

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF SASKATCHEWAN**  
**Third Session – Thirteenth Legislature**  
**3rd Day**

**Monday, February 16, 1959**

The House met at 2:30 o'clock p.m.

**SPEECH FROM THE THRONE**

**ADDRESS IN REPLY**

**Mr. A.L.S. Brown (Bengough):** - Mr. Speaker, in rising to move the Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne, I realize it is not so much of an honour to me personally, but it is a great honour a privilege to the people in my constituency who are deeply gratified that once again I have this honour.

In considering the Speech from the Throne I think we should look at it in a constructive manner, and we should give our analysis of it as to whether we feel that within this Speech from the Throne, which outlines the legislative program of this Government, it meets the required objectives of the people of this province. Firstly, does it involve what lies within the constitution and ability of this Government and of this Legislature; and secondly, does it do for the people of the province of Saskatchewan all that is within the financial limitations of this province. I think that a careful analysis of this program which has been outlined in the Speech from the Throne will indicate clearly and definitely that it does meet these two objectives, and, therefore, in moving this Address in Reply I hope that nothing I say here, this afternoon, will precipitate an argument, and that we will be able to consider the Speech from the Throne in a congenial and a constructive manner.

Throughout the past number of years, in outlining the legislative program to this Legislature, the Government has placed some emphasis, I feel, on three main items – health, welfare and education. These are factors which concern each and every one of us, and it is gratifying to note that in this legislative program which they have outlined to us, once again they are continuing to place emphasis on those three important factors.

We can refer to the Speech from the Throne, in which they outline that they propose continuing the program which they started a number of years ago, in trying to make it possible to improve the educational system of this province. I would draw attention to a paragraph in which they state that substantial increases in operating grants be provided, and I hope that, in making these increased grants available, they will follow the policy which they established a number of years ago, that they will use the increased amounts of money available to make it possible to create a more equitable standard of education in this province; that they will use this money to raise the standard of education

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in those areas and to those children who, through no fault of their own, are unable to meet the financial obligations so far as education is concerned.

I note further that they are suggesting to us that there shall be created within the Government a University scholarship program to supplement that which I feel has done an enormous amount of good to the children of this province. This is not, as I understand it from reading the Speech from the Throne, to replace but rather to supplement financial assistance which is made available to the students of our province. This financial assistance will, I trust, be give to students on the basis of need, and on the basis of their academic qualifications.

Turning to the other field of welfare in which much progress has been made, turning to that field in which we in the province of Saskatchewan, under the leadership of this Government, have pioneered in many new fields – and I refer to the health program which this Government has introduced, and which I note they intend to extend. I draw your attention, Mr. Speaker, to one sentence in their remarks insofar as health is concerned, when His Honour said to us: “My Government has reduced the personal tax payments for hospital services.” The actual reduction in itself may not have been too great; it may not have relieved too great a financial burden at the time, but I am satisfied that we all agree that the amount of money which we have paid for our hospital services in this province was indeed small, and for which we did indeed receive a great deal of return. But I think the interesting thing that has taken place in the last year was that the Government has been able to include a new system of health services, without cost to the beneficiaries, irrespective of their ability to pay. You will recall, Mr. Speaker, that in the past twelve to fifteen years there has been created in this province additional health services by which we have given to those people who are least able to pay, and those in real need, a free and complete total health service. I refer to our old age pensioners, who qualify under the Supplementary Allowance, and qualify under the new system. This is the group in this province who have the least ability to pay, and certainly in most instances are in need of these health services.

In this province there has been established, in addition to that, a complete and total free health service for those who are in great need, and also those who often require prolonged treatment in hospitals. I refer to such cases as mental illness and cancer treatment, which is provided free by this province, a field in which this province has pioneered. Now, by this action which the Government took this year, they have placed another group in that same category, and that is the children under 18 years of age. We in Saskatchewan are now providing complete hospital services without cost to them, and irrespective of their ability to pay. We note from the Speech from the Throne that they propose to extend the services which are provided in the Hospital Plan. They will extend it to take in certain types of out-patient services, including minor surgical operations. Once again, this is a great step forward.

I think this Government and this province must take a great deal of credit for the fact that they have pioneered in this very important field, pioneered to the point where the Government of Canada and the people of Canada have recognized the importance of health not only for the people of Saskatchewan, but for the people of Canada as a whole, with the net result that we have seen, here in Canada last year, the first step of what could be a National Health Insurance scheme covering all the people of Canada. It is true that it certainly hasn't gone far enough, but with the leadership that this province has been able to give the rest of Canada in this field of health, I feel satisfied that much progress will be made in the future. I suggest that all the people of Canada will be enjoying the type of health services which we in Saskatchewan are enjoying, and that, further, they will be extended to include a complete medical program.

I might mention, that, in the field of welfare, we in this province and this Government have given much leadership, and it is gratifying to note that in the legislative program which has been outlined today, they have proposed to extend that program and to continue in a manner in which we will be able to better help those people who are unable to take care of themselves, in many cases due to no fault of their own. I say that once again in this legislative program, the emphasis is being placed on those three great welfare matters – health, welfare and education.

In undertaking to provide these welfare services, it is essential that we have an economic base on which we can work. It is essential that we have the greatest potential productivity in this province, and while Saskatchewan has, in the past number of years, been basically an agricultural province and will continue to remain so for a number of years yet, I think it is also essential that this Government undertake in Saskatchewan a diversified economy. I think, in reading the legislative program, we must be convinced that leadership is being given in this direction. If we are going to have a diversified economy, if we are going to have industrial development take place in this province, there are three essentialities which we must have. We must have an abundant source of power; we must have an effective and efficient transportation system, and we must have a large body of water by which these industries can be developed – a large body of water and a constant and definite source of water. In all of these three fields, progress has been made in the past year, and in all of three fields the legislative program indicates that they intend to make expansions. In the past number of years, and last year in particular, there has been an enormous expansion in our power potentialities. The development and building which has taken place in Estevan, and the Boundary Dam which is being developed here, will be a source of power which can be used for industrial development and for industrial purposes. The same thing can be said of the Queen Elizabeth Station in Saskatoon.

Coupled with this (and which is essential), there must be developed a transmission system by which this power can be brought to the places in which it is being used, thereby finding that heavy industry

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can be developed and located at practically any point in the province. We are rapidly developing a source of power and a distribution of power in this province, which will make it possible to have the industrial development more quickly. The same thing is true in respect to our conservation system in this province. We have developed a highway system which is rapidly becoming more efficient and more effective in serving not only the people of this province, but at the same time serving potential possibility of industrial development.

You will note, Mr. Speaker, that, in the Speech from the Throne, reference is made to the signing of the Federal agreement which is many years overdue, an agreement by which, through the co-operation of the Provincial Government and the Federal Government, there is being built on the South Saskatchewan River a project which will create the necessary body of water, again not only for the people of the province of Saskatchewan, but at the same time will make it possible for these industries to come in. In addition to that it will be also possible to have created in the centre of the province of Saskatchewan a source of power, which will once again be reflected in a great industrial development in this province.

It would appear to me, therefore, that there are some definite and concrete proposals for expanding our economy in an industrial sense, an expansion which will unquestionably do much for our economy, and which, I suggest, is essential if we are going to enjoy the highest possible standard of living; if we are going to be able to enjoy to the fullest possible extent those services I have mentioned – health, welfare and education. This has not just happened by chance. Much of this has been the result of the direction which this Government has been able to give our economy; it has been the result of the encouragement which this Government has been able to give industry to establish itself in Saskatchewan.

It is interesting to note that in 1958, 65 per cent of our commodity production was from a non-agricultural segment. This is a great change from what it was 12 or 15 years ago. It is also interesting to note that in 1958, there were \$326 million of production and manufacturing, an increase of 4.8 over 1957. That in itself may not be too significant, but it is when you realize that only in the province of Saskatchewan of all the provinces in Canada was there an increase in the number of people employed in manufacturing. This, I suggest, has been the result of the encouragement and the leadership which has been given these industries to establish themselves in this province. I think you only have to make reference to one or two industries which have established here in this province. The main basis of operation of those industries which have come into Saskatchewan is in other provinces or in some instances in the United States. But on that we might use as an illustration of the type of industry that is being established in Saskatchewan, is the steel plant which is proposed to be established here in the city of Regina, in which there will be some \$16 million invested in the plant itself, which will have approximately a \$1 million payroll, and which will employ approximately 175 employees. This indicates that we are having developed in this province those types of industry which are primary industries and which are, in fact, related to the agricultural industry in this province.

Another illustration which might be taken, another new industry which has been established in this province, is that of the potash plant which has begun operations outside Saskatoon. Once again it is interesting to note that this is the first potash plant in the Dominion of Canada.

Returning for a moment to those industries other than manufacturing, development of which is equally essential to our economy and to our social standard in this province. I would refer to the development of our natural resources, particularly in the field of mineral resources. Over the past number of years, once again, I suggest, due to the leadership given by this Government for the purpose of development of our natural resources, we have seen a constant and ever-increasing development of our production not only as far as dollar value is concerned, but also as far as quantity is concerned.

I do not propose to go over all the list, but taking metallics, and non-metallics, we find that back in 1945, there was produced in this province, \$18 million; in 1957, \$72 million, and in 1958 it is estimated it will be up to \$88 million for metallics. The total for non-metallics in 1945 was only \$884,000. By 1957 it had risen to \$3,748,000, and in 1958 again it had risen to an estimated \$3,810,000. In the field of fuel, we have also seen a rise; take natural gas, for example. In 1945, \$16,000 worth of natural gas had been produced, or 169 million cubic feet of production. By 1957, this had increased to \$1,095,000. In 1958 it had increased to \$1,575,000. Petroleum: in 1945 we produced 16,000 barrels, or a value of \$17,900; in 1957, it increased to 36 million barrels, or a total of \$75 million; in 1958, an increase up to 45,000,000 barrels with a total value of \$97 million. Construction material in 1945 totalled \$1,629,000; in 1957, \$7 million, and in 1958, \$8 million.

I realize that I have given a number of figures which, taken by themselves, may not mean too much, but the point I wish to make is that there has been a steady increase since 1945 up until 1957, and, in spite of the fact that there was a so-called recession in Canada during the year 1958 in every field of our mineral production, there has been an increase. When we take the total mineral production in 1945, it was \$22 million; in 1957, up to \$167 million, and in 1958, \$204 million. I think this is a commendable record, and one for which, I think, the Government has a right to take considerable credit.

It is not only the fact that we have had this increased production which is significant to me. It has been the fact that, during this period of time we, the people of the province of Saskatchewan have been getting our right and proper share of this increased production. It is most gratifying to me to note that, in the year 1958 the Government continued their policy to do all within their power to see that the people of Saskatchewan benefited by the increased development of our natural resources. It is gratifying to me to note that they have continued their policy of these farm-out agreements with Consumer's Co-operatives. When

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I think of some of the remarks that were made in regard to this farm-out deal, which the Government and the Co-op had undertaken, it put my mind back to the original agreement and the first time that this was done. There were some people at that time who said that actions such as this by the Government would drive the oil companies out of this province. The figures which I have just given would indicate that they have not been driven out of this province by actions such as this, but rather that they have increased their development in this province.

Once again this indicates to me that the Government is following this policy deliberately and intentionally, so that we, the people of this province, can get as much as possible out of our natural development. In fact what has happened, in my opinion, with steel, and the agreements with the Federated Co-operatives, is that we are doing in this province as many of us hoped, and that is to see production in this province increase. I think there is no indication of other means by which it can be done, but that it can be done through the medium which the Government is following up.

Not only is that my opinion, Mr. Speaker, but the resolution which was passed at the Federal Co-op meeting, I think, would indicate that the people associated with the Co-op movement at the present time are indeed grateful for the policies which this Government is following in handling our natural resources in that way. So in the past 12 years we have seen an expansion of our industries in this province; we have seen an expansion of development of our natural resources.

May I just for a moment turn to the other side of the picture, which is, as I have suggested, our basic industry of agriculture. While I said regarding development in respect to our manufacturing that Saskatchewan was the only province which expanded its manufacturing in terms of the number of people employed, the gross production from manufacturing and other industries did expand in this province and we have had a mineral development expansion in the last few years, the picture is not quite so rosy as far as the agricultural economy is concerned, and because agriculture is a vital part of our economy, I think I would be remiss in my duty if I did not make some reference to the agricultural picture in Saskatchewan.

The agricultural economy in Saskatchewan is not segregated and separate from the whole Canadian agricultural economy. What is true in Saskatchewan is equally true with respect to the whole picture in the other provinces of Canada. Figures can be quoted which would indicate that our gross production in terms of dollars, as far as agriculture is concerned, has either remained static in Canada or has gone up during the past year. We can take our total farm cash income and on that basis there has been an increase in dollar value – an increase from \$2,591,000,000 to \$2,700,000,000, as our total cash income in terms of gross income for 1958; but if we translate that into net farm income in Canada we find that the increase has not been nearly as great. While it is true there has been an increase in net farm income it has not been, as I say, very significant. But here, I

think, is the important thing. We have to translate this cash income of the agricultural industry back into its purchasing power; in other words, we have to deflate the 1958 dollar down to a point where you can compare it on an equitable basis with other years. If we do it on that basis, taking Canada as a whole, we find that the deflated net income – that is the amount of money which we have, or the Canadian farmer has, to live on; if we deflate it back to the 1946 dollar, as an example, using 1946 as a base, we find that in 1946 the net income for all the farmers in Canada was \$742 million; in 1958, it was \$492 million. I have said that the situation is not particularly peculiar to Saskatchewan. These figures indicate that the agricultural industry right across Canada is in a precarious position.

Let us go back to Saskatchewan for a moment and look at it on the same basis as we have looked at the Canadian figures. Once again we find that between 1957 and 1958 there was an increase in the cash income of the farmers of Saskatchewan as a result of increased marketing of grain, and secondly, of an increased marketing of livestock, particularly of cattle. There was an increase from \$538 million in 1957, to \$605 million in 1958. That was in terms of 1958 dollars, and that was the gross income. In terms of net income we find that there was also an increase in 1958, from \$186 million to \$225 million; but once again this has to be translated into what is the actual purchasing power of those dollars, and once again I will take the same two years as I did before. In 1946, the purchasing power of the farmers' income was \$187 million; in 1958, it was \$93 million. In other words, the purchasing power of the Saskatchewan farmer dropped by 50 per cent from 1946 to 1958.

I think it is significant that, in spite of the fact that we had increased markets in 1955, in spite of the fact that we had a relatively high level as far as cattle prices were concerned, 1958 was the third lowest year as far as actual purchasing power of farm income is concerned. There were only two other years in which the actual purchasing power was lower than it was in 1958, and those were the years 1954 and 1957.

With this background, I think we must realize that something must be done with respect to the agricultural industry, if it is to avoid compete and utter bankruptcy. This is possibly even more true when we relate it to what is our largest branch of our agricultural industry in Saskatchewan, and that is the production of wheat. As we are all well aware, much of the land in the province of Saskatchewan in many of the areas of the province is suitable largely for grain production and in the main for the production of wheat. Because of that fact, the production of wheat is an important factor in our agricultural economy, and when we relate these figures to the wheat-producing areas of this province they become even more significant. When we stop and realize that, in the last three years, there has been a drop not only in the purchasing power but in the actual price of approximately 35 cents a bushel on our wheat over the average of the eight previous

years, it indicates, in my mind, that that particular branch of our industry is indeed in a precarious position. A drop of 35 cents a bushel means an enormous drain upon the cash income; it means a drain upon, and will affect naturally, the net farm income. I think what is even more significant is the fact that during this period of years there has been a drastic decline in the purchasing power of the dollars due to the inflationary period in which we have been operating. This has affected all branches of our economy, but I suggest to you that it has been more significant in the agricultural industry and particularly in the wheat industry in this province. Inflation has resulted in view of the fact that we have either had a fixed price or a decline in our wheat economy over the last number of years, and this has meant that, in some instances the purchasing power of a bushel of wheat has declined drastically. We can use as an illustration (and I think it is a true illustration) a 12-foot combine which we could purchase back in 1946 with 2,000 bushels of wheat. Today, to buy a comparable combine it takes 5,000 bushels of wheat, which means that the purchasing power of a bushel of wheat has declined, in that instance, by some 250 per cent.

This inflation in our agricultural economy has compelled the farmers of this province to believe that, if they are going to get anything like an equitable adjustment in their farming operations, if they are going to place agriculture in a position where it can continue to operate efficiently and effectively, if they are going to place agriculture in a position where it can continue to produce the necessary foodstuffs not only for the people of Canada but for the world as a whole, some concrete and immediate action has to be taken. The net result of this is, as you are well aware, Mr. Speaker, that there is being organized in this province, supported by the organizations from our neighbouring provinces, a mass delegation to present their case to the Parliament of Canada and through this meeting they hope to obtain some economic justice not only for themselves but for the whole Saskatchewan economy, and which would have, in fact, an impact upon our Canadian economy as a whole.

This is something that has been realized by not only the farmers but also by other people over the past number of years. They have continued to seek to have this industry placed out of the position of the 'poor relation' to other industries in Saskatchewan and in Canada. Some may wonder why I refer to this at this time. I realize that, as far as agriculture is concerned, it is outside the jurisdiction of this Legislature and outside the jurisdiction of this Government. I realize that it is in the field of Federal jurisdiction, and that is where most, if not all, of these problems must be solved. At the same time we here in the province of Saskatchewan have some responsibility towards the agricultural industry not only because it is the basic industry in this province, but because we have a responsibility and certain jurisdiction over the production.

It is gratifying to note the reference that has been made in our agricultural industry in the Speech from the Throne. This Government has indicated the desirability of doing something, as far as is within its



jurisdiction, for our basic industry. One of the things which can, and I hope will, have far-reaching effects is where the Speech from the Throne suggests that legislation will be introduced to assist the co-operatives in setting up a system of farm credit to help young farmers become established in agriculture. We in Saskatchewan, possibly more so than in other provinces of Canada, are facing the problem of perpetuating agricultural production on the one hand and at the same time making it possible for the industry to carry on from one generation to the other. Thinking in terms of a farm credit policy I am convinced that it is in the Federal jurisdiction that this should largely lie. They have the resources at their disposal, and they can unify a form of farm credit policy which would be applicable to all of Canada, and, as well, make it applicable to the province of Saskatchewan.

I do not suggest to the Government that in any way they should assume the responsibility that rightly belongs to the Federal Government; but since the Federal Government so far has not seen fit to inaugurate a national farm credit policy, then I am indeed glad to see that this Government is undertaking to do what they can in that field, limited though it might be, and limited as it will have to be within the financial resources of this province. The Government of this province has always been interested in this whole question of trying to save the life of the agricultural industry. I can recall the Rural Development Conference that was held a little over a year ago, right in this Chamber. Here were representatives of farm organizations and other organizations of this province meeting together with local governing bodies and the provincial government. We were dealing with the various problems that have been facing us in this province over the past few years. It was indicated by the resolutions that were presented that the first essentiality is a fair and equitable national farm policy, if we are to save the agricultural industry from complete and total bankruptcy.

This Government indicates in the Speech from the Throne that it is prepared to go even further than the extension of farm credit; it is indicated in the Speech from the Throne that this Government is willing to sit down with the Federal Government and work out a scheme to try to control some of the hazards of our agricultural industry. They refer to a comprehensive form of crop insurance to protect the individual farmer against those factors over which he has no control. These are not necessarily emergency solutions to meet temporary problems, or temporary solutions to meet emergency problems; these are part and parcel of a national agricultural policy – something which we here, as a legislature, can participate in and which I suggest this Government has some responsibility for. I am indeed pleased and proud to see that they are attempting to play their part in improving the agricultural industry and in putting some security and stability into that industry.

There are those who will accuse the Government of not doing as much as they might be capable of doing, but I am suggesting that, over the past number of years, they have undertaken to do all that they can possibly do, under their constitutional ability, towards assisting the agricultural industry in this province.

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I suggest that the program outlined in the Speech from the Throne does undertake to continue the program that was started some 15 years ago. It undertakes to fulfil and develop within this province an economy which will make it possible for the people of the province of Saskatchewan to better control and formulate their own business. I feel that this program is a challenge to ourselves and a challenge to the people of Saskatchewan.

I am, therefore, pleased to move, Mr. Speaker, seconded by Mr. Johnson (Kerrobot-Kindersley):

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

TO HIS HONOUR THE HONOURABLE FRANK LINDSAY BASTEDO

Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of Saskatchewan.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR:

We, Her Majesty’s dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Saskatchewan, in Session assembled, humbly thank Your Honour for the gracious Speech which Your Honour has been pleased to address to us at the opening of the present Session.”

**Mr. Eldon Johnson (Kerrobot-Kindersley):** Mr. Speaker, the honour of seconding the Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne is one intended to be bestowed upon the constituency of Kerrobot-Kindersley, which I am proud to represent in this Legislature.

Before proceeding I would like to congratulate the Member for Bengough (Mr. A.L.S. Brown) on his excellent presentation. I agree with the Member for Bengough that we should properly assess the Speech from the Throne in the light of past development and in the light of future change and progress. I think we should assess the Speech from the Throne, which is essentially a program for the coming year and the future, in the light of present needs and changes.

In that respect, we might ask ourselves, what changes are taking place; what matters must we consider in the Legislature in order that we may enact properly for the future. I think that one of the most important changes that is taking place is that in the standard of living which we hope to have. We see many changes take place since this province was first populated. Among these, as the Member for Bengough has indicated, some of the most important changes and concepts in the standard of living are education: we prefer to have the best possible school facilities for the education of our children. Further, as the Member for Bengough has indicated, we desire to have the best possible facilities in order that we may continue health services for health. Also there are changes in what we wish in the line of travel and transportation. Towards this end, we need continually better roads and continually better vehicles.

We might also list several other things that increase our enjoyment of living – such as entertainment. A few years ago, we would never have conceived the possibility that, in our living room, we would be able to see a picture upon a screen, as we are presently able to do today. I do not suggest that I myself fancy this method of entertainment, but nevertheless, it exists, it is something new, it is something we have to accept as being here.

In speaking in terms of processes to change, there have been immense changes in our technology. Technology is often a blind force with apparently aimless direction but, nevertheless, technology is advancing so that our standard of living is certainly improved and is improved in many ways. Among these is the effect in reducing manual labour. We see the continual effect of muscular energy being replaced by other means. This indeed, is the age of the fossil fuels. It is fortunate indeed that we have such fuels in our province for transportation and heating. The Power Corporation has been able to do this – has been able to use the fossil fuels to provide us with electrical energy as well as to convey natural gas to our homes and factories in order that they may be heated and have energy.

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In reducing labour, the effect of advancing technology is most marked in the most highly industrialized areas;; but on all fronts the effect of technology is to reduce the hours that it is necessary for any person to work, and each person becomes a more effective worker. Even though we can agree that technology is making life in general more easy, more pleasant, there are difficulties. Technology is advancing in all fields, but part of the difficulty is that it is not advancing equally in each one. Some of our automotive industries found that, today with modern equipment, one man can do what it took possibly a hundred men to do, say, 20 years ago.

Thus, as a farmer (and the Member for Bengough is also a farmer) we can ask ourselves what is the effect of advancing technology on agriculture? We can see a similar effect. Technology is also a continually disrupting effect in the field of agriculture. It is disrupting in this respect, because in comparing the work that a man can do today he can possible do two or three times as much as he could do in the field 20 years ago. Furthermore, one man can be more productive than two or three 20 years ago. I do not think I am exaggerating in these ratios.

I would further add that in my constituency there are farmers who are planning to produce a thousand hogs per year, employing the labour of one or two men and modern technological methods. This effect, as I mentioned, is disrupting, because as one person can do more work, the farm that he can usefully work is increased and it seems like a paradox that in the province of Saskatchewan, which is one of the world's last agricultural territorial frontiers, it seems like a paradox that there are many farmers in this vast area, who do not have adequate resources with which to provide themselves with a satisfactory standard of living, for farming is one of the most highly competitive industries, and each farmer is competing for his very existence.

We owe thanks to our Department of Agriculture for the very extensive Agricultural Representative Service with which they have provided us. As a farmer, I know there is hardly a month or a week that goes by, that I do not have some problem with which my agricultural representative cannot give me valuable assistance. This service has also been increased by the addition of three Farm Management representatives. This is in cognizance of the understanding of the growing need for better farm management practices. Farmers in general, because of the vagaries of climate, change in yield and prices, have often tended to neglect the benefits that can be obtained by better bookkeeping, by better farm management practices, and I foresee in the future a vast extension of farm management assistance. Take, for example, the Kindersley Larger School Unit. They have employed an agricultural supervisor who is undertaking several farm management programs. He is teaching farm management in school as well as taking farm management classes directly to the farmers.

In referring to the classes at school, I think they are important for two main reasons. The first one could be listed as being the general desirability of education students to be better farm managers;

and furthermore, there is a broader implication. As I mentioned, Saskatchewan does not provide adequate resources for all of its farmers, and there is a general change in our agricultural economy towards fewer farmers when students are able to take a farm management course in the high schools. They are able to decide at an early age whether the resources at their disposal will be satisfactory to provide them with the standard of living which they aspire to have. If not, the student can decide to seek other occupation, for we have to admit that the only time in a person's life that he is really flexible is when he is young and still attending educational institutions.

In referring to the work done by Mr. Clarke with the practical farmers, I would like to refer you to the Vocational Agricultural Farm Management Association of Kindersley. The farmers in this association, who number 76, keep accurate records for classification purposes. They are divided as follows: a small farmer is he who has an acreage at his disposal of up to 480; a medium small farmer, 481 to 720; medium large, 721 to 960, and large farms are those having an acreage of over 960.

The accurate records and inventories which these farmers have kept indicate that, for the year 1957, which was a somewhat better than average year in our district, of the small farms only 30 per cent realized the cost of production, if a wage of \$3,000 for the operator was allowed. Similarly, the proportion for a medium small farm was 44 per cent; medium large, 45 per cent, and for the large farm 63 per cent. These proportions of these farms achieved the cost of production, if an operator's wage of \$3,000 was allowed. These farmers are of at least average competency, and I think that these results have great significance. Firstly, they indicate a stronger position under relatively larger farms and, secondly, they indicate that farmers have great reason for apprehension of the future if the disparity between the income which they are able to obtain and the prices of the products which they must buy is steadily increased.

The Member for Bengough indicated the changes that are taking place in industrialization in this province. Certainly these changes have vast significance to all the people concerned, and it is certainly of significance that, as mentioned in the Speech from the Throne, last year 65 per cent of the value of products produced in Saskatchewan were non-agricultural. I think it is fair to state that agriculture will continue to be for some time, the largest single industry, but nevertheless, it is encouraging to see the steady development of other industries and of other resources.

As the Member for Bengough has mentioned, one of the most important requirements is that of health. I would like to comment briefly on the Saskatchewan Hospital Services Plan, because it has been of

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far-reaching importance. I think we should realize that, to date, it is likely that a number of people equivalent to twice the population of this province have been admitted to hospital under the Saskatchewan Hospital Services Plan. The figures which I have, for 1947 to 1957 inclusive, number 1,745,398, and I think it is likely that, to date, a number equivalent to twice the people of this province have been treated under this plan. Now, even though there have been great accomplishments in the field of health, no one in this Government, or the Party which supports it, feel that all the goals have been attained. As for myself, I would like to comment on two fields in which we need further study, further extension.

Firstly, I think you will agree that health can be said to not exist in a person unless it is complete, and for that reason I think that the health of many of our rural people is not complete because they do not have adequate dental care. To make a comparison to the city of Toronto with a population which is somewhat less than that of the province of Saskatchewan, Toronto has 750 dentists as compared with 200 in Saskatchewan. This is a problem confronting the people of the province.

Furthermore, this province is undergoing rapid change. I would like to comment further that the Municipal Doctors schemes, which was initiated some thirty years ago, are in need of revision, as I find in my constituency people are travelling more. As part of their standard of living, people are expecting more of the specialized services which can only be obtained outside of the constituency. Also I find treatment overlapping between equally meritorious schemes, and this complex operate the detriment of both such scheme. I would like to see some study given in the future to this problem.

The Member for Bengough has indicated in his valuable address, of the need for transportation to be able to move about easily in this broad province. The magnitude of the highway problem in this province can possibly be better understood if you recall that the province has over 8,179 miles of highway, of which approximately 22 per cent is black topped or oiled – or using this figure in another way and using it comparatively, we find that Saskatchewan has approximately 107.8 persons per mile of highway. This may be compared with Alberta with 199.5 and Manitoba with 207.5 persons per mile of highway. The significance here is that it is more difficult in this province to maintain the standard of highway that we aspire to have, and yet, the fact that we do have a highway system which enables us to move about quickly, safely and comfortably, is an immense credit to the Minister of Highways and his staff of engineers and technicians, and all the maintenance and other workers in the Department of Highways.

The Government, in recognition of a need to travel, has also initiated a grid road program by which it was proposed to construct, in co-operation with the municipalities, 12,000 miles in high standard roads. This will provide a mile of grid road for every 8.6 farm families.

The acceptance of this program is indicated by the high number of municipalities which have participated, and is further indicated by the fact that 3,449 miles of highway has, to date, been graded and 2,872 miles have been completed, including gravel. This extensive construction has been obtained at an expenditure by the Grid Road Assistance Authority of over \$10,000,000. Its agreement to share 50 per cent of the costs has well been exceeded.

I would also like to further indicate that many of the benefits obtained by this province have been obtained even at the same time that our net debt has been reduced. Our net debt for the province has been reduced to less than  $\frac{1}{4}$  of its maximum value. The implication of this, of course, is that the province's credit rating has been vastly improved, and further, it minimizes the dead weight of interest payments. For this position of financial integrity we must give recognition to the astute financing of the Provincial Treasurer (Hon. Mr. Fines).

The past is the stepping stone for the future. I have indicated that the accomplishments of the present Government indicates that the present is sound and we must move forward to build for the future.

Mr. George Peabody, American philanthropist, is quoted as having said: "Education is a debt due from the present to the future generations."

This Government can truthfully be said to be paying our debt to the future through its educational program. This is indicated by the announcement in the Speech from the Throne that "substantial increases in operating grants will be provided," and, furthermore, "further assistance in the financing of capital expenditures are being planned." These statements will be greeted with whole-hearted appreciation by our school boards and taxpayers.

Certainly there is no better way of building confidently for the future than by increasing the facilities for learning and research. Many of our high school graduates will desire to have further education, and I am certain that these will look forward to the statement in the Speech from the Throne and I quote: "The Government is proposing a University Scholarship program to supplement the extensive assistance through the Student Aid Fund."

Having been a student and instructor at our university, I know, this will vastly assist young people to attend our University. I believe it is of merit in itself that young people should be allowed and encouraged to use their minds for learning and research to the maximum extent and, I believe, our aim should continually be toward eliminating all financial barriers. The progress of this province will continue to be advanced through the efforts of our University and its graduates.

Many, in locations far beyond the borders of Saskatchewan, will share the sentiment of appreciation expressed in the Speech from the

Throne for the work done by, and the leadership of, the retiring President, Dr. W.P. Thompson, and many will likewise share the expression of good fortune at having so eminent a scientist and so capable a successor as Dr. J.W.T. Spinks, Dean of the College of Graduate Studies and Head of the Department of Chemistry. As reported in the Star-Phoenix: "Dr. Spinks is an internationally recognized authority on atomic energy and was a Canadian delegate to the Geneva conference on the peaceful uses of atomic energy in both 1955 and 1958. He is probably best known for his pioneering research work on the application of radioactive tracers in agriculture. Many of his articles on the peaceful uses of atomic energy have been written for non-scientists and have appeared in newspapers and magazines. These articles show that his vigour as a research scientist is tempered by a deep concern for the effects of science and scientific research on mankind. In the citation for the presentation of an honorary doctor of laws degree from Carleton University, in Ottawa, in May 1958, he was termed "a scientist in the greatest humanistic tradition."

As a former member of the College of Engineering, I would also like to draw the attention of this Legislature to the appointment of a new Dean to the College of Engineering. I might add that Saskatchewan engineers are providing valuable services in the province of Saskatchewan and have won recognition far beyond the borders of Saskatchewan. The position of their college will be enhanced by the good fortune of obtaining the services of Dr. Arthur Porter, who is replacing the former Dean, the popular I.M. Frazer. Dr. Porter is an honours graduate from the University of Manchester, and is an authority on automatic control systems in industry and on the development of large scale computers. In announcing the appointment, President Thompson said that the University was very fortunate to have secured a man of such outstanding achievements to occupy the post of great and growing importance.

The Speech from the Throne draws our attention to the fact that this year celebrates the Golden Jubilee of our University. The controversy regarding the location of the University will have long since been forgotten, but the effects of the University tend to grow and brighten with the passage of time. Many are its distinguished graduates, and many are the benefits which have accrued to the people of Canada and Saskatchewan because of the dedication of its professors and research scientists. But all the people of Saskatchewan are pleased that it was Dr. Harold Johns of our University who was largely responsible for the development of the cobalt bomb for the treatment and cure of cancer. And every farmer has benefited from the work done by the agronomists in developing and selecting new varieties and strains of cereals, grasses and legumes.

Our University has not only given instruction to the students within its walls, but has taken information directly to the farmer. Possibly not many of us here recollect the early efforts of extension to better farming trains, but none of us who have ever known Professor Hardy will ever forget his tireless energy and his enthusiasm in taking the most up-to-date knowledge to all the farmers.



It is in the light of such accomplishments that the significance for the future of the statement in the Speech from the Throne will be viewed, and I quote:

“To an already impressive campus is being added a College of Arts Building and Biology Building and an Animal Husbandry Building. Last year saw the completion of the Saskatchewan Research Council Building and the Cancer and Medical Research Building.”

It may be of interest to this Legislature for me to indicate the buildings which have been added to the campus since 1944. They are: Medical College Building, Soils and Dairy Building, School of Agriculture, Betatron Building, Grain Elevator, New Power House, Murray Memorial Library, new Piggery, Medical Research Building, Maintenance Building, Saskatchewan Research Council Laboratory, Nurses' Residence, and, of course, the University Hospital. This impressive list of construction has been obtained at an expenditure of over \$23 million. The announcement in the Speech of the proposed construction of new buildings will, I am certain, be met with full-hearted approval by University students and faculty, and such buildings are another important way of building for the future of the Province.

This Government has recognized that not all people have interests directing them to the University, and it has recognized that, if our progress is to continue and advance evenly, there is a need for people with many different skills. Toward this end, contracts of nearly \$2 million have been awarded for the construction of the Saskatchewan Technical Institute. This institute will give courses in auto body repairs, welding, radio and television repairs, and courses for engineering and agricultural technicians. It can fairly be anticipated that this institute in Moose Jaw will be of immense aid to a great number of students and, consequently, to the province as a whole.

Many from this Legislature attended the ceremony last summer of the opening of the Saskatchewan Research Council Laboratory and will appreciate its valuable contributions. The Saskatchewan Research Council has been assigned the solving of problems of agriculture and other industries in the province, and has studied such important projects as: the effect of the addition of rapeseed oil to lubricants, seed cleaning, feed utilization in hogs, the processing of uranium ores, and highway building foundations. The list of projects undertaken by this organization is already impressive. It is, therefore, of great interest that “a comprehensive technical survey of water resources as related to the growing problems of municipal water supply” will be undertaken by the Saskatchewan Research Council. Our communities are already provided with electricity, most of them with gas, and yet indeed, in many of these their satisfactory and adequate water supplies is one of our pressing problems, and I think it is with a great deal of satisfactory anticipation the people view this announcement.

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As well as fundamental interest in learning and research, our Government has taken an active and progressive part in the care for the needy. This is manifested in the Speech from the Throne by the directive:

“You will be asked to improve a new Social Aid Act which will provide for greater financial assistance to municipalities and a more equitable distribution of the municipal share of social aid costs between the municipalities.”

This statement will certainly be viewed with interest and appreciation by the people of Saskatchewan.

The continuing interest of this Government to care for the aged is also indicated by this statement:

“A conference of interested persons will be held early this year to discuss the problems of providing further programs and facilities for the care of the aged and those suffering long-term illnesses.”

I know that my own community is better for the existence of Sunset Lodge, a home to care for the aged. As indicated in the Speech from the Throne there are 55 others which have also similarly benefited. The gauge of any society can truly be said to be indicated by the kindness and care with which it treats its aged and less fortunate members.

Of all the provinces in Canada, Saskatchewan has taken by far the greatest interest in Co-operatives. This is indicated by the proportion of business done by Co-ops which average 3 per cent for Canada, but is 11 per cent for Saskatchewan. With firm confidence in democracy, people in Saskatchewan believe they should hold and operate the agencies which buy and sell for them and they have organized many Consumer Co-ops as well as the well-known and extensive marketing agency, the Pool Elevator system. Co-operatives have been very greatly assisted by the Department of Co-operation of Saskatchewan, which is Canada's only Department of Co-operation directly responsible to a Minister.

It is of interest to the co-operatively minded people of Saskatchewan that study is being continued on the development of co-operation, and, furthermore, that it is being proposed to transfer the Fish Marketing and Trading Services to the people of the north who are using them.

This Government, further to its interests in these other fields, also deserves congratulations for the active interest taken in the Indian population of the province. The conference held this past summer with Chiefs and Councillors should prove to be a valuable step toward materially helping these people who have been crowded into areas with resources far too meagre for their sustenance; and yet, we of the

white race have not helped them sufficiently so that they can be satisfactorily integrated into our modern society. No society can feel proud unless every one of its able citizens can be usefully employed and receives compensation adequate to provide his family with comfort and dignity.

Mr. Speaker, the Speech from the Throne is a program for the coming year and the future, which we can all proudly endorse, and therefore, I am very pleased to second the motion.

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**Mr. A.H. McDonald (Leader of the Opposition):** - Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Member for Bengough (Mr. A.L.S. Brown), if I may – I did not want to interfere with the speeches of the mover or seconder, and I would at this time like to ask a question for information from the Member for Bengough: you used the figure of \$325 million when referring to manufacturing, and I would like to know what connection, to what means did you use that figure? What does the \$326 million refer to?

**Mr. Brown (Bengough):** - \$325 million?

**Mr. McDonald:** - Yes.

**Mr. Brown (Bengough):** - That was the total manufacturing production, total value of goods produced.

**Mr. McDonald:** - Thank you, very much.

**Mr. McDonald (Leader of the Opposition):** - At this time, Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my congratulations to the mover and seconder of the Address in Reply. I realize that the material from which they had to prepare their addresses was very meagre, and I cannot use such glowing words in describing the Speech from the Throne as the mover and seconder have used this afternoon.

I note in the Speech from the Throne we have a considerable volume of words dealing with activities within the province over the last year, but very little forecast of legislation to take care of the problems, as we see them, that exists within the province of Saskatchewan today, problems that are the responsibility of the Provincial Government and, in our opinion, are within the financial means of the province of Saskatchewan.

But before I go into my main remarks for the afternoon, I want also to bring to the attention of the Members of the House that we have a Member in our midst who, this year is sitting in his 25th consecutive session in this legislature. He has served for a quarter of a century the people of Arm River constituency and the people of the province of Saskatchewan, and I am sure that all Members of the House at this time would like to extend their congratulations for the past efforts of the Member for Arm River (Mr. Danielson), and I am sure all Members would want to join with me in wishing him well in his endeavours in the future.

**Mr. Danielson:** - Pretty lucky. Wait till next election!

**Mr. McDonald:** - The mover of the Address, this afternoon, mentioned the policies and programs of the Provincial Government with respect to health, welfare and education. I too would like to give credit where credit is due, and thank the Government for some of their activities on behalf of the people of this province through the educational facilities that are available, the welfare program that are available and also the educational system that we have in Saskatchewan today. I only wish that the hon. members had thought back to the promises of the present administration to the people of this province with respect to health, welfare and education. We are a long way from having implemented the program that was laid down by the present administration.

Some 14 years ago (14 years is a long time) you will recall, Mr. Speaker, that at that time it was not a matter of increasing educational grants to the municipalities, or at least to the local school districts. At that time we were told by no less a personage than the gentleman who is now Premier, that this problem of education was a provincial responsibility and that, if he was elected Premier of this province his government would accept that constitutional power and they would be responsible for education. He said the time was long past due when the municipalities ought to be held responsible for programs that were not their responsibility under Canada's constitution. It wasn't a matter of increasing

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school grants; it was a matter of taking over the responsibility for education in this province. Now it is a long time – 14 years later that we are told there is going to be an increase in school grants. I am pleased that an increase in school grants has been announced; it is long past due. We are now, I presume, going to arrive about half way to the point that the Premier outlined 14 years ago. We are going to be about half way home.

Some of the people on the other side of the House don't seem to remember what their Leader said, back on February 16, 1943, which is a long time ago; that is almost half way back to 1919, the date that some of you people like to refer to once in a while. I want to read to you what the Premier said to you at that time, and I hope that these people will get a copy so that they will know the program which they outlined fifteen years ago, and they are not half way towards implementing that program at this date.

This is the first thing they were going to do:

“The first thing a C.C.F. Government would do would be to recognize education as a responsibility of the Provincial Government. There has been a tendency on the part of provincial governments to pass the buck to the municipalities and the local school boards for maintaining educational facilities.

“The time has come when we must recognize that n less than Canada's constitution places the responsibility for education and teaching our children squarely upon the Provincial Government, and it cannot be passed on to any other body.”

I agree with that statement.

**Mr. Gardiner (Melville):** - Brave words!

**Mr. McDonald:** - They were brave words from a brave little man seeking the support of the people of the province of Saskatchewan. He has had that support for fifteen years, and he is now half way through the program that was outlined in 1943. Progress! It is stagnation of the worst kind! It reminds me of a TV program that I watch one in a while – Red Skelton. A week or so ago he said, “For the last 12 years I have been chasing women, but for the last two years I can't remember why.” That is about the attitude of this Government: for 15 years they have been chasing education and now they don't know why they have been chasing it.

Let us turn to health. I, too, am pleased that the Federal Government of this country has finally seen fit to bring in a National Hospitalization program for the whole of Canada, and through that program – that is, if the provinces of Canada want to participate in the

program that is available to them; and the result of that program has meant that, in Saskatchewan, we will this year receive something in the neighbourhood of \$12 million from our national Government to help out with a program that has been in existence for some considerable time in Saskatchewan. But here again, we have not arrived anywhere near completing the program which was announced by my friend opposite, not at the last Session, nor at the last election, not 10 year ago, not 15 years ago, but away back in 1942. And again, the gentleman that is now Premier announced to all and sundry that complete medical services could be provided for \$8 per head.

**Premier Douglas:** - Would my hon. friend quote where he got that figure, that fantastic statement?

**Mr. McDonald:** - Yes, it is a fantastic statement, and you made it! And if my hon. friend will remain in his seat, I will tell him.

**Premier Douglas:** - Except that I did not make it.

**Mr. Speaker:** - Order!

**Mr. McDonald:** - It is a fantastic statement, and you made it. I can tell you when you made it, and I will tell you another occasion when you asked me to produce the statement, and you didn't have the courage to stand up and recognize it. That was during the Session of 1954, during the debate on the Budget, when I made the same statement as I made here this afternoon, and I will quote to you what you said. You said: "No such statement had ever been made." Well, the following day I produced in this Legislature the statement. The statement was made at Chaplin on December 14, 1942, and it was recorded in the 'Moose Jaw Times Herald.'

**Hon. Mr. Walker:** - A Liberal paper!

**Mr. McDonald:** - The 'Moose Jaw Times Herald' was made available to the Premier on that occasion, and he did not even take the bother of reading the newspaper.

**Mr. Danielson (Arm River):** Naturally!

**Mr. McDonald:** - Now I suppose he denies that he said it.

**Premier Douglas:** - I certainly didn't say it, and you know it.

**Mr. McDonald:** - If he doesn't like these old statements of his - I would be glad to read them all, but it would be a long session, because there are many thousands of them. As a matter of fact, there is a book about three times as big as this, outlining the promises of the C.C.F. Government . . .

**Hon. Mr. Walker:** - Who is it put out by?

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**Mr. McDonald:** - . . . that have never been fulfilled. It is put out by the C.C.F. Party. You can get a copy from 'The Commonwealth' if you want it. But to go on from there to the mistakes that were made here, this afternoon in the speeches of my hon. friends opposite, they are about as far away from the actual facts of what is going on in this province as the statements of the Premier were 15 years ago.

My hon. friends opposite are indicating to us (and it is a fact) that we are endeavouring to build up an abundant supply of power within the province of Saskatchewan in order to be helpful in attracting industry to our province; but the thing that they have overlooked, is that we not only need an abundance of power, we need some cheap source of power.

**Mr. Brown (Bengough):** - The Liberals have it.

**Mr. McDonald:** - What has happened? Here in the province of Saskatchewan we are competing with our two neighbouring provinces especially, when we are talking about industrial development. They have a similar climate, similar natural resources, similar people, and, as a matter of fact, the resources are almost identical to our own, with the exceptions we have been fortunate enough to have apparently large bodies of uranium oxide in our province and, to my knowledge, they do not exist in our neighbouring provinces. However, we are facing a very severe problem as far as power is concerned, because of the fact that, in the province of Manitoba to the east of us, electrical energy is about 70 per cent cheaper than it is in Saskatchewan. Manitoba has a cheap source of power, namely, electricity. In Alberta, the province to the west of us, they too have a cheap source of power, natural gas. Their rates are about 50 per cent less than those in the province of Saskatchewan. So I say, it is not good enough only to build up an abundant supply of power, unless that power can be made available at competitive rates with our neighbouring provinces.

Also there was some reference to transportation. Again, I think if we are going to compete with our neighbouring provinces as far as transportation is concerned, we must get into step with our neighbouring provinces as far as load limits for the trucking industry is concerned. We are losing considerable sums of money because truckers are being forced to go around the province of Saskatchewan. I know we have a tremendous road problem in this province, because we have such a huge highway system. Nobody recognizes that fact more than I do. Nobody recognizes the fact more than I do that it is difficult to build a road under the climatic conditions which we have in this province, and to build it in such a manner that it will withstand our weather and heavy load limits. But I do believe that it would benefit our province, benefit the transportation system of the prairie provinces as a whole, if we were able to get more into line with our neighbouring provinces as far as weight limits are concerned.

Now I will indicate to you why I asked my friend from Bengough (Mr. Brown) to what he referred this \$326 million on manufacturing,



or in what connection he used it. I don't know where he got any of the figures he used this afternoon. He certainly didn't get them from the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. There are only three sources that he could have humanly possibly used. One would be 'The Commonwealth', another would be 'The Saskatchewan News', and the other would be an old speech of the Premier's in the papers, because no authentic set of figures within the Dominion of Canada would prove or indicate, or even come close to, what the hon. member tried to indicate in this House. Never in my life have I seen such a distortion of figures.

My hon. friend says that we have some \$326 million from manufacturing this year. The figures I am going to use are taken from the Preliminary Statement of Manufacturing for the year 1957 (which is the last year available) of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, page 10, 11 and 12. From those figures I find, of all factory shipments from the province of Saskatchewan last year (which is 1957), it was \$303,268,000.

**Hon. Mr. Walker:** - The last year is 1958.

**Mr. McDonald:** - 1957 is the last year for which figures are available . . .

**Hon. Mr. Walker:** - Available to you.

**Mr. McDonald:** - The Attorney General, of all people, ought to know that. Available to anybody! The D.B.S. has not made figures available. You can shake your head until it falls off, because you, too, are wrong, as far as D.B.S. is concerned.

**Premier Douglas:** - At least I'd miss my head if it fell off!

**Mr. McDonald:** - I doubt that. I don't know why you would.

**Mr. McCarthy:** - You might be the only one!

**Mr. McDonald:** - You'd be the only one that would miss it, that's for sure.

Mr. Speaker, what does this figure mean? If you are going to quote a figure like that, I think you should compare it with what is going on in our neighbouring provinces. I'm not going to go to the big industrial centres of Canada, or the big manufacturing centres. I will go to Manitoba and Alberta. What are the figures for Manitoba? The value of factory shipments out of that province for the same year was not \$303 million, but \$673 million. Again there is quite a difference between \$303 million and \$673 million. Or, if you want to go to the province of Alberta, the value of shipments for the same products for that province for the same period were \$762 million.

**Hon. Mr. Walker:** - Have you got 1944 there?

**Mr. McDonald:** - If you want to go back to 1944, I will do that. The figure in 1944 (and I'll bet you'll be sorry you ever mentioned it) was \$175 million. Now, my hon. friend from Bengough, when he was talking about agriculture said he wanted to paint a true picture. Therefore it is necessary to convert this to constant-dollar value. All right, let's take the value of manufactured products – the \$175 million in 1944, and the \$303 million in 1957 – and bring them down to constant-dollar value. Had we kept pace with the shipments out of this province in 1944 in constant-dollar value, the shipments this year should have been \$322.48 million.

**Premier Douglas:** - On what commodity index basis is that?

**Mr. McDonald:** - This is on D.B.S. Did you ever hear of it? You must have lost that head you were talking about a moment ago. Now, how do we arrive at this? Again, you can get these figures from public documents. If we take the value of 1944, which is \$175 million, and multiply it by the index for 1957, which is 237.9, and divide it by the index of 1944, which was 129.1, then we find that value, this year, without any new additions, from 1944 to 1957, the value this year would have been \$322 million rather than \$303 million. I ask you, is that progress?

What about the investments in manufacturing? What is the record here? The record in (and here I do have the figures for 1958) that we are near \$17.4 million in manufacturing for the year 1958, which is a drop of about \$2 million from the previous year. In Manitoba there wasn't a drop: they had \$43.5 million in 1957, and \$50.1 million in 1958. There was no drop in Alberta: in 1957, they had \$68.2 million, and in 1958, \$86.8 million. Some people have been going about trying to indicate that Saskatchewan was the only place in Canada that this depression was not affecting. Well, apparently it did not affect Alberta and Manitoba half as much as it did Saskatchewan.

**Hon. Mr. Walker:** - What are you advocating, Social Credit?

**Mr. McDonald:** - We had a drop, whereas our two neighbouring provinces went ahead by leaps and bounds. All right, let us turn now to the number of people employed in the manufacturing industry. Again, where my friend got his figures I do not know, but they are not correct, according to the October, 1958, D.B.S., pages 22 and 23. The number employed in manufacturing industries in Saskatchewan as at October 1, 1958, was 10,406. That is fewer people than were employed in that same industry in 1944 even. It is fewer than were employed in 1946. In 1946, we had 11,957 people employed in the manufacturing industry in this province; last October, 10,406. Those are the official and authentic figures as produced by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Again, let us compare these figures with our neighbouring provinces. I do not think anyone can complain about comparing them with our

neighbouring provinces. If I were to go to the industrial centres of Canada, such as British Columbia, Quebec, Ontario, and make comparisons, I do not think that would be fair, but I do think it is fair to go to our neighbouring provinces for comparison. How many people were employed in Manitoba in the manufacturing industry on October 1st last? Not 10,000, but 38,000! We are worse off than we were before this Government came into power, as far as the number of people employed in manufacturing is concerned.

In the past, when I have mentioned these figures, the Premier has complained. He said that it is not fair to compare the people employed in manufacturing, and perhaps he was right. He has said that we should compare the number of employees in all industries. All right. I am prepared to do that, and I am prepared to give the list of industries that I am going to use, and if anybody else can think of some more, I will add those in. But we will take the number of employees in forestry; we will take the number of employees in mining, manufacturing, construction, public utilities, trade, finance, insurance, real estate, certain groups of service industries – hotels, restaurants, laundries, dry-cleaning establishments, recreational and business services, and other firms with 15 employees, or over.

**Mr. Lopton (Saltcoats):** - Including Crown Corporations!

**Mr. McDonald:** - Yes, including Crown Corporations. In all of the businesses which fall within these categories, on October 1st last we employed 72,500 people. How many were employed in Manitoba at the same date? 135,597. How many were employed in Alberta? 162,437. Now, is that progress? If that is leadership, then it is Socialist leadership.

Now we can go on to another mistake that was made by my hon. friend when he was talking about the production of minerals, natural gas and what have you, in Saskatchewan. It was a strange thing that when the administration opposite is referring to the production in any one of these commodities, they take the value of production and they can find an increase in that production over the past 10 or 15 years. But if they would put it on a tonnage or ounce basis, they would find that, as far as base metals are concerned, never in any one year since this Government came into power have they produced the quantities that were produced prior to their coming into power.

**Opposition Members:** - Hear! Hear!

**Mr. McDonald:** - They say, if you want to take the dollar value, well, then, yes, there is an increase, because the dollar value of most products has been up over the last several years.

Now there are many other matters that one could correct at this time, but hope to have the opportunity of bringing some of the other problems to the attention of this Legislature tomorrow. Some of the

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statements of my friends opposite, the mover and seconder, I can certainly agree with, and I hope to indicate that when I speak tomorrow. I do think we have a serious problem confronting at least one or two segments of our agricultural population, and I hope to have something to say about that when I speak tomorrow.

With those few words, Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to adjourn the debate.

(Debate adjourned)

The Assembly then adjourned at 4:35 o'clock p.m.