

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ALBERTAhead: **ORAL QUESTION PERIOD**Title: **Wednesday, April 20, 1977 2:30 p.m.****Canadian Constitution**

[The House met at 2:30 p.m.]

PRAYERS

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

head: **TABLING RETURNS AND REPORTS**

MR. YURKO: Mr. Speaker, I would like to table the returns to questions 121 and 122.

head: **INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS**

MR. MINIELY: Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure today to introduce to you, and through you to the members of this Assembly, 55 students from Victoria Composite High School in the constituency of Edmonton Centre. They are accompanied by their teacher Mr. Scragg. They are seated in the public gallery, and I would ask that they stand and be acknowledged by the Assembly.

head: **MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS****Department of Education**

MR. KOZIAK: Mr. Speaker, in the course of the next several days a bill to amend The School Act will be introduced. Included in the provisions of the bill will be amendments to the present sections of the act providing for the allocation by corporations of their assessments as between public and separate school boards.

The amendments will confirm what has always been the intent of The School Act; namely, that holding corporations can indicate their support for a particular board, and that this is to be taken into account when the assessment of a corporation is allocated as between public and separate school boards. This intent was recently confirmed by a decision in the Supreme Court of Alberta. These amendments will confirm the validity of the notices given by corporations prior to December 1, 1976, applicable for the calendar year 1977.

Mr. Speaker, this information is provided in advance of the introduction of the bill to remove uncertainty as to the allocation of assessment, and to permit municipalities to finalize their tax notices. Mr. Speaker, I expect this announcement will permit school boards to finalize their budgets and to devote fully their energies and resources to the provision of quality education for all the children of this province.

MR. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct the first question to the Premier. It flows from comments the Premier made in the House earlier this week with regard to the government's interest in the concept of a constitutional court. Is it now the position of the government of Alberta that with regard to constitutional changes, or changes in the BNA Act, the government would see this proposed constitutional court really assuming some of the responsibilities of Canada's first ministers and MPs?

MR. LOUGHEED: Mr. Speaker, the short answer to that is we would not. But because of the nature of the question, I believe it requires some elaboration.

What has been discussed from time to time is the recognition that within this federal state we do have the Supreme Court of Canada making the final decisions on matters of a constitutional nature in its interpretation of the British North America Act.

During the constitutional conference in Victoria in 1971, there was a discussion with regard to the selection of judges and new appointments to the bench which involved a process of some input by the provincial governments. That matter was taken up again by the government of Alberta at the premiers' conference in Toronto in September 1974. It was again taken up by both the government of Alberta and, I believe, by the former government of Quebec during discussions at the premiers' conference of August 1976 in Edmonton and Banff, and in Toronto in October 1976. What is envisioned has been a Supreme Court of Canada whereby there would be some input by the provinces in the appointment of judges and perhaps in the appointment of the Chief Justice.

Mr. Speaker, members will recall though — in the recent correspondence from the Prime Minister, tabled in this House — a retraction by the Prime Minister of the suggestion that there should be some provincial input to the selection of judges to the Supreme Court of Canada. In our letter we responded negatively to that suggestion by the Prime Minister, and since that date have been considering the matter — by the government here in Alberta — and come to the conclusion that there may be merit in looking at a system that is in partial use in West Germany, a federal state, where there would be a constitutional court — perhaps smaller, fewer staff — which would essentially be a panel of jurists whose sole responsibility would be to make legal interpretations reflecting the constitution of Canada — the balance of powers as between the province and the federal government, the ownership of resources, and so on — then leave the Supreme Court of Canada intact, as it is now, with the view to its continuing as the highest court in the land by way of criminal and civil appeals.

MR. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, has the thinking of the government of Alberta got to a point where it's prepared to elaborate on the make-up of this court? Is it the position of Alberta, for example, that each province or region in Canada would be able to make a

nomination or at least a recommendation as to the members of the court?

MR. LOUGHEED: Mr. Speaker, no, we haven't. As hon. members will recall, we stated in our response to the Prime Minister's letter on the constitution that we didn't see constitutional review as being the most pressing matter before the country at the present time. However, it's obvious that other parties in Canada, including the Prime Minister, feel differently than we do because in his speech in Winnipeg on Monday night he made specific reference to further talks he was going to have with regard to the constitution. I noticed, too, reference by the Premier of New Brunswick to constitutional discussions. So despite the view of the province of Alberta that we would prefer to see the concentration on other matters we've described — such as the economy of Canada, and so forth — it would appear that pressure is developing for further discussions on the constitution.

I was asked by the Member for Spirit River-Fairview, I believe it was on Monday, with regard to the matter of what constitutional changes Alberta would consider. As part of my answer, and as *Hansard* reflects, that's why I developed this particular point. We have not of course got to the stage, nor perhaps would we, prior to constitutional discussions. I think it's the concept that's important rather than the specifics.

MR. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, in the course of the government's preparation for these ongoing constitutional discussions, does the government have other priority areas? The idea of the constitutional court is all well and good, but are there other areas the province is now working on in preparation for this renewed effort by the Prime Minister?

MR. LOUGHEED: Mr. Speaker, I can only refer the hon. leader to the correspondence tabled in the House. The lengthy letter of response we sent to the Prime Minister fully sets forth the Alberta position, our view with regard to a number of matters. This is the only additional matter I would add to that letter.

MR. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, is this a matter of an additional suggestion or proposal put forward by Alberta in addition to the items included in the Premier's letter to the Prime Minister?

MR. LOUGHEED: Mr. Speaker, to make sure the record is clear on that matter, the answer to the hon. leader's question is yes.

Restitution Program

MR. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct the second question to the Solicitor General. Perhaps I should make this introduction. The Speech from the Throne under the Solicitor General's Department, said:

My government will further expand the new initiatives taken in the corrections field last year, including the restitution and fine/option programs.

My question to the Solicitor General is: what has happened to the pilot Alberta restitution program op-

erating in Calgary, which we discussed earlier in this Assembly, since the Speech from the Throne was read? I ask the question in light of the fact that it has now been announced in Calgary that the program will be finalized this August, which will be one year prior to the end of the three-year pilot project.

MR. FARRAN: Mr. Speaker, I will answer the second part of that question first. Certainly a news release was made yesterday by Dr. Klein of the Pilot Alberta Restitution Centre, saying that the University of Calgary did not intend to apply for funding for the further year. This was a three-year project jointly funded by the solicitor generals of Canada and Alberta. In summary, he says in his news release:

It has become apparent that as a pilot project we have done as much as we are able given our initial terms of reference. Therefore, we could see no justification in requesting funding for third year of the operation.

To put it in simple words, Mr. Speaker, I feel that PARC has blazed a trail. They have highlighted problems. They have had moderate success, a success which shows a failure rate of about 30 per cent in offenders following through with their commitment for restitution. As I said to the House — this session, as far as I can recall — this is moderate success, but not total success because of the obstacles that still exist in federal law, the Criminal Code, in regard to making restitution a civil judgment and to spelling out exactly the procedures to be followed.

PARC has done enough for us to be able to pick up the ball from here in the provincial adult probation service and operate within these limitations. Right across the province my department will be picking up this initiative which has now been proved out by PARC. Their exercise was really one of research to test feasibility, to highlight problems, to see whether it would work. Under present conditions it looks as though it will work to about 70 per cent efficiency until we get those changes in the Criminal Code.

For further expansion of the various community corrections initiatives within my department, as forecast in the Speech from the Throne, the very successful work-for-fine project in Edmonton is being spread throughout the province. We are just at the point of tuning up for it. We have the personnel, and we should be going ahead full steam in this regard within a month.

MR. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the hon. minister. If what the minister says is the case, why didn't he indicate to the Assembly when we asked the question about the future of this project three to four weeks ago that the Pilot Alberta Restitution Centre in Calgary was going to be closed down and wiped out, rather than having the announcement made outside the House?

MR. FARRAN: Mr. Speaker, this isn't totally my program. It's half funded by the federal government. I tabled their report and pointed out that they'd had some problems, that their success was only at about 70 per cent. But it's operated by the University of Calgary, an autonomous body, not by civil servants. They've come to the conclusion that after two years experience they can now write their report on restitution. They don't need another year. They weren't

really a field agency. They were a research agency. It's up to my department now to pick up the operations, which we're doing.

MR. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the Attorney General. Is it the intention of the Alberta government to bring in legislation at this spring session which would deal with one of the major problems in the restitution program, that being no legislation to enforce the contracts entered into?

MR. FOSTER: Mr. Speaker, I think my colleague has already indicated that the major legislative stumbling block in this area concerns amendments to the Criminal Code, since most of these matters arise in that way. The legislative initiatives we will be taking were outlined in the Speech from the Throne: the whole concept of decriminalizing the traffic court and moving many, many cases into a different procedure, which I'd be happy to discuss a little further in my estimates. That will be coming up in the fall, and I will go into it in some detail at that point.

Part of that package dovetails very nicely with the fine option program the Solicitor General talked about before, so that capacity will be there. We are continuing to review the matter of provincial legislative change that may relate to the restitution question. But at this point the most significant and dramatic change in the administration of justice from a citizen's point of view, in terms of speeding up the process and having less involvement by the citizen and unnecessary delays in the procedures, will be the decriminalization of the traffic court.

MR. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, perhaps we might get back to my question to the Attorney General. Is it the intention of the government to bring in any legislation at this spring session which would deal with one of the major problems of the restitution program: of those who enter into the contracts, 30 per cent of the contracts are not now being lived up to. Is the government going to bring in legislation at this spring session which will enable those contracts to come quickly to court and be dealt with?

MR. FOSTER: Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition has identified an indeed important and significant difficulty in the administration of the courts and the law as far as the citizen is concerned. Perhaps I could remind him there are many other much more serious and difficult problems that cry out for more urgent solution than the one he has identified. The one I have targeted in my earlier remarks is the whole question of the hundreds of citizens who are involved almost daily in the operation of the courts.

I have so many staff, and so much of a budget, and so does my colleague the Solicitor General. We have selected as a top priority item — in addition, this item has been identified by the provincial court reorganization agency as a top priority item — the decriminalization of the traffic court.

Mr. Speaker, we are moving on this in a very conscious, serious, and deliberate fashion. We are moving on it one step at a time and intend to do a good job. That's my speech.

My short answer to your question is that the concept of restitution in the legislative framework, to cure the difficulty referred to by the Leader of the

Opposition, is coming in time, but the time is not this spring.

MR. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the Attorney General. One can see why the University of Calgary threw up their hands.

MR. FOSTER: Pardon? I didn't hear you.

MR. CLARK: You can see why the University of Calgary threw up their hands.

MR. FOSTER: Well, Mr. Speaker, if I may comment on that, there have been thousands of citizens in this country throwing up their hands about the way the courts have been administered. This government, following up on the Kirby commission report, has taken some very dramatic initiatives to cure the difficulties in the administration of justice.

We will not do it overnight, Mr. Speaker, but we intend to do a good job of what we're doing. We will get to the problem. It's fine for the Leader of the Opposition to stand there and say that . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.

MR. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the Attorney General. Is the Attorney General in a position to indicate to the House whether the length of time for remands in Calgary is shorter than a year ago? It's longer.

MR. FOSTER: Mr. Speaker, if he wants me to enter into debate, I will tell him that there is very, very little delay in the court system in Alberta today. In fact. . .

MR. CLARK: Baloney!

MR. FOSTER: Baloney? Balderdash!

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. It would appear we have exhausted this topic. I'll call on the hon. Member for Drumheller for a supplementary, notwithstanding.

MR. TAYLOR: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is on restitution. I'm more concerned about the restitution principle being established and accepted than about where it's announced.

In answer to my question on March 16 regarding restitution, I think both the hon. Solicitor General and the hon. Attorney General said the program was being advanced. My question now, particularly to the hon. Solicitor General: will emphasis be placed on restitution by young people as a first and important part of this whole restitution program?

MR. FARRAN: Mr. Speaker, my jurisdiction begins at the age of 16, which is still pretty young. The restitution principle will now be spread through the adult probation service through the province.

The hon. Leader of the Opposition was talking about amendments to the law. They're mostly Criminal Code amendments, which are in federal jurisdiction and have been discussed with the federal Minister of Justice and the federal Solicitor General.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. We're extending the scope of the discussion and probably getting back into debate. It would appear the hon. member's question has been answered.

Energy Research Projects

DR. MCCRIMMON: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Energy and Natural Resources. I notice a recent press report suggests that Alberta has allowed the federal government to retain control of energy-related research projects arising from export tax funds in the area of \$100 million. My question is: is this correct, Mr. Minister, and is this your understanding of the arrangement?

MR. GETTY: Mr. Speaker, I also saw the report, and I believe it leaves quite a false impression. It may even be mischievous writing.

Actually, Mr. Speaker, any energy-related research from those funds must be either recommended or approved by the province of Alberta and, therefore, is not under the control of the federal government. We fully intend to consult with them before and after conducting the research, and provide them with all information as a result of the research. But we would not consider the research under their control.

Housing Development — Midnapore

MR. WOLSTENHOLME: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Housing and Public Works. If I might be permitted a slight preamble, it was my pleasure to attend a reception and home show at Midnapore just south of Calgary, in the Provincial Treasurer's constituency, I believe. Some homes being built there are 1,000 to 1,100-plus square feet, and are selling from \$47,000 to \$49,000.

My question is: is the minister aware of these housing units? Is he aware they are being built by private enterprise — and one of the free enterprises happens to be from the constituency of Highwood?

MR. YURKO: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I am aware. As a matter of fact I also received an invitation to the opening. Whereas the two major developers are Keith Construction and Kelwood Corporation, there are in addition approximately seven or eight local builders. Phase one of the development . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The question was of some doubtful standing insofar as the question period is concerned, as it gave information rather than sought it. However, the hon. member asked the minister if he was aware, and the minister said he was aware; therefore the question has been answered.

Lethbridge Airport

MR. GOGO: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Transportation. Is the minister aware that the crash and fire service at the Lethbridge municipal airport has recently been restricted to 12 hours a day, even though the 16 scheduled departures and arrivals cover a 15-hour period; in other words, three hours of no crash and fire service?

DR. HORNER: Mr. Speaker, first of all, of course, the Lethbridge airport is a federal airport and under the regulations of the regional MoT.

DR. BUCK: Ask Jack.

DR. HORNER: In addition, I'm told there are no official regulations relative to crash and survival equipment at airports. However, I'd be pleased to make those representations to the regional director of MoT.

MR. GOGO: Supplementary, Mr. Speaker, to the hon. minister. I'm somewhat reluctant to ask this in view of the current events. Would the Minister of Transportation make representation to the Minister of Transport in Ottawa to have this situation corrected?

DR. HORNER: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

Law Enforcement — Warburg

MR. ZANDER: Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Solicitor General. Is the minister aware of the lack or the inadequate administration of law and justice in the Warburg area?

MR. SPEAKER: This would certainly be a matter of opinion. I'm wondering whether we should devote the question period any further to exploring or plumbing the extents of ministers' awarenesses.

MR. NOTLEY: It doesn't take long at all.

MR. ZANDER: Mr. Speaker, could I rephrase the question? In view of the fact that the citizens in the Warburg area have threatened to take the law into their own hands, would the minister initiate some control of the situation before it gets out of hand?

DR. BUCK: Are they out to lynch you, Rusty?

MR. FARRAN: Mr. Speaker, I was only aware of the problem when I read today's *Edmonton Journal*. I have asked for a full report from the Mounted Police in regard to vandalism and lawlessness by young people in the Warburg area.

French Language Teachers

MR. TAYLOR: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the hon. Minister of Education. Is there a shortage of French language teachers — I mean teachers who can carry on a conversation in French — in the schools of Alberta?

MR. KOZIAK: Mr. Speaker, as hon. members are probably aware, once teachers are certified to teach they have authority to teach subjects of any nature within the school board system. We don't have records of the specialties, nor are there provisions whereby certain teachers are awarded some sort of document which would indicate they have competency in particular areas. So that information isn't readily at hand. However, if the hon. member would like me to look into the matter further, I would be pleased to see what information I could determine.

MR. TAYLOR: I would appreciate that, Mr. Speaker.

A supplementary. Since many teachers are highly qualified in French grammar but are unable to carry on a conversation, I wonder if the minister, in conjunction with the ATA, might consider an exchange program with the province of Quebec, where I understand there's a shortage of highly qualified English teachers. Such an exchange program could have many advantages.

MR. KOZIAK: Well, Mr. Speaker, perhaps the hon. member might be interested in the student monitor program developed by virtue of agreement with the federal government and the Council of Ministers of Education across Canada. That provides for exactly that type of process, but at the level of a university student, not at the teacher level.

A university student who speaks French very fluently would move to Alberta to continue his or her courses at one of the universities in this province and, while doing so, would spend time in a school assisting a teacher. And vice versa: a student from Alberta could go to Quebec.

There are discussions which may see the further expansion of this program, which seems to have been met with a great deal of favor and success.

Native Affairs

MR. KUSHNER: Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct my question to the minister responsible for native affairs. I suppose most members are aware of the situation that's boiling between the native people, particularly Chief John Snow from the Stony Band and the director, Harold Cardinal. I wonder if the minister is in a position to inform this Assembly if this is the general situation.

MR. SPEAKER: With great respect, might I suggest the hon. member transfer his wonderment elsewhere.

MR. KUSHNER: I wonder if I can . . . [laughter] A supplementary question to the minister in charge of native affairs. Can the minister inform this Assembly if communication between native people and the provincial government has improved, to avoid this problem we are facing here today at the federal level?

MR. SPEAKER: With great respect to the hon. member, this would certainly be a matter of opinion.

Parkland Nursing Home

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct this question to the hon. Minister of Labour and ask whether he can advise the Assembly whether or not department officials have had any luck persuading Parkland Nursing Home and its parent company, Allarco Developments, to conduct serious negotiations aimed at ending the current dispute.

MR. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I think I'll respond to the question rather than to a number of the innuendoes included in it and simply say that the department continues to work with the parties involved and to be available. I think the collective bargaining process — during which at the present time the workers

are on strike, which is perfectly legal — is something that is at the bargaining table. I have some difficulty in understanding the way I would be assisting that process if I made provocative remarks here, Mr. Speaker.

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the hon. minister. Is the minister in a position to advise the Assembly when discussions last took place between union and management officials on this matter?

MR. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I could check that information with the officials, with the mediator involved, and advise the hon. member. I believe there were no meetings in the earlier part of the week, but I can't say there hasn't been one as of today.

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, a further supplementary question to the hon. minister. Has the minister, officials of the department or the mediator obtained assurance that the representatives of Parkland at the bargaining table have been given sufficient authority by the parent company to conclude an agreement?

MR. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I'm certainly aware of the allegations made that at one point in the negotiations there was some deficiency in the authority of one of the negotiators who was present. But I am not aware whether the situation has improved in that respect.

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the hon. minister. In light of the fact that collective bargaining must carry with it authority on both sides to make an agreement, is the minister in a position to assure the House that he will attempt to find out from his officials the status of the Parkland officials at the bargaining table and report whether they do have sufficient authority to conclude an agreement to this almost five-week long strike?

MR. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, as in so many cases, allegations may very well be different from fact. I indicated to the hon. member that I was aware of the allegations being made. I hope I didn't convey that I had come to that conclusion myself. I don't think I did.

Certainly, as part of the ongoing work the mediators would do, they would be encouraging the parties to do everything necessary to come to an agreement and making the best suggestions they can. I have no objection to reviewing the matter with the officials again to be sure these items are being done. I don't think I would want to say to the hon. member that I would choose the question period in the House as a place to make any particular disclosure on the progress of those proceedings.

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, a further supplementary question to the hon. minister. Have there been any representations to the minister's office by Parkland officials that the government should use the powers contained in The Alberta Labour Act, passed by the 1975 session of the Legislature, which allow the cabinet power to end the strike?

MR. SPEAKER: With respect to the hon. member, the hon. minister has indicated that he does not consider it proper, and of course he's not in any way obliged, to answer questions going into detail of the progress of negotiations. It would seem that to proceed further along that line would be taking the time of the question period unnecessarily.

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. The question I put to the hon. minister did not relate to the negotiations — I accept the minister's answer there — but rather whether the minister had received any representations with respect to the powers the Alberta government has to end the strike on a unilateral basis.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member is dealing with representations from one side in the negotiations. Surely those would be included in the course of conduct or tactics that the sides might be using in this collective bargaining.

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I have one final supplementary question to the hon. Minister of Hospitals and Medical Care concerning the Parkland situation. Is the minister in a position to advise the Assembly with respect to the sufficiency and quality of care for Parkland residents during the present strike?

MR. SPEAKER: Although the hon. member has phrased the question very cautiously, it would appear he is asking the minister to express an opinion as to the adequacy or otherwise of the care now being given.

Water Supply — Stony Plain

MR. PURDY: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to address a question to the Minister of the Environment and ask if he could inform the Assembly if the permits now being held by Daon Corporation allowing Daon to pump water from the new subdivision of Forest Green in the town of Stony Plain are interim or permanent.

MR. RUSSELL: Mr. Speaker, my recollection is that it's an interim permit and expires the end of May.

MR. PURDY: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, to the minister. Farmers west of the town of Stony Plain have made representation to me that studies now complete show that their water supply in wells has dropped to a substantially low hazard, and the water being pumped out by Daon is from the same . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Would the hon. member please come directly to the question.

MR. PURDY: . . . water being pumped out of Stony Plain. Will the minister make representation to Daon requesting compensation for these farmers for new wells or other means?

MR. RUSSELL: Mr. Speaker, the basis of issuing an interim licence is to provide the department with the opportunity to assess potential situations, as the hon. member has outlined. In the event that Daon does apply for an extension to their licence, it would be

necessary for them to go to public advertising.

We would receive any representations or complaints, and at that time would investigate any allegations or claims with respect to damage to existing wells.

MR. PURDY: Mr. Speaker, supplementary question to the minister. Since the Parkland waterline which now supplies the town of Stony Plain from the city of Edmonton is about at capacity, will the minister make representation in renegotiation of the contract between the city of Edmonton and the Parkland water board, thus utilizing the 3 million gallons of water per day that is being pumped away, which would be incorporated in the town of Stony Plain water system?

MR. RUSSELL: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member has put forward a worth-while suggestion, which I would ask the department to investigate in order to make use of the substantial aquifer there.

Public Affairs Printing Tenders

DR. BUCK: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to address my question to the hon. Premier. A short time ago I asked the Premier if he could investigate the method of tendering printing contracts through the Bureau of Public Affairs. I would like to know if the Premier has that information.

MR. LOUGHEED: Mr. Speaker, I recall the question and have asked for the information to provide to the hon. member. Perhaps we will get it to the hon. member before the end of this week.

Native Relocation

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister Without Portfolio responsible for native affairs. I wonder if the minister could inform the Assembly if the Native Secretariat is undertaking any studies with regard to problems encountered by natives who leave the reserves or their homes and come into the inner cities of Calgary and Edmonton.

MR. BOGLE: Mr. Speaker, that's a very broad question, which is not being covered by any study in particular. It's something we are aware of. We have discussed it with a number of band chiefs and councils as well as with the executive of the Indian Association. I might deal with that more fully during my estimates.

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Speaker, supplementary to the minister. Could the minister indicate the programs, or a program that would be in place to work with this problem in the inner cities?

MR. BOGLE: Mr. Speaker, that was one of the key purposes of the friendship centres, which were established some years ago. At present there are nine such centres in the province. As I said, the main purpose of the centres is to assist people coming into the urban centres who are in a transition state.

Native/Government Communication

MR. KUSHNER: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the minister. I wonder if the minister can inform this Assembly what his department is doing to improve communications [with] native people in Calgary and Edmonton.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. minister has indicated the answer might be of some scope. If he believes he can make a short answer, fitting the scope of the question period, perhaps the question should be answered.

MR. NOTLEY: It doesn't take long to say nothing.

DR. WARRACK: You should know.

MR. BOGLE: Mr. Speaker, communication between the provincial government and the 42 bands and the Indian Association of Alberta has always been a high priority of this government. One of the main purposes of the Native Secretariat is to ensure a flow of information between those groups and government. At any one time approximately four of our field people are working outside Edmonton with native people, many of whom are treaty Indians. We're constantly trying to improve relations and communications between native people and government.

If the hon. Member for Calgary Mountain View has in mind any particular suggestions as to how that could be facilitated, I'd appreciate hearing them.

Dry Soil Conditions

MR. MANDEVILLE: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the hon. Minister of Agriculture. Will the minister be participating in talks by the PFRA with regard to the dry soil conditions in Alberta?

MR. MOORE: Mr. Speaker, no, I will not be participating directly in talks with PFRA, but certainly the staff of my department from the soils branch of the plant industry division have been and will continue to discuss with representatives of the PFRA and other branches of Agriculture Canada, our own Department of the Environment, and the federal environmental people ways in which we might assist in alleviating those problems.

MR. MANDEVILLE: Supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Has PFRA contacted the minister or officials of his department to let them know when and where PFRA meetings are going to be held?

MR. MOORE: Mr. Speaker, I'm not aware that my office has been contacted. I would have to check to see whether the department has any contact.

MR. MANDEVILLE: One further supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Does the Alberta government have any short-term projects aimed at alleviating the dry soil conditions in Alberta?

MR. MOORE: Mr. Speaker, I think I came close to answering that question previously in the Legislature, but I should say again the only effective thing that can be done over a short term is a variety of management practices which assist when you have a

lower than normal rainfall. The Department of Agriculture will be providing bulletins on a weekly and daily basis over the next short while, informing farmers of measures we think should be taken to save as much soil moisture as possible.

Certainly it is our view, for example, that it is inappropriate for individuals to graze grass too early, in that in a dry season in particular the total amount of forage produced can be cut very drastically by grazing too early.

In addition, Mr. Speaker, I had discussions yesterday with the Alberta Weather Modification Board and members of the Research Council of Alberta relative to doing some work with respect to the benefits that might accrue over a longer period of time in a rain increase program. As I said earlier in the Legislature, it is not possible to implement such a program at short notice. At the very least I think it would take 10 to 12 months to place the radar equipment, aircraft, and so on that are necessary to carry out such a program.

However, we will be evaluating the effectiveness of rain increase programs in the United States and elsewhere over the next few months with the Research Council of Alberta and the Alberta Department of the Environment, in an effort to determine whether it would be worth while for us to develop such a program in the event there is some prolonged drought that goes beyond 1977.

MR. SPEAKER: Might this be the last supplementary on this question.

River Levels

MR. MANDEVILLE: One supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, to the hon. Minister of the Environment. Has the minister had any reports indicating the shortage of water for domestic or industrial use in the province for this year?

MR. RUSSELL: Mr. Speaker, we are getting weekly flow reports for all the major rivers in the province which all indicate below normal flow and, in many cases, falling steadily. For some weeks now the department has had a reservoir management scheme under way. Leading up to the priority of uses that were mentioned by the hon. member, it is quite possible that there could be uses allocated or rationing in some cases for some of the users at the bottom of the list.

Alberta Hospital Procedures Review

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Attorney General. I was wondering if the Attorney General could indicate the progress on the report with regard to release of patients from mental health institutions.

MR. FOSTER: Mr. Speaker, when I made a statement in the House some weeks ago, I indicated we would be in a holding pattern for a period of three months, pending review by my colleague the Minister of Social Services and Community Health and me. That review is ongoing with my departmental people. My colleague, of course, can speak for herself, but I'm sure that's the case with her as well.

In the meantime I have had some discussions with the chairman of the board and my staff. We feel that following the expiration of the three-month period we will in fact have some useful suggestions to put forward to ensure that maximum possible safeguards are in place and that citizens of this province are protected as much as reasonably possible, recognizing that it is not our objective to keep persons in these institutions for an indefinite period of time if medical and other evidence suggests they might usefully be released on day pass or other arrangements.

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary to the minister for clarification. Have all day passes been terminated at present, or are some continued?

MR. FOSTER: Mr. Speaker, my understanding is that there would be no additional day passes and those persons out on a longer parole would have their individual cases reviewed. I am informed that has been done, and some individuals have been returned to the institution for further review.

Canadian Constitution (continued)

MR. LOUGHEED: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I might just briefly supplement the answers I gave earlier in the question period with regard to the constitution, so that the record in *Hansard* could be complete. I referred to certain correspondence; I think it's only appropriate the references be complete.

The first letter involved was written by me to the Prime Minister on October 14, 1976, and dealt with the position of all 10 provinces as a result of constitutional discussions in the fall of '76. The next letter was from the Prime Minister, January 19, 1977. That was a response to the previous letter. From that point I responded on behalf of the government of Alberta by way of letters of February 21, 1977, and March 7, 1977, all of which have been tabled in the Legislature.

Mannville Hospital

MR. MINIELY: Mr. Speaker, as I indicated yesterday in response to a question from the Leader of the Opposition whether the auditor had spoken with, in the words of the Leader of the Opposition, "concerned citizens", I would like to report to the House with respect to the audit of the Mannville Hospital.

My office has been in touch with the audit firm. Their response was that they based their judgment with respect to the satisfactory financial operation of the hospital and with respect to the evidence of wrongdoing, or not, on the examination of documentary evidence. I reported yesterday their response that there was no wrongdoing. [They] concentrated on documentary evidence in making that judgment and not on hearsay or local gossip of either side or faction in the dispute in the community locally.

Hang Gliding

MR. ADAIR: Mr. Speaker, last week the hon. Member for Drumheller asked about regulations or standards for the Alberta Hang Glider Association. I'm pleased to respond to that today. They operate with an Alber-

ta safety committee and work very closely with the Ministry of Transport. The Alberta Safety Committee is apparently one of the leaders in Canada in working with the Ministry of Transport to develop a proper set of standards and guidelines. At the present time they operate with that safety committee, and all functions organized in the province of Alberta are covered by mandatory regulations relative to safety features and are supervised by that safety committee for the Hang Glider Association.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

head: **GOVERNMENT MOTIONS** (Committee of Supply)

[Dr. McCrimmon in the Chair]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Committee of Supply will come to order.

Department of **Housing and Public Works**

MR. MANDEVILLE: Mr. Chairman, just to make sure we've got this clear as far as this pilot project is concerned, building the six houses in Edmonton and the six houses in Calgary, I think it's a tremendous idea and really set an example. We're certainly not quarrelling with this. However, out in the market place there has been some misunderstanding as far as news releases and that are concerned. I've had several people get in touch with me in that regard. They indicated that as far as the land costs are concerned — the land costs for these houses are around \$10,700; however, if a private developer goes in it's \$21,640 or in that neighborhood. No legal fees were involved. Mortgage insurance fees were not really involved in this project.

We certainly agree that the cost of housing has been escalating very rapidly. But coming from an area down in Brooks I have to say that we have to charge a lot of this to the land developers. I certainly see down there where the land developers are charging enormous rates of money. I could look back 10 years ago when 15 per cent of the cost of a house was for land. Today, in some cases, land runs up as high as 30 or 35 per cent of your house cost.

All we're saying is we agree that we have to control the cost of housing. However, there are more than just the builders. We've got the land developers and real estate agents and salesmen who are getting a pretty good share of the housing profits.

I've had some complaints from private house owners as far as mortgages are concerned. Mortgages are put on these homes for a period of sometimes 25 to 40 years. Well, you're paying mortgage over 40 years on household appliances such as stoves, fridges, dishwashers, and rugs. We all know they only last about 10 years. I was wondering if the minister has had any complaints in this area from house owners, or if he has made any representation to mortgage companies to make some changes in this area of long-term mortgages on household effects.

MR. YURKO: Mr. Chairman, there are a couple of question I didn't answer yesterday, and I think I should answer them before coming to the member's question.

First of all, the per cent increase in construction costs — I quoted the 1975-76 figure of 9.6 per cent. The figures the Department of Public Works supplied me with indicate an increase of 9.4 per cent in 1974-75, 23.9 per cent in 1973-74, 15 per cent in 1972-73, and 7 per cent in 1971-72. So I don't know over what span the Minister of Hospitals was talking, but obviously he was talking over a multiyear span in terms of increases. But those are the increases that have been supplied to me over the last five years.

In regard to another question about the six homes in Calgary, a townhouse project was actually undertaken in Calgary on a request by the board of directors. Seven units were built, four three-bedroom units and three four-bedroom units. The three-bedroom units are 1,046 square feet with no basements, and the four-bedroom units are each 1,260 square feet with no basements. The actual costs, as calculated by the Alberta Housing Corporation — which included the construction costs: land at \$7,000 per unit, because this is row housing; and the servicing and administration costs — brought the total to \$35,000 per unit. As I said, these are townhouses with no basements, but in the region of 1,000 to 1,260 square feet.

I did want to add that there are quite a few examples of the private sector building houses in Calgary in the region of \$45 to \$47 per square foot without any mortgage assistance from the government. That's what the hon. Member for Highwood was asking me about. By the way, the Member for Highwood was asking me about a 780-unit development, of which phase one is 188 units. He quoted the figures as to cost and square footage.

So there's nothing magical about building in the region of \$45 per square foot and slightly above. If the house-building contractors wish to get [together] with the developers and bring housing on the market that's saleable and caters to the bottom two-thirds of the market, then indeed this can be done and is being done.

In regard to appliances, of course the Alberta Home Mortgage Corporation, in its mortgaging through SHOP and the direct lending program, requires that not very many appliances — I don't know how many — are included as part of the mortgage, recognizing that appliances have a much shorter life than the 40-year lifetime of the mortgage on the house itself. Apart from that and apart from the guarantees offered by the building industry, we have not attempted to interfere in any way with the private sector in this area.

MR. NOTLEY: [Inaudible] I would like the minister to respond to before we move on from this section. Mr. Minister, from your monitoring where do things now stand on this question of agents trading in their own accounts? Has there been any lessening of that problem in the last year? Can you report where things currently stand?

MR. YURKO: Mr. Chairman, I think that would be a question more properly directed to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs when his estimates

are up, because he has been dealing in that area more than I have.

MR. NOTLEY: Well, Mr. Chairman, I'll do that too when we get to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. But because it clearly applies to the housing market and because we have seen a substantial increase, has any study or assessment been made by the Department of Housing and Public Works with respect to this question?

MR. YURKO: Well again, the licensing of real estate agents, the conditions under which they are licensed, and what they can and cannot do come under the purview of the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. I know he has had some conversations with me on it, and some of our officials have gotten together to discuss the matter. I would suggest again that he'd be the minister to report on that matter.

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Chairman, let me just try again. We'll certainly put the same question to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. But my question really doesn't relate to the law and who has responsibility. I'm quite aware of the fact that under the legislation that's the responsibility of the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. However, the practice does have an impact on the housing market. My question to you, Mr. Minister, is not whether or not the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs has been honing in on the administration of it.

My question to you is whether or not the practice still has a significant bearing on increasing the price of homes to purchasers of homes in the province, and how prevalent it is from the standpoint of your department. We'll get into the administration of the minister's department when it comes up.

MR. YURKO: Mr. Chairman, our analysis indicated that when the number of sales per listing on the second-hand housing market was very high, the risk involved in buying on one's own account was low. As a result the real estate agents to some degree could take advantage under the law in this regard. That situation has changed. In our estimation, it is not a difficult situation in the Housing Corporation, because indeed the number of sales per number of listings has gone down very dramatically. It has gone down — the highest figure I remember was about 70 per cent — to the region of 25 to 40 per cent. So the risk involved here is now far greater.

From the point of view of housing prices on the second-hand market, we don't see that as a major problem at this time. That becomes a major problem in the house price structure on its upward rather than its downward motion. Indeed it was prevalent during the time the secondary house price market was the leader in setting the trend to higher and higher prices. Now it is not the leader. In fact, for a number of reasons the new house price structure tends to try to maintain the price at the new plateau that has been reached. Indeed, I think the second-hand price market is reverting and going down because of the total readjustment in the sales-to-listing picture.

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, to the minister. I think we answered it as we were sitting in our seats yesterday. But I wonder if the minister could be a

little more specific with regard to Daon, which I think we were talking about yesterday. We were talking about the number of single family units being built for — what did we say — \$44,000, or whatever it was. Apartment units, condominium units were also involved.

The general question we were asking was: how many single family units could be built for the cost we were discussing yesterday? Are most of the units being built at that lower cost in the area of condominiums or apartment dwellings?

MR. YURKO: Mr. Chairman, I think I answered the question as best I knew how. The PUD project initiated by Daon was a mixture, and contained mostly duplexes, row housing, and some single units — I don't remember how many. But there were a total of 200 units.

I don't believe I had any difficulty indicating that in the last couple of years under SHOP and the direct lending program in Edmonton and Calgary primarily, we have been approving condominiums where the land is narrower, but the square footage can be well over 1,000. There is now a gradual change. In fact we are getting some single family units in Calgary, as well as in Edmonton through a variety of programs, certainly through the co-op program in Edmonton, and certainly around the Edmonton metropolitan area — for example, Leduc.

So there is a gradual change now. There's a glut on condominiums, if you wish; they're overbuilt in condominiums. A slight change back to apartment construction is now noticeable, and to single family units of a more modest nature.

Agreed to:

Vote 1 Total Program	\$2,494,800
Vote 2 Total Program	\$15,358,100
Vote 3 Total Program	\$47,514,600
Vote 4 Total Program	\$82,753,000
Vote 5 Total Program	\$700,000
Vote 6 Total Program	\$24,964,000
Vote 7 Total Program	\$3,096,000
Capital Estimates	
Vote 1	\$19,000
Vote 2	\$2,000
Vote 3	\$12,000
Vote 4	\$80,371,000
Vote 5	—
Vote 6	—
Vote 7	\$80,404,000
Department Total	\$176,880,500

MR. YURKO: Mr. Chairman, I move that the vote be reported.

[Motion carried]

Department of Business Development and Tourism

MR. DOWLING: Mr. Chairman, very briefly, you'll notice on the first page of the estimates that our total budget increase is 9.8 per cent, with a 4.8 per cent increase for the Research Council. That reflects a 7.5 per cent total increase over the department. Some of that increase is reflected in the reduction from a 10

per cent to a 4 per cent vacancy rate. Those two remarks, I think, are important to the overall understanding of what's happening in our department.

During the time the Export Agency was being examined, we had a vacancy rate in our marketing division which was rather high in view of the fact that we had not made a decision relative to what kind of thrust we would have in foreign marketing. That decision having been made, all positions have been filled. Our vacancy rate is now 6 per cent, and we are shooting for something like 4.

To outline very briefly what our department is designed to accomplish, we have broken it down into one support division — the administrative division — and four other divisions. The first is the business development section, which involves regional economic development, development of industries, marketing, trade development, and international operations. Our second subprogram is tourism, which involves development of the travel industry, our marketing division, and our visitors' services. We have our northern development program of course, and our information and research division. In addition, the department is responsible for the Research Council, the Northern Alberta Development Council, as well as the Opportunity Company.

Mr. Chairman, in order to expedite questioning, perhaps we will leave the remarks at that and ask the opposition to ask their questions.

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Chairman, I have four areas I'd like to put before the minister in the form of questions. The first is with respect to the retail automotive business and the gasoline service outlets in Alberta. I'd like him to give us a full report on what has taken place, since the last Assembly, on attempting to work out the difficulties of service station operators in the metropolitan areas.

Along with that particular question, Mr. Chairman, I'd also like to raise the issue of price differential. We have done some research on price differential, taking as a base the MacKenzie report, because that seems to be the only easily available basis for accurate price comparisons. It would appear that the price differential between the outlying centres and the urban areas has increased very dramatically. To be fair, part of that differential is [due to] the gas war in our two major centres. However, I am interested in the minister clearly stating where things stand on the transportation costs between the refinery and the ultimate retailer — whether that retailer be in High Level, Brooks, Medicine Hat, or Empress — and how those costs compare with 10 years ago, whether the increase in transportation costs is reasonable or unreasonable.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I'd like to deal with the four questions, then we'll come back to them in the course of the estimates.

The second question relates to the overall issue of the pace of development of industry in the province of Alberta. It seems we have seen something of a change as I read the statements of the Premier at the end of the year and contrast them with the statements of two or three years ago, even statements in this Legislature. To what extent is it the government's view today that we have to set out very clearly a measured pace of development and stage future expansion very carefully — perhaps more cautiously,

if I could use that term, to be completely accurate? It seems to me we are looking at three or four major developments. I realize these are not necessarily in the minister's department. But because the minister is generally in charge of business development, it seems to me that if the whole issue of industrial development strategy is to be debated anywhere in this Legislature, it should properly be debated here.

We have, for example, the question of a possible expansion to the Syncrude plant that the Minister of Energy and Natural Resources mentioned. We have a possibility of a third oil sands plant. We now have pressure from other parts of Canada, and elsewhere, for even more rapid development of the oil sands. We have the possibility of a major heavy oil plant in Cold Lake. We have the petrochemical projects the minister is more familiar with and that fall directly in his purview. We have the possibility of the Mackenzie pipeline. Mr. Chairman and Mr. Minister, it seems to me that all these are going to have a pretty direct bearing on what our industrial strategy can be, particularly for small business and for such things as diversifying our economy in other areas — tourist business, agricultural processing, what have you.

I would just make the pitch to members of the committee that I can't think of anything more important at this stage, in terms of our overall industrial development, than a very careful staging of that development. If we get too many projects going ahead at once, not only will we find the Minister of Hospitals and Medical Care coming back a year hence and saying, you know, the cost of building a hospital has gone from \$40 to \$80 in two years; we will also find whatever efforts we might try to stimulate small business development in the province will be to no avail because there will be just too much inflation caused by too many of these projects going at once.

I think that is one of the most important issues we have to debate in this Legislature. Perhaps it's an easier issue to deal with than the stagnation which exists in the Atlantic region of Canada, but it is clearly going to have an impact on how successfully we can move in diversifying the economic base of the province.

The third question relates to the issue of Export Agency functions that have been taken over by the Department of Business Development and Tourism. As a start, would the minister bring us up to date on what goals he has set for the international marketing division and what the ground rules will be, particularly in light of some of the information which came out in Public Accounts a year ago? Is there going to be a very clearly specified set of operating guidelines, authorized by the minister and guiding the business development and tourism marketing people in the field?

The final question I'd like to deal with, Mr. Chairman, really relates to the issue of tourism and its development. I share much of the minister's enthusiasm. I have no doubt that if the minister is enthusiastic about any part of his portfolio, he is probably most enthusiastic about tourism. There is really no question that we have enormous potential in tourism in this province and in western Canada.

But, Mr. Chairman and Mr. Minister, it seems to me that our tourist potential is going to be affected in a rather important way by two things: first, rising energy prices — and I don't want the minister to come

back and say we've got lower gasoline prices in Canada, and get into that argument again. Rising energy prices are going to be a problem. The other side of the coin, that I think is equally important, is the energy policy, with a very heavy emphasis on conservation, being set out by the Carter administration in the United States. Is that not going to have some impact on the tourist industry in Alberta and in western Canada generally? It would seem to me if Mr. Carter brings in a very heavy tax — I've heard estimates as high as 50 cents a gallon — that is going to be a rather serious factor in allowing people to drive from New York State or from Alabama or Texas to the Canadian border. That will have implications on the tourist business in Alberta, particularly that part of the tourist business directly related to highway transportation. Perhaps we're going to have to look at more air transportation package plans, public transportation.

I would like the minister perhaps to start a discussion of tourism with that in mind. It seems to me we are facing a rather important challenge that somehow has to be tackled in the weeks and months ahead.

MR. DOWLING: Mr. Chairman, I'll try to deal with them one at a time as they were presented.

On the matter of the ARA: as I'm sure you are aware, we have been in fairly constant contact with the ARA or their organization as well as the companies — I will simply broad-brush it and say the major companies. The companies with which we discussed the matter, and the problems of the operators, indicated they would in fact undertake meetings with all their dealers to explain the change taking place in the market place and the attempt by the consumer to buy gasoline at the lowest possible cost.

We really feel it would be absolutely wrong for us to become involved in that kind of free enterprise system and say, no, you can't buy gas at a reduced rate; you must buy gas at an increased price through a conventional outlet. However, we did receive a commitment from each of the majors that when they changed a conventional service station to a self-serve operation, they would attempt in all cases to provide a lessee for that station rather than have it under a management situation. In discussions with the companies individually, we also received a commitment from each of them that they would upgrade their severance arrangements with lessees who decided, for one reason or another, to get out of the service station business and go into some other endeavor. Each of those was accomplished.

Since then we have had some complaint by the ARA that the companies should still get out of gasoline retailing. But that's extremely difficult to accommodate because of the high cost to an entrepreneur who is a service station operator of buying that facility. He has the option of going into one of the offline companies, building his own shop, and obtaining some sort of marketing arrangement for gasoline. He has that option at all times. But simply to provide by law that the major companies must provide that \$200 or \$250,000 facility to an entrepreneur by a long term purchase arrangement, that just wouldn't work in my view. With all the service stations there are in Alberta, I doubt very much that many banking institution that would agree to get into that kind of banking situation.

There is a problem of transportation costs, but I should give you a couple of examples of prices in Alberta that are extremely high and some that are extremely low. In northeastern Alberta, one of the lowest retail prices for gasoline at the pump is offered at a conventional station. In westcentral Alberta and in the national parks — both Jasper and Banff — I would suspect the price is as high as it is in many parts of the Peace River country, also the markup is the highest. There's the difference. The posted tank wagon price plus transportation and markup is what really makes the price at the retail level. We don't have any intention of legislating the major companies out of the gas station business. All kinds of offline companies are now in existence. If the majors were really unfair, they could very easily move and take over that business. They're not doing it.

With regard to paced development of industries, I think the hon. Member for Spirit River-Fairview is right when he says we have to be extremely careful about how development takes place in our province. We are very much aware of the kinds of options we have and the kinds of things we should be doing. We're trying very hard to make certain there aren't pressures on our labor force and on our economy because too many things happen at once.

I'm sure I don't have to repeat the goals of our department. First of all we believe there should be maximum upgrading of resources. That's been repeated many times in this House. We believe that for obvious reasons. For years we've sent upgraded, quality, highly technical jobs down the pipeline. With the petrochemical industry, we believe that those jobs should be offered to Albertans. So we want maximum upgrading not only of oil and gas resources but of lumber, agricultural products, and anything we're capable of upgrading.

We believe our economy must be diversified. We must balance the growth, as best we can, over every one of the 255,000 square miles of our province. That causes us some considerable difficulty as you, representing a northern constituency, will surely understand. But we are doing our best. One of the secrets to that balanced economic growth is to offer proper transportation systems in every part of the province. That's why the priority of the Minister of Transportation in the Mackenzie Highway. That's why the priority in every transportation move, whether it be airports, communications networks, highways, whatever.

We believe there should be decentralization of government services. I don't have to review the number of government services that have been decentralized. I'll just mention the Opportunity Company, the Ag. Development Corporation, and a few of that kind.

We believe the first opportunity for involvement in the economic expansion of Alberta should be offered to existing businesses. We should provide them every possible means of expanding and enhancing their own businesses. We also believe Alberta entrepreneurs should be given an opportunity to develop new businesses.

We believe our position with regard to the promotion of tourism has to change slightly. We shouldn't abandon our marketing position. Rather we should put a new goal in the tourist area, and that should be the expansion of tourist facilities in destination areas. We believe that in the peak months — part of June,

July, August, and part of September — our facilities are crowded to the point they can hardly stand any more people. So we have to further promote the shoulder seasons if we're marketing, and we have to develop new destination areas. They can be anywhere in the province: Cypress Hills Provincial Park, the badlands of Drumheller, the lakeland country of northeastern Alberta and, I suppose, the entire Peace River country. Our last goal is the socio-economic development of the north.

I should just read you some statistics I think are important to this discussion. Alberta's gross domestic product has grown pretty extensively [in] the 1970s. In '71 it accounted for about 8 per cent of the nation's output and, as you know, we have 8 per cent of the population of Canada. That has now reached 10 per cent, and could go as high as 11 per cent during this year. The provincial economy has been fuelled primarily by direct investment, which accounted for 32 per cent of the gross domestic product in 1975. In '76, Alberta accounted for more than 15 per cent of the business investment of the country. Bearing in mind we only have 8 per cent of the population, that is quite significant.

As a Canadian I can't deny my concern for the Atlantic provinces, for Quebec, and for other provinces that are having some difficulty expanding their economic base. We recently had a federal/provincial conference on industry in Ottawa, called by the federal Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. I thought I clearly set out the view of Alberta that when it comes to economic development, we were as concerned about other parts of Canada as we are about our own province.

As of June 30, 1976, 55 major industrial projects, with a capital value of \$3.5 billion, were under construction in the province. So we are expanding quite rapidly. We're extremely concerned that as the construction phase of the Syncrude operation slows down, there should be something to take its place. That in fact has turned out to be the start-up of the petrochemical industry. But we are still aware there is a need for further industrialization or business development as time goes on.

However, you can't just have Syncrudes and petrochemical plants and agricultural processing plants and rapeseed plants developing unless you have an overall plan for what to do with the produce once you get in place the structure to manufacture that produce. So we've taken an extremely strong position on GATT — the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade — on bilaterals, on foreign missions, and on very small mini-missions into various areas of the world where we think there is some potential to sell our product.

The government of Alberta and our department were responsible for stimulating the development of a western provincial GATT position which has now been presented by the Premier to the Prime Minister of Canada. It's our hope that over the next several days we would be able to table that document with the concurrence of the ministers of industry in British Columbia, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba. It rather duplicates the position the Minister of Agriculture took with regard to the development of a western provincial position on agriculture which was tabled in this House not so long ago.

With regard to the Export Agency, there were four

vacancies in our marketing division at the time when the discussions were proceeding regarding the Export Agency and what should happen to our marketing arm in the agency, our department, and the Department of Agriculture. There was also a request for, I think, two or three additional staff to complete the staffing of the marketing division if we were to go that route.

When the Export Agency was abandoned, 11 positions from the agency were provided to Business Development and Tourism. We filled four of those positions with people from the Export Agency. I can name the people if you wish. I have a document here indicating them. Four of those positions were filled. The balance have been advertised. I think only one position remains to be filled, and it is one of consequence. It has to do with our thrust in the Latin American countries and South America.

With regard to tourism, as I said, I have some particular concerns that we do not have the number of destination areas in Alberta we should have. You will be aware that we spent long and tedious hours — or rather enjoyable hours, I would suspect — on the eastern slopes with the eastern slopes committee, the Land Use Forum, and all the studies that went into attempting to form a position for the provincial government regarding what should happen in the eastern slopes. As a result of all those studies, the coal policy was brought forward. I think that has been tabled in the House. That was the first and one of the most significant parts of the eastern slopes program to come forward to this date.

The second portion of it is the responsibility of Mr. Schmidt, the associate minister responsible for all the public lands of Alberta. He is now taking a proposal to our cabinet committee for approval, which would indicate where tourist developments or developments of any kind might take place in the eastern slopes.

Our position with regard to tourism has always been that we have to recognize that from the standpoint of foreign travel and travel from outside our province into the province, 95 per cent of it arrives by rubber tire. By that I mean family vehicle. That also applies to the United States market. Since the energy crisis hit the United States, we have had a major decrease in American traffic.

However, some interesting things happened last year. In one single month there was a 23 per cent increase in American tourist traffic coming to Alberta. There was also an indication that traffic coming was staying for a longer period. Fifteen per cent of the traffic was staying for more than one day. At a tourist meeting we were successful in convincing the federal Minister of Industry, Trade, and Commerce that rather than promoting rapid transit through the Canadian government office of tourism, we should be promoting the rubber-tire traffic which is so significant to the tourist industry all across Canada.

However, our major concern is really not the marketing of tourism. Because it is there if we want it. It is there in whatever amounts we want it. As I've said, our concern is facility development.

A couple of significant things happened in the U.S. federal government. The federal authority took the position that costs for conferences or conventions attended by Americans could not be used as tax write-offs. We took our position to the minister, and it also went to the Prime Minister. Not too long ago

he made his overtures to the President of the United States, Mr. Carter, and we believe there is a better than even chance that legislation now in effect could be altered to exclude both Canada and Mexico.

Without going into any further detail, I think perhaps that answers the questions.

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Chairman, if I may respond to two or three of the comments, then ask another question or two. Dealing first of all with the question of the service station operators, I think we have to separate two things; and that is, complete divorcement and functional divorcement.

It is my understanding the Automotive Retailers' Association has never asked for total divorcement where it would be necessary for the individual operators to purchase the service stations on either a short-term or a long-term base — but in fact to rent those service stations from the oil companies, in fact to have complete control beyond that in terms of setting their own business conditions. So it seems to me there is an important distinction between the two positions. And it is my understanding the legislation in Maryland is essentially one of functional divorcement as opposed to complete divorcement.

Mr. Chairman, I would just like to say a word or two about the overall export thrust of the government. I want to say that I would separate two things. I would separate some of the trade missions, which in my view are subject to debate, to the general approach of obtaining agreement among western provinces on both agricultural and industrial questions so we can go together and make our position known before and during the GATT negotiations.

On that particular issue I fully support the initiatives taken by this government and other governments in the west. I think we have to work together, very clearly not only on the agricultural questions but on the industrial issues as well. So we will be looking forward to seeing that particular document tabled. Perhaps the minister can advise us when it is going to be tabled.

MR. DOWLING: Mr. Chairman, I couldn't be sure. We have been in touch with the governments of the three other western provinces, and I would like it to be tabled simultaneously in all provinces. But it will be tabled for sure.

MR. NOTLEY: It's the intention to table it during the spring session so that . . . While I am on my feet, perhaps the Deputy Premier could advise whether there will be any provision for the discussion of the two position papers — I understood there was at some point in the spring agenda before the GATT negotiations — both the agricultural ones and the industrial paper.

MR. DOWLING: Mr. Chairman, perhaps I can answer that. It seems to me that earlier we discussed in caucus the possibility of a motion being put before the House, but perhaps it would be best if you asked that question of the House leader when he is in the House. He will be back very shortly.

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Chairman, I would like to move from that particular issue to perhaps try to clarify where and how we are going to stage development in

the province. There is really no doubt, and I think most people would agree, that we need the staged development. In that sense Nick Taylor can feel some assurance that we now have multipartisan support.

But Mr. Chairman and Mr. Minister, the question I want answered is: what mechanism are we going to use to ensure that that staging takes place, and who is going to be responsible for it? Is it going to be monitored through the Department of Business Development and Tourism? What role does Business Development and Tourism and the statistical information compiled by your department have in determining whether we go ahead with these major projects?

It seems to me that we are going to be looking at some multibillion dollar projects, some of which we aren't going to be able to control. If the federal government decides to go ahead with the Mackenzie pipeline, for example, that's going to have an enormous effect, both positive and negative, on the economy of Alberta. We don't have any control over that, but we do have control over whether we go ahead with a heavy oil plant in Cold Lake. We do have control over whether we go ahead with an expansion to Syncrude or a third oil sands plant. Now those are areas that come under the Minister of Energy. But my question is: who is doing the overall management in terms of deciding what pace we can stand, and what mechanism is used to synthesize the information which is becoming available so we can in fact make intelligent public decisions?

MR. DOWLING: First of all, Mr. Chairman, to go back just one step to the GATT, I should inform the House that Ambassador Grey was in Alberta for a period of three days. It's the first time we know of that any ambassador to GATT from Canada has actually visited the prairie provinces to get a first hand view of what we really had in mind. He visited all the western provinces. He spent three days here. An invitation has been extended for our people to visit Geneva to have a further meeting, and make our position known further, but not to take part in the negotiations, obviously. It has to be a very closed shop kind of thing.

With regard to staged development, we're very conscious of the things that are potentially going to take place in Alberta, or the things we know will take place. We publish a document from the department, which indicates projects now under way and projects proposed. The lead page in the document says we list all of the proposed projects, but we do not indicate whether any of the proposed ones will ever proceed or not. That's the first thing we do. We are aware of what's going on.

With regard to those things we have some control over: in Advanced Education and Manpower we have a fairly extensive training program to make sure we are equipped for those things that are going to take place in Alberta by way of manpower. In Energy and in our department we have a system of industrial development permits to provide that if a project proceeds, it proceeds in a certain way allowing for maximum participation of Alberta companies, Alberta labor, Alberta engineers, Alberta product. We do have some control over how they proceed.

A part of that control is vested in the cabinet and caucus, and also a particular committee called

Economic [Planning] Committee, and Energy Committee. It's sort of a fail-safe mechanism, to make sure we know where we're going, and that we don't exert any excess pressures on our economy.

Those things we have consciously done over the last while. The petrochemical thing is being undertaken in the knowledge that there would have been a major shortfall when the Syncrude construction phase was completed. I don't mean a shortfall in labor; in jobs, I would suspect.

So we do have some control over where we're going, through those very committees, our caucus and cabinet.

MR. NOTLEY: Perhaps I could move from there to petrochemicals for a moment. In the fall session of the House, the Premier made it clear that during his visit to the United States in 1976 he looked at the possibility of markets for petrochemicals in the Pacific northwest. If I remember his statement in *Hansard*, it was suggested that he would be prepared to assure natural gas supplies in order to see a change in the tariff structure as it relates to two things, boxed beef and petrochemicals produced in Alberta.

My question directly to the minister is: where do things stand now for a world-scale petrochemical industry from the department's assessment of the market projections? Obviously, if we're looking at the Pacific northwest it's clear — and I think there's little doubt — that western Canada is not able to support a world-scale petrochemical industry. With the Petrosar project proceeding, the rest of the Canadian market will just not be available to us. So we have to look outside the country, and it's obvious the Pacific northwest is one possible area.

However, what I think is rather important to our deliberations is: what is our competitive position inside that market, in view of two things: first of all, the present investment pattern in the American petrochemical industry, where I gather there is already a surplus plus an overinvestment in the industry. The second thing is a subjective question I don't expect you to be able to answer definitively, but I think we should have some comments. With the new approach outlined by Mr. Carter several days ago, are we going to see the United States being less willing to open up markets where they already have an oversupply in their own country?

MR. DOWLING: Mr. Chairman, first with regard to market potential, there's no question, the U.S. market is our greatest potential from the standpoint of just about everything we undertake, not neglecting or disregarding eastern Canada for some things — agricultural produce and things of that nature — the Pacific Rim countries, or the European Economic Community. However I think, bearing in mind our major potential market is the United States, if we exported all the petrochemicals we hope to produce over the next few years — the percentage of the American need — all our exports would represent something like 4 per cent.

We are aware there was a potential petrochemical plant to be developed on the west coast of the United States. That has been shelved because of environmental problems. It was to have taken place in California. So our competition is the gulf coast, and we believe very strongly that if we were to be suc-

cessful and to assist our petrochemical industry, we must do everything we can through GATT, both to get the tariffs dropped and to place some hard bargains in a bilateral way.

Just for example, [one] of the petrochemical problems we have is that a particular product being exported to the United States is subject to a 15 per cent tax, where the same product coming into Canada would be subject to a 5 per cent tax. Now it doesn't do any good to take a position that we reduce tariffs 60 per cent across the border, because we're still in the same relative position. What we really need is an equal tariff or no tariff. That's really what we're doing.

I believe the Premier in his discussions with our neighbors to the south, Senator Jackson and others, has made some substantial inroads, and I think those will be followed up in the course of the next month.

But you must remember that the investment in the petrochemical industry is by the private sector. They are the ones manufacturing the product. They are the ones who are going to have to sell the product, a great deal by export. But we are willing to do everything we can to assist them.

MR. NOTLEY: Just to follow that along for a moment. The question really is: to what extent is our prospective world-scale petrochemical industry seriously prejudiced? I would stand in my place and say I don't think there's any Albertan who would not want to correct the tariff situation. We can argue about how we do it, but I can't imagine anyone seriously saying that we would want that kind of inequity to exist.

But unfortunately, sometimes in the real world you don't quite make the progress, to wit, freight rates. The UFA members of the House of Commons, the ginger group, talked about freight rate problems as eloquently as people do today. Some of the first Social Credit members elected in 1935 talked about tariff problems as eloquently as people do today. So our progress has been, shall we say, relatively moderate.

The question I would put to the minister is: I would like an assessment of what's going to happen to this world-scale petrochemical industry if — and in estimates we can bring in "if", where we can't in the question period — we aren't successful. What happens if the Americans say, no way? Senator Jackson once was a presidential aspirant, but not the President of the United States. Suppose, in what would appear to be a new era of more self-reliance in the United States, they say, no way? What's going to happen then to our world-scale petrochemical industry? To what extent will our market position in the Pacific northwest be seriously jeopardized if we don't wring from the Americans those concessions on the 15 per cent tariff versus the 5 per cent tariff?

MR. DOWLING: Well first of all you have to remember we do have secure supply of a feedstock to manufacture petrochemicals. That's an extremely important thing. Secondly, I'm the proverbial optimist. I think you have to be or you shouldn't be in this job. And you just have to do it. You have to recall it's the first time in western Canadian history that we've had an ambassador here for three days to discuss the matter of GATT. It's the first time we've actually been invited to visit Geneva and all but take

part in the negotiation position. It's the first time a western Canadian position has been put forward on all industry and all agriculture in western Canada. It's the first time we have had an opportunity, or have taken advantage of an opportunity, to initiate discussions with our American counterparts.

There are some things they will undoubtedly want and there have to be trade-offs. It's not going to be all one way. But I'm confident we'll win, because we haven't had too many losers over the last six years. They've been won because we've been hard and tough in dealing with our resources, our industrial strategy, and our desire to allow an opportunity for all Albertans to participate in the economy. We've been strong in the things we believe, and we've been right. And that's how we'll win.

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Chairman, that really isn't the point. When I began my remarks I agreed with the minister. I thought it was a great speech.

We're right. We were right when Mr. Reid, the UFA premier, said we've got to do something about those darned freight rates; and when John Brownlee said, that tariff structure is hurting the west; and when Mr. Aberhart said, unless we do something about the 50 big shots in eastern Canada, we're going to pay for it; et cetera, et cetera. We've been right on these issues.

MR. TAYLOR: Forty-five now.

MR. NOTLEY: The hon. Member for Drumheller tells me there are only 45 now. I'm glad to hear that. Maybe five of them have moved out west. They do tell me the power is shifting west.

Anyway, Mr. Chairman, the question to the minister really is: what if we aren't able to succeed in getting this tariff down? That is the question I would like to direct to the minister. To what extent is our world-scale petrochemical industry contingent upon getting into that northwestern market? That's the issue of risk I think we as members of the Assembly have to ask you to answer, and that we have to know so we can answer our constituents.

MR. DOWLING: I suggest you answer your constituents that it appears to be our greatest potential market. But there's a great world out there, you know, a tremendous world. Just like I tell everybody there's a great Alberta out there — 255,000 square miles. And if you are not willing to take a gamble . . . This is how we lost the Export Agency. We took a few gambles. We lost a few. Zip goes the Export Agency. I don't think we should throw up our hands and say, there's no way. I think we should try everything. We should try every known means.

Who ever heard of exporting petrochemicals or agricultural products to the European Economic Community? But that doesn't mean we're going to throw up our hands and say no. We're going to try it. That's why the Premier undertook the 1973 mission to Japan in the first place, and the mission to Europe in 1975. That's why we've consistently pressured and worked to try to gain the things we want. With rare exceptions we have succeeded — not with everything we want, but we've succeeded. And that's the answer. We'll make it.

MR. NOTLEY: Perhaps I can just question this if I may, then we'll perhaps get into a different set of questions.

Mr. Chairman, to the Minister. The question still has not been answered. I'm not arguing the fact that if we don't get into the Pacific northwestern market, we're going to have to look around for other markets. The concern I have is very simply this: if we're looking at the European Common Market, I would have to say that's a pretty tough one to get into in view of the enormous investment the Arabs can make in petrochemical industries with their petrodollars. I suspect they are in a vastly better position to subsidize their industry outright if they have to. For that matter, I suspect they have enough petrodollars that they could probably outsell us in Alberta if they really wanted to.

But the question really relates to the obvious market for this petrochemical industry that most of us would recognize. My question is still: if that market is closed to us, how serious an impact is that going to have on the world-scale petrochemical industry we have today?

MR. DOWLING: First of all I think the answer is a good private sector answer. Dow Chemical has made the largest investment it has ever made anywhere in the world. They are not going to see that investment lost. That company is international in nature, one of those beautiful, multinational corporations which make our economy move ahead so fast. I'm delighted they're here and that they've made that greatest of all investments in Alberta, one of Canada's great provinces. They're not going to see that go down the drain. That's one winner. The second winner: they have the total support of Alberta. They have a guaranteed feedstock, and it's going to go. There's no question about it.

The second part, as you undoubtedly know, is that in a great deal of the upgrading of produce that has taken place and is taking place in Alberta there are such things as partnerships, joint ventures, and so on. Have a look at the companies involved in those, and have a look at the markets they provide. When you get a joint venture with a Japanese firm, that opens up the entire Japanese market for you. The Mitsubishi and the Mitsubishi corporations are not to be ignored. They're tremendous influences. Normally the Japanese community doesn't buy unless they want to. But if one of their major trading companies is involved here, you can bet your bottom dollar that that Japanese market is accessible.

MR. R. SPEAKER: Supplementary to the minister. Could the minister define what he meant by a guaranteed feedstock?

MR. DOWLING: As far as can be done with an industrial development permit. As you know, the ERCB first of all receives an application, examines the proposal, and passes judgment on whether in fact the energy source is available. They deal just with energy sources. If that energy source is available and is going to be used properly, an industrial development permit is recommended. It's approved by cabinet with certain conditions. It says things like: for the life of the permit or the project, this company can use so many BTUs or whatever you call it, of natural gas to

do a certain thing and they must do it a certain way. That, as far as the government can, is a guaranteed feedstock. In other words, that amount of energy is set aside. We know what our reserves are, and it's set aside for use by that company during the life of the plant.

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, supplementary to the minister. The minister isn't talking about a guaranteed price for the feedstock; he's talking about a guaranteed source.

Is it all right to proceed, Mr. Chairman? It's on the topic and it's at hand at the moment, if that's all right with the Member for Drumheller.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can have about one more supplementary. Others are waiting on the list.

MR. R. SPEAKER: My supplementary to the minister is: when we discuss the price as such, do you see the price of feedstock available in Alberta for the petrochemical industry affecting our future ability to come up with petrochemical industries with the vastness the government is projecting? Will it meet the objectives of government because of the high feedstock cost?

MR. DOWLING: Yes, I think so. Most petrochemical industries established over the world are normally competing with feedstocks that are at world prices. In Canada we're well below that now. Our move, of course, is to bring our energy to world prices. However, we've not reached that point, and even if we do we're still competitive.

I think one of the important features is the type of government that exists in the country — I'm talking about the Canadian nation — the guaranteed feedstock, the fact there's no question about the government taking control of the petrochemical industry once it's developed here, as could happen in some other communities throughout the world. I believe it can go. At the moment I think we're in a position that natural gas is priced somewhat less than the BTU value of crude oil at the Toronto city gates. We're in an advantageous position at the moment, and I think that position will be maintained.

MR. TAYLOR: I sometimes think that when the Alberta government undertook to attack the multinational giants of the petrochemical industry of the world, it was starting a tremendous battle. I still think it's going to be a tremendous battle. I think there are going to be a lot of frustrations and difficulties in achieving our end. But it's probably the only way we'd ever get a petrochemical industry. In my view, the fight is worth while, even though we have some setbacks in the meantime and some difficulties in achieving our end.

But I look forward to the day when we won't have the revenues or the jobs we presently have from the petroleum industry. I think we and the government have a responsibility to plan for that day. In my view, having a petrochemical industry that will provide revenues and jobs is a most important function of this period of our history. So I certainly want to assist the government in every way possible in getting petrochemical industries into the province. I think it will pay dividends in the long run. Many people have

been amazed that the provincial government would undertake a fight against such "giants". I think it's going to be worth while. I think it's going to redound to the benefit of the people of Alberta.

I'd like to deal with this matter of tourism for a few moments. I met the Travel Industry Association of Alberta on October 3 last year. One of the main pitches the association was making at that time was for a minister of its own. I discussed this pretty carefully with the members who were there and with some members since. I endeavored to convey the thought that the responsibility of an organization like that was not to tell the government how to achieve results, but to ask for certain definite results and then let the government decide how it was going to achieve them. There was not total agreement, but I think there was some agreement with that concept.

As a matter of fact, that happens in many branches of government. I think it's a basic principle. When people in a community ask for a bridge, they don't say anything about the design, the foundation, or the structure. That's left to the experts, the engineers qualified in that area. I think organizations like the tourist organizations, which are well meaning and can be of tremendous benefit to the province, sometimes get off base in telling the government how to achieve results. I think they [should] ask for definite results, then the government decides how it's going to get those results. As a matter of fact, that was one of the basic principles — the hon. Member for Little Bow will remember — of the Social Credit movement years ago. I think it's a sound principle.

Consequently when I follow that myself in connection with tourism, I'm pretty well delighted with the results we are getting. I couldn't press for a minister of tourism only. I think the results we're achieving today are excellent, equal or better than anyplace else, I suppose, in Canada or the U.S.A. Consequently I don't know why we should be fighting to get another minister. In my view the present minister is doing a very splendid job. He doesn't have to have a portfolio all by himself. He's handling that along with business development. In my view they go together.

But I think it's the results that are going to count. I believe organizations would be better advised to say, we want certain things to happen in the tourist industry. Then the government is in a position to try to work out programs to achieve those results. I think that is a sound principle.

So I'd like to deal with one or two items today, some of the results that I think would be desirable in the tourist industry. Number one, the hon. Member for Spirit River-Fairview mentioned there may be a danger, through the conservation measures of the United States, to hurt the tourist industry in Canada. In my view, the conservation measures being undertaken in the United States will be a real opportunity for tourism to flourish in the province of Alberta even more than it has done.

If their gasoline is rationed, think of the impact it will have if posters, magazine covers, newspapers, and movies could tell the story: go to Alberta, ship your car to Alberta and drive and drive and drive; no shortage of gasoline. When people have a car and go somewhere, they want to drive. They wouldn't be restricted in this province, as they may be restricted in some of the United States. As a matter of fact, I know a great number of Albertans who decided not to

go to the United States two years ago because they heard there was rationing. I personally made some pretty discreet inquiries before I went down there to make sure I would not be stranded in the middle of a desert without any gasoline. It's a very important item. That, along with no sales tax and so on, can be a real boon to getting people to come to Alberta in greater numbers.

But I would like to see the tourist association work toward something else. We have good highways in the province. Our arteries north, south, east, and west are excellent. I'm not saying they can't be improved, but they're excellent, comparable with others anywhere in Canada or the United States, and far superior to those found in many states. But along those highways, many times there are shortages of motels and good eating places. I believe the department could make an effort to encourage people to locate at strategic points along our excellent highway network, where they would provide motels, camping grounds, places for trailers, and eating places. Those are some of the major requirements.

When I have been in the Banff area, it's most annoying to have to drive and drive and drive hour after hour trying to find a room. I didn't do it last year, but I certainly did two or three years ago. It was most frustrating and annoying. You can imagine how people would feel if they came from the United States or eastern Canada and had the same experience. So I think there's a wonderful opportunity for some people who have expertise in those lines to broaden out and provide a real service for the tourist industry.

I would like to make two other suggestions in connection with the tourism industry. One came to me through the Capital City Hot Rod Association, which wants to establish and secure a drag strip somewhere least annoying to other people. Along with that drag strip, they would like to establish a transportation museum in which the history of antique cars, trains, and airplanes could be displayed. I think this has a tremendous potential. Either cars, trains, or aircraft appeal to almost everybody. If it became a reality I think it would be a drawing attraction for many, many people. If an organization like the fine young men and women in the Capital City Hot Rod Association could get some encouragement, I'm sure they'd do a super job in developing that type of tourist attraction.

Another suggestion: about three years ago I was in Toronto and spent the best part of a day at the Ontario Science Centre. I was amazed at the hundreds of people there. The attendants told me hundreds of people go to that Science Centre almost every day. I don't think we have anything comparable in the province of Alberta. I would like to see some enterprising group, with perhaps some encouragement from the department, establish an Alberta science centre. Perhaps the Research Council could look into it. I think it could be a tremendous tourist attraction in this province.

I know every constituency has its own peculiar attractions, and properly so, just as every province in Canada has its own peculiar attractions. I don't think that by expounding on one, we lessen the influence of others. I would like to mention that the large area of land donated to the province by Mr. Sid McMullen — the property formerly used by the Midlandvale Coal Company — and the plans of the province to establish

a park there, is a tremendous and unique possibility to develop another "first" in a distinctly different major attraction of a global nature. We have the fossilized stones. We have the skeletons of the dinosaurs. We have the coal mines that are now standing idle. I think this could become an attraction that would attract scientists, scholars, students, and interested people from all parts of the world. These things are unique.

Many people laughed when the Drumheller people — I had little to do with it — built a little church that holds 10,000 people, six at a time. It's amazing how many thousands, and now perhaps millions of people have come from all parts of the world to see that little church. There have been three weddings in the church. If I were going to get married, I'd be inclined to go there too. It's a tremendous attraction. I have been there when there were people from Ontario, New Brunswick, and Germany. They're just amazed at that little church. It's become a major attraction on the Dinosaur Trail.

I'm hoping the development of that tremendous, unique area in Drumheller can be proceeded with as rapidly as possible, in fairness with other parts of the province of Alberta.

That's all I'm going to say in connection with tourism. I think it has a tremendous future in this province. Very few provinces have the unique attractions we have. I believe that by setting out certain goals the government can make it an even more viable and real industry than it is today — and there is certainly a tremendous industry here today.

There's one other item I want to deal with. I don't want to take too much time because I want to be fair to the other hon. members. That is this matter of coal gasification. I would like to commend the hon. minister and the Alberta Research Council for going ahead with this pilot plant last year and for the way it was handled. Many people thought the provincial government would be putting up the entire cost. As a matter of fact, at one time I thought that myself. I knew it was going to be a very costly experiment.

There have been very few coal gasification experiments anywhere in the world. Russia and Germany are the only two places I know of where they have taken place at all. It's the first underground coal gasification test in the whole of Canada. I don't think it has even taken place in the United States. I think the way it was handled is very commendable, and I think we should take time to mention it.

Again, it was not a government endeavor but a project in which industry and government joined to achieve a certain result. Business put money into it; other provinces, the federal government, the Research Council and the province of Alberta put money into it. But we probably paid less of the total amount. Yet when the final thing is achieved, through that investment from the province of Alberta the people of Alberta are in my view going to achieve very excellent dividends.

I know that coal gasification isn't going to happen tomorrow. But I'm quite delighted with the results that have taken place. Along with the researcher in my office, Mr. Williams, I spent an entire day at the plant. I appreciate the time Mr. Jensen and Mr. Roehl gave us and the pains to which they went over all the questions we had. The burning has now been completed. When I saw the actual pilot project in

operation I realized why the government and the Research Council and others responsible had to be very, very careful in choosing the location.

At one time I urged that a section of Drumheller be chosen. I realize now that that may not have been a very good idea because if the fire ever got away in the underground seams in Drumheller, where there are just 200 feet between seams of various mines, it might have started a tremendous conflagration that would have been most difficult to deal with. That wasn't so in the Forestburg area. They were able to control the burning. Perhaps [in] the next area chosen, they will also be able to choose that.

What happens to ground water is a very important item. The Research Council has spent and is spending a lot of money on research on ground water. The result of the ground watering is being monitored now, the subsidence of the surface, what happened when we burned the coal underneath: another very important thing we have to follow through. I believe the Research Council is now going to excavate the entire site and have a look at what happened underneath. I think that's a very important project too.

I would like to commend the co-operation where industry and government have gotten together again — something that many people think can't happen. Again, it's resulted in an excellent pilot plant project so far. I realize no capturing of the energy is presently coming out of that. That will come from later experiments. That's going to be an important item in the future and could very well be the means of a power plant making use of the coal without actually mining it. The future of this has still to be followed through but as someone representing a great many people vitally interested in coal, I say the project has been excellently done. Dr. Berkowitz, Dr. Wiggins, Mr. Jensen, Mr. Roehl, the minister, and the government are to be commended on going ahead with a pilot project that I believe will have tremendous benefits for the people of Alberta in the next few years.

Mr. Chairman, those were the points I wanted to deal with at this time. I would appreciate any comments the hon. minister has on any of the points I raised.

MR. DOWLING: Thank you very much, and thanks to the hon. Member for Drumheller. I can't disagree with very much he says, although he is perhaps a little too flowery in the compliments to the ministry. It was in fact the Research Council which undertook the job. It was sponsored jointly by the Department of Energy and Natural Resources, the Alberta Research Council, I think 14 private firms, and the federal government.

But to take the items as he brought them forward. First of all, on petrochemicals, I'm sure the hon. member is aware of the energy corridor established some time ago. It's rather a loose line that stretches from Fort McMurray, with a line coming into Edmonton, running east towards Lloydminster, and south from there to Hardisty. Our overall plan for the development of petrochemicals and further major developments in that regard is to have them moved out as far as possible, without severe penalty to the companies involved, to the point that the project would not go ahead.

The long-term view with regard to feedstock is that the oil produced from the oil sands will eventually

become the feedstock for a number of things now being undertaken or contemplated over the next little while. I think that's important for us to recognize.

The first move to decentralize in a major way was the establishment of the ethylene plant in Joffre. It was the first known case where we actually said, there's where you must locate. If you don't locate there, the thing doesn't go forward. I think that really was a stroke of genius by those people who made that decision in the first place. As for the negotiations to bring the thing to fruition — during the former minister's tenure under Industry and Commerce I'm sure the first thing he said when he woke up every morning was, don't forget the Dow/Dome proposal. So it went for four years. The groundwork he did brought it to an agreement with the companies then involved, in 1975, I think. There was a great deal of work. I agree that it was an important part of our industrial strategy.

With regard to the tourist industry, I'm sure you're all aware that each year we give an amount of money to the Travel Industry Association of Alberta. We believe that is supportive money, stimulus money, and not really meant as seed money to run anything. We've established an organization in the Travel Industry Association which is totally private enterprise in origin. We have some input into their decisions and obviously we have some input when it comes to actually allotting the money to the 14 zones.

This year we're proposing some \$390,000 in out-and-out grants for specific proposals. I'm really delighted with the way they have moved. I do agree with the hon. Member for Drumheller that we have to be very cautious about establishing new portfolios and not just establish a portfolio to give something a little prestige but have the organization work out programs and plans to develop an overall thrust for tourism.

My real fear in tourism is that we will destroy it by overpromotion. We have to be so very careful that we promote in the right areas, that we don't just invite people to come and in a few short years find we're in a situation like France, Austria, Spain, and other areas have found themselves in, because of too many tourists in the wrong places. Our view very strongly — coming from Jasper I can say this without too much problem — is to make sure that we don't overcrowd the national parks. They are becoming crowded. So our view is to move them out of the national parks and into every other area of the province.

Regarding the suggestions for things to bring them here and keep them here longer, they're very welcome and I'll apprise my staff in Travel Alberta that you've made the suggestions. I'll obviously copy them, give them copies of *Hansard*, and will be in touch with you in regard to those.

On the coal gasification project, it is a rather unique one because of the way it was undertaken. The Research Council gained information on every coal gasification project ever undertaken in Europe and Russia — all the statistical details. We have the technical data for all of those. Armed with that information, the package was put together. It's just in its infancy; it will proceed this summer, as you say, to really excavate to find out how the burn took place and to further examine the type of product that came off at the valve stem or wherever they did the burn. I

think that in the long term it's going to be pretty advantageous to Alberta's industrial strategy.

MR. SHABEN: Mr. Chairman, I have a couple of comments and some questions that I'd like to direct to the minister. I'd like to move the discussion to north of Highway 16 for a moment and ask the minister about the kinds of things the department is involved in in those areas of the province, specifically north of Highway 16 where we have high unemployment rates and yet there's a large potential for the development of forest-based industries, agribusinesses, tourism, and so on.

First of all, a general question as to the kinds of things that the department is doing in those areas. Specifically, is the department involved in trying to revive those forest-based industries that have experienced some considerable difficulty over the past two years?

Moving on, I ask the minister about the policy of the government as it relates to development in the north or throughout the province. Is there any intention by the government to move toward designated or special areas as has been the case in the past, or the implications of special regional development projects? Is this the kind of thing the minister envisions to assist those pockets of high unemployment?

Also I'd like the minister to comment on what sort of initiatives are being taken in those smaller communities far removed from the major centres, the isolated communities where there is little or no economic base. What sort of action or plans are being undertaken to help provide the people in those areas with job opportunities?

The other area I'd like to ask the minister to comment on is: in 1975, through the Northern Alberta Development Council, the department sponsored the Opportunity North Conference in Peace River, and in 1976 also sponsored a very successful conference on transportation. I was wondering if the minister contemplated similar types of conferences this year or in coming years on other important matters.

MR. DOWLING: Mr. Chairman, hon. members will understand that the Northern Alberta Development Council is a group of 10 private entrepreneurs from the north. Loosely speaking, north of Highway 16 represents the area of their responsibility. It does extend a little higher than that; that basically is it. We don't normally deal with Jasper, Edson or Hinton; it's north of that area. However, we are involved in Grande Cache, in a native development way.

First of all, with regard to one of the more important areas of the north and the potential of developing our forest industries up there, hon. members will recall that some 14 to 17 private organizations were federally funded in various ways by the Department of Regional Economic Expansion over the course of the last several years. As a government, we did not agree with earmarking areas and saying, that area is going to move ahead because we say so. We felt that our total province should be involved in any economic expansion and a program should move ahead because it was of the right kind.

The forest industry in the Slave Lake area is in difficulty, there is no question. But the potential for some tremendous development is there. We have examined two or three of the organizations that have

had some financial difficulty or difficulty with markets. I suppose if I were to analyse or suggest what the problems have been up there, they are the problems of any entrepreneur who goes broke. They are the three M's: management, money, and market. I think in the case of the Slave Lake area you might find that all three apply.

However, we have not just disregarded those areas. We've spent a great deal of time. Of the projects that have a potential for development or for bringing themselves up by the bootstraps I would suspect our department has spent well over a thousand hours on just one of them. We are now in the process of further examining one of those lumber projects to see whether there's any way we might help them further. In saying that, I mean the Northern Alberta Development Council has been pretty much involved.

So basically I'm saying we do not agree with a policy that earmarks specific areas of the province for development. However, we do agree that there is great potential in the north. It's a potential we somehow have to capitalize on and stimulate development of. From our departmental standpoint the best method is to deal with it in a regional economic development sense. As you recall, we have established in the area 10 regional economic development offices, each with an economic development officer and perhaps a secretary. In the north country we have one in Peace River and one in Grande Prairie. As you recall, we also have several regional development areas. I believe four are now in place. They're operating fairly well throughout the province, some better than others primarily because of potential and sometimes because of personalities.

Whether it be a regional development representative or a regional development area, in each instance we require that these people develop economic committees within the town or the area. Our proposal for this year is to establish two new ones at a cost of approximately \$20,000 each — one in the Kikino-Lesser Slave area and another in the High Level-Fort Vermilion area. We believe it will be a start in developing the potential there. Often what is required by the people there is just some leadership. There's a bit of competition between communities. As a result of it, some of the efforts one community might make are washed away because of the competition of another. So we believe it can be pulled together successfully in those two areas, and we'll undertake to establish those regional development centres when the budget is approved.

We are not a delivery system in the Northern Alberta Development Council. We are simply the stimulus to provide that policies are changed. For example, we make recommendations to the Department of the Environment for expansion of water programs. One of those water programs is going to be undertaken by — I believe in the Department of the Environment this year there is a \$500,000 capital allocation for upgrading of water works in the High Level-Fort Vermilion area. It's just a start, but it's a commitment to complete.

I think people all over this province should recognize the very major problem some of those communities of the north have. They don't have a water supply. It's our job in the Northern Alberta Development Council to identify areas that have these shortfalls, recommend to various ministries that something

be done, and make our case to economic planning, or whatever committee, and so to cabinet to get moneys set aside.

In the big picture, I suppose, a great number of small developments have taken place. But to the people of the north they're extremely significant, extremely important. The Opportunity Corps, employment and relocation counselling, community participation in cultural development, local government experiments — some of the communities don't even have a local government. If you want to know how that feels, ask somebody who lives in Jasper. He can tell you. It's not a good feeling. There's core funding for native help organizations, community vocational colleges in 12 communities, the major water supply program, northern electrification programs. All of these are pretty significant to those communities. So we have been successful.

Those people on the council, of which my honorable friend from Slave Lake is a member, are really volunteers. They get paid for only their transportation and out-of-pocket expenses to attend the meetings. They have been the stimulus for the Opportunity North Conference undertaken in 1975, stimulated first of all by my friend the Minister of Recreation, Parks and Wildlife when he was responsible for the Northern Alberta Development Council.

The second conference was the transportation conference. I think what that conference did that nothing before it had done was bring all the senior officials of the transportation department together with the community of northern Alberta. My honorable friend from Spirit River-Fairview was there, and I'm sure he would agree that it gave the people of the north an opportunity to see who the supposed bureaucrats were down there in Edmonton. When the conference was over the people of the north said: they aren't bureaucrats at all; we understand them to be civil servants. So I think it had that big advantage. It acquainted senior officials from all over the province with the unique problems of the north, and it told the people of the north how they should get involved in solving problems relative to transportation.

On the subject of further conferences, we've looked very hard at what departments of government we might involve in another conference. One that strikes me as being extremely important to economic development is the Department of Agriculture. The minister has indicated that he would like to undertake that kind of conference somewhere in the north country. So we are looking at it. We have tried not to neglect any part of the community. I should say that my honorable friend from Lesser Slave is one of the most effective members on that council.

Thank you very much.

MR. R. SPEAKER: I should have had some questions on northern policy. But with regard to some of the minister's remarks, you were talking about the tourist industry. I was wondering what you are going to do for student employment. The industry has employed a lot of students over the last few years. Does the minister have any formal plans within the department for assisting in student employment? Will some of the border-crossing tourist facilities be available, and will students have employment in those centres this summer?

MR. DOWLING: If the hon. member is discussing the information centres operated by the department, yes. I can't recall the exact number, but I think we employ something in the order of 40 young people, mostly young people. Some of them have been involved with the travel information centre program over a great number of years. But we do employ students, and the repeat — in other words, the number coming back for a second, third, or fourth year — is quite significant. We have all kinds of applications. The screening for that was done in February. Most of the information centres will probably be open in June. We operate 14 of them, all on the border points in Alberta with the exception of Fort Macleod, a traditional one that we believe is so valuable it should be maintained.

You should be aware of another thing about the information centres. We have undertaken to close the information centre at Waterton Lakes because of a problem that was unique to Waterton Lakes and may be unique to all three national parks. The reason we closed it was because the national parks department was relying on Travel Alberta to pass out information on the park. It was really defeating the purpose of our information centre. The information centre there is to get people to come to the rest of Alberta — likewise Jasper and Banff. If the situation is duplicated in Banff and Jasper, we will most certainly consider closing them as well.

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, to the minister. In February of this year there was a promotional tour to Japan — Kaleidoscope Canada '77. I don't think you have made any remarks with regard to that yet. Could the minister indicate the outcome of that tour and the involvement of the department?

MR. DOWLING: Right. The Kaleidoscope program is a total federal undertaking. We have had nothing to do with the selection of those people who participate from the private sector, although there was great participation from the private sector. We did send representation to it, as we do with most things the Canadian government office of tourism undertakes. We are very selective about those. This one appeared to be pretty significant to us because of the fact that we have an office in Japan, which I would say, we were considering upgrading.

The tourist potential in Japan is extensive, and we do no direct promotion in Japan. Travel agents come over to see us. We talk to them. But we do not promote in Japan at all by way of sending out literature.

So the Kaleidoscope program is not a Travel Alberta program at all. It's federal government. I know some people were a little chagrined because they weren't invited. One was a fellow who operates a bus company in southern Alberta. I attempted to see him when the Travel Industry Association of Alberta was holding its annual meeting in Lethbridge. Unfortunately time didn't permit and I didn't see him at the meeting, and I wasn't able to see him. However, his view was that he was being left out of something that was very significant to him. We in Travel Alberta — and myself — have spent considerable time assuring the people in that branch of the department that that is not the case, that everybody has an equal opportunity, and that if there is a suggestion for a recom-

mendation for participation in anything, each organization be given an opportunity. That's the case.

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Chairman, just before we move on. Mr. Minister, what role will your department be playing in planning the mission to the Soviet Union?

MR. DOWLING: What has been done over the course of the last two years for sure — and I can't recall prior to that, although I know there was some activity in the Soviet Union before I took responsibility for the department — we have had two or three initial thrusts into the Soviet Union by one or two departmental people: obviously one person who can speak very fluent Russian and is also a member of our department. In other words, usually one or two people have gone there to identify the potential for marketing some of the produce or technology that we have in abundance in Alberta.

One of the significant areas, of course, is in the oil and gas fields now being developed by the Russians in such large measure. They want to do it all at once in Russia. They want to bring on a fair amount of oil and gas. They want very badly the expertise we have in Canada that they can gain access to.

It is my understanding that an amendment in a particular piece of federal legislation in the United States doesn't allow open participation in Russia by the United States. I may not be totally correct on that. However, that expertise which was developed by the American multinational oil companies and is now ours is available to the Russians through Canadian sources.

In May we are sending the assistant deputy minister of the business development branch of the department, Mr. Broadfoot, two other officials, and approximately 15 to 20 private sector people, each with a particular thing they hope to sell. The reason for the officials going is that they're the door openers. Business is conducted in the Communist bloc countries in a different way than we conduct it in our country and across the line. It's conducted almost on a civil servant to civil servant basis. So Mr. Broadfoot and his group of two others are the door openers. That's what is being undertaken. I have a list of the participants, but it was published in the press.

MR. NOTLEY: I understand this particular mission. What is going to be the relationship between this mission and the Premier's mission? I assume they are going to be at different times. To my knowledge I don't think any dates have been announced for the Premier's visit to the Soviet Union. But are you at all in a position at this time to give us more information on that aspect?

MR. DOWLING: I can give you a very brief bit of information. The Premier is undertaking a visit, to Russia on the invitation of Premier Kosygin. Our mission just follows up work that has been undertaken over the last two years. We did contemplate moving it to another time. But because of the work, and because all the scheduling had been undertaken and was now in place, it was felt that we should proceed with it.

I think it could be of some value to the Premier in his visit. Obviously first-hand information will be gained with regard to the Russian economic commu-

nity and a number of things on which the Premier will be briefed when our people come back. But beyond that, the Premier's mission is primarily — in fact I believe solely, except for the visit part of it — an agriculturally oriented visit. Ours is business development and industry.

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, to the minister. Is the visit of your deputy [with] private sector officials basically with regard to the oil industry or the general energy field?

MR. DOWLING: The general industry field. We have one person along who represents an agricultural sector, but basically it's the industrial field: technology, pipelining, lift systems, engineering groups, this kind of thing. It covers the entire area of industry. We have tried very hard to put together the package of people who have shown some interest, who have had some minimal involvement and would like to get involved further, [who] have indicated there is a potential here for marketing the things they are manufacturing or the technology or expertise they have. Those are the people we have invited.

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, to the minister. Is it correct that Canadian firms are doing exploration or development work in the energy field in Russia in co-ordination with the Russian government?

MR. DOWLING: Yes they are. As a matter of fact, one of the companies that has some major involvement is not necessarily in the oil patch development. ATCO from Calgary recently signed a major contract with the Russians.

MR. NOTLEY: I have just one brief area to explore. I'm sure it won't take but a moment, and we'll get through the estimates before 5:30. It's a follow-up to Mr. Shaben's question about the Lesser Slave Lake area. The minister indicated there was going to be another region for the department there. I wonder if perhaps you could be a little more specific on that.

MR. DOWLING: Right. You recall we now have four regional development areas, where perhaps 10 communities get together and work out an industrial strategy for their communities. We propose to establish two new ones. One we call Kikino — Kinuso, rather, I said Kikino before; it should be Kinuso — on the south shore of Slave Lake, which is one of the areas we believe has some problems we can assist in solving. The second is Fort Vermilion, High Level, and Rainbow Lake. It amounts to an injection of \$20,000 [and] the establishment of an economic development person who pulls the package together. An economic development committee is developed as a result of that. Then we hope things start to happen.

It really involves such things as acquiring a dentist. What do we really want in these communities? Do we want a covered mall? Is that the most important thing to us? Or do we want some economic development? This is what they sit down and do with all the communities. It's a self-help thing with a little bit of financial impetus given by the department.

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Chairman, the minister said that the special areas concept was being ruled out. But

what is the opinion of the government about the advisability of financial incentives in an area like Lesser Slave Lake, where you have some fairly serious economic and social problems? You have provision for some grants in the act setting up your department for example, but I'm talking about specifying grants for particular enterprises somewhat along the lines of the DREE program but under provincial jurisdiction.

MR. DOWLING: I think one has only to reflect [on] the catastrophe in the Slave Lake area with the 17 businesses and the fact that the federal authority injected millions of dollars and then abandoned the projects. A catastrophe for the community. I think now to hold out the possibility that we are going to take over that role, and be last in and last out, would be sheer folly. I think a development package should be put together because it is really going to work, and not simply because it needs financial support. Because the more financial support you give, the more financial support is expected.

I believe we should go very cautiously, and I absolutely disagree we should set up special areas. I don't think that's the route to follow.

MR. NOTLEY: One more question. Has the department identified any prospective firms which could pick up the pieces from the three major enterprises which have gone under in the Slave Lake area?

MR. DOWLING: A number of firms have come to our department and asked for some advice and assistance. We would look at any one which wanted to do something for itself. I think sometimes what has to occur is that a change of ownership has to take place. Maybe that has to happen in this case. But I am positive there's a potential. We've a great amount of timber resources in the north country that should be utilized. It's simply our departmental role to do everything we can to stimulate that development.

Agreed to:

Ref. No. 1.0.1	\$93,400
Ref. No. 1.0.2	\$106,100
Ref. No. 1.0.3	\$61,100
Ref. No. 1.0.4	\$107,700
Ref. No. 1.0.5	\$111,000
Ref. No. 1.0.6	\$69,100
Ref. No. 1.0.7	\$20,600
Vote 1 Total Program	\$569,000
Ref. No. 2.1	\$3,508,300
Ref. No. 2.2	\$3,956,900
Ref. No. 2.3	\$753,500
Ref. No. 2.4	\$595,600
Vote 2 Total Program	\$8,814,300
Ref. No. 3.1	\$1,197,350
Ref. No. 3.2	\$1,907,550
Ref. No. 3.3	\$1,922,100
Ref. No. 3.4	\$2,218,500
Ref. No. 3.5	\$274,500
Vote 3 Total Program	\$7,520,000
Capital Estimates	
Ref. No. 1.0	\$1,300
Ref. No. 2.0	\$19,400
Department Total	\$20,700
Ref. No. 3.0	\$373,500

Total	\$394,200
Department Total	\$16,903,300

MR. DOWLING: Mr. Chairman, I move the vote be reported.

[Motion carried]

MR. HYNDMAN: Mr. Chairman, I move the committee rise, report progress, and beg leave to sit again.

[Motion carried]

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

DR. McCRIMMON: Mr. Speaker, the Committee of Supply has had under consideration the following resolutions, reports same, and requests leave to sit again:

Resolved that for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1978, amounts not exceeding the following sums be granted to Her Majesty for the Department of Housing and Public Works: \$2,494,800 for departmental support services, \$15,358,100 for senior citizens home improvement, \$47,514,600 for planning and acquisition of government accommodation, \$82,753,000 for planning and implementation of construction projects, \$700,000 for operation and maintenance of

water lines, \$24,964,000 for housing of Albertans program of the Alberta Housing Corporation, \$3,096,000 for mortgage assistance program of the Alberta Home Mortgage Corporation.

Resolved that for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1978, amounts not exceeding the following sums to be granted to Her Majesty for the Department of Business Development and Tourism: \$569,000 for departmental support services, \$8,814,300 for development of business and tourism, \$7,520,000 for natural sciences and engineering research program of the Alberta Research Council.

MR. SPEAKER: Having heard the report and the request for leave to sit again, do you all agree?

HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. HYNDMAN: Mr. Speaker, tomorrow evening at 8 o'clock, we'll continue in Committee of Supply with the estimates of the Department of Labour, followed by the Department of Culture.

MR. SPEAKER: The Assembly stands adjourned until tomorrow afternoon at half past 2.

[The House rose at 5:30 p.m.]

