

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ALBERTATitle: **Tuesday, April 17, 1984 2:30 p.m.**

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

PRAYERS

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

head: **PRESENTING PETITIONS**

MR. HIEBERT: Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present a petition conducted on a limited province-wide basis and signed by 5,367 Albertans, comprised of 36 percent Edmontonians, 23 percent Calgarians, and 41 percent from other centres, in support of resolving the AGT/Edmonton Telephones dispute and restoring the telephone services and operations that existed prior to the current dispute.

MR. SPEAKER: May I ask whether the petition was submitted to the table staff beforehand and whether it's been signed by the hon. member? Perhaps we could deal with it on another occasion, but those are matters ...

MR. HIEBERT: It's my understanding that it was brought to the attention of the Clerk. I stand to be corrected on that matter.

head: **READING AND RECEIVING PETITIONS**

MR. STILES: Mr. Speaker, I move that the petition for a private Bill presented to the Assembly on April 16, 1984, be now read and received.

MR. SPEAKER: Does the Assembly wish to deal with the motion now?

HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

[Motion carried]

head: **INTRODUCTION OF BILLS****Bill 211**
Alberta Economic Council Act

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I request leave to introduce a Bill, being the Alberta Economic Council Act.

The purpose of Bill 211 would be to establish an Alberta economic council composed of representative Albertans, which would have as its mandate the undertaking of an economic inventory of Alberta prospects.

[Leave granted; Bill 211 read a first time]

head: **TABLING RETURNS AND REPORTS**

MR. KOZIAK: Last evening, during the course of study of the estimates of Executive Council, the hon. Premier made reference to a letter which had been written to me by Metis Local No. 301, from Little Buffalo, Alberta, and indicated at that time that it was a letter which, by its nature, should be filed for the benefit of all members of the Assembly. Subsequent to those comments, and recognizing that a document of this nature

should be filed during the course of a sitting of the Assembly. I obtained approval from the authors to file the document on their behalf and to indicate that there are two sides to the story in that particular area of the province.

Mr. Speaker, because of the significance of the matter, I've made copies so that all hon. members of the Legislature can be apprised of the circumstances at Little Buffalo.

MR. M. MOORE: Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to file the annual report of Alberta Transportation for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1983.

MR. KROEGER: Mr. Speaker, the annual report of the Alberta Water Resources Commission.

head: **INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS**

MR. ADAIR: Mr. Speaker, it's my pleasure to introduce to you, and through you to members of this Legislative Assembly, two people from the community of Little Buffalo. Glen and Madeleine L'Hirondelle.

This community was formerly known as L'Hirondelle, some years ago. Glen is the grandson of one of the original settlers in the Little Buffalo area. His grandfather was affectionately known as Josie, or Joe, and he settled in that area back in the 1900s. Josie, along with two other Metis members, Dan Calahaisen and Moisie Sawan, were three of the original Metis settlers to move into that area back in the early 1900s, as I said earlier. Glen and six of his seven brothers and one of his two sisters still live and work in and around the Little Buffalo area. Glen's father, Fleuri, passed away last May. He was one of the outstanding leaders of that community for many, many years.

I now ask Glen and Madeleine L'Hirondelle to rise and receive the warm welcome of this Assembly.

MR. SZWENDER: Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure today to introduce to you and to all members of the Assembly 75 bubbly and lovable grade 5 students from Delwood elementary school, situated in the heart of the Edmonton Belmont constituency. They are guided by three fine teachers, who tell me they have excellent morale at their school: Mr. Tymofichuk, Miss Dobrolige, and the incomparable Madam Szwender, related by marriage to the MLA of said constituency. They are seated in the members gallery. Would they please rise and receive the customary reception of the Assembly?

MR. COOK: Mr. Speaker, it's my great pleasure to introduce to you, and through you to members of the Assembly, 25 students from the grade 6 class at Mee-Yah-Noh school in the Edmonton Glengary constituency. I believe they are in the public gallery, and I would like them now to rise and receive the very warm welcome of the Assembly.

MR. MARTIN: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to introduce to you and to members of the Assembly some 25 members of the career development program at the Cromdale campus of Grant MacEwan. Accompanied by their group leader, Don Whalen, they're situated in the public gallery. I ask them to stand and receive the warm welcome of the Assembly.

MR. SCHMID: Mr. Speaker and members of the Assembly, Miss Antonella Ciancibello and Mr. Hugh Read have brought 40 students who are engaged in the English as a Second Language class at Bonnie Doon high school.

If I may be permitted some levity, Mr. Speaker, it recalls to me the time I came to Canada 32 years ago, not speaking a word of English, and was asked to fly by DC-3 aircraft to Yellowknife to work in the gold mines. Since a number of passengers on that plane were ill, the stewardess walked up to me and asked me something which I thought was whether I was ill as well. I shook my head. Everybody else on that aircraft got breakfast, and I didn't. [laughter]

Also, Mr. Speaker, you can imagine my thrill — one of the greatest thrills of my lifetime — when about six months later, at that gold mine, I woke up one morning and realized I had dreamt in English. I'm sure these students will do the same very soon. I know they will be loyal and great Canadian citizens. I ask them to rise to be welcomed in this Assembly.

MR. HIEBERT: Mr. Speaker, it's my pleasure to introduce to you and to members of the Assembly a gentleman who was involved with the petitioning committee, Mr. Chris Forbes. Mr. Forbes is seated in the public gallery, and I ask him to rise and receive the traditional welcome of the House.

head: ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

Abacus Cities Investigation

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct my first question to the hon. Attorney General. Yesterday the Attorney General indicated that he was not able to reply to my question with respect to an RCMP recommendation that criminal charges be laid as a result of the lengthy police investigation into the Abacus Cities affair.

My question today: is the Attorney General in a position to confirm that the RCMP first made this recommendation approximately a year ago and that the last meeting between officials of the minister's department and the RCMP on this matter occurred approximately two months ago?

MR. CRAWFORD: No, Mr. Speaker, that would not be accurate. The process that is under way, alluded to in part yesterday by my colleague the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, is a dual process. The Securities Commission had directed certain extensive investigations and, although there is bound to be a certain amount of crossing over — indeed, it's very extensive crossing over — between the police in their investigation and the Securities Commission in theirs, they are separate processes, for separate purposes.

The present standing of the matter is that the special prosecutions branch is completing an assessment of material which has been provided. I expect that will take another couple of weeks. I think that would be a minimum estimate of the time required to conclude an evaluation to the extent of providing finalized legal opinions, as distinct from the recommendations in respect of possible prosecutions that may or may not be in any report from the police force.

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the minister. In terms of the discussions between the RCMP commercial crime division and the Attorney General's department, when did this matter first begin? Was it in fact within approximately the last year, and did the department receive a specific recommendation approximately two months ago?

MR. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I think my inquiries of my staff into the matter were not directed at exactly the same matters the Leader of the Opposition is interested in. With

respect to time frames, I'm not able to be as precise as the hon. leader would like. I can tell him, though, that the process has probably had the special prosecutions branch and the principal members of the commercial crime division of the RCMP in Calgary, who have been carrying the investigation — probably the contacts and the interface of information and advice has gone on for a very long time indeed.

I think the hon. leader shouldn't perceive it as being a simple sort of one- or two-step type of thing that's involved here. It's not just a matter of the police producing a report and recommendations and presenting it. There is a continuing interplay between the two agencies for a lot of the time that one of these very large and complex investigations is going on. In other words, information comes on a progressive basis. The legal counsel make observations and further inquiries, and then perhaps the police themselves are redirected in the direction in which they have to look in order to examine the facts that would be most relevant to any potential prosecution.

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question. By the time frame, I would say that the information is coming on a conservative basis.

Perhaps I could ask the hon. Attorney General to be a little more specific. Is the minister saying that during the course of this period of time when information has come from the commercial crime division and is being examined by the Attorney General's department, there have been directives that more study be undertaken, further investigation by the RCMP commercial crime division?

MR. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I don't think I would speak of precisely what occurs in a specific instance and put time frames on it. I don't mind saying to the hon. leader that, as I hinted earlier, because my inquiries of my staff were perhaps not directed at precisely the areas he is interested in, I simply do not have — it's not a matter of not wanting to tell the hon. member today; it's a matter of not having sought the sort of specific information he's asking about in respect of time frames.

I meant to speak only of normal processes. In such a complex and far-reaching case, it would surely be the situation that there would have to be consultations between legally trained people and investigators, in order that the police could assess throughout, rather than just at the end of their work, the relevance and importance of the evidence they would be gathering.

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I'll follow that along a bit. Could the minister advise what policy considerations led to the snail-like pace of the department in the Abacus matter, as opposed to the supersonic, weekend review of the Dial file?

MR. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, if I could be allowed to refer to it, which I'm not, I now perceive the intent in the hon. member's questioning. We deal only with facts here. In responding to him, I of course do the same thing: that is, the Abacus case is well known, I think throughout the country, as being one of the largest and most complex collapses of a large and complex financial organization that has ever occurred. I can assure the hon. leader that if he would go so far as to suggest that any direction from legal counsel caused any of the delays, he is surely mistaken. It is the complexity and the difficulty of the matter under investigation.

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question. Bearing in mind that answer, could the minister outline for the Assembly the nature of ministerial briefings, in light of the minister's inability to advise the House yesterday that in fact

there had been a recommendation from the RCMP that prosecution be proceeded with?

MR. CRAWFORD: That's very simply done, Mr. Speaker. In the practicalities of the size of the organizations we speak of — the police forces and the Crown attorneys who advise in respect of these matters — the briefings I receive from the police, which are periodic and not regular, basically indicate the nature of the inquiries being made and the sort of quality of evidence they believe they're beginning to assemble, if not preliminary conclusions with respect to a particular investigation. If asked, they will always provide their best guess as to how much longer it will take. But that is not always a subject for discussion on each individual matter where a briefing is given. I think I've indicated to the hon. leader before that these briefings are not briefings on individual cases. In any single hearing, perhaps 25 such cases would be briefly sketched for my information.

What happens, of course, is that at some point the matter moves from investigation to a report and recommendation. Part of our practice is that, by the nature of the way the work is being done, that is not necessarily brought to me at once. The work is done by senior Crown counsel. It's part of the same process of getting it ready for a final decision.

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question. Given the wide press coverage of this case and the controversy surrounding it, has the Attorney General given any consideration to instructing department officials to move more quickly, in light of the precedent set by the Dial case?

MR. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I think it may have been referred to previously — I myself saw reference to it not long ago — that the views of the people who worked so hard in respect of that investigation, both in the police and in the department, after several years of investigation are not likely to be concerned over whether I'm able to say to the hon. leader today or next week what the result is, in other words, given the number of years involved — and I assure the hon. leader that the people conducting the investigation believed that length of time to be necessary — the matter of another week or so is surely not of critical significance.

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, could I ask a supplementary question of the hon. Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. Yesterday the minister took as notice my question regarding whether or not a certificate under section 167(3) of the Securities Act had been issued in the matter of Abacus. Is the minister able to answer that question today? Further, could the minister advise the Assembly whether any such certificate has been issued with respect to Dial Mortgage?

MRS. OSTERMAN: Mr. Speaker, it's my understanding that no such certificate has been issued. I'll have to take as notice the hon. member's question with respect to Dial Mortgage.

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the hon. Attorney General. Could the Attorney General advise the Assembly whether the recommendations from the RCMP relate to senior management or the outside directors of Abacus?

MR. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, in any matters where it becomes known that there is an investigation, my view is only to indicate that there is a process under way — and indeed an investigation — and that one way or another it will come to fruition in a timely way. To be more specific with respect to

individual citizens who people might be invited to speculate about if I were to answer the hon. leader's question, is something I should not do.

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

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

MR. NOTLEY: Then could the minister be a little more specific as to when the department will be in a position to respond to the RCMP recommendations? The minister said several weeks. Does that in fact mean two weeks, four weeks, six weeks, or several months? What in fact are we looking at in terms of a time frame? We all know the minister can act quickly when he chooses to, and he can also be very specific when he chooses to. Is he in a position to perhaps advise the House more specifically what he as the Attorney General has indicated in his discussions in the last few hours?

MR. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I'd be pleased to respond quite specifically to that by giving the hon. leader my best estimate. In other words, if hon. members will appreciate that it's not an absolutely binding undertaking, my very best estimate is two weeks.

Seed Cleaning Plant — Minburn County

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Agriculture, I'd like to direct my second question to the other member who has a firm grasp of agricultural matters, the hon. Provincial Treasurer. It's with respect to the seed cleaning plant in the county of Minburn. I don't want him to get into the debate over a replacement rather than a regional plant, but I am rather interested in exploring with the hon. Provincial Treasurer the policy of this government with respect to funding projects where a feasibility study has not been put in place.

MR. HYNDMAN: Well, Mr. Speaker, I just recently got in from the back 40 ...

DR. BUCK: You've never seen the back 40, Lou.

MR. HYNDMAN: ... and I'm not fully prepared with regard to that question. But I think I might be able to offer further comment if the hon. leader could be more specific as to what area of government involvement he's talking about in that financing.

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I can see that he's just come in from a tractor there. I would just outline to the minister the approximately \$400,000 the government has committed to this project: 40 percent of it from province of Alberta, 40 percent from the association, and 20 percent from the county of Minburn.

Mr. Speaker, my question to the minister is whether the government has in place any policy that a feasibility study must be conducted before we make that kind of investment in cost-sharing ventures of this nature.

MR. HYNDMAN: Mr. Speaker, knowing that the hon. member would want to have total accuracy in the answer — as would I — and in the absence of the Minister of Agriculture, I'll take the question as notice.

MR. NOTLEY: I'm sure he will.

Mr. Speaker, with his immense grasp of agricultural issues, could the hon. Provincial Treasurer inform the House what the policy of the government is, generally, with respect to public tendering of projects in which there is significant Alberta government participation?

MR. HYNDMAN: Mr. Speaker, I think that is largely a question for the Minister of Public Works, Supply and Services. Tendering is largely an element which is found within that department and a few others. Perhaps he would wish to comment in that regard.

MR. CHAMBERS: Mr. Speaker, with regard to Public Works tenders, the policy is to publicly advertise and tender. Assuming there are bidders, the job is then awarded to the low tenderer.

MR. NOTLEY: That's very nice, Mr. Speaker. That was a nice side step there.

However, I'd like to direct to the hon. Provincial Treasurer the question as to whether or not there are any rules in place that where provincial funds are made available on a cost-sharing basis with private-sector concerns, one of the conditions of public participation is open public tendering.

MR. HYNDMAN: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member will have to be more specific. I don't know whether he's talking about a Crown corporation, a board, an agency, or a commission. There are various rules and regulations with respect to each of those.

The basic policy is set forth in the laws passed by this Legislature in previous years and the regulations made thereunder. So in a general way, it would be impossible to give all that information in less than a couple of hours, and I'd require a couple of days away from the farm in order to acquire it.

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question. I'm sure the minister will have an opportunity to do that in the next 12 days or so. I would just advise him that I'm talking about the seed cleaning plant in the county of Minburn.

The policy issue is the one I would like some clarification on. To the minister's knowledge, are there any guidelines in place as to public tendering of projects, in this particular instance with respect to a seed cleaning project in Minburn but generally in whatever private-sector involvement the government considers?

MR. HYNDMAN: Again, Mr. Speaker, in order to be accurate with respect to the answer, I'll take the question as notice and provide one for the hon. member that will be complete.

Container Port Facility

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Speaker, my question to the Minister of Economic Development is with regard to a container port in Alberta, specifically Edmonton. Could the minister indicate whether that project is possible in Alberta, or proceeding?

MR. PLANCHE: It is possible, Mr. Speaker.

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question. I know the minister would like to advise us as to what kinds of meetings have been held. Has the minister dealt with persons in Alberta to further this project and make it a possibility in this province?

MR. PLANCHE: I'm not sure I understand the question. Of course, there has been a great deal of conversation about having

our rates as competitive as they can be from here to tidewater. At this stage the project is not site specific. There's more negotiation to do with the railways.

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the hon. minister. Has the department followed through with any type of feasibility study with regard to this project? If so, can that feasibility study material be made available?

MR. PLANCHE: Yes, Mr. Speaker, a fairly comprehensive study has been done. We haven't released it publicly at this stage because, in terms of our negotiations with the carriers, it's important that we proceed one step at a time without revealing a whole game plan as it develops.

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question. Could the minister indicate what type of employment possibilities would occur because of the implementation of this project? Are there any projections at this time?

MR. PLANCHE: In itself, Mr. Speaker, it won't be a very large employer. At the conclusion of the negotiations and the implementation of a port, should it come to fruition, we hope the decrease in freight rates will cause a great deal of employment. It will increase the competitive advantage of all those in Alberta who are shippers. But the port in itself won't be a very large employer.

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary with regard to export growth potential. In terms of the examinations the minister or the department has done at this time, has the export growth potential in Alberta made it possible for this project to proceed, or is our growth potential inadequate at this time and possibly in the future?

MR. PLANCHE: Mr. Speaker, the forecast growth of freight volumes west and east is done extensively and continuously by the department. The area of activity the container port particularly addresses is that of shipments by container. That revolves around petrochemicals, cut lumber, and agricultural products of great variety, so the future is very bright for all those in container traffic.

It's also important to notice that last year, for the first time, more goods were shipped from Canada into the Pacific basin than into the Atlantic. So the whole trade shift is on in Canada, and we're right in the middle of that activity.

MR. R. SPEAKER: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question. Would the minister consider tabling that feasibility study at the appropriate time? I don't think anybody wants to interfere with the discussions going on, but would the minister undertake that commitment?

MR. PLANCHE: The date is off in the future. I'd be happy to entertain the question again. When the negotiations are concluded, there will be no reason for it not to be tabled, although at that time it might not even be useful.

Loan Guarantees

MR. MARTIN: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct my question to the Attorney General. It's in response to a recent request to his department by a representative of Alberta's business community to curtail the powers of banks in enforcing personal guarantees pledged to cover a company's business loans. My question is: can the minister advise if any consideration has been given to repealing the Alberta Guarantees Acknowledgment Act?

MR. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, not at the present time. I'd be interested in the views of anyone who thought repealing that particular legislation would in any way assist them with respect to dealings with financial institutions. It is really there for the commendable reason of giving people at least some assurance that if a guarantee is to be signed, the person appreciates what he has signed. That's the whole purpose of that legislation.

MR. MARTIN: A supplementary question. Perhaps we can pursue this some more. As a minimum support response to reduce the onerous debt load potential for Alberta's small business community, is the minister prepared to amend the Act's requirement for signatory examination by a notary public and replace it with the protection for both parties to an agreement, which is offered by British Columbia's practice of independent legal advice?

MR. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, very often the notary's certificate is in fact completed by a lawyer and, therefore, is independent legal advice the person is receiving. It is of interest, though, to see that since numbers of those certificates are completed by notaries public who would not be in the same position as a lawyer to give legal advice at all, that may well be worth looking at.

MR. MARTIN: A supplementary question. Can the Attorney General advise whether any review was conducted of legislation in other jurisdictions in Canada with which to compare the Alberta Act, which I understand to be unique in setting out how courts shall respond to a lender's demand for enforcement?

MR. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I don't know what the hon. member is speaking of when he speaks of the legislation attempting to determine how the courts would deal with a lender's demand for payment. Obviously the document itself determines the rights of the parties. The legislation is directed only at seeing that a person has some warning, under that particular legislation, as to what he might be getting into.

The hon. member made one point which I think is worthy of examination — and I'm not able to tell him, by way of comparison with all other jurisdictions, exactly how it's done in other jurisdictions. The point remains that the idea of independent legal advice would indeed be a further safeguard.

MR. MARTIN: A supplementary question. Can the Attorney General identify those circumstances in the marketplace which require the continuance of this Act? I bring this up as it's my understanding that we are the only [province] that has an Act like this at this particular time.

MR. SPEAKER: With great respect, it would seem to me that this is a legal opinion. The effect of the hon. member's question is to ask to what occurrences or practices in the marketplace the Act applies, and that would be a matter for a legal opinion.

While I'm on my feet, and by way of exception — we don't ordinarily do this in question period — might I suggest that we interrupt the running of the clock to permit an opportunity to introduce some distinguished guests who have just arrived in my gallery.

HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

head: INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS

MR. LOUGHEED: Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to introduce to you today a most distinguished delegation from the People's Republic of China. They're visiting our province at this time to represent their country at the Great Trade Show of China, which opened this past Saturday, April 14, and which will continue in the capital city of this province until May 5. Alberta, and Edmonton Northlands, has been honoured by being the site of this exhibition, which is the largest of its kind held outside of China.

Mr. Speaker, with your permission and the permission of members of the Assembly, I would like to make the introductions in two parts, first of all to introduce to you the Ambassador of the People's Republic of China, who is visiting Alberta for the first time since his arrival in Canada in the fall last year. He is accompanied by his gracious wife. Mr. Speaker and members of the Assembly, please welcome His Excellency Yu Zhan, Ambassador to Canada of the People's Republic of China, and Madam Zuo Yi, as well as the Second Secretary. Mr. An Wenbin. Would they rise and be welcomed by the Assembly. [applause]

Mr. Speaker, as you know, Alberta enjoys a flourishing and very special relationship with the province of Heilongjiang in China. I hope the interpreter can make the comment, which is ad libbed, that I hope they notice the flags that are at all our tables.

Similarities in geography and resources between the two provinces provide the basis for extensive co-operation across a variety of areas, especially in agriculture, petroleum technology, education, and culture. Heilongjiang is being featured at this Great Trade Show of China, and we're very pleased to have this very senior delegation from that province with us here.

I'm pleased to introduce to you the leaders of this delegation. The delegation is led by Mr. Li Li'an, senior adviser to the government of Heilongjiang; Mr. Wang Yiaochen, director of the Heilongjiang foreign affairs bureau; Mr. Zhang, secretary of the Heilongjiang People's government; Mr. Cheng, director of the Heilongjiang economic research centre; Mr. Liu, chairman of the Heilongjiang Planning Commission; and my dear friend, who travelled with me for 19 days, Mr. Wang, deputy director of the Europe-America division of the Heilongjiang foreign affairs bureau. Members of the Legislative Assembly, please join me in welcoming to our Assembly this distinguished group. [applause]

head: ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

Loan Guarantees (continued)

MR. MARTIN: Mr. Speaker, that's the most enthusiastic response I've ever had in the middle of my questions.

My supplementary question is to the Minister of Tourism and Small Business and has to do with a similar topic. Can the minister advise on his department's policy on securing guarantees for any loans made to Alberta companies from government programs under his jurisdiction?

MR. ADAIR: Mr. Speaker, in relation to the information — I assume that was the question — relative to how the process evolves, the client always has the choice of their legal counsel or, in the case of AOC, AOC's legal counsel, and that is indicated to them. If by chance they should use AOC's legal

counsel, they have a witness there as well. So there is a witness besides the legal counsel for the Alberta Opportunity Company.

MR. MARTIN: A supplementary question. Specifically, is the certificate of notary public from the Alberta Guarantees Acknowledgment Act forced on business loan applicants, or is it different from the banks we've been talking about?

MR. ADAIR: Mr. Speaker, I would have to take that as notice, but I'm not aware of anything being forced on anyone.

MR. MARTIN: A supplementary question dealing with this serious problem. Is the minister prepared to use the influence of his office to lobby Alberta lending institutions for a less stringent practice of loans enforcement, as a means of easing the pressure on faltering businesses in Alberta and to restore some measure of confidence to the private sector?

MR. ADAIR: Mr. Speaker, I have a little difficulty with the intent of the question. Is it relative to loans, loan guarantees, or personal guarantees? I wonder if that could be clarified.

MR. MARTIN: Loans enforcement, Mr. Speaker.

MR. ADAIR: The private-sector business community that we live in — not just in the province of Alberta, Mr. Speaker, but in Canada and many countries in the world — operates on the basis that if you borrow money by way of a loan, then you have an obligation to in fact pay that back. That's in good times and in bad times. Certainly one of the things we have a concern about is the method, if in fact there is a difference in method between the good times and the bad times. At this point we have no evidence of that.

MR. MARTIN: A supplementary question. Would the minister follow up on this? We are getting some information that indicates the practices have changed.

MR. ADAIR: Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member has some information, I'd be pleased to receive it. I might say that the staff of the small business division of the Department of Tourism and Small Business keeps a very close eye on that particular area, as well as on any other area relating to small business.

MR. SPEAKER: Might this be the final supplementary.

MR. MARTIN: Yes, Mr. Speaker. Would the minister consider lobbying his federal leader about this matter? Seeing that the federal Conservative leader was formerly a director of the Royal Bank, he might give us some good advice.

MR. ADAIR: Mr. Speaker, if there is the intent to lobby any person, we'd be more than delighted to in fact do that. I should keep in mind that our particular principle at this stage is to monitor very closely the actions and reactions in the business community, to ensure that the best possible scenario is there for the businessman.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member for Calgary Buffalo, and then I believe the hon. Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs wishes to supplement some information that was sought in a previous question period.

Restaurant Liquor Licensing

MR. LEE: Mr. Speaker, being a Lee and considered part-time Chinese, it's a pleasure to follow on the heels of that distinguished introduction.

My question is to the hon. Solicitor General. Is the minister aware of a recent decision of the Alberta Liquor Control Board to change the closing hours for outdoor restaurants from 1 a.m. to 10 p.m., and is he willing to ask the ALCB to reconsider that decision, in view of the adverse impact on some 56 Calgary restaurants, many of which are located in the constituency of Calgary Buffalo, and some 120 restaurants provincewide?

DR. REID: Mr. Speaker, I understand there were some problems and some complaints of excessive noise from some of these outdoor restaurants, and it was probably that which led to the action of the Alberta Liquor Control Board in suggesting a restriction of the hours.

I think we all enjoy the privilege of eating outdoors in the beautiful, typical Alberta April weather we've been enjoying. It is a privilege, and I suppose we all have to take some responsibility with that privilege. Perhaps what I could do is take the opportunity at the moment to remind both patrons and licensees of that responsibility that goes with it.

I'm also pleased to tell the hon. member that I've already taken some action and discussed this with the members of the Alberta Liquor Control Board, and can assure members that, in 1984, constituents and indeed visitors to the province can continue to enjoy hours as they did in previous years.

MR. LEE: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Could the minister indicate when all quiet constituents in Alberta can expect to return to the original privilege of 1 o'clock in the morning?

DR. REID: As soon as we get the notification out to the licensees.

DR. BUCK: Check Stop.

MR. LEE: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. To avoid this kind of situation occurring in the future, would the minister provide for a preconsultative process — perhaps via the Alberta restaurant association — such that these kinds of matters could be dealt with amiably, rather than requiring a decision and then reconsideration of a decision?

DR. REID: Mr. Speaker, it is my suggestion that we will use the advisory council to perform that preconsultative function. The concept would be that prior to implementation, any changes that might affect the restaurant industry or the tourist industry in general would be reviewed by the members of that council.

Health Spa Membership Sales

MRS. OSTERMAN: Mr. Speaker, yesterday the hon. Member for Clover Bar asked a question related to selling health club memberships, and whether any complaints about the tactics being used had been registered with the department. For the hon. member's information, we don't have any complaints related directly to that topic. But I would ask if that member has information that relates to direct selling, door-to-door. Certainly the Direct Sales Cancellation Act comes into play there. If a concern about a possibility of misrepresentation has been registered with the hon. member, the department would be most interested in dealing with that under the Unfair Trade Practices Act.

Women's Issues

MR. GOGO: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister responsible for Personnel Administration. It arises from the annual report of the Public Service Commissioner, tabled in this House yesterday. With the announcement by the government — in Vote 8 of Executive Council, I believe — of a minister responsible for the Women's Secretariat, would the continuation of the women's program carried out by Personnel Administration be a duplication of efforts by the government of Alberta, related to women's issues?

MR. STEVENS: Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Advanced Education may wish to supplement my remarks. The new Women's Secretariat has as its focus the evaluation of policies, programs, and legislation that affect women, whereas the Personnel Administration office women's program is to assist female employees in career development, career orientation, and new opportunities for the public service. I believe the program that Personnel Administration will continue to follow will be complementary to the efforts of the Women's Secretariat.

MR. GOGO: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. I see that the participation for women, as a percentage of the total work force, increased some 10 percent and that the number of grievances has tended to increase. Of the approximately 600 grievances lodged last year under the public service relations division, could the minister advise the House how many were on behalf of women, if indeed records are kept as to the sex?

MR. SPEAKER: If it should happen that by some coincidence the minister has this information, perhaps we could deal with it briefly. It would seem to be a question of such detail, and relating to statistics, that it might find its way to the Order Paper.

MR. GOGO: Mr. Speaker, with regard to grievances lodged by employees, as a matter of policy does the minister keep records as to the sex?

MR. STEVENS: Mr. Speaker, I would have to determine that. I expect that the answer will be no; it will be on the basis of the type of grievance, the location as to department, and classification.

Sulphur Emissions Control

DR. BUCK: Mr. Speaker, my question to the hon. Minister of the Environment has to do with the Alberta government's decision not to participate in the group making a commitment to cut acid rain. Can the minister indicate what studies were done by the minister's department to not participate with the other provinces in the commitment to cut sulphur dioxide emissions, to lower the acid rain situation?

MR. BRADLEY: Mr. Speaker, I have dealt with this question previously in the House, but I could reiterate the conclusions of the ministers of the environment of the country. Basically, a target level of wet sulphur deposition of 20 kilograms per hectare was arrived at by the ministers of the environment; also, in terms of discussions with the United States, that this would be a desirable level to which to reduce sulphate deposition in the country. Since Alberta has been well below that level, it was not necessary for us to participate in a program to reduce sulphate deposition to this 20 kilogram per hectare level.

Over the last five years, I believe we have been monitoring this matter. Our levels have been averaging somewhere around 10 kilograms per hectare, which does not require us to reduce our emissions. We are well below the level which has been agreed upon.

DR. BUCK: Mr. Speaker, in light of that information, can the minister indicate what studies have been done in his department to indicate to Albertans and Canadians how many plants we can have in the Fort McMurray area before sulphur emission becomes a problem?

MR. BRADLEY: Mr. Speaker, we have the very extensive Alberta oil sands environmental research program, which was set up by our government and the government of Canada back in the early development stage of the oil sands program and which has a mandate to give us baseline data with regard to that specific. It's an ongoing program, and there are research programs designed underneath that program.

We are also engaged with the federal government and governments of the western provinces — British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, the Northwest Territories, and the Yukon — on a western long-range transport of acid precipitants research program, to which we are the major contributors.

DR. BUCK: Mr. Speaker, to the hon. minister. The question was, how many plants can we have in the Fort McMurray area before sulphur dioxide emissions become a problem?

MR. BRADLEY: Mr. Speaker, at the present time I guess I can only comment on the situation to date. I have described the wet sulphate deposition measurement, which is the criterion for a national action program. I have described that we have ongoing research in that area. It will be that research that will in fact determine and give us the information upon which to base the decision the hon. member is asking for.

DR. BUCK: Mr. Speaker, when will the minister be able to tell the Assembly, the people of this province, and the people of Canada, how many plants we can put in that area before, say, Saskatchewan's fertile land is affected?

MR. BRADLEY: Mr. Speaker, at this point in time, I can only comment that there is not a problem with regard to acid precipitation in the western provinces, being Saskatchewan and Alberta. I have described the criterion, and I have described that there is an ongoing research program in that particular area to get the necessary baseline data. Given the information we have to date, there is not a problem at this point in time. The research program is designed to give us the information the hon. member is requesting.

Seed Cleaning Plant — Minburn County

(continued)

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct this question to the hon. Minister of Agriculture. We dealt with general questions with the Provincial Treasurer, but I would like to ask the hon. Minister of Agriculture: with respect to the seed cleaning plant in the county of Minburn, can the minister advise what feasibility studies were completed before the government committed \$400,000 to this particular project?

MR. FJORDBOTEN: Mr. Speaker, since it was approved prior to my taking over this portfolio, I would be happy to check into it and report back.

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a supplementary question. During his review, could the minister also determine whether or not the project was subject to open tender?

MR. FJORDBOTTEN: I would be happy to check into that, Mr. Speaker.

MR. BATIUK: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary. Could the Minister of Agriculture advise whether the county of Minburn has the first seed cleaning that is going to be replaced, or are there more of them?

MR. SPEAKER: I wonder if that is information which is within the official duty of the minister to deal with or whether it's just a matter of research.

DR. BUCK: Ask the MLA, John.

MR. SPEAKER: If the hon. minister is aware of information he has in his department which is not generally available, then I'm sure he'd like to answer the question.

MR. FJORDBOTTEN: Mr. Speaker, could I ask the hon. member to clarify. Did he ask how many seed plants had been replaced?

DR. BUCK: Next month in caucus, John.

MR. BATIUK: Mr. Speaker, I asked if the Minister of Agriculture could advise whether other seed cleaning plants have been replaced in the province or whether it was just the county of Minburn. I know there is enough reason that the hon. Leader of the Opposition is concerned about Minburn.

MR. FJORDBOTTEN: Mr. Speaker, there are other plants that have been replaced, and I will be happy to include that information when I report back.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MR. HORSMAN: Mr. Speaker, with respect to questions and motions, I move that Question 165 and Motion for a Return 162 stand and retain their respective places on the Order Paper.

[Motion carried]

head: WRITTEN QUESTIONS

168 Mr. Notley asked the government the following question:

With regard to the statement made in the Assembly on Thursday, April 5, 1984, by the Associate Minister of Public Lands and Wildlife, and concerning the management decision to reduce the processing time for geophysical well site and roadway application approvals in the Footner Lake and Peace River forests from 10 days to three days during the period January 12, 1984, to January 26, 1984:

- (1) For the period during which the three-day processing time was in effect:
 - (a) how many applications were awaiting a decision at the commencement of the period,
 - (b) how many applications were received during the period.

- (c) how many applications were processed to the point of a decision being made during the period, and
- (d) of the applications processed, how many were approved, how many were returned to the applicant for alterations or other concerns, and how many were rejected?

- (2) Again with regard to the Footner Lake and Peace River forests, in each case for the periods December 29, 1983, to January 12, 1984; December 15, 1983, to December 29, 1983; December 1, 1983, to December 15, 1983; and November 17, 1983, to December 1, 1983:

- (a) how many applications were awaiting a decision at the commencement of each period,
- (b) how many applications were received during each period,
- (c) how many applications were processed to the point of a decision being made during each period, and
- (d) of the applications processed, how many were approved, how many were returned to the applicant for alterations or other concerns, and how many were rejected in each period?

- (3) Have similar management decisions involving a reduction in the processing time for geophysical well site and roadway applications been made since November 2, 1982, with regard to any other forests and, if so and in each case, during what period of time were these management decisions in effect and what was the period of processing time reduced to?

MR. SPARROW: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the government, we will accept Question 168.

head: MOTIONS FOR RETURNS

160. Mr. Notley moved that an order of the Assembly do issue for a return showing, with regard to the Luscar Sterco mine on Coal Creek near the Lovett River operated by Luscar Sterco (1977) Ltd. and/or Luscar Ltd.:

- (1) copies of all information, as the term is meant in section 18.1(1) of the Clean Water Act, received by the government from the permit holder for the mine, where such information arises as a result of monitoring undertaken by the permit holder between January 1, 1982, and March 1, 1984, inclusive;
- (2) copies of the results of any and all water sample tests undertaken by officials of, employees of, or persons acting on behalf of either the fish and wildlife division of the Department of Energy and Natural Resources or the pollution control division of the Department of the Environment, where the water samples were taken from the Lovett River at a site or sites near the mine between January 1, 1982, and March 1, 1984, inclusive, and specifically including such water sample test results where those results measured
 - (a) unusually heavy siltation and/or the major constituent substances in the silt measured,
 - (b) flocculation and the nature of the flocculants sampled, and
 - (c) the incidence of other substances otherwise foreign to the river in the concentrations found, and,
- (3) copies of any certificates of variance, water quality control orders, or stop orders issued by the Minister of the Environment under the Clean Water Act to the permit holder for the mine, where such certificates or orders were issued

with an effective date between January 1, 1982, and March 1, 1983, inclusive.

[Motion carried]

161. Mr. Notley moved that an order of the Assembly do issue for a return showing:

- (1) copies of the directive issued on March 25, 1983, to Luscar Sterco (1977) Ltd. and/or Luscar Ltd. as a result of the meeting between officials of the pollution control division of the Department of the Environment and officials of the company on March 22, 1983; and
- (2) copies of any other similar directives issued to the company from the time of the commissioning of the Luscar Sterco mine on Coal Creek near the Lovett River to March 1, 1984.

[Motion carried]

167. Mr. Notley moved that an order of the Assembly do issue for a return showing, with regard to the tax assessment notices sent to the members of the Lubicon Lake Indian Band last fall:

- (1) the number of notices to which no response has been received; and
- (2) the number of notices to which, in each case, the following responses have been received:
 - (a) responses indicating disagreement over the amount of assessment but not otherwise indicating a reluctance to pay assessed taxes,
 - (b) responses indicating disagreement over the amount of assessment and indicating a reluctance or refusal to pay assessed taxes,
 - (c) responses not indicating disagreement over the amount of assessment and not indicating a reluctance or refusal to pay assessed taxes,
 - (d) responses not indicating disagreement over the amount of assessment but indicating a reluctance or refusal to pay assessed taxes, and
 - (e) rude responses (it is understood that this category may feature some overlap with one or more of the other categories).

MR. KOZIAK: Mr. Speaker, I propose an amendment to Motion 167 and would recommend for the Assembly's consideration the deletion of the words "with regard to the tax assessment notices sent to the members of the Lubicon Lake Indian Band last fall" and the substitution therefor of the words "with regard to the tax notices sent to residents of the hamlet of Little Buffalo in improvement district 17 last fall".

[Motion as amended carried]

MR. KOZIAK: Mr. Speaker, at the same time, I would like to table the reply to the motion just adopted by the Assembly.

head: **MOTIONS OTHER THAN GOVERNMENT MOTIONS**

209. Moved by Mr. Musgreave:

Be it resolved that the Assembly urge the government to consider establishing an Alberta advisory council on the status of women to advise the government on matters relating to women and to bring before the public and government, matters of interest and concern to women.

MR. MUSGREAVE: Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to be able to speak today on Motion 209. First though, I'd like to congratulate the government and the Hon. Dick Johnston for assuming the responsibility of the Alberta Women's Bureau, which he then turned into a Women's Secretariat. This secretariat is headed by Dr. Sheila Wynn, who has had a long interest in women's affairs and can be counted on for top performance.

I notice that in the members gallery today we have Phyllis Ellis, the former director of our Women's Bureau. I would like to commend her for the hard work she's done on behalf of the women of this province, with limited resources, for a long period of time.

There are of course some of my colleagues who wonder why women still want an agency outside of government to work on behalf of women. To them I say, put your political hats on and listen carefully. Flora MacDonald pointed out in a recent speech that 52 percent of voters are women and political parties are finally recognizing the importance of women. Brian Mulroney said to the PC women's caucus in March: we need you to take an equal part in shaping your party's plans and policies; we need you to share your skills, your knowledge, your commitment, and your vision. Even John Turner is now saying that if he becomes leader of the Liberals, he will support affirmative action on equal pay for equal work and new job opportunities in management in government circles.

These things have been said before, but as women become more aware of the need to get into the political system as politicians, there will be changes made for the better. In suggesting a status of women advisory council, which I think should report to the minister responsible for [women's] affairs, I ask the members to consider the following. By having outside of government an independent organization that has a broad representation of women's concerns in the province, the minister, his secretariat, or any women's bureaus could be supported in this work on behalf of women. It could more easily take the pulse of women and of the associations that represent them and provide opinions which take into account the real situation of women, without worrying about the political overtones. For these reasons the status of women could play an important role despite the presence of the internal organizations such as women's bureaus or women's secretariats set up by government to deal with feminist concerns.

Responsibilities would not be duplicated and conflicts of interest would not arise, because the role and responsibility of each would be different. On the one hand, the council on the status of women, being an advisory body, would not be part of the government machinery and would not have to be keenly concerned with administrative and budget problems which must, after all, remain a consideration for people working within the structure of government, nor would it have to take the political aspects of the issues into account in the same way as does a minister who belongs to a political party and is elected as part of a governing group with a specific program.

In addition, Mr. Speaker, the council will be able to tell women about their rights and provide them with the support they need in forming groups to assert these rights. It is easy to see how a government which tried to carry out these responsibilities, perhaps through a minister responsible for the status of women, would readily be accused of attempting to use women for propaganda purposes. The council would not have this restraint.

I feel that women's role in society should be equal to that of men, and they should achieve that because of their personal ability, not because they are females. Regrettably, this is not the case. All we need to do is look at the membership in this House or the number of women holding executive posts in

government. Even more distressing is the fact that where women have achieved senior positions, we have examples where men are paid more for doing the same kind of work. Every day there are reports of women being treated unfairly in our society. This can be the result of discrimination by organizations, by rules, or by frustration on the part of women because the battle is so difficult and constant.

As a result of considerable input from concerned women, today I have my motion to ask the government to consider the establishment of an Alberta advisory council on the status of women. I'd like to suggest to my colleagues that we don't have all the best ideas in Canada. Therefore when members consider this proposal, I urge them to reflect on the value of the idea, not whose idea it was originally.

Many provincial governments which are Conservative have adopted this program. To me, it is a political decision but one we should make with care. I personally regret the need for these councils. But women's organizations, from Unifarm in the country to university women's groups in our cities, support the idea. They represent approximately 50,000 women in 60 organizations throughout our province.

I urge my colleagues to consider that while Alberta and British Columbia do not have councils, every other province recognizes the role of women in various ways. The province that has the most dramatic and positive program is Quebec. There they have a Minister responsible for Women's Affairs, a budget of over \$2 million, and several women's bureaus and secretariats. But most importantly, the department of Women's Affairs must assess every document that goes to cabinet for a decision as to the implications with regard to women in the province of Quebec.

I'd like to give you some examples of recent occurrences of which I have been made aware and which should cause all members to give this motion serious consideration. The reasons for the battle for women to play their full role in areas of society can be emphasized by reviewing some past events here in Canada. But first, to my female colleagues who say any woman can do what she wants: let me remind you that the pressures today are more subtle, more difficult to fight and, now that we are in a recession, even more constant than they were before. I urge you to remember that at one time in Canada it was against the law for women to vote, they could not practise law, they could not practise medicine, and they could not sit in our Senate.

There are some specific examples of how the struggle is being waged. The Canadian labour council union leaders will recommend at their annual meeting in Montreal next month that the membership on their council be expanded to 32, with 10 of the seats being reserved for women.

In 1981 the New Democrats came into office in Manitoba; this is the party that touts itself as the champion of women. I see that some of the Liberals who are hoping to become party leader are doing the same thing. Referring to the province of Manitoba, in the past three years while this new government has been in power, the number of women in the Manitoba civil service has dropped, and the wage gap between male and female workers is now 30 percent, whereas previously it was lower. In Ontario it is only 20 percent.

In February of this year, a brief on domestic violence prepared by the Grande Prairie Women's Residence Association, on behalf of the Alberta Council of Women's Shelters, pointed out that domestic violence is a problem touching all communities in Alberta. Another revealing study is the one prepared by Concerned Citizens on Prostitution and Pornography, which points out the human suffering of victims of prostitution and pornography here in the city of Edmonton.

Finally to my rural colleagues, I would like to emphasize the uphill battle being faced by farm women. Alice Brown and her husband, who farm east of Balzac and jointly own a farm corporation, applied for a \$30,000 grant under the Prairie Grain Advance Payments Act. In due course half the money turned up. Alice Brown discovered that the Canadian Wheat Board deems a man to be a man, while his wife and minor children are mere appendages. If the Browns had been brother and sister, they would have had no problem. They would have received the full amount of the grant. Mrs. Brown wrote letters on this situation to everyone she could think of including Gordon Taylor, who used to be a member of this Legislature. Gordon even introduced a private member's Bill in the House of Commons, but we know what happens to those. Her efforts have paid off, however, because Parliament is now moving to increase the advance ceiling and also to consider husband and wife as separate citizens.

Of course the problem of Mrs. Brown reveals the fact that the contribution of women to making a farm successful is not recognized by many people. A recent issue of the Alberta Women's Bureau pointed out the inequities in everything from the Canada Pension Plan to credit. Recent surveys find 60 percent of farm women express financial concern and that almost half of the province's farm families have someone working off-farm to provide cash income. This means that farm women often end up with three jobs: a salaried position off-farm, their household work, and their farm work.

Again, let's go back to the political message. Almost every day you can read in the papers about issues affecting women. Just recently in Calgary, a federal nomination was won by a woman. Hopefully, there will be more. To those of you who feel complacent about this important issue: you stand a chance of being challenged at the next election, not by a sacrificial candidate put up by one of the opposition parties; rather, you'll probably be challenged at your own nomination meeting in your own Progressive Conservative constituency association. I hope you will take my words and think on them carefully, because I believe the struggle on behalf of women is becoming more apparent to women, not only those that are organized but those that are not organized.

In supporting this Bill, you will be helping the women of this province play their full role as citizens in whatever career they choose. I urge you to vote, and I urge you to vote wisely.

Thank you.

MR. SZWENDER: I welcome the opportunity to participate in the debate today on Motion 209. I'd like to begin by commending the Member for Calgary McKnight for bringing this motion before the Assembly. I know he previously brought a similar one before us and is still pursuing this very timely and worthy motion.

I was quite pleased to have the opportunity to participate in the debate, because my interest in women's issues has been long-standing. I was able to put some of that into affirmative action by introducing a motion last spring on spouse battering, which I believe raised the issue fairly well in the communities of Alberta. I received a lot of positive response to that motion. I was also very pleased to participate on behalf of the Minister of Advanced Education in the opening of the Sheriff King shelter for battered women in Calgary. I think all these events are certainly significant in their contribution to alleviating some of the problems facing our society.

As I look at the wording of the motion presented by the Member for Calgary McKnight, I notice that instead of it reading that the Assembly urge the government to establish an Alberta advisory council, it simply refers to "the government

to consider establishing an Alberta advisory council". Mr. Speaker, I have absolutely no problem with the idea of considering anything. I think this is welcome in the Assembly, in order to give all members an equal opportunity to express themselves in considering this.

The way the motion is worded may leave some individuals of the province wondering whether the Alberta government has done in the past, or is presently doing, enough with regard to the issue of women's concerns. I'd just like to look briefly at the history concerning women's issues and rights in Alberta. I think Alberta has a very proud history they can refer to in the sequence of its accomplishments from the past. Some of these achievements, without exhausting the list completely, include the fact that in Alberta women were granted the franchise in April 1916, which was only a month or two after our sister provinces of Manitoba and Saskatchewan. So it was one of the forerunners in allowing the franchise to women at the provincial level.

Alberta was also the first province to call women to the provincial Legislature. Louise McKinney had the distinction of being the first woman to be elected to a legislature in Canada and in the British Empire. Here in the province of Alberta, we also had an Irene Parlby, who was the second cabinet minister appointed in the British Empire. Thirdly, Alberta was the first province to appoint women magistrates and judges of the juvenile court. In fact Emily Murphy was the first woman magistrate in the British Empire.

Further, Mr. Speaker, Alberta was the first to permit women the right to sit on municipal councils, as well as the first to give equality of suffrage in provincial and municipal affairs. Another example is to give absolute equality in parental rights within the marriage, and the list goes on. With that list, I believe we in Alberta have been forerunners in establishing the way for women to take an equal role in our society.

I'd also like to briefly mention the very famous "persons case", which I think many members may already be familiar with. But I'd just like to refresh the memories of some who may not be. This was a case that originated with an odious British common-law ruling of 1876, which ruled that women were persons in matters of payments and penalties but not persons in matters of rights and privileges. This caused much grief and consternation to the women of this country.

The fight to change this ruling was led by Judge Emily Murphy, who headed a group of women known as the Famous Five, who fought in the Supreme Court of Canada with little success to that point and finally had to take the case all the way to the Privy Council of England, which was at that time Canada's highest court of appeal. On October 18, 1929, the Lord Chancellor of the Privy Council announced the decision that women were indeed persons and were eligible to be summoned and become members of the Senate of Canada. I think that's an extremely proud achievement for five pioneer Alberta women.

I would like to once again emphasize that I feel that in the past Alberta has been a front-runner in these rights, and the present Alberta government is doing a lot in meeting the current needs of women in our society. I would like to again mention the appointment of the Women's Secretariat, under the Minister of Advanced Education, as mentioned by the previous speaker. This was announced on February 28, 1984. I believe the secretariat will indeed alleviate many of the problems that may have existed previously and may funnel many of the concerns in such a way that our government will be able to respond accordingly.

In case there are some individuals who still question the effectiveness of the secretariat, I could briefly go over some

of the functions the secretariat will be fulfilling. Number one, they are to provide enhanced co-ordination between, and liaison with, other government departments, since women's rights do not correspond to one specific government department but are intergovernmental. As such, that kind of co-ordination has to take place in order to ensure that women's concerns are reflected in the policies and programs of government. Also the secretariat is to analyze and review Alberta legislation, policies, and programs having special reference to women. It is also to provide advice to the minister responsible for the status of women and to other government departments on matters related to women, provide a link to the community by collecting and disseminating information of interest to women, provide grants for research and educational events, and consult with women in the province.

Many of these functions had previously been performed by the Alberta Women's Bureau. Also, for some of the purposes which I have already mentioned, there will be a couple of subcommittees of the Alberta secretariat: the cabinet committee on women's issues and the interdepartmental committee on women's issues.

As I was preparing some notes for debate, Mr. Speaker, I browsed through my library and came up with a rather interesting book. It's called *A Short History of Women*. It's a rather old book, in fact almost 60 years old, published in 1927. I found some very interesting comments in the book. Many of them are really quite contemporary with the problems facing women in our society today. Without belabouring the Assembly — I certainly do not plan to read the whole book at this time. Knowing also that the Member for Barrhead will be speaking after me, I do know I'll have more time than is usually accorded to me when he speaks before me. However, I would like to refer briefly to a couple of items in the book which I thought were really quite interesting.

One made reference to Mother's Day. I'm not sure exactly when Mother's Day originated. But it was in place at least in 1927, because the book makes reference to it. Even at that time, there was serious concern about the preservation of the family unit, and for whatever reason — I guess some of it may have been commercial — a Mother's Day was established and is observed yearly. I still don't believe we need a special day to show someone we have a special love or care for them; however, we have that designated and its purpose is for that reason. It does make reference in this book to Mother's Day. So even in that early time — although, as I say, it was only 60 years ago — there was concern that the family unit was disintegrating and that sons and daughters away from home would need a special day of reminder to call their mothers and let them know they're still there.

Another interesting point that was brought up in the book — although some of my colleagues may take offence at my quoting a passage from Trotsky. I don't intend to do it in that respect, other than that the Russian revolution had succeeded only about 10 years prior to the printing and publication of this book and obviously had a number of ideals and goals in mind. Certainly one of the intentions was to revolutionize the family. I find it quite interesting, Mr. Speaker, when I watch programs on the Soviet Union, when the camera spans their central committee and we look at the members there, that a society which purports to have total equality has probably a greater number of males in their assembly than we have in ours. Out of the hundreds that were seated in that assembly, I saw one or two. So certainly the ideals that they espoused over 60 years ago have far from reached their fruition.

As I say, I'd like to point out a paragraph in the book which highlights the attitude at that time. Trotsky, in his book *Prob-*

lems of Life, states that to institute the political equality of men and women in the Soviet Union was one problem and very simple. So to institute by legislation that people are equal did not take much of an achievement. The Soviet Union has done that, and all societies have done that. But that is not the problem. The problem is much more to put that into practice.

A much more difficult one was the next — that of instituting the industrial equality of men and women workers in the factories, the mills and the trade unions, and to do [so] in such a way that the men [would] not put the women to disadvantage. But to achieve the actual equality of men and women within the family is an infinitely more arduous problem.

Mr. Speaker, I'm going to get to the family as a factor in a moment.

Finally, I'd like to point out that he states: "We need more socialistic economic forms". I'm sure it will please all my colleagues to hear that.

Only under such conditions can we free the family from the functions and cares that now oppress and disintegrate it. Washing must be done by a public laundry, catering by a public restaurant, sewing by a public workshop.

And so on and so forth.

I think the goals of the Soviet Russian revolution have largely been achieved in a capitalist society without that revolution. The industrial revolution has achieved much of that, where many menial domestic tasks previously performed are now easily afforded and accorded in our society by outside sources, leaving the women more time to spend outside the home. How good or bad that is is certainly open to debate.

Mr. Speaker, if I could just move on to another point I'd like to make. In my role as an educator — I've been a teacher for about 10 years, most of that in high school — I'm pretty used to working with women. It was certainly a change when I came to the Legislature, where women were few and far apart. But they're certainly a welcome change from my male colleagues. About 60 percent of the teachers in this province are female. So through that alone, I think they have a great ability to influence change through the educational process. I am totally of the belief that the educational process is the one which will most effectively bring about the objectives we're discussing today.

There are other problems of course. As a teacher, especially at the high school level — by that time, most minds are fairly well formulated. Certainly there are differences, largely speaking, in maturity levels between the males and the females. There is the problem of television and the types of stereotyping that it reinforces constantly. So as a teacher, at least at the high school level, it really is an uphill battle to try to change many of these attitudes which have largely been formed. The changes have to occur much sooner, probably even in the preschool days, if they are going to be totally effective.

Mr. Speaker, the long-term effect of education on a sophisticated culture such as ours, in which there is less demand on sheer muscle, is to make males more feminine and females more masculine. Historically, as the level of education rises, men become capable of greater tenderness, take an interest in domestic affairs, consider women their equal partners rather than their chattels, and take an interest in aesthetic matters. I hope all my colleagues are listening very closely. At the same time, women become less flighty and capricious, become more analytical and logical, assert their right to sexual equality, and enter traditionally male occupational fields. It is very important to note that these change patterns are transmitted culturally in the educated classes, whereas the children of uneducated par-

ents move in this direction as they rise through the educational system.

However, this is not to say that in the future, all sex differences will be abolished. I personally find the direction of unisex appearance and fashion highly undesirable. I think appearance is still extremely important for our own self-worth. As a teacher, I've often been in an embarrassing position where I've confused females for males and males for females. You can well imagine the embarrassment that causes for the teacher and for those whose identity has been mistaken. So if a person has that self-esteem, I do not wish that situation on anyone in terms of the embarrassment.

However, returning to the importance of education in diminishing sex typing, it does imply that as parents, teachers, and social engineers, those of us in this room can see through the artificiality of some of our sex role expectations. We traumatize boys when we expect them to be cavemen living in a technological, educated, humane society. We traumatize girls when we expect little from them in the way of intellect and creativity and when, on the other hand, we expect them to be passive, docile, accepting, and cast in traditional roles.

Mr. Speaker, I maintain that only an educational system and its implementation will have the desired objectives, particularly in a society such as we have in Canada, in Alberta. It's a multicultural society. We are bringing together individuals, people from all over the world, who have brought their own cultural norms and mores with them. To blanket policy or behaviour on these people, all new Canadians, is certainly very difficult. This is one consideration that may be overlooked, that not everyone can be treated in the same way with the same types of expectations.

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to conclude by just saying that although I consider this issue to be of great importance, as the MLA for Edmonton Belmont I have had a visible deficiency in contact from women's groups on this. In fact I have to go so far as to say I have had no phone calls, letters, or personal representation asking me whether I would be supporting this motion or speaking on it. It's that lack of communication or response that really makes me wonder how to assess the value of further government action in terms of creating new organizations, new groups to study the problems. I believe there are plenty of studies and lots of information readily available. I for one would like to see more action, a little less talk, and a few less meetings.

With those few words, Mr. Speaker, I would take my place and welcome ideas for some affirmative action from other speakers.

[Two members rose]

MR. SPEAKER: I believe the hon. Leader of the Opposition caught the Chair's eye first, if that isn't a mixed metaphor.

MR. NOTLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I welcome the opportunity to participate in Motion No. 209, Mr. Speaker. I support the intent of the motion and hope during the course of this debate that the government members — opposition members too — keep their comments sufficiently brief that at the close of the afternoon session we can not only debate the issue but pass the motion.

It is perhaps worth drawing to the attention of those people in the gallery that there is an unfortunate tendency to debate issues to the point where a motion like this drops to the bottom of the Order Paper and unfortunately doesn't come back in time to be discussed later in the session. Bearing in mind the importance of this issue. I hope members will allow it not only to be debated but to actually come to a vote this afternoon.

Given the fact, Mr. Speaker, I'm sure some will say this is rushing it. Again, for those in the gallery who are observing today, this is an Assembly which passed some \$3 billion in interim supply in a matter of about 35 seconds. We can move very quickly when we want to. After two hours of debate, if we're really in favour of this resolution rather than attempting to get a few brownie points, it will be possible to have not only a debate but a resolution of the issue.

AN HON. MEMBER: Speak more quickly.

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I want to make two or three points in support of an Alberta advisory council on the status of women. The first point is that one of the things we must do in the political process is encourage women — not just in the sort of traditional sense of saying, isn't it nice that we have a few women candidates — to take an active role in the political process by seeking nomination and winning election to office. As a matter of fact, one of the things I'm quite proud of within the party I represent is that at our recent national convention in Regina, an affirmative action resolution was passed which changed the constitution of the party and recognized for the first time what we call "gender parity" in the election of our senior officers. While some people were rather shocked when this proposal was made and worried about its impact, I must say that the result has been extremely effective in terms of the input at the national executive level of the party.

I think the argument that affirmative action somehow leads to the lowest common denominator is simply wrong. We're never going to reach any kind of gender parity in this country unless we push a bit. We can have all kinds of nice, gratuitous comments over and over again. But as long as we don't move beyond that, the role of women in politics will be preparing the coffee and serving the doughnuts, while in fact the men continue to make the real decisions. And that isn't good enough, Mr. Speaker. It isn't good enough in any of the national parties, and it isn't good enough in any of the provincial parties.

It's unfortunate that in this particular Assembly, while we have some distinguished women members, we don't have anything like enough. I challenge the parties in Alberta, starting with my own party. As we select candidates in the New Democratic Party, we're making it clear that we want to attract top women candidates and try to achieve a gender balance. I say to the young Member for Edmonton Glengarry and the young Member for Edmonton Belmont, the Cook/King machine, who are so active in various interparty activities in the Conservative Party: as you go out seeking new candidates to replace some of these members in the House, go after women. Let's get some gender balance in this Legislative Assembly, because there are a lot of capable Conservative women we need in this Legislature. We need some people in the Conservative Party who are prepared to do more than just talk about the issue, who get out there and make those changes at the nomination level. Mr. Speaker, that's the first thing, getting more women elected to the Legislature of Alberta.

The second thing is to deal with the issue of equal pay for equal work.

MR. HORSMAN: How about the mayor of Fairview?

MR. NOTLEY: I see that the hon. Member for Medicine Hat has finally chimed in here; it's nice to see that he's back. Mr. Speaker, there is one constituency where we could have a change in the gender balance and it wouldn't hurt at all.

Mr. Speaker, the fact of the matter is that the second issue ...

MR. HORSMAN: What about the mayor of Fairview?

MR. NOTLEY: No, not the mayor of Fairview, the mayor of Spirit River — the hon. Minister of Federal and Intergovernmental Affairs has his towns mixed up. As a matter of fact, I might just say to the hon. minister that that is one place where they certainly could do no better in terms of selecting a candidate than the mayor of the town of Spirit River — a first-class person. But that's something that has to be undertaken by the hon. Tory members.

MR. SZWENDER: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. The hon. Leader of the Opposition lectured the Assembly here on wasting time, and I hope he would stop and get back to the motion.

MR. SPEAKER: Possibly I missed something, but I have great difficulty in seeing any waste of time in what the hon. Leader of the Opposition is saying.

MR. MARTIN: You made a fool of yourself, Walter.

MR. SPEAKER: It seems to me that what he is saying is pertinent to the subject under debate.

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, thank you. I certainly will carry on. Just one little passing comment for the the hon. member, knowing his interest in internal politics: the point I think people wish to have drawn to the attention of the movers and shakers in all parties is that we shouldn't just talk about women being in the Legislature, we should actively go out and recruit women candidates. For those who are as interested as some in nomination procedures, I bring that to their attention and underline it.

The second thing I was going to say, Mr. Speaker, is that we have the question of the working world and the difference in incomes between men and women and the difference in managerial opportunities for men and women. I think government has to take a lead. The hon. member who introduced the resolution indicated that there had been a change in Manitoba. I don't know what the statistics are. If that's true, I would say publicly in this House that I regret that very much, because surely one of the things we have to commit ourselves to, regardless of where we sit — let me speak directly and in a nonpartisan way on this item — is removing the differentials between working men and women, not only in the public sector but in the private sector. That's one of the things that is a major problem that perhaps an advisory council of this nature could help us come to grips with by making proposals for legislative change.

Bearing in mind my own stricture that we want to have as much debate as possible but come to a vote, I would close by urging hon. members this afternoon to support Motion No. 209.

MRS. CRIPPS: Mr. Speaker, the last speaker just proved that the Speaker of the House is unbiased and that he sees men and women as equal, because we both stood up at the same time and, as the hon. Member for Barrhead said, there's no chivalry left.

MR. SPEAKER: As a matter of fact, if I could have done it, I would have recognized the hon. member for Drayton Valley and the one for Barrhead at the same time.

MRS. CRIPPS: We don't mind, I'm sure, Mr. Speaker.

MR. KOWALSKI: I would be honoured.

MRS. CRIPPS: I'm pleased to participate in this debate, Mr. Speaker. Certainly it's a given that 50 percent of the people in Alberta need an adequate voice in the decisions which affect them. I hope establishment of a Women's Secretariat effective April 1 will provide a focal point for identifying and assessing government policies, programs, and legislation which impact on women.

It appears to me that the motion may be requesting the government to duplicate a function of the secretariat. I'm not sure of this, because I'm not sure exactly what role the minister has designated for the secretariat. In reading the parameters governing the secretariat, it would seem to be doing the things this motion requests. I guess the question is how the broad range of women's issues would be translated to the secretariat. Would an advisory council be able to address the issues on a provincewide basis and then relay these to government through the secretariat? Or would they be going directly to the department involved in the issues?

The secretariat should be the focal point for women's groups and organizations, for employee and employer groups, and for organizations in the public on issues affecting women. I guess I'd like to know how rural women would fit into this secretariat or advisory council. There are such groups as WIs, church women's groups, Lioness Clubs, Women of Unifarm, and the 60 other groups mentioned by the Member for Calgary McKnight in his opening remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I represent a rural constituency where the question of women's issues is seldom raised as an issue in itself. I guess I've tried to ascertain why it might be more a women's issue in an urban centre. I think the difference has to be in the makeup of the business, community, and family unit in rural Alberta. In rural Alberta and especially in the farming community, a wife is an integral part of the family business. Normally she's involved in the day-to-day business decisions. Butch told me he bought a new tractor yesterday and didn't ask his wife, but I'm sure she knew he was about to. I know most of those kinds of business decisions — when to plant the wheat, whether you think a new tractor's a wise investment — are discussed. They're discussed over the breakfast table or over coffee. In general the decisions are joint decisions.

The fact is that unless there is a hired hand, few farms operate efficiently without the help and support of both partners. It used to annoy me when I went to Wetaskiwin or any of the major centres with the proposed intent of shopping. By the time I'd picked up a piece for the baler at Massey-Ferguson, tractor points at the Cockshutt dealer, haybinder sections at the International dealer, and grease and oil, there was never time left ...

MR. FISCHER: Did you ask your husband?

MRS. CRIPPS: No, he told me.

There was never time left to do the shopping I'd started out to do. I often told him it would be far better if he'd use one line of machinery so I could do it all at one place.

Most of the women in my community, neighbours, can run almost any farm machine as efficiently and effectively as the men. We can't always fix it, we always get accused of breaking it, and we breathe a sigh of relief when it breaks when hubby's driving it. But the fact is that we run it. In the town of Drayton Valley where small businesses abound, I've noted that wives are totally involved in the operation of businesses.

I guess the involvement of women can be illustrated by a comment made to me by an oil wife at a pancake breakfast not too long ago. It referred to the affect of the NEP on Alberta's oil industry. We were sitting over coffee at breakfast and she said: if we ever get over this situation, I'll never cosign another note as long as I live. That statement makes one realize how involved women are in business, and how the insecurity and worry of business failure has affected each and every one of us over the past three years. Women are involved. This appears to be the norm for most small businesses and operations, especially the family type.

I want to make the above distinction between rural and urban, because I understand the rural partnership of husband and wife teams. The small-town nature of rural communities may make communication and co-operation easier between the sexes. I think the problems and concerns addressed by women would be universal in nature regardless of where they live. Women raise concerns about quality of education, health care, social issues, and quality of life. They have always been the backbone of community improvement and of volunteer organizations. Traditionally women have been the anchor of the family unit.

I want to highlight three issues, Mr. Speaker. The first deals with the single parent and is the same whether the single parent is male or female. The problem may be different in nature; that is, if the father is a single parent, he may have a higher earning ability, whereas a single mother may more easily cope with the family home life situation. Of course these two differences could be totally disputed. The fact is that single-parent families cause personal pressures and problems which would normally not result when two people share the burden of the responsibility of a family. The problem, like many which would appear on the surface to be more directly related to women, is in fact a serious one for all of society: the children, the school — and we've heard a lot of comments recently about how the school life of a child is affected by the home atmosphere and pressures building there — and the community.

Another issue I would like to raise is more directly related to women. Twice recently, I've had widows come to me for advice in a situation where I'm totally helpless. Both of these ladies had been left a widow without the spouse having made a will. Probate of an estate in such cases is extremely complicated and often takes years. It is difficult to imagine the magnitude of the problem unless one is in a public position where the problem is raised again and again. The needless anguish and torment I see people experiencing because of the lack of a will is the reason for my concern and for my raising that issue now.

A priority educational program should be undertaken by women's groups and the government to highlight the difficulties the lack of a will creates for a family. I'm absolutely sure any person being made aware of this would take the necessary step of making a will to safeguard the future of his loved ones and dependants.

The last issue I'm particularly concerned about is the lack of pension plan opportunities for women. Most men age 65 or over, in fact 60 percent of them, live with a spouse. But only 34 percent of women over the age of 65 live with a spouse; 31 percent of these live alone. It means that a lot of senior citizens, women in particular, who live alone may have no pension funds to draw from. Concerns and needs of women must be considered in the pension reform which is presently under review.

First survivor benefits is a major area of pension reform. The recommendation is that married employees must opt for 50 percent joint and survivor pension in lieu of the normal form

of pension. This could only be waived by an agreement signed by both spouses. The provincial government and business community have both agreed that this is a good recommendation. It is also recommended that there should be a division of pension benefits upon marriage breakdown. A benefit should be split equally between the spouses, retain its character, and be locked in. These are of particular interest to women, because if the survivor benefit isn't carried over, if the pension benefit isn't split, it's the woman who is left totally without resources at pensionable age.

In the three-tier system we have — i.e. private pensions, public pensions, and individual savings — only one woman in five has the opportunity to pay into a private pension plan. With the exception of government pension plans, only 20 percent of working women have access to pension plans. Eighty percent of our part-time labour force consists of women, and since women seem to be more highly mobile in the work force, it is imperative that consideration be given to ensuring that pension plan considerations include the special needs of women within the pension plan system. Women who have never been in the work force need to be included in the Canada Pension Plan, and pensionable credit must be considered an asset.

If I can go back to my earlier figures, where only 34 percent of the women over 65 live with a spouse, it is extremely important to ensure that 50 percent of the population is not excluded from pension benefits upon reaching the age of 65. [interjection] It just means we're tougher than you are and we live longer.

Pension plans must be universal, equitable, portable, and accessible to women. I do want to mention the Alberta widows' pension, which would ensure that widows age 55 to 65 would receive \$624 per month. This would entitle them to all the privileges and program benefits available to Alberta senior citizens. It would also allow them entry into subsidized senior citizens' residential housing. With the establishment of the widows' pension, women over the age of 55 are generally more secure than many of their younger counterparts.

There are many issues that are of particular concern to women. I know the government has to have a mechanism for these issues to be raised and reviewed. I encourage any vehicle which will improve this communication, and help resolve problems and issues which directly affect 50 percent of the population.

Thank you.

[Two members rose]

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member for Edmonton Norwood caught my eye first.

MR. MARTIN: I was watching and got up quicker; I saw that.

MR. SPEAKER: I was watching too, and I must say it wasn't even nearly a tie.

MR. MARTIN: I promise I will be short. I would like to stay specifically to the motion, and I understand that the motion is very specific. It urges

the government to consider establishing an Alberta advisory council on the status of women to advise the government on matters relating to women and to bring before the public [and I think that's a key point] and government, matters of interest and concern to women.

Mr. Speaker, I think we all recognize today that there are myriad problems facing contemporary women; I don't need to go into it. We're all aware. We can talk about equal pay for work of equal value, affirmative action, equality under the law,

technology and its effect, the high unemployment specifically among women, and a very serious social problem — the bulk of poverty is among older women. Recently we also see more social problems affecting women, perhaps because they're more publicized. I expect that social problems are accentuated by the recession. I mean of course such things as prostitution, pornography, spouse battering, and sexual assault.

Recognizing that we are facing problems here that are huge and complex, the question I think we have to ask is: why do we need an advisory council? I would like to try to answer that in two ways. I believe it is a good resolution. I intend to support it. Mr. Speaker, there are two simple reasons why I believe we need an advisory council. It is not the be-all and end-all, and it's certainly not going to solve all the problems facing Alberta women today, but I sincerely believe it would at least be a start.

There are two reasons. First of all, if we are sitting in this Legislature and saying that women should be more involved in government, that the problems are serious — as I've heard other members talk about — then it seems to me we should go back to the people that we are talking about and suggest, how do they see the problem and how best to deal with it? Most organized women's groups that I know of in the province have asked precisely for an advisory council on the status of women. So it seems to me that's a simple answer: the people that are affected want it. It makes a good deal of sense to me that we take this seriously and pass it.

The second, as I understand it — we have, just recently, a secretariat. The hon. minister is here. In fairness to the minister, I suggest that that is certainly a step in the right direction. Many people might say, what is the difference? We already have a secretariat; why an advisory council? Why this motion? I think there are a couple of reasons besides it not satisfying many of the groups at least that I have talked to. Whether or not the minister means it this way, the secretariat is still a part of government. As a result, because it is government and a government department — and I'm not questioning the minister's motives — many people might question the independence of that organization. To me, that would probably be one of the main reasons why people would not accept the secretariat, because it is part of the government. I know the minister doesn't mean it that way. I believe him when I see him on television saying that he wants to move in many of the areas we've talked about. But I think that's a reality that many people are looking at. I know the minister is aware of that.

To me, the advantage of an advisory council is that it would be a much more independent body that would not be a part of government but would be made up of independent women from various groups right across the province. As a result of that, they could certainly not only be talking to government, which is part of this motion, but would also be very public. Mr. Speaker, one of the things we all know in political life is that if we sit and are quiet and just deal with governments behind closed doors, whatever that government is, chances are they will not feel the political heat and will not move as quickly as they might to some types of legislation. When an advisory council is talking to the public, is well financed, and can get out and make their concerns public, more and more people are going to debate those issues and have an influence on members of the Legislature.

Mr. Speaker, for those two reasons — one, the fact that the organized women's groups themselves feel that this is the best way to go; and secondly, the fact that I believe a council could be more independent, at least in perception, and that's important, and have more access to all sorts of publics rather than just the government — I would support this motion. I believe

it's an important motion. One of my fears, as my colleague alluded to, is that we do not see where people stand. We know where a number of people who speak stand.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I am convinced of the merits of this motion. I am satisfied that the wide-ranging debate that has occurred across this province has been more than sufficient to allow the hon. members here to judge the motion fairly. To determine that this question will be decided without the imposition of a possibly debilitating amendment. I move that the question now be put.

MR. SPEAKER: As hon. members are aware, the hon. Member for Edmonton Norwood has moved the previous question. It's a device or a procedural move which doesn't occur very frequently. I think it may be the first time within recent memory in this Assembly. It has occurred about 27 times in the House of Commons in Ottawa since Confederation. I know of no reason why such a motion cannot be moved.

Hon. members may wish to recall that the effect of such a motion is that the debate continues, but there may not be any amendment until the motion has been voted on. If the motion is carried, that the previous question be now put, then of course that ends the matter and there must be a vote forthwith. If it is defeated, the motion is superseded for the time being, but it may be debated at a later time but not voted on the same day — not voted on today, for example, if it is today that the matter comes to a vote.

MR. KOWALSKI: Mr. Speaker . . .

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry to interrupt the hon. Member for Barrhead. It's not an amendment which curtails the debate. The debate is as wide-ranging as it was before the previous question was moved.

MR. KOWALSKI: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I take it that I can continue the debate unhindered. I always defer to the wise judgment of the gentleman in the Chair. On several earlier occasions this afternoon I attempted to get into the debate. I think this is an item, a motion, that certainly ranks among the most important that we have on the Order Paper of the Legislative Assembly this year.

I want to begin by congratulating the Member for Calgary McKnight for the initiative he has taken in proposing this motion to the Assembly. The motion essentially asks us to consider establishing an advisory council on the status of women. The council would advise the government on matters relating to women and would bring before the public and government matters of interest and concern to women.

I enter this debate with some degree of trepidation, and I think it would be in order that I perhaps provide to all members of the Assembly my interest and experience in this issue. It goes back nearly a decade for it was about 10 years ago, in the year 1974, that I was employed as an executive assistant to the then deputy premier of the province of Alberta. An invitation came to the office of the deputy premier, inviting my predecessor to participate as a keynote speaker in a major one-day seminar that was being held and was sponsored by the Status of Women Action Committee in the province of Alberta. Dr. Homer showed some degree of enthusiasm and interest in being in a position to participate as a guest speaker at this one-day convention. But he also asked me to take some time in putting together some notes for him and, in fact, writing a speech for him. That was one of the few occasions in the history of my predecessor that he ever had a written speech.

He also asked me to meet with the organizers of the group to make sure that we all understood completely what it was that the group wanted Dr. Homer to talk about and what the environment would be for that one-day seminar. I invited the persons who had extended the letter to Dr. Homer to meet with me, and we had a delightful conversation in the office on the west side of the third floor of this Legislature Building. However, I was shocked at that time to be told by the persons — and I've used that expression twice now, quite deliberately, because I am in all sincerity and all honesty trying to convey a concern that I have with respect to the issue at hand. The persons who met with me told me that under no circumstances should Dr. Homer address the group as ladies. I quite frankly fell out of my chair, and I said: I have great respect for my mother, I have great respect for my grandmother, and I have great respect for all the wonderful women I know in the world; I've always believed and I've always been taught that when you address a woman whom you admire and respect and call her a lady, in essence you are conveying the highest form of compliment that is possible and available. I was told that that wouldn't do; this was now an age in which you did not stereotype people. I don't how you could stereotype a person by calling them a lady.

Anyway, Mr. Speaker, the gist of it all is that Dr. Homer attended the convention, the seminar, that was held in the city of Edmonton, and simply began. He didn't say "good afternoon, ladies" or "good afternoon, persons" or anything. He simply began. Halfway through the speech he was giving, which was just an excellent speech — I still have a copy of it; it was one of my prouder moments — he was rather rudely interrupted by a person in the audience. That fazed his patience, I guess, and in an incredible moment of weakness he said: just a minute, my dear. Of course the next day, in the major paper printed in the city of Edmonton, you had a great big headline in about four inches of black letters saying: My Dear!!!

The gist of all that however, Mr. Speaker, was rather interesting. Over the next six months, mail in our office on that issue was absolutely incredible, and it ran about 25 to 1 in favour of the message Dr. Homer presented at that seminar some 10 years ago. Remarkable as it was, most of the women in the province of Alberta seemed to be pleased by the reference that they should be referred to as a lady.

That taught me an incredible lesson in understanding politics in the environment we are in today. We've heard comments this afternoon about the need. The Member for Calgary McKnight, when he introduced his motion, waved his finger at some of us and said: you beware, because the political business is there. The Leader of the Opposition, when he got up and used the time, spent his time basically lecturing on the need for the involvement in the political mechanism of certain people. I know the proud and determined women which all my colleagues have worked on this particular issue. ∴

I'd just like members to know that in 1982, when I sought re-election, my whole campaign team was made up of women. They got me elected. They didn't have much to work with in terms of a candidate — and hon. members needn't agree with great enthusiasm on that issue — but it was an extremely important involvement for them. Unfortunately I had to go and ask each and every one of them to get involved. They did not step forward and say, we want to do it. In fact I had to convince each and every one of them to become involved. It was a feeling on their part that they shouldn't be involved. But once having become involved, the machine they created will re-elect a Progressive Conservative candidate in the constituency of Barrhead next time.

Mr. Speaker, I have a confusion. I said that I entered this debate this afternoon with a degree of trepidation. When I look

at the motion that's being presented, we're asked to establish an Alberta advisory council. I look at the record of accomplishment, and I wonder if this advisory council will really come to the root of the issue. The issues, as I understand them, currently facing women in our society are multifold. Certainly the Member for Drayton Valley raised some of them. The Member for Edmonton Norwood raised a few others. These issues of prostitution on the streets in the cities of Edmonton and Calgary, pornography, child violence and abuse, women in senior management positions not only in governments but in large-scale enterprises in our province, in the media industry — I'm not sure if it's a woman's role to be the news reader in a television station. I don't know how many women are involved in senior management positions in television stations. I don't know how many women write editorials for the major newspapers in our province. But certainly the challenges are there. Perhaps those are the issues that have to be addressed, rather than simply the creation of another advisory council or another council or bureaucracy that deals with it.

I look at the statements issued on February 28, 1984, by the Hon. Dick Johnston. He basically says that we now have created a mechanism in our province, a new structure, dealing with women's issues. We're talking about new committees. The Women's Secretariat is now going to be established within Executive Council. The secretariat, which the existing Alberta Women's Bureau will become a part of, is supposed to provide a focal point for identifying and assessing government policies, programs, and legislation which impact on women. The Member for Edmonton Belmont talked about a number of other initiatives with respect to that. We also made a commitment in February 1984 to set up a cabinet committee on women's issues, and we now have an interdepartmental committee on women's issues currently looking at a variety of them.

But the issues and looking at the issues are one thing. The attack on some of the concerns is quite another thing. I think we have to spend more time, energy, and effort in attacking the problems, rather than simply setting up another council, another body, another institution, that is going to bring to the attention of everybody what some of the commonplace issues are.

I'm troubled as to how I can vote in favour of the motion. On the one hand, it would simply create another bureaucracy which, in my view, may very well lead to nothing more than simply a delay in dealing with some of the issues. On the other hand, if I do not vote in favour of the motion, that's like voting against motherhood. It's a dilemma. I don't know if it's shared by any of my hon. colleagues in this House, but I think it's one that has to be put on the record in terms of the involvement I've had on this matter from a number of perspectives.

I might add, Mr. Speaker, that I've shared this dilemma with the executive of my constituency association, which is made up of some 60 people, a majority of whom are very, very active women. Granted they live in rural Alberta, and perhaps the perspective put forward by the Member for Drayton Valley is one that applies only to the residents of rural Alberta. They have a difficult time looking at additional studies dealing with their concerns and problems. They have become very active as leaders in the community by getting involved and elected as mayors of villages or towns, taking an active role as school board representatives, or becoming the presidents of God knows how many different committees and agricultural societies, boards, and agencies that we have in our constituency. Some 20 people from this constituency, half of whom were women, attended a recent political convention. They did not come as spouses. Their husbands were not the delegates; they were the delegates. They have gotten involved and have made a com-

mitment for the improvement of society. They tell me that we don't really need another council to deal with their issues. What they want is some active action, and the most active action they can have is by simply getting involved. I don't say by the troublesome concern of getting involved in a dramatic way. I use the word "simply" getting involved. It's standing up and saying, I want to become a part of it.

Mr. Speaker, there's one other comment I would like to make. In the Legislature of the province of Alberta, and in the history of this esteemed Legislature going back to 1905, there have been 19 women who have fought the hard battle to get elected to this Legislature. Today there are six in this Assembly. I know of no other Legislature in the country of Canada that has as many women as are currently sitting in the Legislative Assembly in the province of Alberta.

When you look at the six of them — the Hon. Mary LeMessurier, Minister of Culture; the Hon. Connie Osterman, Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs; Mrs. Sheila Embury, Member for Calgary North West but also the Whip of the government caucus; Mrs. Myrna Fyfe from St. Albert, chairman of our education caucus committee, education being one of the most important items we currently have before this government during this term of office, the highest profile item we have in the business before the Assembly, a matter and an item that affects every man, woman, and child in this province; Mrs. Janet Koper from Calgary Foothills, chairperson of our caucus committee on social affairs, and you look at the legislation we have before the Assembly dealing with Bill 105, the Child Welfare Act, the Public Health Act that Mrs. Koper introduced just a few days ago, and others; the very effervescent and dynamic lady from Drayton Valley, Mrs. Shirley Cripps, the chairperson of our utilities and telecommunications committee who has been actively participating with leaders and shakers throughout all this province in a pretty dramatic way — their roles should not be minimized and should not be misunderstood by anyone who would gainfully attempt to play politics with respect to them. They are indeed extremely important leaders in our society. They have done it by getting involved, and they have done it by fighting their way into this Assembly.

I asked one of them earlier today to give me one phrase that perhaps best sums up their role in our Assembly and in our political way of life. I'm going to give you the phrase, Mr. Speaker, and then I'm going to identify the source of the phrase. I asked her the question: what one line best summarizes the women in our caucus, the women in our government? Let it not go unnoticed that the only caucus in this Assembly that has women in it is the Progressive Conservative caucus. The one phrase — and I repeat the question again. I said, what phrase best describes the role of the six women in the caucus of the Progressive Conservative Party? Her response was "direct, straightforward, pushy as hell, and designed to win". That I attribute to Mrs. Cripps of Drayton Valley. Those are her own words, but she is dead right.

Mr. Speaker, I'm supportive of the motion. I will vote in favour of the motion. But I really wonder if I'm voting because this is the right thing that we need today in the province of Alberta to deal with women's issues, or am I doing it simply because it's the motherhood approach to do? If that's the case, that's simply tokenism, and that's worse than any of the criticisms that have ever been made in the past about chauvinistic males.

Thank you.

MR. ALGER: Mr. Speaker, it's my pleasure to join in the debate on Motion 209, proposed by the hon. Member for

Calgary McKnight. I have a real confession for you: I'm of mixed emotions as to how to get this particular speech started. You see, in reality, I've been around a long time, and women have played a big part in my life, particularly my own woman — my wife, Norma — who has been married to me for almost 40 years. Without her maybe I could have been a millionaire; on the other hand, without her I may not have been as well off as I am. It's hard to tell, and this is why I'm having difficulty getting this going. You see, I'm in several businesses. One of my handicaps is slow horses, and the other one is fast women. I've had a difficult time with both. However, I want you to know I'm on the women's side, before I get carried into this any deeper.

This motion urges the government to consider establishing an advisory council on the status of women. The council would advise the government on matters related to women and would bring before the public and the government matters of interest and concern to women. Apparently this issue has been an ongoing concern of this Assembly for some time. As a matter of fact, it's almost historic. I think it's reasonable to assume that some fundamental principles be ensured before we pass a motion of this magnitude. As is the case of the Member for Barrhead, he knows it's the right thing to do, but he's not sure it's the necessary thing to do. In fact he thinks that if women become more entangled with our political structure, probably they could get by without having this particular motion.

First and foremost, we've got to be sure that if we decide to establish an advisory council on the status of women, its parameters do not overlap that of the already established Women's Secretariat. The secretariat was recently established under the watchful eye of the hon. Minister of Advanced Education. The Women's Secretariat provides a focal point for identifying and assessing government policies, programs, and legislation which impact on women. The major functions of the secretariat are to provide co-ordination between government departments, to ensure that women's concerns are reflected in policy and program development. It also analyzes and reviews any Alberta legislation that has a particular impact on women, as well as advises the minister responsible for the status of women and other government departments on matters related to women. Finally, it provides a communication link between community and government, public and private sectors. As you can see, its range and scope is pretty large and encompasses a lot of territory.

The question remains, what could an Alberta advisory council on the status of women actually do for women in Alberta? I suppose the first function of the council would be the creation of another alternative for women of this province to approach the Legislature with their problems and concerns. Much has been said by the members of the press that this Assembly does little and cares less for women's issues in Alberta. Personally I think that's hogwash. We have created the Women's Secretariat; we have recently discussed in this Assembly matters such as spouse battering, equal pay for equal work, and the creation of a task force to examine the role of women in Alberta, and introduced the women's pension Act. Although these in no way represent all the concerns of women in this province, they are a starting point this government will do its utmost to improve upon. So far, from the speakers who have spoken to this motion ahead of me, I'd have to guess that improving upon it is exactly what they're endeavouring to do.

Another advantage of the Alberta council is that it would be entrenched by legislation, thus ensuring a more permanent status. Any changes made would be through the Legislature. This concept of a permanent fixture would hopefully appease all those who are worried that our concern for women's issues is just a passing fad, which of course is not the case.

I conclude, Mr. Speaker, by thanking the hon. Member for Calgary McKnight for advancing this motion. The fundamental principles behind it are important and require a great deal of time and attention to give justice to the proposal.

Thank you for your time.

MR. PAPROSKI: Mr. Speaker, I also am pleased to get involved in Motion No. 209, that the Assembly urge the government to consider establishing an Alberta advisory council on the status of women. On November 16, 1983, when a similar motion was put forth by the hon. Member for Calgary McKnight, I spoke in favour of this motion and began to list my reasons when debate was adjourned. I applaud the member for returning this motion today for debate. But like members before me, much has transpired since November 1983 regarding how this government would like to deal with the myriad of women's issues, and it is a dilemma for me.

The Minister of Advanced Education, responsible for women's issues, has initiated the development of an exciting program, the establishment of a Women's Secretariat, a secretariat many women now believe will lead to the prevention of many of their concerns and, secondly, will meet head on a multitude of concerns women face today and into the future. I therefore have ambivalent feelings indeed, Mr. Speaker, regarding this motion being debated today. I know the Member for Calgary McKnight used the advisory council concept as a move that is still required. However, I believe that the secretariat concept proposed by the Minister of Advanced Education should be given a time period to operate and deal with some of the women's concerns.

Mr. Speaker, last November I began to discuss reasons why our government should act to deal more thoroughly with the concerns of women. I stressed that a number of issues pertaining to women in Alberta have to be discussed and will continue to be discussed, but also must be acted upon — issues of equality, issues of opportunity, day care, pensions, sexism in our society, violence, political involvement, and many, many more. I attempted to focus on two main issues, women in the world of work and sexism generally in our community, two issues which I wish to continue to discuss today.

As members may recall, I underscored the need to provide women with the opportunity — and I underscore "the opportunity" — to participate in the work force in not only the traditional occupations but the nontraditional jobs as well. I gave examples that showed where indeed hiring practices provided opportunities for women, that these opportunities were quickly filled by women, and that jobs were done well by women. As well, Mr. Speaker, I believe we in Alberta must move to provide more opportunities for women in the work force generally. I hope the Minister of Manpower, for example, would attempt to alleviate the sad statistic that out of 27,000 apprentices in this province, only 700 are female.

Mr. Speaker, there are a number of other concerns I wish to share with hon. members. First of all, it is unfortunate that the wage gap between men and women in the majority of occupations in Alberta and throughout Canada is widening. Straight percentage increases are of greater benefit to men or those who dominate the upper wage levels than to those employees, usually women, who are largely represented at the lower levels. Results are that the increments a woman receives are smaller because her salary is smaller to start with, whereas an increment a man receives is larger because of his already larger salary. Thus women are doubly penalized.

Mr. Speaker, there is one bright spot. The participation rates of women in Alberta's civil service have increased significantly since 1975. In 1975 only 46 percent of the Alberta public

service was female; by 1980 this figure had changed to 50 percent. In today's world in Alberta, 52.5 percent of the public service work force is female. But there is much more to do, especially in attempting to increase the number of females at the management level in the public service. In 1975, for example, 5.7 percent of women were in midmanagement careers with the province of Alberta. This had changed significantly in 1982, to 10.98 percent. But there is still much, much more to do.

The participation of women in the Canadian labour market has not been matched by significant improvements in their position within the labour market. Indeed women continue to be segregated into relatively few occupations, often with poor promotion opportunities and low wages. Actual sex discrimination and sex stereotyping in hiring may be declining somewhat in this province; however, the rate of change in this area is extremely slow. Sexism and myths about women in the world of work continue to prevent women from having equal opportunity to attain employment.

There are many examples of these particular myths and sexism in society with respect to women in the world of work. For example, an author by the name of Wells, in her major discourse on sexism, refers to a number of areas that indicate that men are generally preferred over women for all jobs where higher level skills and high pay are involved. She refers to sex typing of jobs, different entry levels for men and women, different meanings of the word "qualified", different rates of promotion, different supports while "proving yourself", different access to training and development, tokenism, differences in visibility, and various behaviours which reflect the sexist attitudes.

Of course, Mr. Speaker, I'm sure hon. members are aware of the many myths with respect to women in the world of work that have been generated by the public throughout the years. But I think it's important to mention some of these again, because they still exist even though they have been classified and have been shown and have been studied to death. Indeed, they are myths: a woman's place is in the home; women aren't seriously attached to the labour force, they work only for extra pocket money; women are away ill more than male workers, they cost the company more; women don't work as long or as regularly as their male coworkers, their training is costly and largely wasted; married women take jobs away from men, in fact they ought to quit those jobs they now hold; women should stick to women's jobs and shouldn't compete for "men's jobs"; women don't want responsibility on the job, they don't want promotions as job changes would add to their work load; the employment of mothers leads to juvenile delinquency; men don't like to work for women supervisors.

Of course, Mr. Speaker, these have all been found to be myths. Unfortunately they still persist in the minds of parents, teachers, counsellors, administrators, government members, business and industry leaders, and others in the community. Sex bias does occur in our homes, schools, communities, and workplaces. I believe numerous illustrations of sex bias in the schools should be discussed as well. The sex bias in schools results in a major impact on the academic development of girls and boys, their psychological and physical development as well as their career and family relationships. I'd like to share some examples of these. Research studies have indicated that at some of our schools these exist: girls who are gifted in mathematics are far less likely to be identified than are gifted boys; those girls who are identified as gifted are far less likely to participate in special accelerated math classes to develop this special talent; girls who suffer from learning disabilities are also less likely to be identified or to participate in special education programs

than are learning-disabled boys; although women achieve better grades than men, they are less likely to believe that they can do postsecondary education work. In fact of the brightest high school graduates who do not go to secondary schools, 70 to 90 percent are women. By high school, young women demonstrated a decline in career commitment. This decline is related to their feeling that boys disapprove of a woman using her intelligence.

In athletics, females also suffer this sex bias. For example, women's athletic budgets throughout Canada are equal to approximately 20 percent of the men's budgets. When elementary schoolgirls are asked to describe what they want to do when they grow up, they are able to identify only a limited number of career options, and even these fit the stereotypical mold. The majority identify only two careers, primarily teaching and nursing. On the other hand, boys are able to identify many more potential occupations. The preparation and counselling girls receive in school contribute to the economic penalties they encounter in the workplace.

Although over 90 percent of the girls in our classrooms will work in the paid labour force for all or part of their lives, the following statistics reveal the cost of some of this bias they encounter. More than one third of the families headed by women live below the poverty level. That is a United States statistic, but I have looked at some of the Canadian statistics and they are very similar. A woman with a postsecondary degree will typically earn less than a male who is a high-school dropout. The typical working woman will earn 59 cents for every dollar earned by a male worker. Minority women earn even less, averaging only 15 percent of the wages earned by white males. Women are 79 percent of all clerical workers but only 5 to 7 percent of craft workers in this country. Women must work nine days to earn what men get paid for five days of work.

These are facts, Mr. Speaker, and I believe it warrants an in-depth look by the secretariat. It warrants an in-depth look by the Department of Education and by the Minister of Advanced Education. There is no question that we can talk about all kinds of issues related to women 21 and up, 55 and up. But unless we take the initiative and begin to work with children at the kindergarten age, I believe this sex stereotyping, the sex bias, the inequality we see now, will continue and continue.

Mr. Speaker, the answers to change lie not in the hands of one area of the population, i.e. government, but in all of those in our society caring, teaching, counselling, hiring, working, working for and working with females. Inroads have been made by continued concerted effort by all members of Alberta society. But more, much more, is needed.

As an educator, specifically a career educator interested in the career development of the human population, as a parent of three children who are female, as the MLA for Edmonton Kingsway who has received a lot of communication from both male and female constituents about the plight of females in our society, I am grateful to the Member for Calgary McKnight for bringing this motion to the floor once more.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. ANDERSON: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to participate briefly in the motion before the House this afternoon, and first of all congratulate the hon. Member for Calgary McKnight for again bringing this to the attention of the Assembly. I think it is an important topic, one that we must address directly, and one we must deal with this afternoon.

Over the past couple of years, I've taken some time to evaluate this particular motion and my own feelings with respect

to it. I might say at the outset that I've reached the conclusion that we should initiate such a program and will be supporting this particular motion. However, I might say as well that I do so with a couple of points of concern. Frankly, they are that such a council not be seen to represent all the women of our province, because I don't know how that's possible on any particular council, as I don't know how it would be possible for a council to represent all men or even people who represent smaller portions of our society.

I believe as well that the council must be seen as one that would be advisory in nature, one that would not attempt to institute programs to force one part of the population or another to do something society may not be ready to do or may be uncomfortable with, but one that will move along the education process, that will try to rectify the situation that many people in this Assembly this afternoon have outlined very clearly and precisely, that indeed allow our habits, our attitudes, our way of educating people publicly inadvertently — and perhaps, on some limited number of occasions, with a plan — in a way that stereotypes our community, that tends to push people into one direction or another because of their sex rather than their abilities, their individual desires, or their needs as individuals. I think such a council could play an important role in the province of Alberta if its parameters are well established and if it addresses itself more than anything else to those questions dealing with education, with attitudes, with the way in which we develop as a society.

I believe the hon. Minister of Advanced Education, who is now responsible for looking at this particular area, has made some strides in that direction in terms of developing the input which this government, as others throughout our community, requires on this matter. I think the consideration of this particular motion, of this council, would be a positive further step. Personally, I think the debate that has thus far proceeded this afternoon and will undoubtedly continue after I sit down has been important in that regard. It helps to develop parameters to associate the concerns that members of this Assembly have with the motion before us, and will add greatly to the minister's ability to structure such a body should this motion ultimately pass.

In my own constituency, I know that constituents have expressed their support for this motion, certainly not the majority — I don't believe the majority are aware of the issue, as with most issues that come before this House, nor are the majority of women in the riding — but some very well-spoken, very dedicated, and very committed people to the particular issue that's before us today. I respect what they've done, what they've attempted to achieve, indeed what I believe they have achieved in terms of awareness in our community, and feel that they will add greatly to the discussion as it continues on how to deal with issues.

Mr. Speaker, having made those points, having indicated my support for the motion, I again have to underline and reiterate that I believe a council must be careful not to purport to represent all the women of our society — unless it finds some mechanism, which I have as yet been unable to figure out, by which it could do that — but rather be a group of intelligent, concerned individuals who will help us to further educate ourselves as a community and, perhaps more important, future generations, so that all individuals in our society regardless of sex, as indeed should be the case with respect to ethnic origin or any other dimension to our lives, have this right to do what they wish to do, to be compensated equally for doing that, to achieve what they wish to achieve in our society with their own abilities and their own desires.

With those few remarks, Mr. Speaker, I commend the motion to the Assembly and urge members to support this particular motion.

MR. LEE: Mr. Speaker, it's my pleasure to join in this debate. It's an interesting debate, and it's an important debate because of the topic. I begin by acknowledging the hon. Member for Calgary McKnight for introducing it and persistently pursuing it. This is not the first time it has been before the House. But it's the first time I've had an opportunity to say I support it, and I support it enthusiastically.

Following as many speakers as I have, Mr. Speaker, to repeat anything that has already been said would simply be plagiarism. I think all the good arguments have been put forward. I simply want to add my voice to say there is a need. There is a need for advocacy, there is a need for participation, there is a need for urgency, and there is a need for leadership.

Why is there a need for advocacy? If we look at the history of social progress in the past 100 years, we've seen the importance of advocacy. Who would believe, who would look back and realize that at one time women did not have the vote? Had it not been for advocacy then, we wouldn't have the participation in society we have today. There has been a need for advocacy for the disabled, for the poor, for minorities. I believe there is a need for advocacy for any group that does not have a full and equal say in society. If we're going to err, let's err on the side of advocacy.

Mr. Speaker, there's a need for participation. I believe society is missing the boat when we have half our population not adequately and fully participating in the decision-making process at every level of business and government and the social fabric of our community. It's important for women to participate not just as wives supporting their husbands, and that is important, not just as mothers raising the future generations, and that is vital, not just as employees of our businesses and our government, for that is essential, but as employers, directors, managers, vice-presidents, presidents, and chairpeople. We know they have the assets and abilities to contribute to the development of our society. Until we create a community where women participate fully as leaders, we will be missing that opportunity for their input.

Mr. Speaker, there's a need for urgency. Just how long are we going to permit this system of inequality to continue? Many years ago George Orwell wrote a book, *Nineteen Eighty-Four*, and he predicted that this would be a year of significance. What a significant year it would be if at the stroke of a pen or the passing of a Bill or the support of a resolution, we could eliminate the inequality that exists in this society and take full advantage of the talents and skills of all people regardless of their sex or racial origin or anything else. As a male, I sympathize with those women who want to progress and who want to contribute more fully but run into a subtle but very real barrier to their progress. I sympathize with their frustration, and that's why I am encouraged to see the hon. Member for Calgary McKnight and so many members of this House speak in favour of this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I mentioned that there is a need for urgency, a need for advocacy, and a need for participation. But more than anything, there is a need for leadership by example of women who take hold and say: yes, I'm not willing to sit on the sidelines; I want to be part of the mainstream of society. But you know, if we are really going to make progress, it is not going to be by passing a resolution, because a resolution isn't going to change attitudes. What we need more than anything is to change the heads and the hearts of all people.

I believe it is our beliefs that are getting in our way. It is our beliefs about the roles we should play in society that get in our way. The only thing that stops us from getting what we want is us and our beliefs and our stereotypes in society. If we look at our stereotypes, there are many. Just to start off humor-

ously, how many of us have participated in the simple belief that women are not good drivers? When I was at the University of Calgary, I was involved in debating, and I actually participated in a debate: be it resolved women should be barefoot, pregnant, and in the kitchen. Mr. Speaker, I was chosen to be on the side of those for it, and I couldn't believe it when I won. I couldn't believe anybody would vote for such a resolution, but it happened. I raise the matter facetiously, but how many of those within our society actually believe that? Perhaps that's okay for those who accept it, but what of those who want to go ahead and participate more fully?

I believe the best way for a change in the hearts and the heads of people is leadership by example. Mr. Speaker, that is why I support the proposal that there be an advisory committee on the status of women, because who else to point the way, to stand up and be counted, to identify those areas that need precise change than women themselves? What better way for men to see that the stereotypes they may have acquired beliefs about don't necessarily apply? And what better way for women, because in some respects the greatest barrier to progress is the attitudes and beliefs held not just by men but by women as well.

When I was a junior alderman, I recall that the very first resolution I introduced to city council in Calgary was that we ought to establish an advisory committee on the status of women at city hall. I recall serving notice of motion, and I spoke to some women's groups. They kind of hemmed and hawed and said: well, we may support it if all the t's and i's are dotted and crossed and everything fits just the way we want it. Because of their lack of enthusiasm for it, there wasn't much support in city council. When it came time for a vote, the vote was 12 to 2 against. Many of the females on city council in Calgary didn't even support it. So in some ways there's a need for educating all segments of society in the importance of this resolution.

To summarize, Mr. Speaker, there's a need for advocacy, there's a need for participation, there is a need for urgency — I'd like to see this resolution passed — and there's a need for leadership. There is a need for an advisory committee on the status of women in the province of Alberta. Yes, I acknowledge to the Minister of Advanced Education that the new Women's Secretariat is a step forward. It's an important and practical step forward, and I commend the minister for it. But I say, let's go one step further. Let's show our support for this by passing it. Mr. Speaker, to the question of why there should be an advisory committee on the status of women, my reply would be "Why not?"

MR. COOK: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to make a few remarks in response to the motion brought before us by the hon. Member for Calgary McKnight. The hon. member has asked that the Assembly ask the government to encourage the creation of a women's secretariat, an advisory council, I suppose, on the status of women.

Mr. Speaker, as a younger member of the Assembly — in fact still the youngest this term as well as last — and as a bachelor, I suppose I can't really claim any expertise except to make a few observations. First, I think a lot of people of my generation find that questions relating to the equality of groups in society are fairly self-evident. I don't think there is much feeling among younger people in the province that women should be denied an equal role in society and that artificial barriers that prevent them from achieving anything they as individuals or groups would like to achieve don't have any real legitimacy. Neither customs nor rules nor laws nor regulations have any purpose if they serve to provide a barrier to the free

and equal participation of all citizens regardless of their sex or any other characteristic.

Mr. Speaker, I don't think people of my generation really view this as being an issue, in the sense that it's something that simply must come, and it will come. I note with interest that the Minister of Advanced Education has beefed up the Women's Secretariat a little bit. There is provision for additional staff to advise the minister and, through the minister, the government, on women's issues. I think it's fair to say that we need people in the provincial government to offer us advice, to point out the barriers that exist in society, and to try to suggest ways to reduce those barriers. I think we have a very sensitive minister now who is interested in those issues. In fact I met the Hon. Dick Johnston just after the appointment, and he informed me that he had been to a conference on pension reform and had come to the conclusion that women's issues were among the major social issues facing society today and that he was challenged and excited by the opportunity to have a role in reducing those barriers. I think we can look forward in the next few months and years to the minister bringing forward some specific suggestions as to how we can have our women in the province take a more equal role in society.

I too would like to see the creation of a secretariat. I think we are starting down that road. We are beginning to put the staff and the necessary resources in place to create just such a secretariat. It's not as if we haven't begun that process. I think, too, that in the government caucus there's going to be a lively debate when this issue is brought to a decision. The hon. Member for Calgary McKnight deserves a great deal of credit. I can't see that there's going to be a debate as to whether or not women's issues are important. I think that's a given. It's the method, the manner, that we handle those issues that is at stake here.

I'm confident that we're going to be moving ahead in areas like pension reform, in opening up access to equal employment, in trying to look at issues in the personnel administration of the province, to make sure that women are given full and equal opportunity to participate in the public service of the province. Additionally I think we have to look at attitudes in the private sector as well, so that questions like the teaching of maths and sciences in our grade schools are promoted among the female population. The fact that women are not encouraged to proceed with maths and sciences is an effective social barrier to their entry into the science professions, particularly engineering, for example.

Mr. Speaker, I think it's important that we support this motion. I expect that before very long, it will come to the Assembly for a decision. Before that happens, I think the Minister of Advanced Education and the government caucus need the opportunity to look at the ways necessary to put in place the best mechanism for dealing with these issues. I know there are a lot of other members who would like to speak, and I think the clock has just run out on my time. So I beg leave to adjourn the debate.

MR. SPEAKER: As matter of fact, the clock has almost run out. Does the Assembly agree?

HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. SPEAKER: The motion for adjournment is adopted.

MR. HORSMAN: Mr. Speaker, this evening the House will deal in Committee of Supply, starting with the Department of Culture and, if that is concluded, continuing with the Department of the Environment. I move that when members assemble

this evening, they do so in Committee of Supply and that the House stand adjourned until such time as the Committee of Supply rises and reports.

MR. SPEAKER: Does the Assembly agree?

HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

[The House recessed at 5:31 p.m.]

[The Committee of Supply met at 8 p.m.]

head: COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

[Mr. Purdy in the Chair]

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

Since we don't have enough for a quorum, I will adjourn this committee for 10 minutes to see if we can get a quorum.

[The Committee of Supply resumed at 8:04 p.m.]

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We now have a quorum, so I'll call the committee to order.

Department of Culture

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Has the minister any opening comments?

MRS. LeMESSURIER: The Alberta Culture 1984-85 budget reflects the government's overall commitment to restraint and sound financial management. No new programs will be introduced this year. However, last year's grant levels will be maintained. We will do our utmost in these very difficult times to maintain a consistent level of financing for both our present operation and long-term planning by the province's art organizations.

Many of these organizations are successful because of the volunteer commitment, a commitment that is ever increasing, Mr. Chairman. For example, a substantial volunteer program is being implemented this year to assist in the operation of all our historical sites. The Ukrainian village, for example, has hired a volunteer co-ordinator, and this year, the village will be mainly run by volunteers, as in many of our other historic sites and programs. We must applaud the efforts of these volunteers and give them the recognition they deserve.

While we have no new capitals being announced in 1984-85, we are generating work in construction and encouraging tourism. Currently in progress are the Calgary Centre for the Performing Arts, the new Fort McMurray tar sands, and the Ukrainian cultural village. As well, the Leitch Collieries historic site and the Frank Slide interpretive centre will provide new tourist attractions for southwest Alberta. Continuation of work on the Tyrrell Museum is also generating economic activity in the Drumheller area. The construction is coming along very well, as is construction on the Head-Smashed-In area and the interpretive centre near Fort Macleod.

At this time I would like to say a very special thank-you to the members of all my foundations and boards, who have worked so very hard this past year to assist me, and also to all

my colleagues. I've had the opportunity, as has my good colleague the Minister of Education, to visit many communities in the province, and I have been very well received. I think culture is alive and strong in Alberta. A very special thank-you also to the staff in my office, as well as in my department. Tonight in the gallery I have my Assistant Deputy Minister of Culture, Glen, and also June Edey, who is my financial officer, and of course my executive assistant, Jane.

Thank you.

MR. BATIUK: Mr. Chairman, I would like to briefly make a few expressions. I know the minister has a portfolio that regardless of what you do, it's well appreciated. It's one of those that gets no criticism. If it ever does, it's very little.

Something I would really like to mention is the libraries in this province. Over the last number of years, I've had the opportunity of meeting with the library association of this province, and they expressed concerns that our libraries were not up to par. Yet I really feel that in any community who puts in a hand of their own, this is not the case.

I am particularly proud of three libraries in my constituency. I'm going to start off with Ryley, which is a community of only 500-plus people. In my 13 years as an MLA, they have already built their second library. They are proud of that library. They had one in the early 1970s. Two years ago they turned their library over to the senior citizens for a drop-in centre and built a much larger one. Two Hills, another one in my community, has a library that's worth viewing. They are always very thankful for both the moral and financial support they have received from the government. Of course Vegreville has a good library because of its size. But as I say, I think any community that wants to put in a hand on their own and do a little work — there is no reason anybody can say that our libraries are not supported. I feel very proud of the libraries I have, and I'm sure there are many others in the province.

Another ongoing program I really admire is cemetery restoration. When I think back 10 years ago, the number of cemeteries I didn't even know existed — they were grown in and so forth. But a little program, a little grant, provided an incentive. Now as I drive through the country, regardless of whether it's in my constituency or others, it's just nice to see that our good pioneers are resting in places that are really looked after.

And it goes with the historic sites. There are many of them, and it's nice to go out to different parts of the province and be able to view the historic sites. Mr. Chairman, being the chairman of an advisory board, and that is of the Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village, we bring recommendations to the minister. Here again, I can see that it's playing a very important role in society, providing a good quality of life for many. Already every day in the month of May is booked. There are 2,500 students that have already booked visits for this spring.

Last fall over 30 MLAs had the opportunity to view the Ukrainian village, and I really appreciate some of the recommendations and suggestions of hon. members. If any others have any recommendations, I'd be glad to hear them. We meet approximately once in two months. We review whatever we see necessary and make our recommendations to the minister. I would particularly like to pay tribute to the organizers of the Ukrainian village. Some people had the foresight, the need, to preserve some of the buildings and artifacts so future generations would at least know how the pioneers lived prior to the 20th century.

I am very gratified that the minister listens. Just like any other department, I admire the staff in Culture. But still they operate from the book, from policy. There are times when I have to go to the minister to make an overruling of their deci-

sions. However, that's the beauty, and I think that's the way it should be. The elected person should have the final say. So I would just like to say I really appreciate that that is being done in the constituency and throughout the province.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

MR. R. MOORE: Mr. Chairman, I would really like to recognize the excellent programs the minister and her staff carry out throughout the province. The hon. Member for Vegreville touched on a major one, the Ukrainian village. I was impressed last spring when I had the chance to go out and visit that facility. It's a worthwhile project and a clear-cut example of what we have here that carries on the ethnic traditions and origins of our founding races in the province. It's an excellent program.

There are many other ones, and the Member for Vegreville touched on that too. That's the library program. It is also one of the areas where we have a major concern in the central Alberta region. The Parkland Regional Library, through its service to the public, has proven to be a very, very worthwhile service, so much so that the demand has forced it to expand to where it has just outgrown its facilities. We need a new facility down there to carry on this type of service.

It provides a major contribution to both the public and the school libraries throughout the central Alberta area. It's been such an excellent service that areas around its service area are now demanding that. We find that with its present facility, it's hard pressed to provide the necessary service for its own service area, without expanding further. It's presently providing service to the counties of Lacombe, Mountain View, Ponoka, Red Deer, and the school division of Rocky Mountain House. That's a big area, Mr. Chairman. It has also had requests for its services from the counties of Camrose, Stettler, Wainwright, Paintearth, Provost, and the city of Red Deer. That takes in a big area, right from the B.C. border through to the Saskatchewan border, right out of the centre of Alberta. The need is there, the demand is there, yet we are not in a position to provide that worthwhile service. It is of deep concern to everyone in that area.

There are two things they require. Number one is the funding for a new headquarters building. I might point out, Mr. Chairman, that they have the land in place for the facility itself. Secondly, they'll need additional provincial grants to compensate for the geographic distances and the densities of population to be served if they were to move into the area of eastern Alberta. Those two requests — and I think every school district and county in central Alberta would concur with me — would certainly prove worth while to the educational institutions and provide a very worthwhile contribution to the social life of that area. I sincerely request that the minister give this consideration in her planning for the future, if not in this year, definitely for the '85-86 year. We're hopeful that there would be some decision in that area this year. I know it's a big request in years of constraint, but we have already outgrown our size. We have nowhere else to go but back to the government for help in that area. Hopefully, we'll receive a favourable consideration in this area.

MR. MARTIN: Just a few remarks and a couple of questions to the minister. I'm not often very flattering in this House, but I have to say that in every response I've had from the minister's department, while they may not always be able to agree with everything we want, we've always been well received and in some cases even achieved things we wanted. As a result, I think it's a very well-run department generally, and I give the minister credit for that.

It's not often I get to talk about things in my riding in the inner city, but I might point out that Theatre Network, which the minister is well aware of — I've been to three or four plays in that particular playhouse and each time I've been very impressed. The work has been excellent, well directed and good acting. I might point out — we have the Minister of the Environment here right now — that on Sunday I was at a show called *Sick of It.*, about the sour gas plants in Pincher Creek. I thought it was done very well, in a very balanced way. It was balanced, but it did show the whole story of the emotionalism that people went through. It's not often that you actually see people crying at a play. I wasn't one of them, but there actually were people bringing out the handkerchiefs and all the rest of it at this particular play on Sunday. So I pass that on, as I am very impressed by that particular theatre.

If I may take the liberty to mention to you, I don't know if you know that I had some contact with Mr. Buick, your assistant deputy, a few years before he was in Alberta. He was then the ambassador to Chile. I had occasion to be very impressed with Mr. Buick's work. I had to make a phone call in regard to a person that went over to Chile and got himself in some difficulty. At that time, Mr. Buick and I traded phone calls about four or five times, and I can tell the Assembly that Mr. Buick was very efficient and everything worked out well. That person is now a Canadian citizen and back in Edmonton alive and doing very well.

In terms of some general comments in the multicultural area, I notice that there have been — of course, we all know about the Equality Now! book put out by the House of Commons. Frankly, going through some of it — to be honest, I think some of it's very impractical. But I point out to the minister the one she commissioned, New Policy Directions on Cultural Diversity in Alberta. This was done in 1982. I think this one is very well done. I go through it, and I think it's generally fairly practical. At the time the council states that the present policy — and this is one of the comments I'd like to hear from the minister — makes

no adequate reference to the need for the active pursuit of tolerance and understanding of cultural differences.

This is somewhat referred to, and this is a Canadian booklet too. But I would ask the minister — I'm more interested in 1981, rather than going through each point, because it's a fairly comprehensive document — if she would make some general comments about where she feels her department is in following up at least some of the resolutions here. A number of different ethnic groups have said to me that they are impressed with this paper, and they look forward to action in the future in terms of many of the directions that were presented in that paper.

The only thing I ask from this book, if the minister's had a chance to look at it — one of the things they recommend that basically falls into the provincial area is that the provincial government should take action in the area of education. They talk about implementation of a race relations policy, number 67. In curriculum they talk about establishment of an inter-provincial co-ordinating committee to evaluate the legitimacy of teaching and resource materials for the purpose of determining the possible existence of cultural or racial bias; that's number 74. I know it's one that falls in with the Department of Education, but certainly it falls into both departments. That's one recommendation I feel might be worth while, a co-ordinating committee right across different provinces. I ask the minister to comment on her thoughts about that particular area.

The other question I have been asked to ask the minister — I can't quite make it out, but what is the budget for the grant over a year to the Ukrainian village?

With those few remarks, a couple of general comments requiring some clarification and one specific question, I leave that to the minister and await her comments.

Thank you.

DR. CARTER: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to make comments on a number of areas with respect to the Department of Culture. The first is with regard to historic sites. Historic sites may well refer to older members of this Legislative Assembly, but we know it really applies as a term to geographic locations within the province.

In particular, I commend the minister and her department for the work that's been done with respect to the concept of setting aside the downtown area of Fort Macleod. I see that as being valuable not only from a historical perspective but also in terms of tourism. All too many people in this province are too willing to think that things cultural or things that have a historic nature really are a drain upon the public purse. But there's the other aspect that aside from their intrinsic worth, they are also attractions for people coming from other parts of the province and also from other parts of the country and the world. Fort Macleod of course occupies a very important place in terms of the historical development of the west as well as with respect to our province, so I look forward to the results of that ongoing consultation and development with that community and the department.

Some time ago I visited Fort Edmonton together with my family. I realize that Fort Edmonton and Heritage Park are to some degree plasticized versions of history, even though they do use authentic buildings. Nevertheless, both Fort Edmonton and Heritage Park in Calgary are good reminders to us and to our children of a vanishing part of what our history is all about. Both of those locations are very interesting in their own right, and I would commend both locations to all Members of the Legislative Assembly. Take at least half a day off in the next year and a half to go and visit one of these facilities. Just walk around and be reminded of what it was like to walk those wooden sidewalks. Remember "step on a crack, break your mother's back; step on a nail, put your father in jail"? Those are the kinds of things, those very precious memories, that come back as you go and visit those facilities. So as that relates to this department, it's a precious holding on to our past.

Of course, all that involves a tremendous amount of volunteer work with respect to our fellow Albertans. They're to be greatly commended for the immeasurable, innumerable hours they put in. For example, Heritage Park — the amount of time taken by volunteers just to try to restore some of the very valuable, ancient, decrepit railway equipment and the wonderful job they're doing, especially working within the new roundhouse which was a gift to the province in our birthday year.

Again, worldwide acclaim with respect to such important facilities as Dinosaur park and the buffalo jump underlines the importance of these facilities throughout the world and helps put Alberta on the map internationally.

I owe a special thank-you to the minister and to the heritage sites branch with respect to their consideration of naming a particular mountain in the province near the German prisoner of war camp. I've made representation in the Assembly before, which resulted in the fact that one of the prisoner of war camps in the province has been set aside as a heritage site. The camp commandant's cabin is being developed as a resource centre. I see that as a reminder to us as Albertans of how precious our freedom is, not simply marking the fact that this is one of the sites where we had German prisoners of war in this province in both the first and second world wars.

Again I mention that a tremendous number of ex-German POW come to this province on a yearly basis. They bring their families to show them a missing part of their lives. It's interesting to note that German POW who were interned in Canada are almost the only group of ex-German POW who have reunions. They do that because they know they were tremendously well treated while they were guests, so to speak, of the Canadian government, especially during the Second World War. They come with their families, and that means a significant sentimental journey for them. But it also makes for significant, less sentimental, dollars being spent in the province of Alberta.

I was interested that the Member for Vegreville commented on the matter of cemetery restoration in the province. This is my chance for my yearly plug for the work party in the Cypress Hills at St. Margaret's, Eagle Butte, where once a year we gather — this year on the long weekend in May — to reclaim the cemetery and do some more work on the church, which was built in 1904 to service the settlement in the area.

It's quite interesting, for example, to see the Minister of Federal and Intergovernmental Affairs pushing a lawnmower to cope with the weeds in the cemetery as part of his work towards giving due homage to the pioneers of this province or to see the Member for Cypress being very attentive to all of his constituency, even though some of them are dead. Again, that's just one example that there are a tremendous number of volunteers throughout this province who take pride in their heritage and are willing to work in terms of the good old-fashioned work bee to help preserve that heritage, even in this day and age.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to comment for just a moment with respect to the archives of the province. The archival papers kept in Edmonton are a very fine collection, and the staff should be commended. In particular I would like to mention the fine photo collection there, and narrow that down even further to the Ernest Brown collection of photos. In the last number of years I've had opportunity to browse, to some degree, with respect to a number of books on the province but in particular in the last six months to look at the collection with respect to steam locomotives. Through the Chair to the minister, I know the minister highly values the work of the archives in Edmonton as well as the work of the Glenbow-Alberta Institute. Both facilities are first class. I must also say that any time I've had recourse working with the staff in either facility, they've been most helpful and courteous. Again, in both depositories, we have very, very fine collections which no doubt are the envy of other people throughout the world.

Mr. Chairman, through you to the minister, I would like to make one comment with respect to the arts in general. I know the minister and the department have been supportive to various members in the arts community in a financial manner as well as in an encouragement way. I would like to single out Violet Archer in particular — the fact that in the last year this very interesting lady, who is very much an individual in terms of her own right as well as in her composition of music, was made a member of the Order of Canada. I know that fairly recently Violet Archer had at least two pieces of music given their premiere by the University of Alberta mixed chorus. I think that happened about three weeks ago. I understand that the University of Alberta choir is going on tour to Europe later this year and is going to be in West Germany as one of the sites of their tour.

Again, this is an example of native Albertans being involved in the arts and in the performance of the arts, and not just staying here but going abroad to help let a few other people in the world realize that Albertans are not just simply involved in the number one economy of agriculture and the number two oil and gas industry.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, through you to the minister, a few comments with respect to the Calgary Centre for the Performing Arts. I fully expect that this centre will be seen to be one of the foremost facilities of its type in all of North America. I have every reason to believe that the physical plant will be — I guess I would be less than candid if I were to say that I expect the facility will perhaps be a little bit too sumptuous. Then again, I am not involved in all the planning of that facility. Nevertheless, I am quite certain that the volunteers have been doing a tremendous amount of work with respect to the raising of funds. I know a tremendous number of people have been working and giving beyond measure with respect to the development of the physical facility and also with respect to the planning and programs which will take place in that facility.

Before I go on to comment about that, I would also like to say a word of sincere appreciation to the minister for the work of the staff who run the Jubilee auditoriums in both Calgary and Edmonton. I believe those facilities have been run in an eminently fine style. In particular I comment concerning the Calgary facility. I know it has been a matter of very good organization there. As a result of the renovations to the Jubilee Auditorium in Calgary in particular, much more versatility has been given to the facility and much more convenience and comfort given to the patrons who attend.

Within the next 18 months, the whole matter of the arts scene in Calgary will change significantly with the opening of the Calgary Centre for the Performing Arts. The physical plant is very attractive. Most of the members of the Calgary caucus were privileged to tour that facility last summer. We were impressed by the facility even at that time, and we look forward to the formal opening.

Mr. Chairman, I have two concerns which perhaps the minister would comment on. Number one is that while we give thanks to the volunteers and to all those involved in the fund-raising, and of course encourage them to raise even more money, one would hope that the opening of the facility will be kept in perspective and that things won't go overboard in terms of trying to spend excessive amounts of money to have the most gala opening ever witnessed on the face of the earth. I think it is entirely appropriate to have a very fine opening of a facility but, as I say, I'm hoping it will be kept in some kind of perspective with regard to the economic times of the day.

The other concern I have, Mr. Chairman, is this: I know it's difficult in terms of getting the facility built, put in place, and operational; there will be a work-in period of at least a year, and that will probably raise a whole number of other issues with respect to unforeseen costs, which is a very interesting phrase. But I hope the minister has a good working committee in place, keeping an eye in conjunction with the people who will be in charge of the operational aspect of the Centre for the Performing Arts, that we will have pretty well been able to identify and analyze all of the unforeseen difficulties so that we have very few unforeseen fiscal difficulties which might end up costing us a paltry extra million or two in the first year to 18 months.

In that regard I hope the minister will favour the House with her comments as to all the various organizations who are in discussion as to whether they will use the facility, and also as to how many groups have committed themselves — are not just in discussion — to indeed use the new facility, so that we, together with those involved in building the facility, don't suddenly realize that we've got a third or a half of the place not being used because they decide they want to continue on in their present, less than adequate places which they can afford.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, I congratulate the minister and the work of her department. I know various aspects of her

department bring in tourist dollars to the province, and that's very commendable, especially in these times. I also realize that with respect to the Calgary Centre for the Performing Arts, there are certain construction projects which result in additional person-years of labour in the construction field.

Thank you.

MR. GOGO: Mr. Chairman, for a province that's only 79 years old, when one observes the request by the minister to the Legislature for some \$70 million, that's about \$35 for every man, woman, and child in the province. I believe that's not only a sign of commitment but indeed something to be proud of. I only wish we could do the same for amateur sport. I think we were at 30 cents and now we're going up to about \$3. When you have 9 percent of Canada's people and a province a little older than its Lieutenant Governor, \$770 million being appropriated is indeed a strong sign of commitment to beliefs of this government on what culture, art, music, et cetera, are all about.

The Member for Edmonton Norwood made some mention about the Edmonton theatre and one of the plays, *Sick of It*. He made reference to Pincher Creek and sour gas. I hope that's not another example of picking on southern Alberta. I'm sure that wasn't the intent. It just seems to come out that way, because nobody from southern Alberta ever picks on Edmonton. They visit periodically, but they don't pick on it.

Mr. Chairman, on behalf of the minister, I had the opportunity last Sunday to attend the 10th anniversary of the Lethbridge library and to read the minister's letter and present a scroll, and the previous evening to attend the art festival with the winds of fortune banquet. I want the minister to know that although she can't be everywhere in the province, she's always represented across this province. I say that as a member out of respect for the minister; that's how popular she is throughout the province.

Reference has been made, Mr. Chairman, to libraries. There are several points I wanted to raise with the minister. If the minister doesn't object to me asking questions relative to various votes, if that's permissible, then perhaps she could summarize at the end and it would save us all a lot of trouble.

Heritage Day, the first Monday in August, is a very significant day for all of Alberta. It's particularly important in my community where we have the Southern Alberta Ethnic Association, some 23 member groups. My question to the minister is: I wonder if consideration has been given to filming some of these events so our people in the north may observe what some of the people in the south do and vice versa. I think there's a lot of merit, if it's not too expensive, for making film clips that could be shown in our school system, if they could be done and shown, for example, in terms of travelogues throughout the province. I think there's another area where our volunteers could become involved, if the minister would give that a little thought.

Secondly, as next year is International Youth Year as declared by the United Nations, Mr. Chairman, I would hope that this government with its commitment to youth would not think just in terms of sports, that they would indeed give some thought to the ethnic and cultural values of our province. Perhaps during that exciting year, which is the 100th anniversary of the city of Lethbridge by the way, the minister's department could put some onus on youth and culture as opposed to, but not at the expense of, youth and sport.

Thirdly, Chairman, is the censorship board. Today is the anniversary of the birth of the Canadian Constitution and the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. I hear so many allegations about people challenging various rights under the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. One can't help but think of some of the

decisions in Ontario with regard to censorship. Maybe the minister, or maybe later the Attorney General in his estimates, could comment about the implications to our province of having a censorship board. Is it still valid? Has the minister had any correspondence at all to the effect that it's going to be challenged under the Charter of Rights and Freedoms?

Next, Mr. Chairman, I noticed reference to the 75th Anniversary celebration. I believe it's related to the Canadian encyclopedia project. I'm not sure, but the minister may clarify that. In view of the \$70 million in her budget, the minister may just deem it appropriate that members of this Assembly receive a complimentary copy of that. [interjection] I hear a comment behind me, Mr. Chairman, that some of us, not me, are contributors. Perhaps they should receive a complimentary copy.

I attended the opening of the Red Coat Trail at Fort Macleod with the minister last year. I hear various things with regard to the Red Coat Trail society having some difficulty with a little piece of road. I understand that they met with the Minister of Transportation. As a result of the cultural and historical aspects of the Red Coat Trail, I'd like to ask the minister if there's anything she can do to accommodate or encourage the Minister of Transportation if those funds are needed. I know the Member for Cypress has made various comments about it. If there's any way we can, I think we should help.

Mr. Chairman, just in conclusion, it's my view that we spend so much time on economic matters as well as agriculture in this province that we don't often stop to consider the very great history we have, even though it's limited to only 79 years. I will close by saying that this province and this government, through its minister, has done a tremendous job in seeing that the cultural mosaic of Canada is kept alive and well, certainly in our province.

Thank you.

MR. CLARK: I'd like to say to the minister how much my constituents and I have appreciated working with her over the years. It's really always a pleasure to have someone ask if they could see the Minister of Culture, because I have yet to be turned down. I've always got a very good reception, and so have all my constituents. So on their behalf, I'd like to thank you very much.

We appreciate what the Marigold library system has done in the constituency. It's pretty well all over my constituency now. Although it's had a few growing pains — it's still growing — it's doing a good job out there, so we appreciate that.

I still have a lot of pride in taking people down to the valley and showing them the growing Tyrrell Museum, which is many feet high now and is coming along on schedule. It looks as if it's going to be the pride of Drumheller, and of course we thank you very much for your position on that. We would also like to say how much we appreciate taking people into the museum where they're working, into the old Co-op store, and showing them the people working on the displays. A lot of the people working on those displays are local people, so the museum has really started to produce jobs already. Beside the construction, there are local people working on the technical part of the displays. We appreciate the minister's part in bringing that fine facility to Drumheller. Of course we hope she will continue working with us so we can get a hookup to the No. 1 Highway, but that's off the record.

There's another thing I've always noticed — there's always been a little grant come through for what we call the Plug Street Players down there. I think the hon. Member for Rocky Mountain House might remember Plug Street in Drumheller. In the old mining times there was a mine there, and it was a little

village or hamlet separate from Drumheller. Anyway, they call themselves the Plug Street Players, and they are a little group that go around and do a very fine job. I notice that there are some small grants coming through for them from the Minister of Culture.

I have what I guess we could call a request. I would like to personally escort the minister down to the Red Deer valley. A fellow has bought out the Tracy Ranch, where they have a very old log house and a log barn. It's all log buildings, and it's in very good condition. The new rancher there is wondering whether he should tear them down. Some of the people have been suggesting that they be kept as a heritage site, as it's one of the oldest ranches in the country. I think sometimes we forget our western heritage just a little bit. One of the things I always enjoyed was reading *John Ware's Cow Country*. It's about a Negro boy who started out as a slave in the States — in Texas, I believe — came to Canada on a cattle drive, and ended up as the first black rancher in Canada. He also ended up being the world's champion bronc rider, and spent the last of his life down on the Red Deer River, where we have John Ware's cabin in the Dinosaur park.

If this story was in the States, I believe that by now there'd have been a movie on this book and on this man's life. Anybody who has read about his life has to be impressed by what this man did in those days. Madam Minister, if you have any pull at all with the movie industry in Canada or in Alberta, I would certainly like to see someone take a shot at making a western movie on a real-life figure we have. I know if they had such a person in the United States, it would never be lying dormant down there. If I have any criticism of our culture at all, it is that maybe we don't put quite enough emphasis on our western heritage — the pioneers of the old west that started this country when they came out here in the wagons, and their cattle drives up into southern Alberta.

With that, I'm looking forward with appreciation to working with you. We do have another project on the go down there, which you've already been informed of. It's a coal miners' museum, where some private citizens are trying to start a new museum to complement the Tyrrell museum and bring an underground coal mine tour to the valley again. I know the minister will sit down and help us all she can; she's already said she would. They'll be coming in to see you on that, and we look forward to working with you.

Thank you very much.

MR. ZIP: First of all, I wish to congratulate the hon. Minister of Culture for the excellent work she is doing through her department. She has brought a deep commitment and a warm-hearted understanding to her work. This has shown itself through the warm reception she gets whenever she makes one of her many appearances in Calgary in the course of the fulfillment of her duties.

As the hon. Member for Lethbridge West has pointed out, our province is still very young in relation to other places of the world. However, the roots of the people who came here, mostly from Europe, extend back many centuries, and these roots are very important. The people of Alberta are becoming more and more conscious not only of the history of Alberta's settlement and development but also of their origins in their mother countries. That is why projects like the Ukrainian heritage village are so significant and are appreciated not only by people of Ukrainian origin but by all Albertans.

I remember when, not so long ago, people looked so much to adjusting to a new country and a new culture that by and large they literally turned their backs on the language and culture of their parents. In addition, as the hon. Member for

Calgary Egmont has pointed out, when these projects are completed and available to the public, they become real tourist attractions and places of real economical value to Alberta. I found it most refreshing to see the interest and recognition this minister and the government show to the subject of cultural heritage and the preservation of our historical past. The preservation of historically significant buildings in Calgary has come almost too late. I can personally recall the demolition of quite a number of buildings that should have been preserved in this very young city.

Of course, the support our hon. minister and her department have given to the enrichment of our quality of life in Calgary with projects like the performing arts centre and existing facilities like the Glenbow museum, the Jubilee Auditorium, Heritage Park, Fort Calgary, and so forth, is very commendable. Then we have the smaller community cultural and recreational facilities that have been built through the support of the hon. minister's department. These add and will continue to add to the interest and vitality of the Calgary communities they serve.

I would like to thank the thousands of dedicated and community-minded citizens of Calgary who have worked and continue to work with our hon. minister's department to keep these facilities running. I hope the very important work of these volunteers will be encouraged, recognized, and expanded so that we'll see the proper use of our cultural and community facilities continue without undue cost to our taxpayers.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

MR. McPHERSON: Mr. Chairman, the comments the hon. Member for Calgary Mountain View just made are interesting. He commented as he rose that he wanted to congratulate the minister for her conscientious dedication to her portfolio, which has been witnessed by many people across the province in respect to the reception she receives during her extensive travels. This has been expressed by many members this evening.

Perhaps at the great risk of almost embarrassing the minister, I would like to touch on a personal experience I had with her. Not only do we have a minister in this portfolio who has dedicated herself to her responsibilities but she's a very warm and compassionate family person. Mr. Chairman, I think that is an important component to the kind of portfolio she's responsible for.

I had the good fortune of being in a lucky place at a lucky time to help her son, who was abandoned on the highway one evening around Christmastime, on a night about 30 degrees below zero. He was stuck with a bit of a problem. We had the opportunity to take him in that night and make sure he got on his way the next morning. I've often said that families can often be valued, I suppose, on their children. Andy LeMessurier is one fine young individual.

Mr. Chairman, I don't mean to embarrass the minister, but I am trying to point out that we have an individual in this portfolio who has such a warm and loving family. I think that value, that attribute, expresses itself to the many people who are involved in the cultural mosaic across the province in the way she handles her portfolio.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to touch on a couple of areas that relate to Red Deer. I would be remiss if I didn't take a few moments to discuss one of the important issues that has been developing in Red Deer over the last year or so. Of course the minister is well aware of it. It's the old Red Deer courthouse. At the moment I don't have to trot out the historical significance of the old Red Deer courthouse. It's well documented; it's well established. The minister is well familiar with it.

I had an interesting conversation with a constituent the other day. I guess I hearken back to the comments made by the

Member for Lethbridge West. His comments were that Alberta is a young province, some 79 years old. I think the old Red Deer courthouse was built in 1934. After I expressed to my constituent my feelings that the old courthouse should be designated as a historic site, he said: I take some personal umbrage at the fact that anything built in 1934, which is the year I was born, is a historic site. Nonetheless, we do have a young province, and the old Red Deer courthouse is apparently one of the last courthouses built in Alberta with the architecture of the time.

Mr. Chairman, we have a potential in Red Deer to convert the old courthouse into a lively cultural activities centre which will enhance the cultural opportunities in central Alberta. It certainly would help to bring activity into the downtown centre and revitalize the downtown core.

Frankly, the process of having the courthouse in Red Deer designated has been too long. I don't mean that as a criticism to the minister — she's very supportive of it — but it has taken a long time. In frustration with respect to a lot of paper that has gone back and forth between various proponents who are interested in the facility and the various departments of the government who are players in it. I had to ask that we finally have a meeting, sit down and discuss the issue, find out if in fact the city is interested in acquiring that resource, and bring the issue to the table. I'm pleased to report for the record that a meeting has taken place, we are making progress with respect to the designation of the old courthouse in downtown Red Deer as a historic site, and a study is being developed to determine the mechanical worthiness of the facility.

On that point, I would like to take a brief moment to compliment some of the members of the minister's department: in particular, the deputy minister Dr. O'Neill, Frits Pannekoek, Art Looye, and of course Jane Simmons, for the efforts they continue to put into various aspects of the Department of Culture, in particular with respect to working towards a satisfactory completion and result for the designation of the old courthouse in downtown Red Deer.

Perhaps one other comment on that point is that the length of time that has been involved with respect to finally determining whether this particular building can be designated as a provincial historic site surrounds the fact — I would ask the minister to comment if I'm right on this — that it's pretty difficult for the Department of Culture to designate a provincial historic site without having a final proponent in that facility. As such, of course, there has been some interplay between whether the municipality is interested in taking over that facility or indeed if another player might be involved. Certainly the city would require the flexibility to ensure that if it became the owner of that resource, it would not be saddled with ongoing operating costs. There must be adequate flexibility there, and I'm satisfied that negotiations are continuing. I now ask the minister if she might be interested in making some comments with respect to the proceedings and discussions that are developing on the downtown courthouse.

I'd like to make a brief comment perhaps in support of the comments made by the Member for Lacombe. As a central Alberta M.L.A., I have had an opportunity to tour the Parkland Regional Library and have become involved in some of their efforts. The Member for Lacombe has placed those before the Assembly this evening. Keeping in mind that in order to attract investments and jobs to this province there has to be a reasonable and low tax regime and a confidence by the private sector that governments will not continue to incur massive deficits, I would like to support the Member for Lacombe and the other members in central Alberta in relation to the Parkland Regional Library. They do require needed space there. Mr. Chairman,

in terms of priorities, I would like to commend that to the minister.

Mr. Chairman, my final comment is with respect to the Snell residence in downtown Red Deer. This is a site the minister is well familiar with. It is currently being considered by the Alberta Land Surveyors' Association as another historical resource in downtown Red Deer. I have publicly taken a position a number of times in Red Deer, perhaps in opposition to some thought, that the interesting juxtaposition that that facility finds itself in, in relation to the new courthouse and the fact that the old Snell residence has an interesting historical significance as the former residence of [Charles] Snell, who was one of the founding members of the Alberta Land Surveyors' Association — if the Alberta Land Surveyors' Association should indeed decide that they would choose to move their Alberta operation to the city of Red Deer and acquire that facility at no cost to the taxpayer, I would be supportive of that. Of course the minister is well aware that they have not yet been able to make that determination until their annual meeting. But I elicit to the minister, Mr. Chairman, that in the event that they agree to take over that facility, she gives very serious consideration to designating the old Snell residence in downtown Red Deer as a historic site.

Mr. Chairman, I would just conclude my remarks by asking the minister if she would be interested in making a few comments on a couple of the issues developing in Red Deer and again complimenting her on the exemplary job that she performs in her task.

Thank you.

MR. SHRAKE: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to also say a few kind words about our minister. I think even our opposition appreciates this minister; at least I've never heard an unkind word.

I guess there's been enough said about our cultural centre there, the Centre for Performing Arts. I would really like to thank her along a couple of other lines — one is in the downtown, Legion No. 1 — for the effort and help she gave. I was fortunate enough this last year to be at the unveiling of a plaque designating that site as a heritage site. I really appreciate how things went. The younger members here probably wouldn't recognize this name, but I'm sure the older members would recognize the name of Vera Lynn. Vera Lynn was at that opening. I was very honoured to be on the same platform as Vera Lynn, a very famous singer from World War I and World War II. That was before Al Hyland's time, I guess.

I just want to make a couple of comments. Probably one of the best programs I've ever seen — I think any province would be proud to have done what has been done — is regarding our cultural ethnic groups. If you go into the city of Calgary, we have a set of cultural centres there that you will probably not find anywhere else in the world.

If you go into southwest Calgary, you have the Hungarian hall, which is one of the finest buildings. It used to be a large curling rink, but with assistance from the Minister of Culture they have built that building into a magnificent structure. They hold their functions there — dances, events, and things — and it's something they are proud of. I think it'll help preserve the Hungarian culture in that city.

Also in that southwest area, there's a large church. With a little help from the Minister of Culture, we have the Ukrainian hall there. They have restored that building, refurbished it. They have a lot of activities. They teach the language, dancing, singing, and it'll help them preserve their culture.

If you go up into northeast Calgary, we've got the Austrian club. There again, it's a building they are proud of. It's a lovely building. They actually serve dinners during the day. If you're

ever coming from the airport, wheel off on 32nd Avenue there, and you can get a heck of a good meal at a very reasonable price.

Probably one of the prettiest halls — it's not one of the biggest, but one of the finest for the interior work — is the Croatian hall in northeast Calgary. It's a fairly large structure. They ran out of money for the interior of it and brought in craftsmen of Croatian ancestry. The woodwork in there — if you could only be so fortunate as to have that kind of woodwork in your home. They have woodwork there where they have laminated pieces of wood together, and you have to look closely to see where the grain ends, where they have spliced another piece on. And the tile work — this was all volunteer people. There have been hundreds of craftsmen that went in and donated their Saturdays, Sundays, and evenings working on that hall.

The Polish have a hall there in which the acoustics are excellent. I was at a concert in there, I didn't understand some of the things because of the language, but with the music and dancing, you don't need to understand the language. It's still beautiful.

I could go on with the German Canadian Club and the large new hall they're building. In the downstairs level, they'll have a school, supported not by the taxpayers but at their own expense. They're teaching the language, and they also have all the cultural things. They have the Schutzen Club and the Rot Weiss Karnival Gesellschaft, a carnival group which is several hundreds of years old — old traditions.

In the southwest part of Calgary, when the Sikhs were building their temple they decided to go an extra step and put in a cultural centre as well. They have a library and a place where they have meals and families getting together. As the new immigrants come to this country, it's a place for them to go and they assist each other.

Madam Minister, I am very proud of our Minister of Culture, and I just hope we can carry on in the future with the things we have done before.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Would the hon. minister like to conclude?

MRS. LeMESSURIER: Mr. Chairman, it's been very gratifying to hear all these wonderful things that the Department of Culture has been able to achieve. I guess I have to say that it's thanks to all of you here in this Legislative Assembly that we've been able to do that.

When we talk about libraries, I think that is a very impressive thing in this province. I have some figures here which I think would be very interesting to all of you. In the province of Alberta we have 262 libraries. We have had seven libraries moving to renovated facilities. We've had eight libraries who have built brand-new buildings. We have had 26 libraries who are engaged right now in the preliminary planning. We have 10 libraries engaged in advanced planning or construction, and we have 28 libraries who are completing their new facilities. So the interest in libraries has really improved in the last few years.

A couple of my hon. colleagues mentioned the Parkland library. At this time I would like to have my colleagues know how highly I place the committee, the board members of the Parkland library. I know they are working under very difficult facilities. They have certainly outgrown their building. I am sure that with working together, something will be able to be achieved in the near future. All this means that I am encouraged by the growth of libraries in our province. I also realize the geographical distance that members of the Parkland Regional Library board have to cover. I know they work under very

difficult circumstances. But they are always happy, and they are always very pleasant to meet and talk to.

The hon. Member for Vegreville and the Member for Edmonton Norwood spoke about the Ukrainian village. This year we will have 11 out of 33 buildings completed by the opening of the village. This year the actual capital funding for the Ukrainian village will be approximately \$3.54 million, and the actual operating will be \$103,000. As I said earlier in my remarks, this is the first year that we will be using volunteers to the strength we have been using them.

I have to congratulate the chairman and members of the Ukrainian advisory board. They have played a very important role in the presence of the village and have made people, not only in Alberta but also in the maritimes, very well aware of the potential of that village. We were down there this summer, and John very carefully and continually praised the village and what we were trying to achieve.

The hon. Member for Lacombe spoke about the Parkland library, and I think I covered that. The Member for Edmonton Norwood spoke about Theatre Network. It is an excellent theatre production. I think we are very fortunate that we have so many theatrical groups in our province and that we have been able to help them in some small manner; that is, when I said we have been able to keep our grants to these various groups at the same scale as they have been in the past. I think that will certainly encourage them to continue.

You referred to my assistant deputy, Mr. Buick, who happens to be in the gallery tonight. You said he was efficient when he was the ambassador, and I would like to inform the gallery he is still efficient today.

You referred to the multicultural area and the cultural diversity paper and also Equality Now! The cultural diversity paper is something that has been extremely well done, and I commend the committee that wrote that book. We have been working with the originators of that document. We have had quite a few meetings to date and will continue having meetings. We are coming to a conclusion very soon, which I will be presenting to my colleagues for their decision on it. It is certainly addressing the needs of the ethnic communities in Alberta. Also, when we are referring to Equality Now!, there are three other sections — not only item No. 74, but items 25, 26, and 27 — that I think can be addressed through our heritage council, and we are addressing those issues.

The hon. Member for Calgary Egmont talked about Fort Macleod and Fort Edmonton. I think we in Alberta should be very proud of our historical preservation. I would like to mention an article that was written in one of our papers in March. It starts off with: "suddenly, Alberta is getting Cultured". It ends with: "the history has always been there, of course, but now Alberta Culture is bringing it alive". I think that is what we are trying to indicate to the people of Alberta and to the rest of Canada. We are very lucky in Alberta. There are seven United Nations international sites, and we have three of them in Alberta. So that's speaking very highly of the history of this province.

The archives in the Provincial Museum, and the staff that run it, is another area we should be very proud of. I must say at this time that the archives are working under very difficult conditions. They are overcrowded. I am sure that when the economy has improved, there will be an opportunity for us to address a new provincial archives. I see the Treasurer looking at me.

I would also like to assure the member that the opening of the Calgary Centre for Performing Arts will not be too sumptuous for us. Although the Calgary centre is operated by an independent board, we will be giving them some direction of

what moneys are available. I would also like to inform the members that the Jubilee auditoriums are extremely well used. The one right here in Edmonton is used well over 350 days a year. So there is certainly a demand for facilities.

We were talking about the moneys, the operating dollars. I would like to inform my colleagues that there is a cost control committee in there; That has people not only from the community, public works, and my department but also a couple of members from the board of the Calgary centre. So we are working together to try to ensure that it will be run as feasibly as possible.

You asked about what groups would be using it. Theatre Calgary, Alberta Theatre Projects, and the Calgary Philharmonic are going to be the three main users of that facility. But I know many other organizations are looking forward to sharing the facilities.

The hon. Member for Lethbridge West expressed a concern about the Lethbridge library and Heritage Day and the filming of some of these events. I think that's an excellent idea. It is one we certainly will look into. I like the idea of showing it to the schools and perhaps to some of the areas that do not have Heritage Day celebrations.

The hon. member spoke on the International Youth Year. I would like to assure Members of the Legislative Assembly that we have many programs involving youth. We will certainly continue those and highlight those next year.

The hon. member asked about the censorship board and whether it was valid. I think the people in Alberta would like to make sure that their children have their films classified, and that is a role we will continue to play. As far as the controversy now going on between Ontario and the federal government, it is now being appealed. When that is addressed, we will then find out what that decision is and direct it at that time.

The 75th Anniversary: the dollars in my budget are for the installment of the encyclopedia. I would like to assure members in the House that just under 17,000 encyclopedias — and it's a set of three — will be given to schools, libraries, and branch libraries in Canada. When I say schools, those are private schools as well public schools, the universities, and also all our foreign posts abroad.

The hon. member mentioned the Red Coat Trail. I have had no representation from that committee and look forward to receiving such. The hon. Member for Drumheller spoke about the Tyrrell museum. The last I heard on the Tyrrell museum is that we should be opening it on approximately June 7, 1985.

In the Red Deer Valley, the Tracy ranch is a place where I have been. I have admired it. I have already had some requests for reviewing the designation of the Ware cabin, so I will follow up on that for the hon. member. I have received the brief on the coal mine, and I look forward to meeting with the members from the Drumheller area to discuss that brief.

The hon. Member for Red Deer spoke about the Red Deer courthouse and the city fathers. I know it seemed a very long time to the member, but there is one thing I really like to consider. When I designate a building, I like to make sure that building is going to be of use to the community, and it's going to have an inhabitant in it. Consequently, when the Red Deer city fathers come to a decision on whether or not they're going to utilize that building, that's when I'll make my decision on the designation. I've had requests from other colleagues that they'd like to use that building also. So as far as I'm concerned, it will be one that will be well used.

You spoke of the Snell residence. As you well know, that is in the hands of the Department of Public Works, Supply and Services and the Alberta surveyors. I look forward to the result

of their annual meeting. Again, you spoke of the Parkland library, and I think I've addressed that issue.

The Member for Calgary Millican spoke about the various ethnic centres in our province, especially in the city of Calgary. I know they're doing a splendid job, and the volunteers who are involved with those centres have also done an excellent job. But I'd like to inform my colleague that actually the funding for these ethnic centres does not come out of my budget; it is through the major cultural recreation grants. I know this MCR funding has been extremely well used and much appreciated by the people of Alberta.

Mr. Chairman, I believe I've addressed the questions that have been asked.

Agreed to:

1.0.1 — Minister's Office	\$222,384
1.0.2 — Deputy Minister's Office	\$193,746
1.0.3 — Financial Services	\$1,006,000
1.0.4 — Personnel	\$280,605
1.0.5 — Communications	\$186,571
1.0.6 — Department Library	\$127,481
1.0.7 — Records Management	\$96,534
1.0.8 — Financial Planning	
and Management	\$336,120
1.0.9 — Special Programs	\$722,627
Total Vote 1 — Departmental Support Services	\$3,172,068
2.1 — Program Support	\$244,878
2.2 — Visual Arts	\$1,854,433
2.3 — Performing Arts	\$6,717,481
2.4 — Film and Literary Arts	\$763,370
2.5 — Library Services	\$11,124,175
2.6 — Cultural Heritage	\$1,270,593
2.7 — Cultural Facilities	\$1,825,012
2.8 — Film Censorship	\$207,308
2.9 — Major Cultural Facilities	
Development	\$17,733,994
Total Vote 2 — Cultural Development	\$41,741,244
3.1 — Management and Operations	\$12,958,264
3.2 — Historical Facility Development	\$8,837,373
3.3 — Financial Assistance for	
Heritage Preservation	\$3,914,650
Total Vote 3 — Historical Resources	
Development	\$25,710,287
4.1 — Planning and Administration	—
4.2 — Anniversary Grants	—
4.3 — 75th Anniversary Programs	—
4.4 — Cultural Programs	\$114,725
4.5 — Recreational Programs	—
4.6 — Alberta Homecoming	—
Total Vote 4 — 75th Anniversary	
Celebrations	\$114,725
Departmental Total	\$70,738,324

MRS. LeMESSURIER: I move that the vote be reported.

[Motion carried]

Department of the Environment

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Has the minister any opening comments?

MR. BRADLEY: Yes, Mr. Chairman. During the Budget Address, I dealt with a number of departmental priorities. I'd just like to briefly review them tonight and then accept questions from the members.

One of the major areas of priority the department has is the implementation of a special waste management system in the province. This spring we announced the site for the special waste management facility at Swan Hills. We have proclaimed the Special Waste Management Corporation Act, and appointed the chief executive officer and chairman of the Special Waste Management Corporation, Mr. John Elson. In the very near future, we'll be appointing other members to the Special Waste Management Corporation. In a short while in this session, I hope we will have resolved the question of who will be the proponent for the special waste management facility. So a major area of priority is implementing the special waste management system for the province.

A second area we have had a lot of departmental activity and public interest in is the acid deposition research program, a very major emphasis by government and industry to a research program to look at acid deposition in the province over a multi-year period.

The third area of priority this year is in the area of water resources, and specifically we will be moving towards a decision with regard to the site for a dam on the Oldman River. I think this is very important, given the water supply outlook we have for southern Alberta and the decision which the government made in 1980. I think a sufficient amount of time has passed since the announcement that there would be an Oldman dam that we should move appropriately this year with a decision with regard to where that site should be.

Mr. Chairman, at this time I'd like to recognize the dedication of the staff in the Department of the Environment. In particular, this evening we have with us my Deputy Minister, Mr. Solodzuk, who is sitting in the gallery.

I'm prepared to answer questions from the members.

MR. HYLAND: Mr. Chairman, the minister covered one of my questions. That related to the outlook of water supply for irrigation on the Oldman River and the need for a dam, with really no active storage for any amount of time, associated with the Lethbridge Northern irrigation system, especially with the expansion on Kehoe Lake being held up through land acquisition. I wonder if there's anything further the minister can add to that. I don't recall if he said when he thought the announcement would be made on the dam. I know he said there would be an announcement, but I don't know if he gave the estimated time of it.

Does the minister have any information relating to the availability of water for the St. Mary irrigation system? What was the snowpack, and do they estimate there'll be sufficient water to carry out the operation of that system? I'll hold my comments on the upgrading of the canals in the Forty Mile reservoir for the estimates in the fall on the heritage trust fund.

DR. CARTER: Mr. Chairman, to the minister, a couple of brief issues. Number one is with respect to the matter of pollution, air quality control in the southeast Calgary area. In times past I've been known to raise questions with your predecessor with respect to Western Co-op Fertilizer's plant. I assume that

ongoing monitoring of the site has been in hand by your department officials, especially with regard to the tailing ponds.

That also overlaps with the matter of another facility which is in the constituency of Calgary Egmont, and that's the Cominco operation. I understand that most of that fertilizer production has been shut in over the last period of time. I wonder if the minister might comment briefly with regard to any monitoring that's been done on that site. Because of the prevailing winds, especially from the southeast, unfortunately any pollution that occurs from those two facilities obviously spreads over the whole southeast and southern portion of the city of Calgary, and oftentimes back into the central core.

The other issue the minister might comment on is with respect to the Bow River. That takes two aspects, the first being the matter of water safety with regard to the weir in Calgary. I know additional funds were made available last year so the city of Calgary fire department could have a second patrol boat on the river. I hope, in fact I want to make it a personal project — perhaps during the Easter break, certainly during the summer — to do some more checking out with respect to adequate marking of the hazardous weir on the Bow River in Calgary, so hopefully we won't have any more of these drownings taking place.

Mr. Chairman, through you to the minister, the final aspect is with regard to the matter of water quality on the Bow River below Calgary. I know the quality of the water isn't always absolutely crystal clear and pure as it gets to Calgary, but I wonder if the minister might comment with respect to construction of the two new phosphorus removal plants in the city of Calgary at Bonnybrook and also at Fish Creek. I know it is a matter of concern and that the quality of the water in the Bow below Calgary is not simply a matter for one or two members of the House but a matter that concerns all members of the House, let alone those who live downstream from Calgary.

MR. MARTIN: Mr. Chairman, being on a policy of at least saying some positive things tonight, first of all I would like to commend the minister along with his colleague in the Department of Social Services and Community Health on the new independent health study. From what I can gather, it looks like it's going to be done properly. Specifically, commissioning a medical diagnostic review by the Acid Deposition Research Program and the provincial government, and striking a scientific advisory body charged with soliciting the views of affected communities with regard to precisely what ought to be studied and how, is a major step forward. Also, at this point it looks as if the degree of independence to be enjoyed by those undertaking the study, the public input provided for, and the inclusion of expertise of international calibre are all positive indications that the government has finally done the right thing in terms of a study.

I was commenting to the Minister of Culture about the play *Sick of It*. It was interesting to see that we had the two departments. I wonder if the minister has seen it. My understanding is that it's going to be around the province.

Just a couple of comments to the minister about the study, though. I would like some comments in the follow-up. Can the minister assure that the results will be made public, that there will be full and complete community input into what is studied, and that the study will last long enough? I believe the Canadian Public Health Association says two years is sort of a minimum for a study of this kind. I hope the minister is looking at that, and that it will go on long enough.

The other comment I would make — and I know it's too early — is that when we have the study and if they make some

recommendations, I hope the minister and the government will act quickly on these recommendations when that time comes.

Other comments I might have are on a number of issues dealing with environmental matters. I'll just go through them one by one. I would like comments on most of them from the minister.

One in the same area has to do with the Gulf plant reclamation. My colleague received a letter from the minister just recently with regard to this particular plant. My question, though, is: why do they have to wait until September 1985 for submission of reclamation guidelines for the area surrounding the plant? I don't quite understand that. Is it really that hard for Gulf to do that at the same time as it reclaims the inside? Mr. Chairman, we have reports that indicate that groundwater and other water may be contaminated by the wastewater ponds. That indicates to me that perhaps some urgency is needed. I'm curious why this has to wait until 1985. I would point out that contamination in the Twin Butte area indicates much higher than normal levels of trace metals: cadmium, lead, calcium, magnesium, sodium, zinc, chromium, copper, mercury, et cetera. So that's one question I ask the minister in terms of that project.

[Dr. Carter in the Chair]

In terms of the Cowley landfill, I believe the minister admitted under questioning on March 28, page [189] of *Hansard*, that there may be contaminated material from the sulphur block which is proposed to be deposited in the Cowley landfill. The minister is shaking his head. Maybe he will correct me if that's not the case. If it is the case, does that not worry the minister, and exactly what contaminants will be in that material? For instance, Mr. Chairman, the Gulf reclamation plan says that there is sulphur in that area. Is that dangerous, and are there other heavy metals? When other areas which clearly contain heavy metals and PCBs are cleaned up, can he assure that they won't be dumped into the local dump?

The minister has already talked about the Oldman dam, indicating there may be a decision right away. The only question I ask: at what stage are negotiations with the Peigans at this particular time? I understand that negotiations are going on there.

There have been some stories about the mercury contamination, first of all, in the southern Alberta rivers. My question to the minister is this: what objective evidence is there that the source of contamination is entirely natural? I believe it was indicated by the minister in question period that it was natural and not industrial. Can he absolutely assure that it has not been carried by air or water from sour gas plants, in particular the Gulf plant?

The North Saskatchewan River: as an Edmonton M.L.A., what objective evidence is there that bacteria content is not at disturbingly high levels? I know the minister is aware that his department said the studies weren't there, but people get confused. As you know, the *Journal* reviewed more than 100 studies and took samples themselves and concluded that coliform levels are too high. Can the minister's department prove that raw sewage is not pumped into the river? What about oil and chemicals from Refinery Row? When the minister says his department has taken some 5,000 tests — the minister may want to correct me on that — of samples along four monitoring stations, were any of these in Edmonton proper? And are there heavy metals in the river? Has the government reviewed cleaning up the river as a job-creation project? A number of areas to do with that study and the river.

We always like to have an up-to-date report on Nisku, and my question very simply is: can the minister update on the status of protection of facilities around the new Kinetic warehouse at Nisku? Are they monitoring the new warehouse, and is Kinetic continuing to import hazardous wastes from across the country, as they were a year ago?

That moves us into the more recent announcement dealing with Swan Hills, Mr. Chairman. What protection will there be against transportation of hazardous wastes from the south through Edmonton on the way to Swan Hills? What protection is taken as we transport hazardous wastes to Swan Hills?

The last point I make at this particular time, Mr. Chairman, has to do with the ECA. I notice that there was a recent article having to do with secrecy of the ECA, and I would like the minister to comment on it. My question is simply this: did the minister ask the ECA to keep the new hazardous waste guidelines confidential? Obviously, if the minister did, we'd want to know the reasons why. I think this would be important for all Albertans to know. If the minister didn't do that, then perhaps he could comment on why that came up in this story in the paper recently.

Thank you.

MR. ACTING DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, would you like to sum up, please, and respond to the questions.

MR. BRADLEY: Mr. Chairman, first, with regard to the questions raised by the Member for Cypress. He wished to have a brief update on the water supply situation in the Oldman River basin in southern Alberta. There was a news release put out by the department, and there's a water supply outlook and snow survey bulletin which the department puts out on a monthly basis, which goes into some detail with regard to the specifics. Perhaps I could forward that to the hon. member. The outlook, as announced in the news release some days ago, was that the flows in the Oldman would be 59 percent of normal, based on the current snowpack. So of course that is of concern, particularly to the Lethbridge Northern Irrigation District. I'm not aware at this time that there would be a specific problem with regard to the other reservoirs in the St. Mary Irrigation District. But generally, the notation the department has made is that there should be conservation methods used by the irrigation districts in terms of their programs, and we are endeavouring to top up the reservoirs earlier this year than we would normally. He asked about a date for an announcement with regard to siting the Oldman dam. We anticipate that to come forward by the middle of the summer, July at the latest.

The hon. Member for Calgary Egmont raised a number of questions with regard to air quality in southeast Calgary and Western Co-op. We have been monitoring the activities of Western Co-op very closely. I can't give him specifics today as to the circumstances there. But Western Co-op, as other fertilizer plants, hasn't been operating at optimum.

With regard to Cominco and the wastewater disposal problems which they have been undergoing, they have currently come forward with 16 different alternatives and are reviewing those alternatives as to how to resolve that specific.

[Mr. Purdy in the Chair]

He commented on the weir on the Bow River, which has been a concern to our department in terms of the public's approach to that weir. It certainly is a danger to anyone who would get into the weir area or go over it. We've had a public communication program in place to advise and warn citizens who are recreating on the Bow River of the danger of that

particular weir. In fact, I believe a news release and advertisements have just gone out again on that particular matter.

The hon. Member for Calgary Egmont also mentioned the question of water quality in the Bow River. We have under review with the department a study on the nitrification in the Bow River, which is basically the nitrogen and phosphorus loadings in the Bow River system. I'd anticipated this report would have been finished this spring, but it appears that it will probably be toward the end of the spring or early summer before that report is finalized.

The member mentioned the phosphorus removal program which the department has financed for the sewage treatment plants in Calgary, both Fish Creek and Bonnybrook. As far as we can tell at this point, those plants are operating above our expectations, and there is greater removal of phosphorus than was originally contemplated, so that should add to the overall improvement of the Bow River. But I might note that in years when we have low flows, there will be that continued problem downstream of Calgary. It will be more noticeable than it would be in years when we have higher flows.

The hon. Member for Edmonton Norwood raised a number of items, and I'd like to comment on them briefly. The acid deposition research program, which was funded jointly by government and industry, had a workshop last January to which we invited 23 world-renowned medical scientists to design our research program. They recommended that one of the first things that should be done would be a medical diagnostic review of health concerns which have been expressed. That has been implemented through the acid deposition research program and is going to be funded solely by the Department of Social Services and Community Health. I can outline in broad terms what that program will undertake, but the Minister for Social Services and Community Health has actually been handling the details of that particular medical diagnostic review. I can assure the member that the results of that review will be made public. That is one of the criteria which the scientists recommended to us, that whatever process we proceed with — and the one they recommended was that there would be maximum opportunity for public input — the results should be public.

The member asked some questions with regard to the Gulf plant reclamation. Why would it take until September of 1985? There are a number of different ongoing studies with regard to the nature of substances found on the Gulf plant. The company itself does not feel it will be in a position to come forward with a proposal for the reclamation of the entire plant site area. What we are proceeding with is a staged reclamation. The first part was the sulphur block; that has received our approvals. The second stage would be the actual process area where the buildings are located. The third area — and the member mentioned that we will be receiving their submission in September of '85 — will be for the larger area. They require that time to thoroughly investigate the nature of the substances and come up with a reclamation plan. I understand they are forming a local steering committee where there will be input from local citizens with regard to their reclamation process.

I might also mention that we have in place the Twin Butte soils and water task force, which I announced last year, which will be coming to some conclusions in the very near future with regard to the task which they were given, which was to provide to the government an independent review of Gulf's findings and whatever studies they wished to initiate, to determine exactly the nature of the contaminants which were on the plant site and what, if any, migration had taken place off the plant site. That's been a very thorough investigation and review by the Twin Butte soils and water task force, which has on it three local citizens, a member at large from the province in

Bob Clark, the former Leader of the Opposition, and three scientists.

I might note that one of the individuals on the Twin Butte soils and water task force is Wendy Carpentier, president of the Pincher Creek area environmental association, so the concerns of the specific group in that area is being addressed through her input on that task force. I'm looking forward to the conclusion of the task force. The preliminary information I have is that there is no significant contamination to be concerned about off the plant site, but we'll wait for the results of the task force and see what they come up with. I don't know what the hon. member's source is for the other substances which he indicated were at above-normal levels in the area; perhaps he might be able to advise me of that.

He mentioned the Cowley landfill and what has been deposited at the Cowley landfill to date, which has received the approval of the department. One of the conditions of taking anything to the landfill is that they must get the concurrence of the local landfill operator. I'm very familiar with the Crowsnest-Pincher Creek waste management facility, as its formal name is known, because I was involved in the setting up of that particular landfill. I'm aware of the details with regard to the type of soils there. I'm aware that it's a very tight formation and that there is groundwater monitoring at that site to see if any contaminants or substances were to migrate off the landfill site. So it's a very tight formation, and any migration would be at a very slow, slow rate.

It meets the criteria for regional sanitary landfill, and anything that would be looked at being shipped to that particular landfill would have to meet the requirements so that the landfill could handle it. So the local landfill authority can refuse to take any substances that they might not wish to have deposited there. To date there have been the soils underneath the sulphur block which have been sent there, and that basically is acidified soils from the sulphur. There's no great concern about that. If you say they're contaminated soils, they are contaminated with sulphur. It's acidic, and in terms of neutralization, the landfill there has significant buffering capacity. There also has been removed and approved by the department, subject to the acceptance by the landfill operator, some silica gel. There's been bauxite catalyst sent there and the sulphur which I had indicated. So anything sent there will have to receive the approval of the landfill owner and operator.

The member asked questions with regard to the Oldman River dam. Currently we have received a letter from the Peigan Indians, outlining the concepts which they propose to us. What in fact took place in 1980, when the decision that we would proceed with an Oldman reservoir was announced, was that we gave the Peigan Indians 18 months in which to come forward with a proposal. As the hon. member may recollect, at the public hearings which were held at that time, the Peigans came forward and said they hadn't been considered and wanted an opportunity to come forward and make a proposal to us. So it's now some three and a half years since that opportunity to come forward with their proposal. We have not yet received what you would say is a concrete proposal; we've just received a concept letter. It's being reviewed by various departments, through a committee I set up. We will be responding to that in due course.

The member mentioned mercury contamination in southern Alberta rivers, and I can only say that we have no known source of where mercury would get into the river systems in southern Alberta. I note that the member asked specifically about sour gas facilities. I believe the Twin Butte soils and water task force will be addressing the particular concern which the member raised. But we have no known source of where mercury

would be getting into the Oldman River system or the Bow River system. We know that we have higher than normal mercury levels in the soils in Alberta and in the watershed area, and in fact that is where we believe the mercury in the river system is coming from.

The Alberta Environmental Centre is going to be doing some coring on historic riverbed areas to determine if in fact that has been the type of deposition record in the riverbeds in the area historically, to come up with a correlation with regard to the mercury. The department has done exhaustive studies in the North Saskatchewan River system, which look at priority pollutants, metals, a number of different substances, and bacteria counts. There have been numerous reports published on that, and I would be pleased to forward to the hon. member the most recent reports we have on that subject, outlining the nature of sampling and what is taking place there.

With regard to what the hon. member referred to as the Nisku area — I believe he's referring to Kinetic Ecological Resources — I'm aware that they have opened another warehouse for storage. The department is monitoring that and is ensuring that proper, secure protection is in place for that stored material. As far as we are aware, that particular company is continuing to import wastes into the province. It is not the policy of this government to encourage importation of these types of waste into the province, and their company has been notified over a number of years that it is not our preference to have these wastes imported into the province. However, as we understand the current status of legislation for trade and commerce in the country, we cannot restrict the importation of that waste at this time.

With regard to the decision to proceed at Swan Hills, I can only say that with regard to transportation, that is one item which the Special Waste Management Corporation will have as one of its responsibilities — to in fact review the transport of the waste to the special waste site. We also have the Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act, which is federal legislation, and its companion provincial legislation, which actually regulate the transportation of a number of goods, some of which are in the special wastes category. But there are also a number of other categories of goods that are transported on our highway system every day, which are much more dangerous, volatile, than the special wastes, which would be in diluted form and not under pressure and which would be transported to any facility, regardless of where we located it. So that question will be addressed by the Special Waste Management Corporation.

The member asked about the Environment Council of Alberta. I can only advise that I have not had any personal, direct correspondence with the Environment Council of Alberta. With regard to the specific news report which the hon. member is referring to, I am aware that the department has sent proposed regulations for hazardous waste under the Hazardous Chemicals Act and guidelines to a number of different agencies and organizations and asked for comment. It's a normal procedure that we send this information out and ask the groups to review them, to provide their advice to us, prior to finalizing our regulations or what our course of action would be. So it's a consultative process. I can't really comment further on the internal practices of the Environment Council of Alberta.

MR. MARTIN: One follow-up question on the last point. If I understand the minister correctly, what he is saying is that the ECA has decided this internally. It had nothing to do with him, that they would keep it secret.

MR. BRADLEY: I believe that is a decision which would be made by either the public advisory committee or the scientific

advisory committee — as to how they would handle the specific review which the department had requested of them. I haven't seen the request which went to them; it was not something that came from my office.

Agreed to:

1.0.1 — Minister's Office	\$172,875
1.0.2 — Deputy Minister's Office	\$455,855
1.0.3 — Finance and Office Services	\$2,167,248
1.0.4 — Systems and Computing	\$1,838,189
1.0.5 — Communications	\$423,061
1.0.6 — Library	\$378,045
1.0.7 — Personnel and Organizational Development	\$530,214
Total Vote 1 — Departmental Support Services	\$5,965,487

2.1 — Program Support	\$710,081
2.2 — Air Quality Management	\$2,685,389
2.3 — Water Quality Management	\$2,327,150
2.4 — Municipal Water and Sewage Management	\$2,028,569
2.5 — Earth Contamination Prevention	\$2,665,276
2.6 — Waste Management	\$5,260,603
2.7 — Chemical and Pesticide Management	\$2,121,251
Total Vote 2 — Pollution Prevention and Control	\$17,798,319

3.1 — Program Support	\$118,078
3.2 — Land Conservation and Reclamation	\$5,004,764
3.3 — Environmental Assessment	\$1,401,070
Total Vote 3 — Land Conservation	\$6,523,912

4.1 — Program Support	\$108,998
4.2 — Surface Water Development and Control	\$14,938,763
4.3 — Water Resources Administration	\$10,886,752
4.4 — Operation and Maintenance of Water Resources Systems	\$8,010,338
4.5 — Data Collection and Inventory	\$6,927,328
4.6 — Water Resources Planning and Co-ordination	\$5,905,709
4.7 — Groundwater Development	\$1,788,022
Total Vote 4 — Water Resources Management	\$48,565,910

5.1 — Environmental Research Co-ordination	\$1,294,340
5.2 — Alberta Oil Sands Environmental Research	\$1,859,996
Total Vote 5 — Environmental Research	\$3,154,336

6.1 — Program Support	\$2,408,276
6.2 — Plant Sciences	\$1,714,690
6.3 — Chemistry	\$2,839,579
6.4 — Animal Sciences	\$2,519,241
6.5 — Environmental Technology	\$2,041,130

Total Vote 6 — Interdisciplinary Environmental Research and Services	\$11,522,916
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Total Vote 7 — Special Waste Management	\$675,000
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Total Vote 8 — Overview and Co-ordination of Environmental Conservation	\$1,215,000
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Department Total	\$95,420,880
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MR. BRADLEY: Mr. Chairman, I move that the votes be reported.

[Motion carried]

MR. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, I move that the committee rise, report progress, and ask leave to sit again.

[Motion carried]

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

MR. PURDY: Mr. Speaker, the Committee of Supply has had under consideration the following resolutions, reports as follows, and requests leave to sit again.

Resolved that sums not exceeding the following be granted to Her Majesty for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1985, for the departments and purposes indicated:

For the Department of Culture: \$3,172,068 for departmental support services, \$41,741,244 for cultural development, \$25,710,287 for historical resources development, \$114,725 for 75th anniversary celebrations.

For the Department of the Environment: \$5,965,487 for departmental support services, \$17,798,319 for pollution prevention and control, \$6,523,912 for land conservation, \$48,565,910 for water resources management, \$3,154,336 for environmental research, \$11,522,916 for interdisciplinary environmental research and services, \$675,000 for special waste management, \$1,215,000 for overview and co-ordination of environmental conservation.

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

HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, tomorrow the Assembly will be in Committee of Supply and will consider the estimates of the Department of Energy and Natural Resources, which has been designated for consideration tomorrow. Since the Assembly will then adjourn for several days, I am not able to indicate what the work beyond that point will be but will try to let hon. members of the opposition know a few days ahead of resumption of the sittings on April 30.

[At 10:12 p.m., on motion, the House adjourned to Wednesday at 2:30 p.m.]