

June 18, 1987

The Assembly met at 2 p.m.

Prayers

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Mr. Trew: -- Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It gives me great pleasure to introduce to you and the Assembly 78 students from Dr. L.M. Hanna School in the constituency of Regina North. The teachers are: Mr. Langen, Mr. Fross, and Mr. Reiss. And there are seven chaperons, not because this is an unruly school, but I believe this is the first time this session that a group nearly as large as this has come here by bicycle. All of the students rode their bicycles here. And anyway it gives me great pleasure.

I will be joining the students for pictures shortly, and refreshments, I understand, outside as it's such a lovely day. Please join me in welcoming Dr. Hanna.

Hon. Members: -- Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Lane: -- Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's with a great deal of pleasure that I introduce to the Assembly some 24 grade 4 students from the Lumsden Elementary School, of course in Lumsden. They are sitting in the west gallery. They're accompanied by their teacher, Carol Youck; chaperons, Heather Girgan, Peggie Monson; and the bus driver, Ralph Fraser.

As I say, it's with a great deal of pleasure I welcome them to the Assembly. I hope all hon. members will join with me in welcoming them. And also, because they're getting near the end of their school year, we wish them a very, very safe summer and hope to see them again next year. I'll be meeting with them after question period for drinks and questions.

Hon. Members: -- Hear, hear!

Hon. Mrs. Smith: -- Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I too have the pleasure of hosting a group of students today from Swift Current from the elementary school of Dickson. They have brought with them their teacher, Delmer Wagner, and the principal of the school, Mrs. Mrytle Pruden and, of course, Mr. Ike Klassen, the bus driver came along also. I will be meeting with the grade 4 students after question period.

I might add, Mr. Speaker, that the Swift Current school system has a reputation of being one of the best in the province, and this particular school, one of the most active in the community. Would you please welcome with me these students.

Hon. Members: -- Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Hodgins: -- Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's certainly my pleasure to introduce to you, and through you to all members of the legislature, a group of 23 grade 4 students from the Broadway School in the great city of Melfort.

This group is accompanied by their teacher, Jim Zwarych, as well as a number of chaperons: George Moscal, Marg Placsko, Mrs. Townsend, Pat Dolo, Lorne Kish, Mr. And Mrs. From, Mrs. Hodgson, Mrs. Howell, and a very capable and able bus driver, Alex Glanville.

I do understand that the group is making a two-day trip out of it, and I do hope you have a very enjoyable time here in the legislature. I do hope it is informative to you, and I will be very, very pleased to meet with you for pictures and drinks at approximately 3 o'clock.

I would invite all members of the legislature to join with me in extending a warm welcome to this fine group of people from the great city of Melfort.

Hon. Members: -- Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Schmidt: -- Well, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to introduce to you, and through you to this Assembly and to every one in the galleries today, two very special people with us on the floor of the Chamber here. To my right we have Jamie Baab, who was injured in a tobogganing accident at the age of 13; and we have, Katrina McKay, who is an occupational therapist.

Jamie Baab is working for a new federal project called the Neil Squire Foundation which is launching a three-year federal funded project to show that severely disabled individuals can become part of the labour force when properly assisted and with proper technological devices.

The members of the foundations are in Regina today to open offices, hire staff, and launch the community college program which will operate out of the Cypress Hills regional college in Swift Current. And the object of the project will be to educate and train handicapped people, such as Jamie Baab, in computers, and eventually some of them should be able to go to university and study complicated classes on computers.

And I understand that Jamie is here to interview people for this program. He is an example of someone that is working under the Neil Squire Foundation, and I ask everyone to welcome Jamie here, and Katrina McKay, and wish them success in their project.

Hon. Members: -- Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Maxwell: -- Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's a pleasure for me to introduce to you, and through you to the members of the legislature, four guests in our country who are seated in the Speaker's gallery. The first two are Mrs. Elizabeth McKendrick and Mrs. Margaret Brown, a couple of sisters, who've come over from Scotland. They are visiting with their son-in-law and their daughter, Sheila McKendrick, who works here in the Legislative Assembly with Hansard. I believe this is their first trip to Canada, and we had a short visit where we reminisced a little bit, and I caught up on what a Scottish accent is all about once more and chatted about a few common memories from back home.

The other couple I would like to introduce to you, Mr. Speaker, and to the members, are Alex and Kathleen Daly who are here from Dublin, Ireland. They are on vacation with their daughter and son-in-law in Spiritwood in the Turtleford constituency, and very old and very dear friends of mine.

We wish all four of you a very, very pleasant stay in the province. We hope you are enjoying the warm Saskatchewan hospitality; it matches the weather we've had in the last week. We wish you a very safe trip home. Thank you for being here today.

Hon. Members: -- Hear, hear!

ORAL QUESTIONS

Election Promises and Health Care Commitments

Hon. Mr. Blakeney: -- Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct a question to the Premier, and it deals with what I deem to be a betrayal of his commitment to the people of Saskatchewan with respect to health care.

Yesterday's budget confirmed that prescription drugs will . . . the plan will require that the sick pay hundreds of dollars up front, out of their own pockets, for medication, and even after that, even after they surpass the deductible, they'll get only 80 per cent recovery. It confirms that the children's dental plan has been privatized and that some 60,000 young people will no longer be covered at all.

It suggests that the chiropractic care will be severely limited and makes clear that 100 positions have been cut from the area of mental health, and that a number of rural hospitals are at risk of being closed.

Now I ask, Mr. Speaker: how can you make these destructive cuts in government programs and yet deny that you are undermining medicare?

Hon. Mr. Devine: -- Mr. Speaker, I will respond to the hon. member by saying what we're doing in health care and in the drug program and in the dental program is the right thing to do. It is improving health care and dental care across this province, and it will

provide a brand new form of health, educational, drug and dental programs in this province that are overdue.

When the hon. member talks about having to spend hundreds and hundreds of dollars, I can remind the member that for senior citizens the deductible this year is \$25 — \$25. For senior citizens living in nursing homes it hasn't changed at all, Mr. Speaker — hasn't changed. It is the same as it was before.

When you look at the youth with respect to the dental program, Mr. Speaker, the hon. member knows that we've done the right thing. He's absolutely aware of the fact that all children from K to grade eight are covered — and he knows that — and it's all paid for, done by dentists. It's all covered.

And when you're looking at teenagers, families have said to us, and parents have said to us: the problem with teenagers these days, talking about priorities, is not that they can't get their cavities fixed, or not that they've got a dental problem, but it's dealing with drugs and alcohol and social problems, and so forth. And we make . . . And, Mr. Speaker, families will come to us and say we want, not only that you maintain the expenditures in health care, but we want the money in the right place in health care. And we've made those choices and the people are saying it's the right choice. It's the right choice.

We are proud to make the changes in health care and in the dental program and in drug and alcohol abuse and with respect to AIDS (Acquired immune Deficiency Syndrome) and with respect to other problems that we have in society. They might not have been the same problems 50 years ago, but they're the problems of today that need to be addressed. These are the right decisions to be made at the right time. And yes, Mr. Speaker, it takes some courage to make those right decisions on behalf of teenagers, and on behalf of families, and on behalf of the health care system. Somebody's got to be able to stand up and do that.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Blakeney: -- Mr. Premier, I direct a very narrow supplementary to you, listening to your first question. You said that all children from K to grade 8 are covered. Will you now confirm that all children who are in kindergarten, grades 1 to 8 inclusive, are covered by your plan?

Hon. Mr. Devine: -- Well, Mr. Speaker, if there's somebody that . . .

Mr. Speaker: -- Order, please. Order, order. I think hon. member should realize that the person being questioned has the right to make that answer before being interrupted — or interrupted at all.

Hon. Mr. Devine: -- Mr. Speaker, if there is somebody who is 18 years old in grade 8, he's not covered. The age category is five years old to 13 years old. That covers 90-some

per cent or 95 per cent of all the people that are in kindergarten to grade 8. Okay? Five-year-olds to 13-year-olds.

Now if you have people who are outside that connection in terms of their being four-year-old or they're going to be 18-year-old in grade 8, I mean obviously it's not going to be the case. The majority of the people who are five years old to 13 years are in K to 12 . . . K to grade 8. Beyond that, you are into the teenagers. And teenagers, we find today, Mr. Speaker, when we look at the problems they face, it's not in their teeth. And families are saying, if you're going to spend some money, do it on something else.

I could add, Mr. Speaker, the hon. member asked about hospitals. If the hon. member would want me to respond to rural hospitals, let me just say this. He asked . . .

Mr. Speaker: -- Order. I'm sorry, that was the previous question. Okay.

Hon. Mr. Blakeney: -- Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There was some straying from whether K to 8 were covered.

Supplementary, Mr. Premier, I have a letter from a constituent of mine, a person who I know with a very limited income, whose husband has a chronic heart problem. She has found out that her costs up front will increase from \$11.80 a month to \$173 per month. That is her situation which she has to find up front. Can you justify this sort of an attack on low-income people who have major drug needs?

Hon. Mr. Devine: -- Mr. Speaker, I said yesterday and I will say now: if there are very unique circumstances where people have . . .

Mr. Speaker: -- Order, please. Order. I'd like to remind the members to please not interfere. AS we all know in this House, there's a certain latitude of allowance for those sort of things. But when they become constant, we cannot allow it to continue. So I'm asking for your co-operation.

Hon. Mr. Devine: -- Mr. Speaker, if I can respond, three parts to the hon. member's question.

If there are unique circumstances, if there are unique circumstances where there are very, very large drug expenses because of a particular disease, I ask the hon. member to bring that information to the Minister of Health, share with him the pharmacist that it goes through, and then we can look at specific situations. I know that the NPD administration runs a program in Manitoba, and they've dealt with very specific things, and they're very satisfied with the entire program, as are the people of Manitoba. I'm advised, from all political sides of the question.

Secondly, I would like to point out that senior citizens in this province, seniors, are getting \$500 an individual, low-income seniors. And you mentioned this was a low-income problem. Senior citizens getting \$500, \$750 a couple. And, Mr. Speaker, if there

are senior citizens, senior citizens any place in Canada that are getting that kind of money, plus a health-care program, I'd like to see that, Mr. Speaker. The combination of the things we put together here for senior citizens, \$25 deductible this year, plus up to \$500 from a heritage grant program, are significant, Mr. Speaker.

New City Hospital For Saskatoon

Ms. Atkinson: -- Mr. Premier, there was not one word in this budget speech about your government's campaign commitment to build a new City Hospital in Saskatoon. Does that commitment still stand, or is this just another broken election promise?

Regardless, will you provide the three Saskatoon hospitals with emergency funds to prevent 308 hospital bed closures this summer to make sure that the waiting list of nearly 10,000 people doesn't grow even more.

Hon. Mr. Devine: -- Mr. Minister, I'll ask the Minister of Health to respond in detail.

Hon. Mr. McLeod: -- Mr. Speaker, in answer to the hon. member's question as it relates to the Saskatoon City Hospital, discussions continue to be ongoing with the City Hospital Board.

There has been no suggestion to the Saskatoon City Hospital Board about deferral or cancellation or anything like that, although I've heard comments from members opposite that that is the case. That, in fact, is not the case, and members of the City Hospital Board will know that discussions are ongoing.

Ms. Atkinson: -- Supplementary, Mr. Minister of Health, is there any money in the budget for the initial construction costs of the new City Hospital in Saskatoon. Can you confirm whether there's money in the budget?

We've had that sign out front of City Hospital for the last two years, the sign that talks about a new City Hospital. Put your money where your mouth is.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. McLeod: -- Mr. Speaker, we've seen another example of very inflamed rhetoric. The sign that the member refers to says, construction to begin in 1988. This is now June of 1987. The money will be in the budget for us to continue with the City Hospital construction and we are, as I have said, continuing our ongoing discussions with the board of City Hospital as it relates to that project.

Ms. Atkinson: -- I ask the minister very clearly: is there money in the budget for the new City Hospital? And he did not answer the question as to whether there is any emergency money this summer to deal with the closure of 308 hospital beds in Saskatoon and numerous operating rooms, to deal with the 10,000 person hospital waiting list in Saskatoon. I'd ask the minister to answer the question.

Hon. Mr. McLeod: -- Mr. Speaker, the question was as it relates to the construction project that was announced for City Hospital I answered that question very clearly. As it relates to money in the budget, this budget will address the projects which are ongoing, and that project is ongoing. How much more clear should I be about that? That's number one.

As it relates to the waiting lists and the money available in Saskatoon — at that very City Hospital in next month, in the month of July, there will be a day surgery unit opening to address the very waiting list problem that the member talks about.

Mr. Speaker, those are the responsible measures that we are taking to try to address that is in fact . . . what I admit is a very serious problem as it relates to the Saskatoon waiting list issue. But that Saskatoon waiting list issue, I might add, Mr. Speaker, is related to a province-wide circumstance, Saskatoon being the focal point, Mr. Speaker. There's no question that that's true. But we have regional hospitals in this province that are underutilized. We have put a good deal of money over a good long period of time into health care. Everybody knows that. The Minister of Finance pointed it out yesterday, Mr. Speaker, a 63 per cent increase in five years.

Closure of Neo-natal Beds in Saskatoon

Mr. Goodale: -- Mr. Speaker, specifically with respect to the bed closures that are scheduled in the city of Saskatoon this summer, as I understand it from some professionals working in that system, among the beds to be closed will be at least five beds in neo-natal intensive care units. Obviously that sort of bed in a hospital is not of discretionary use. It's a rather essential and emergency type of bed and facility.

And I wonder if the minister could give us his specific commitment. If he cannot deal with the broad problem today, could he give us his specific commitment with respect to, I believe it is, five closures of neo-natal ICU beds, that the government will not proceed with that kind of closure this summer in the city of Saskatoon.

Hon. Mr. McLeod: -- I hear what the member has said. What I will say, as it relates to the specific five beds that the member refers to, I'll take notice of the question to make very sure that what he says isn't . . . you know, and what's been related to him is in fact the case. So I'll take notice of the question as it relates to that specific.

Firings of SPC and Government Employees

Mr. Romanow: -- Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Hon. Premier, and it has to do with the spate of firings in general, or specifically the spate of firings of 24 Saskatchewan Power Corporation workers that occurred yesterday.

But first the question with respect to firings and the way they are being handled by this government. They are being handled, Mr. Speaker, as we all know, with the workers

being asked to clean out their desks immediately, on the spot, without any opportunity to do anything else but to clear out of the buildings. They are treated almost like criminals.

I'm asking this of the Premier, because obviously his ministers are insensitive to this. Will the Premier please make sure that this kind of an approach is discontinued.

And secondly, how does he explain to the people of the province of Saskatchewan this callous and cold-hearted manner in which he has dealt with the firings to date?

Hon. Mr. Devine: -- Well, Mr. Speaker, I'll ask ministers to respond in detail. In a general sense I will say that up to 80 per cent of the public employees who are not with the government now have moved on a voluntary fashion, and they've accepted either early retirement or some combinations of voluntary . . . And it's voluntary, Mr. Speaker. It speaks for itself.

Now with respect to others, there's been severance packages that have been put together, and they have obviously accepted them. With respect to Sask Power, I would ask my colleague, my seat mate, the Deputy Premier, to respond to this specifically.

Mr. Romanow: -- Mr. Speaker, supplementary. I notice that the Hon. Premier talks about voluntary resignations from government. It reminds me almost, Mr. Speaker, of the movie called *The Godfather*. I guess they were made offers that they couldn't refuse and so they voluntarily left.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Romanow: -- So my question, as it were, to the godfather of the entire government opposite, is this: when it comes specifically to the 24 SPC people, will you tell this House, those 24 people, and the people of the province of Saskatchewan, why it was that they were dismissed in this summary fashion, without notice, without explanation, without the decency of being dealt with in a fair manner, especially when those workers have had 15 to 25 years of service. What's your answer to that, Mr. Premier?

Hon. Mr. Berntson: -- Mr. Speaker . . .

Mr. Speaker: -- Order, please. Order.

Hon. Mr. Berntson: -- Mr. Speaker, as the minister responsible for Sask Power, I would point out to all members that, in fact, in total I think there will be about 141 people at Sask Power that will be affected during the down-sizing and the reorganization. Of that 141, 117 of them will be accepting voluntary early retirement. In fact, Mr. Speaker, on a couple of instances at least that I'm aware of, there were individuals who asked, because of health reasons to be included in the early retirement program, and they were accommodated.

As it relates to the 24 that were laid off, my understanding is, Mr. Speaker, that there are provisions, Mr. Speaker, for out-placement counselling; there are provisions for a severance package, and all of the normal things that normally happen in these sorts of circumstances. The positions, Mr. Speaker, in the circumstances, no longer exist. We have problems of our own at Sask Power as it relates to bottom line. So reorganization is necessary in order to bring more efficiency and effectiveness to the corporation.

Mr. Speaker, I will say that the kinds of tactics that have been alluded to by the member opposite as it relates to, as he says, firings, are intolerable. We won't put up with them. And I would be more than pleased to deal with any specific individual that he happens to bring to my attention.

Salary of President of Sask Power

Mr. Romanow: -- A question to the Premier. I ask the Premier to give us a straight answer in this regard, and I direct it to him specifically because the minister in charge of the Saskatchewan Power Corporation just told us in the answer to the last question, that part of the reason for the firings — let's make no mistake what's been going on here. It's firings. Part of the reason is down-sizing. I direct this question to the Premier. If you're so committed to down-sizing, why don't you start showing some fairness by down-sizing the \$200,000 a year plus, salary of your friend, the former president of the PC party in Saskatchewan, and current president of the SPC, George Hill? Will you tell the House that you'll down-size his salary?

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Devine: -- Mr. Speaker, a good deal of the credit for the more efficient operations at Sask Power is due to the new president, Mr. Hill. We canvassed . . .

Mr. Speaker: -- Order, please. Order.

Hon. Mr. Devine: -- We canvassed the entire province and the entire country for qualified people to head up Sask Power.

Mr. Speaker: -- Order. Order. Order, please. Order. Order, please.

Hon. Mr. Devine: -- Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we canvassed the entire country for the best that we could find with an outside consulting firm. We went all across this country . . .

Mr. Speaker: -- Order. Order. Order. Order. Order!

I am afraid I must continue to keep rising and interrupting question period. The time is ticking by and it's your question period, so I ask you, for your own benefit, to please stop interrupting.

Hon. Mr. Devine: -- Mr. Speaker, we hired a professional consulting firm to seek applications across Canada for the head of Sask Power. They brought in a large number of names — a large number of names. They recommended the appropriate names to the board of directors of Sask Power — Saskatchewan people. The board of directors picked a Saskatchewan person who ranked above all the rest in Canada, both in terms of his legal expertise, his business expertise, and his experience with Sask Power, because he was chairman of the board of Sask Power. And after that you're saying you're criticizing Sask Power and the board of directors of Sask Power for picking a Saskatchewan person over somebody from outside. I know previously we've had people under your administration pick them from all kinds of places outside of Saskatchewan. We wanted a Saskatchewan person who ranked the best in Canada. And that's what we got in Mr. Hill.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Romanow: -- Mr. Speaker, accepting for the moment — which I might add that no one in Saskatchewan does — that Mr. Hill is the best candidate, accepting for the moment that proposition, my question is this: the Premier is asking all of Saskatchewan to start pulling in their belts, tightening their belts in the interests of restraint. Why is it that we have a president of SPC at \$200,000 a year, plus perquisites? Why is it that the Premier hasn't asked his good friend, who's from Estevan, his constituency, the past Tory president, to down-size his salary in the interest of the province of Saskatchewan's . . . (inaudible) . . .

Hon. Mr. Devine: -- Mr. Speaker, I am not at all convinced that the hon. member has the accurate information with respect to the salary. Mr. Speaker, as he knows, the Crown Corporations Committee can provide you with the salaries of all the top executives. They have done it in the past, and they will do it when the Crown Corporation Committee come up.

When you want, with respect to down-sizing, we started the down-sizing inside government, right across the piece, with less management in our office. . .

Mr. Speaker: -- Order. Order.

Hon. Mr. Devine: -- Mr. Speaker, we have led the way in down-sizing and reducing and providing the efficiency in administration and in government. Across the piece we have less cabinet ministers; we have less executive assistants; we have less MAs (ministerial assistants) than we had before. And we have down-sized that in terms of travel, and we've made that quite clear, probably before you were elected.

Mr. Romanow: -- Supplementary to the Premier. The Premier refuses to confirm, but he certainly refuses to deny, the \$200,000 salary for Mr. Hill. On June 3, my colleague, the member from Saskatoon Fairview, June 3, wrote to you, sir, and to your government, asking that you table the names and the salaries of all of the Crown corporation executives so that all of -Saskatchewan might know what they get paid; and in order to make sure that there is fairness in your restraint program, we can judge what you are

doing with the dental technicians and the rank and file workers by those salaries. I ask you: if I'm wrong on the \$200,000, you can disprove me by tabling the answer to that letter right now. Come on, table that answer to that letter. Give us the facts as to what that pay is.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Devine: -- Mr. Speaker, the members opposite have raised letters yesterday and today, then they haven't tabled one of them. They're afraid to table anything that they've raised there. We've asked them to table it and they haven't. You will get . . .

Mr. Speaker: -- Order, order, please! Order, please.

Hon. Mr. Devine: -- We will deal with Crown corporations in the normal course of events. When you have a Crown Corporations Committee, you will get the information, as you do on travel, as you do on everything else. So we will provide it through the normal course of events. And you will find, Mr. Speaker, that we have trimmed the size of the government from the top down, right across the piece to show the way, and it's the right thing to do.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Introduction of Clerk

Mr. Speaker: -- Before orders of the day, I would like to introduce to members of the Assembly a new officer at the Table, Gregory Putz, Esq. Gregory was born and raised in Saskatchewan but has most recently been residing in Ottawa. I would like all members to welcome Gregory to the Saskatchewan Table and our Assembly, and also to welcome him back to Saskatchewan.

Hon. Members: -- Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: -- I would also like at this time to introduce his mother and his wife who are with us here in the galleries today, and I would like to ask them to rise and that we acknowledge them.

Hon. Members: -- Hear, hear!

Introduction of Pages

Mr. Speaker: -- Also, colleagues, I would like to advise the Assembly that Brenda Blondeau will be a page for the remainder of this session. Brenda.

Hon. Members: -- Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: -- And one further point of interest. All members will recall that Gilles Pelletier is one of our pages. Gilles has now been joined by his sister, Nathalie, who is a guide with the Legislative Assembly. Both Gilles and Nathalie are from Quebec but have come to Saskatchewan to work and to improve their skills in the English language. We welcome this initiative by these young people.

Hon. Members: -- Hear, hear!

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. Romanow: -- Mr. Speaker, on a point of order before orders of the day. Mr. Speaker, yesterday during question period my colleague, the member from Saskatoon Nutana, asked a primary question, I believe it was of the Premier, which was answered. Then she stood on her feet and was on her feet to ask for a supplementary question. Instead, sir, you recognized the independent member to my left, the member from Assiniboia-Gravelbourg. My point of order is this, sir: it is my understanding of the conventions in the practice of this House that a member is entitled to a question and two supplementaries on the assumption the questions and the supplementaries are in order, which most certainly was the case with respect to the member from Saskatoon Nutana.

I would ask you, Mr. Speaker, sir, to look at the record and at this matter and to determine whether or not that statement of practice that I have offered to you, sir, is accurate, and if so, to insure that members who ask questions to be followed by two supplementaries or more, depending upon the relevance in the question period, be permitted to do so. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker: -- I thank the member from Saskatoon Riversdale for raising this matter before the House today. Obviously, as we know that yesterday the fact that the member from Saskatoon Nutana did not get a supplementary caused great concern to her and to her fellow members. I would just like to make this statement regarding that issue which you have raised.

Yesterday being the first day of the Assembly I was taking care, as much as possible, to give as many people as possible, as many members as possible, an opportunity to ask a question. So I would like to also point out that there is no written rule, although there certainly is a practice. There is no written rule that indicates there is a supplementary after a main question. However, I certainly listen to your point of order with interest and I acknowledge the concern that you raised. And I thank you for raising it, and this is the reason I did what I did yesterday. I noted also that today the hon. member did have an opportunity to ask a question and to a supplement.

POINT OF PRIVILEGE

Hon. Mr. Blakeney: -- On a question of privilege under rule 6 of the *Rules and Procedures of the Legislative Assembly* you will, Mr. Speaker, be familiar with the rule 6 which provides that:

A Member who proposes to raise a question of privilege shall first advise Mr. Speaker of his intention so to do . . .

And which advice I have given you shortly before noon today, within the prescribed period. My question of privilege deals with the remarks attributed to the Minister of Justice attacking the credibility of Legislative Counsel and what in my judgement was a misrepresenting of her role. I believe this to be a question of privilege. I have in my letter referred to appropriate provisions of May's *Parliamentary Practice* which defines privilege as:

. . . the sum of the peculiar rights enjoyed by each House collectively as a constituent part of the High Court of Parliament . . .

A general statement on privilege and then it goes on to say:

Each House also claims the right to punish actions, which, while not breaches of (any) specific privilege, are offences against its authority or dignity, such as disobedience to its legitimate commands or libels upon itself, its officers, or its members.

It is my submission, Mr. Speaker, that the remarks made by the Minister of Justice, if accurately reported — as they were reported in the May 20 issue of the *Leader-Post* and the May 20 issue of the *Star-Phoenix* — are a breach of the privilege of the House. I won't deal at length with them but I will quote in summary fashion and will be glad to elucidate if it's judged that more detail should be on the record.

The report in the *Star-Phoenix* said, he said, that is the Minister of Justice said, the opinion of Rasmussen, the legislature's lawyer, holds no weight with the government. He referred to her as the lawyer for the opposition, and said, she, at many times, has given questionable legal opinions.

Mr. Speaker, I understand your role to be, to decide whether or not this is a *prima facie* case of a breach of privilege. I will not give an argument now. I have attempted to outline what I think the case is. If you deem it to be an appropriate case of breach of privilege, I then will move a motion and the debate can proceed on the motion. I raise this question of privilege, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Mr. Berntson: -- Mr. Speaker, just to talk briefly to the point raised by the hon. member. I understand, after exhaustive research, that *Beauchesne's* does not specifically recognize that the officials of the House are in fact protected by privilege. And the matter of privilege and protection under privilege, Mr. Speaker, I think is extended only to members of the House. I think it has also been the tradition, of not only this House but other Houses, that matters involving officers of the House should not be resolved in the House, for the sake of the relationship that must exist between members of the House and officers of the House.

I know, Mr. Speaker, that you will review the matter put before you and make your decision, and whatever that decision is, naturally, we will be abiding by that.

Mr. Speaker: -- I've listened to the member for Regina Elphinstone and to the member for Souris-Cannington, and as all of you are well aware, a matter of this sort is a matter which cannot have an immediate answer. And, therefore, I will defer my ruling and bring back my opinion at a later date.

(1445)

CONDOLENCES

Hon. Mr. Devine: -- Before orders of the day, and by leave of the Assembly I would move, seconded by the member from Regina Elphinstone:

That this Assembly records with sorrow and regret the passing of three former members of this Assembly, and expresses its grateful appreciation of the contribution they made to their communities, their constituencies, the province, and to Canada.

Arthur Percy Swallow, who died in Yorkton on January 28, 1985, was a member of this Legislative Assembly, representing the constituency of Yorkton from 1944 to 1956.

Mr. Swallow was born in 1893. He was predeceased by his wife Helen and one son in infancy. He is survived by a daughter, a son, a five grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Mr. Swallow was a long-time resident of Theodore where he was a farmer and implement dealer. He was active in community affairs, in the United Church, served the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool, the United Farmers, and the local co-operative.

Wilbert A. McIvor, died on March 22, 1987, was a member of this Legislative Assembly, representing the constituency of Arm River from 1967 to 1971.

Mr. McIvor was born on his family's homestead near Craik on January 11, 1915. In 1940, he married Faere Old, who predeceased him in 1981. They had five children.

Mr. McIvor farmed near Girvin and was a reeve of the Rural Municipality of Arm River from 1956 to 1968. He was a sportsman and harness race enthusiast, becoming vice-president of the Saskatchewan Standard Bred Association.

Dr. Henry Philip Mang, who died in Regina on March 30, 1987, was a member of this Legislative Assembly, representing the constituency of Lumsden from 1934 to 1938.

Dr. Mang was born in Edenwold on December 11, 1897. He was educated at Regain Collegiate Institute and Normal School before graduating, in 1923, from the University of Toronto Royal college of Dentistry. During the First World War, Dr. Mang enlisted in the Royal Flying Corps.

He was a farmer, he was a teacher, a principal, a dentist and a politician. He was active in many organizations, especially the Wheat Pool Field Service Organization, the Regina Chamber of Commerce Agriculture Committee, the Qu'Appelle Regional Appeal Board of the provincial Department of Health and the Francis Inspectorate of Teachers. In 1953, he was elected to the Canadian House of Commons as the member for Qu'Appelle.

Dr. Mang travelled extensively during his early years. He was a delegate to the YMCA International Student Voluntary Movement conferences at Des Moines, Iowa in 1920 and Indianapolis in 1924. In 1925, he was the Canadian delegate to the World Association in Edinburgh and attended the International Teachers' Institute at Heidelberg and Berlin.

He worked for the native of his constituency and was made honorary chief of the Cree Tribe in 1959. He contributed much to sports and was inducted into the Saskatchewan Sports Hall of Fame in 1967.

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

Hon. Mr. Blakeney: -- Mr. Speaker, I would like to associate myself with the words of the Premier with respect to these three former members of this Assembly who have died recently.

With respect to Mr. Swallow, I did not serve in the legislature with Art Swallow, but I knew Arthur. He was a solid member of the legislature, quiet, well-liked by his fellow members, had a reputation as a good constituency man. I know that he had some personal problems and sickness in his own family which he dealt with with forbearance. And he was a person who I think was admired generally by those who served in the legislature. I had an opportunity to know him when I was a young public servant and dealt with the legislature, particularly the Crown Corporations Committee, and I came to know some of the members, including Art Swallow.

Some others will know Wilbert McIvor who served in the legislature in more recent times, up till 1971. Wilbert also was a quiet member, not given to many flights of oratory in the House, but solid, obviously well regarded in the House and in his constituency.

Henry Mang is a person for whom one can't have anything else but admiration. There can't be many people in this world, and there can't have been many former members of this Assembly who could say at one time or another that they were a farmer, and a teacher, and a principal, and a dentist, and an MLA, and an MP, and an Indian chief, for openers. I only knew Henry in his later years. He certainly was a good deal more extroverted than Art Swallow or Wilbert McIvor, as I recall them.

I recall Henry in 1980 when we had associated with the Celebrate Saskatchewan festivities, a reunion of MLAs of all persuasions. I remember it well because a former member, now deceased, Franklin Foley, took to the piano and a general sing-song ensued. Henry Mang, who was then about 82, showed up and was very much a part of the festivities. He continued to take a very active interest in life and if one were to recount the many organizations with which he was associated, we would be here for some considerable time. President of the Regina Dales football club — that's a mere example but it goes on and on — the chamber of commerce, and sports organizations, and business organizations, and many, many others.

And, as was suggested that in his youth, at a time when people weren't given to world travel, Henry, before he was 30 years old, had been not only down in the States in Iowa and Indianapolis, but had been in Edinburgh and Heidelberg and Berlin. These are the activities of someone who pretty clearly enjoyed life and lived it to the full. And I think one could say that of Henry Mang — he lived a full life; he lived a long life; he lived it with vigour.

And in the case of all three, I would like to associate with the Premier, my words of condolence to members of the bereaved families. All of us make our contribution to the legislature and it is appropriate that we honour those who have made their contribution and who are no longer with us.

Mr. Goodale: -- Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. While it was not my privilege to know the former member for Yorkton, Mr. Swallow, I have certainly learned a good deal about him and his public career in this Assembly, in part from the remarks that have just been made in this Assembly by the Premier and by the Leader of the Opposition. Mr. Swallow was a man who made a worthy contribution to his community and to his province. He made his mark in the public life of Saskatchewan and I certainly would want to associate myself with the remarks of the Premier and the Leader of the Opposition in paying tribute to his memory and extending sincere condolences to his family.

Wilbert McIvor was a Liberal member of this Assembly when I was president, a number of years ago, of the Saskatchewan Young Liberals. I got to know him well. He was a genuine spokesman for the rural interests of a constituency like Arm River, which he had the honour to represent in this Assembly. He knew his area; he worked hard for it, based upon his solid practical experience as a farmer and a reeve in local government for something like 12 years.

I can recall, Mr. Speaker, a warm summer afternoon in 1985 when a large number of people were gathered at Turgeon House here in Regina to celebrate the 80th anniversary of the founding of the Saskatchewan Liberal Association. Wilbert was there. I spent some time that day visiting with him, and I recall in the conversation how quickly the subject matter turned to horse-racing. That was, of course, one of his passions — a sport to which he devoted himself and to which he made a proud contribution in addition to his service in public life. We respect his memory and we send our sympathies to his family with our gratitude for his career in this Assembly and in public affairs.

Dr. Henry Mang was a truly unique Saskatchewan character. As others have mentioned today: a dentist, a teacher, a farmer, a pilot, a world traveller, an honorary Indian chief, a sportsman, a member of parliament, and an MLA — what a wonderful life. I am pleased to say he was also an honorary life member of the Saskatchewan Liberal Association and active in the party throughout his life.

His career, Mr. Speaker, touched so many people and always in a positive way. I fondly remember our many conversations, his advice and encouragement were always a great strength. Time spent with Henry Mang provided great insight in to the history of our province, into the proper nature of political life an community service, and also into the current issues of the day in which he always maintained a very keen and lively interest.

We shall miss him, but he leaves a proud legacy that has enriched all of Saskatchewan, and our condolences go sincerely to his family in their bereavement. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Muirhead: -- Mr. Speaker, it is with great sorrow that I rise to speak today, a few words in remembrance of the late Wilbert McIvor.

Wilbert McIvor passed away suddenly at his home on the farm at Girvin, Saskatchewan, on March 22, 1987. He was born on the McIvor homestead east of Girvin on January 11, 1915. He completed his education at Girvin and farmed there until his passing. In 1940, he married Faere Old. They had five children. Wilbert was predeceased by his wife and one son. He is survived by two daughters, two sons, nine grandchildren, and one great-granddaughter.

He was active in baseball, hockey, curling, and harness racing, both as a participant and as an official capacity. He was also active in local government and provincial politics. He served as reeve of the R.M. of Arm River from 1956 to 1968, during which he was very involved in the enlargement of the Davidson dam, construction of the Craik dam, Davidson swimming pool, Craik Regional Park and Prairie View Lodge, as well as many other projects.

Wilbert was president of the Arm River Liberal Association for five years before being elected as MLA of the Arm River constituency for four years. Funeral services were on March 25 at the Girvin United Church.

Mr. Speaker, I've had the pleasure to have known Wilbert for about 50 years. The McIvor home is five miles from my home where I was raised and still live today.

Mr. Speaker, I spoke a moment ago about Wilbert's activities. Knowing Wilbert very well all my life, I witnessed his involvement in his many sports. I watched him play hockey when I was a small boy; I participated in the Girvin bonspiel in 1947 which was exactly 40 years ago last winter, and my first game was against Wilbert McIvor.

(1500)

Mr. Speaker, I played many curling games against Wilbert. Girvin has the largest curling event in Arm River for the last few years. Mr. Speaker, Wilbert McIvor curled with his family in the Girvin classic just one month before he died. I watched him curl several games. He was still making his share of shots, especially for a man of over 70 years of age.

Mr. Speaker, the latter years of Wilbert's life he was very much involved in harness racing. I watched him raise, train, and race his Standardbred horses. In fact, Mr. Speaker, the morning he passed away he was out working with his horses.

It was through my political involvement, Mr. Speaker, with Wilbert McIvor that I became interested in politics. I was at the Liberal nominating meeting when Wilbert won the nomination to be the candidate for the 1967 provincial election. I had the pleasure to travel with him from home to home in the Craik rural poll. Mr. Speaker, on election day I was pleased to be a part of Wilbert McIvor's victory, to win at the polls to become the Liberal MLA for the Arm River from 1967 to 1971.

Mr. Speaker, I always respected Wilbert's political views. He was a hard-working, independent, right-wing individual.

Mr. Speaker, Wilbert's brother, Allan McIvor ran for the Social Credit in the 1961 election. Arm River just wasn't ready for a Social Credit representative. But as far as Allan, he was well-liked and would have made a good MLA.

Mr. Speaker, all the McIvors were very successful farmers in the Girvin district. They are known to be good farmers, good managers, and well-respected citizens. Wilbert's two sons, Perry McIvor and Dennis McIvor, and a grandson, Kim, operate together a large farming operation in the Girvin district. They, like their father, run a very good operation.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, it has been a pleasure to put on the record in this legislature words of appreciation and praise for the late Wilbert McIvor. It was a pleasure to have known him for 50 years of my life. Mr. Speaker, I wish to express my sympathy to the family and friends of Wilbert McIvor.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Mr. Lane: -- Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to join hon. member in expressing condolences to those that have died, former members that have died, that we are acknowledging today. I particularly want to recall some events with regard to two members that I knew personally.

I had the pleasure of knowing both Wilbert McIvor and H.P. Mang, as he was affectionately called in Edenwold.

Wilbert was very active, of course, in the Liberal party. Wilbert was quite an interesting individual. He was spare of language in most cases, but when he did speak, you knew exactly where you stood and where he stood. And he made no bones about it and was well respected, by those who knew him, for that ability. I had the pleasure of working with him politically for some time, and I got some education from Wilbert in harness racing, which is still somewhat . . . I don't understand that well, but certainly he made an effort to try and educate me into that special hobby of his. I know that he served his constituency and his province to the best of his abilities. He had strong views and very much was committed to trying to get his positions as part of the policies of this province.

Mr. Henry Phillip Mang was, as the member from Assiniboia-Gravelbourg indicated, one of the great characters of this province. He was somewhat of a Renaissance man in Edenwold and area in the interests that he had.

If I recall — I could be subject to correction, but I do believe that Dr. Philip Mang was, until his death, was the oldest graduate of the University of Toronto — the oldest surviving graduate of the University of Toronto. He was born in Edenwold and went to the University of Toronto, and I think we can all think back at what that would have meant in the turn of the century. He graduated in dentistry, came back to his home community of Edenwold, became a teacher, taught for many years and was very, very active in the community.

I can recall an incident when I was first seeking a nomination. The first farm house I went to, H.P. Mang was there with some of his friends and, of course, discussing the issue of the day. My seeking of the nomination, I went in to try and get their support. I was there for some five hours that afternoon into a political learning session for me, and developed not only a life-long respect for H.P. but a friendship as well.

I recall when I, as we say, crossed the floor, H.P. had been the last Liberal member, if I recall, up until that time, and shortly after that we had the reception in the Assembly at the opening of the House, and I got a notice from one of the commissioners that a Mr. Mang was looking for me.

Well things were pretty tense for me at that time, as some members may recall, and I figured: oh boy, here it comes; I'm going to have a confrontation right in front of all these people. And coming through the crowd of people was this cigar and H.P. Mang, and he just came up and grabbed my hand and he said: I just wanted to say that I did this once before myself. He said: good luck to you.

And it confirmed, as I told the story to people in Edenwold, it confirmed what many of them had believed had happened, but nobody knew for sure at that time, that he had made a change at some time during his political activity.

But he was an institution in his area. He was very dedicated to his community, to the province, and it was one of the pleasures of my life of having an association with H.P. Mang, from 1971 until his recent death. And I join with other members in extending condolences to the families of the members that we are acknowledging today.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Brockelbank: -- Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to join with other members in making a few comments about the three members that have departed since we last performed this particular function.

Of the three members, beginning with Mr. Swallow, I must say that as a youth I remember meeting Mr. Swallow, and recall my father talking about Mr. Swallow. And I gathered from meeting him and the discussions and comments my father had passed on to me that he was an all around, good, solid MLA and served his constituency well. And I certainly want to put those comments on the record for the family of Mr. Swallow.

I had the opportunity to sit in the legislature with Mr. Wilbert McIvor, the member for Arm River, for the period of four years that he was here in the legislature. I respected Mr. McIvor. He did his work dutifully. He was involved in his community and was a person who was not given to outlandish statements or outbursts of any kind in the legislature during the time that I knew him. It was a pleasure to know him and to discuss things with him.

With regard to Mr. Mang, I had known him slightly. But during the time that I came to know him, I grew to appreciate some of his qualities. As with Mr. Blakeney when he spoke previous in this particular motion, I was at the 75th anniversary of the province of Saskatchewan which was conducted in 1980, and the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association had a reunion for members, as was previously mentioned. And I recall talking to Mr. Mang and reminiscing. And of course prior to that, my father and his paths had crossed sometimes, provincially and federally. And as a consequence, he had some recollections to impart to me, and I listened with interest. He was a unique novelty at the gathering of retired MLAs and MLAs that were sitting at that time. And other MLAs, I noticed, listened with interest to some of the stories that Mr. Mang was telling at the reunion.

So it was with some feeling of honour that I rise to say a few words about each of these members. It was a pleasure to have met them all and to have participated in the democratic process with Mr. McIvor. And for that reason it's a pleasure to be able to take part in this motion today, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

Mr. McLaren: -- Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to join with some of my colleague members who recognized the passing of Mr. Arthur Swallow of Yorkton. I had not moved to Yorkton during the time that Mr. Swallow was a member of the legislature, so I did not know him in that capacity. But I did get to know him from the business side when he was the manager of the Yorkton Credit Union.

And what brings back memories was the fact that was the first time that I'd ever gone to a banker to borrow money to buy my first car. And Mr. Swallow had something about him that made you feel comfortable going into a bank and listening to your request, and I think that's what really sticks in my mind. I did serve on the board of the Yorkton credit Union just after Mr. Swallow's retirement, and he played a big part in the growth of the Yorkton Credit Union.

So I would like to pass on condolences to his family, his son and daughter and grandchildren. And I'm sure I express it on behalf of the constituency of Yorkton and all the people around Yorkton that knew him during his activities with the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool, and the local co-op and of course the credit union. And I appreciate that opportunity to do that today, Mr. Speaker.

Motion agreed to.

Hon. Mr. Devine: -- Mr. Speaker, with leave I move, seconded by the hon. member from Regina Elphinstone:

That the resolution just passed, together with the transcript of the oral tributes to the memories of the deceased members, be communicated to the bereaved families on behalf of this Assembly by Mr. Speaker.

Leave granted.

Motion agreed to.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Hon. Mr. Berntson: -- Mr. Speaker, I know, in visiting with the opposition House Leader yesterday, that they had some desire to go to motions for return and deal with those today at the conclusion of condolences.

Our preference, for a couple of reasons, would be to ask for leave to go to special order and deal with that, and I don't think that they would agree to that. And as all members know, when you begin a new session or resume an old session, it takes some time to get the flow of the order paper in order by getting legislation, etc., on the order paper.

But we do have another opportunity today and that is the Farm Progress Show in Regina, with all members in town for the session in any event. And since condolences have been completed for today . . . The Farm Progress Show, Mr. Speaker, I understand, is the

largest dry-land farm show in the world. We have here in Regina the second largest show facility in Canada and, I think, the 11th largest in North America. And so, Mr. Speaker, what I would like to do is invite all members to visit the Farm Progress Show today, and if they're in town the weekend, to do that.

And with that in mind, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to move that this House do now adjourn.

Mr. Romanow: -- The hon. member essentially states our discussions correctly. May I make just two or three very quick points, sir. That is this: to state the obvious, we've been only sitting one hour and about 12 minutes today. Yesterday I asked the Deputy Leader and the . . .

Mr. Speaker: -- Is the member debating the motion? Because adjournment motions are not debatable.

Mr. Romanow: -- No, I'm asking leave of the House to go directly to Motions for Returns (Debatable) because there are 528 of them that have been on the order for six months or more. Why not do an hour's work to get those Motions for Returns (Debatable) out of the way? That's what we want to do.

(1515)

Mr. Speaker: -- I'm sorry, there is a motion on the floor which must be dealt with, and therefore I must rule that you're out of order. There is a motion on the floor which must be dealt with. Is leave granted?

Leave is not granted.

Well, there is a motion on the floor which must be dealt with, and the motion is a motion of adjournment.

(1625)

Motion agreed to on the following recorded division.

Yeas — 31

Muller
Duncan
McLeod
Andrew
Berntson
Lane
Taylor
Smith
Muirhead

Maxwell
Schmidt
Hodgins
Gerich
Hepworth
Hardy
Meiklejohn
Martin
Sauder
Johnson
McLaren
Hopfner
Petersen
Swenson
Baker
Toth
Gleim
Neudorf
Garnder
Kopelchuk
Saxinger
Britton

Nays — 22

Prebble
Brockelbank
Shillington
Romanow
Tchorzewski
Thompson
Rolfes
Mitchell
Upshall
Simard
Solomon
Kowalsky
Atkinson
Anguish
Goulet
Hagel
Lyons
Calvert
Trew
Smart
Van Mulligen

Goodale

The Assembly adjourned at 4:27 p.m.