in my budget that every MLA has a copy of the encyclopedia?

MR. GOGO: Exactly.

MRS. LeMESSURIER: I would find that rather difficult to do, Mr. Gogo.

MR. MARTIN: I guess you know the answer to that. Any further questions of the minister or her staff? Seeing none, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the minister and her assistant deputy ministers. We know you have a busy schedule and had to do some shifting around to be here. We're glad that we brought you in, because we

didn't want you to feel neglected. I hope that after today you will no longer feel neglected about your department. Thank you very much.

MRS. LeMESSURIER: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

MR. MARTIN: Just before we leave, depending on what happens today, I am almost sure that this will be the last Public Accounts of this session. You know that the tradition in the past has been that we just meet during the session. By the time we meet, there will probably be a new Public Accounts. So I take it that we will not be meeting again until probably the March/April period of next year, unless there is an urgent demand that hasn't happened in the past. At this point, I'd just like to thank members of Public Accounts for their co-operation. They made it very easy for a green chairman to get through. Thank you very much, and maybe we'll see you next year.

[The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.]