

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF SASKATCHEWAN
Third Session — Eighteenth Legislature
2nd Day

Friday, November 19, 1976

The Assembly met at 2:30 o'clock p.m.
On the Orders of the Day.

QUESTIONS

PARTI QUEBECOIS

MR. D. G. STEUART (Leader of the Opposition): — Mr. Speaker, I rise to put a question to the Premier in regard to the serious threat to the unity of Canada posed by the election of the Parti Quebecois in the Province of Quebec.

In view of the fact of the November 18th issue of the Toronto Globe and Mail there is a story quoting Mr. Blakeney, headlined in the following words and I quote:

NDP Premier sees an alliance with the PQ.

Would the Premier not agree that this unfortunate headline coupled with the failure by his Government to make a strong commitment to united Canada in yesterday's Throne Speech could create a doubt in the minds of the Canadian people about his Government's determination and dedication to take all possible action to hold this nation together?

HON. A. E. BLAKENEY (Premier): — Mr. Speaker, I agree with the Hon. Member that that was an unfortunate headline. I do not agree with the Hon. Member that anyone would take anything particularly from that headline. There are many other headlines in many newspapers and, at least in my judgement, the position of this Government has been made crystal clear that we are committed to a strong Canada. We have said so on many, many occasions and accordingly I think nothing that a headline writer may choose to select from a story is likely to change this very firm impression which I am sure is well implanted in the minds of all of the people of Saskatchewan.

MR. STEUART: — A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. I welcome that statement but I wonder then in view of that, will the Premier promise this House that no help of any kind, including resources of manpower or money, or help of any kind will be extended by Saskatchewan to the PQ Government of Quebec until the Premier and the Government of that province give the Canadian people an unequivocal assurance that they will not attempt to draw that province from confederation. Will you give that commitment to this House now?

MR. BLAKENEY: — Mr. Speaker, I will not give the House that commitment. I think that the Premier elect of the Province of Quebec has indicated, if I understand his position, that the question of what will happen about Quebec withdrawing from confederation

will be determined by the people of Quebec in a referendum.

AN HON. MEMBER: —What . . .

MR. BLAKENEY: — I am speaking, Mr. Speaker, about what the Leader of the Parti Quebecois in the Province of Quebec has said. Accordingly, in my judgement, it is clear that he will not be giving any unequivocal commitments until after the referendum. Accordingly, what is requested is that the Government of Saskatchewan, and presumably the governments of all of the other provinces give no aid or assistance to the Parti Quebecois until after the referendum. I think that would be counsel of folly. In my judgement the vote achieved by the Parti Quebecois was in part a vote against the social conditions which obtained in the Province of Quebec immediately prior to the election. This conclusion in my judgement, is shared by many others. It seems to me, therefore, that what we in Canada must do is attempt to alleviate those social conditions which led to that vote which I say came from frustration. Accordingly, therefore, it seems to me appropriate for the Government of Saskatchewan and for the governments of all the provinces to assist any government in Quebec with measures which may well alleviate the social tensions which, as it appears, have existed in that province. If they wish assistance from the Government of Saskatchewan with respect to let us say, the setting up of an automobile insurance plan, we will most assuredly consider that request.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: — Hear, hear!

MR. BLAKENEY: — I am not now committing ourselves to granting any request for assistance. I am saying that we will not take the position in advance that we will offer no help or assistance to the Parti Quebecois until after the referendum. I think that would be, as I have said, a counsel of folly.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: — Hear, hear!

MR. STEUART: — A further supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Could the Premier cite anything in the mandate given to him by the people of Saskatchewan that would indicate in any way permission by the people of this province for agreement by the people of this province to give aid and comfort in any manner whatsoever? I am not talking about doing anything against them, I have seen this Government over there for a long time and they have offered no aid and assistance that I am aware of to the Province of Quebec or the people of Quebec. Suddenly with the election of the PQ, which admittedly is a threat to confederation, what possible excuse has the Premier got to offer any aid and assistance to that particular Government, which, in the opinion of a great many people - you could be right or I could be right - if they succeed then they will succeed in convincing the majority of the people of that province to tear this country apart, divide this nation, which I think would be an utter disaster for all Canadians.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: — Hear, hear!

MR. BLAKENEY: — Mr. Speaker, I reply under two headings. First, we have given aid and assistance to a number of governments in Canada including the Government of Quebec headed by Premier Bourassa. It has been the custom in Canada for governments to offer assistance to other governments who wish to organize social programs. It happens to have fallen on the Government of Saskatchewan to give a fair bit of this assistance because it happens that we have organized first a fair number of social programs.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: — Hear, hear!

MR. BLAKENEY: — I take the position that the Government of Quebec is the Government of the Province of Quebec and until there is some more evidence for the fact that Quebec is going to separate from Canada I will not turn my back on them. It is our position that those who say the new Government of Quebec should be treated as a pariah and should not be associated with on any grounds are fostering the encouraging separatism . . .

SOME HON. MEMBERS: — Hear, hear!

MR. BLAKENEY: — . . . and it is the opinion of this Government that we should regard the government that the people of Quebec elected as the legitimate government of the Province of Quebec until there is some more evidence to the contrary. We propose to treat that Government as we have treated all other governments in Canada, as the government which the people have elected and we will offer them such assistance as we might offer to the Government of Alberta or the Bourassa Government of Quebec, or to any other government which asks our assistance in organizing any particular program.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: — Hear, hear!

REQUEST TO ATTEND FIRST MINISTERS' CONFERENCES

MR. R. L. COLLVER (Leader of the Progressive Conservatives): — Supplementary, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the brief answers and questions. Due to the urgency, I would direct this question to the Premier. Due to the urgency of maintaining Saskatchewan unity and in fact Canadian unity as it relates to the recent election in Quebec, over the coming months, would the Premier give us his assurance today that he will extend an invitation to the Leaders of the Opposition parties in Saskatchewan to attend all First Ministers' Conferences which are scheduled in the next little while?

MR. BLAKENEY: — Mr. Speaker, I will give the Hon. Member for Nipawin as assurance that we would give consideration to extending invitations to all those federal-provincial conferences which are open conferences. For those which are closed conferences we will follow the practices which I think have almost invariably been followed in the past - that only accredited representatives of the government in question are given admittance. And I may say that there were some difficulties with respect to that with one of the oil conferences and that was straightened out

by discussions among the Premiers. That is our position. I don't say that it is not capable of being changed but I am not able to give the assurance at this time that the Hon. Member for Nipawin requests.

MR. COLLVER: — One further supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Would the Premier not agree that these current negotiations that are going to be conducted over the next number of months are rather unique in Canadian history and rather urgent. Would it not be incumbent upon the Government of Saskatchewan to consider very seriously accrediting, if you want, as representatives together with the Premier, the Leaders of the Opposition parties in Saskatchewan?

MR. BLAKENEY: — Well, Mr. Speaker, I think that the suggestion of the Hon. Member is worthy of consideration. I certainly will be discussing it with my fellow Premiers, Premier Davis or Premier Lougheed, or whomever, to see what their practice is likely to be and I will at least in part be governed by what practice is adopted by the other Premiers.

PARTI QUEBECOIS

MR. E. C. MALONE(Regina Lakeview): — To the Premier, Mr. Speaker. The Premier indicated that he would require further evidence from the Province of Quebec as to their intentions of separating from Canada before any decision was made as to giving them assistance or not. Mr. Levesque is clearly on record as indicating what his intentions are. What further evidence do you require and secondly, if I may, Mr. Speaker, have you had any communication to date with Mr. Levesque and if not, are you planning on a future communication?

MR. BLAKENEY: — Two questions, the latter one, no, I have not had any communications with Mr. Levesque other than to send him a congratulatory telegram which was, if I may say so, carefully worded.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: — Hear, hear!

MR. BLAKENEY: — Second point, I do anticipate that I will have communications with him because I expect that he will be at a federal-provincial conference as will I. I do not know whether there will be any communications between the next federal-provincial conference and now; there are none planned.

With respect to the first question, what further evidence do I want. May I recall to the memory of the House the fact that the Parti Quebecois was organized in 1966 and has fought elections in, I believe, 1966, 1970, 1973 and in 1976. In 1966, in its first election, and in 1970 it ran on a straight platform saying, "If we are elected we will separate." In 1973 and in 1976 it changed its platform and said, "No longer do we campaign on the platform that if we are elected we will separate. We now campaign that if we are elected we will have a referendum." That strikes me as indicating a significant change in the policy of the Parti Quebecois, enough at least for us to attempt to see whether there are ways in which we

can work with the present Government of Quebec within the confines and the context of confederation. It seems to me far too soon to write off Quebec and practically boot them out of confederation by sending them to Coventry, by refusing to have any association with them whatsoever.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: — Hear, hear!

ACUTE-CARE BEDS

MR. G. H. PENNER(Saskatoon-Eastview): — This is a new question, Mr. Speaker. I want to turn attention from a national problem to a provincial one and I am sorry that the Minister of Health is not in the Chamber this afternoon and in his absence would like to direct a question to the Premier. Would the Premier not agree that there are very serious problems related to our acute-care beds, since beds have been closed down and that immediate attention is required from his Government to avert a dangerous situation?

MR. BLAKENEY: — I think the answer to that is, no I do not agree. I think that we are not aware of where these acute crises exist and if the Hon. Member has evidence that there are acute crises, and I think those were his words, I know that he would make them available to the Minister of Health who would be, I am sure, happy to reply.

MR. PENNER: — Well I think the evidence is there, Mr. Speaker, if I may direct a supplementary to the Premier. Why was it that when the bed utilization rate in Saskatoon was four beds per thousand at the same time that the national average was 5.4 per thousand, and the provincial average was 7.4 per thousand, why, in the face of these facts did your Department, or your Government, impose a five per cent cut in funding which would have resulted in a total of 164 staff being eliminated in three Saskatoon hospitals, and 950 surgical operations less being performed in 1976 than in 1975?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: — Hear, hear!

MR. BLAKENEY: — Mr. Speaker, I do not acknowledge the Hon. Member's figures. I want to make that clear, particularly the first one which refers to four beds per thousand. And I think that the Hon. Member is aware that the proposals adopted by the Department of Public Health apparently did put some particular pressure on Saskatoon hospitals. He will be aware that I met with representatives, the chairman of the board in each case, and other representatives on each of the boards of those hospitals, and we came up with an arrangement which I think alleviated the pressures to which he referred. I believe, at least with respect to some of the hospitals that has meant that, far from any cuts in beds, they have as many or even more beds available than they had before.

MR. PENNER: — A supplementary to that question. Do I understand the Premier is trying to suggest to this Opposition that there

are not fewer beds in Saskatoon hospitals open today than there were a year ago, and that there are not fewer staff available to treat patients in Saskatoon hospitals than there were a year ago?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: — Hear, hear!

MR. BLAKENEY: — Mr. Speaker, I rather obviously do not have the figures of the Saskatoon hospitals with me. It is clear that the changes which were made which provide for day surgery will, I think, provide for the treatment of more patients than a year ago. I may be wrong on that but it is my belief. If that is so then it really doesn't matter whether those patients are lying in their beds in the hospital or lying in their beds at home. If they are treated and if they receive the treatment that they require, (which is the purpose of having a day surgery proposal), then I think that it cannot be justifiably asserted that there has been any diminution in the quality of health care for those patients.

MR. SPEAKER: — The Member for Souris-Cannington.

MR. E. A. BERNTSON(Souris-Cannington): — Mr. Speaker, to the Premier. Is the Premier aware that his Minister of Health recently was quoted as saying that in Saskatchewan the hospital bed utilization percentage is higher than any place else in Canada and that he is shooting for a goal equal to that of the national average? Is the Premier further aware that in Saskatchewan our percentage of population over age 60 is higher than any place else in Canada and that a goal of national average of bed utilization is unrealistic?

MR. BLAKENEY: — Yes. I am not aware that the Minister of Health made that particular statement. Obviously with a number of Ministers making statements and particularly with them being quoted with various media, one cannot be sure of all of the quotes.

With respect to the position outlined in the statement, yes, I am aware that the utilization rate is very much higher than the national average, 220 as compared with let's say 155 or thereabouts, 35 per cent more. I am also certain that any "shooting" for the national average will certainly take into account the age-sex distribution. It is standard to take hospital utilization figures and adjust them for age and sex as it is said, because it is known that a different age pattern will produce a different hospital utilization rate for the same number of 1,000 people. And similarly a different sex pattern will produce a different utilization rate for the same number of 1,000 people. Accordingly, I would think that when the Minister was talking about "shooting" he was talking in a general way. We are in no danger of approaching the national average if I may say so. Any comment made would be in the context of movements toward that direction and is not a suggestion that somehow we are going to be equal to the national average. That is simply not a likely attainable goal, and not one accordingly for which we are striving.

MR. SPEAKER: — Final supplementary.

MR. PENNER: — I wonder if the Premier would care to comment on the fact that in Saskatoon hospitals over the past few years, the average patient stay has decreased. I think the Premier would agree that that in fact is where the real saving can occur. There has been significant efficiency attained in those hospitals.

At the same time we have got waiting lists that are substantially higher today than they were a year ago, in the neighborhood of 500 in one hospital alone, where people are waiting for surgery that they can't get and have, because there have been beds closed and staff taken away from those institutions.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: — Hear, hear!

MR. BLAKENEY: — Quite frankly, no, I do not agree with those statements. I do not know whether they are true or false, and accordingly I am not in any position to agree to them.

The statement made by the Hon. Member talks about the length of waiting lists and the like. I well know that waiting lists are somewhat variable items. I have been a Minister of Health and know that waiting lists very frequently depend upon the diligence of the medical staff in putting names on the list rather than upon the number of people who are effectively waiting for surgery. That is, in fact, the case and anyone who denies it I think is not fully aware of the circumstances. I am not suggesting that there aren't significant waiting lists; I am in no position to say whether they are longer than a year ago. I believe I am accurate in saying that in Regina they are shorter than a year ago. But I do not know the Saskatoon situation. I am very sure that the Minister of Health would be happy to get that information for you, if you would like to convey to him your interest in that concern.

PURCHASE OF MOBILE HOMES

MR. R. A. LARTER(Estevan): — Mr. Speaker, a question to the Minister in charge of the Department of Northern Saskatchewan. Is the Government of Saskatchewan going to exercise its option to purchase all or a portion of the 151 mobile homes now on lease to the Department of Northern Saskatchewan?

HON. G. R. BOWERMAN (Minister of Northern Saskatchewan): — The decision with respect to taking up that option has not been made as yet and I would not be able to answer it definitely yes or no.

MR. LARTER: — A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Does the Minister know that a large number of these 151 units were occupied during the lease time and are you going to purchase these units that were occupied, are you going to take this into consideration in exercising your option?

MR. BOWERMAN: — As I indicated, Mr. Speaker, there has been no conclusion made with respect to the options as yet and therefore I would

not be able to give any definite answer, yes or now, as to whether they will be purchased or not.

PRIORITIES IN HEALTH CARE FIELD

MR. E. C. MALONE(Regina Lakeview): — Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Health, and I see he is following the practice he established in the last session, never being here when we wanted to ask questions of him. I will direct the question to the Premier: would the Premier give us an undertaking that your Government will set up a task force or a study group to look at your priorities and the whole health care field?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: — Hear, hear!

MR. MALONE: — It's become more and more obvious that there are great difficulties in the cities in connection with hospital beds. I am asking the Premier to give consideration to examining priorities in health care with a view to determining what is important and what is less important. To me, beds in hospitals are important and political gimmicks are little programs like pharmacare, SAIL and free hearing aids.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: — Hear, hear!

MR. BLAKENEY: — Mr. Speaker, I am interested in knowing that pharmacare is a gimmick and I am happy to have the Liberal Party on record on that item.

I am sorry that the Minister of Health is out of the House today. He is at Elrose opening a hospital in a small centre . . .

SOME HON. MEMBERS: — Hear, hear!

MR. BLAKENEY: — . . . in sharp contrast to the policy of the Members opposite when they were the government, when they closed hospitals at Prelate and Qu'Appelle, at Hodgeville and all the other small hospitals they closed. They are now here talking about just how important hospital beds are. They were not talking about how important hospital beds were when they were closing them at Hodgeville and Prelate and Neudorf; we are opening them at Elrose. We are indeed very, very satisfied with the fact that we have not closed hospital beds in small hospitals as was the policy of the Members opposite.

We believe there is no particular crisis with respect to hospital beds in Regina. I have had an opportunity to check a number of times as to whether or not there were vacant hospital beds in, let us say, the Plains Hospital. I found at times there were various significant numbers. Accordingly, therefore, it doesn't seem a problem about getting more beds. "Small hospitals will not close", says Steuart." I still have that headline . . .

SOME HON. MEMBERS: — Hear, hear!

MR. BLAKENEY: — With respect to the suggestion

of the Hon. Member that we have a task force, there is obviously some merit I suppose in having a further look, and I will ask the Minister of Health whether he has given any consideration to that particular proposal.

MR. MALONE: — Supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER: — Before I permit a supplementary, a final supplementary, a final supplementary I want to caution the questioners and respondents about the practice that we have been using with regard to questions and ask them to sharpen up questions and answers. I think an examination of the record - I know these two gentlemen will both do this tomorrow - with regard to the sharpness of the question and the sharpness of the answer would be of invaluable experience to this House in its further question periods.

MR. MALONE: — A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. I would ask the Premier to give us some assurance, however, that the Minister of Health will attend this Session from time to time in the days ahead.

Would the Premier admit though that your Government has closed down more beds in hospitals than any prior administration ever dreamed of closing down?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: — Hear, hear!

MR. BLAKENEY: — No.

HOG PRODUCER'S VOTE

MR. R. KATZMAN (Rosthern): — A question of the Minister of Agriculture. When are the hog producers going to be getting their vote that was promised by that Government, or do they never intend to keep their promises?

HON. E. KAEDING (Minister of Agriculture): — Mr. Speaker, I can't recall any time when the Minister of Agriculture promised a vote on the Hog Marketing Commission.

MR. KATZMAN: — Mr. Speaker, I was in the room at the Bessborough Hotel when Mr. Messer promised it, there were 500 other people there.

MR. KAEDING: — Mr. Speaker, I suggest what the Minister of Agriculture at that time suggested was that there would be a vote at the time of the next election, and the people at that time could determine whether they wanted the Commission or not.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: — Hear, hear!

MOTIONS

RADIO TIME

MR. R. ROMANOW (Attorney General): — Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day, I should like to move, seconded by the Member for Tisdale-Kelsey (Mr. Messer), by leave of the Assembly:

That the matter of division of radio time arranged for the current Session be referred to the Select Standing Committee on Radio Broadcasting of Selected Proceedings, the said Committee to report its recommendations thereon with all convenient speed.

Motion agreed to.

CONDOLENCES

MR. A. E. BLAKENEY (Premier): — Mr. Speaker, it has been traditional on the second day of our sittings to recognize the contributions made to the public life of this province by Members of the Legislature who have died. Since our last meeting here about seven months ago the list is a long one. I don't know what that says about the particular stage at which our province is, but it seems that a number of people who have contributed to the public life of the province in the past are reaching the end of their days on earth. We, therefore, have a long list. I move, seconded by the Member for Prince Albert-Duck Lake (Mr. Steuart):

That this Assembly records with sorrow and regret the passing since the last Session of seven former Members of this Assembly and expresses its grateful appreciation of the contributions they made to their community, their constituency and to this province:

Evelyn Grace Edwards, who dies on September 17, 1976, was a Member of this Legislature for the constituency of Saskatoon-Sutherland from 1975 until her death. She was born in 1923 in Colonsay and received her early education there. She graduated as a Registered Nurse from the Saskatoon City Hospital. From 1966 to 1971 she served as an alderman for the City of Saskatoon and was a mayoralty candidate in 1971. She was a trustee on the Saskatoon City Hospital Board of Governors, former president of the Saskatchewan Hospital Association and past president of the City Hospital Nurses' Alumnae. She was the first woman to be named an executive member of the Saskatoon Board of Trade and was also a founding member of the Parkinson's Disease Foundation and the Council on Aging and a board member of the Canadian National Institute for the Blind.

Myron Henry Feeley, who died on August 22, 1976, was a Member of this Legislature for the constituency of Canora from 1938 to 1948. He was born in 1885 in Belvidere, Illinois, and was educated in Mason City, Iowa. At the age of eighteen, he immigrated to Canada and homesteaded near Preeceville where he continued to farm for many years. He was active in numerous co-operative efforts and served on the local committee of the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool, worked with the United Farmers' of Canada, and was a member of the local school board.

John Whitmore Horsman, who died on June 10, 1976, was a Member of this Legislature for the constituency of Wilkie from 1948 to 1964. He was born in Grand Falls, New Brunswick in 1888 and attended school there. He

homesteaded in the Unity district in 1907 where he farmed until his retirement in 1964. For 30 years he served his rural municipality, as secretary-treasurer from 1918 to 1938, as municipal councillor from 1938 to 1941, and as reeve from 1941 to 1948. For 20 years he served as a school trustee and was also a member of the Unity Hospital Board, the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows Lodge.

John Joseph Mildenberger, who died on August 8, 1976, was a Member of the Legislature for the constituency of Maple Creek from 1934 to 1944. He was born in 1895 in Odessa, Russia, came to Canada in 1901, and settled near Sedley, where he farmed. He received his education at St. Boniface College in Winnipeg and at the University of Saskatchewan. He served in the Royal Flying Corps during World War I and again served overseas in World War II, retiring in 1946 with the rank of Major. While overseas, he was awarded the Order of Member of the British Empire, that's the M.B.E. Later he worked with the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration in Saskatchewan, was active in the Knights of Columbus and the Royal Canadian Legion, and served as secretary-treasurer of the rural municipality of Deer Forks.

Hon. William John Patterson, who died on June 19, 1976, was the tenth Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of Saskatchewan, serving from 1951 until 1958. He was a Member of this Legislature for the constituency of Pipestone from 1921 to 1934 and for the constituency of Cannington from 1934 to 1949 and was Premier of the province from 1935 to 1944. He was born in 1886 at Grenfell, Saskatchewan and received his education there. Before entering public life he worked as a bank manager, then as superintendent of rural telephones in the Department of Telephones and later as an insurance-real estate agent. He served overseas during World War I as a lieutenant in the Tenth Mounted Rifles. He served at various times as Minister of Highways, Provincial Treasurer, Minister of Telephones and Telegraphs, Minister of Natural Resources and for two years he was a member of the Board of Transport Commissioners in Ottawa. In 1955 he received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from the University of Saskatchewan. For 60 years he was a member of the Masonic Lodge and also of the Scottish Rite. He held the distinction of being one of the first two Saskatchewan born Members of the Legislature, the first Saskatchewan born Premier, and the first Saskatchewan born Lieutenant-Governor.

John Robeson Taylor, who died on May 26, 1976, was a Member of this Legislature for the constituency of Wadena from 1929 to 1934. He was born in Scotland in 1889 and immigrated to Canada at the age of 17. He attended Brandon College for two years and then homesteaded in the Kelvington-Nut Mountain area in 1908. He served in the Canadian Expeditionary Force in World War I and in the Canadian Veterans Guard in World War II. He was an implement dealer in Invermay for many years and was a member of the Saskatchewan Implement Dealers' Association. In the community, he served at various times as village councillor, school board member, United

Church elder and member of the Royal Canadian Legion.

Beatrice Janet Trew, who died on June 4, 1976, was a Member of this Legislature for the constituency of Maple Creek from 1944 to 1948. Born in 1897 in Coate's Mills, New Brunswick, she received her education in Moncton and Fredericton. She became a teacher and taught in both New Brunswick and Saskatchewan. She was active in the Saskatchewan Farmers' Union and served as women's President for five years. She held several offices in the Homemaker's Club, the Ladies Aid Society, later the United Church Women and was a member of the Affiliated Countrywomen of the World.

Mr. Speaker, I so move:

In expressing its own deep sense of loss and bereavement, this Assembly expresses its most sincere sympathies with members of the bereaved families.

May I, Mr. Speaker, add a few words of my own to the more formal words of the condolence motion.

Of the seven, I had known five; Evelyn Edwards, Myron Feeley, Jack Horsman, Billy Patterson and Beatrice Trew.

Mrs. Edwards, I, and perhaps other Members, did not know as well since her period of service in this Legislature was regrettably short, but she was a valuable Member for two sessions. She showed a continuing concern for the day to day problems of ordinary people, particularly the sick and the elderly. Her extensive record of community service has been already alluded to in the formal motion and will be known particularly to people in the Saskatoon area, where she served in so many public capacities.

We appreciated her efforts in this House. I believe that in the relatively short time she was here, she had earned the respect of those on this side of the House as well as those of her own party. We very much regretted her untimely passing and feel that this House has lost a valuable Member who would have made a great contribution, particularly in the field of health and welfare.

Myron Feeley was well known to me. He was a very active member of our party and one of the grassroots individuals who pioneered this province in the early twentieth century. He was a farmer and had a solid base in the land. He was involved in many, many co-op organizations and in organizations that pioneers established for themselves to make these prairies a habitable place. Myron will be remembered by those who knew him, including me, with respect and admiration. I particularly admired his work with the Wheat Pool and with the CCF. He was very active in the councils of the party until he was quite an old man and even when he was old and not well, he continued his interest. I remember in the 1975 election when Myron would have been 89 or 90 he attended our rally in Preeceville and was interested in the outcome of the election.

Myron Feeley was a builder and we can see around him in the things he built the sort of Saskatchewan which many would like

to see. I think those who may not have agreed with Myron's particular political persuasion would be prepared to agree that he was a man of great integrity and great ability and made a substantial contribution to his community and to the province.

I knew Jack Horsman. A number who are sitting in this Legislature now, a few of us at least, sat with Jack Horsman in the last four years of his term in this Legislature. Jack was a Member for whom I had a good deal of respect. He was an intelligent man, made intelligent, well thought out comments on the affairs of the day and he was well liked. He was a person of good personality and good temperament and accordingly established a rapport with Members on all sides of the House. Jack sat not too far from where the Member for Wilkie (Miss Clifford) is now sitting, for a period of his time in this House in 1964. We, who were across from him, as I was, came to like and respect him. Clearly this fondness and respect was shared by his constituents because through thick and thin during that particular period, Jack was returned to this Legislature, when others of his party were falling by the wayside because at times there were difficulties at the polls for his particular party.

I had known Billy Patterson, not as a Member of this House, but in many, many public capacities which Billy Patterson fulfilled after leaving this House. Certainly a great debt of gratitude is owed by Saskatchewan people to Billy Patterson for his 37 years of public service to this province. I suppose when one is referring to a former Premier and a former Lieutenant-Governor one ought to say the Hon. William Patterson, but when one speaks of Billy Patterson I think that's the way one thinks of him. No one who performed his first functions in politics in 1905 and continued to perform functions in politics right up to the mid-1950s can have done anything else but leave a lasting mark on this province. He had a very difficult job as Premier from 1935 to 1944. I don't think one would envy anyone at that particular time being Premier of this province and he discharged his duties commendably, even though there were great problems due to drought and depression.

One of the best tributes I could pay to him would be to repeat the praise expressed by former Premier Tommy Douglas on the occasion of Mr. Patterson's retirement from public life. Tommy stated at that time that Billy Patterson had brought great dignity and a sense of devotion to his many duties as a Member of the Legislature, Cabinet Minister, Premier, Leader of the Opposition and finally as Her Majesty's Representative in Saskatchewan.

I came to know Billy Patterson a little bit better in his retirement. He served as a member of the Board of the Saskatchewan Cement Company at the time that I was a member of the Board and I got to know him in that capacity. I came to know him later when he appeared at many, many public functions and I was always amazed. I can remember on one particular occasion going to a senior curlers' bonspiel from all across this province where the curlers were 55 years of age or over and I was amazed and filled with admiration at the way that Billy Patterson could call every second one by name. That is the evidence of a person who has been in public life for many years and who has made a host of friends.

He will be held in the esteem of people and I think that his record in this province needs no embellishment by me or by

anyone else in this House.

The other person I knew and knew well was Beatrice Trew. Beatrice was one of the founding members of the CCF and as an MLA made a significant contribution to the public life of the province. She fought the good fight as you might say as one of the very early women Members of this House and in that way, opened some doors to Members who came after her. I knew Beatrice particularly in the early 1950s when she served as a board member of a Crown corporation, Saskatchewan Wool Products and I was secretary of the board. I came to know her since that time on many, many different occasions. I had a great admiration for her contribution to Saskatchewan. She brought the pioneer woman's resourcefulness to many of the problems which she faced. Beatrice was friendly, one might almost say jolly, because that was her personality and she kept an interest in political affairs and community affairs right up to the tragic accident which ended her life. Beatrice was on the provincial council of our party to within a few months of her death and was active in many, many organizations. She was a concerned and happy person and she worked hard and well.

I think that all of us are the legatees of the work done by these early Members and that we owe a debt of gratitude to them and I am happy that this occasion gives me the opportunity to record my appreciation for the work they did for this Legislature, for their communities, and for this province.

MR. D. G. STEUART (Leader of the Opposition): — Mr. Speaker, it's a privilege for me to join in with the Premier and other Members in this Assembly to pay a tribute to the seven people who have passed away, and all served in this House in various capacities. I'm only going to talk in any detail about three of them whom I knew, but they all have something in common of course and that is that they did serve, they held strong political convictions and they were convinced that this was the place to try and help the people of their community and the people of their province. All of them, with the exception of Evelyn Edwards, were older people and they were in the best sense of the word 'pioneers.' Most of them came from rural Saskatchewan and not having known them, but having read about them and some of them I've heard a great deal about during my time in public life in this province, I want to join the Premier in paying a tribute to them and giving my condolences to their families.

I want to say just a few brief words about the three people whom I knew. The first one was the Hon. William Patterson. As the Premier pointed out you never thought of William Patterson as anything but Billy Patterson. He served the province for 35 years in different capacities, in fact he served for much longer than that, but he served in this House and as Lieutenant-Governor for 35 years. He was Premier for nine years and they were difficult years, the worst years of the depression and then the war years. He came out of it not bitter. He was defeated and badly defeated at the end of his time as Premier and yet he maintained an objectivity about his defeat and about politics and about this province that was admirable.

He phoned me up one time and asked me to take him down to the Cannington constituency. There was a meeting there and he

hadn't been down to his old home constituency for a long time and I picked him up and I drove him down. He talked a great deal about the early days and about his time as Premier and he said something that I've never forgotten. He said (and this was in the middle 60s I think), "You know, when I was Premier of the Province of Saskatchewan almost half of the people were on some kind of government help or either straight relief as it was called in those days, or some other kind of government help." He said, "Today we have prosperity like we never dreamed of. We have so many things, so much material success in this province that we in our day could never even imagine in our wildest flights of fantasy that the situation would be like it is today." Then he said, "You know, as I look around and I read the paper and I follow events I am convinced that there is far more unhappiness and far more bitterness and far more antagonism today in Saskatchewan and in Canada generally than there ever was during those difficult years of the depression. You know I've come to the conclusion that maybe some times we're on the wrong track, that when people really had it tough and they all had it tough, and they had to dig in and help each other and they had to work hard and work together, it wasn't the material success that brought happiness, it was that feeling of serving each other."

In the last years, although he had some tough experiences in politics and some difficult defeats to face, Billy Patterson was content and he was happy. He served our party and he served this province and this country and he served it very well and I would like to pay a tribute to him and pass on to his wife my regrets and the regrets, I'm sure, of all the Members of this Assembly.

John Horsman, I had the privilege of sitting with for a couple of years. He sat right in front of me. It was an interesting experience. By the time I came into the Legislative Assembly John had made quite a few speeches, but he wasn't making too many more. He had come to the conclusion, he told me one time, that everything that he had to say had pretty well been said and he didn't get the feeling that he was convincing the people on the other side a great deal anyway, so he felt maybe he would be better off if he just sat and watched the scene and advised us young fellows.

But in his final speech he made in the House, he gave us notice that he wanted to speak on the radio. He wanted to have time and he wanted to speak on the radio. And he told me that it was the first time that he had ever bothered to speak on the radio. He didn't think much of the, as he called it, new-fangled idea of having radio in the Assembly, so he started off and it was a warm speech, it was a humorous speech and it said more about Jack Horsman than anything else I ever heard. He started off by saying 'hello' to his mother (his wife - he called her, mother), then he thanked the CCF as it was, over the years, for never having built any roads, never having done anything in his seat. He thanked them very much, his people didn't thank them, but he thanked them because that's why he kept getting elected. He didn't say it bitterly, he just said it quite humorously. But he again was a man of deep conviction and a man who was prepared to stand up and be counted, and a man who was prepared to stand up and be counted when the going was tough. As a result he gained the respect of people, not just on this side of the House, those who sat with him as Members of the same political party, but people of all

political parties, and people all over this province. Again, he left a family, they are there still in that district, and I pay my respects, as we all do, to the memory of Jack Horsman and our regrets to his family.

The other person I want to speak about in any detail of course, is Evelyn Edwards, whom I knew for a great many years, both in the field of municipal work, in the field of health work and in the field of politics.

The untimely passing of Evelyn Edwards was a great loss to her family and my first words are to express my sympathy to Arnold, to Brenda, to Bill and to David. Our party, this Legislature and the province, will also miss her dedication, enthusiasm and common sense.

Evelyn was a family woman, first and foremost, but she also found time to serve in an unbelievable number of other areas. Starting as a nurse, she built, what could amount to a career in the field of health, hospital trustee, president of the Saskatchewan Hospital Association, founding member of the Parkinson's Disease Foundation and an active board member of the Council on Aging and the National Institute for the Blind. These were highlights of her work for better health care. At the same time this fine person found time to be alderwoman, a valuable member of Saskatoon's Board of Trade. She also had a deep commitment to politics, and I'm proud that she chose our party as the instrument to express her sincere conviction that governmental action is necessary to help people help themselves. All this only describes what Evelyn did, it doesn't tell the real story of the graceful and fine way in which she lived.

Mrs. Edwards was a warm, intelligent, humorous woman with a deep belief in people and she spent her life making this a better world. We will all miss her and she will live on in the memory of her family and the thousands of people who knew and loved her.

MR. R. L. COLLVER (Leader of the Progressive Conservatives): — Mr. Speaker, it is with pleasure that I add the sympathy and condolences of the Progressive Conservative caucus to those already expressed by the Premier and the Leader of the Opposition.

I did not know any of the seven Members who died, well, but I did know two of them as passing acquaintances.

Evelyn Edwards, I knew in three capacities; as an MLA, as a political opponent in civic politics and as the mother of Bill Edwards, who is a very good and close personal friend. If anyone can be, as many have suggested that the evidence of their lives is the evidence of their children, then Evelyn was in fact an outstanding human being. She was a fine MLA, and a worthy political opponent who at all times was honorable, sincere and honest.

Mr. John Taylor is a former Conservative who, I believe, is the last living Member of the last Conservative government in Saskatchewan. He sat as an Independent during his tenure of office as an MLA, but he ran as a Conservative on many occasions

during the time when as John Diefenbaker said, Conservatives needed protection under the game laws. I have talked to Mr. Taylor on several occasions. He, even during his latter years, was an outstanding orator and a very funny human being who kept everyone always in stitches about some very difficult times.

I would again add our sincere sympathies to those already expressed.

May God grant all those who passed eternal peace and their loved ones comfort in the joy of their lives.

MR. C. P. MacDONALD (Indian Head-Wolseley): — Mr. Speaker, I just want to say a few words in associating myself with the remarks of the Premier and the Leader of the Opposition and the Leader of the Conservative Party.

I had the privilege of knowing three of these former MLAs, Jack Horsman, first of all. I was just beginning my life in politics when Jack Horsman was passing out of the political sphere in the Province of Saskatchewan, and yet Jack had that sense of humor and that kindness and that interest in everyone that was coming up. I certainly think that he has made a great contribution to the province.

As for Billy Patterson, I don't think there is probably a citizen of Saskatchewan who has served in as many capacities as long and as ably as Billy Patterson. Perhaps no Canadian, or few Canadians can present a record of public service that Billy Patterson can. Billy's wife, Florence, is some kind of a shirt tail relative of my wife, and as a result we do have more than just a passing acquaintance with Mr. Patterson and his family. Also, Mr. Patterson grew up in what is now my constituency, in the community of Grenfell, and some of his family is still there. I do have the occasional opportunity of seeing them and like Billy, himself, they are great Liberals and great supporters and it is always a treat to go back and talk to them and visit them and talk to them about Billy Patterson of whom they are so justly proud.

Well I do want to say that Saskatchewan has lost a great citizen and I hope that perhaps some of us in this Assembly now may attain to the same kind of record of achievement that Billy Patterson had.

As far as Evelyn Edwards is concerned, I don't suppose we shall ever find anyone with the warmth and the charm that Evelyn displayed in this House. We are supposed to be coming into the days of womanhood and Evelyn Edwards never had to wait for those days to come along. She had that capacity and that drive and that spirit that made her all things to so many people. She had the respect and admiration in the municipal field of health care as well as in the political life of our province, as the other Members have indicated.

I will miss Evelyn as a good and close friend. I think this Assembly will miss Evelyn for her charm and that something that she had that none of the rest of us have, and I know that our caucus and the Liberal Party will miss Evelyn. But I think the real tragedy of the passing of Evelyn Edwards is that the people of Saskatchewan will miss her and what she might

have accomplished in the years ahead.

I want to pass on my sympathy too to Arnold and the other members of her family.

HON. A. S. MATSALLA (Canora): — Mr. Speaker, I should like to join with the Premier and the other Members of the House in paying tribute to the late Myron Henry Feeley.

To me, and to the people of the Canora constituency and to the many others, Myron will be remembered as a good-hearted friend. He will be remembered as one who always had a soft spot for those who were less fortunate. He was always ready to help. His ability to listen to people and compassionately to understand their concerns and problems was one of his greatest qualities. Myron Feeley was all this because of his genuine interest in people. Serving them was an integral part of his life. Myron, as he was known to everyone, had earned the respect of many, his neighbors, his one-time constituents and the many people of this province.

Myron loved the farm. He stayed with it for many years, some 70 years in the Preeceville district. He was one of the pioneers who had given much of himself to serve to improve our social and economic conditions. He envisioned Saskatchewan as a great place, rich in resources and high in ideals. He was a strong believer in co-operatives and a great promoter in seeing that people banded together to do things for themselves to bring about social change, when that change was necessary.

Organizational skill was one of Myron's many outstanding abilities. Locally he was instrumental in organizing the rural telephone service and the Wheat Pool committee. He served as a Wheat Pool delegate for a term.

Myron Feeley's political life was an interesting one. Here, too, he was a pioneer in advocating socialism as a way of effecting social change in the interest of the farmer and the worker. He was one of the ten CCF MLAs elected in 1938. He was returned in 1944 and chose not to run in 1948 because of health reasons. After his legislative career ended he served long and tirelessly on the provincial council, on the executive, and was well-known for his party organization abilities and his fund raising efforts.

A profile in the May 4, 1949 of the Commonwealth, described his efforts on behalf of Canora constituency and I quote:

If Canora slips a bit he rolls out the old car and refused to return until his objective has been met. Neither snow, nor mud, can hold him back and when he drives into a yard the farmer knows that it is time to kick through for the CCF.

Mr. Feeley had strong, practical ideals and once said that the most important things in life were, "Better educational opportunities than I had in my youth; a stronger CCF movement; and a world free from war." He did not stop working for these goals or his party.

One of his last gestures was to present a gavel to the

Saskatchewan NDP for use at the executive and council meetings — a symbol of his wish that the New Democratic Party organization remain strong and continue its work towards the well-being of society as a whole.

To Myron's wife, Molly, to his son Jim and his family, and to his daughter Molly Lynn, I extend my deepest sympathy.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Hon. Member for Kelvington-Wadena, Neil Byers, who is unable to attend the House this afternoon, I want to join with other Members of this Assembly in paying tribute to the memory of John Robeson Taylor and place the tribute on record for the Hon. Member.

There is a time in the development of every era which marks the end of the period of the pioneer and a passing into a new era to which they have pointed the way. While they are no longer with us, their leadership, integrity and initiative are legacies to us all.

The Hon. Member never had the privilege of meeting Mr. Taylor, but was told by those who knew him that Jack, as he was commonly known, was a man of quiet determination. Certainly Mr. Taylor's drive in establishing a successful implement business and his service to the community which he adopted as his home, are lessons to all of us in values which are essential to Saskatchewan. Always helpful, he was elected to many positions of trust by his community. So today, I wish, along with the Hon. Member, to join with other Members of the Assembly in offering sympathy and condolences to the family of John Taylor.

MR. G. H. PENNER (Saskatoon Eastview): — Mr. Speaker, I wish to join with the Premier and other Members of the House who have spoken in tribute of Members of the Legislature who have died since we met last spring and to speak very briefly about one whom I knew and knew reasonably well, Mrs. Edwards.

I first came to know Evelyn during the Saskatoon civic election campaign in early 1972. I remember clearly that my first impression of her was one of a lady who had a deep concern for people. Her work in the hospital field has been well documented, as a member of the Board of Governors of Saskatoon City Hospital, and later as chairman, she strove to make certain that quality care was routine. Mrs. Edwards piloted the first municipal legislation regarding standards for private nursing homes during her tenure as an alderman in Saskatoon. It is but one concrete example of her concern for those who were less fortunate and who could not care for themselves. As rookie MLAs, Evelyn and I rode many miles together. She shared ideas magnanimously and brought a sense of integrity and humility to her task of representing residents of Saskatoon-Sutherland. Her sense of humor and her unfailing sense of fair-play were a guiding light for all who knew her.

Evelyn Edwards is no longer with us. However, her actions and words, ideals and ideas will always be a part of those who knew her. Her vitality and enthusiasm enriched all who worked with her. Her contribution toward a better society was significant.

November 19, 1976

MR. L. M. LARSON (Pelly): — Mr. Speaker, I want to join with the Premier and the Leader of the Opposition, and other Members who have expressed sympathy and condolences to those who have passed on since our last Legislature.

Of the seven, I knew three, Mrs. Edwards, Mrs. Trew and Myron Feeley.

My acquaintance with Mrs. Edwards was brief, as it only began upon her entrance into this House. I found that although we didn't agree politically, we had many human concerns in common. She was a very amiable type of person, very pleasant to talk to, and we found that many of the things that we desired for our fellowman, we shared. So I extend my sympathy to her husband and to her family.

Of Mrs. Trew, I want to say that she was a very unusual woman, a very unusual lady to be more specific. Her character and her principles were without question. My first meeting with her occurred in 1949 in the city of Saskatoon. We were attending the United Farmers of Canada, Saskatchewan Section Convention. At that time there were those who thought we ought to fold the organization up, give it a decent burial. Mrs. Trew fought this very vigorously. She campaigned, she lobbied, and she did the kind of things that she thought was necessary to prevent this from happening. I was impressed by her determination. I was impressed by her ability and I was impressed probably even more by her fair play attitude. The lobbying she did was fair, was well reasoned. It was well thought out. There was real purpose behind it. I certainly enjoyed working with her and the principles that she stood for.

In later years I had the privilege of serving as an executive member of the Saskatchewan Farmers Union Board that was founded at this '49 convention during her tenureship as women's president. Again I found her a lady of extreme integrity, very high intelligence and unquestionable morals.

I extend my sympathy to her husband and to those who must mourn her loss.

Myron Feeley — I share with the Member for Canora (Mr. Matsalla) some of the remarks that he has made. But I would say that Myron was all that and he was much more. His compassion to youth - I met him as a very young, aggressive, probably not a very polished person. He took the time to call you aside and to say, well you know your ideas are good but probably you should look at a little broader perspective in your approach and this sort of thing. This was Myron Feeley, always concerned about his fellowman, always concerned that you produce the best that you were capable of. And to this end he was a shining example.

I recall his retirement from politics. He said, "A man of my age that has given as much as I have, ought to step aside, for someone younger." And he introduced Alec Kuziak, who won the election and made a remarkable contribution to Saskatchewan and this House.

This was the other side of Myron Feeley. He rolled up his sleeves and he went to work when a job had to be done. He showed leadership, he showed integrity, he showed compassion,

and he showed the principle that many of us are not prone to accept, that we don't go on forever, that we must train others to follow us. This was Myron Feeley as I knew him. My life has been greatly enhanced by the privilege of knowing and the honor of working with a man like Myron Feeley. I join with others in extending my full sympathy to his family.

MR. W. H. STODALKA (Maple Creek): — Mr. Speaker, I too should like to join with other Members of this House who spoke previously. I should like to pay tribute to the seven Members of the Legislature who are no longer with us. But I would particularly like to pay tribute to two Members of the Legislature who represented the constituency of Maple Creek.

John Joseph Mildenerger was a Member of the Legislative Assembly for the constituency of Maple Creek from 1934 to 1944. He was very keenly interested in politics and spent his entire lifetime working for the Liberal Party. The Mildenerger name even to this day continues to work in the Liberal Party as one of his sons serves as the constituency president for the constituency of Humboldt.

As well as a farmer and teacher, Mr. Mildenerger had an illustrious military career and he served in both world wars. In the First World War he served with the Royal Flying Corps and in the Second World War he was Saskatchewan's very first legislator to go overseas. As Mr. Premier mentioned earlier while he was overseas he received a war decoration. He retired finally from the army in 1946 with the rank of Major.

I personally, as a young boy, met Mr. Mildenerger during the 1944 election campaign when he made a visit to the home of my parents. One of the reasons I probably remember him at that time is because he was doing his electioneering in the uniform of a major in the Canadian Army. He wasn't successful in that particular election and was defeated. As I said earlier, he retired from the army in 1946.

Mr. Mildenerger not only served his country and province well but also was very active in community work, particularly in the sports field and also served as a scout master. He was a hard working and capable individual. He was supported and appreciated by those who worked with him.

The other person - Mrs. Trew. I did not have the occasion to meet Mrs. Trew, but I did know some of the members of her immediate family. All I can say is that the people whom I know and who also knew Mrs. Beatrice Trew, spoke very highly of her. She was an involved community worker, who was always striving to make her community and the province a better place to live.

I should like to extend my sympathies to her family.

MR. H. H. ROLFES (Minister of Social Services): — Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my colleagues from Saskatoon who are unable to be here today, I should also like to pay tribute to Evelyn Grace Edwards.

Evelyn Edwards was a Member of this Legislature for a

relatively short period of time prior to her untimely death of September 17 of this year.

As has already been pointed out, Evelyn was born in Colonsay, near Saskatoon, where she received her elementary and high school education. She graduated as a registered nurse from the City Hospital in Saskatoon.

As previous speakers have already indicated, Evelyn was a very active Council Member of the city of Saskatoon for a five-year period and was a candidate for the mayoralty in 1971.

Evelyn Edwards was active in community and church affairs and in line with these had also a keen interest in health care matters, due to her training as a nurse. She served as a trustee on Saskatoon City Hospital Board for a term, was president of the Saskatchewan Hospital Association and also a former president of the City Hospital Nurses Alumnae.

In addition to all of these, Evelyn was also active in founding the Parkinson's Disease Foundation and Counselling on Aging. She was a board member of the Canadian National Institute for the Blind.

Her active work on voluntary agencies and elected bodies, both at the community and the provincial levels, reflected her concerns in the field of health and her capacity for work in her chosen field. It followed somewhat naturally then, that she should be the Opposition's health critic in this Legislature.

We mourn her untimely passing and express our condolences to her family and many friends throughout this province.

Also, Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Minister of Health, the Hon. Wes Robbins, I should like to pay tribute to Beatrice Trew. Others have already outlined and referred to the various contributions Beatrice made to her community and her province. She was active in the Farmers' Union activities, and served as a Member of this Legislature for Maple Creek from 1944 to 1948.

Mr. Robbins did not meet Mrs. Trew until a more recent time in the period from 1944 to 1964, when Mr. Robbins spent a great amount of time addressing credit union meetings throughout Saskatchewan. During this period he had the pleasure on more than one occasion of meeting her at meetings in the Cabri, Lancer, Lemsford and Sceptre areas. He found her to be an interested proponent of the self-help idea in the field of consumer economics, and credit union philosophy.

Mr. Robbins mourns her tragic demise in a traffic accident, and along with other Members of this Assembly and his family expresses condolences to her husband Albert Trew and her myriad of friends throughout Saskatchewan. She served her community and the province well.

MR. R. A. LARTER (Estevan): — Mr. Speaker, I have been asked by the Member for Rosetown-Elrose constituency (Mr. Bailey) to join with the Members today in paying his tribute to a former Member of this Legislature, Mrs. Beatrice Trew.

The following is a message from the Member for Rosetown-Elrose.

The small community of Lemsford, Saskatchewan became important to me in the late 1940s. Not because it was the home community of the Trews, but rather because it was the home of someone who had become very special to me. That special person later became my wife.

It was Christmas of 1949 when I first met Beatrice Trew and her family. The young people from the community invited me to join them at a Christmas get together at Aunt Bea's place. Beatrice Trew was affectionately called Aunt Bea by all the younger members of the community. Albert, her husband was equally respected by everyone. Although I was a stranger to the community, this first visit confirmed everything that I had heard.

Mrs. Trew was a gracious hostess showing genuine concern for friends and strangers alike. As the years went on I never ceased to admire and respect the ambition of this former Member.

Her devotion to her family, her community, particularly the young people will always be held in fond memory by my wife, the former Helen Anderson of Lemsford, and myself. I am pleased to have the opportunity to join with other Members of the Assembly in paying tribute to Aunt Bea and extending to her family our deepest condolences.

MISS L. CLIFFORD (Wilkie): — Mr. Speaker, I should like briefly to add my tribute to two Members whom I knew in this House and who have now passed away. Much has previously been said about the work and life of John Horsman. Every person who knew Mr. Horsman have their personal and precious memories of his that they hold dear. I didn't know Mr. Horsman as a colleague as the Members previously have expressed, but I knew him as a friend in my home area.

Despite the fact that there was 60 years between us, I considered Mr. Horsman a valued and a personal friend. Whereas many veteran campaigners would have been doubtful about a young woman entering politics and taking over their former responsibilities, John Horsman was one of my top supporters. My favorite remembrance of him was when I went into his home to get his support and I asked him if he had any advice for me. He said, "Yes, I do, I can tell you how to win." So being a very eager campaigner I asked him how. He just said, "Get more votes than the other fellow." It was a great boost to my campaign to have his public support and was especially rewarding to me when we went mainstreeting together in the last election. The admiration and respect that he was shown by people all over the constituency and province is not earned by many. Until the day of his death he was able to quote poetry at great length. His political awareness never waned and he was always ready for a good political discussion - always promoting the Liberal philosophy that he believed in so strongly.

To conclude, Mr. Speaker, I ask leave to quote from a tribute to Mr. Horsman written in his home town paper, the Unity Herald, written by people who knew him best:

Mention has often been made of John Horsman's public life in school, municipal and provincial affairs, but what many people tend to forget, especially the very young, is the fact that he was a member of a very special and rapidly vanishing group "The Pioneers" who

November 19, 1976

opened our country, who saw the prairie in its natural state and who endured the hardships of primitive living.

All were not farmers, some were businessmen, doctors, teachers, but all were as necessary in the pioneer days as they are today.

There are still a few left, all are old, many are lonely - speak to them, ask them questions for they all love to tell of their experiences, both sad and happy in the early days.

Remember they are living history and when they are all gone you will never see their likes again. John Horsman was a people's politician and a people's friend.

It was a great honor to have him as my friend and I only wish more people could have been as fortunate.

I should also like to pay tribute to Evelyn Edwards.

Evelyn was a friend to many in Saskatchewan and all across Canada. I first met Evelyn when I started university in Saskatoon. She was a type of person who cared for the individual, even a university student coming to the city to live for the first time. Due to my personal community involvement in the following years, we grew to know each other better and wish this added association, also grew my added admiration and respect for Evelyn. Evelyn was to me, personification of all things a lady should be. She held on to her principles and beliefs, always making a strong stand for the betterment of the people she cared about, the people of Saskatchewan. This determination was felt by many in the province as well at times by the other parties in the House. At the same time Evelyn was quick to give credit where credit was due, her only goal being to help those who were in need. As new MLAs we became even better friends. We were critics for closely associated areas, health and social services and as such Evelyn was always ready to assist with advice and support whenever necessary. Evelyn proved to be a superb MLA and served her constituents well. She was equally proud that at present it was only the Liberal Party that put their trust in women Members to represent them in the Legislature. Above all, dedication, loyalty and concern for the individual were Evelyn's utmost qualities. Being one of the youngest Members, along with the Member for Kindersley (Mr. McMillan) I can remember after this day last year, she came to us and said, being as we were likely to be here much longer, she hoped that someone would have a good word to say about her when her time came. As you can see, there is no lack of people that have something good to say about Evelyn Edwards.

As a tribute to Evelyn, the Star-Phoenix stated:

Evelyn's advice and example will always be with us. The things that mattered to her will get done. We will see to that.

Evelyn did more in her too short life than many of us can do in twice that length of time. We are all better for knowing her and she will be missed by all.

I add my sincere sympathy to both these families on the passing of John Horsman and Evelyn Edwards.

HON. W. F. SMISHEK (Minister of Finance): — Mr. Speaker, I should like to join with other Members who have spoken in expressing my sympathies to the families of the seven Members who have passed away since our last session.

But in particular, Mr. Speaker, I want to make a few remarks about the two people with whom I, as a person involved in the health field, was closely associated.

Mrs. Beatrice Trew was a person that in addition to her active involvement in the farm movement, and as a Member of the Legislature, had a deep interest and commitment to the improvement of health services in the Province of Saskatchewan. There may be some of you who may not have known that Mrs. Trew served on the Thompson Committee, formally known as Saskatchewan Advisory Medical Care Insurance Committee, a committee that was established in 1960 by Premier Douglas. There were 12 members on that committee. She was the only woman member on that committee. Her task was to bring to the attention of the committee the concerns of farm people, the need to improve health services in Saskatchewan and in particular medical care, as well as to have the women's viewpoint on that committee, because when it comes to health care I think it is women in our society who have the major responsibility of raising families and are more familiar probably than we menfolk about the needs for establishing and developing good medical care. Her contribution was indeed immense in the development and establishment of medical care in Saskatchewan, which as all of us know had laid down the pattern and the groundwork for a national medical care plan.

So in addition to all those other attributes and contributions of Mrs. Trew, pioneering medical care as we now have it in Saskatchewan is one additional contribution that Mrs. Trew made. We should remember her for that.

I should like to express my deep sympathies to her family.

Also, I should like to join with others in paying my tribute to Mrs. Evelyn Edwards. I got to know Mrs. Edwards when I became Minister of Health, she was at that time a chairman of the Saskatoon City Hospital Board. It wasn't long after becoming Minister of Health that I met her in the delegation which came to see me. She was on the executive of the Saskatchewan Hospital Association, and later became the president of the Saskatchewan Hospital Association, I think the first woman to become elected to that important office. While we had different political views, our interests in developing better health services for the people of Saskatchewan and better hospital services in this area, we had a common interest. So I am glad that I knew Evelyn Edwards, not only as a person who was interested in health services but also I think we did become fairly good friends. And while we differed politically, our interests were the same to work in the improvement of health services for the people of Saskatchewan.

I express my deep sympathies to her husband and her family and friends.

MR. W. J. G. ALLEN (Regina Rosemont): — Mr. Speaker, I should like to pay my respects to the memory of Myron Feeley, whom I consider myself very fortunate to have known. And I do so, Mr. Speaker, on behalf of hundreds of young New Democrats who came to look on Myron as a friend. There has been a custom in the youth section of our party to hold a weekend camp every summer at Crystal Lake. Myron's son Jim, whom most of us on this side of the House will know, would drive Myron over to the camp and he would spend hours with the young people there talking about the early days of the CCF. But he was also vitally interested in the issues of today and he spoke of those issues too with the same fervent philosophy of democratic socialism that he had given a lifetime to. We were all impressed with Myron's wit and his wisdom. There is an expression that a prophet has no honor in his own country, but this certainly was not the case for Myron Feeley. I had the honor a few years ago to spend a day collecting money with Myron in the Preeceville district and the affection with which he was held in his own community was very obvious to me and it was very obvious in the amount of money that we collected, the high esteem with which he was held. I believe he was held in this high esteem by his neighbors of all political persuasions because he was a man who lived by the principles that he preached. To Molly and her children, and her grandchildren, I want to extend my deepest sympathy.

MR. BLAKENEY: — Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by Mr. Wiebe (Morse):

That the resolution just passed together with the transcripts of oral tributes to the memory of the deceased Members be communicated to the bereaved families on behalf of this Assembly by Mr. Speaker.

Motion agreed to.

The Assembly adjourned at 3:47 o'clock p.m.