

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ALBERTA**

Title: Thursday, May 5, 1977 2:30 p.m.

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

**PRAYERS**

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

**head: PRESENTING PETITIONS**

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I rise to present a petition on behalf of 250 citizens of Alberta who attended a meeting last Tuesday at Garneau United Church.

Mr. Speaker, the petition to the members of the Legislature is: "We, the undersigned, wish to go on record as opposing passing of Bill 29 in the Alberta Legislature".

**PRESENTING REPORTS BY  
STANDING AND SELECT COMMITTEES**

DR. McCRIMMON: Mr. Speaker, I have the privilege today to table the report of the select committee of the Legislative Assembly to review legislation on The Ombudsman Act.

At this time, I would like to thank the other members of the committee for their diligent and faithful contributions. They were: the Hon. Stu McCrae, Mr. Jack Butler, Mr. Bob Clark, Mr. Bill Purdy, and Mr. Peter Trynchy. I would also like to thank research assistants Miss Penny Shafto and Mr. David Blakeley for their great help, and Mrs. Betty Maurice our secretary. I also thank those who contributed to this report by presenting briefs, submissions, and letters. All were carefully considered by the committee.

A copy of the report will be delivered to each hon. member.

**head: INTRODUCTION OF BILLS****Bill 53  
The Rent Decontrol Act**

MR. HARLE: Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to introduce Bill 53, The Rent Decontrol Act.

[Leave granted; Bill 53 read a first time]

**head: TABLING RETURNS AND REPORTS**

MR. GETTY: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to table the reply to Motion for a Return No. 215, as ordered by the House.

MR. DOWLING: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to table the response to Motion for a Return No. 117.

**head: INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS**

MR. PURDY: Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure today to introduce to you, and to the members of this Assembly, a grade 5 class from Brookwood school in Spruce Grove. They are accompanied by their teacher Miss Bailey. I had the pleasure of visiting this class two weeks ago tomorrow, and had a very interesting hour and a half with them. They are in the members gallery. I would ask them to stand and be recognized by the Assembly.

MISS HUNLEY: Mr. Speaker, I wish to introduce to you, and through you to the members of the Assembly, some 85 students from the Rocky Mountain House Elementary grade 4 class. They are in the members gallery as well as the public gallery, and I would like them to rise and receive the welcome of the Assembly.

MR. KROEGER: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to introduce to you, and through you to the members of the Assembly, two schools from two areas. I'm going to introduce them at the same time.

First of all from Veteran, located between Consort and Coronation, a group of 14 grade 9 [students] accompanied by Mr. Hainer, the principal, and Mr. Walker.

I have another group from Bodo, a little community south of Provost. There we have 21 grades 7, 8, and 9 [students] accompanied Mr. Domanski and Mr. Bircham. Sometimes this group tends to be a little humorous.

Before anybody tries to get humorous about the name Bodo, I want to tell you that I think it stems from a visit by two members from southern Alberta, Mr. Bogle and Mr. Gogo. They came there and decided it would be Bodo.

Would you please rise and be greeted.

**head: MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS****Treasury**

MR. LEITCH: Mr. Speaker, I am sure that all Members of the Legislative Assembly will share my sense of pride in the fact that the treasury branches in the latter part of March 1977 reached the \$1 billion mark in deposits.

The growth of the treasury branches since 1971 has been remarkable. During the past six years, deposits have increased by over \$.75 billion. Advances have increased by more than \$700 million, and now total nearly \$850 million. The treasury branches now operate a system which includes 94 branches plus 89 agencies, and serves a total of 168 communities. These branches and agencies provide service to over 275,000 Albertans, an increase of 128,000 since 1971. A good deal of credit for that success goes to my colleague the Minister of Hospitals and Medical Care for the work he did while he was the Provincial Treasurer.

DR. BUCK: That may not save his job, though.

MR. LEITCH: I believe that two key policies led to this remarkable growth. First, treasury branch policies

have been designed to meet the financial needs of Albertans, with special emphasis on the needs of rural Alberta. Secondly, in keeping with our overall government policy, treasury branches have been following a continuing process of decentralization of authority and responsibility. As part of this decentralization process, regional offices have been established at Calgary and Grande Prairie, and the inspection department has recently been moved to Ponoka.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to extend my congratulations to Mr. Fred Sparrow, superintendent of the treasury branches, and to all treasury branch staff for what I am sure we will all agree has been an outstanding achievement.

MR. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, in responding to the alleged announcement by the Provincial Treasurer, might I say that while the government on this occasion says it's extremely pleased, we are even more pleased at the kind of progress the treasury branches in this province have made. The hon. Provincial Treasurer talks about the splendid service given to rural Alberta; indeed that's so. But I'm sure the Provincial Treasurer along with his colleagues will recall that the basic reason the treasury branch system was established was that the financial institutions of the time would not go into rural Alberta. The progress of the treasury branch system up to and since 1971 has indeed been commendable.

Mr. Speaker, I would simply say in concluding that we're pleased to learn the treasury branches have reached the \$1 billion mark in deposits. But from the standpoint of a ministerial announcement, the minister's face was a bit red, about as red as it was yesterday.

#### head: ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

##### Environment Conservation Authority

MR. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct the first question to the Minister of the Environment. Has the investigation conducted by the Public Service Commissioner's office into the affairs of the Environment Conservation Authority been concluded?

MR. RUSSELL: Mr. Speaker, I understand it has. I expect to receive the report shortly.

MR. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, is it the intention of the minister to make the report public?

MR. RUSSELL: No it isn't, Mr. Speaker.

MR. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, then a direct question to the minister. Has the minister requested any resignations?

MR. RUSSELL: No I haven't, Mr. Speaker. I think hon. members are aware that I asked for two studies to be undertaken, one by the Public Service Commissioner's office to deal specifically with existing personnel, and the second by a management consultant to deal with a more routine kind of management consultant study for the ECA and its supporting staff. No decisions would be made until my colleagues and

I have had a chance to look at both those reports very carefully.

MR. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the minister. Has the minister received the report from the management consulting firm?

MR. RUSSELL: No I haven't, Mr. Speaker. I'm also expecting that within a matter of days.

MR. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, I asked if any resignations have been requested. Have any individuals, either members of the board itself or staff, resigned from the ECA since the investigation commenced?

MR. RUSSELL: Mr. Speaker, insofar as the four members of the Authority are concerned, one resigned due to a wish to retire during the latter part of 1976. That was Mr. Hogge. He stayed on until the Red Deer River hearings could be completed. During the early part of this year, the others indicated to me through verbal presentations that they would offer their resignations from their existing posts if it was in the best interest of the affairs of the Authority. But to date there has been no follow-up on any of those offers.

MR. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, a question to the minister. Now that you virtually have the reports, is the minister in a position to give the Assembly some sort of time line — one or two months — when we can expect some definite decisions to be made with regard to the ECA?

MR. RUSSELL: Yes, Mr. Speaker. Bearing in mind the scheduling of the House and the time constraints on Executive Council, it would be my intention to proceed with whatever steps have to be taken at the earliest opportunity. By that I mean within a matter of a few weeks.

##### Oldman River Studies

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Speaker, my question is also to the Minister of the Environment. It is with regard to the Oldman management studies. Can the minister assure the House that the Environment Conservation Authority will be holding public hearings on the necessity and possible locations of the dam site for water resource management on the Oldman River system? Can the minister outline some of the terms of reference that may be used in that study?

MR. RUSSELL: Mr. Speaker, I've said on previous occasions that it is the government's intention to hold public hearings very much along the lines [of those] held for the Red Deer River flow regulation, as soon as the phase two studies are completed. That is the objective we have in mind.

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary to the minister. Can the minister explain a memo sent by his department to various consulting firms which indicated that the government is looking for consultants to assist in substantiating the need for flow regulation on the Oldman River? It indicated that hearings would be somewhat by-passed.

MR. RUSSELL: No, I don't think that's correct, Mr. Speaker. We're now at the stage that we have a management committee, made up of both civil servants and private citizens from the region, preparing the phase two studies. Professional consultants' reports will have to be prepared, and memoranda were sent to a variety of consulting firms laying out terms of reference for one particular study that has to be undertaken. One of the questions that will have to be answered is in fact whether the dam is needed.

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Speaker, a final supplementary to the minister. Can we be assured in the south that the hearings will be open and those people with vested interest will have adequate opportunity to present the various views?

MR. RUSSELL: Yes, Mr. Speaker. When all this is finished, southern Alberta will be better off by a damn sight . . .

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh-h-h . . .

#### **Day Care Study**

MR. GOGO: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Social Services and Community Health. I'd like to ask if she has received the report from the task force on day care in Alberta and, if not, when she might expect it.

MISS HUNLEY: I've received a draft report, Mr. Speaker. I believe the official report will be received on May 19.

MR. R. SPEAKER: Supplementary to the minister. Does the minister intend to make the report public at that time?

MISS HUNLEY: Yes I do.

#### **Rural Gas Co-ops**

MR. MANDEVILLE: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the hon. Minister of Utilities and Telephones. Could the minister indicate the purpose of the meeting held last night with the members of the rural gas co-op?

DR. WARRACK: Yes I can, Mr. Speaker. It was an excellent meeting. There was the opportunity in a very full way to review the situation with respect to natural gas, not only in the rural gas program — because I do appreciate the fact that a number of urban representatives as well as rural representatives attended the meeting, took part, and made contributions. There was the opportunity to review the price situation, the financial formula of the systems changes that had been made, and some of the additional improvements that over recent years have been made beyond the original commitment in the rural gas program, also some discussion of the future agriculture situation. I think everyone was relieved when it was possible to leave the meeting and see that it was raining, and that it appeared it would rain all the next day. Even that was helpful.

But all in all, without going into detail — though I'd be pleased to answer any specific questions the hon. Member for Bow Valley or others might wish to pose

— it was just an excellent meeting, for which I congratulate the members of the Legislature who attended and certainly those hardworking and dedicated people in rural Alberta who are making this program go.

MR. MANDEVILLE: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Has the minister had the opportunity to review the brief presented to him last evening, and will the minister be making a report or a response at a later date with regard to it?

DR. WARRACK: I have it before me, Mr. Speaker. We had an opportunity to discuss many elements of it last night. As a matter of fact I'm pleased to review it right now, given the time in the question period.

With respect to the items that relate to the price of gas and the question of the equivalence of cost of one fuel versus another, that was discussed in some detail; also the request of co-ops, that we have discussed before and that I mentioned during the course of my estimates, with respect to the possibilities of spreading the capital cost amortization. A major contribution was made by my colleague the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs on that matter.

I also clarified questions with respect to bad pipe [which], as the hon. member knows, is part of what was listed with respect to the concerns they wished to discuss, and the fact that longer distances and sparsity of population were indeed major considerations as we went in January, and my announcement in Grande Prairie, to a 90/10 financial formula of assistance — about \$4,500 per user.

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary to the minister. Did the minister consider any type of commitment with regard to a three-year gas price with built-in escalating factor so we would have some indication of what the gas price will be in the next three years?

DR. WARRACK: Mr. Speaker, no commitment was made with respect to the price of gas over the next three years, because really none of us feels sure we know what it's going to be over [that] period. Our discussion is aimed more in the direction of a kind of equivalence between fuel alternatives and the concerns with respect to the balance of comparisons that are the case now and might be the case in the future. But to answer the question directly, at this time it certainly was not possible to make a commitment of gas prices at a point as far into the future as three years.

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary to the minister. Did the minister indicate during the meeting, or is he able to indicate, that the government is willing at the present time to consider that kind of a proposal, possibly to be implemented at a later date?

DR. WARRACK: Mr. Speaker, no commitment at all was made with respect to the freezing of gas prices, which I think is the thrust of the hon. member's question, again because of the fact that we simply don't know how much that would cost, we don't know what the price of gas would be that far into the future. However, as I indicated, we certainly did have

discussions about a major component of the gas rate, as distinct from the gas price, namely the capital amortization which is presently done over a 10-year period. It really seems reasonable to judge the physical integrity of the systems to be longer than that. Being longer than that, it would be reasonable for the loans to be amortized over a longer period of time than 10 years and therefore [to] hold the rate down.

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Speaker, supplementary to the minister for clarification. Did the minister give any kind of commitments at all at this meeting last night, or was it just a friendly public-relations meeting between the Conservative caucus and the gas federation?

DR. WARRACK: Mr. Speaker, I know the hon. member is trying to get me to lose my well-known temper, but it won't work. I wouldn't say that everyone was friendly, as I think the hon. member well knows. We have some understanding between us. Nonetheless, on the whole I'd say he was certainly correct in his assessment that it was a friendly meeting. One of the points very much emphasized to us, and in the brief I presume they have before them, at the top of page 2, referring to the rural . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. It seems to have been a very long meeting.

DR. WARRACK: It was. I got home for supper at 10 o'clock.

MR. SPEAKER: My recollection is that the last question was as to whether commitments were given by the minister. Unless I'm mistaken, the minister is now discussing one of the submissions.

DR. WARRACK: Mr. Speaker, I understood the previous two questions both asked if commitments were made with respect to the future of gas prices, and in both instances I said no. I assumed the third supplementary was asking for something else.

MR. SPEAKER: Might this be the final supplementary on this topic.

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary for clarification. I was asking the minister if he could itemize any substantial commitments that came out of the meeting last evening that not only we but other gas co-op members across the province should know of.

DR. WARRACK: Oh yes, I'm happy to repeat what I said earlier.

MR. CLARK: Nothing was done.

DR. WARRACK: We had a discussion on our intentions . . .

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. I'm asking very clearly: were any commitments given to the federation last evening, and what were they? Just itemize them one, two, three — that's all I want.

DR. WARRACK: Mr. Speaker, it turns out I heard the question correctly. As I was saying in response, we committed ourselves to look at a method of spreading the capital amortization of costs in the gas rates over a longer period of time, which I described during the course of my estimates as well.

Secondly, we were very pleased and enthusiastic about considering each of the points that were . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The hon. minister's pleasure and enthusiasm is I think going beyond the scope of commitments. I think we should go on to the next question.

MR. CLARK: No commitments were made.

MR. NOTLEY: Answer the question.

### **Oldman River Studies**

*(continued)*

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to get back to the dam site again. To the hon. Minister of the Environment: with respect to the Three Rivers project, can the minister advise the Assembly whether the management committee planning the phase two studies has requested access to various government department responses to phase one, and whether this request has been denied?

MR. RUSSELL: Mr. Speaker, I don't have the answer to that question. I can certainly undertake to find out if that request has been made, and make it available. I know there was a request for interdepartmental memos to be made public. Of course, the answer to that has always been no and must remain so.

While I'm on my feet, I'd like to correct a wrong impression that again was advanced by the hon. Member for Spirit River-Fairview. This is not the Three Rivers project. There are many ways of regulating the flow of the Oldman. One of the ways might be building a dam. One of the possible dam sites is at Three Rivers. That's as far as it goes.

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the hon. minister. Can the minister advise whether one of the government responses to phase one went into the cost/benefit analysis of the Three Rivers dam proposal in some detail?

MR. RUSSELL: Again, that's something I'd have to receive as notice, find out, and report to the hon. member. There were somewhere in the neighborhood of 80 responses to the phase one studies. I'd have to see if that was one of them.

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the minister. Can the minister advise the House whether or not the management committee is relying solely on the phase one study statistics in doing a detailed analysis of the cost/benefit figures? Or is it considering responses to phase one which challenge the figures and statistics compiled in phase one?

MR. RUSSELL: Well, Mr. Speaker, I would hope that if the committee is doing its job that it would do both; that is, consider very carefully the points set forth in the phase one studies, undertake to review those —

"challenge" them if you want — and undertake whatever additional work is necessary to answer any outstanding queries. The whole purpose of the management committee and of breaking the studies into two phases is to try to assure that all possible identifiable concerns are answered prior to going into public hearings.

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, a further supplementary question to the minister. With respect to the hiring of the two engineering consulting firms, Acres and Underwood McLellan, can the minister confirm that the management committee was requested to make a decision on hiring the consultants the same day they received the submissions, and that in fact they had no time to read the submissions thoroughly?

MR. RUSSELL: Again, Mr. Speaker, that's the kind of detail I don't have at hand. I'll undertake to find the answer to that and report to the hon. member.

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, a further supplementary question to the hon. minister. Can the minister confirm whether an Acres consultant was in fact doing preliminary work on phase two before the appointment was formally made by the management committee?

MR. RUSSELL: The same answer applies, Mr. Speaker.

#### **Wabamun Reserve — Paul Band**

DR. BUCK: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to address my question to the hon. Minister of Social Services and Community Health. The question has to do with the Paul reserve near Wabamun. I would like to know if the minister has had any discussion with the Paul Indian Band near Wabamun, where they're trying to deal with drug and alcohol problems on the reserve.

MISS HUNLEY: No, Mr. Speaker, I have not. I would ordinarily anticipate that that discussion, if sought, would take place with the Alberta Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Commission.

DR. BUCK: Mr. Speaker, to the minister. Has AADAC had any discussion with the minister on the reserve's plea to have an expanded program of trying to cure the problem of drug and alcohol abuse?

MISS HUNLEY: I haven't discussed that specifically with the chairman of the Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Commission. I would be glad to inquire of him whether any meetings have been requested by the band, and report to the hon. member.

#### **Labor Productivity**

MR. KUSHNER: Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct my question to the Minister of Labour. For some time we've had strong and serious signals from industry and manufacturing firms of continuous decline in productivity in Alberta, compared with the United States and other countries.

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

MR. KUSHNER: Mr. Speaker, I am concluding to the question. What steps has the government been taking to improve labor productivity and, as a matter of fact, to improve labor relations?

MR. SPEAKER: I have to leave it to the hon. minister, but it would seem to be a topic of such general scope that it might be more suitable for a ministerial announcement if the minister were inclined to make one. [interjections] There is substantial parliamentary authority that a question of that scope is not suitable for the question period.

MR. KUSHNER: Another question along these lines may be acceptable, Mr. Speaker. Has the government met with labor or management to improve productivity?

MR. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, a conference in regard to productivity was sponsored by a number of agencies working together last fall, I believe just before Christmas, in the city of Edmonton. The Department of Labour was represented, as were the University of Alberta and representatives of both management and labor. With reference to that, Mr. Speaker, I might just say in closing that of course both management and labor have to address themselves to the issue of productivity.

MR. KUSHNER: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the minister. Does the minister have any data or statistics that investors or buyers are investing outside Canada because of it, probably in the United States?

MR. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, there are all sorts of collections of statistics from various sources that people can use, if they wish, to demonstrate one side of the argument or the other. As to the specific questions the hon. member is directing in regard to investment policies, I certainly have reached no conclusions as to what relevance they have to the question of productivity.

MR. GOGO: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary to the minister. Would the report by the Provincial Treasurer not indicate they're investing somewhere in Alberta?

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.

MR. KUSHNER: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. I wonder if the minister would inform that because of lack of productivity, people are buying outside Alberta and going to the United States because it's cheaper.

MR. SPEAKER: Is the hon. member suggesting a further avenue of research for the minister?

MR. KUSHNER: Mr. Speaker, has the minister any statistics in that area?

MR. SPEAKER: This question was asked previously.

MR. KUSHNER: But I never got . . .

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member for Calgary McCall, followed by the hon. Member for Edmonton Kingsway.

DR. BUCK: A supplementary question to the minister. Does the minister, or people in the minister's department, have any statistics or any monitoring to find out if Alberta citizens are in fact going to the United States for major repairs because the productivity is higher in the United States and the prices are lower consequently? Is any monitoring procedure in place?

MR. CRAWFORD: I think the hon. member's question is related to major repairs and I don't know of what — whether he, being a dentist, is talking of trade in Mexico in regard to bridges on teeth, or something else. But, Mr. Speaker, the research department of the Department of Labour has many, many studies on many, many subjects, as I'm sure have the opposition caucus, several other departments of government, and every agency in the private sector.

DR. BUCK: Mr. Speaker, my apologies to the minister. I realise the minister is touchy, but at least he has an audience here.

MR. NOTLEY: We'll stay, Neil.

DR. BUCK: Mr. Minister, the question deals with heavy industrial equipment. It has been brought to my attention that many large pieces of industrial equipment, especially repairs, are being brought in from the United States rather than being bought in Alberta, because of the large difference in price because of the higher productivity in the States than in Alberta.

MR. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I doubt very much if the question is properly directed to me.

MR. KUSHNER: Supplementary question in that area. I'll be specific to one firm. In the industry of foundries, I understand a lot of contracts have been lost because you can buy material much cheaper and have it produced there.

MR. SPEAKER: With great respect, it would seem the hon. minister has dealt with the subject generally concerning the absence of studies, and there's really no purpose in going into the individual particulars.

#### **Alberta Game Farm**

DR. PAPROSKI: Mr. Speaker, a question to the Minister of Recreation, Parks and Wildlife. I wonder if the minister has information to indicate that the now more famous Alberta Game Farm will remain in Alberta, and has the government been asked to participate in this recent sale or purchase of the Alberta Game Farm?

MR. ADAIR: Mr. Speaker, no. The only information I have is what I read in the paper today, and a follow up in a discussion by Dr. Oeming with my executive assistant that he was in the final process of selling the Game Farm to Alberta residents from the Edmonton area, and at that point no request would be

coming to government. That's where it stands at the moment.

DR. PAPROSKI: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Will the government be involved in the operation or management of the Alberta Game Farm in any way?

MR. ADAIR: Mr. Speaker, under that present arrangement, no.

#### **Government Hiring Practices**

MR. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Provincial Treasurer and flows from the questions I asked the Treasurer yesterday with regard to government hiring practices. When will the report being done by the Public Service Commissioner with regard to the hiring practices of the Minister of Government Services and Culture be finished?

MR. LEITCH: Mr. Speaker, it is finished. [interjections] If the hon. member will just be patient, I'll tell him about it.

Mr. Speaker, from discussions with the Public Service Commissioner, I understand he was under the impression, as a result of a conversation he had, that there was an allegation that they were being asked to hire Conservatives only. He checked into that by making inquiries, was advised that was not the case, and reported that to me.

As I mentioned in the House yesterday, it was not the policy of the government to require that applicants be Conservatives. We're simply concerned in that minute number of cases that applicants do not have a level of political activity which would create strong divided loyalties if they are employed in such as minister's offices.

MR. CLARK: A supplementary question to the minister. Does the minister or the Public Service Commissioner have a list of offices — to use the minister's term, "the minute number of cases" — where in fact the question about political affiliation is asked? Is the list in the minister's office or in the Public Service Commissioner's office?

MR. LEITCH: Mr. Speaker, I think I indicated yesterday that there was no such list.

MR. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, then what kind of guidance has the minister given the Public Service Commissioner with regard to where the questions regarding political affiliation should and should not apply?

MR. LEITCH: Well, Mr. Speaker, the same kind of guidance that I indicated to the House yesterday and earlier today. In any situation where employees would be torn by strong conflicting loyalties arising from a level of political activity and their responsibilities in the job, the question of the level of political activity was valid and proper and should be asked. Now, whether that arises is going to be purely a matter of judgment. A level of political activity in one case may not justify the question. A different level of political activity in the same case may justify it.

So without being able to give the Assembly a precise list of where such a question is justifiable, it's clear that it's only justifiable in a minute number of

cases. In 99.9-something per cent of the cases of employee hirings in the provincial government, that question wouldn't be asked because it wouldn't be relevant. But there are clearly a number of cases where it is relevant and is asked.

MR. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the Provincial Treasurer. When was this government decision announced to the Public Service Commissioner?

MR. LEITCH: Mr. Speaker, the Public Service Commissioner knew that for some time. The question had been asked for some time. As I said yesterday, I wouldn't be at all surprised if the Leader of the Opposition were interested in the level of political activity of his personal staff.

MR. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, I'd be very pleased to ask the Provincial Treasurer if he'd care to come down and ask my staff if they've ever had that asked of them. [interjections]

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Order.

MR. CLARK: You're misleading people again, Horst.

MR. NOTLEY: Supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In view of the Provincial Treasurer's answer, can he advise the Assembly whether this particular practice will be employed with respect to the employment practices of senior officials such as deputy ministers or assistant deputy ministers, as well as cabinet ministers?

MR. LEITCH: Mr. Speaker, it rather astonishes me that the hon. member asks that question. I think in that respect he would have learned of some of the practices from provinces left and right of us, or east and west of us. Again, for the same reason, the level of political activity of a senior official such as a deputy minister may be such that it places him in a position where he simply cannot carry out his responsibilities to the people of Alberta.

MR. NOTLEY: The supplementary question didn't relate to the deputy ministers; the question related to the hiring of their secretaries by deputy ministers.

MR. LEITCH: Mr. Speaker, as I indicated in several earlier answers, I think it's just impossible to itemize a list. I think this is a judgment factor. As I said earlier, one level of political activity in a particular position may pose no problem at all. A different level of activity in that same position could pose a problem. That's just a judgment factor. The test is: is the level of political activity such that there are going to be strong conflicting loyalties on the part of the employee? Where that arises and it's going to impair their capacity to do the work they've been retained to do, the question is asked.

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question. In view of the Provincial Treasurer's answer that we in fact have a "play it by ear" policy in this regard, is the minister in a position to advise the Assembly who in the government, or wherever, will

make this decision as to when and where this policy will be employed?

MR. LEITCH: Mr. Speaker, it's very simple. The hon. Member for Spirit River-Fairview can call it a "play by ear policy" if he likes. That isn't the way it would be accurately or properly described.

The general policy, and the one followed by the people in the Public Service Commissioner's office, is that that's an irrelevant question. When it's asked, the question would immediately be raised in the Public Service Commissioner's office and staff as to whether it was an appropriate question to be asked. Then we would look into the circumstances.

MR. R. SPEAKER: A further supplementary to the minister. I am very concerned when I see a situation where we interfere . . .

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Order, order.

MR. R. SPEAKER: . . . with the free thought of individuals . . .

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Order, order.

MR. R. SPEAKER: . . . with regard to . . . [interjections]

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.

MR. R. SPEAKER: . . . their political affiliation. Other countries . . .

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question, question.

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

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Provincial Treasurer. What procedure does an individual have to appeal such a decision, where he is not able to gain employment because of his political affiliation or political attitudes? If there is no appeal, it's serious. [interjections]

MR. LEITCH: Mr. Speaker, I don't know whether to take the hon. member's comments as a speech; if so, I'm sure he can find other places to make it. But taking the question, is there an appeal: there is no formal appeal procedure in that type of situation.

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Speaker, to the minister. Would the minister consider reviewing the matter and establishing some type of an appeal procedure?

MR. LEITCH: Mr. Speaker, I don't know of any appeal procedure. If the hon. member means would I consider submissions on the matter by people who had been asked the question and felt the circumstances didn't justify it, the answer is yes, I would be delighted to do that.

MR. SPEAKER: Final supplementary.

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, a final supplementary question to the hon. minister. [interjections] It's a very serious matter.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.

**Government Hiring Practices**  
(continued)

MR. NOTLEY: In light of the rather fuzzy arrangement the government has, what procedures are there, Mr. Minister, to protect the individual who may have applied for a job and be given it in an area that should be free from this sort of consideration, but because of the uncertainty of the perimeters of this policy is not given the job. What procedures are there to protect the individual Alberta applicant?

MR. MILLER: Send them to Saskatchewan.

MR. LEITCH: Mr. Speaker, I'm satisfied that if the question were asked in circumstances where the Public Service Commissioner's office felt it ought not to be asked, it would be brought to my attention and I would certainly review the matter.

MR. R. SPEAKER: A final supplementary to the minister.

MR. SPEAKER: If there's time. We have several members waiting to ask further questions.

**Deerfoot Trail**

MR. LITTLE: Mr. Speaker, may I address my question to the hon. the Minister of Transportation? Does the minister foresee any problems in the timing of the construction of the Deerfoot Trail extension in the city of Calgary? In particular, Mr. Minister, I would refer to the environmental concerns relative to the construction of the Bow River crossing at the 43 Avenue bridge.

DR. HORNER: Mr. Speaker, first, the matter would be under the jurisdiction of the city of Calgary. However, if there was anything we could do that would remove any roadblocks, I'm sure I could discuss the matter with my colleague the Minister of Environment and try to work out the matter so the bridge could be built according to schedule.

MR. LITTLE: Mr. Speaker, may I address the question to the Minister of the Environment? I understand there are some pretty rigid time schedules for river entry. Could the minister enlarge on this?

MR. RUSSELL: Mr. Speaker, I can only repeat what the hon. Minister of Transportation said. Certainly no concerns have been brought to the attention of my office, and presumably the city with its consultants are proceeding on schedule.

**Alberta Hospital Procedures Review**

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Social Services and Community Health and relates to the completion of Dr. Earp's review on supervision procedures at the Alberta Hospital. I was wondering at what stage the review is at the present time. Could the minister bring us up to date?

MISS HUNLEY: Mr. Speaker, I don't have the exact information, though I'll be glad to obtain it from the department and advise the hon. member.

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to ask this question of the hon. Provincial Treasurer. It flows from his answers a few moments ago with respect to the engagement of people in "sensitive" positions. Were any guidelines with respect to the policy the minister announced in the House laid out and sent beyond cabinet ministers to members of the public service?

MR. LEITCH: Mr. Speaker, I don't know it would be accurate to say I announced the policy in the House, although that may be quibbling. I simply responded to the question, saying what the policy was. No, no guidelines to my knowledge — and I'm sure they would have come to my knowledge had there been any — have been sent to the public service.

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question for clarification. I'm not quite sure I understood the minister correctly. If the House will bear with me, I want to paraphrase the minister to be clear on what he said and then ask him to confirm it. My understanding of the minister's response was that where there is some uncertainty over a position being one where a person's political involvement, or for that matter other types of involvement, may pose problems or conflicts, the matter would be referred to the Public Service Commissioner, and at that time the minister would make a ruling.

If that's my understanding of the minister's response, my question to the hon. Provincial Treasurer is to try to elicit from the government how widespread this practise in fact can become under the terms of the position enumerated in the House by the minister.

MR. LEITCH: Mr. Speaker, I have no hesitation in saying that the practice is not, has not been, and won't become widespread. One can argue about what the term "widespread" might encompass but, as I thought I'd made clear in this House, what we're talking about here is a very few positions in government service. I included the ministerial offices as forming the largest percentage of that "very few offices".

MR. R. SPEAKER: Supplementary to the minister. Could the minister clarify for the Assembly that at the present time the only place this policy applies is within ministers' offices and the Premier's office?

MR. LEITCH: No. I thought I'd made it abundantly clear that that wasn't limited to that, although that was a good example of where it might occur. It was any situation or any office where in dealing with a level of political activity, where the level of that activity was such that it was going to place the employee in a position where one, looking at the employee, looking at the kinds of information that was going to come into the employee's hands because of their confidential relationship with their employer — and look at that information, look at the level of political activity they were involved in, and say: you're now putting the employee in an impossible position because there are just two, strong, conflicting loyalties that arise as a result of the political activity and



the confidential information they're getting in the office.

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary to the minister. Could the minister indicate, as an example, whether that would apply to the Bureau of Public Affairs?

MR. LEITCH: Mr. Speaker, I can take that under advisement and consider it. I can't at the moment. . .

DR. BUCK: Maybe they're all doing it?

MR. LEITCH: Well I thought I made it clear. The hon. Member for Clover Bar has gotten in the question without being recognized, but perhaps I can answer that too. I said that it's not asked in the regular routine in the Public Service Commissioner's office with employee applicants. When it is asked, it would be very rare and limited to the kinds of cases I've talked about.

I can check on the Bureau of Public Affairs and come back to the House with a view on whether I think there would be any circumstance there where there could be a problem. We're now talking political activity. I think there might be circumstances where other activity, other business activity, might create the same kind of conflict we're talking about. This issue, Mr. Speaker, does not confine itself to political matters. There are other matters such as business activity by employees or close associates of employees that will put them in the same kind of conflict-of-interest position.

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question.

MR. SPEAKER: This must be the final supplementary on this topic.

MR. NOTLEY: The Provincial Treasurer indicated as one example the possible conflict of somebody serving as a secretary in the ERCB whose husband was connected with an oil company. But my question, Mr. Speaker, again is aimed at trying to find the scope. I would ask the hon. Provincial Treasurer whether this kind of policy would in fact really not logically apply on a very widespread basis. For example [interjections] as an example of the question [interjections] the regional director of the Department of Agriculture.

My question again is: in view of this issue being raised, is the government going to consider guidelines which would set out the perimeters within the public service where this policy will be enforced?

MR. SPEAKER: The question, in perhaps not exactly the same words, was asked previously and the hon. minister answered it with, as I recall, a categorical no. The time for the question period has expired.

#### **Northern Pipeline**

DR. HOHOL: Mr. Speaker, during the question period yesterday, in a series of questions by the hon. Leader of the Opposition with respect to manpower relating to possible pipeline activities in Alberta, one of his questions had to do with studies by consultants or by

the Department of Advanced Education and Manpower. My response was that early in our time there were some studies, but to the best of my recollection they were not by consultants but by department staff. I've examined the files and found that in the fall of 1975 the department did commission a study of the possible effects on Alberta manpower of a Mackenzie Valley pipeline. The study was completed in January 1976. I wish the records and the information to the hon. leader to be accurate.

MR. SPEAKER: We should perhaps not leave the question period without my observing that the very extensive number of supplementaries on the question of the choice of personnel should not be taken as a good precedent for future question periods.

### **ORDERS OF THE DAY**

MR. ADAIR: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I might seek permission to revert to Introduction of Special Guests.

HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

#### **head: INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS** (*reversion*)

MR. ADAIR: It's my pleasure to introduce to you, and through you to the members of the Legislative Assembly, 27 students from the town of Manning, named after a very prominent former member of this Legislature who was Premier of the province for some time. The students from Manning Rosary separate school are accompanied by teachers Jeff Plaquin and Robert Delaney and parents Mrs. Vreeling, Mrs. Dechant, Mrs. Basco, and Mrs. Kamieniecki. I would ask that they stand now and receive the welcome of this Assembly.

#### **head: MOTIONS FOR RETURNS**

MR. FOSTER: Mr. Speaker, I move that Motion for a Return 147 stand.

[Motion carried]

#### **head: MOTIONS OTHER THAN GOVERNMENT MOTIONS**

##### **1. Moved by Mr. Mandeville:**

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly of Alberta urge the government to develop programs designed to reduce the possible impact of drought conditions in the short term by:

- (a) introducing a freight assistance program to promote the transport of fodder to dry areas of the province and the transport of cattle out of dry areas of the province,
- (b) permitting deferral of Agricultural Development Corporation loan payments in cases where the borrower has suffered severe financial losses as a result of drought,
- (c) developing a well-drilling assistance program; and in the long term by:

- (a) placing an even greater emphasis on water storage and irrigation projects,
- (b) creating a fund to provide low-interest loans to encourage levelling and ditching projects and the purchase of sprinkler equipment, and
- (c) expanding the current weather modification program to include means of increasing rainfall during periods of drought.

MR. MANDEVILLE: Mr. Speaker, when I gave notice to put this motion on the Order Paper last Friday, I predicted we would have rain before I got up on the motion. What I should have done was get this motion on the Order Paper about a month earlier, because someone has certainly stolen all my thunder. I don't know for sure who did. My motion is certainly getting watered down today, but we do appreciate it. I really don't know who's going to take all the credit for this. I can recall that the federal Minister of Agriculture indicated that praying would possibly help. I hear the Senate is going to do some praying. So I really don't know who's going to take credit for the rain. However, it's certainly appreciated, especially if it gets to the southern part of the province.

Mr. Speaker, my comments are going to be very short. As I say, my thunder has been stolen. For example, in the short term:

- introducing a freight assistance program to promote the transport of fodder to dry areas of the province and the transport of cattle out of dry areas of the province

That has been taken care of by the Deputy Premier's announcement last Tuesday.

- permitting deferral of Agricultural Development Corporation loan payments in cases where the borrower has suffered severe financial losses as a result of drought, [and] developing a well-drilling assistance program

have also been taken care of in the announcement.

Two areas have been taken care of: we've got the rain, and my short-term programs have been taken care of. But one area in my resolution, as far as the long term is concerned, is what I'm going to premise my remarks on, Mr. Speaker. I do think a dry year could be very serious in western Canada for the simple reason that the input of labor and equipment into agriculture is so high, and if a farmer loses a crop this year it could certainly be very serious.

I think this year has all the earmarks of a real dry year. I'm referring to the 1930s, when we had a continuous dry spell. Also, last year in England they said they had the driest year they've had in 250 years. So I don't think it is impossible for us to have a series of dry years in the province of Alberta and in western Canada.

The reason I think this has all the earmarks of a dry year is that we haven't had any snow for the last two winters. There has been very little snow. Last summer we had very little rain. However, the rain we did have was timely, and our crops were fairly good. We certainly don't have any reserve moisture, and we need a tremendous amount of rain to be able to produce a crop or keep our grass or forage to a level where it is not dangerous. Right at the present time, with all the indications, the water table is the lowest it has been in many, many years.

Mr. Speaker, many of our farmers — many people I've talked to, especially young farmers — think that

with the farming methods and equipment we have today, possibly we're not going to face a cycle of dry years. I appreciate the fact that methods of farming and the equipment certainly permit us to grow a crop with less moisture than in the 1930s. However, I certainly think we should be preparing for a dry cycle of years, which is very apt to come.

As far as our farming practices are concerned, possibly in some cases they are deteriorating to some extent. For example, when it used to be dry, I can recall we didn't dare take a disc out onto our fields because it caused erosion of our soils. It would cause the soil to drift. You see a lot of Seimen tillers being used in the field today, which certainly cause drifting of our soil. Especially in the southern part of the province where we do a lot of summer fallowing, the farmers are starting to narrow down their strips. I think this is another area where we have to be really careful. Narrowing down the strips and baling our straw for stubble year after year, we're taking all the fibre out of our soil and putting it in a position to blow. I think what we have to avoid is burning our stubble, because that certainly can cause erosion when we have dry years.

I just took a little tour down in my own constituency when I was home last weekend. I went down one particular road allowance; there was sand in there, the same as you see in snowbanks. We couldn't drive through the road allowance with the amount of sand drifted in there. It was as high as the automobile itself.

One of the areas that gives me concern, and I know it gives many of the ranchers concern as well, is range management. We have too much livestock for the amount of grass we have, which is reflecting back on our prices of livestock. Certainly I'm thinking more of our community pastures. We're overgrazing these pastures to an extent that if we have a dry year there's not going to be anyplace for these cattle to go when they come in off the community pastures. I can recall in the 1930s, when we used to have to manage our range and really had a problem with water, we'd have to go out and dig our wells by hand. To water our livestock, we'd dig them 24 feet deep.

Mr. Speaker, as I said, my comments are going to be on long-term programs for this province. We all realize we have 80 per cent of our water and 20 per cent of our people in the northern part of the province. In the southern part of the province it's just reversed: 20 per cent of our people and 80 per cent of our water.

I think it's very important that we start harnessing this resource. It's a renewable resource, we'll have to agree. However, we are certainly not handling it. We have to develop our river basins. I can recall when we had the PRIME concept, and I thought it was a good concept. Maybe it's a little too early to implement it. But certainly we have to get the water out of the north and get it into the southern part of the province. If we do get it down here, we've certainly got to utilize the water. At the present time, most of our water is running into Hudson Bay.

As far as our oil and gas is concerned, private industry is going to develop that. But I think we as a government have to get involved in water development, if we're going to develop water in our river basins. I think it's a very important resource that needs developing.

If we do develop it and put dams on our river basins, we can use this water for multipurposes — not only for irrigation; we can use it for recreation. There will be other purposes we can use our water for, if we can get it stored in our river basins. I can think of two dams we have under study right now, possibly three. We have under study the Eyremore dam on the Bow River. I certainly hope the study will indicate we should go ahead with this dam. If they go ahead and rehabilitate the Bassano dam, all this will do is divert the water. If we build the Eyremore dam, we're going to be storing the water and can use it for irrigation. And we can use storage, especially with a year like this when our run-off is so very low. The same situation on the Oldman River. We are studying the Oldman River. I think we have to start building dams there before it's too late.

It could be very serious this year as far as the Lethbridge northern is concerned. They indicated they are going to be out of water by July 1 if we don't have an exceptionally wet year.

On Monday before I left home, I had an interview with the manager of the eastern irrigation district in my own constituency. He indicated to me that on Thursday of last week they were taking 400 acre-feet of water out of the Bow River. That's all the water they could take out, 400 feet. On Monday they were able to take out only 800 feet. The manager indicated to me they need [2000] acre-feet of water. That is what they need right at the present time. Well, Mr. Speaker, 800 feet is a long way from taking care of that need for water. In midsummer they will need to take a maximum of 3,500 acre-feet of water out of that river. With the amount of snow we have in the mountains, getting this water is certainly going to be an impossibility, especially where we only have diversion for the western and eastern irrigation districts.

With the water agreement we have with the provinces of Manitoba and Saskatchewan, we have to release 25 per cent to Manitoba and 25 per cent to Saskatchewan. So this certainly doesn't leave us very much water in these rivers for irrigation at the present time.

The eastern irrigation district depends on water to irrigate 2,200 acres of land. The western irrigation district depends on irrigating 40,000. So we are certainly going to have to take some steps in this area of development and storage of water if we are going to keep our irrigations systems operating to produce food for the people of the world.

The manager also indicated to me — and I've heard this before — that we have sulphur in this province that we don't have a market for. The irrigation districts could use it to line their canals, and it's a product we're not using. However, it's too expensive right at the present time. They can't use it to line the canals. However, if we could get some research done in this area or some help in the area of using sulphur to line our canals, I think it would be a step in the right direction. We're certainly losing a lot of water through seepage and evaporation as far as our irrigation districts are concerned.

I also think we could possibly get into some underground piping, because what's happening in our irrigation districts is that we're certainly wasting a lot of water. A big portion of our water is being wasted as a result of not having proper drainage. One report indicated we're only getting about 40 per cent effi-

ciency out of the water in our irrigation districts, and this is certainly not enough as far as efficiency is concerned. We've got to get more than 40 per cent. I think we could increase this to 60 or 70 per cent without any great expense. One of the areas I think we could do it in is making incentives to farmers, say in long-term loans or grants to buy irrigation equipment — I'm thinking of sprinkler systems — or for levelling land so we could get better use of our water.

Mr. Speaker, in concluding I just want to say that I think it could be very serious. I recall 1929 and the '30s. I hope we don't have a repeat of that. The stock market and the drought came at the same time. The bottom dropped out of the stock market, the economy went completely upside down, and we faced dry years. I recall my father saying he was selling wheat for 19 cents. Now we're getting \$3 a bushel. But it could be just as serious to lose a crop today as it was in the 1930s, on account of the input to grow a crop is so high. It could break many of our young farmers if they were to lose a crop through hail or a disaster they weren't insured for, or weren't able to make payments as far as high input is concerned.

Possibly this is going to be one of the years we have enough fertilizer. I think farmers will reduce the amount of fertilizer they use, for the simple reason that when you have a dry year, you don't get the return from your fertilizer that you do in wetter years. So I think we will have fertilizer, and hopefully the prices of fertilizer will be reduced this year.

In the southern part of the province — around Lethbridge, Taber, Brooks, and Vauxhall — I have noticed a lot of alfalfa hay being ploughed up. I think this is a mistake in a year like this, because we're going to need fodder for our livestock this winter. A lot of our ranchers and livestock people are now using up their last year's supply of feed. So there is certainly going to be a shortage of fodder this year.

I'm hopeful the ranchers are going to take advantage of the program the Deputy Premier announced, to pump water into the dugouts and get them filled as early as they can.

One other suggestion I would like to make before closing, Mr. Speaker, is that I would like to see this government come up with an overall water policy. I think it is very important that the Department of the Environment, or water resources, comes up with a water policy. I can see us running into problems this summer as far as rationing water is concerned. Who is really going to be responsible for the rationing of water to the irrigation districts?

I have just one other topic, Mr. Speaker, and the Minister of Agriculture said he was going to bring it up in Ottawa. That's the fact that we have 600,000 acres of land in the Suffield Block that I certainly hope we're able to use to pasture cattle this summer. In the past we have used it to a very marginal degree as far as pasturing livestock is concerned. But with the drought we're facing, with the shortage of water and feed, I certainly hope the Minister of Agriculture will be able to persuade the federal government to use the Suffield Block to pasture cattle this summer.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WOLSTENHOLME: Mr. Speaker, I'm not sure if some of the questionable dancing on Tuesday evening could be classified as a rain dance. Anyway, it's raining.

The hon. Deputy Premier's statement earlier this week makes much of this motion unnecessary.

When I speak on this motion I have rather mixed feelings, because it reminds me of when I was a young lad back in the dirty thirties. I can remember the feed that was hauled into Saskatchewan to feed hungry animals, and the moving of cattle to dry areas. I guess we'd better not get back too much into those errors, but this reminded me of those days. I certainly hope this isn't going to be a repeat performance of that.

I can remember my brother and I digging a well by hand — well, we used shovels — in the lowest part of a ravine. Every time it did rain very much, it flooded and we had to dig it out again. But we had some water, which a good many of our neighbors didn't. I can remember moving the cattle from where there wasn't feed to areas where feed was a little better, also transporting water to areas where there was some feed.

Ever since I attended my first planning commission meeting and listened to water diversion project ideas, I have been very concerned about the watershed and the water that runs out of our province and does not stay here to help us. So I'm all for any idea on the conservation of water storage.

As far as (c) is concerned, I won't comment on it because I'm not familiar enough with that aspect of it. As far as (b) is concerned, I don't believe this legislative body should become involved in giving direction to the ADC. Although I can agree with it, I don't believe we should be doing that. As far as the rest of it is concerned, I believe the hon. Deputy Premier took care of that in his statement earlier this week. Those are my few remarks about it, Mr. Speaker.

Thank you.

MR. HYLAND: Mr. Speaker, as I rise to take part in this motion, I realize it's raining outside. But just before I came into the House I placed a phone call to my parents in Bow Island, and was informed it hadn't quite made it that far.

MR. ZANDER: It's coming.

MR. HYLAND: Well we hope it is, Rusty. It might be raining here, but it's still pretty dry down south.

I must congratulate the hon. Member for Bow Valley for bringing forward this motion. As he and the rest of us understand, many of the things have been acted on because of the Deputy Premier's statement this week. But just to go through the motion, I think one might first say in general that this — I have been told by many people — is a year that has been drier in the spring than any year they can remember. I was told by a very good rancher friend that he can't remember it being quite this dry in the spring in the '30s. There seemed to be a certain amount of snow then, and run-off occurred and there was some water for livestock. This year many of the sloughs have dried up. In those days the pastures weren't nearly as well developed for water holes as they are now. But I'll leave that to my member colleagues who are more acquainted than me with cattle and range management.

I would just say one thing, though. The hon. member brought up the Suffield Block. A great number of people are working towards releasing that

for grazing this year, and I think it's very important that it be released so we can get some grazing on the reserve. It is indeed a very large area of the province that isn't used for grazing, and it is big enough that the many activities carried on out there can be carried on and everybody can have an equal share of the land.

As far as freight assistance on fodder, Mr. Speaker, this has been done a number of times before in the province. If the need arises, I hope it will be done again. The one thing we may face, though, with the water shortage — and the hon. member has intimated it in his irrigation district — the amount of water that can be taken out of the river this year is very limited because of the type of dam they use. It's a distinct possibility that we may not have that much fodder to move around the province. The areas that do have fodder will hopefully bring many of these alfalfa processing plants throughout the province into their own this year. It will enable a lot more of this cattle feed to be moved around in a smaller area; that is to say, it's a lot easier to haul and handle a truck-load of pellets than of bales.

Mr. Speaker, as far as deferral of payments, the press release from the hon. Deputy Premier says:

The board of directors of the Agricultural Development Corporation has been requested to review loan repayments with a view to deferring where farmers have suffered loss of income and have used normal precautions to protect themselves from income loss.

I think that is a very important part where it says, "suffered loss of income and have used normal precautions to protect themselves". Probably one of these precautions is taking the full amount available from the extension of the crop insurance program, as announced by the hon. Minister of Agriculture.

Mr. Speaker, in deferring payments we must be very careful of one thing. I realize many farmers are going to be caught in very hard income straits this year if this weather doesn't 'decontinue', and will have major commitments they will find very hard to fulfil. But we must be very careful that we hit a happy medium whereby we enable these people to keep in business, and do not close the doors to the availability of this money from many lending institutions other than government. These doors must always be kept open in order that the agriculture community can indeed progress.

As far as water storage, Mr. Speaker, there has been much discussion — indeed today in question period — about the Oldman River flow regulations study. The hon. member named one dam site study in his area — Eyremore dam. These things must be studied very carefully. This is why, in the Oldman flow regulation study, a committee of various public and departmental members has been appointed to make sure proper steps are taken and everybody has a chance to speak on such a study. A year like we have shaping up indeed brings home the idea that we cannot take our water for granted. So the possibilities must be seriously studied before any major commitments are made.

I also like the part of the motion where the hon. member suggests that greater emphasis be placed on water storage in irrigation projects. Also in this connotation one could say that greater emphasis could and possibly should be placed on internal

storage in these systems at any place where it can be developed at a reasonable cost per acre-foot of water.

In his speech the hon. member intimated the underground pipe systems. He would probably be interested to know — and he has undoubtedly talked to some people who did go on a tour of a system in the States. The tour was organized by a group of farmers from Bow Island who toured an irrigation division that has its own pipe mill to construct the concrete pipe. They are placing it in the ground at what they consider a very reasonable cost in proportion to the cost of their open concrete lined canals. The life expectancy of the pipe is much higher than that of the concrete, and water evaporation has been reduced. This is something we have to look at very carefully in order to conserve our water.

The low interest on loans — I think one might say that ADC does this to an extent by offering a lower interest rate toward purchase of farming equipment. But if we release loans at too low interest and get too much irrigation equipment out there, we must make sure the water is available to keep that equipment operating. I think this is very important. A year like this really stresses this point. We cannot get too much ground under water, and not have the proper water supply to keep water on these areas, be they flooded or whatever. We must have a happy medium between the equipment. The external and internal storages of the systems must balance or some districts will indeed be in a very precarious position *per se* for the availability of water.

The last part of the hon. member's motion is weather modification. It makes me somewhat fearful when we start getting too involved with the weather. It's been said by many people that government gets involved with a great many things that a great many people do. If we get too involved with the weather, trying to make it do things it doesn't want to do, I suppose there could be repercussions. But it does make me believe we must leave something to somebody up above who knows a great deal more about it and who has been working at it for a lot more years than we have.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. HORSMAN: Mr. Speaker, I wish to add a few words on this subject this afternoon. The motion by the hon. Member for Bow Valley is of real concern of course. I welcome the opportunity to debate this matter today. I think it is significant that during the past week there have been two ministerial statements of real significance dealing with this very subject. The first was by the Minister of Agriculture, in which he urged members of the farming community in Alberta to consider crop insurance. In doing so, he extended the deadline for crop insurance applications until tomorrow, May 6.

Despite the fact that today in this province we have had some measurable forms of moisture north of the Bow River, until 2:30 this afternoon — as mentioned by the Member for Cypress — rainfall south of the Bow River has been negligible. In fact, there was less than one-tenth of an inch of rain in Medicine Hat overnight. When I left there this morning, the rain had stopped and by 9 o'clock the skies had cleared. So despite the fact it may be raining in this part of the province, the situation in southern Alberta remains extremely serious indeed.

The second ministerial statement came just the other day from the Deputy Premier, who announced a far-ranging program to deal with this problem on a temporary basis. I think really, as the hon. Member for Bow Valley indicated in his opening remarks, most of the solutions he urged in his motion have in fact been covered by that statement. I'm sure he will agree that the statements announced will not only deal with the subjects raised in items (a) and (b) of the motion but indeed go beyond that. Those are welcomed in southern Alberta in particular. So during the past week, two major statements by this government have attempted to deal in part with the very serious problem affecting Alberta, particularly southern Alberta.

As I indicated, I think we must look to the second part of the motion, the long-term solutions proposed for dealing with some of the problems of drought and potential drought. I think it is significant, Mr. Speaker, that over the past many years the chambers of commerce of Medicine Hat, Redcliff, and I'm sure other chambers of commerce and interested organizations in southern Alberta, have paid a great deal of attention to this question of water management.

Prior to the election in 1971, I had quite an active part to play in the development of a platform for the party which now forms the government of this province. It is significant to recollect that one of the statements contained in the platform for that election said water is perhaps our most valuable resource, even more valuable than those things which lie beneath the surface of this province. Water is one of our, if not the most valuable resource, one of the most valuable resources. But in order to make use of that resource it is very important that we plan carefully how to use it and how to store it. As a result of the platform and policies of this government, there have been significant steps in the past few years towards proper water management in this province.

The South Saskatchewan River system, which is really very significant for the bottom one-quarter or one-third of this province, is made up of basically three river systems: the Red Deer River system, the Bow River, and the Oldman River. It is true the Red Deer River joins the South Saskatchewan just across the Saskatchewan border at Estuary, but it is still a very significant river system in southern Alberta.

One of the things this government has been attempting to do is deal with the question of water storage on those river systems. I welcome the remarks today of the Member for Bow Valley, because I think we can take it from his remarks that the party he represents in this Legislature supports efforts to store and properly manage the water found within those river systems. I wonder indeed — [from] the remarks made today in the question period, and in other question periods, by the Member for Spirit River-Fairview — if the party he represents is as concerned about the question of proper water management as is the party represented by the Member for Bow Valley. The fact of the matter is that this government has taken very significant steps to have public input to this question of water management. I wonder at the type of questions that seem to criticize and carp at the government for the steps it has been taking along the lines of properly managing and storing the water systems of southern Alberta.

I'll be very interested in hearing outright and posi-

tive statements of support for those water management proposals from members of opposition parties in this Legislature. It is very easy to stand inside or outside this Legislature and make critical comments or snide remarks about this whole question of water storage. The fact of the matter is that we must recognize, for the good of southern Alberta and for the whole province, that it is absolutely essential that we do something about it, and do it in a proper manner with proper public input. That is what this government is doing. I would be very interested in hearing the positive statements from opposition members as to exactly where their parties stand on this issue in this Assembly. I welcome the remarks of my colleague from Bow Valley, because they seem to be of a positive nature. They seem to be cognizant of the real problem that exists with regard to water in Alberta.

One of the things I want to touch upon as well is that in the South Saskatchewan River system at the present time, a very serious problem — of real significance in the context of this motion — is and has been developing over a number of years. In the question of water storage, irrigation projects, and the use of water as it flows from the mountains to the Saskatchewan border, we have many uses of that water as it goes through the system.

One of the problems encountered now — of particular significance to my area and constituency, and to constituencies between Medicine Hat and Calgary, or Medicine Hat and the mountains on the Oldman River system — is the question of algae growth and the development of that weed within the river system. I think it is most important that we raise this matter in this Legislature, Mr. Speaker, first to identify the problem, and secondly to indicate what the government is doing to deal with this matter.

For example, during the last year the city of Medicine Hat was required to expend approximately \$25,000 extra to arrange for proper labor to clear this algae from the water intakes. I am advised that farmers along the river system are also experiencing the difficulty of clogged water intakes and resultant extra expense to them. There have also been some allegations of crop losses as a result of inability to properly take water from the rivers and water the land on the irrigation system.

The Department of the Environment, in co-operation with the city of Medicine Hat and other interested groups along the river systems, has undertaken a study program to deal with the question and to examine the reasons this algae problem exists in the South Saskatchewan River system. Some days ago in this House the hon. Member for Bow Valley, I believe, and I raised questions about this matter. The minister indicated the study trying to identify the reasons and hopefully some possible solutions for this development will be released shortly. As yet that study is not available, but I expect and hope it will be available shortly. When we get that study, I think we must deal with the problem as effectively and as quickly as we can.

So there's more to the problem of water management than just those matters of rainfall and run-off from the accumulated snowmelt in the mountains. We must look at this question of what is happening to the water system, what is happening to the water, what is happening to the algae growth, and the

deterioration of the water available to southern Alberta.

Mr. Speaker, I just wish to comment on the initiative taken recently by the Medicine Hat Chamber of Commerce in the establishment of a southeastern Alberta water resource committee. This committee has been established to deal with communities and water users in southeastern Alberta who have common concern about water management in the South Saskatchewan River basin. I am encouraged that this committee has been developed because it represents not only water users in the urban municipalities in southeastern Alberta but also the towns, villages, and irrigation users along the river. I'm hopeful that the study itself will be followed up by the Department of the Environment and the Department of Agriculture, and that the committee will receive from this government all possible co-operation that can be made available in order to study this major concern.

If I may, Mr. Speaker, I would like to refer as well to the question of usage of the Suffield Block. It's already been mentioned by the Member for Bow Valley and the Member for Cypress. I've been in touch today with the member of the federal government representing Medicine Hat constituency, Mr. Bert Hargrave. Of course this matter is within the control of the federal government, in that the surface is owned by the government of Canada. I understand that questions dealing with this matter have been raised, or will be raised, in the House of Commons, and that Mr. Hargrave and other members concerned are working very hard toward dealing with the problem of providing additional grazing for ranchers in southern Alberta. I thought that was a useful item to bring to the attention of the members of the Assembly, because it is a real and legitimate concern to ranchers in southern Alberta.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, may I once again congratulate the Member for Bow Valley for bringing this matter before the Assembly today, and may I also urge all members of the Assembly to consider this matter to be of real concern. Even if we receive sufficient moisture in the next month or two months to provide sufficient crop germination and growth during the forthcoming growing season, it will still not be sufficient to deal with this problem on the long-term basis. I urge the support of all members of this Assembly for the steps presently being undertaken by this government to provide sufficient water storage in southern Alberta for irrigation systems, for towns, villages, and cities, and for industries dependent on water so we will be able — after many years of not dealing with the problem — to have an effective and positive program to manage the most valuable resource, in my opinion, we have in this province: the water that runs from the mountains to the borders of Saskatchewan.

I thank the member for the opportunity to add a few remarks. Mr. Speaker, I wish to assure him and other members of this Assembly that I consider this one of the most serious problems we have had to face since the election in 1975, when I came to this Assembly. Of course this problem has gone on for many years before that. I say that this government is giving proper attention to this problem in dealing with water storage on the Oldman River system, the Bow River system, and this Eyremore dam location mentioned by my friend from Bow Valley. I certainly think he is

quite right to raise that. I think the chambers of commerce in southeastern Alberta — including the Brooks Chamber of Commerce — are quite right to raise that as a possibility as opposed to the rehabilitation of the Bassano dam. I certainly look forward to the report forthcoming on that subject.

I welcome the views of other members of the Assembly, and look forward to a positive statement from the New Democratic Party [interjections] as to what it will do with regard to the question of water storage in southern Alberta.

DR. WEBBER: Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased to join my southern Alberta colleagues in this debate this afternoon. As well, I would like to congratulate the Member for Bow Valley for proposing this motion. I intend to restrict my remarks to one aspect of the motion, related to reducing the possible impact of drought conditions in the long term by:

- (c) expanding the current weather modification program to include means of increasing rainfall during periods of drought.

As the Member for Bow Valley has already indicated, it's certainly a little more enjoyable to debate the motion today than it would have been several weeks ago. However, as several members have already pointed out, there's still no rain in the extreme southern part of this province.

I was in Lacombe a couple of weeks ago with the hon. member across the way. It was just a beautiful morning. The sun was shining and the temperature was around 75 above. I saw one of Mr. Cookson's constituents on the street. He introduced me to him, and I said boy, it's sure a nice day, isn't it? I guess he was a local farmer. He didn't even smile. He just didn't agree with me at all. I guess I should have remembered that one should know better than to say it's a nice day to a farmer during that particular time of year with conditions the way they are.

Mr. Speaker, some 15 years ago I had the opportunity to be involved in weather forecasting and weather briefing with the meteorological division of the then Department of Highways and Transport. The essential tools of the trade at that time were a Ouija board and a crystal ball, plus being prepared to go out on a limb occasionally and not thinking you knew more about forecasting weather than the local farmers in the southern part of the province.

The weather picture today in Alberta has been described in some detail. I too made some phone calls around noon today. The frontal system does lie south of Red Deer over to Kindersley, Saskatchewan, and into southern Manitoba, with widespread rain to the north of that particular front.

When asking for the amounts of rainfall, they were given to me in metric. But I guess if we consider that 25 millimetres is equivalent to about 1 inch, the rainfall in Winnipeg, being some 50 millimetres, would be equivalent to about 2 inches; in Saskatoon, around 30 millimetres, decreasing to the south; Moose Jaw, 10 to 15 millimetres; and in the Estevan area, none.

In Alberta the heaviest rainfall was generally located around the Edmonton area. However, Rocky Mountain House appears to have had the most rain in the last 24 hours, 30 millimetres; Edmonton, 25 millimetres — about 1 inch; then going out to Coronation country, about 1 inch — 24 millimetres; Calgary,

decreasing to 15 millimetres; Brooks, 12 millimetres; Medicine Hat, as already indicated, about 4; and Lethbridge, none.

However, the system is supposed to be moving southeastward, and showers are forecast for southern Alberta later. Whether they'll get them I don't know.

MR. TRYNCHY: How about Whitecourt? You missed some.

DR. WEBBER: Now that we've talked about the weather as it is right now, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to get on to the weather modification program and to say I guess it would be nice to be able to change weather patterns in a certain aspect, although there would be a number of problems in other aspects.

There is a system we know as the westerlies in the upper levels of our atmosphere. In the westerlies there are the so-called Rossby waves. This is a wave pattern that usually remains fairly stable around the globe. As long as this pattern remains relatively stable we have weather conditions which are similar over a period of time. One of the reasons for the dry spell in the last few months has been the stabilization of a ridge system over the British Columbia and Alberta area. Associated with that ridge was a trough system in eastern Canada, which is the reason for their heavy snowfalls and poor weather. As long as the wave pattern remains the same, the weather will tend to remain the same. However, once in a while the wave pattern breaks down completely. I understand there are currently signs that this wave system is breaking down now. How it will re-establish itself, I don't think anybody knows.

With regard to modifying weather, if we could find some man-made way of moving the crests and troughs of this wave system, we'd be able to modify the amounts of rainfall we get.

Over the years nearly all weather modification work in Alberta has been done with respect to hail suppression. For many years the McGill University group was based at Penhold, doing research in hail suppression. From 1955 to 1968 there was the Alberta Weather Modification Co-op which I believe had contracts with different municipalities to suppress hail. They used techniques such as ground generators sending up silver iodide nuclei into the atmosphere, or in fact going up into the air in small aircraft and shooting pellets of silver iodide into the clouds.

I was never particularly impressed with the program in the sense that — I suppose I should say I had some misgivings about the program. When you have single clouds in the sky and you're [shooting] silver iodide or whatever into the clouds to provide nuclei, you may be able to modify the clouds so you could suppress the hail. However, if you have a whole line of thunderstorms coming down across the province, it seems to me that getting into the air in a couple of Cessna aircraft or whatever and shooting pellets out of the window of the aircraft into the system has as much effect, I suppose, as wee-weeing on a forest fire. I was never convinced that this system could suppress hail, particularly when it came down with a large frontal system.

The Alberta Research Council is currently involved in weather modification. But again it's primarily directed to decreasing hail damage rather than

increasing rainfall, although there's a relationship.

The Research Council came up with some evidence in the past year indicating that between 1960 and 1967 what they refer to as loss to risk ratios were somewhat smaller in the experimental area — Three Hills — than in the rest of the province. However, the reduction may not have been the result of cloud-seeding methods used at that time.

With respect to rainmaking, Mr. Speaker, the methods usually used are the seeding of clouds with dry ice, silver iodide, or salt to provide sufficient nuclei for water droplets to form in the cloud. Meteorologists and statisticians have thus far found it difficult to evaluate the results of these experiments. Seeding can be successful in clouds already capable of producing rain by natural processes. The variability of natural precipitation makes it impossible to calculate exactly how much rain would have fallen had seeding not been employed.

So, Mr. Speaker, the scientific consensus at present is that under certain circumstances — and those circumstances have not yet been satisfactorily determined — cloud seeding could increase precipitation by an average of 10 per cent or possibly as much as 30 per cent in a particular area. But under slightly different circumstances, cloud seeding may result in an equivalent decrease in precipitation, or may have no effect whatsoever.

The Alberta Research Council confirms that with the exception of special programs in Florida and Colorado, no operations to date have convinced the scientific community that substantial and sustained increases in precipitation in designated areas can be achieved through cloud seeding. Also, Mr. Speaker, the fact that cloud seeding does not alter the actual amount of water available, but rather its distribution, has serious legal ramifications. The basic problem that has led to several court disputes in the United States lies in determining exactly who has the legal right to clouds. For example, Rapid City, North Dakota, flood in 1972 — there had been some cloud seeding. As a result . . .

MR. SPEAKER: I regret to interrupt the hon. member, but the time allotted for debate on this motion has expired.

DR. WEBBER: I beg leave to adjourn the debate, Mr. Speaker.

head: **PUBLIC BILLS AND ORDERS  
OTHER THAN  
GOVERNMENT BILLS AND ORDERS  
(Second Reading)**

**Bill 222  
The Adult Publications Act**

MR. LITTLE: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, for the opportunity to speak to Bill 222, The Adult Publications Act. The purpose of this bill is to establish specific outlets for adult publications, which will have been previously classified. Minors will be excluded from these outlets.

We're dealing with certain principles and certain philosophies in this bill. I would say the first of them is that of censorship. I would like to read this short

paragraph that indicates the urge in all of us to censor. I take this from the publication *Crimes With No Victims*.

In human history the urge to censor seems almost as basic as the urge to communicate.

Even when primitive man was completing his first cave painting there was probably another cave dweller who objected to the content and demanded that it be obliterated.

There is today, Mr. Speaker, a great deal of controversy over whether pornographic materials should be made available without restriction, and whether the effects of such materials are detrimental. In connection with whether the materials are detrimental, we have the very, very extensive report on obscenity and pornography of the President's Commission on Crime. It was the majority conclusion of that report, Mr. Speaker, that pornography did not have a detrimental effect, at least to the subjects interviewed and examined.

However, it should be stated that much of the present concern over pornography stems from a concern about the possible adverse effects on young people of exposure to explicit sexual materials. This is the area which the bill concerns itself with, the withholding of these objectionable materials from minors.

In 1968 the then president of the United States appointed the commission to investigate the question of pornography. After two years of study, of which I have just spoken, the commission on obscenity and pornography concluded that while there was no empirical evidence which linked exposure [of] adults to pornography [with] crime and delinquency, nor any evidence to support the contention that such exposure [of] adults adversely affects moral attitudes, research available on the effects on children of exposure to pornography was insufficient to warrant the view that such exposure is not harmful.

I had the very good fortune to be able to speak with one of the members of that commission. They found that a great deal of the evidence that came before the commission surprised even the members. A lot of the old myths we had believed in were apparently decimated by the commission. In fact, the myth that pornographic materials cause a person to become a sexual pervert or a sexual offender was discounted by the committee.

The commission also stated that a large majority of Americans believe that children should not be exposed to certain sexual materials. This sentiment is also shared by Albertans. Nearly all persons who sent submissions to this Legislature's 1972 select committee on censorship expressed the view that children should be protected from undue violence, abnormal sex, and obscene language such as would be contained in pornographic materials.

At this point, Mr. Speaker, I would like to read to you the definition of pornography from the Criminal Code, as it applies to written materials.

For the purposes of this Act, any publication a dominant characteristic of which is undue exploitation of sex, or of sex and any one or more of the following subjects, namely crime, horror, cruelty and violence, shall be deemed to be obscene.

Of course, it was [under] this particular section that the prosecution took place in the Edmonton courts yesterday, and the magazine *Hustler* was ruled



obscene by a Supreme Court jury. However, I note from Martin's criminal code that the Supreme Court of this country has been fairly consistent in over-throwing convictions for obscenity and pornography in that they appear to have a great deal of difficulty in interpreting the term "obscenity" or defining its application to particular situations.

In light of the uncertain effects of sexually explicit materials on minors and because of parental concern, the United States commission to which I referred a few moments ago recommended that legislation be enacted to aid parents in controlling access to pornographic materials during their children's formative years. In addition, our own federal government's advisory board on justice stated in 1975 that it should remain a crime to expose children to obscenity or to display pornographic materials in public.

All these recommendations, Mr. Speaker, are embodied in Bill 222. The Adult Publications Act is designed to limit access either through sales or display which minors have to pornographic materials and to prevent the damaging effect — if such there be; we're not all that sure as yet — such materials might have on young people. The availability of pornographic materials would be controlled through a provincial board to be known as the publication classification board, which would decide whether written or verbal materials are suitable for exposure to minors. The establishment of such a board would fill the void created by the recent dissolution of this province's advisory board on objectionable publications. It would not however interfere with the activities of the motion picture censorship board, as films approved by this board would not be included within its jurisdiction.

To get to the guts of the bill, Mr. Speaker, Section 6(2):

Every person who sells or offers for sale an adult publication . . . to a minor, or . . . other than through an adult publication store is guilty of an offence.

Thus the publication classification board together with the motion picture censorship board would be able to provide for the regulating of all pornographic materials which might be available. According to the proposed legislation, if the publication classification board deemed a publication unsuitable for minors, such a publication could only be sold or displayed in stores specifically licensed to sell or display "adult publications". Minors would not be permitted access to such stores.

The idea of providing separate facilities for the sale and display of explicit sexual materials is not new. One of the recommendations of the select committees on censorship was that further study should be given to regulations requiring the displaying and selling of more salacious books, magazines, and publications in separate facilities. This proposal was supported by two Calgary news dealers in their submissions to the committee. Indeed, Mr. Speaker, even in Denmark, where pornography was legalized in 1969, regulations still exist for the display of such materials before the public.

These findings would seem to be borne out by the experience in Denmark, where rules on the sale and distribution of obscene materials were increasingly liberalized during the 1960s. In the decade from 1959 to 1969, Denmark experienced a 79.8 decrease

in voyeurism, a 58.2 decrease in exhibitionism, a 67.2 decrease in sexual intercourse with minors, and a 69.1 per cent decrease in other sexual offences against young girls.

Then in 1969, the last Danish restrictions having to do with pictorial pornography were dropped. Since then, arrests for voyeurism and exhibitionism have declined 50 per cent while the number of violent sex crimes has been unchanged. As in this country, most of those who took advantage of the liberalized Danish laws proved to be not young people but middle-income men in their middle forties and fifties.

I might comment, Mr. Speaker, that although those statistics do seem rather impressive, I'm not all that persuaded by them, because one way we can eliminate all crime is to legalize it. I think this is part of the tack that the Danish experiment took. So I think that although the experiment did show certain positive features, it's not quite as good as it looks.

Author Mary Costello, in a publication on the subject of pornography control, lists four possible means of restricting pornography:

- (a) Limiting legal prohibitions to hard-core pornography.
- (b) Retaining the legal sanctions against pornography but not enforcing them strictly.

Mr. Speaker, I think the disadvantages of these suggestions are rather obvious. In the first case, the difficulty of determining the fine line between what constitutes hard-core and soft-core pornography is inherent. Secondly, the retention of prohibitions without enforcement can only undermine our legal system and erode all respect for it.

The two other proposals presented at that time were:

- (c) Restricting pornography to adults.

It would appear to me that this is the most viable course for us to take.

- (d) Establishing separate or controlled areas for the sale and display of sexually explicit materials.

The Adult Publications Act encompasses both of these latter suggestions. It restricts the availability of pornography to minors because of the possible undesirable and damaging nature of such materials, and provides a means for doing so by providing separate and controlled retailers.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I believe it would be reasonable that I make some remark concerning the intention of the bill. I believe censorship has proven itself to be unworkable in many previous experiments. We have a great deal of pressure from people in the constituencies today; they are upset about pornography. I don't believe censorship *per se* is the answer. I believe this bill gives us a possible answer. It is not by any means the intention of this bill to replace parental authority and guidance, but to increase it.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DR. PAPROSKI: Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the Member for Calgary McCall for bringing this bill forward. At the outset I would like to make it clear to the members of the Legislature that I do not believe in outright censorship. But I do believe the limitation on the material and the media, especially to youth, is justified for many reasons. I'm sure one could easily extend this argument and say, in fact,

that this excessive exposure of adults to pornographic material is probably harmful if it's extended over a long period of time and over a repeated exposure.

Mr. Speaker, the *Hustler* case we've read about indeed gives us a message. But the issue is not censorship in that purest sense. It's this type of legislation that I believe counterbalances the excess — and the excess is a very important item here — the flood in the media of sex, perverted sex, violence, crime, horror, and so forth. It's not just that one issue, one magazine. It's the frequent, repeated, and excess and the resultant deleterious effect that has on our population, our society, and especially our developing minds, our youth.

It's this type of legislation, Mr. Speaker, that I think signifies the change of the pendulum to a more balanced perspective. It could be related to the bill brought in regarding body-rub parlors and nude parlors, the amendments to The Amusements Act, and the bill I'll be bringing in regarding quota systems on restricted adult, adult, and family movies.

Mr. Speaker, to be clear — because the editorializing on that particular item in itself is somehow warped. They don't understand the issue or they choose not to understand the issue. When I mentioned that, it was not in the purest sense censorship, because restricted adult movies will be available. It's the percentage. I did not say a 50:50 split; I didn't even say it'll be a 60:40 split. I said it may be a 70:30 split, 80:20, 60:40, or whatever consensus we'll bring to this Legislature when the bill is introduced. So, Mr. Speaker, this type of legislation, although it is not censorship in the purest form — because it allows adults this type of publication — still offers a balanced, controlled, realistic recognition of a problem and a way to handle it for our youth.

Mr. Speaker, the hon. member indicated there will be a publication classification board for written material, pictorial material, phonographs, and other things which in the opinion of that board are not acceptable or suitable for minors, but will be available for adults in an adult publication store. Or there may be material such as will be acceptable to both, which will be available of course in our general stores, our family stores in every community, where it should be.

The key point here, Mr. Speaker, is that in addition, there will be a fine. Indeed there should be a fine to exercise and put some muscle behind this type of legislation. The fine as indicated will be \$1,000 for the first offence of providing that material to minors, and \$2,000 or not more than six months for a subsequent offence.

Mr. Speaker, such a bill provides what we have had in the film industry in general for some time. We have a film censor board which classifies the films and actually restricts some completely, doesn't allow them on the market at all. So in fact this particular legislation is less restrictive in that regard. The classification of films, whether it be restricted adult, adult, or family . . . Here we have a publication classification board which will classify it and say it's suitable for adults — or available to adults, not necessarily suitable. It will be available in another classification for general reading.

Mr. Speaker, the question is always asked: why do we need such restrictions? A number of points could be made here, and the hon. Member for Calgary McCall indeed made some of those points. In Swe-

den, Norway, and Denmark, where I understand — and it's been substantiated by the member — pornography is legal or at least more open, rape and some sex crimes have in fact increased, not decreased. There are those authorities who have indicated, including the report to the President of the United States, that in fact some of the sex crimes have decreased. Truly, maybe some of the sex crimes have decreased. But at the same time, there was a change in the legislation and the application of the law in those countries. In fact a lot of prosecution did not take place for certain types of sex crimes, so this would not be recorded as an increase.

Mr. Speaker, it's not necessarily one magazine, one article, that is a concern. Again, it's the flood of pornography and obscenity in the media that causes the harm in any instance. I suggest it can push a few of our citizens right over the brink into either a sex act that is illegal, or a violent act. This is true especially when we have minds that are developing, and of course I refer here to our youth. But it also applies, in excess over a long period of time, to our adult population.

As a result, what does it do? It distorts our values, which we cherish so dearly. I say that with all sincerity. Mr. Speaker, you know I mean that, and I know the members here understand that. We cherish these values very dearly. We're saying, love with sex, not sex without love. I think it's something we should protect.

Another point, Mr. Speaker. Pornography regards the female and the male merely as things, as objects, as meat; the female without any individuality, any relationship to the other as a person in a human way, in contrast to what in fact should be love, which is caring, understanding a person in a very human and emotional way.

Mr. Speaker, pornography is a deliberate focussing on the male and female sexual organs in action — in public. When you see that type of stuff — and I say "stuff", and I don't know if it's even worthy of that — in a magazine, in the media, or anywhere, I suggest without any hesitation that it does not reflect the pervading standards of our community. It does not represent our religious standards, our community standards, or our parental standards. Frankly I don't know what it represents.

Mr. Speaker, pornography distorts and influences our thinking in a direction which is obviously contrary to our values as human beings who really, truly care. In contrast the pornography exploiters argue — and they do; they provide arguments, amazing as it is. For example, they say that social ills are caused by sexual repression, and that a healthy sexual attitude is to fornicate anywhere, any time, anyplace. In fact we all know or should know — and if we don't know, we should consult authorities — that sexual ills are caused by interpersonal problems. Obviously there is a need for understanding and caring, and ills are due to interpersonal relationships.

Mr. Speaker, they go on to argue that the popularity of the sales of these magazines, articles, and movies are a reflection of what the public wants. There's a quick answer to that. It may not be acceptable at this time, but think about what I'm going to say. If those are popular, Mr. Speaker, maybe we should have two human beings in an arena fighting to the death as gladiators. I suggest the promoters could sell tickets

and fill that arena if they so chose. But because it would be popular and because we could fill that arena doesn't make it right and doesn't make it correct. It's not humanly acceptable in any way by this House or anywhere in Canada or on the North American continent or, I suggest, anywhere in the world.

Mr. Speaker, there's another thing. Human instinct tells us pornography — the undue, warped exploitation of sex; sex without love — is in fact wrong. Mr. Speaker, there are other reasons we need such legislation. That's why I feel it's so important that hon. members consider this legislation, and such legislation, in a very serious vein. There are many experts to substantiate the following, Mr. Speaker — those who support the pornographers will get their experts and their studies to justify. But I have yet to read a study from their side that really could convince me — backing off as an objective individual who is in the art and science of medicine. I challenge anyone to bring me a study on the other side of the fence. I'd like to read it.

Let me just indicate some of the points that are made, Mr. Speaker. I have indicated already that pornography undermines our values. It blunts our emotions in feeling for each other as human beings. It dehumanizes us. As I indicated before, it reduces us to thinking about sex only, without due regard to human relationships. Who in this House would dare to say that in India the cow is not sacred? Who would say that in Israel they should raise pigs for consumption? Mr. Speaker, I'm drawing an analogy here. I'm saying our society is not different. We are no exception. We have values too. We have our families, our religions, our traditional standards, and our communities. They should be protected as best possible by this type of legislation. We want respect for each other, for the male and the female as human beings. It should not be undermined by pornography and sex without love, especially sex without love in public.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, knowledgeable and informed experts in this area recognize the harm this type of material will cause the individual. That is well documented. If individuals in the Legislature or anywhere want this evidence, it is readily available.

Mr. Speaker, the bill assists in the control of pornographic material and is not outright censorship. And that is laudable. I suggest that is a good thing. We believe in our freedoms. We've fought for freedom to express ourselves. But, Mr. Speaker, it does limit it. At least we have it in one store, or many stores, and it's labelled. If you're going in there to obtain that type of material, at least it's clear. You don't have to walk in with your child — be he 5 or 10 years old — and face a front line of pornographic material at the counter.

Mr. Speaker, there's a full realization that excess for adults may cause harm. But we aren't debating that here today. We're talking about our youth and the harm it will cause them.

Mr. Speaker, I do not believe the issue of pornography and excessive violence in the media would be as great an issue today, as we stand in the Legislature, if our society would review the matter in earnest, and as a priority. Mr. Speaker, I see the hon. Attorney General sitting there listening very seriously, and I know he's taking this seriously. But I think it's time we set a priority in this area for a clear definition of pornography and obscenity, so our society can act,

and then establish a mechanism whereby citizens can more easily bring pressure to bear on what they believe is the proper thing for that community. Here I speak of the community laying a charge — make sure the mechanism is clear; make sure the community knows that mechanism clearly — and a jury made up of citizens of that community decides, not a judge.

Until this happens, Mr. Speaker, I think the pornographers and dollar exploiters in this area will continue to feed on our society without any thought of what harm it causes, and always will scream "censorship". Mr. Speaker, that has to be the diabolical thing about this whole thing. They always scream "censorship", when in fact by flooding all the stores . . . I suggest, Mr. Speaker, that tomorrow morning, with the limitations we do not have, every movie house in this province could show a restricted adult movie. We don't have any restrictions in that regard. They could flood our society and frankly don't give a damn about what it causes to our citizens or especially our youth, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I'm going to conclude with some quotations from the President's report to Congress. I would like to remind members that the report had a minority portion and a majority portion. Like all reports and studies, it has to be looked at objectively; no report or study is an absolute truth. Having said that, Mr. Speaker, I want to quote both sides of the fence. If pornography were allowed to proliferate unchecked, it might influence both public and private attitudes and sensibilities, and therefore ultimately action. Mr. Speaker, another specific prediction is that a notable increase in homosexual offences can be traced to the availability of magazines devoted to these perversities.

Mr. Speaker, they had a page here which showed the consequences of excessive exposure to erotica. On that page there are 26 reasons — 26 criminal or generally regarded as harmful factors. I'm not going to read them all; 26 of them. Only four were neutral. Only five were helpful, and I fail to see how they could even be helpful from what they've stated. So even in that report we have a three to one ratio where this type of material is harmful.

Mr. Speaker, erotic materials are harmful to society. They have become a threat to the moral fibre of our society, particularly because of the effect on young people, whose minds are yet malleable but whose responsibility it will become to safeguard this society and pass it on to future generations. Mr. Speaker, a section here says exposure to erotica is harmless. Let me quote just two or three items here and give them fair billing: I am convinced that were all so-called objectionable books and like material to disappear from the face of this earth tomorrow, this would in no way would affect the statistics of crime. This is the kind of claim they make. Crime would not change. They also say materials performed a useful function for individuals by extending opportunities for sexual expression. Others argue that erotica materials serve a cathartic function, serve as a sexual release, or safety valve, and a neutralizer. Mr. Speaker, it may discourage sexual inadequacies. I've indicated before it's common medical knowledge that sexual problems are caused by interpersonal problems. All weak arguments. Mr. Speaker, our values, our religion, our morals, and our instincts guide us that this in fact is not acceptable.

Mr. Speaker, I'm going to conclude by reading one comment from the Premier's speech at the last prayer breakfast. I think it's worthy of note:

We need to dedicate ourselves even more to those basic values and traditions that make this province what it is today, and they include the need to recognize the significance of the family, the community, and society, meaning the church and the school.

Mr. Speaker, I'm going to quote three authorities. J. Edgar Hoover says that in an overwhelming number of cases of sex offences, pornography was an issue. Another authority, Herbert Chase, former Detroit police inspector, [says] in the history of [his] department there has not been a sex murder in which the killer was not an avid reader of lewd magazines. Another authority, Lt. Duke, detective, St. Louis county, [says he has] never picked up a juvenile offender who didn't have this stuff with him in his car or in his house. I could go on.

Mr. Speaker, I'm going to conclude in the last two minutes by reading three cases. Case number one: seven Oklahoma teenage male youths attacked a 15-year-old female from Texas raping her and forcing her to commit unnatural sex acts with them. Four of the youths, two the sons of attorneys, admit being incited to commit these acts by reading obscene magazines and looking at photographs.

Case number two: male youth age 13 admits attack on a young girl in a downtown office was stimulated by sexual arousal from stag-magazine articles which showed naked women and an article on how to strip a woman he had previously read in public drug stores.

Case number three: a sack full of pornographic magazines was found near a water-filled ditch where the bodies of two strangled girls, aged 5 and 6, were discovered.

Mr. Speaker, I think those cases speak for themselves. I urge the Legislature to support this bill.

MR. ASHTON: Mr. Speaker, I wish to express my appreciation to the hon. Member for Calgary McCall for the astute and responsible manner in which he has approached this very difficult issue.

I will only make a few comments. I realize other hon. members wish to make their own comments in the 25 minutes left. So I'll confine myself basically to relating to the Assembly some rather important developments which have occurred in the Sherwood Park portion of my constituency.

Approximately two months ago a group of concerned parents who had the same concerns expressed by the hon. Member for Calgary McCall and the hon. Member for Edmonton Kingsway decided to do something about it. They thought they would test public opinion in my community. They organized a petition. They went to every door in the constituency. The petition basically made the representation that people signing the petition were in favor of having pornographic magazines sealed in non-seethrough enclosures and labelled only with the title of the magazine. Secondly, they desired the prohibiting of the sale of such magazines to individuals under the age of 18.

They covered every door and collected in excess of 5,400 signatures. Their experience was that fewer than 4 per cent of the people they met at the door

refused to sign the petition. It's easy to conclude they received overwhelming support for the basic concept of doing something in the area of controlling salacious magazines with respect to minors. They were encouraged in their efforts by some public announcements by the hon. Attorney General with respect to encouragement to retailers of magazines to restrict sale to minors somewhat. This can probably best be expressed by the opening paragraph of an item in one local paper which says:

Whatever anyone else thinks about Attorney General Jim Foster's move to have retailers display lewd magazines in a more discreet fashion, 5,377 Sherwood Park people agree with him.

The petition was later presented to the hon. minister, and I think the numbers speak for themselves.

Perhaps I should mention we in Sherwood Park have the rather unusual and exciting privilege of having three newspapers, the *Edmonton Journal*, the *Sherwood Park News*, and the *Sherwood Park Star*. Sometimes one almost gets the feeling when one reads the rather paranoid pro-annexation editorials which appear almost monthly in the *Journal* that one of their objectives might be, if they could quash local autonomy in Sherwood Park and St. Albert, perhaps there would only be one newspaper in Sherwood Park.

Getting back to the topic, I think it's pretty clear that although some of the people organizing the petition would have gone much further in their personal opinions with respect to what the government should do, they exercised a high degree of responsibility in attempting to find a common ground with the large majority. Just as the hon. Member for Calgary McCall has done with his rather important bill, they dealt only with minors — in other words, restricted this material with respect to minors. I think they rounded out pretty clearly in their presentation to the hon. Attorney General when they said they want some definite legislative controls to be considered in regard to the sale and display of pornographic magazines in our communities. Again, they are talking about the young.

Representing my constituents and speaking personally as a parent, I support the general principle as expressed in the bill before us today. Although it doesn't coincide exactly with the petition that received such strong support in my constituency, if they went back with a second petition specifically on the terms of the bill, I believe it also would receive overwhelming support. On that basis I hope the hon. members will give it very thorough consideration.

Thank you.

DR. BUCK: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to make a comment or two on the hon. member's bill. One of the things that has always bothered me as a member of this Legislature is: do we in this Legislature have a responsibility for the maintenance, or the establishment, or even the discussion of a responsibility for a moral code or a moral standard? This has bothered me every year I've been in this Legislature. Do we have a responsibility? Is it part of our responsibility? Frankly, Mr. Speaker, I still have not been able to answer that question. But as a parent, I am concerned about the material on our bookstands.

I think the hon. Member for McCall has reached a sensible compromise, in that if the material were

placed in an area or a place of sale where minors could not come in and buy the "literature" I think this would be a step in the right direction. I challenge any member in this Legislature to pick up one of the 'smutties' and not find it erotic, because I say, Mr. Speaker, if they went through some of these jollies and did not find them erotic, I think there is possibly something wrong with them, they are nearly that risqué.

Mr. Speaker, I think there is a responsibility, and the recommendation made in this bill is a responsible recommendation. It's a responsible way to go and a responsible way to move. I make it my responsibility — and I say this in all sincerity and seriousness — to buy two copies of *Penthouse* every year, one in the middle and one at the end of the year. I do that with an objectivity, I hope, to see how that magazine, that one in particular, is deteriorating, and using the standards that I consider good judgment — and I think and hope I have good judgment — the standards of that magazine are going down, and down, and down.

Mr. Speaker, if the quality of this so-called family magazine is going down, where is it going to end? I guess where it ends is where we see articles and magazines displayed as in some of the countries that have tried the route of, everything goes. And what does that accomplish? What does it accomplish for us as a society? Is it an art form? Does it enhance our ability to be better parents? Does it enhance our ability to be better, emotionally involved husbands and wives? Because if it doesn't do that then I think it does not contribute to us as members of society. Because if it is not art, and it's not educational, and it's not medically educational, what does it do? Well, all it does is make money for the people who find this stimulating. And this stimulation can lead to some of the problems the hon. members for Kingsway, Calgary McCall, and Edmonton Ottewell have spoken of.

Going the route where we place objectionable material in an area where it cannot be bought by minors I think is a good move, hon. member. I compliment you and I support you.

The question I always have to resolve in my own mind, Mr. Speaker, is the attempt by the publishers of such material to try to tell the young people that this, in my estimation abnormal behavior, is possibly normal behavior. I consider it abnormal. Bombarded more and more by that type of material, the young, undiscerning mind starts to correlate that with normality. I think that's where the harm can be done to the young mind. Little by little you are bombarded, and the standards are lowered and lowered. That young person has not had the background and experience that we as adults have had, to discern the difference between normal and abnormal.

The lower the standards go, Mr. Speaker . . . I believe there's an opportunity for this type of material to trigger the person who may have abnormal quirks. That triggering mechanism may set off some young person to rape a girl on his way home or to engage in abnormal behavior. That does concern me, Mr. Speaker.

It's quite interesting, in instances where people have been convicted of criminal acts — and some of them very abnormal criminal acts, violent criminal acts — to find out that the person convicted saw that in a movie or read it in a book. I think that is a point

we should bear in mind when we say there should be no censorship. And I certainly do not believe in censorship.

But what is normal or abnormal behavior? I suppose some people who like getting their jollies out of sadism and masochism may think that is normal. But the more of that material young people are exposed to — the more violence they are exposed to — the more they start thinking that is normal behavior. I think that is wrong. And when that becomes prevalent, I think we are heading in the wrong direction.

Speaking of censorship, Mr. Speaker, I remember — it was before my time — the discussion in this Legislature about *The Catcher in the Rye*. When we look at a book like *The Catcher in the Rye*, and compare that to some of the material we buy on the newsstands now, it's like comparing grapes and watermelons. They are both raised on a vine.

I'd like to tell a little story about *The Catcher in the Rye*. My wife was reading a book one day and was laughing her head off. I said, what are you reading? She said, *The Catcher in the Rye*. I said, well what can be so funny about *The Catcher in the Rye* — because I remember the debate that went on in the Legislature about how terrible this story was, [how] it should be banned from the libraries in the schools in the province of Alberta. She said, read it and you'll know what I'm laughing at. Mr. Speaker, I read it. It's one of the funniest books I've ever read. It's exactly the things that young boys of that age fantasize: how they're the greatest lovers and the biggest operators in the world. To me, it was exactly the functioning of an adolescent mind in that age group. I found everything was in context. I really thought it was quite an amusing book.

But the legislators of that time were banning this book from the libraries of the province. My teen-age daughter read that book and thought it was hilarious too. She could understand that it was what we in our family considered normal behavior for a 16-year-old boy.

I think that I would find it very difficult to hand the April edition of *Penthouse* to my wife and my teen-age daughter, and have them look at that magazine and find some of the stuff in that magazine normal behavior. And I challenge any of the members of this Legislature to thumb through the last 15 or 20 pictorial pages. If you want the smutty stuff, read the articles — the advice to the lovelorn, if you want the real smut — because the pictures are really quite artistic compared to some of the written material in those magazines. And I guess that is considered one of the family magazines.

Mr. Speaker, I think the route suggested by the hon. member is sensible. Place the material, some of the "blues", in an area not accessible to the minor. As an associate medical person, I think there is a correlation between the type of material the young mind reads and sees on television, and abnormal behavior. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to support the member's bill. I welcome the opinion of other members of the Assembly.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. GOGO: Mr. Speaker, I too would like to make some comments on Bill 222. First of all, I commend the Member for Calgary McCall for sponsoring the bill. I don't agree with it, but I commend him for

sponsoring it.

I've heard some of the arguments on the other side of the House. One member talks about gladiators fighting in an arena. That member should stop and consider for a moment the reason there's 18 feet between this side of the House and that side of the House: historically, when a member in the front bench on this side faces that side of the front bench, extended swords just touch. In other words, we don't deal in violence within the Assembly. I don't know why the Member for Edmonton Kingsway referred to gladiators in the arena. I see no connection between that and adult publications.

I get a little concerned, Mr. Speaker, when I read the definitions. I wonder what the press gallery would do on an interesting afternoon in question period, when they had to take their prose to the publication classification board before it was released. Because as I read it, the definitions include any written paper. And one would assume [with] the members of the Fourth Estate, you would call that writing — it would have to be perused by members of the classification committee. Those may or may not be considered adult publications. I don't know.

Mr. Speaker, I'm a little fearful when any member gets into the realm of censorship, because that's what it means to me. I recall a couple of years ago — four years ago I think, during the era of the Vietnam war — in living color on television screens across the nation, a certain police force colonel in Saigon shot a man's brains out. Some people perhaps say that that should go through a classification committee before release on TV. How that could be done is beyond my imagination. We would have more civil servants than [are] presently in government simply to go over this material.

In my office, in 325, I have 118 pounds of obscene material, because I chose to mention to the Minister of Culture one day that I didn't know what it had been all about. He saw to it that four or five wagonloads of material came into my office. Between the studying of particular bills and resolutions, I've looked over the material. Some of it's very exciting. It was collected in the years '71, '72, and '73. There are even two or three pictures of people without clothes on — only two or three. I'm sure in the years to come, we'll look at what goes on today in [an] archaic light.

I think, Mr. Speaker, that legislation is not the route to follow with regard to parents who want to restrict adult publications to children. I look at my own constituency. I look at Shoppers Drug Mart; they've been hassled so often by the police that they chose to take them out. However, Woolco, another good corporation of this nation, has had the courtesy, on the request of parents — not legislators, not police, but parents — to create a cubicle and put those adult publications in it. They didn't have to wait for a publication board, a censorship board, or any other board of bureaucrats at \$300 and \$400 a day to fly on Time Air to Lethbridge and do it; they did it voluntarily.

I think it's time we as a government recognized the corporate responsibility of some of the business people in this province. They're not bad. They're not all money-hungry. How many have been asked? I sug-

gest before doing so that, as many members of this Assembly claim to be ombudsmen for those they represent, they should perhaps go to their constituencies, find the concerns of the parents — if indeed they're there — talk to the merchants, and ask for co-operation. Only too often we've passed legislation within Canada. One time, we had legislation on the books about smoking.

MR. KOZIAK: It's coming back.

MR. GOGO: Cigarettes, not pot. Whether it's from example, I don't know . . . But each day, around schools in my constituency anyway, they have a collection group out there picking up beer bottles — I think they come from a sort of temperance movement. And students are smoking. We can put all the laws we want on the books. I suggest the only way you're going to have respect for law is either have laws that people respect or enforce the ones you have. I look at Bill 222 and question whether or not it could be enforced, even if it were passed.

Then I read under Section 5 that "No publication may be offered for sale in the Province unless it has been classified by the Board." Another bureaucratic entanglement, where somebody who believes, maybe not rightly so, they're capable of writing an article, a novel, or a publication would find there would be a \$100 charge to submit it to the publication board to have it looked at. I know the intent of the hon. Member for McCall is good; I commend him for that. But looking down the road I see if we pass this type of legislation intentions by government to stifle the interests of those people who may view a certain piece of material not as an "adult publication" but indeed as a work of art. I don't intend to stand in this Assembly and make laws that dictate what other people should see, let alone what other people should hear.

So with that, Mr. Speaker, I would ask colleagues in the House to study Bill 222 very seriously and vote it down. Thank you.

MR. YURKO: Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to adjourn debate.

MR. FOSTER: Mr. Speaker, by way of House business, I think all members realize we're not sitting tonight. Starting tomorrow morning, we will continue with second readings of government bills on the Order Paper.

I move this House do now adjourn until tomorrow at 10 a.m.

MR. SPEAKER: Having heard the motion for adjournment by the hon. Government House Leader, do you all agree?

HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. SPEAKER: The Assembly stands adjourned until tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock.

[The House adjourned at 5:32 p.m.]