

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ALBERTA

Title: **Monday, May 28, 1979 2:30 p.m.**

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

PRAYERS

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

head: INTRODUCTION OF BILLS**Bill 203****The Conflict of Interest Act**

MR. R. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to introduce Bill No. 203, The Conflict of Interest Act. This Bill is intended to prevent conflicts of interest among Members of the Legislative Assembly, cabinet ministers, deputy ministers, executive staff members, and heads of Crown corporations and government agencies.

[Leave granted; Bill 203 read a first time]

Bill 3**The Commodity Futures Act**

MR. KOZIAK: Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to introduce Bill 3, The Commodity Futures Act. The purpose of the Bill is to ensure that the climate for commodity futures trading in this province continues to be a healthy one, with a balance of government regulation and self-regulation by bodies involved in the field.

The intention of the government, Mr. Speaker, is not to pass the Bill during the course of this session, but ultimately to reintroduce The Commodity Futures Act together with a new Securities Act during a future session.

[Leave granted; Bill 3 read a first time]

Bill 4**The Alberta Insurance
Amendment Act, 1979**

MR. KOZIAK: Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to introduce Bill 4, The Alberta Insurance Amendment Act, 1979.

The purpose of the Bill is to provide legislative authority to approve an industry plan, a facility under which the drivers in the province of Alberta are able to obtain insurance, particularly those who find their claims are rather high. The legislation permits those drivers to obtain insurance as easily as possible. It will replace an exchange presently in existence with a less cumbersome method.

[Leave granted; Bill 4 read a first time]

Bill 7**The Alberta Property Tax Reduction
Amendment Act, 1979**

MR. MOORE: Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to introduce

The Alberta Property Tax Reduction Amendment Act, 1979.

This Bill is designed to provide that senior citizens who live in rented accommodation may receive a renter's assistance grant of \$500 per year as opposed to the previous \$250 per year. As members may recall, this measure was announced before the last election, and it seems to have been rather well received.

The second part of the Bill, Mr. Speaker, is designed to provide for a renter's assistance grant of \$400 for senior citizens who live in their own mobile homes, but rent space in a mobile-home park. That grant is at the option of the senior citizens if the benefit is greater than the benefit which flows from the regular property tax reduction grant.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, a change will ensure that citizens who receive the property tax reduction benefits can receive those benefits on both farmland and residential property, without any restrictions to receiving the benefits on whichever piece of property provides the most benefit.

[Leave granted; Bill 7 read a first time]

Bill 18**The Local Authorities Board
Amendment Act, 1979**

MR. MOORE: Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to introduce The Local Authorities Board Amendment Act, 1979.

This Bill is designed to provide for the expansion of membership on the Local Authorities Board, and to provide legislative authority for the splitting of the board into two divisions so that two hearings may be held at the same time. The reasons for bringing this Bill forward, Mr. Speaker, are to do with the application of the city of Edmonton for annexation and our desire that those hearings be held as expeditiously as possible, and that at the same time the other work and matters before the board be dealt with without delay.

[Leave granted; Bill 18 read a first time]

Bill 8**The Alberta Government Telephones
Amendment Act, 1979**

MR. SHABEN: Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to introduce Bill 8, The Alberta Government Telephones Amendment Act, 1979.

The purpose of this Bill is to bring about a change in the chairmanship of the AGT Commission to allow the Associate Minister of Telephones to assume the chairmanship of the AGT Commission, and the Minister of Utilities and Telephones to assume the responsibilities of vice-chairman of the commission.

[Leave granted; Bill 8 read a first time]

Bill 17**The Workers' Health,
Safety and Compensation Statutes
Amendment Act, 1979**

MR. DIACHUK: Mr. Speaker, I request leave to introduce Bill 17, The Workers' Health, Safety and Compensation Statutes Amendment Act, 1979.

The purpose of this Bill is to transfer two Acts from

the Minister of Labour to my portfolio. The two Acts are The Occupational Health and Safety Act and The Radiation Protection Act.

[Leave granted; Bill 17 read a first time]

Bill 202
The Code of Ethics
and Conduct Act

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I request leave to introduce Bill 202, The Code of Ethics and Conduct Act.

Mr. Speaker, there are four provisions in this Act: first, the disclosure of assets of all Members of the Legislative Assembly; two, conflict-of-interest guidelines; three, post-employment guidelines; and four, clarification of the method of Executive Council appointments.

[Leave granted; Bill 202 read a first time]

MR. SPEAKER: I might say that owing to the similarity between Bills 202 and 203, there may be some need to consider what should be done whenever the first of those two Bills comes up for debate.

Bill 5
The Libraries
Amendment Act, 1979

MRS. LeMESSURIER: Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to introduce Bill 5, The Libraries Amendment Act, 1979.

The purpose of the Bill is to provide remuneration and travel expenses to the members of the Alberta Library Board in accordance with the committee remuneration order. Currently, The Libraries Act specifically forbids any remuneration for services, while other government boards and committees are paid an honorarium.

[Leave granted; Bill 5 read a first time]

Bill 9
The Public Lands
Amendment Act, 1979

MR. MILLER: Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to introduce Bill No. 9, The Public Lands Amendment Act, 1979. The purpose of this Bill is to make for increased administrative effectiveness as well as to accommodate requests we have received from individuals.

[Leave granted; Bill 9 read a first time]

Bill 10
The Public Lands
and Wildlife Statutes
Amendment Act, 1979

MR. MILLER: Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to introduce Bill No. 10, The Public Lands and Wildlife Statutes Amendment Act, 1979. The amendments are necessitated by the 1979 departmental reorganization.

[Leave granted; Bill 10 read a first time]

Bill 12
The Department of
Recreation, Parks and Wildlife
Amendment Act, 1979

MR. TRYNCHY: Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to introduce Bill 12, The Department of Recreation, Parks and Wildlife Amendment Act, 1979. The purpose of the Bill is to define the jurisdiction of Alberta Recreation and Parks and remove the mention of Alberta Wildlife.

[Leave granted; Bill 12 read a first time]

head: INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS

MR. WOLSTENHOLME: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the hon. Member for Edmonton Meadowlark it is my pleasure to introduce 11 students, along with their teacher Mrs. McKie. They are from Lynnwood elementary school. I would ask that they rise and be recognized by this Assembly.

MR. L. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, it gives me a great deal of pleasure to introduce through you to the Members of the Legislative Assembly a class of grade 12 students from Delia high school in the Drumheller constituency. They are accompanied by their school principal, Nelson Houghton, and are seated in the public gallery. I would ask them to rise and receive the welcome of the Assembly.

MR. STEVENS: Mr. Speaker, may I introduce to you, and through you to the members of this Assembly, 15 grades 9 and 10 students and their leader David Connors, from the Seventh-day Adventist school in my constituency. Would they please rise, and we could welcome them to this Assembly.

MR. HIEBERT: Mr. Speaker, I would like to welcome to the Assembly grades 5 and 6 students from St. Helen school in the southeast area of Edmonton, and their principal Mr. Wozney. Would we show them the usual applause or accord.

MR. TRYNCHY: Mr. Speaker, it's my pleasure today to introduce to you and to the members of the House some 40 young Albertans, grade 10 students from Sangudo. They're accompanied by their teacher Mr. Tanasiuk. They're seated in the public gallery, and I'd ask them to rise and receive the welcome of the House.

MR. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I also take great pleasure in introducing to you, sir, and to the members of the Assembly some young Albertans from the constituency of Edmonton Parkallen, some 18 students of the Mount Carmel school grade 6 class. I'd like them to rise in the public gallery and be recognized by the House.

MR. SPEAKER: I have the honor to draw to hon. members' attention and to introduce the group of legislative interns in my gallery. They are serving the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia and are here to return a visit our interns paid to them some time ago. I'd like them to stand and receive the welcome of the Assembly.

head: TABLING RETURNS AND REPORTS

MR. HYNDMAN: Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Section 3 of The Government Emergency Guarantee Act, I wish to table three copies of Order in Council No. 654/78 made under that Act.

DR. HORNER: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to file with the Legislature the annual report of Alberta Disaster Services.

MR. TRYNCHY: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to table the third annual report of Alberta Recreation, Parks and Wildlife, as required by legislation.

MR. SPEAKER: I have the honor to table the first report of the Chief Electoral Officer of Alberta, for the period September 15, 1977, to December 31, 1978.

head: ORAL QUESTION PERIOD**Government Contract**

MR. R. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct the first question to the Minister of Energy and Natural Resources. It relates to the contract tabled in the House last Friday between the minister and the former Minister of Energy and Natural Resources, Mr. Don Getty. My initial question to the minister is: are there any specific projects on which the government is now asking Mr. Getty for his advice?

MR. LEITCH: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

MR. R. CLARK: A supplementary question would be: what are those projects?

MR. LEITCH: There are a number of them, Mr. Speaker, and I'm not sure I can call them all to mind today. Certainly two of the major ones would be the Alsands project and the Cold Lake project. I expect he will be doing a good deal of work on those two.

A number of other major projects or policy issues are active in the department, and he will be doing work on those as well. One of them would be incentive natural gas pricing, which has been discussed earlier, and there are a number of others. As I say, without checking over all my files I couldn't be sure of exactly all the items on which he is now or is likely to be working in the future.

Ministers' Business Disclosures

MR. R. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the Premier. It's been reported that Mr. Getty formed his investment company last December. No such disclosure was made at the Clerk's office of such a company. The question to the Premier is: is it still the government's practice that ministers should file with the Clerk's office a statement of their business activities?

MR. LOUGHEED: Yes, it is, Mr. Speaker, and of course the ministers have been asked to file those statements with the Clerk's office by the end of June.

MR. R. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, can the Premier enlighten the Assembly as to why, when Mr. Getty

formed a company last December, the forming of that company did not appear on his disclosure in the Clerk's office, even though it was announced that Mr. Getty would not be seeking re-election?

MR. LOUGHEED: Mr. Speaker, I can't give the hon. member any information on that.

MR. R. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, then is the Premier prepared to give some direction to ministers in fact to keep those disclosures, to be very blunt, up to date? Or have they ceased to be worth a great deal?

MR. LOUGHEED: Mr. Speaker, there's certainly an imputation of motives to Mr. Getty with regard to that question that I think disturbs both me and many citizens. But let me try to answer it this way. I would anticipate that Mr. Getty would view the fact that he would not be involved with the activity of that company until such time as he had resigned his post with the government; that obviously, with good business practice, he would be forming the company, having it ready so that he could go into private business after he had resigned from the Executive Council. So from that point of view, on the basis of his own judgment he probably felt it was unnecessary for him to add a disclosure-of-interest statement for that period, with the fact that such an entity probably was not in existence or not going to be active until such time as he'd resigned.

It strikes me as just incredible — the imputation of motives of the question.

MR. R. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, whether the Premier agrees with the motives or not is purely beside the fact. The question is this: is the Premier now prepared to direct his cabinet ministers to keep those files in the Clerk's office of their business activities up to date?

MR. LOUGHEED: Mr. Speaker, that is the direction, and that's what they attempt to do. I think they have subscribed to that as effectively as they can since the year '73, I think, when they first filed those statements.

I think I've given a reasonable speculative answer as to why Mr. Getty did not do that. Quite clearly he would have been thinking that he would be involved actively after he retired from business at the end of March. But boy, I sure find that a disturbing line of questioning.

MR. R. CLARK: Well, Mr. Speaker, whether the Premier does or not is totally another question.

Air Transport

MR. R. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, a second question. I'll direct this to the Premier, and he can pass it on to whichever minister is responsible. It deals with Wardair International and its recent announcement that it's encountering serious difficulties competing with heavily cross-subsidized charter flights in Canada, specifically Air Canada. Has the Alberta government met with officials of Wardair on this particular matter?

MR. LOUGHEED: Mr. Speaker, I'd refer the question to the Deputy Premier, the Minister of Economic Development.

DR. HORNER: Mr. Speaker, we've had ongoing discussions with Wardair relative to a variety of problems in which they find themselves. They're now before the Air Transport Committee of the Canadian Transport Commission on two different hearings relative to both air freight and the question of the regulations relative to their operations. I can suggest to the House, Mr. Speaker, that we'll continue that dialogue, having regard to the fact that our interest is to ensure the best economic climate for Wardair in operating out of Alberta.

MR. R. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, to the minister. Have officials of the Alberta government — not necessarily of the minister — either met with or made any presentation to the Canadian Transport Commission on the passenger portion of Wardair's two problems?

DR. HORNER: We've not yet made any direct representations to the Canadian Transport Commission on the passenger problem. I would point out to my hon. friend, though, that perhaps the air freight one is of much more value to Wardair.

MR. R. CLARK: A further supplementary question to the minister. Is it the intention of the Alberta government to have representation at the July 9 meeting of the Canadian Transport Commission specifically dealing with that matter?

DR. HORNER: Well, Mr. Speaker, we'll be reviewing that matter. If it's necessary to have a submission or to make our views known to the Canadian Transport Commission, that will be done.

MR. R. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, to the minister. What's the status of the facilities at the Edmonton International Airport that, if my memory is accurate, the government really financed through PWA, and PWA in turn leased to Wardair?

DR. HORNER: The status is as it was, Mr. Speaker. The financing was done through Pacific Western Airlines, which has leased the majority of the space to Wardair. That operation is continuing. My information from Pacific Western is that they consider it a very useful investment and will be able to find adequate use for the hangar at all times.

MR. R. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, more specifically to the minister. Is Wardair still using that facility in the manner that was initially agreed upon between PWA and Wardair, which I guess the minister also was involved in at the time?

DR. HORNER: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

Natural Gas Supply and Marketing

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct this question to the hon. Minister of Energy and Natural Resources. It flows from page 9 of the Speech from the Throne, where the government indicates that it now supports the export of natural gas to the United States "under appropriate conditions". I would ask the minister to advise the Assembly what the government means by appropriate conditions.

MR. LEITCH: Mr. Speaker, we would consider a number of items falling under the heading "appropriate conditions". Certainly some of them would be the availability of supply in Alberta, things of that nature. But to enumerate all that might be within appropriate conditions — one would have to wait and deal with each individual export matter as it came before us and examine the circumstances at that time.

MR. NOTLEY: A supplementary question to the hon. Minister of Energy and Natural Resources. For the record, has the government now dropped the conditions cited in the Legislature, I believe in 1976 or 1977, and discussed with the Vice-President of the United States in January 1978, with respect to specific concessions in the American market for agricultural products, particularly meat products, as well as petrochemicals?

MR. LOUGHEED: Mr. Speaker, I'll respond to that question with the minister, because it relates to more than the area of energy.

When we first got involved in the question of the export of natural gas to the United States, our bargaining position was quite different. At that time we thought we would be in a position to tie to the export of natural gas some improved access with regard to agricultural or petrochemical products. As I explained to the House a year ago — that is, in the spring session of 1978 — a very major change occurred with regard to natural gas supply in North America with the substantial discovery of natural gas in Mexico, which gives the United States an alternative supply source. They can choose between a supply from Canada and one from Mexico.

In addition to that, the situation has been compounded by exploration success in finding a significant degree of new natural gas fields in our province. We looked at the matter of jobs at stake in Alberta in many constituencies, including those represented by the hon. member who asked the question, and have come to the conclusion that in order to sustain our exploration budgets it is extremely important for this province to press, without qualification, for natural gas exports under the appropriate conditions, as referred to by the Minister of Energy and Natural Resources. If during the course of these discussions it is at all possible for us to improve our access to agricultural and petrochemical products, as I explained to the Legislature a year ago, we will continue to do so. But we will not make it a condition, because we do not want to jeopardize the many jobs that are affected and would be seriously affected by a lack of continued exploration in the province.

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the hon. Premier. During the two years that the conditions were in fact the policy of the Alberta government — the policy that the former Minister of Agriculture indicated was still in place as recently as July 1978 — did the United States government give any indication to the government of Canada or the government of Alberta that they were prepared to make major modifications with respect to the importation of beef and petrochemical products?

MR. LOUGHEED: Mr. Speaker, the use of the word "indication" gives me some difficulty in responding, because certainly in the discussions we held with Vice-President Mondale, Senator Jackson, and others, there were indications of the possibility of at least continuing those discussions. I think the possibility still exists, although not tied as a condition precedent to export.

I think it's fair to say that some serious efforts were made by the United States to work with Canada in terms of petrochemical tariffs, but these were frustrated, as we understand it — to be confirmed — by the overall negotiations, the GATT negotiations, and the concern by the chemical industry in the United States with regard to offshore production; that is, outside of North America.

With regard to agricultural products, of course we were faced with the situation of a decision — and the Minister of Agriculture may or may not wish to be involved now — on the matter of access of products into the United States. An opportunity was given to Canada to increase its access of beef cattle into the United States, but at that time we were not in a supply position to take it up. It was the position of the then Minister of Agriculture of Alberta that it was desirable to try to firm that down.

So these discussions on both agriculture and petrochemical access are continuing. They will continue in a variety of ways, particularly after the GATT negotiations and discussions have been fully ascertained and assessed. They'll be continued in a number of different initiatives over the next months. The change, as I will reiterate so that it's clear, is that it's not now a condition of the government of Alberta precedent to the export of natural gas, because we do not want to jeopardize the literally thousands of jobs that are at stake in this province.

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the hon. Minister of Energy and Natural Resources with respect to one of the obvious conditions; that is, a supply of natural gas. Does the government of Alberta at this time support the Q & M Pipe Line project to extend Alberta natural gas markets into Quebec and the maritimes?

MR. LEITCH: Mr. Speaker, statements have been made by the hon. Premier and my predecessor in this office regarding the principle or concept of extending natural gas supplies east of the markets now served by Alberta natural gas, and we're supportive of that principle. As a result of that support, officials in the department were asked to examine the issues and the difficulties involved and make a report to us as to how that principle might be implemented. Of course, one way of carrying out that principle is the Q & M proposal referred to in the hon. member's question.

We have not yet had an opportunity to examine the work of the officials, which has included discussions with officials of other governments. That is under very active review at the moment. But I anticipate it will take us some little while to review that situation, because the increasing of markets east of those now served, and particularly into the Atlantic provinces, involves some very difficult questions.

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the hon. minister. Has the government been able to

reconcile the apparent disparity between the National Energy Board report, on one hand, which says we have approximately 2 trillion cubic feet surplus to Canada's needs and therefore we can export, and the submission of the Q & M people, who suggest that they need considerably more than the estimates of the board — a disparity of about 1.6 trillion cubic feet, or the bulk of what the National Energy Board now claims is surplus to Canada's needs?

MR. LEITCH: Mr. Speaker, I'm not sure I have gotten the implication of the hon. member's question. As I recall, he asked whether the government had been able to resolve the disparity between the estimates in natural gas reserves and what might be available for export. A multitude of such estimates is put out by a number of companies or boards, and certainly I have not followed the practice of trying to make all those estimates compatible.

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the hon. minister. In view of the fact that the government indicates in the Speech from the Throne that it now feels there are sufficient quantities of natural gas, my question is: has there been a specific effort to reconcile the obvious difference on page 66 of the National Energy Board report, which would clearly indicate that if the Q & M project goes ahead there is not surplus natural gas in Canada at this time? That raises the question of whether or not this additional natural gas is going to be used for Canadians.

MR. LEITCH: Mr. Speaker, I'm not sure the hon. member's indignation doesn't flow from his lack of understanding of the process.

The Energy Resources Conservation Board, which is an Alberta board, makes a report to our government indicating the quantities of natural gas that may be available for export from the province, in its view, after having assured itself of a supply for Albertans well into the future. Before natural gas can be exported from Canada, the next application goes before the National Energy Board, which deals with the question of whether there is surplus supply having regard to Canadian needs.

Mr. Speaker, these applications go on at different times. The information on which estimates as to the natural gas reserves in the province and in Canada are based changes very dramatically and very rapidly. That's occurred as a result of new finds in Alberta. It may well be that when the National Energy Board has before it the new information regarding the reserves in Alberta, it may come to a different conclusion. In fact, I have no doubt that the report to which the hon. member is referring was prepared and put out by the NEB at a time when they didn't have the up-to-date available information on Alberta reserves.

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the hon. Minister of Energy and Natural Resources. Beyond the statutory obligation of the ERCB, which is to look after the rolling supply with respect to Alberta, does the government of Alberta as a matter of policy have a position that Canadian needs must be served before export is authorized? If that is the case, has the government assessed the report of the National Energy Board, and is the minister in a position to report a reconciliation of that position today?

MR. LEITCH: Mr. Speaker, I think the second part of that question is a repeat of the earlier question, and I thought I'd fully answered it. With respect to the Alberta policy as to the use of natural gas by Canadians, I think it's been said a number of times by persons speaking on behalf of the government of Alberta that we do support the use of natural gas by other Canadians.

Petro-Canada Status

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I have one final supplementary question to the hon. Minister of Energy and Natural Resources or to the hon. Premier. In view of the widespread discussions both inside and outside the industry with respect to the future of Petro-Canada, is the government in a position to advise the Assembly what advice, if any, the hon. gentlemen across the way are going to make to the Prime Minister-elect with respect to his views on the future of Petro-Canada?

MR. LOUGHEED: Mr. Speaker, I think we've taken the view on a number of occasions that it's very important that the federal government respect the jurisdiction of the government of Alberta. It strikes us that the decision with regard to the continuation or otherwise of PetroCan is a federal matter.

Natural Gas Supply and Marketing (continued)

MR. GOGO: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the hon. Minister of Energy and Natural Resources, for my clarification. When he refers to the security supply for Albertans well into the future, would that be approximately a 30-year term of anticipated needs of Albertans?

MR. LEITCH: Yes, it is, Mr. Speaker.

Parole System

MR. MANDEVILLE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the hon. Solicitor General. Could he indicate whether his department will be taking any action with regard to the number of crimes by people out on parole?

MR. HARLE: First of all, Mr. Speaker, I think it must be recognized that when you're talking about the parole system you're talking about the federal Parole Board, and obviously decisions they make fall within the jurisdiction of a federal program.

MR. MANDEVILLE: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Could the Solicitor General indicate whether his department keeps any statistics on the number of crimes committed by people on parole?

MR. HARLE: Mr. Speaker, I'd have to take that as notice. As far as I know, such statistics are kept. In fact, from the information I have, there is going to be quite an improvement in the statistics available to all police forces as a result of some computerization of that type of information.

MR. MANDEVILLE: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Could the Solicitor General indicate whether

any representation has been made so that Alberta could have some input in putting people on the Parole Board?

MR. HARLE: Mr. Speaker, I tried to indicate earlier that parole is a federal matter. A federal board administers the parole system. While it has impact on provincial areas in some respects, I'm sure that as a result of federal/provincial meetings, where there is that impact those matters will be discussed.

Annexation Hearings

MR. R. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct a question to the Minister of Municipal Affairs. It flows from the comment the minister made this afternoon when he introduced the legislation dealing with the Local Authorities Board. My question to the minister is: when might we expect the hearings on annexation, the city of Edmonton and the surrounding municipalities, to be held?

MR. MOORE: Mr. Speaker, I'm not yet at liberty to give, nor do I have, full information in that regard. But as early as second reading on the debate on The Local Authorities Board Amendment Act, 1979, I would be prepared to outline in some detail the procedures which are going to be followed and the expectation as to the date on which hearings will occur — probably toward the latter part of next week or the first of the following week.

MR. R. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, without trying to get an answer out of the minister — well, a little better than that. But to ask the minister very directly: is it the expectation of the government that the hearings on annexation, Edmonton and the surrounding areas, will finally be able to get under way during 1979?

MR. SPEAKER: I question whether government expectations are something that should be part of the question period.

MR. R. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, then is the minister in a position to indicate to the Assembly that he will be asking the Local Authorities Board to view the question of Edmonton and its annexation problems prior to the end of this calendar year?

MR. MOORE: As I indicated, Mr. Speaker, I've had fairly extensive discussions with the chairman of the Local Authorities Board and indeed with the other two members. On second reading of The Local Authorities Board Amendment Act, 1979, which was introduced today for first reading, I'll be in a position to elaborate further on the time frame under which we expect the hearings on the annexation application of the city of Edmonton to be carried out and on how long we might think the procedure is going to take.

Mr. Speaker, with the bill now having been introduced and second reading not far away, I don't think it's inappropriate to ask members to delay my full response until then. Hopefully at that time I will have better information as well.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

head: GOVERNMENT MOTIONS

1. Moved by Mr. Crawford:

Be it resolved that the Assembly adopt the following amendment to Standing Orders, to be effective until the prorogation of the Fourth Session of the 19th Legislature:

Standing Order 8 is amended by striking out suborders (2) and (3) and by substituting the following:

- (2) (a) The order of business for the consideration of the Assembly on Tuesday afternoons shall be as follows:
 - Written Questions
 - Motions for Returns
 - Government Designated Business
 - Motions other than Government Motions
 - Private Bills
 - Public Bills and Orders other than Government Bills and Orders
 - Government Motions
 - Government Bills and Orders
- (b) When Government Designated Business is called the Assembly shall consider any item of business which the Government Whip has designated by written notice to the Clerk prior to 12 noon on the previous Thursday from those on the Order Paper for that Thursday under Motions other than Government Motions, Government Bills and Orders, or Government Motions.
- (c) The Clerk shall cause any designation pursuant to clause (b) to be printed in Votes and Proceedings for that Thursday.
- (d) A motion that has been designated under this sub-order may not be designated a second time.
- (e) Debate on Government Designated Business shall not continue for more than one hour.
- (3) (a) The order of business for the consideration of the Assembly on Thursday afternoon shall be as follows:
 - Written Questions
 - Motions for Returns
 - Motions other than Government Motions
 - Public Bills and Orders other than Government Bills and Orders
 - Government Motions
 - Government Bills and Orders
- (b) On Thursday when Motions other than Government Motions is called, the Assembly shall consider the next such motion on the Order Paper unless the Leader of the Opposition has designated by written notice to the Clerk prior to 4 p.m. on the previous Monday a motion from those set down by other than government members on the Order Paper for that Monday under Motions other than Government Motions, in which case the Assembly shall consider that motion first.
- (c) The Clerk shall cause any motion designated pursuant to clause (b) to be printed in Votes and Proceedings for that Monday.
- (d) A motion that has been designated under this sub-order may not be designated a second time.

- (e) Debate on Motions other than Government Motions shall conclude at 4:30 p.m.
- (f) At 4:30 p.m., Public Bills and Orders other than Government Bills and Orders shall be called and debate thereon shall be governed by the standing orders that are applicable to private members' motions.

MR. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I would like to say just a few words about Motion No. 1. It's a motion that I would think has the general concurrence of hon. members in regard to its intent. I think all hon. members would agree that in this Legislature, and indeed in any parliamentary system, it is very important to provide that both government and opposition members have a fully adequate time during which to debate matters that relate mostly to that distinction between private members' concerns and those that are government business.

I mentioned that this involves both government and opposition private members, Mr. Speaker, because I think it's important to know there is a balance between government and opposition members in regard to the fairness of the opportunity to debate items they would like to debate. Part of that balance is to provide a special opportunity for the opposition, of course, and that is proposed in Motion No. 1.

The situation on Thursdays, as was the case in the last Legislature, is of particular advantage to the opposition, the opportunity of the Leader of the Opposition to designate a motion for discussion at that time. This proposal would continue that in the same way as many hon. members will recall was done in the last Legislature.

Mr. Speaker, I refer to the proceedings of the last Legislature only really for the purpose of underlining the fact that we've now had some experience with what we called, during that time, the new rule in regard to opposition days. I think that experience is worth while and has served its purpose in the sense of leading me to the conclusion that it might be appropriate that the amendment to Standing Orders last for the term of the Legislature. For that reason, it is suggested that it be until the end of the fourth session prorogation of the 19th Legislature instead of some earlier date, as was done in the last session.

Mr. Speaker, with those few comments and the observation that any other changes are minimal — there is one under 3(f), which is meant to assure the precise timing on Thursdays of the beginning of the discussion of private members' public bills. Other than that, there is no change from what had been the case.

[Motion carried]

2. Moved by Mr. Crawford:

Be it resolved that the Assembly adopt the following amendment to Standing Orders, to be effective until the prorogation of the Fourth Session of the 19th Legislature:

The following standing order is added after Standing Order 36:

- 36.1 Notwithstanding any established precedent to the contrary, a member not being a government member may have two notices of motion in that member's name on the Order Paper at the same time.

MR. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I'm sure I can be even briefer in moving Motion No. 2. Once again, that one will be familiar to many hon. members, and has been tested and shown to be a useful situation in regard to the rights and opportunities opposition members have to bring matters to the attention of this Assembly. The principle, of course, Mr. Speaker, is merely that opposition members may have more than one matter on the Order Paper in their name at any given time, which would not otherwise be the case.

[Motion carried]

head: **CONSIDERATION OF HIS HONOUR
THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR'S SPEECH**

Moved by Mrs. Osterman:

That an humble address be presented to His Honour the Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor of Alberta as follows:

To His Honour the Honourable Ralph G. Steinhauer,
Lieutenant-Governor of the province of Alberta:

We, Her Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Assembly, now assembled, beg leave to thank Your Honour for the gracious speech Your Honour has been pleased to address to us at the opening of the present session.

[Adjourned debate May 25: Mr. R. Clark]

MR. R. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, in rising to lead off the debate on the Speech from the Throne from the opposition side of the House, might I commence my remarks by saying that I too, in a manner similar to that of the Member for Three Hills and the Member for Calgary Forest Lawn, would like to pay my respects to Alberta's Lieutenant-Governor. I think it's well known that in all likelihood this will be the last Speech from the Throne His Honour will be delivering to this Assembly. I believe when His Honour took on the rigorous responsibilities of office, many people felt he was certainly following in very big footsteps, following Grant MacEwan, Alberta's previous Lieutenant-Governor. I'm sure there isn't a member in this Assembly nor an Albertan who wouldn't feel that Alberta's present Lieutenant-Governor has done just an outstanding job being Her Majesty's representative in this province. [applause]

Secondly, Mr. Speaker, I would say to you, sir, my congratulations on your selection as Speaker of the Assembly. I did note though, sir, that since the first occasion you were selected as Speaker of the Assembly in 1971, your pugilistic talents have increased considerably, and my colleague from Brooks and the hon. member opposite who moved the nomination are having increasing difficulty getting you out that door. But, Mr. Speaker, I wish you good luck in your endeavors as Speaker in this Assembly. I'm sure all members are confident in the job you will do.

The third comment I'd like to make in the introduction of my remarks is to the hon. Member for Three Hills, on the comments the hon. member made in moving the reply. I think I could associate myself with the feelings of the hon. member and the Member for Calgary Forest Lawn when they spoke in the Assembly for the first time. As I reflect on the spring session in 1961, I guess it was, when I first spoke in the Assembly, having come in in a by-election and been

sworn in that day, and the first day in the House having been involved in moving the throne speech, I can appreciate very much the feeling the two hon. members had on Friday last. Might I say to the hon. Member for Three Hills — in fact we went to school together in the small town of Acme, more years ago than I'm sure both of us would like to admit — that would the hon. member hasn't on many occasions agreed with my political point of view, nor I with her, I found her remarks most refreshing, especially those comments where she referred to the importance of the family and the family unit. The hon. member has an extremely fine family, and she and her husband are to be congratulated. I found her remarks most appropriate.

To the hon. Member for Calgary Forest Lawn, whom I recall some years ago as a budding young politician on the students' council of the University of Calgary, I say good luck in your endeavors in the House. I should just say to the hon. Member for Calgary Forest Lawn that it isn't my expectation to be always as kind and generous to the hon. member in the future as I am today, but the very best of luck during your stay in the Assembly. I won't become involved in the question of how long you might be here.

To all hon. members of the Assembly, Mr. Speaker, I would be remiss if I didn't congratulate them on their election. I know that many good people ran for public office in all parties. I say to the hon. members, new members and members who have been here before, that you have embarked on another session of this Assembly. I wish all members sincere enjoyment, and for all of us to have the very best of judgment in the course of the four years.

I've saved until last a fifth group of people whom I really want to comment on: the good people of the constituency of Olds-Didsbury. They're a very long-suffering group in that constituency, a very fine group of people. I must say I found myself very disappointed in results across the province, and extremely pleased at the results in my own riding. I would like to have taken a few votes from my own riding and placed them someplace else, but obviously that isn't possible. But to the people in the riding of Olds-Didsbury I want to say a very genuine thanks for the confidence they have shown in me on this occasion. In fairness, I think I should thank the Deputy Premier, the former Minister of Agriculture, the now Minister of Environment, the present Minister of Tourism and Small Business, and the MLA for Camrose, because they all came down to my riding. Never have we been blessed with such visitors in the course of a campaign, and never have I won by as many votes. I'm not quite sure, Mr. Speaker, just how one puts that all together, but that's basically what happened.

Mr. Speaker, I find myself in the very strange situation of being the first member in the Assembly to congratulate the new Prime Minister of Canada. It would seem to me that with a Conservative government with [74] members in the Assembly, we wouldn't have had to wait for the Leader of the Opposition on Monday, the third day into the session; that some member in this Assembly would have congratulated a native-born Albertan, in fact, a gentleman who ran in 1967 for the Conservative Party, albeit unsuccessfully, and is now the Prime Minister of Canada. I just expected a number of gushes of enthusiasm.

MR. NOTLEY: They've all got their fingers crossed.

MR. R. CLARK: A little more enthusiasm than was shown by one of his chief campaign workers, the now minister of birds and bees. But might I say to hon. members that Alberta should truly be the land of milk and honey. We have 74 Conservatives in this Legislative Assembly, with a \$4 billion Heritage Savings Trust Fund, almost \$2 billion in surplus, 21 Conservatives going to Ottawa, and the Prime Minister coming from Alberta. [applause] A little more enthusiasm. I really thought you'd never get to the point of being that enthusiastic about the situation.

But let's not have Conservatives, be they federal or provincial, coming back in two or three years with all sorts of reasons that we haven't got Alberta's transportation problems or freight rate problems resolved. If Alberta and the Conservatives are ever really to come to grips and get some of these long-standing, legitimate problems resolved, now is the time, hon. members. I wish the new Prime Minister of Canada the very best of luck in his endeavors as Prime Minister. Regardless of our political point of view, I'm sure we as Albertans have to be proud of the fact that Joe Clark, a native Albertan, is Prime Minister-elect. I for one feel he will do a very fine job in that office as far as Canada is concerned.

Mr. Speaker, before I become involved in the five areas I'd like to touch upon in my remarks, for the benefit of all members I would simply like to say, especially to the new members, that we attempt to look at what goes on really from three points of view. We see the role of the official opposition as one of scrutinizing legislation and action; secondly, of talking about positive alternatives; and thirdly, of playing parliamentary and legislative ombudsman for the people of this province. You will not find us patting the government on the back on very many occasions. When I look around the Assembly, I come to the conclusion that this government will not be short of people to pat it on the back. So that isn't one of the major responsibilities that we in opposition feel we need spend a great deal of time upon.

The criteria we attempt to use in assessing legislation and government action are really based on four principles. First of all, as a group, my colleagues and I are committed to the individual initiative system. We feel that people should be rewarded for their efforts. Secondly, we're strongly committed to the competitive private enterprise approach. We see the role of government to establish an economic climate, to set the rules for business to function by and, yes, to be the referee but, I want to emphasize, not to be playing the game of business. That's why, especially to the new members, you will find us on many occasions being extremely critical of the government and Pacific Western Airlines, and why you'll find us on several occasions being very critical of the government from the standpoint of the Alberta Energy Company. We would see the 50 per cent shares of the Energy Company which the government owns being sold directly to the people of the province of Alberta.

The third principle or guideline we use is that we have a strong social conscience which finds its roots primarily in the area of health care for Albertans and a very broad concern in the field of education. Fourthly, a commitment to open, limited, and responsible government, open from the standpoint that we believe this

government is making a serious mistake in the cabinet's isolating itself from meeting provincial organizations and groups like the Alberta Chamber of Commerce, Unifarm, Alberta Medical Association, the Alberta nurses' association.

We also feel that, from the standpoint of responsibility, and I say this to the new cabinet ministers — and I should congratulate the new ministers; I wish you good luck in your endeavors, because the buck-passing stops at the minister's desk. Mr. Minister and Ms. Minister, I say this to you: it's great to go out and snip ribbons and do those kinds of things. But if you're a good enough minister to snip the ribbons, then you should be a good enough minister to take the responsibility for what goes wrong in your department.

We in the official opposition in this Assembly will do all we possibly can to hold you to the concept that if you as politicians, as ministers, are going to take the credit for all the fine things you do and open new buildings — and that's fair ball, that's part of the job — at the same time, if you're responsible for those things, in our judgment you're responsible for those things that go wrong too. We will do everything we possibly can to hold you accountable and responsible for those things in the departments which are now your responsibility.

Mr. Speaker, from the standpoint of open, limited, and responsible government — the "limited" part simply means this: basically we trust local governments. We think we should move in the direction of a great deal more decentralization of decision-making in this province. That's why we've talked for some time about revenue sharing, and I'll have more to say about that this afternoon.

I'll make one last comment to all members as far as the Assembly is concerned, as we start this new session. There are only four of us in the official opposition. In fact, parties represented in this Assembly and those that are not picked up some 43 per cent of the vote in the last provincial election. I just remind you of the rather sobering fact that if your own federal party had picked up 43 per cent of the vote in Canada, you wouldn't have a minority national government today. It might be well for all of us to keep this in mind when we're looking at the various roles involved.

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to move on to the second portion of my comments, and it is very brief. It deals with what I believe to be one of the most difficult problems any government has to face: the question of establishing priorities. Very, very quickly I want to use three examples of where right at this time I think this government is just miles off base when it comes to priorities.

Not long ago, within the last three weeks, the Minister of Housing and Public Works announced \$14 million to be spent this year for refurbishing the grounds around the Legislature Building, building tunnels over to the Administration Building and the Natural Resources Building. I've been around here a few years, and I don't know of anyone who's really had difficulty getting from one building to the other in the course of the winter or the summer. The \$14 million is the first phase of a refurbishing of the grounds around the Legislature Building. But at the very same time I pick up the paper and see the University of Lethbridge having very, very serious financial responsibilities. We have quotas on the faculties of

engineering, business administration, forestry, and agriculture at our universities.

Somehow, in the way this government establishes priorities, we've got \$14 million this year to refurbish the Legislature grounds and start a massive program for at least two, three, or four years, or more at that rate, yet we haven't got enough money to guarantee the long-term future of the University of Lethbridge, and we haven't got enough money to take off the quotas on agriculture, forestry, engineering, and business administration at our universities.

Some of you are fairly recent graduates from those faculties. You know very well that we're bringing engineers from across Canada to Alberta. We're bringing in people with university training in the field of business administration. Yet you sit in your places and have us go through this exercise of \$14 million capital works. It's fine to have good grounds around the Legislature Building. But they're really not bad now by my standards. In fact, they're pretty good.

Then complicate the matter just a little further. As the Member for Highwood knows, not long ago the High River hospital board got a letter from the government, from the new minister. His department tells them to cut \$1 million out of the new hospital at High River. That hospital has been delayed, frozen, put on holding patterns, and every other kind of manoeuvre possible. The Member for Ponoka knows very well that a hospital was to go in there. The Member for Grande Prairie should know — I'm sure he does — the situation of the Grande Prairie hospital. I can go down a whole variety of constituencies: the Member for Drayton Valley knows, the Member for Wainwright knows what progress he made on nursing homes. In Edmonton there was a real shortage of auxiliary hospital beds. It seems we don't have money for these things. But we've got \$14 million to start phase one of refurbishing the Legislature grounds. That doesn't add up, hon. members. That doesn't add up at all.

I'm sure that some hon. members are sitting there saying, but it says in the Speech from the Throne that we're going to have a record year as far as hospital construction is concerned. For the benefit of the new members: if you will just go back and read the 1976 budget, which was presented by the present Minister of Energy and Natural Resources, it says we're going to spend \$50 million a year on rural hospital construction each year. Go back and check. We never spent that \$50 million one year, let alone the years '76, '77, and '78.

When you talk about priorities, whether you represent an urban riding or a rural riding, I would urge hon. members to think seriously about places in educational institutions, hospitals, auxiliary hospital beds, and nursing home beds as opposed to this \$14 million venture refurbishing the Legislature grounds that you appear to be getting yourselves into. Frankly, I think our priorities — your priorities in this case — are totally wrong, totally wrong.

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to move into the third portion of my remarks, and that deals with five items in the Speech from the Throne. Rather than touch on a wide-ranging number of departments, there are five areas I want to touch upon. First is the question of the public right to know; second is question of education, especially for the handicapped; third is the area of municipal finance; fourth is the question of ethics in

government — and I notice the Premier isn't here — and fifth, the question of economic development. I want to suggest to all hon. members of the Assembly that, in my judgment, this government has a problem with long-term thinking. Mr. Speaker, this basically is a piecemeal Speech from the Throne, as I see it, that is long on conservatism and not very progressive.

Let's look at these five areas. For the past five years my colleague Dr. Buck, the member from Fort Saskatchewan, has introduced legislation regarding the public right to know. On every occasion the arguments from the government side of the House have been the same: we're an open and responsible government, and we don't need any kind of public right-to-know or public information legislation. I remind members of the report of the Environment Council of Alberta that somehow never got to the public until the election campaign was over, even though it was in the minister's office before. I remind members of no advertising for positions that recycled ministers are now picking up. Third, I remind members of the difficulty we've all had in finding out the salaries of the president of the Alberta Energy Company. And we could go on.

But it's now very clear, Mr. Speaker, that Mr. Baldwin, the MP for Peace River, will have little difficulty getting his bill moved through Parliament with some haste. In fact, in the course of his campaigning across the country, the Prime Minister-elect indicated that right-to-information legislation would be high priority. If the federal Conservative government can pass such a bill, recognizing its importance, I see no reason why a provincial Conservative government shouldn't be able to take that view.

My colleague Dr. Buck will be introducing this legislation again in the course of this session, and we'll continue to challenge this government to make good what it says about being open and responsible, open and responsive, giving more than lip service to the proposition that the public has the right to know about the background information which goes into making of public policy, the method in which this government has proved itself, to date, not accessible.

It seems to me, Mr. Speaker, that what this Speech from the Throne should have done was set the tone for the next four or five years. In setting the tone, what more appropriate thing could the government have done than say, look, in the life of this Legislature we're going to commit ourselves to public right-to-know legislation. That would have been very progressive. Alberta would have been in the position of leadership across Canada. With 74 members in the Assembly, I don't think you'd have that much difficulty fighting off the four in the official opposition. There was an opportunity for this government to really give some progressive leadership to the rest of Canada. They chose not to do that.

The second area, Mr. Speaker, is education. I think one could fairly say that this government has really favored a policy of expansion and continuation of existing programs, over improvement and innovation. The learning disabilities fund, which is to be expanded, the educational opportunity fund, the small school jurisdictions grant program, and the heritage learning resources project are good projects, Mr. Speaker. We're pleased to see that they're being expanded. One wouldn't criticize those projects basically. They're well received. Taken together, however, they

demonstrate one of the major limitations of the government: its inability to plan for the future, to anticipate changing needs, to create bold new initiatives. In a world increasingly jarred by social and technological change, it seems to me that the Alberta government's position as far as education is basically to maintain the status quo.

Surprisingly, though, the government exhibited some limited ability in coping with the future. It's done some reasonable things, started to make a move in the direction of the handicapped. But I would remind hon. members of what was said in the Assembly last Friday, what took place on the front steps of the Legislature Building last Friday, the commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of the Child. On the surface it was very moving. But when one recalls that the real nut or the heart of that declaration is the right of every child, regardless of his handicap, to appropriately public-funded education, that right is still not guaranteed in Alberta. Gestures such as we had last Friday really don't do anything for the problems of those young people.

I am pleased that there are going to be some improvements as far as the School for the Deaf is concerned. I welcome in the Speech from the Throne, Mr. Minister, the initial steps to be taken in planning a facility for multi-handicapped deaf and blind children. I would point out, though, that parents of children attending the School for the Deaf have been petitioning this government for at least nine years. I would point out, too, that there is some urgency, Mr. Minister . . . [interjection] Did I say nine when I should have said eight years? They petitioned the former minister for one year. I should point out to hon. members that steps were being taken to move in 1971 also. But that's another story.

Let me say to the minister, though, that there is a great deal of urgency. A number of these multihandicapped young people have been able to go to educational institutions outside the province. That opportunity is being withdrawn very shortly, Mr. Minister, and there is real urgency that you and your department move on that area very, very quickly.

Most important though, Mr. Speaker, I would point out that the above projects are really isolated and don't point to an overall educational philosophy. As one of my colleagues in the Assembly used to say, it's really a matter of legislation and governing by planning rather than governing by some long-term objectives.

I submit, Mr. Speaker, that the twentieth anniversary of the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of the Child is pretty hollow in Alberta until we bring in legislation that's going to guarantee the right of our young people, regardless of their handicaps, to an educational opportunity. In my judgment the Speech from the Throne that came down this year would have been an outstanding opportunity to guarantee that right for young Albertans.

By doing that, I think the government could have been very progressive. It chose to back off, to move away. It became extremely conservative. That's the second area where I think we've seen an example of this government becoming very, very conservative when it had the opportunity to be very progressive. During the very week when we were having the celebrations recognizing the twentieth anniversary on the front steps of the Legislature Building, what better oppor-

tunity was there to guarantee that right, not only for young Albertans but for their parents and their families also, than the day before, in the Speech from the Throne. Regrettable.

Mr. Speaker, the third area I want to touch upon, dealing with opportunities missed, where the government became very conservative rather than progressive, is municipal affairs. I'm pleased to see that the present Minister of Federal and Intergovernmental Affairs is with us this afternoon. I'd be remiss if I didn't compliment the government on its decision to act on a program that my colleagues and I advocated over a year ago. That program involves the dedication of \$1 billion to be used for debt reduction by Alberta municipalities.

I'm not sure a bit of history will be interesting to the members, but I think it will be worth while. Perhaps it would be useful. On March 20, 1978, when I moved the reply to the budget during the budget debate, I proposed that we take \$1 billion of Alberta surpluses — that's in addition to the heritage fund — and make that money available to Alberta municipalities so that they could reduce their debt load. On that occasion I pointed out that their debt load was the highest in Canada, some \$4 billion. I should point out to hon. members that that was not received very enthusiastically by the Minister of Municipal Affairs at that time, the hon. Mr. Johnston. In fact, having called the proposal irresponsible, the minister is quoted as saying: "there would be no way of equitably applying such a lump sum payment," because "some municipalities have kept tighter reins on their debt than others." He also stated that such a move would encourage municipalities to be somewhat loose with their capital funding. He said that a write-off of municipal debt by the province would benefit the property owner more than the renter, and would not benefit senior citizens.

On that occasion, the March 21 *Edmonton Journal* said:

During debate Monday on the budget, Mr. Clark said the money could be used to reduce municipal debt. He said the debt of Alberta's municipalities is \$4 billion — the highest in Canada.

As I indicated earlier, my colleagues and I advocated that municipalities receive \$1 billion to reorganize their local debts in the province.

Now it's safe to say that the then Minister of Municipal Affairs used almost every negative argument he could think of at the time to downplay the idea proposed by ourselves. However, less than a year later something happened. Some event came along. It was then that the Premier made his announcement that all of a sudden this idea of \$1 billion to help reorganize municipal debt in Alberta wasn't so bad after all. Suddenly the Premier felt something had to be done, that some attention had to be paid to the critical problem of municipal finance. And suddenly he lengthened the purse strings on the budget, shortened the wheelbase of the Minister for Municipal Affairs, and made it possible for Alberta municipalities to be the beneficiaries of \$1 billion over a period of some time.

Now I commend the government for doing this. I think it's a very fine idea. We are pleased you borrowed the idea from us, but suffice for me to say that a year and a few months ago this government couldn't possibly consider the idea of debt reorganization, taking a [billion] dollars to Alberta's municipalities and help-

ing them that way. If you've changed your mind in one year, we think there's a possibility you might see the light again and be able to go the route of revenue sharing this time. Then, Mr. Premier, it wouldn't be a matter of your having to do this every four years.

Now this scheme you've developed — doing it once every four years — about 1983 would be the next time around. That may have some political benefit for you at that time. But, Mr. Premier, it would far better for you to be able to go across the province very safely during the three years between now and then. If you would simply see the wisdom this year of revenue sharing with our municipalities, both income tax and resourcewise, Alberta's municipalities would not be living in a hand-to-mouth kind of situation. As good as the \$1 billion is, in four years we are going to have to do the same kind of thing all over again.

So, Mr. Speaker, here is a third area where I believe this government missed the opportunity to be progressive. It missed the opportunity to take the suggestion made by Alberta municipal organizations, to take our advice once again, and has not chosen to go the route of revenue sharing at this time. I think that's regrettable, Mr. Speaker, but it's a third opportunity.

Fourthly I want to deal with a question of ethics in government. Here is another area, Mr. Speaker, where this government could have used the Speech from the Throne to set the tone for the next four years, and it failed miserably. During the past several months Albertans have witnessed a series of abuses of power unmatched in our history: the acceptance of free airplane flights by the Premier; the introduction of legislation by a minister to be directly affected by such legislation — yes, that legislation was withdrawn; the involvement of board members of Crown corporations in party fund raising ventures; the appointment of retired ministers to high-paying positions for which no competition was allowed.

Mr. Speaker, it's said that to err is human; to forgive, divine. If that's the case, we have a very human government but not a very divine opposition. In our view the most shameful aspect of the government's recent history with regard to ethics is the way they flaunt the question. Anyone can err; all of us have. I'm sure all of us have erred on ethical matters on occasion. But people and governments should be big enough to be able to say, we've been wrong, to apologize, to say they'd do better next time. They should be able to learn from their experiences, from the public reaction, to admit that they've made mistakes. This government, and I say this regretfully, especially the Premier, refuses to do this. That's why we've introduced a conflict of interest Act; that's why we'll continue to criticize this government on this issue.

I was shocked last Friday to hear the Premier's rationalization of what I still call freeloading at public expense. I asked the Premier at that time to apologize and admit that his action was wrong in principle. I won't take issue with the Premier's refusal to apologize; I know some people find it very difficult to be humble. I am concerned at the Premier's refusal to address the question of moral principle. The Premier says he presented the question to the people of Alberta last March. Yes, the Conservatives did receive a vote of confidence in that election; they were generally well supported across the province. That's not the same as specific support on a very particular issue of behavior. To take such an inference would be logically invalid

and I think not playing square with the public at all. Indeed, Mr. Speaker, in my judgment it is wrong to attempt to justify any behavior after the fact by such a questionable reference to public opinion.

Unwritten codes of ethics are fine if they're followed. We've seen several examples recently in this province where an unwritten code of ethics has not stood this government nor the people of Alberta in good stead. For that reason there's a need for a written code of ethics similar to what is used for the public service. We can't have one law for the public service and another standard for the elected officials. That simply will not wash.

Once again, Mr. Speaker, there was an area in the Speech from the Throne where this government could have been progressive. It could have come forward itself with a code of conduct, not only for cabinet ministers and retired cabinet ministers but for MLAs. But it chose not to and then hides behind the election results. In addition to just not being prepared to accept that, I find that does nothing at all to enhance the reputation of any member of the Legislative Assembly, wherever he sits.

Mr. Speaker, the fifth area I think the government missed an opportunity to be very progressive in is the area of economic development. I note that the Deputy Premier is now the Minister of Economic Development, and I look forward to hearing of and watching his free-style efforts in that area. Whatever one may think of the Deputy Premier, one can't take any marks away from him for trying.

But the area, I believe, where the government missed the opportunity is in not taking advantage of one of the greatest assets we have right now. The greatest asset we have, of course, in addition to our people, is that Heritage Savings Trust Fund. We're asked in this Speech from the Throne to prepare ourselves to approve the next 30 per cent of our resource revenue to go into the fund. The Speech from the Throne would have been a very reasonable place for the government to spell out in a progressive manner what it sees happening with the Heritage Savings Trust Fund, its major investments for the time ahead. No effort like that is made at all in the course of this speech.

So in review, Mr. Speaker, I simply say this: I believe this Speech from the Throne had the opportunity to set the tone of this Legislative Assembly for the next four years. I think there are at least five areas, and I know my colleagues Mr. Mandeville, Dr. Buck, and Mr. R. Speaker will seize opportunities in the course of the next few weeks to explain some of the areas they feel they wished the speech had been more progressive in. Certainly there are five areas I feel this speech failed miserably in, became very conservative as opposed to very progressive.

Those five areas are: first, quick passage of right-to-know legislation; second, guaranteeing the right to education of all Alberta children. If any jurisdiction in North America can afford to do that, we can. Third, revenue sharing to our municipalities, a portion of income tax and resource revenues; fourth, a code of conduct, not only for the cabinet, but for retired cabinet ministers, for MLAs, and heads of Crown corporations; and fifth, a statement of positive intention for use of the Heritage Savings Trust Fund. Those are five areas in our judgment, Mr. Speaker, that the Speech from the Throne missed the opportunity to give progressive

leadership to the people of this province as we start this session of this Legislative Assembly.

MR. PAYNE: Mr. Speaker, as I rise in this Assembly for the first time, I must confess the newness of the experience and the weight of the responsibility are somewhat intimidating. Nevertheless I welcome the opportunity, sir, to comment on the Speech from the Throne, particularly as it relates to the expectations and concerns of the constituents of Calgary Fish Creek.

Mr. Speaker, I trust that it's appropriate for me to preface my remarks with an expression of gratitude, on behalf of my constituents, for the very human qualities His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor has brought to the discharge of his responsibilities as the Queen's representative here in Alberta. For the kind of Lieutenant-Governor that he has been, we are deeply appreciative. And for the experiences that await him following the conclusion of his royal duties, we indeed wish him well.

Mr. Speaker, I would like also to take this opportunity to compliment my colleagues from the constituencies of Three Hills and Calgary Forest Lawn on their recent speeches in moving and seconding the Speech from the Throne. Their deliveries were eloquent, engaging, thought provoking, and humane. Certainly they have set a high standard. If their speeches on Friday last are any indication of the newcomers to this Assembly, that should augur well for the calibre of the deliberations and judgments of this House in the years ahead.

Mr. Speaker, when the late Mr. Harris of Salisbury made his first speech in the British House of Commons, Charles Townsend asked with affected surprise, who he was. He had never seen him before. Came the reply, ah, you must at least have heard of him. That's the celebrated Mr. Harris of Salisbury, who has written a very ingenious book on grammar and another on virtue. Came the retort, what the devil then brings him here? I'm sure he'll find neither the one nor the other in the House of Commons. Well, Mr. Speaker, if Mr. Townsend were in the galleries today, I would hasten to assure him that both qualities are abundantly manifested in both the new and seasoned members of this Assembly.

Mr. Speaker, I must confess my surprise, if not my amusement, that the debate on the throne speech today would begin with paternalistic counsel for new members and even new ministers. Although this counsel possibly was well motivated, I must say as a newcomer to the Legislature that the past leadership and legislative service of so many government ministers and government members provides me with all the precedents I may need as I formulate my own Legislature style and attitudes.

It's of course understandable, Mr. Speaker, that each Member of the Legislative Assembly feels that his constituency is unique and significant and that he is honored to represent the people who reside in his constituency. That's certainly so in my case, Mr. Speaker. As the recent provincial election campaign progressed and I met more and more of the Albertans who reside in the communities of Woodlands, Canyon Meadows, Lake Bonavista, Lake Bonaventure, Bonavista Downs, Queensland, Deer Run, Deer Ridge, Parkland, and Midnapore, I came to realize what a particular privilege it is to serve in the Legislative Assembly. Many of these were comparatively new to Alberta, having

been attracted to the province's vibrant economy and promising future. Many others were long-time Albertans, equally optimistic and confident about Alberta's tomorrows.

Located along the southern border of the city of Calgary, Calgary Fish Creek is a new constituency created through the process of redistribution. Calgary Fish Creek is a constituency characterized by strong families, attractive homes, and a good life style. Every home either overlooks or is within walking distance of our magnificent Fish Creek Provincial Park. By and large the people of the constituency are enthusiastic, committed, concerned, and aware. Involvement in community programs is unusually high, and a high youth density and a great number of young couples add to the prevailing dynamic atmosphere.

Mr. Speaker, their interest in government is well illustrated by the fact that on March 14, the day of the provincial election, better than two-thirds of the eligible voters came out to the polls. Their support for this government's policies — and might I add parenthetically, for this government's ethics — is amply demonstrated by the fact that 9,000 votes, 76 per cent of those cast, were for this government.

The constituency comprises communities that were previously in the southern portions of the constituencies of Calgary Egmont and Calgary Glenmore. Need I add, Mr. Speaker, that the constituents there had long been accustomed to strong and dedicated representation in this Assembly, a precedent of which I am acutely aware.

The general area, Mr. Speaker, is rich in historical significance. The area's first inhabitants were Blackfoot Indians, who made the Fish Creek valley their base and camping area. From here they travelled to their buffalo hunting grounds. Just west of the Parkland community, on the opposite escarpment of the Fish Creek valley, are the remnants of a much-used buffalo jump. This site, along with 31 other archaeological sites, is being preserved by this government.

The first white men in the area included the explorers David Thompson and Captain Palliser. The first settler, John Glenn, and his family arrived in 1875, when he cleared nine acres in Fish Creek valley. He expanded his acreage over the next few years until 1879, when he sold his holdings to the federal government to be used as Indian supply camp No. 24. The sale price was \$350, a cow, and a calf.

The federal government phased out this program over the next few years and, in 1892, William Roper Hull purchased the property. In 1902, Patrick Burns purchased the property and eventually expanded his holdings, that became known as the Bow Valley Ranch, to 20,000 acres, extending from two miles south of Midnapore clear up to the Stampede grounds. His ranch headquarters, just west of Parkland community, became the showplace of Calgary. Senator Burns used this facility to entertain many of the dignitaries coming to Calgary. These included royalty and many heads of state.

Just down the hill to the east of the Parkland community, running parallel to the road known as the Bow Bottom Trail, which originally provided access to the ranch house, is an abandoned railroad bed. This railroad bed was built and ties purchased early in the century by Senator Burns in anticipation of building a railroad to the Burns coal mines near the headwaters of Sheep River, 35 miles west of Turner Valley. It never

reached fruition.

In 1973, 2,800 acres of Fish Creek valley and the Bow River valley were acquired by this government to be preserved as a provincial park, a truly magnificent recreational area that shares the name of this new but great constituency.

As one who was raised in a house of silence by deaf-mute parents, Mr. Speaker, I was greatly encouraged, as were many in my constituency and undoubtedly throughout Alberta, by the emphasis given in the Speech from the Throne to our physically and mentally handicapped Albertans: expansion of the learning disabilities fund, a new program unit to enhance the assistance available for dependent handicapped and multihandicapped children, the commitment to introduce the Alberta assured income plan for the handicapped, the commitment to establish the aids to daily living program, new programs for daytime development opportunities for mentally retarded and handicapped children, and the list goes on. I suggest, Mr. Speaker, that all these programs clearly sustain Alberta's leadership in the provision of services for the handicapped. As well, they are a stirring refutation of partisan and highly suspect suggestions that people programs don't get a high priority with this government.

I was encouraged also, Mr. Speaker, by the indication given in the Speech from the Throne that during 1979 a number of the specific features of the heritage learning resources project will become available in Alberta schools. As the members of this Assembly are undoubtedly aware, many Albertans have had a long-standing concern for the inadequacy of Canadian content in our educational materials. With the availability of the works of Albertan and Canadian writers, and audio-visual materials in Canadian history and geography, Alberta students will be in a significantly better position to know, to understand, and certainly to revere our great nation.

In my constituency, Mr. Speaker, are many representatives of the Alberta business community. I am confident they were heartened by the commitment given in the Speech from the Throne to continued support of the policy to use the private sector wherever appropriate. I'm advised by senior departmental officials that the tendering to the private sector of computer systems development work and multicolor printing has been a most successful endeavor. I think we do a great disservice to private industry when we develop within government capabilities that merely duplicate capabilities which already exist in the private sector and which are inevitably more efficient and more competently managed.

The suburban constituency of Calgary Fish Creek, Mr. Speaker, has one of the most rapid new housing development rates in Canada. Homes are frequently sold before they are completed. Homes on the resale market are usually sold in a matter of days or weeks, rarely in a matter of months. In such a dynamic housing market it's not surprising that prices continue to escalate, making it increasingly difficult for apartment and town house renters to purchase a home of their own. These constituents have been given new hope by the priority given in the Speech from the Throne to the need for new housing, and the indication that substantial funds will be requested from the Assembly to support important new initiatives under the Alberta family home purchase program and other

key programs. On their behalf, Mr. Speaker, I express gratitude and urge my colleagues in this Assembly to support these funding requests when they are made.

A Bill to create a new government department, Mr. Speaker, the Department of Economic Development, will be presented to the Legislature during this session. I suggest that creation of this department illustrates that this is a government not of opportunities missed, as has been suggested today, but of opportunities seized. I noted with interest the three primary objectives of the new department: one, strengthening our base industries of agriculture and energy; two, balanced economic growth throughout the province; and, three, diversification of the Alberta economy. The latter I regard as a highly important but admittedly difficult objective.

In recent months a number of my constituents have expressed their misgivings over what they perceive as an undue reliance on our energy resources. I recognize, Mr. Speaker, that the risk of overheating our economy and our distance from markets are but two of many limiting factors in this aspect of the government's economic strategy. Despite these limiting factors, however, the challenging goal of diversification holds so many potential benefits for the people of Alberta, that it is a goal that merits every effort the new department can make toward its realization. These benefits include broadened employment base, additional skill requirements, new research and development opportunities and, of course, new revenue sources.

I am somewhat dismayed, Mr. Speaker, by the increasing tendency within Alberta and elsewhere to attribute Alberta's strong economy solely to our hydrocarbon resources. Oil and gas revenues, to be sure, play a dominant role in Alberta's economy. But that simplistic conclusion obscures the fundamental exploration and development skills of our petroleum industry, and the enlightened legislative and regulatory leadership shown by this government. That simplistic conclusion also obscures an even greater and more profound factor: the initiative, the ambitions, and the energies of the people of Alberta. They constitute a remarkable resource that has contributed much to Alberta's past achievements and current prosperity, and most assuredly will contribute to Alberta's future prominence in Confederation.

While on the subject of our people, Mr. Speaker, I was intrigued by your remarks on the steps of the Legislature last week to a group of very young Alberta people during ceremonies commemorating the twentieth anniversary of the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of the Child. As I have reflected on your remarks, sir, and on the children-related programs outlined in the Speech from the Throne, I've asked myself: what can I, what can we as legislators, bequeath to our province's children over and above government programs? Might I suggest, Mr. Speaker, that as legislators, as lawmakers, we commit ourselves to new standards of parliamentary excellence. Might I also suggest that we commit ourselves to legislation that will significantly enhance the rights as well as the opportunities for our children and for generations of Albertans yet unborn.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. ISLEY: Mr. Speaker, as the fourth rookie to participate in the throne speech debate, I'm not sure I can attain the high standards set by the hon. members for

Three Hills, Calgary Forest Lawn, and Calgary Fish Creek, but I will do my best to improve as time goes on. At this point in time I would like to share with the Assembly a brief description of the constituency of Bonnyville, which I represent, and to share some of the concerns held by residents of that constituency.

My constituency covers in excess of 4,000 square miles of northeastern Alberta, encompassing a large portion of the heavy oil sands. Until recently the constituency could probably have been fairly described as a quiet, rural area with an agriculturally orientated base. Located in the Bonnyville constituency are three major towns — Cold Lake, Grand Centre, and Bonnyville; the village of Glendon; a number of hamlets; two Indian reserves, Kehiwin and Cold Lake; and the Elizabeth Metis colony. Being located in the lakeland country, the agricultural economy of this area has been supplemented by the tourism industry which, by the way, is in a very preliminary development stage. The other major contributor to employment to this point in time has been the Canadian Forces Base, Cold Lake, which is in the east end of the constituency.

Mr. Speaker, as the hon. members of this Assembly are no doubt aware, the importance of our constituency to the Alberta and Canadian economy has increased dramatically with the application of Esso Resources for the construction of their major heavy oil plant. Add to this the numerous other oil companies that have pilot projects in the area and which could feasibly be constructing commercial projects in the not-too-distant future, and you suddenly realize we have become a potential boom area. In this regard I and, I believe, the majority of the residents of the Bonnyville constituency were very pleased to hear the announcement that the former Minister of Energy and Natural Resources, Mr. Don Getty, was retained to assist the Hon. Merv Leitch in the transition period, because a smooth flow of the plans with relation to energy resources is important to our area.

Although the majority of the residents of the constituency are progressive minded and hence supportive of the heavy oil industry, they also have some very deep and justifiable concerns. These concerns could probably be summarized as follows: number one, environmental. We must strike a balance which makes development of the energy resources economically feasible and yet retains the beauty of the lakeland region. Emphasis must be placed on proper reclamation of land disrupted by the heavy oil industry for both agricultural and non-agricultural purposes. Concern must be given to the private landowner who is going to have his rights infringed on with the widening of highways, pipelines, and power lines.

A second major concern of residents in the area is the protection and development of existing industries, and I refer to the three industries of agriculture, tourism, and Canadian Forces Base, Cold Lake.

The third concern is to ensure local participation in the development of the area, job opportunities for local people, including native people, and involvement of the local people in the planning process.

A fourth major area of concern to residents in northeastern Alberta is social impact. What will be the impact of a boom area on the life style of the communities? Will schools become overcrowded and hence the quality of education in the area deteriorate? Can we keep pace with the increased demands for hospital services, social services, police protection, et cetera?

Mr. Speaker, over the years governments have probably earned the reputation of being reactors as opposed to actors. I think we're now in a situation where we can reverse that conception. This means that all departments of our provincial government must be prepared to play some real leadership in conjunction with the local governments in making the growth of the Cold Lake area a positive success story.

From my reading of local constituents, I would suggest the following as areas of immediate attention: number one, housing will be the first basic requirement of people as they flow into the area. In order to ensure these needs are met, we must assist municipalities with front-end financing to get their municipal infrastructure in place. Water and sewage systems currently under review must be expanded in the near future. There must be a smooth, efficient flow of land through the annexation process, the planning process, and the development process, so that we do not end up with a shortage of serviced land and hence an increase in housing prices. I have a high degree of faith in the free-enterprise system, and I would urge that we in government set the stage so that the private developer and the private contractor can satisfy the housing needs.

Hospital services in the Bonnyville constituency are at present inadequate to serve the current needs, and planning must be done in the near future to update things so that we're ready when the boom arrives. Local hospital boards are currently agitating to get on with the planning process, and I would hope that we will be prepared to sit down and work with them.

A third area is education and job training. I think both Alberta Education, and Advanced Education and Manpower are faced with the challenge of developing educational services in advance of population needs. Advanced Education has already taken some positive steps in the area through their manpower training workshop and through the planning carried on by Lakeland College. The Hon. Dave King has spent two days in the area, assessing the K-to-12 situation. I believe he was very well received. I think he has an excellent grasp of the many problems the area is facing. I think I would go one step further and suggest that if he can solve all the education problems in our constituency, he'll have a handle on all the educational problems in the province. We are faced with the problem of seven different school jurisdictions involved in the delivery. We have the basic differences and aspirations as a result of religious differences, linguistic differences, problems as far as sharing of taxation when you get that many jurisdictions. I think Mr. King has a handle on it, and we're looking for some very good things.

Recreation: as I previously mentioned, the area has a tremendous tourism potential, and we must become more active now in developing parks and related recreation facilities to handle the local population, the current tourist population, and the anticipated incoming population. Within our constituency we have a number of very attractive lakes, which have a tremendous potential. Cold Lake, which I'm sure many people here are aware of, is undoubtedly one of the most attractive lakes in Alberta. A provincial park has been designated for this lake; the slowness of progress on the park is causing concern with many people there. I would hope that Alberta Recreation and Parks would hasten forward with completion of it. In the field of

recreation, I think we should also be giving some consideration to helping communities get capital recreation facility infrastructure in place before we get large numbers of people coming in.

The fifth area, protection and development of existing industries: I have strong concerns — and I think we see some of this happening in the local area — that we don't become so involved in developing the energy industry that we forget the basic industries of agriculture and tourism. Neither of these industries have yet been developed to their potential, and I think we must find ways of encouraging this to happen. The substantial increase in the area's population will put additional demands on our food industry, and I wonder if it's not possible for us to find ways of developing programs that would encourage local production, processing, and marketing of agricultural products.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, may I reiterate that we have an opportunity to become actors as opposed to reactors in the development of a boom area. I hope we're prepared to pick up the challenge and make the development of the Cold Lake area a positive success story.

MR. STEVENS: Mr. Speaker, members of this Assembly, I welcome this opportunity to take part in this Speech from the Throne debate in the 19th Legislature of this province of Alberta.

It was indeed a special privilege for me to hear the Lieutenant-Governor read the Speech from the Throne. He has a special place in my constituency. It's described in this book, *Big Hill Country*, and I'm indebted to Margaret and Harvey Buckley, who have given me this publication. This was produced by the Cochrane and Area Historical Society in 1977, and [there is] a great deal of work and love by many people in this publication, including Marjorie Spicer, who had made this all possible. Ralph Steinhauer, who began his term on July 1, 1974, was born on the Morley Reserve in Banff-Cochrane on June 8, 1905, the same year Alberta became a province. May the Great Spirit be with the Steinhauers always.

As I look around this Assembly, I am very conscious of the strengths and qualities of the members elected by their constituents to represent them. In my own constituency, Banff-Cochrane, I've had the privilege of knowing three of its previous members. The first is Frank "Pop" Gainer. He was elected in 1955 as one of the three coalition members of this Legislature. He came to Cochrane in 1912, the youngest CPR station operator in Alberta, and he served that area until 1945, 34 years, when he went to Lethbridge for two years, and then back to Banff until his retirement in 1955. He served this Assembly and the people of Banff-Cochrane for three terms until 1967.

The second member I would like to note is Mr. Fred Kidd, my immediate predecessor. Fred served this Assembly from 1975 until 1979. His father, Stuart Kidd, came to this province in 1903. He homesteaded about seven miles north of Calgary up the Simons Valley Road. In 1907 he moved to Morley to operate a store and became the agent. He was the first white honorary chief of the Stoney tribe. Mount Kidd, on the Kananaskis Road, south of Morley, is named after Fred's father Stuart. Fred and his wife Helen live in the Cochrane district, and he gave me his time, guidance, and advice during the campaign. I'm sure that members will join me in acknowledging his service to this Assembly. [applause]

The third member from my constituency whom I have had the privilege to know is Clarence Copithorne. Clarence was first elected to this Assembly in 1967 as an Independent M.L.A. In 1970 he joined the Progressive Conservative party. He was re-elected in 1971 and became the Minister of Highways and Transport. I could list his contributions, humor, strengths, and warmth, but instead I would like to read a letter to the editor of *The Calgary Herald* of May 26 from a Mr. G. Elson of Cochrane. This letter refers to the dedication which marked the opening of the Cochrane Rancho historic site on May 21 and the unveiling of the statue by Malcolm MacKenzie, Men of Vision. You'll recall that occasion well, Mr. Premier, my colleague the Minister responsible for Culture, and those other MLAs, both present and past, who were there last Monday together with over 2,000 people last Monday. The letter reads:

On May 21st I had the opportunity to attend the opening of the Cochrane Ranch Historic Site. The occasion was very well planned with a tribute to the various groups: fur traders, missionaries, Indians, ranchers, ranchers' wives and surveyors, who through pure grit and determination helped to put this country on a firm foundation for the generations ... to follow. Although this ceremony was a tribute it was ... a reminder to us that there is value to be had in preserving at least a little of our heritage.

One man who believed in the importance of preserving our heritage was present at the opening ceremonies although he was unable to take his place of honor at the podium. The determination of this man, Clarence Copithorne, who was instrumental in establishing this historic site was evident just in his appearance.

Many of us present were touched by Copithorne's supreme effort, not the least of which was Premier Lougheed who at one point faltered when describing Copithorne's involvement in establishing this ... site.

Although this ceremony was an official opening of an historic site and a tribute to our forefathers, it was also a tribute to the man who made it ... possible, for us and for our children.

G. Elson,
Cochrane

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to follow these men — Mr. Fred Kidd, Mr. Clarence Copithorne, Pop Gainer, and those before — and I am grateful to the people of Banff-Cochrane for this privilege.

My constituency stretches from within the city of Calgary, the northwest corner, right to the Alberta-B.C. border. It lies between the constituencies of Rocky Mountain House, Olds-Didsbury, Three Hills, Drumheller, Highwood, and the Calgary constituencies of North West, Bow, West, Glenmore, and Fish Creek. There are nearly 14,000 voters. Less than half of them live in three urban communities: Banff, Canmore, and Cochrane. The remainder live in such communities — and I was thinking of words like bubbling and babbling, words that make a lot of sense to us as we hear them. Listen to these community names: Lake Louise, Harvie Heights, Exshaw, Seebe, Pigeon Mountain, Lac des Arcs, Morley, Bearsapaw, Springbank, Redwood Meadows, Bragg Creek, Priddis, Red Deer Lake, Ghost Lake, Waiparous, Greenwood Village, and Jumping Pound. Or they live on ranches, farms,

or acreages in the municipal districts of Rocky View and Foothills, IDs 8 and 9, or the Stoney and Sarcee reserves.

In addition, we're fortunate to contain Banff National Park, our own Alberta provincial Kananaskis park, and our recreation area, Kananaskis Country, as well as many other provincial parks and privately owned or leased recreational areas such as Yamnuska Centre, the Kinsmen camp, Paskapoo, Norquay, Sunshine, Lake Louise, Fortress, and many other tourist attractions all of us enjoy. It's one of the most beautiful, rugged, and historic areas in the province. It's an area as diverse and complex as Alberta herself.

But with that attractiveness come other pressures: growth, visitors, urban expansion, recreation, transportation, energy. As the Calgary region grows, by the year 2000 — 21 years from now — with another half million people in that area, many of their needs will impact upon Banff-Cochrane, particularly in terms of land-use change. We feel this in the agricultural area; we feel it in a rural way of life which many of my constituents enjoy.

Mr. Speaker, let me talk for a moment about some of the concerns my constituents have presented to me. The previous federal government has announced plans to expand overnight accommodation in Lake Louise for 1,600 visitors. Many Canadians and many Albertans already have expressed concern with the impact of this proposal on the wildlife habitat adjacent to the proposed development area, as well as what they perceive to be a change from the park's interpretative role and day-use area to an overnight townsite.

On behalf of my constituents in Lake Louise, I've taken the position with the federal panel of simply pointing out the long overdue need for Parks Canada to rectify the employee accommodation situation, the inadequate roads, the services, and the sewage treatment for the present residents of Lake Louise. Much needs to be done to alleviate the living conditions these Alberta residents must endure while providing visitor services to thousands of visitors each year.

I'm very pleased to see the inclusion of the 12-unit, self-contained senior citizens' housing project in Banff in this year's list. For far too long, Banff senior citizens have been forced to retain their own residences as they grow older and as their residences become obsolete, simply to remain resident in Banff rather than to relocate elsewhere; for example, in Canmore or outside that area. That is because the federal government has discouraged retirement in the park. Now it's one thing to discourage a newcomer to Banff to retire there, but it's quite another to discourage a long-time resident from staying on to enjoy his or her retirement years after years of service to this community and its visitors.

Two other concerns in Banff are important: the previous federal government's announcement to consider twinning the Trans-Canada Highway from the east park gate to Banff townsite, the traffic circle; and to establish a form of municipal government and taxation or to provide for continued administration of the townsite by Parks Canada, with a form of service charge to cover the federal government's costs of operating the town.

Regarding the highway twinning proposal, it is surely no longer a question of study, but when. Alberta's position has been stated clearly during the past decade, and the urgency for this project is immediate

from the points of view of safety and traffic congestion. Obviously there are unique concerns relative to the environment: as much as possible to protect the natural features, the wildlife habitat, and the migratory routes, but not at the expense of continued loss of human life, traffic delay, and property damage. Indeed the initial development of our country's rail system, the system that tied us together a century ago, was the reason for finding the hot springs and the eventual establishment of the park, setting it aside for its preservation, its use, and its enjoyment. I hope my colleague the Minister of Transportation again will state clearly our position on this issue.

With regard to townsite self government, I was very pleased with the May 22 events, as were thousands of Canadians. The election of Mr. Joe Clark, member-elect for Yellowhead and Prime Minister-elect, together with 20 other Alberta MPs, is something I'm really happy about. Mr. Clark, in his previous capacity as MP for Rocky Mountain, spearheaded the work of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Indian and Northern Affairs. He wrote that committee's report, which was accepted unanimously. That report simply stated that Banff and — with the permission of my colleague from Edson — Jasper residents be given the opportunity to determine their own destinies as any other Alberta residents enjoy.

Gordon Taylor, member-elect for Bow River, again within which my constituency lies, has 39 years of Alberta Legislative Assembly experience, and I'm looking forward to working with him as we represent the views of Banff residents to the federal House and to this Assembly, respectively.

It appears essential for my colleagues the Minister of Federal and Intergovernmental Affairs and the Minister of Municipal Affairs to commence discussions shortly with the new federal government to establish an appropriate framework for these discussions for self-government. If this is what Banff citizens choose and if they have access to the implications, costs, and alternatives, I'm confident that my colleague from Edson will join with me in urging this step so that the present fears of the residents of both Banff and Jasper will be alleviated by providing full information, rather than as in the past, the imposition of a particular program.

I was pleased, Mr. Speaker, to note reference in the throne speech to the year-round operation approval given to the Banff Centre. The Banff Centre, under its director, David Leighton, and its former director, Senator Donald Cameron, provides a unique experience to thousands of students and lecturers, artists, performers, and visitors in the areas of fine arts, performing arts, environment, management, and conferences. In addition to the Festival of the Arts, this year the Banff Centre is hosting the International Festival of Films for Television, co-ordinated by Carrie Hunter. The Centre is a focal point for community activities in Banff.

There is a serious problem in Banff, and that is in housing; it's scarcity, overcrowding, high costs. Limitations on growth of the townsite are essential if Banff is to remain a visitor service centre. But this impacts directly on those least able to cope with this, people who provide service, teachers, hospital service, park service. This same pressure spills well outside the gate, to Canmore, Exshaw, Harvie Heights. Canmore is growing at the rate of 14 per cent per year, it's

providing a sixth of Banff's labor population, and it's feeling the pressures of growth from Calgarians seeking summer homes or ski season homes, and the development of Kananaskis Country, the cement plant expansion at Exshaw, and all the industries now being attracted to Canmore to provide needed service. Therefore I am very pleased with the assistance our government has provided to Canmore to ameliorate this pressure. The Alberta Housing and Alberta Home Mortgage corporations are actively developing serviced lots, providing mortgage fundings and assistance to low and middle income families in our area. My colleague the Minister of Housing and Public Works well deserves the appreciation of Canmore for this assistance.

I'm very pleased, Mr. Speaker, to see in the throne speech the end of the temporary holding pattern for the submission of new hospital projects. In Canmore there is no question in my constituents' minds that the Canmore hospital, built in 1937 and accommodating 20 beds, is no longer adequate for today's needs. I well appreciate, however, the demands that will come and be placed before my colleague the Member for Calgary Elbow and Minister of Hospitals and Medical Care. But I'm confident that with the assistance of the Canmore hospital board, I'll be able to present a strong case to him.

I should also mention, Mr. Speaker, the sad legacy of black lung disease. Gordon Taylor, in this Assembly, received the support of the members for his motion that this government should evaluate carefully the matter of compensation for this disease. A study is now in preparation by Eileen Patterson of Canmore for the United Mine Workers, District 18, and this will be distributed to all MLAs. Black lung is caused by very fine coal dust being trapped in the lung tissue. It scars the tissue, impairs the transfer of oxygen to the bloodstream, and in advanced cases leads to deterioration and death. My colleague the Member for Edmonton Beverly, Minister responsible for Workers' Health, Safety and Compensation, knows how relatively simple it may be to decide or define how to compensate for a job injury but how much more difficult it is to determine the cause of an industrial disease. I hope this study will do much to clarify the dilemma.

I'm also pleased, on behalf of the Canmore constituents, with the announcement of the 36,000 square foot provincial building to be built in Canmore. This will further the growing recognition by our government of Canmore's future as the administration centre for Kananaskis Country. My constituents here and in Bragg Creek will wish me to work closely with the Minister of Recreation and Parks in defining what changes this development will bring about to these communities. I'm pleased that the mayor of Canmore, Mr. Pat Byrne, is a member of the Kananaskis citizens' advisory committee.

You know, Cochrane too has its history and growing pains. The first race meet at Cochrane was held on July 1, 1895, and yet today volunteers and members of the Cochrane and District Agricultural Society are hard at work converting a vacant field into a grandstand, a track, and a place for the animals. This should open this season, and so Calgarians who once shunted back and forth by train to Cochrane in the '20s, will be able to renew their visits and enjoy the famous Cochrane ice cream. I should note, too, that the first racetrack with pari-mutuel betting west of Winnipeg

was in Cochrane.

I'm pleased also that there will be eight self-contained units for this list in Cochrane. I visited the Bug Hill Lodge during the campaign. I met Mr. John Boothby, who was born in 1895. He gave me a lot of advice on how to campaign, and it must have worked.

Cochrane, like many other towns around Calgary, fears its loss of identity. But it's taken positive steps under Mayor Mark McCaghren and the council to provide for the future needs of Cochrane. Cochrane is concerned about growing pressures: public transit, sewerage system and sewage treatment improvements, water system expansion, fire and ambulance protection for the surrounding area, and land use. So the recently announced plan for the Calgary region, establishing a metropolitan, a rural, a preservation, and an environmental protection area, will be considered very carefully by Cochrane and by the Municipal District of Rocky View and the reeve, Louise Feltham, and her council, and by the MD of Foothills and the reeve, Ed Poffenroth, and his councillors. I look forward to the public hearing process this fall and the recommendations which will come forward.

In my mind there is no question that on an overall basis the major concern in my area is land use and property assessment and taxation in the remaining areas of the constituency. The area around Calgary is virtually lost to Albertans as agricultural land. Acreage owners, small holdings, compete side by side with ranchers and farmers for any developable parcel. When they buy it, find water, develop a septic tank field, pay for or build their road, provide a party line and gas and power hookups, build their home, and settle back to enjoy the country life, they find their taxes proportionately high compared to the services they feel they receive — the occasional snowplough, grader, or policeman — and inequitable compared to their neighbor, who may be an agriculturalist in the true sense or in the textbook sense. On the other hand, the rancher or farmer sees the land being exploited for development, increasing demands for schools, roads, and services, and wonders why he should have to pay for these services. I hope to be able to represent my constituents' concerns well in this issue, so we can develop a change in the provincial assessment system which will restore equity and fair treatment.

I would be remiss, Mr. Speaker, if I did not mention the special welcome I received from the Sarcee band council under Chief Clifford Big Plume, and from Stoney Chiefs John Snow, the chief of the Wesley Band. I will be meeting soon with Chief Frank Powderface and Chief Bill Ear Senior of the Chiniquay and Bears-paw bands respectively. They were not able to be present when I travelled through the Stoney Reserve during the campaign.

In closing, I can say with pride, on behalf of my constituency, that each of the six priorities emphasized in this throne speech will have a special impact on Banff-Cochrane. Those constituents who turned out to the polls in record number and who, in the majority, supported my candidacy, did so, I am convinced, because of their conviction that Alberta's prosperity and continued development have depended largely upon this government and the leadership of Premier Peter Lougheed.

It's a privilege to join the ranks of this Assembly. I do so knowing how much work and effort was put

into our campaign by our campaign manager, our press officer, our finance officer, our policy advisers, our workers, our drivers, and our volunteers. I will never forget them, as I visited over 5,000 homes, or the volunteers who ran our office or did the telephoning and mailing. I am confident those contacts with the people will serve me well in this Assembly. I hope I can serve this Assembly as well.

Members of the Assembly, Mr. Speaker: today is your day and mine, the only day we have, the day in which we play our part. What our part may signify in the great whole, we may not understand. But we are here to play it, and now is our time.

MR. PAHL: Mr. Speaker, it is with a sense of privilege, honor, and history that I rise to address this Assembly for the first time as the first person to represent the new constituency of Edmonton Mill Woods. I must caution you, Mr. Speaker, that I will be hard pressed to match the eloquence of the previous speakers. But I would beg you to bear in mind that prior to my political involvement, my public appearances were limited to three three-minute rounds.

My modest objectives are to learn the rules, obey the referee — you, Mr. Speaker — and hopefully score some shots for the people of Alberta generally and the people of Mill Woods constituency specifically. In that sense I would like to describe the constituency of Edmonton Mill Woods in a way that I hope will reveal the challenges and aspirations of this very new, in an electoral sense, part of Alberta.

Picture if you will, Mr. Speaker, an urban area of about 30,000 people which, in the context of the 1975 census, would make it Alberta's fourth largest city. I use that analogy with apologies to the representatives of the constituencies of Red Deer and Medicine Hat. This city is bounded on its western and northern edges by major traffic arteries that, at an average point on an average day, pass 30,000 vehicles. These western and northern boundaries are the Calgary Trail and Argyll Road respectively. From these boundaries an industrial/commercial strip about 1 mile deep separates our homes from the rest of Edmonton. This busy sector of Edmonton Mill Woods represents the major proportion of the province's and, indeed, the country's industrial service to the oil industry. Thus it is an integral part of the basic economic foundation of the province.

In that regard, Mr. Speaker, my constituents will be pleased with the throne speech forecast of a continued high level of activity in the petroleum industry. The energetic and imaginative business people in this area of Edmonton Mill Woods will be and in fact already are pleased with the commitment outlined in the throne speech to create a new Department of Economic Development, particularly the international trade component. A growing industry centred in the people and businesses of Edmonton Mill Woods is developing in the export of Alberta citizens' consulting expertise, Alberta technology, and Alberta products to the oil-fields of the world. These activities, Mr. Speaker, are jobs created, building upon the strengths of our energy base in a way not immediately thought of, but significant none the less in the move toward further diversifying our economy.

The other two quadrants of this city are encroaching upon class 1 agricultural land at the rate of about 100 acres per year, although the limits are presently defined at a population of 93,000 people by the year 1999.

And by the way, we're ahead of the population projections already.

The city I proudly represent, Mr. Speaker, enjoys a mixture of people who typify the greatness of our province and country. We Albertans of Edmonton Mill Woods have a background of many diverse origins, cultures, and races. More important than the cultural mosaic of our background is the common future we have in building this great province of Alberta. Indeed, the success of our future in Edmonton Mill Woods depends so very much on the future direction and leadership this Assembly provides.

In terms of history, Mr. Speaker, this city I refer to is the Mill Woods suburb of Edmonton or, in the parlance of the urban planners, the Mill Woods Outline Plan Area. The place names of our neighborhoods have been drawn from the native Indian language and from past and more contemporary public figures, hence the subdivision names of Tipaskan, Kameyosek, Satoo, Menisa, Ekota, Sakaw, and Crawford Plains. [laughter]

The Mill Woods experiment, as we're sometimes called, started as a city land bank in the early 1970s. It was a good idea that was in part overwhelmed by the tremendous development of our province since 1971. Mr. Speaker, I use the completely non-partisan indicator of housing starts. In Edmonton they nearly doubled, from 4,900 in 1970 to 9,500 in 1971. That trend has continued.

In terms of population growth, Mr. Speaker, in three-quarters of a decade the constituency of Edmonton Mill Woods has reached a size that our sister cities of Medicine Hat and Red Deer have taken three-quarters of a century to achieve. Therefore in my view it is not surprising that this very new city within a city is lacking, in quality and quantity, in important services. The Mill Woods subdivision of the city of Edmonton is still lacking in the areas of schools, emergency and hospital treatment facilities, roads and traffic control, basic retail services, recreational and cultural amenities.

On the other hand, the Mill Woods subdivision of the city of Edmonton in our view has plenty of poor urban planning, plenty of busy, undercontrolled intersections, poorly planned, poorly built community housing units, and its share of natural and man-made disasters. The reason, Mr. Speaker, that I am so directly indicating some of the important needs and problems of my constituency is not to lay blame for the shortfalls, which I am determined to do my part to make only temporary, but respectfully to point out some of the challenges that our government, in co-operation with local municipalities, must face in response to the tremendous growth and development in Alberta.

In that vein, Mr. Speaker, I would like to go on record as supporting the city of Edmonton's attempt to face part of the question of management of growth. I am referring to the City of Edmonton's large annexation or, if you will, amalgamation proposal. I am not saying that I support the approach in total, but I do compliment the city administration for squarely facing the issue, and I suggest that the Mill Woods experiment or experience would be instructive in our government's thoughtful consideration of this proposal.

The challenge is to marshal intellectual, financial, and land resources so that the economic growth we of Edmonton Mill Woods so strongly support can proceed without an unacceptable cost to the quality of life

of the citizens of Alberta. My approach to that challenge, Mr. Speaker, reflects my conservative bias — and I'm not ashamed of it — that first and foremost our governments have a role to regulate and arbitrate; secondly, where necessary and appropriate, to stimulate; and thirdly, where unavoidable, to operate. The lessons and challenges are for the rapid growth areas of the future in Alberta. I think the constituency of my colleague from Bonnyville is a very good example of that. I am confident there will be many more. In those areas we should endeavor, as I mentioned, to do the first, possibly the second, and avoid the third.

Mr. Speaker, I think evidence for my point would be amply provided in the extremely successful co-operative housing program of the Department of Housing and Public Works in Mill Woods. This is a program where emphasis is on stimulation and on helping people to help themselves. This is what we like and admire in Edmonton Mill Woods, and we'd like to see more of it.

Mr. Speaker, the constituency of Edmonton Mill Woods has been pretty good at helping itself. We have five community leagues supported by five cores of active and dedicated volunteers, who are so very necessary to the success of community leagues. We also have an active component in the community that is working hard to build the Mill Woods cultural and recreational facility, abbreviated as MCARFA, a \$2 million structure to be funded on matching grants through our government's major cultural and recreational facilities program of the Department of Culture.

In our constituency's efforts to build for the future, Mr. Speaker, Edmonton Mill Woods wants to build and participate in the exciting future of our great province. Mr. Speaker, we are a constituency of working people spanning the full range of the occupations and professions, both men and women counting heavily within the 1 million labor force of Alberta. We are a cultural mosaic held together, if you will, by a fabric or canvas of belief in the importance of making an energetic contribution to the well-being of oneself, one's family, and to the larger community.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I would submit that the new constituency of Edmonton Mill Woods, with its recent past, early achievements, and energetic commitment to building a great future indeed represents the vanguard of Alberta's future. It's going to be great future, Mr. Speaker, and I'm proud to represent Edmonton Mill Woods in the challenge and task of helping to shape that future.

Thank you.

MRS. EMBURY: Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to offer congratulations to the Member for Edmonton Mill Woods for his informative and interesting maiden speech.

It has been a privilege for me to be here even for such a short time under the Lieutenant-Governor, and I bring greetings and best wishes from my constituents to him.

I also wish to add my sincere congratulations to you, Mr. Speaker, and to Mr. Deputy Speaker, on your elections. I heard from many elected members in the past about your outstanding chairmanship, and I look forward to observing your honest and impartial leadership.

Mr. Speaker, it is with some apprehension, pride, and excitement that I deliver my first speech today, particu-

larly with my eye on the clock. I'm wondering if I will be the least or the last of the speakers at this hour of the afternoon; however, I beg your indulgence.

I am very proud to be here with the Premier of Alberta, members who have served before, and my many new friends and colleagues. It is a deep honor to participate over the next four years in the direction of our province. I am very grateful and feel such a sense of humility that so many people in Calgary North West have put their trust in me.

Fifteen years ago, if you left Calgary to travel to Banff on what was then Highway 1-A, you would pass through a flat prairie on your left, possibly a few horses grazing here and there. On your right would be the same type of prairie, but a gentle sloping upward to a range of rolling hills. As you travelled a little farther the prairie on your left would gradually become hilly with some ravines, and on your right along the roadside would be a slough or two where the bulrushes thrived and the frogs could be heard chirping.

Suddenly a community of bungalows and split-level homes started springing up; this was Varsity Acres. A long, designated area down the middle of the community was left for schools and recreational purposes. This soon became the place for two public elementary schools, one separate elementary school, and the public junior high school. This was rapidly followed by Varsity Village, a flatland community of large bungalows and large two-storey homes, noticeable primarily for the attached one- or two-car garages. One public elementary school was built here. Varsity Acres was next to be built, around a golf course that winds in and around small hills and ravines. The total population of the Varsities is over 13,000, with an added projection of 3,500 people when two compact land developments of apartments and condominiums are completed.

Travelling west, the community of Silver Springs, with a population of 8,500, seemed to spring up overnight. Across this highway the same development was occurring in West Dalhousie, and very recently in Ranchlands and Crowchild Ranch. Each of these communities shows its uniqueness by the topography and how the houses blend in, the style of architecture, the size of the lots, and even the house colors. One can approximate the period of development of these communities by these factors.

Why do I spend so much time naming my communities? Because they became the new constituency of Calgary North West, not only a new but a very young constituency, less than 15 years old. Geographically, Calgary North West looks the same size on the map as the other Calgary constituencies, but the concentration is in the southern part, with at least one-third of the northern part completely undeveloped. The city limits form the boundary on the north and the west. The east boundary is a major residential street which adjoins Calgary Foothills. The south boundary is a busy, major traffic artery that stops at the escarpment of the Bow River. This escarpment becomes the southern boundary, which adjoins Calgary Bow. Calgary North West is very small, compact, and presently has just over 14,000 voters. No doubt by the time of the next election this population will have doubled.

Two major arteries run through the constituency: the Crowchild Trail runs east-west, and the Shaganappi Trail is the north-south artery. These are

four-lane, divided expressways. With the high concentration of people living in the communities and rapid growth to the north, our traffic congestion will increase. The residents will be pleased to see the highlight in the Speech from the Throne that emphasis will be placed on a new six-year urban transportation plan for Alberta. Adding to the traffic congestion in the constituency is the fact that many of our major services are outside the constituency, in close proximity, but for convenience people use their cars to reach the high schools, the University of Calgary, McMahon football stadium, the road to Banff, and a major sports complex which includes a covered arena, swimming pool, and tennis courts.

Calgary North West is a residential community. There is no industry in this area, but one major shopping centre which contains two shopping stores, two grocery stores, and over 50 small businesses. There are three smaller community shopping centres throughout the constituency, one professional building, and another professional building under construction which, interestingly enough, will have an outpatient clinic. Physicians and dentists are located in the shopping centres.

Forty per cent of the people in my riding are professional people, and another 40 per cent are white-collar workers. These include physicians, lawyers, university professors, real estate salesmen, teachers, nurses, and office workers. Many people own their own businesses, and many are small businesses. Many people are directly and indirectly employed within the oil industry. The energy and natural resources statements in the Speech from the Throne which indicate continual developments in our province and the recommendations contained the paper *Harmony in Diversity* are not only of interest to my constituents but strongly supported by them.

Eighty per cent of the constituents are of British origin and have English as their first language. Most of these people have been raised in Alberta, but a few years ago we saw a few people moving from Saskatchewan. Now this has changed to include people from Manitoba, a large number of people from Ontario, and fewer from Quebec and the maritimes. We have a minority population from outside Canada: from Germany, Italy, Yugoslavia, India, and other countries. Over 90 per cent of my constituents own their own homes and these are single detached residences. The municipal debt reduction program will be popular within my constituency, as will the continued emphasis on housing under the Alberta family home purchase program.

By age, 92 per cent of my constituents are between the ages of 35 and 55 years, which is an interesting statistic. So the under 25 and over 55 age groups are a minority. Although the senior citizens are a minority in my constituency, I was very pleased when I was out door-knocking to find them living in their own homes and occupying the new apartments close to the major shopping centre. The special assistance programs will be of great benefit to the senior citizens, as will the expansion of the home care program.

The people of Calgary North West are hardworking, family-oriented individuals who spend their time working, maintaining their homes and yards, enjoying specific recreation programs, volunteering in community programs, and throughout the year enjoy the camping and recreational facilities outside Cal-

gary. As families struggle to maintain healthy life styles, there will be heavy demands for more recreational facilities, particularly facilities that can be enjoyed on a year-round basis.

The strongest base in my constituency is the community association. Varsity Acres is a model to others, not only for the length of their existence, but for the extreme dedication of the volunteers and the paid workers, and for the wide variety of programs constantly changing to meet the needs of the community. Silver Springs recently received their Alberta government matching grant through the city of Calgary, to begin construction on their community building. Dalhousie also has an active community association.

The funding of special cancer and heart research programs, the change in the structure of the Research Council of Alberta, and the Alberta heritage foundation for medical research will indeed make Alberta a leading research centre. When one sees a fund designated for medical research, one tends so often to think of curing in the disease process. The fund has been designated for medicine and related sciences. Hopefully we can become leaders in the preventative field and in the area of health promotion.

The stressors in a large, rapidly growing, mobile, changing suburb are increasing. Some of these are crime, traffic accidents, a high divorce rate, a fast pace of living, marital breakdown, and an increased suicide rate particularly in the under 25 age group. Research is needed not only to identify the whys, but also to find ways of helping people in the stress periods so they can return to their optimum level of functioning.

As the Ottawa Member for Ottawa-Carleton stated in her maiden speech in the House of Commons in February 1977:

I know the necessity of encouraging and maximizing the optimum ... of every asset, and human resources are still the most vital asset of any company or ... country. There is a need for governments, through leadership, example and prudent legislation, to establish a climate within which individuals can pursue their own goals.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Speaker, first I'd like to congratulate you on your election as Speaker of the Legislative Assembly. In the very short time I've been sitting in the Legislature, it is quite obvious why you were elected.

Mr. Speaker, the Rocky Mountain House constituency takes in an area from Sylvan Lake in the east to the Banff Park boundary in the west. It is very diversified industrialwise, involving agriculture, petroleum, forestry, and the tourism industries. With industry comes growth; with growth come concerns of constituents. Some concerns that have surfaced are the following: Sylvan Lake has grown to a population of approximately 3,000 from a few hundred of a few years ago. This has put a lot of pressure on Highway No. 11, as most of the residents commute to their work in Red Deer. The Department of Transportation has announced the planning of a four-lane highway from Red Deer to a point west of Sylvan Lake. This should certainly help as far as safety and of course movement of traffic. Highways in all the constituency are experiencing heavy use due to the heavy industrial and tourist traffic.

The town of Eckville is steadily growing and the residents of the area will be pleased that the Depart-

ment of Hospitals and Medical Care will be receiving submissions for new projects after June 1, 1979, as they are very concerned over their hospital.

The town of Rocky Mountain House, situated at the doorstep to the west country, has experienced a high growth rate in the last few years. This brings added pressures to municipal governments. All the councils are very pleased with the municipal debt reduction program, which enables them to further benefit the taxpayer.

One of the largest gas plants in North America is southwest of Rocky Mountain House and is presently under construction in order that they can prill sulphur. This process will make the product more marketable and easier to handle for world trade, which makes it easier for the new Department of Economic Development to carry out its aims.

Mr. Speaker, the management of the east slopes area is essential. The pressures this area is receiving have to be dealt with very carefully. Each and every person in the province should have space in order to enjoy his favorite recreation. After a considerable amount of public input, a policy for resource management of the eastern slopes is being drawn up which should be very beneficial for guidelines.

Mr. Speaker, I've left a very important industry to the last, and that is agriculture. Farming is the oldest occupation of civilized man. It always will be important, as human life depends on food production, and there is no substitute for food. Humanity has its roots in the land and may never evolve to the point where people can live abundantly, securely, and peaceably in cities. In Alberta's history the farm has proved itself as the one way of life that has provided those elements that go into the creation, conservation, and continuity of the home and the family. The newly purchased grain terminals and the plans to upgrade grain transportation, as well as the marketing of other farm products, are very important.

Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, as it is the Year of the Child, I think it is appropriate to read the following poem:

Children learn what they live
 If a child lives with criticism he learns to condemn
 If a child lives with hostility he learns to fight
 If a child lives with fear he learns to be apprehensive
 If a child lives with pity he learns to feel sorry for himself
 If a child lives with ridicule he learns to be shy
 If a child lives jealousy he learns what envy is
 If a child lives with shame he learns to feel guilty
 If a child lives with tolerance he learns to be patient
 If a child lives with encouragement he learns to be confident
 If a child lives with praise he learns to be appreciative
 If a child lives with acceptance he learns to love
 If a child lives with approval he learns to like himself
 If a child lives with sharing he learns about generosity
 If a child lives with honesty and fairness he learns what truth and justice are
 If a child lives with security he learns to have faith in himself and those about him
 If a child lives with friendliness he learns that the

world is a nice place in which to live
 If a child lives with serenity he will live with peace of mind
 With what is your child living?

[The House recessed at 5:16 p.m. and resumed at 8 p.m.]

MRS. CRIPPS: Mr. Speaker, it is with a deep sense of pride and honor that I address this prestigious Assembly for the first time. I have great respect for the democratic government this Legislature represents: government of the people, by the people, for the people. People involvement, from nomination meetings to election day ballots, has to reflect the pride Albertans feel in their democratic rights.

It is indeed a privilege and an honor to represent the Drayton Valley constituency. I realize with humbleness the responsibility I have undertaken for them and the people of Alberta.

I must extend my compliments to the other two candidates for a vigorous and interesting election campaign. I thoroughly enjoyed meeting the people and travelling the constituency.

Mr. Speaker, I also would like to compliment the Lieutenant-Governor on his presentation of the throne address. Also I would like to congratulate the mover, the hon. Member for Three Hills, and the seconder, the hon. Member for Calgary Forest Lawn.

Drayton Valley is a constituency of 2,900 square miles of gray-wooded agricultural and forestry land, overlying deposits of recoverable coal, and the most extensive oil and gas fields in Alberta. Drayton Valley, a vigorous, thriving town of 4,500 residents, is the shopping centre for much of the constituency.

Inundated periodically with increased exploration and oil activity, Drayton Valley is hard pressed to keep up with supply services. The demands of transient workers, coupled with intense growth, have created "special town" status, but Drayton Valley has not been given "special town" status. The construction of a new hospital and nursing home is a continuing concern of many residents. I am pleased to say there is progress, but the town is waiting impatiently for construction to begin.

Heavy traffic and an industry that moves on wheels make roads problem number one. Needless to say, the resource road program announced by the Premier at Drayton Valley was received with enthusiasm.

Providing vast ranges of job opportunities, the oil industry is hard pressed to find trained workers. For this reason, the town is looking forward to building a trade and vocational school, with one section specializing in the practical trades of the oil industry.

Mr. Speaker, transmission of energy from the source to the consumer has been done in the past with little consideration for future development. As more hydro lines, oil pipelines, and gas lines crisscross Alberta, their placement affects future development.

In the early days of the oil industry little thought was given to accommodation of the future development of Drayton Valley. Efficient production was the paramount goal, and planning was a low priority. Now the town is paying for a lack of foresight in the increased cost of development that the maze of pipelines has caused. Subdivision design and development must build in costs for pipeline relocation which are

ultimately passed on to the consumer. Roadway and street construction are made financially prohibitive where relocation of pipelines is necessary.

Small towns such as Drayton Valley have neither the population, the tax base, nor the borrowing power to contend with this lack of foresight. A hamlet such as Drayton Valley was in 1953 could not be charged with the control of laying of pipelines in its vicinity, nor should they be charged with bearing the financial burden resulting from the existing jungle of lines.

Many small centres of Alberta are in the same predicament. They look to senior government to help in solving these situations and for guidelines that will ensure better future planning.

Warburg, a village of 500 residents, is expanding rapidly, with 28 new houses last year. Permits have been issued for an additional 100 in 1978. In 1978 Warburg installed a town water system. They are extremely proud of their senior citizens' home and of their progressive village.

Breton, a village of 500, is also booming. It has a modern 30-bed hospital, a new courthouse, and approval for a 10-unit, self-contained senior citizens' lodge. Breton is concerned with the poor conditions of roads in the area, especially 616.

In my constituency hamlets are important. While not having self-government, they serve the surrounding areas as if they had. There are 11 hamlets: Alder Flats, Buck Lake, Winfield, Buck Creek, Sunnybrook, Telfordville, Tomahawk, Rocky Rapids, Cynthia, Lodgepole, and Violet Grove. There are also many identifiable community centres, such as Genesee, Moon Lake, Easyford, Moose Hill, and Yeoford.

Being a hamlet poses a major problem. Most government funding goes to municipal government, with no recognition that hamlets have the same obligations and needs as a village. With the county seat often 50 to 100 miles away, hamlets have great difficulty in making these needs known. The street improvement program which recognized the needs of hamlets was much appreciated, and hopefully their needs will also be recognized in the future.

I must extend my appreciation and that of the Drayton Valley constituents to Rusty Zander, who served this constituency for eight years.

Mr. Speaker, I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the fact that many of my constituents have aspirations for self-government. The need for local autonomy is felt to be imperative to maximize the natural economic advantages of the area and to encourage balanced growth.

I am fortunate to represent a constituency which contains some of the most productive oil and gas fields in Alberta. Alberta produced 83 per cent of the total fuel production in Canada in 1978. The value of natural gas, natural gas by-products, and crude petroleum in '77 was over \$5 billion, which amounted to 22 per cent of the gross domestic product for Alberta.

The royalties and lease sales have made it possible for Albertans to have the lowest tax rate in Canada. The heritage trust fund is a direct result of this oil and gas industry. That's just good business management.

One of the little-acknowledged benefits of the oil industry is the employment opportunities afforded adjacent rural areas. In my constituency one thinks of Drayton Valley, but places such as Alder Flats, Buck Lake, Rocky Rapids, Easyford, Berrymoor, Breton, and Warburg have also benefited. Young men have been

able to develop viable farm units because of the off-farm employment opportunities offered by the oil industry.

Aside from the fact that the oil industry provides jobs for Albertans, the industry and the stability of government provide favorable investment opportunities which gave Alberta one-fifth of the total investment in Canada last year. The incentives program established by this government to encourage research and development is commendable.

Alberta energy policies must reflect present needs and ensure future supplies.

Mr. Speaker, agriculture is extremely important to my constituency and to Alberta. As a renewable resource it provides jobs for over 500,000 Albertans. Development of a viable agricultural industry in Alberta is essential. To this end agriculture should be treated with the same government funding as the oil industry in the development of product processing and secondary industry; that is, acting as a catalyst.

It is important that constructive action be taken in transportation problems, development of grain handling facilities, encouragement of export markets, tariff agreements, and north-south trade. These agricultural initiatives mentioned in the throne speech will be welcomed by the rural residents in my constituency.

The prohibitive cost of farmland makes it uneconomical to purchase for agricultural purposes. Mr. Speaker, the transfer of the family farm and the inability of young people to afford farmland are worries to many of my constituents.

I'd like to take this opportunity to mention Mr. Lou Hendrigan of Winfield who was inducted into Alberta's Agriculture Hall of Fame last October for his extensive research and experimentation on forages on gray-wooded soils. It is estimated that 200,000 acres of Alberta are gray-wooded soil. That's over 50 per cent. With the steady urban encroachment on the better black soils, the importance of management of gray-wooded soils cannot be underestimated. Since much of the Drayton Valley constituency is gray-wooded, I'm pleased with the recognition of its importance.

I would also like to extend an invitation to you, Mr. Speaker, and to members to attend the 50th anniversary of the Breton Test Plots on July 13. They were established in 1930 by the University of Alberta soil science department to find a system of soil management and fertilization on gray-wooded soils.

As consumers in Alberta we are fortunate that we live in an affluent society. Cheap fuel and food are the reasons for our affluence. In India 68 per cent of wages are spent on food, in Russia 40 per cent, in France 26 per cent, in Alberta 16 per cent. If two-thirds of wages were spent on food, as in India, it wouldn't leave much for a car, a television, a carpet, a dishwasher, a boat, a camper, or a holiday.

We have this consumer price index which compares food prices in dollars, not in earning ability. It might be of interest to note that in 1949 a quart of milk cost 16 cents and took eight minutes to earn. In 1978 that quart of milk cost 63 cents but only took 4.9 minutes to earn. Eggs cost 35 cents in 1949; 17.5 minutes to earn. In 1978 they cost \$1.06, but we earned them in 7.5 minutes, less than half the time. Sirloin steak was 95 cents in 1949; 47 minutes to earn it. In 1978 sirloin steak cost \$3.49, but it took only 26 minutes to earn it.

The average worker's purchasing power has increased significantly because of the efficiency of our

food production. An hour's labor — maybe I should say employment — will buy more food than ever before in history.

However, to maintain this enviable position we must continue to implement progressive programs for agriculture, thus assuring financial stability to the agricultural sector and assuring consumers quality foods at reasonable prices.

In all rural constituencies roads are a problem, and Drayton Valley is no exception. The motorized public is rapidly outdistancing our abilities to supply their needs. Maybe it's time we as a provincial government embarked on a catch-up highway program. Hopefully the resource road program will do this.

Two years ago the Department of Transportation established a highway clean-up program with the 4-H and junior forest wardens. I commend them for this excellent program, in which most of the 4-Hs in my constituency participated. The clubs benefit, and the government is getting good value for its money. The orange vests initiated this year not only made the 4-H clubs visible but identified them as part of a clean-up team all across Alberta. Believe me, these young people will never, never dispose of garbage on our highways.

I'm pleased that the Premier has designated a special caucus committee for water management. Every year there's more demand for water: irrigation, hydropower, municipalities and industries, even other countries are clamouring for water. The headwaters of most of the prairie water supplies are located in Alberta. Some control areas are in my constituency. Sensible water management is essential, for I believe that by the year 2000 water is going to be our most valuable renewable resource, equalled only by land. The interdependence of water resource development and other resource development is becoming increasingly evident. In many cases water resources provide the catalyst for resource utilization, and lack of water leads to restricted economic activity.

Water is absolutely essential, and planning for responsible management, storage, and distribution is of vital importance now, especially for future generations.

The Alberta assured income plan announced by this government will benefit many of my constituents and shows that this government is sensitive and responsive to concerns raised by citizens.

The financial independence, along with the usefulness, achieved by workshops such as the Beehive in Drayton Valley will give the mentally retarded a sense of achievement not possible before. The many volunteers who make these group homes and workshops possible are to be commended.

Another request by municipalities was for aid in reducing their debt load. Even if the Leader of the Opposition does take credit for conceiving the idea, without implementation by this government he would have been in the same predicament as Connie's member, one Joseph Addison, who conceived and conceived and conceived. We certainly hope you will conceive many more ideas, and maybe we can bring forth.

The \$500 per capita municipal funding has left most of my constituency's municipal governments with a surplus, which gives them a much needed boost and certainly wider scope for planning.

I'm pleased with the expansion of school funding, taking into consideration student differences. But

many educators are really concerned about our ability to have earlier assessment of learning disabilities. It seems that once a child is 3 years old early childhood services applies, but before that it does not. It's not a preventive social services problem. It doesn't fall under education or health. There are numerous programs tied to regulations, and if the problem doesn't fit, it just isn't an identifiable problem. There is a real difference between learning disabilities and the slow learner. The slow learner needs help, too, and is not getting enough individual attention where it really counts, in the primary grades.

The formation of a new Department of Economic Development is a welcome announcement for my constituency, which is a primary producer but is sadly lacking in secondary industry. It has exciting possibilities for an area plentiful in gas and oil and with abundant agricultural production. Government leadership in this area, coupled with local initiative, should be an economic incentive to secondary industry and an encouragement to small business.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to representing the Drayton Valley constituency and to working with the members of this Assembly for the next few years. I am sure they will be interesting, challenging, and rewarding.

Thank you.

DR. CARTER: Mr. Speaker, I stand here with a great sense of appreciation of the whole role and function of this total Legislature and especially with regard to the role and function of the Lieutenant-Governor and of the Speaker. As you know, I come from an occupation which is more than a little preoccupied, if not just concerned, with tradition and ceremony, and I for one compliment you, sir, as well as the members of this House, for the due care and appreciation which is given to our very rich tradition in this House.

Last week I stood on the banks of the North Saskatchewan at an historic site which is known as the John Walter museum, established in 1874 as a stopping and boarding house for those people who wanted to travel from the south side of the river to the north side. In that soft spring evening, I could look through the fan of the trees and see this very distinguished sandstone edifice, the Legislature Building. As one who had in previous years tried to pay attention in his social studies, I was then able to appreciate the significant setting in which this Legislature is located.

By the same token, as I stood there in the quiet of that historic site, as a historian I found my mind was also drawn to think of the people who travelled that river highway, the North Saskatchewan, and the people who came in so many other different manners to this great part of our nation of Canada: those pioneers who came here not only to build their homes but to build this province and to contribute to this nation. Obviously we owe much to the pioneers who came from other places in other times. It is also true that today, in the midst of our economic expansion, we have many more people coming to us from many parts of Canada and from other parts of the world who are indeed present-day pioneers. This cultural diversity is to be found probably in every riding throughout this province, but is oftentimes more noticeable in our urban areas, and Calgary Millican is absolutely no exception.

Calgary Millican is the largest geographic riding within the city of Calgary. While it is not the largest in terms of voting members, if you were to scratch the riding at noon hour on any working day, you would probably find upwards of one-third or one-quarter of the total population of the city of Calgary within the confines of the riding.

Calgary Millican stretches from Prince Island on the north along the Bow River, and then it seems to stretch for ever and ever, if you want to walk it during election time.

AN HON. MEMBER: At 40 below.

DR. CARTER: Running in 40 below circumstances. It stretches out to the southeast limits of the city of Calgary.

You could describe the riding as being both aromatic and explosive. Aromatic, because we have the stockyards located in Ramsay. We also have the rendering plant, which on occasion has been known to be aromatic, in Ogden. Also, it is explosive because we have City Hall in one part of the riding and the CIL explosive plant at the other end.

It is a very diverse riding, one which includes the major part of the economic centre of the downtown portion of the city of Calgary. It also includes Chinatown, City Hall, Victoria Park. Whenever you come to visit the greatest show on earth, otherwise known as the Calgary Stampede, you are coming to pay a visit to Calgary Millican.

There's the older section of Ramsay. John Zaozirny, the Member for Calgary Forest Lawn, and I share parts of the historic site known as Fort Calgary. There's also the south portion of Dover, Ogden, Millican, the Foothills industrial estates, and the Bonnybrook industrial area as well.

That great mosaic is composed not only of people but of diverse interests. This very challenging riding which I seek to represent guarantees that I have to do all the reading that floats across this desk in the Legislature.

Again, within that riding there are obviously tremendous numbers of people. The housing explosion which is going on has not only started in the southeast part of Calgary, which is part of this riding, but in the next number of years before the next provincial election — hopefully being in at least four years — another approximately 15,000 people will be resident in this riding. This obviously puts many pressures on the riding, especially in terms of education. There's a great lack of day care facilities, as well as of educational facilities. For example, no senior high school is located in all of that large riding.

It is a riding which includes not only children, young people, and young working people who have come in terms of this new migration primarily from Ontario and the maritimes, but a tremendous number of senior citizens, most of whom are located in the central part of the riding in the fringes of the downtown area. As previously mentioned, it is an area which has City Hall. The new redevelopment process which has been mooted for the city of Calgary obviously affects four square blocks in a very important part of this riding, with all the headaches involved in terms not only of design but of relocation of people who have been resident there for a large number of years.

Another aspect of my riding is very interesting. It's

the part of town known as "the strip". That is indeed a very interesting part of the town. It gives certain areas of concern with regard to policing, but it is also one of the more colorful parts of that interesting riding known as Calgary Millican.

I would like to make one or two comments with regard to the Speech from the Throne, starting with the Banff Centre. I am very appreciative of the fact that the Banff Centre will operate on a year-round basis because, as the hon. Member for Banff-Cochrane so well knows, it is a very dynamic and interesting program of not only provincial reputation, but national and international.

The hon. Member for Banff-Cochrane mentioned this afternoon that there is overcrowding in Banff. I suppose this is one of the defects of the Banff Centre's operation. Last summer I was there for six weeks on course, working under W.O. Mitchell and Irving Layton. One of the great problems experienced at the Banff Centre is the overcrowding in the students' quarters during the summer. Nevertheless the Banff Centre is one of the stars in the crown, if you will, of the educational system of Alberta.

With regard to Housing and Public Works, I must commend with others here the institution — actually the enlargement — of the pioneer home repair program. This is one of those instances where the government has made its promises and is now prepared to fulfil those commitments. That is one of the reasons this government is held in such high respect throughout this province. But this pioneer home repair program is indeed commendable because it encourages people to maintain not only their self-sufficiency but their self-respect, as they are able to continue with their independence. That is exceedingly important, as any of you know who have had any dealings whatsoever especially with senior citizens.

Alberta Heritage Savings Trust funds are to be allocated towards an Alberta heritage foundation for medical research, which is indeed most commendable. The announced program will give encouragement to many people who are either afflicted with a particular disease or who work to try to cope with a disease and its ramifications upon others. At the moment many Albertans are involved in medical research, and they should be encouraged by this program. As honorary chairman of the Lupus society of Alberta, I commend the medical personnel and workers who have given such dedicated effort and patience in trying to build up society's awareness with regard to that disease.

So I would commend other groups within the province who have also been involved with other aspects of disease within this province, and I am sure they will take heart from the institution of this program, a good example again of this government coming through with its promises. The other aspect with regard to that, of course, is that we look forward to the development of ancillary pharmaceutical and medical service laboratories, facilities, and production units in Alberta to employ other residents of this province.

With regard to the Alberta assured income plan and the aids to daily living program, I know that as many of us went door-to-door we came across handicapped individuals, persons who are anxiously awaiting the placement of these programs, who are by nature exceedingly patient, but who are waiting for us to act. In the course of the campaign I had one group come to me, the hearing handicapped. They have a portable

device which you can place on the table, and when you put the telephone on top of the device there is a small print-out screen. You can then, almost like a typewriter, do the teleprint with your conversation. That is then taken across the telephone lines to the person on the other end, and he or she can send a message back. Obviously that takes much more time in terms of communication, but it is a very commendable device, very useful in terms of the greater communication that hearing handicapped people can have with one another. It also means that they have greater access to services, especially to the police.

Strangely enough, agriculture affects Calgary Millican in more than one way. As I previously mentioned, we have the stockyards within the Ramsay portion of the riding. So whatever happens to agriculture, especially with regard to the cattle industry, has an effect back in Calgary Millican, in spite of its being an urban riding.

I am very pleased to learn that the government has been able to purchase the inland terminals. Again I have to admit that one of the reasons I am pleased is that the inland terminal in Calgary just happens to be in my favorite riding.

With regard to the environment and public lands and wildlife, all of us here believe that the proper management of wildlife, the proper use of our environment, is indeed a precious heritage and in the fine tradition of the pioneers of this province. Just a week ago I was in the riding of Cypress with regard to a cemetery restoration and work bee. Seventy people were there for that work bee, and they came from as far away as Winnipeg, let alone Calgary, Brooks, Medicine Hat, and the Cypress Hills area. While we were there it was very interesting to be able to observe coyotes, moose, antelope, beaver, muskrat, deer, elk, plus all the wildlife known in terms of birds. That is a very interesting and precious example of what Alberta is, the fact that we don't need to go too great a distance from where we are now to be able to enjoy the kind of rejuvenation that comes, that kind of refreshment of the human spirit. Again I cannot help but refer to Calgary Millican, because we applaud the extension of Fish Creek Park east of the Bow River into Calgary Millican.

With regard to Native Affairs, I look forward to seeing what really does happen with the urban native referral program. I commend its institution and the fact that, hopefully, through the work of that program our native Canadian Indians will be able to find employment opportunities, will have great help in terms of seeking accommodation within our urban centres, and will have an easier facility with regard to obtaining social service. I think one of the little-known factors about native people in our inner cities is the fact they move on an average of three times a year. Obviously many times they are encouraged to move, because they are told to get out and get moving.

Within the city of Calgary, for example, the following tribes are represented: the Blackfoot, the Blood, the Piegan, the Sarcee, the Stoney, and a tremendous number of Cree not only from Alberta but from the province of Saskatchewan. When we do any kind of survey as to the numbers of Indian people in this province from other provinces, we realize not that just the white people are moving to Alberta because of new opportunities. So I would commend this government on the elevation of the Native Affairs secretariat to a

ministry.

Within Calgary there is a rather interesting development in education. It's called the Plains Indian Cultural Survival School and commenced operation February 1 this year. I believe it is located in the Premier's riding. At the moment this very interesting group has native students aged 14 to 20 years. One of the main thrusts of the program is not only to give them more formal education but to allow them to have a better understanding of their own culture. A number of native elders are brought in to talk to them and instruct them in such skills as treating moose hides. So if you'd like to visit that school I would not suggest you go during January when it's 30 below and the fans are not in operation.

Again, the Plains Indian Cultural Survival School is probably on the move, and may well be relocated in Victoria Park school, again within the riding of Calgary Millican.

With regard to Culture, I cannot say enough words of praise to this government and its previous programs with regard to culture in this province. I would especially commend the member for Edmonton Clover Bar for his previous portfolio and for his openness and support which was given to so many of us who are interested especially in historic sites within this province.

The matter of an inventory of archaeological sites is most commendable, and I think some of you fully realize that we have some sites here which date from at least 6000 B.C. An inventory of sites from more recent history is also an ongoing project worthy of our support. I speak now on behalf of the Anglican Cathedral Church of the Redeemer in Calgary, which was one of the first historic sites named in the city of Calgary. As I have worked there for over a decade with these people, I know that while we have a great sandstone building which is old in terms of this province — it dates from 1904 — nevertheless it is a small congregation which has great financial difficulties in the middle of a teeming city. So we needed the help of the provincial government, on a matching dollar basis, to be able to do just the minimal amount of maintenance work on that sandstone historic site.

I'd like to turn to senior citizens. Again I surprise myself, the way I am standing here commending the government for this and that. But I do it in all sincerity. Having worked in the inner city of Calgary for the last 10 years and been exposed to a number of issues and problems, time and time again I have found that government has been most responsive and most responsible. One can only commend the Alberta Housing Corporation for the manner in which it has helped make living conditions better for senior citizens. There is a need for senior citizens' residences within the areas of Ramsay and Victoria Park. Also I would express my appreciation for the fact that the renters' assistance program has been increased, again fulfilling election promises. Some people living in our senior citizens' accommodations and some senior citizens living within the general community still do not have proper furniture. An aspect of programs is that some of the lodges are able to help these people furnish their places. And there are some people don't seem to have enough money for a completely balanced diet. Certainly there are people out there who don't have sufficient money to be able to indulge in any extraneous frills. In many of the new housing ac-

commodations we perhaps need to look at funding a program in relations personnel to be able to help people combat loneliness.

Before I come to my final words, I would like to make a correction that the former Minister responsible for Culture was from Avonmore, not Clover Bar. I apologize. I guess I'm not used to having something to lean on up here to keep myself on track.

I have mentioned senior citizens, their hope for medical research developments, also their concern and their thanks for the housing projects that have taken place. But I've also mentioned loneliness. I wonder if I might introduce you to one senior citizen and then follow that by introducing you to another person of this province, a native Canadian. Forgive me for reading this poetry:

Cleanliness Next To Godliness?

Even at eighty Walter was a tidy man
his room was sparse yet spotless
his clothes threadbare but clean.

Each day at ten he slowly limped
along grey concrete clad streets
stooping now and then to pick up litter.

Last week's diagnosis read cancer.
Kneeling over tiled bathtub he sighed
raised his arm then pulled the trigger.

This one is entitled "Migration":

Leonard Crane is dead.
No softening poetic phrase
can ease the shock.
Leonard Crane is dead.

My springtime robin
my laughing Indian friend
with deep pooled eyes
that belied the shopworn life exterior.
Just days ago I drove past Leonard
and his friends shivering in December sun
they were serious — huddled against the wind
but Leonard's bronzed face laughed at life.
Last night, in alcoholic haze
he ambled home on icy Reserve road
a truck approached, swerved, smashed.

Leonard Crane is dead.
It is winter
The birds of summer are gone.

Mr. Speaker, I began with comments about our rich heritage in this province and that we owe the beginnings to pioneers who came here. The pioneers were, yes, white. But some of those pioneers were native people. As I stand here tonight, I am deeply cognizant of the fact that we as legislators are here to enable the process of continued pioneering in this province. And I know that all of us are aware that we, together with our fellow Albertans, are pioneers in terms of the tomorrows yet to come in this great province.

MR. L. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, on this my first address in the Legislative Assembly I would like to congratu-

late you on your position as Speaker of the House and, through you, all the newly-appointed cabinet ministers. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank some of the people who freely gave their time to come into my riding to help me win the election. I would like to thank the members of this government who have been so co-operative since I have been here in Edmonton.

Mr. Speaker, for those not familiar with the Drumheller constituency, and as it has been some time since there has been a maiden speech from that constituency, I would like to say that it is composed of an area from the eastern city limits of Calgary, east to the Red Deer River, and from the Bow River on the south to a line approximately from the Craigmyle, Rumsey, and Trochu area. It takes in about one-third of the municipal district of Rocky View, almost all the county of Wheatland, about half of the municipal district of Kneehill, all the municipal district of Starland, LID 7 and a portion of the special areas to the east.

The area, Mr. Speaker, is mainly grain farming with a small fringe area of ranching on the eastern edge and northern edge. In fact I would say that over 80 per cent of the Drumheller constituency consists of dryland grain farming. I'm sure, and I may be challenged on this one, that the Drumheller consist . . . consist . . . I'll get it pretty soon. The Drumheller riding [laughter] has to rank as one of the highest, if not the highest grain producing constituencies in Alberta. I may be challenged on that; I hope I am.

On the west side of the riding, the Western Irrigation District extends from Calgary about 50 miles east to a village called Standard. In the southeast corner, the Eastern Irrigation District cuts into the riding in what we call the north Gem area. So we have a variety of farming and ranching. We also have a variety of ways of life, from the small holdings in the Rocky View area, to the irrigation farms, to the large dryland farms, to the ranches in the special areas of the eastern part. The area consists of nine villages; many hamlets; two towns, Gleichen and Strathmore; and one city, Drumheller, which is in the centre.

I suppose almost everybody in this Legislative Assembly knows by now that the city of Drumheller was at one time the coal mining centre of the valley. Only one mine is left. The main industry now is agriculture, with gas and oil the secondary industry. The Drumheller valley itself has a very high tourist industry, with many thousands of visitors coming each year to view the Badlands and the Dinosaur Valley, as we call it.

Toward the Calgary area and just within the county of Wheatland, we have a large Cominco fertilizer plant which is a great asset to the county of Wheatland. We also have two quite large gas plants, one at Chancellor and one at Hussar. The one at Chancellor is a small cracking plant; the one at Hussar is a compressor plant on the trans-canada pipelines. There are numerous other small gas compressor plants scattered throughout the area. This year they're drilling some 500 gas and oil wells in the Hussar and Drumheller fields, so there will be some activity in the gas and oil industry.

Mr. Speaker, my concerns as an elected representative from the Drumheller area consist mainly of the lack of industry in the valley itself. I believe this can be helped considerably by trying to increase tourism in the valley. The valley is a very high tourist attraction. I

don't believe it is being used to its full potential, due mainly to the fact that there is no north-south road from Highway No. 1 to Drumheller. Anybody coming from Highway No. 1 has to drive a long way out of way just to get into the valley. I feel that the extension of Highway 956 to No. 1, and on south through Lomond to Highway No. 3 would greatly increase tourism into the valley. At the same time it would be beneficial not only for local grain transportation and marketing, but it would also be very good for marketing our rapeseed. All our rape from this area must go to the crushing plant in Lethbridge. At the present time there is no north-south paved road, secondary or primary, from Highway 36 at Brooks in the east to Highway 24 near Calgary in the west.

Another addition to tourism in the valley would be the extending of a tourist road down the river from East Coulee on the old, abandoned CP Rail line. This would cost very little, and the valley is a pretty area that has never been opened up due to the fact that there has never been a road. I believe this could become a very fine road. Tourists could start in Drumheller at the Dinosaur Trail, work their way down the river through East Coulee to Highway 36 at Finnegan, on down to the provincial park at Steepleville, and back to the No. 1 at Brooks. Not only would this give the tourists a chance to see a great deal more of one of our major tourist attractions, it would also give some much-needed camping areas along the Red Deer River valley. Mr. Speaker, one thing we are very short of in the Drumheller riding is any type of summer recreational facilities. We have only one small park at Fish Lake and another small park on the Bow River south of Carseland, so there is a great need for summer recreation and picnic areas in the constituency.

My other concern, Mr. Speaker, is the lack of year-round industry in the valley. It is good to see that under the policies of this government our small, rural centres have experienced remarkable growth, but it is a concern to me when the only city in the riding does not enjoy the same rate of growth. In the next few years I would like to see the government try to encourage some type of industry in the valley. The only mine left at East Coulee is gradually closing, and it would be beneficial to have something to take its place year-round and keep our young people in the valley and at work.

As for health care, Mr. Speaker, in the constituency we have one health care centre. It consists of a 75-bed general hospital in Drumheller, a 30-bed auxiliary hospital, and an 80-bed nursing home. This is the only health care facility in the entire constituency. The Drumheller hospital is the largest hospital in the eastern district and draws many major operations from eastern areas. It is therefore imperative not only for my constituency but for the area east of Drumheller that the hospital be well equipped and adequate to meet the needs of the people. The western portion of the constituency around Strathmore is a very rapidly growing area, and at some future date we're going to have to have some type of health care facility. I believe a combination of an auxiliary and small nursing home with an emergency unit would be feasible, with its close proximity to Calgary.

Along the southern border of the constituency, Mr. Speaker, the Bow River cuts the Blackfoot Indian Reserve approximately down the middle. The northern half of this reserve is in my area and contains about

two-thirds of the Indian population. Mr. Speaker, although the Indian people come under the jurisdiction of the federal government, I really feel there is a great need on the reserve for housing. Having read the federal policy for housing on Indian reserves and having had it explained to me, I can see where it is very difficult for native people to obtain enough collateral to build a house, because they cannot mortgage the property upon which it sits. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, in my tenure of office as an MLA for the constituency, I would like to investigate ways of supplying the Indian people with lodges for their senior citizens similar to those supplied to all other Albertans. I believe it is only right that the Indian people enjoy the same privileges in their old age as all other Albertans.

In regard to education, Mr. Speaker, I would like to see some kind of community college in Drumheller. Again I do not see it starting with a large building program, but some kind of community college that would utilize the buildings and facilities that already exist and maybe have some type of association with other colleges such as Mount Royal. In a large rural riding such as Drumheller it is very difficult for our children and young people to obtain an advanced education without going to Calgary or Edmonton, which becomes very expensive for their parents. I believe it would better to have some sort of community college within the constituency itself for the use of those people living in the eastern areas of this province.

These are just a few of my concerns, Mr. Speaker, and some of the things I intend to strive for in the next four years.

One other concern is the extremely rapid growth within the town of Strathmore due to its close proximity to Calgary. This rapid growth, coupled with the fact that Strathmore has no industrial assessment base, has made it very difficult in the past for the town to finance the facilities and services necessary for this rapid growth. I am very pleased to see that under the new formula proposed for unconditional grants, which takes into consideration this lack of industrial assessment and the rapid growth factor, Strathmore's assistance will be up 103 per cent from what it was before.

I'd like to look at the agriculture industry for just a second. I am also concerned about the high price of land compared to the price of grain. For example, in 1948 the elevator price for No. 1 wheat was \$1.53 a bushel, and land in our area sold for \$15 to \$35 per acre. This sounds like a bargain price today, but it took some of those farmers 15 to 20 years to pay for it at 6 per cent interest. I happen to be one of them. It looks less like a bargain today when we see that same land selling for \$450 to \$550 an acre and wheat at \$3 a bushel.

To make matters even worse, the devaluation of our dollar has put the farmers in a position where they have to pay an extremely high price for their land, while to foreign investors from countries like West Germany it is still a very good investment due to the exchange on their money. My concern in this area is for the survival of the family farm. I feel, as most farmers do, that the family farm is the absolute backbone of the agriculture industry in North America.

My other concern is that, I suppose, of every other farmer in western Canada, the fact that the farming

industry has been unable to convince the federal government of the importance of the grain industry, not only to western Canada and the prairie provinces but to all of Canada. It has resulted, Mr. Speaker, in a slow and steady deterioration of our grain handling and transportation facilities on the west coast. This in turn has been very costly to the grain industry over the years, not only in demurrage costs but also in the loss of markets.

Again I am very pleased that in Alberta we have a government that understands the importance of the grain industry in Canada and has decided to play a leading role to try to remedy the situation. In taking the lead in the upgrading of the port of Prince Rupert and the purchase of the government elevators here in Alberta, this government has shown it is concerned and willing to help. It is gratifying to know that not only is it concerned and willing, but it has the personnel with which to set it up. Thanks to the Heritage Savings Trust Fund it also has the financial capability with which to carry it out.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I would like to say how pleased I am to be part of the government of this great province of ours. In my experience in municipal government and on the various boards to which I have been appointed, I have found that the most effective and beneficial were those that worked together in a sense of co-operation, at the same time understanding that co-operation is a two-way street. It is therefore with great pride and in that spirit of co-operation that I take my seat among you.

Thank you very much.

MR. WEISS: Mr. Speaker, it is an honor and privilege to be part of this 19th Legislature of the province of Alberta. I represent the people of Lac La Biche-McMurray, which is the largest and, I believe, the most dynamic constituency in the province of Alberta.

I would like to apologize, Mr. Speaker, for the lack of congratulatory innuendoes I might pass on this evening because, representing the largest constituency in Alberta, I have only half an hour to do it in. If I'm going to congratulate every one of you, I just won't have the time. But I would like to pass on a thank you to Mr. Notley and Mr. Mandeville for attending tonight. I do have a captive audience; you are not. I appreciate it, and I thank you. If you get up and leave though, I reserve the right to take the thank you back.

Mr. Speaker, I was informed earlier this evening that I am the first McMurray-ite to represent their community and the McMurray constituency and to be here to deliver this address to you tonight. My constituency is located in the northeast corner of Alberta, and a large corner it is. It stretches from the border with the Northwest Territories some 400 miles south, and from the Saskatchewan border east, 150 miles at points. The Lac La Biche-McMurray constituency is very diverse in landscape and terrain. Fort Chipewyan is the oldest community in Alberta and is located on the Canadian Shield. It is in the northeastern end of my constituency, on the beautiful shores of Lake Athabasca.

Approximately 180 miles southeast of Fort Chip is by far the most exciting town in North America, Fort McMurray. Not long ago Fort McMurray was a community of 1,200 people, nestled in the splendor of the historic Athabasca River valley. Mr. Speaker, as most Canadians — not only Albertans — are aware, the

new town of Fort McMurray has in recent years experienced tremendous growth. Fort McMurray truly is the heart of the Athabasca tar sands.

Some 150 miles south of Fort McMurray is the town of Lac La Biche. The Lac La Biche area is dotted with many picturesque lakes and farms. It also is the home of the [former] incumbent, Mr. Ron Tesolin.

Mr. Speaker, the Lac La Biche-McMurray constituency is not only geographically diverse; the people have different needs and objectives depending on which part of the constituency they make their home in. Because of the great diversity in the Lac La Biche-McMurray region, it will be difficult for me to speak on behalf of the constituency as a whole. Therefore I will have to speak for the regions of this large riding. There are areas of mutual interest and concern in Lac La Biche-McMurray, and a goal of all is to improve our quality of life.

Mr. Speaker, to understand better the special needs of the Lac La Biche-McMurray constituency one must look at the colorful history of northeastern Alberta. The Athabasca River and other natural waterways in the area attracted early explorers and fur traders such as Peter Pond, Simon Fraser, and David Thompson. In Fort McMurray 1978 was a very special year, as the town commemorated the Peter Pond bicentennial. It was 200 years earlier, in 1778, that explorer Peter Pond established Fort of the Forks, the site of the core of what is now one of the province's larger population centres, the new town of Fort McMurray.

This rich fur trade and transportation-based potential, Fort of the Forks, prompted the trader Moberley to establish a Hudson's Bay Company trading post in the early 1870s. Moberley built the east fork that year, naming it Fort McMurray. Even in those very early days of development, the Athabasca tar sands spurred a lot of interest. Natives would tar their canoes with the mysterious substance that oozed from the sand at Tar Island and along the banks of the beautiful Athabasca.

For many years Fort McMurray was a stable community, with a population of about 1,000. River transportation was still a large factor in the town's economic base. During this time of stability, research was being conducted to find methods of tapping the great pool of energy reserves in the Athabasca tar sands.

Mr. Speaker, as we in this Chamber are all aware, that research effort has finally begun to pay off. It's paying great dividends. Great Canadian Oil Sands is producing about 45,000 barrels daily of synthetic crude oil, and Syncrude will, in full production, be producing 125,000 barrels per day. An energy-hungry world has cast its eyes on the huge reserve of energy in these tar sands, and further development in this area is inevitable. The town of Fort McMurray has undergone tremendous change as a result of the development of Great Canadian Oil Sands and Syncrude.

In 1961 Fort McMurray's population was about 1,200. In 1967, following the construction of Great Canadian Oil Sands, the town population shot up to 8,000. In just 10 years the town of Fort McMurray tripled its population, to about 25,000 in 1977.

This second surge in growth was brought about by the development of the Syncrude project, one of the largest projects in the world. The problems of coping with this tremendous growth over the past 10 years have presented all those affected with enormous challenges. The government of Alberta in particular was presented with the challenge of providing leadership

and responsibility in assisting the new town of Fort McMurray to develop in as orderly a manner as possible. Given the tremendous pressure of supplying housing, roads, and services for those thousands of new residents, Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my appreciation to the Alberta government of the previous four years for its effort and demonstration of responsibility and understanding of the special problems of Fort McMurray.

Mr. Speaker, the Alberta Housing Corporation, an agency of the government of the province of Alberta, has been instrumental in helping to provide housing for the people of Fort McMurray. Among its contributions was the establishment of the Gregoire mobile-home park, providing mobile-home lots for hundreds of families. It should also be noted that a large recreational facility has been constructed in this mobile-home park.

The Alberta Housing Corporation has also been involved in some way with most phases of development in Fort McMurray. It recently turned over a 3.5 acre plot of land to the community for \$1 to enable them to construct a new RCMP headquarters, which is well under construction. The parcel of land was valued at \$400,000.

Mr. Speaker, it is my hope that our government will work over the next four years to provide adequate housing at a reasonable cost in Fort McMurray and area. A lot has been accomplished in terms of providing housing in Fort McMurray, and although we can take some pride in this, we must be vigilant in maintaining our concern for this problem. The Syncrude boom may almost be over, but we are faced with many more years of rapid, unpredictable growth.

Recent studies indicate the town of Fort McMurray will have a population of 35,000 by 1985. Mr. Speaker, the expansion of Great Canadian Oil Sands and Syncrude and a third plant looming in the near future will maintain the dynamic growth of the area. The A1-sands project has applied to build a third oil sands plant north of Fort McMurray, not far from Fort MacKay. The possible construction of a community of 12,000 near the site of the proposed Alsands project presents many great challenges, and the planning needed for orderly development must be maintained.

Mr. Speaker, another important aspect associated with a huge growth rate is what we commonly call people problems. This area of concern is perhaps the most vital, because people are the most valuable resource we have. Some say Fort McMurray is a young town; indeed it is, with the average age being 26 years. In 1977, 35 per cent of the work force in Fort McMurray was employed in the construction industry. Last year that figure dropped to just over 18 per cent. However, this still represents twice the normal rate of construction workers in the work force of an urban population.

Mr. Speaker, one problem often associated with transient population is the abuse of alcohol. The Alberta Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Commission has been established in Fort McMurray for some time now and has made an admirable effort to give counselling to those who have a problem with alcohol. I was pleased to hear His Honour Mr. Steinhauer, in the Speech from the Throne, tell those assembled here that the Alberta Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Commission will be opening and operating a detoxification centre in Fort

McMurray. This is another step in the right direction in coping with Fort McMurray's social problems, which we are not immune to as well.

Mr. Speaker, the development of recreation facilities and recreation areas in my constituency is extremely important and vital. The development of such facilities gives energetic young people an opportunity to participate in sports and other activities. To be quite frank, that can help them to keep away from getting into trouble with alcohol or drug abuse.

Several recreation projects have been completed or are nearing completion. The most significant being the McDonald Island recreation complex worth close to \$4 million. Mr. Speaker, it is my hope that our government will give careful consideration to pursuing outdoor recreation areas in my constituency. I include in this desire the much needed development of acreages in the McMurray region, and I will stress and work hard to see this become a reality.

Mr. Speaker, my constituents look forward to the opportunity to develop a viable tourist industry. Northeastern Alberta is unique in many ways, and the recreation potential of Lac La Biche-McMurray must not be overlooked — for the benefit of all Albertans, not just Lac La Biche-McMurray.

Another difficulty associated with my constituency's tremendous growth rate is that of bringing services to the people. Private industry has been working for the past few years at a frantic pace to provide adequate shopping facilities. Two multimillion dollar shopping malls have been completed in Fort McMurray, giving the residents a wide variety of stores and services. The Alberta government is heavily involved in providing services in my constituency. Senior citizen homes have now been completed in Lac La Biche and Fort McMurray, and one is presently being built in Plamondon. A \$41 million regional hospital for northern Alberta is well on its way; the government should be commended for this ongoing step. The first phase of the new hospital will provide 150 hospital beds and, if required by future development, the facility can be expanded to 300 beds. That's positive thinking.

Mr. Speaker, the provision of educational facilities is vital to any community, and in my constituency the challenge to keep up with a large growth in population has been met head on. Several schools have been built in recent years in Fort McMurray. With the town's population still getting larger every day, we must continue to plan ahead to avoid a possible situation of too many students and not enough classrooms. While most centres report a decline in enrolments in their schools, we have had an increase — certainly a unique situation in the province.

Mr. Speaker, my constituency is home for one of North America's most unique community colleges, Keyano College. Keyano offers a variety of programs. An industrial worker course and a heavy equipment operator class are but two of its most unique programs. Here too we have seen the need for expansion. A \$21 million reconstruction phase, including a 600-seat theatre which will be shared by the community, has now been started, is being worked on every day that I am not there, and will continue until it's completed in 1982. I also anticipate that our government will work to ensure the successful re-establishment of the Alberta Vocational College in Lac La Biche, along with upgraded hospital facilities.

Mr. Speaker, turning to another area of concern in

my constituency, I would like to express my appreciation to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police for a job well done. The crime rate is one regrettable consequence of the dynamic growth in my constituency. Although the job of policing in the Lac La Biche-McMurray riding has been maintained during the past few years, much remains to be done in crime prevention and the rehabilitation of those who have wandered from the legal boundaries of our society. I was encouraged to hear plans in the Speech from the Throne for emphasizing on the therapeutic value of steady work for convicted offenders. The construction of a forestry camp near Fort McMurray and another in the Lac La Biche area will allow inmates from northeastern Alberta to be employed near their homes and families, and should help in the successful rehabilitation of such offenders.

Mr. Speaker, another area of concern in my constituency is that native people be given the opportunity to be part of and to reap some of the benefits of northeastern Alberta's potential. Training programs for native people in my constituency have taken great leaps forward. The employment of natives by Syncrude and Great Canadian Oil Sands has shown a dedication to equality and human rights that our government can be proud of. But we must endeavor to ensure that the employment of native people in future developments is given the chance to grow. At the same time we must work to ensure that the native people in northeastern Alberta are not overwhelmed by the massive influx of people from across our country. The native people must be allowed to maintain their natural cultural identity — a very important facet.

I take note of His Honour Mr. Steinhauer's reference in the Speech from the Throne to the establishment of a select special committee of the Legislature to examine all aspects of fisheries legislation. Mr. Speaker, I believe our government can achieve methods of enhancing both sport and commercial fishing. Examining the policies and procedures of harvesting, processing, and marketing fish commercially will have significant bearing on the native people in my constituency, particularly in the Fort Chipewyan and Lac La Biche regions. If we can enhance the commercial fishing industry's viability, we will also enhance the ability of our native people to work independently, with the consequent pride that every person in Alberta should have, native people in particular. This has been home to them for hundreds of years.

Mr. Speaker, Fort McMurray is the major population centre in my constituency and the focal point of major industrial construction. Just how much major construction is going on in my constituency is evident in the current news release from the hon. Minister of Economic Development, Dr. Hugh Horner. It indicates that over half the major industrial construction in Alberta, including provincial government buildings, hospitals, warehouses, hotels, and general construction, is under way in my region. This total value approximates dollar revenue or dollars earned of \$9 billion.

As well as the numerous projects I have already mentioned, our government is preparing to go to tender for a contractor to build a \$14 million provincial building. The building will contain two office towers on a common base. One will be for provincial use while the other will be leased to the municipality, demonstrating once again the ability of governments

to work together at both provincial and municipal levels. A \$4.5 million provincial courthouse for Fort McMurray also is in the planning stage, with tenders tentatively set for the spring of 1980.

Mr. Speaker, if the Alsands project goes ahead as planned, by 1986 a \$5 billion oil sands plant and a new community could spring up approximately 55 miles north of McMurray. The next few years will certainly be active and busy for the residents of this part of my constituency.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great encouragement that I refer to the Speech from the Throne regarding the municipal debt reduction program. The program provides an opportunity for the two major population centres in my constituency to greatly reduce their financial burdens. The \$500 per capita means \$12 million for Fort McMurray and \$977,000 for the community of Lac La Biche. I am also encouraged by our government's consideration of changes to the unconditional municipal assistance grants to provide a more suitable distribution of funds among the municipalities, stressing more emphasis on the basis of need. This certainly would have a significant effect on rapid growth areas such as Fort McMurray.

Mr. Speaker, while I have presented to this Assembly aspects dealing with the major centre of my constituency, Fort McMurray, we must also recognize that there are several other smaller communities in my area with their own areas of concern. Next to Fort McMurray, Lac La Biche may be a small town, but it is the second largest town in my constituency and a very important and viable one. The economic base for Lac La Biche is agriculture. The town of Lac La Biche has great potential as a tourism centre, as there are 50 well-stocked fishing lakes within a 25-mile radius.

There are several smaller communities in my constituency: Plamondon and Wandering River in the south; Anzac, on the shore of Gregoire Lake south of Fort McMurray; Fort MacKay, north of Fort McMurray; and of course, Fort Chipewyan, located farther north.

Fort Chipewyan is Alberta's oldest permanent community. One of the greatest problems of this town of some 1,200 persons is isolation. Mr. Speaker, I urge our government to pay special attention to the construction of an all-weather winter road from Fort Chip south to Fort McMurray to enable the citizens of Fort Chipewyan access to other communities. Hopefully this all-weather road someday will become a reality and will not be limited just to winter use. This all-weather road has been developed as far north as Fort MacKay, but it still has a long way to go. The proposed name of this road is the Muffaloose Trail. The name is derived from the buffalo, common to Wood Buffalo National Park, and the moose, which is prevalent in the McMurray region. Every winter now for the past five years snowmobilers have made the trek up and down the Muffaloose Trail, which is a return trip of over 600 miles. Mr. Speaker, I personally snowmobiled to Fort Smith and back on several occasions, and back to McMurray and south to Plamondon. I have virtually snowmobiled from one end of my large constituency to the other, promoting good will and the hope that someday the Muffaloose Trail, as I say, will become a reality.

I would like to point out that trapping is still a way of life for many of my constituents living in isolated areas, and the use of a snowmobile for these people can be more of a factor in making a living than it is a

source of recreation. That is why I put the emphasis on the snowmobile, for it provides two facets, recreation and a way of living.

Mr. Speaker, as previously stated, my constituency is very diverse and very dynamic. A lot has been accomplished, but a lot remains to be done. The challenge of coping with rapid growth and ongoing developments will be ever present. During these four years, I must accept the responsibility of speaking for the people of Lac La Biche-McMurray. They have chosen me as their voice in the Alberta government, and I must not breach the faith my constituents have expressed in me by electing me to this Legislature. My number one priority for the next four years will be to give my constituents direct representation in government. The future potential of the Lac La Biche-McMurray riding is staggering. The challenges are many and varied, and I am prepared to accept them.

To put the priorities in order is difficult, Mr. Speaker, because it seems each concern is as important as the other. Prior to sitting here tonight, and listening to some of the other speakers in the past few days, I didn't think there was any other area to live in but Fort McMurray and Lac La Biche.

The population growth of the area will require particular attention to the provision of adequate housing at a reasonable cost. The provision of ample recreation areas must be pursued with vigilance. The struggle to provide adequate educational, health, and social services will continue to provide me and my government with very difficult challenges. Not only will the economic planning of my constituency require a great deal of effort by the residents of my constituency, but the input and expertise of our provincial government departments and agencies will continue to be needed.

Given the great potential of the tar sands, I compliment our government for its foresight. Again I refer to the Speech from the Throne, where it was announced that the Alberta government is planning a significant change in the organizational structure of the Alberta Research Council to bring into focus major research areas of importance in the province. By taking into account the research needs, Alberta will look ahead as far as 25 years. I believe our government is demonstrating the progressive thinking that will bring not only my constituents but all Albertans through this important period of development in our history, and we truly will be pioneers.

As the price of energy goes up on the world market, it seems the commercial viability of the tar sands becomes much more encouraging every year. The first world-scale conference dealing specifically with oil sands and heavy oil development will be held in Edmonton June 4 to June 12. This conference will demonstrate Alberta's leadership role in the understanding and development of this vast energy reserve. The Alberta Oil Sands Technology and Research Authority is heavily involved in oil sands research. AOSTRA's activity continues to increase with a number of experimental projects undertaken.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to the next four years as a participating member of this Legislature. When I look around me, I don't see any back bench. I see all seats the same, with an exception: yours is different, and so it should be. You play a different role. The opposition have the same seat as I do, and I think they can express their concerns the same as I intend to. I thank you for having the opportunity to represent my

people that way.

In closing I invite all members to come and see the beauty and splendor of Lac La Biche-McMurray. You may not yet have been to the great northeast, but you will. You may not have felt the experience of this thriving and bustling area of Alberta, but you will. A bit of the old frontier spirit is still here, and if you visit us you'll understand why I consider Lac La Biche-McMurray a very special place to call home.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DR. REID: Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for me to take part in the debate on the Speech from the Throne. I am following the member who represents the biggest natural conventional oil resource, and the speaker from the Fort McMurray constituency, who represents the unconventional oil resources. I represent coal.

First of all, I would like to congratulate you on your election as Speaker of this Assembly. I understand from speaking to you that you once practised your profession in the town of Edson, and therefore you know something of the constituency which it is my honor to represent in this Assembly.

As you can tell from my accent, I am anything but a native son of this province or, indeed, of this country. But after living and working in west central Alberta's hills for almost a quarter of a century, I think I almost qualify as an old-timer, and I hope I will be a worthy successor to Bob Dowling.

Edson constituency is almost the largest constituency in the province, exactly the third largest. The size to an immigrant is quite mind-boggling. It's about 16,000 square miles, over half the size of Scotland. It's 200-odd miles from Howse Pass in the south to the north boundary, which is 50 miles north of Grande Cache, halfway to Grande Prairie from Grande Cache. It's 150 miles from the eastern border at Wolf Creek to the western border on the headwaters of the Smoky River, just at the back of Mount Robson.

To understand the constituency you have to know some of its history. It's an interesting history. It starts almost at the beginning of the history of the province. The David Thompson who was mentioned by the member from Fort McMurray is the same David Thompson who, in 1807, stood at the summit of Howse Pass and four years later stood at the summit of Athabasca Pass at the headwaters of the Whirlpool River at the Committee Punch Bowl.

For half a century after Thompson's explorations, the main route to the Pacific in this country went right through the middle of the constituency, along the Athabasca and Whirlpool rivers. They went over the top of the Athabasca Pass and down the Columbia River to Astoria, at the mouth of the Columbia River in what is now the state of Oregon. For 50 years after that initial exploration, as I said, this was the main route to the Pacific.

Subsequently other routes were found, the American railroads were developed, and the constituency area went into a slumber for a further half century, except for the surveyors for the Canadian Pacific railroad. The surveyors were wise; they suggested the railroad should follow the Yellowhead Pass. Unfortunately the Canadian Pacific railroad officers in the east decided to go by a much more arduous route — a story that's been well told in books, on television, and in movies. But subsequently wiser people decided to build another railroad, and that was when the slumbers began to

cease.

There were two influences on the next era in this constituency, which is up and down geographically and has been up and down historically. The second "up" was based on the initial tourism into Jasper National Park area, although it was not a national park at that time, and on the development of the railroad, which required coal in those days, and as a result the Coal Branch, southwest of Edson, developed.

Tourism was very different from modern tourism. It was essentially the affluent aristocracy of Europe and the affluent American who went to Banff on the Canadian Pacific railroad, and then took a pack trip which lasted anything from one month to six weeks along the present route of the Banff-Jasper Highway and thereby into the Jasper area.

Mr. Speaker, when I first went to Hinton in 1956, the era I have just described was coming to an end. The railroads had gone for diesel engines, and at long last there was an adequate highway into Jasper. Tourism vastly increased and became more populist in nature. None of the coal towns — and the names are somewhat like the ones mentioned by the hon. Member for Banff-Cochrane, places like Coalspur, Foothills, Mountain Park, Brule, Pocahontas — have any population left at all, with the exception of Brule. In many cases the townsites are almost completely overgrown. But they have a great place in Alberta's history, representing the pioneers of west-central Alberta.

When I first came here I had the great privilege of meeting and getting to know some of the original pioneers of that era: Fred Brewster in Jasper, the original gentleman of the mountains; Jimmy Simpson from the Num-Ti-Jah Lodge which, although not in my constituency, is just beyond its southern limits; an interesting gentleman called Adam Joachim, whose history should be written and has not been. He was a pupil of Father Lacombe. He was an Indian from the group which was originally in the Jasper Park area. They voluntarily left that park when it was formed and went to what is now the area of Grande Cache. Adam was going to be a priest. When his people moved into my constituency in the north country, Adam left the seminary and went back to be the connection between his people and the white man's civilization that was invading the area. Another old-timer was James Shand-Harvey, whose biography became the book by J.G. MacGregor, *Pack Saddles to Tete Jaune Cache*.

Amongst the coalmining immigrants — if that's the right word — I'd like to mention Harvey Switzer, who started the drug store in Edson in 1912. The drug store is still operated by two of his sons. Another son was the late Bill Switzer, the member for the Edson constituency in this Legislature when the Premier and his group first came in in the early 1960s and through to 1969, when Mr. Dowling replaced him.

Since 1956 we've had the other "up" of the history of the constituency. There's been a steady growth throughout the area: tourism, as I mentioned, has grown enormously; the pulp mill in Hinton; the subsequent coal developments again in the Luscar area, Sterco, and of course in Grande Cache. Agriculture even has a toe hold around Edson. But with a growing season of about two months, if you're lucky, I don't see it's got much room to grow.

We've actually reached the dizzy heights of having more than one person per square mile in the constituency. We're not quite approaching the Mill Woods

concentration, but we're getting there in places.

The communities in the constituency are essentially the four towns. Jasper has the same problems that the Member for Banff-Cochrane mentioned. It would like to be a municipality. Hopefully with the Minister of Federal and Intergovernmental Affairs and the Prime Minister-elect of the country, who also happens to be my MP, we will be able to get these people what they want.

Grande Cache: I think most of you are aware of its problems. It's a new town at the end of the railroad which some people say should never have been built. It's a one-industry town and has all the difficulties of such towns. The committee headed by the Deputy Premier has looked into its problems intensively, and hopefully with the opening of the Berland timber block Grande Cache will cease to be a one-industry town and become a viable entity.

Edson originally was a railroad and coal mine servicing town. It then became largely a governmental centre, but now again is on the upswing due to coal and to the tremendous oil and gas exploration south of Edson. With the advent of the coal mine at Sterco, Edson is once more a growing community. The only problem is that in spite of the original protestations by the mayor and town council of Edson back in 1912, the town is built on a bog. Any of you who have travelled its roads in the spring, as the Premier did, are well aware of the problem that community has. I'm sure the hon. Minister of Transportation, the Edson town council, and I are going to have some interesting discussions over the next four years.

Hinton of course is the perpetual bride. We always have another industry coming. Sometimes they come; sometimes they don't. It's an overdeveloped town in some ways, and underdeveloped in others. Apropos of the remarks about the aromatic industries in Calgary Millican, we can outdo anybody, but we're trying to cut it down.

The hamlets are in the ID, of course, and as with a lot of IDs that are developing suburbias, we have the perpetual problem of arguments about assessments and mill rates and taxes, because there is hardly any freehold land in the area. We're right in the middle of the greenbelt in both Edson and Hinton, so land that is available sells at a premium and is rapidly being taxed out of existence. I understand there are similar problems elsewhere and, again, the Member for Banff-Cochrane and I no doubt will be looking into those problems. The small hamlets are of course isolated by relatively vast distances in relation to their size, but thanks to the program of road development, at least they now have decent access.

Mr. Speaker, as you might expect from its history, the constituency is largely populated by immigrants. Some are from Alberta, some from Canada, and a large number of us have come from other countries. We live there because we want to live there. Those of us from other countries came for the beauty, the solitude, the peace that you can get only in an area of mountains and rolling foothills. Although we rely predominantly on the development of renewable and non-renewable resources, none of us in that area wants to spoil it in order to develop those resources. We want to leave what we have seen in a condition so that our children will appreciate what it was like when we came and appreciate also the way we have left it.

Most of us came to west-central Alberta because of

the opportunities and the freedoms available. The Alberta Bill of Rights engraved on this wooden plaque talks about rights but also about freedoms. A lot of my constituents have come originally from countries where neither rights nor freedoms currently exist. They realize how fortunate we are here. They realize that with those rights and freedoms go responsibilities, and if they do not exercise those responsibilities they may well lose some of the freedoms they have, because governments tend to react in many ways. If we look after our freedoms, we will not need legislation to enforce them. Those responsibilities are heavy upon our shoulders. It is the reaction to freedoms and responsibilities that enables us to have governments which do not take the attitude that they can do everything for us better than we can do it ourselves.

Parliamentary democracy from the time of Runnymede has been based on the fact that we are self-governing. Members of this Legislature must remember at all times that we are governing and legislating for ourselves. In the time we are here, we are not trying to leave a legacy of overgovernment, over-bureaucracy, and overlegislation for our children. It compels us as legislators to keep in close touch with our constituents. I must say I agree with the philosophy that our time in politics is a time out of our life, rather than being our life. I feel that we come here representing our constituents for their good, for our own good, and when we have done what we can do we should leave this Assembly and return whence we came.

Mr. Speaker, I feel that in the Speech from the Throne the main thrust was on people programs: in education, for the handicapped, in health, hospitals, and workers' health, safety, and compensation. This is as it should be. We are here primarily to represent and care for our constituents, especially for those who cannot manage for themselves in this complex modern society. For those people, in particular the handicapped, many of whom I have cared for in my profession, government has to take responsibility. We must be careful that when we do legislate on their behalf, we do not destroy the initiative and independence of those people. We must remember that those people cherish what independence they are capable of, just as our senior citizens do. We must be careful not to overdo it. It applies in particular to the physically handicapped, but it also applies to the emotionally and mentally handicapped. I would like to emphasize that these people want to remain independent. They try their damndest to be independent, and our responsibility is only to cover those areas where they cannot be fully independent.

The housing programs mentioned in the Speech from the Throne are of course of vital interest to a constituency that is growing as rapidly as the Edson constituency. In my own town of Hinton the cost of housing has reached the level where it is just as expensive as in the two large urban areas. The programs to reduce front-end costs and bring mortgage interest rates down where applicable are going to be very well appreciated.

I'd like to make comments about the new department of Workers' Health, Safety and Compensation. I would emphasize, Mr. Speaker, the sequence of those priorities: health, safety and compensation. It used to be the Workers' Compensation Board and nothing else. But with the increasing complexity of the chemical industry, the increasing mechanization and industrialization

of the province, we are entering an era when industrial health is going to be as much of a problem as industrial accidents. It may well be that some of the research funds in medicine will be applied to industrial illnesses.

In my capacity as a doctor, as a coroner, and subsequently a medical examiner, I've seen enough of the socio-economic disruptions that occur in the families of injured and killed workers. I feel it's going to be one of the major thrusts of this Legislature, and I think the new minister is going to have a busy four years, hopefully with my assistance.

In the case of Hospitals and Medical Care, I am intentionally going to limit my remarks to the Alberta heritage foundation for medical research. If I get into the other aspects I'll never get finished.

The foundation fulfils many a dream for several reasons. First, it's adequate to fund many concurrent projects. We're not going to have to stop one in order to start the next. Second, it's also adequate so there will not be the usual limitation on the term of projects. They will not have to stop prematurely for lack of funds. I'm sure, speaking medically, that many a time in the past, worth-while projects have had to stop for lack of funds. And third, I hope it's going to produce results which will apply not only to the present citizens of Alberta but also to the people of the rest of Canada, the rest of the world, and to future generations. I can think of no better heritage to leave them.

Mr. Speaker, in view of the ongoing and vociferous misconceptions about the study on tourism potential in Grand Cache and Willmore Wilderness Park, I am perhaps a bit foolhardy to mention the hon. minister's department, but I would like to support the project he has suggested, and mentioned in the throne speech, of putting recreational areas outside designated provincial parks. I think this falls well within the objectives of government I mentioned earlier: assisting but not taking over.

I would now like, Mr. Speaker, to turn only slightly away from people programs to the constitutional question. The policy paper *Harmony in Diversity* is an excellent document. As the hon. Member for Three Hills said in her speech, the title alone accepts the diverse nature of Canada, its regions, its multiculturalism, and the fact that you cannot expect in such a vast country so sparsely populated to have a unity of interests and society. It's an absolute impossibility, and it's well spoken of in that document.

It's quite compatible in a country like this to have a strong federal system in conjunction with strong regions. Those regions are going to be based on strong provinces adequately funded by their own independent resources. They are going to continue to be varied culturally, sociologically, and linguistically. I hope that when the constitution is written — and the Premier has heard me on this hobbyhorse before — it will be a document we can be proud of. I mean pride in the real meaning of the word. I hope it will be a document that students will read, that people will even memorize, and that will be quoted abroad. Nobody ever came to this country because they had read the British North America Act; people went to the United States because of the Declaration of Independence and the United States Constitution. I trust we will be able, with the present government in Ottawa — sorry, the next government — to write a document of the same great ideas and ideals.

Mr. Speaker, so far I've enjoyed my time in active politics. I enjoyed campaigning, in spite of the weather the Premier put me into. I've enjoyed the last two months serving my constituents. I trust and hope that I will enjoy my time in this Legislature also.

Thank you.

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, having regard both to the clock and the length of my notes, I beg leave to adjourn the debate.

HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

[At 9:52 p.m., on motion, the House adjourned to Tuesday at 2:30 p.m.]

